

Tillsonburg POST

FREE

DECEMBER 12, 2024

VOLUME 1 • ISSUE 7

\$1000 OFF

ANY OIL CHANGE USING OUR PRODUCTS
Expires January 14/25
Bring in this coupon

LUBRICARE 127 Simcoe St, Tillsonburg
519-842-5230

14 MINUTE OIL CHANGE, OIL RUSTPROOFING

B.R.'s PLUMBING & HEATING Inc.

1 Vance Drive, Tillsonburg P: (519) 688-5999 F: (519) 688-5554

Station View condos proposal goes through public meeting

JEFF HELSDON

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

About 20 people attended a public meeting on Station View Developments Inc. to hear more details on the planned initiative.

The mixed-use development will feature a mix of commercial and residential built on top of an underground parking facility. The residential component will include up to 188 units and the commercial will be more than 17,000 square-feet. Included in the commercial is a proposal for a year-round farmer's market.

The official plan amendment proposes

to redesignate the subject property from an entrepreneurial district and community facility to an entrepreneurial district with special provisions for retail and high-density residential. The meeting was also for a zoning change from Special Major Institutional Zone and Entrepreneurial Zone to Special Entrepreneurial Zone. The purpose of the meeting was not to formulate a recommendation but to receive information from council and staff.

There were no questions to the planner from council about the application but Mayor Deb Gilvesy asked if there was enough water and sewer capacity to service the development.

CONTINUED TO PAGE 2

Mail strike impacting Salvation Army appeal

JEFF HELSDON

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The Salvation Army's annual Christmas appeal is behind in donations.

Lt. Drew Young of Tillsonburg Salvation Army, said as of Dec. 7 the donations to date were \$82,000, of 44 per cent of the \$185,000 goal. Typically, by the beginning of December, donations have crossed the \$100,000 mark.

"Things are down because of the Canada Post strike," Young said.

"Normally we send out a letter appeal in the mail where people can donate by sending us their cheques."

In a normal year, the mass mailing is sent to every business, farm, home and apartment within the catchment area. For Tillsonburg, this stretches north to Mt. Elgin, south to the lake, west to Delhi and east to Aylmer.

"That not happening is what has put an impact on our donations this year," Young said. "People have been asking and waiting for it."

CONTINUED TO PAGE 3



BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

Blake Martin was amongst those who were thrilled to talk to Santa during the Kinette's annual Breakfast with Santa. Held in the Lion's Auditorium, the Kinettes fed 648 people a pancake breakfast at the event. Proceeds from the event go to various local charities, causes and organizations.

(JEFF HELSDON PHOTO)

Merry Christmas AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!

TERRY WILLAERT BROKER OF RECORD

MARCEL VAN DE HOEF SALES REP.

ROBERT ABBOTT BROKER

TOM SAGE SALES REP.

KATHERINE PODLESKY SALES REP.

KASSANDRA WAY SALES REP.

DAVE CHROMCZAK SALES REP.

CLARISSA VANPELT MARKETING COORDINATION

From all of us at T.L. Willaert Realty Ltd., Brokerage

WILLAERTREALTY.COM

Station View condos proposal goes through public meeting

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

She was told a servicing study completed had been completed and there should be adequate services, although staff are still examining the study.

Lesley Hutton-Rhora, who is the project manager with G Douglas Vallee Ltd., explained the project was redesigned after concerns were raised by council members and the public during past meetings.

"A team of professionals, including architects, landscape architects, engineers, traffic consultants, and planners, were assembled to create a new vision for the development that better considered the concerns raised by the community," she said.

The building height was reduced, parking was addressed, and more opportunities for retail space were added. Changes included reducing the buildings from 12 to nine stories, adding a pitched roof, reducing the number of units from 276 to 188, and increasing the parking ratios to boost parking. There will be a variety of housing types, with one, two, and three-bedroom apartments.

"It was done to appeal people of different income brackets and also to try to create a community that is multi-generational to provide housing for young professional, young families and seniors," said architect Kristin Schreiner, of Martin Simmons Sweers Architects.

The development will have a central courtyard and be a permanent home for the Tillsonburg Farmer's Market. The design was competed to minimize shadowing on neighbouring residents and was done with the town's proposal to turn Bridge Street into a living street in mind.

"We're not proposing big glass condo towers and we're also not trying to do typical suburban design with a sea of parking with a building in the centre," Schreiner said. "We are trying to create a contemporary design that still integrates traditional materials and motifs such as brick masonry and timber."

Hanna Domagala of Station View De-



An artist's concept of the new Station View development with the Station Arts Centre in the foreground. The development will have underground parking. (CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)

velopments pointed out it's rare when a developer has an entire town block for a new project. She said if this was all in townhouses it would take out 10 acres of farmland.

Deputy Mayor Dave Beres led off by questioning the development team, asking if the townhouses would be built so that they could be built higher in the future. He was told that was not in the design, but that's not to say it couldn't be.

Mayor Deb Gilvesy pointed out council has not yet approved the Bridge Street concept as a living street, saying council doesn't even know the cost. When she was asked if it would be built in phases, Gilvesy was told it wouldn't as phased development is difficult when there is underground parking. It's estimated it will take two years to build.

Expanding questioning on the Bridge Street redevelopment, Coun. Chris Parker asked about the impact if it didn't go ahead. He was told there would be none as the project was all built within the confines of the land.

Coun. Kelly Spencer asked if there was any parking underground, which she was told there wasn't. She also asked if the green space in the middle is just for residents of the public. Domagala said it will likely be a hybrid model for safety reasons, open to the public during the day but closed at night.

With the floor open to the public, Tammy Tupper spoke in favour of the development. Saying she has a bachelors degree in architecture, she said the project excites her.

Three different residents raised con-

cerns about the amount of parking for Station Arts Centre events at St. Mary's Church and asked where the entrance to the parking garage would be.

Schreiner said there are 290 parking spaces for 188 units, and the access to the parking garage will be off Rolph Street. She also explained the company had done a parking study looking at use of spots in the area and figured all vehicles wouldn't be leaving at the same time.

Coun. Chrissy Rosehart noted that some of the residents may have more than one car. Schreiner explained this is why there is a parking ratio of 1.2 parking spots per resident.

The next step is for the county planner to come back with a recommendation to accept or deny the application and suggest conditions.

TILLSONBURGPOST.COM

MERRY
Christmas
and Warm Wishes for the New Year!

From all of us at Royal LePage,
R. E. Wood Realty, may this
season bring joy, peace, and the
comfort of home.

Thank you for letting us be part
of your journey. Here's to new
beginnings and cherished
memories in the year ahead!



R.E. Wood Realty
Brokerage

55 Brock St. E.
Tillsonburg ON N4G 4H5
519-842-8418



Mail strike impacting Salvation Army appeal

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

The goal for this year's campaign is \$185,000. To deal with the shortfall, the Salvation Army has turned to an online option and is sharing a QR code that takes donors directly to the site.

"We're asking people to donate online as an alternative to the mail campaign, as well as dropping of cheques into the bubbles in town. All that money comes back to us and stays local," he said.

Online donations can be completed by going to <https://salvationarmy.ca/donation-map/#info> and then finding Tillsonburg on the map, or clicking on the QR code with this article. Cheques dropped off in the kettle will still be receipted. Young said if there is a phone number on the cheque, Salvation Army staff have been phoning to ask the donor if they want to pick up the cheque or wait for the mail in the New Year.

On a positive note, Young said the volunteers for working at the kettles have been great, and there is only four spots left in the six locations.

One thing that hasn't changed is William (Bill) Oliver manning the kettle outside Wal-Mart. This Tillsonburg resident has been a member of the Salvation Army church since birth, and attending since. He has worked the kettle since he was 10 years-old, and works every shift in the seven-week campaign from 12-6 p.m. outside Wal-Mart.

"He has become an icon at Tillsonburg," Young said. "People know him to be at Wal-Mart, to be smiling to be cheerful. People wait for him to be at the kettle to give that way."

Donations to the Salvation Army stay 100 per cent locally. Amongst the initiatives the money goes to are hydro and electrical bill support, feeding program, summer kid's program, back to school support, warm coat program, Christmas hampers and others.



Scan this QR code to go to the Salvation Army's online donation website.



William (Bill) Oliver has been volunteering for the Salvation Army Christmas kettle for 74 years. While he is now known to be outside Wal-Mart, he has also worked outside of Metropolitan, A and P, Coward's and Woolworth's. (JEFF HELSDON PHOTO)

DOES YOUR BUSINESS MODEL START AT GROUND ZERO INCOME EACH NEW MONTH?


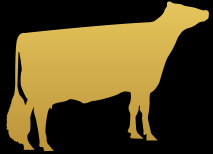
HOW ABOUT EARNING ONGOING INCOME WORKING IN SMALL POCKETS OF TIME THROUGH YOUR DAY?

No large investment
No Selling or Distributing
No inventory

Be your own Boss
Part time, full time or any time.

And NO ground zero each month is a game changer!


Free information overview
Text: 519-550-0397
Phyllis / Tillsonburg

NEW GALMA
Dairy & Creamery

284059 Daniel Road, Mount Elgin ON
100 meters west of Hwy 19
 Farm store hours: Friday & Saturday 10:30am-4:30pm
 519-852-3719
www.newgalmadairy.ca
 @NewGalmaDairy
 @new_galma_dairy

Oxford County's newest cheesemaker!
 Offering a variety of natural and spiced Dutch-style cheese made right on our farm!



EDITORIAL

Share tidings of 'comfort and joy' this season

The number of days to Christmas are dwindling, magnifying the urgency associated with completing shopping and being ready for Christmas day.

Amidst the bustle of the season, it's important not to forget what Christmas is about. Beyond the religious connotation associated with Christmas, there is more to what is commonly referred to as the true meaning of Christmas. It's a season to spend time with family, an occasion to share with others, and as the traditional English Christmas carol says a season to bring 'tidings of comfort and joy'.

The pages of today's Post reflect many of these sentiments. Laurel Beechey's column looking back to the origin of Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol" examines the sentiments behind Dickens writing this classic. His concern was the societal difference between the classes in 1800s England. Those concerns are valid today, but thankfully some members of society's upper echelon give back. Taylor Swift giving bonuses totaling \$55 million to her support crew on her tour is one high profile example. Locally, there are too many examples of philanthropy in Tillsonburg to start listing for fear of

missing one.

Today's front page story talks of the shortfall in the Salvation Army's annual Christmas campaign due to the Canada Post strike not allowing mailing of the campaign information. Donations can be made through the kettles in town, or by scanning the QR code on Page 3. Hopefully, the Tillsonburg Post can assist where Canada Post couldn't this year.

The photos and stories on the pages of today's Post tell of many other local initiatives in town that bolster Christmas spirit.

One thing everyone associates with the true meaning of Christmas is the joy on a child's face when seeing Santa Claus, or opening gifts on Christmas morning. There is an age where the magic is alive, before the commercialization of the season impacts children. Some of this is reflected in the letters to Santa from local elementary school students, and one special letter from 1910 a Tillsonburg resident shared shows how things have changed in a century.

Please read, enjoy and enjoy the best of the season. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all!

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

I am so pleased to be able to read a true Tillsonburg newspaper. It is good to see familiar names and faces, Laurel Beechey, Jeff Tribe, Chris Abbott, and Jeff Helsdon, involved.

We need to know about a nurse practitioner coming to town and the building and planning that is being done by the Station Arts Centre.

The "Tuff Mudder" is a big deal. It brings a lot of money into the area.

Our BIA does an amazing job on our downtown Broadway area. It always looks good.

It's great to read about all the local sports here in town.

Coming events has important information for all of us.

Thank you to Stewart Grant for taking Tillsonburg on. It is going to do well.

I look forward to reading it every two weeks.

Linda DeSutter

On behalf of the Royal Canadian Legion Varnavair Branch 153, we would like to thank the local businesses who responded to our mail appeal, the many establishments that allowed us to put poppy boxes in their premises, and of course to the citizens of Tillsonburg and area that generously donated to our 2024 Poppy Campaign.

We would also like to acknowledge the local businesses that included a Remembrance Day Message on their electronic signs, message boards and those that did window displays.

The response this year was outstanding as our donations topped \$30,000.00. This will allow the Legion to assist local veterans, their families, as well as veterans at Parkwood Institute. These funds also support bursaries to Glendale students and the Varnavair 153 Cadet Squadron.

Thank you to the many people that attended the cenotaph services and those that participated in the service as they were greatly appreciated by the veterans. Once again, on behalf of the Tillsonburg Legion, our heartfelt thank you to our great community of Tillsonburg for their response.

Yours in Remembrance,
Don Burton, Poppy Chairman

MERRY CHRISTMAS

...from the staff at the Post! We'll be taking a break for the holidays and will not be publishing on December 26th. Our next issue will be out on January 9th. Thank you so much for the huge amount of support since our launch in September. We're excited to bring you more Tillsonburg Post in 2025!

**GRANT
HAVEN
MEDIA**

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

Tillsonburg POST

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, Robin Krafft, Bill Pratt

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

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

Canada

**SUBMIT YOUR LETTER
TO THE EDITOR!
info@tillsonburgpost.com**

Tillsonburg POST

Guiding Principles

1. Everyone has a story
2. The news should be free for all to enjoy
3. Good news beats bad news
4. A Newspaper should be a community effort (contribute to your local paper!)
5. Newspapers document history
6. Newspapers strengthen communities
7. Advertisers, big or small, should profit from their ads (meaning sensible ad rates)
8. Newspapers should be locally-owned and operated

Dynamic light show makes the season bright



**EVERYONE
HAS A
STORY
TO TELL**

ROBIN KRAFFT

Tillsonburg Post Columnist

Coloured lights twinkling in the night, accentuated by a blanket of fresh snow, are one of the most accessible and enjoyable holiday traditions. The Simcoe Christmas Panorama, Ingersoll's Festival of Lights and Bingeman's Gift of Lights all have incredible displays. In town, houses on Barker Street, William Street, and Dendrich Ave are sparkling. Jake Deming and his family enjoy them all, but they don't have to go beyond their own front yard for a spectacular light show.

Jake has always loved the joy of Christmas, when everyone gets together to celebrate. It's even more meaningful now, seeing his son's excitement when the lights are unpacked, asking "Is Santa coming?!"

They've lived in Tillsonburg for nine years, and while Jake is originally from Langton, his wife Lyndsay grew up here. The Deming's first house was on Pearl Street, but they relocated last summer. Lyndsay's childhood home was the first house to be built

on Windemere Ave, and now their son gets to play in the ravine like she did, growing up on the same street. Jake's Facebook page, formerly "Lights on Pearl" has been renamed "Whimsical Lights of Windemere". It's a popular destination for many folks in town and has become a beloved part of their own Christmas festivities.

It started innocently enough, with a friendly holiday competition between brothers. But in 2017, they moved beyond static lights and started creating animated synchronized light shows. Both brothers are big fans of the reality competition show *The Great Christmas Light Fight*, but Jake isn't a computer programmer, he's a sales manager at Woodstock Toyota. He learned the intensive process through YouTube videos; the lights are all controlled with a computer program and synchronized to shift and change to music. He uses an FM transmitter so that people can tune in to his radio station (90.1 FM) from their cars for the total experience.

Jake says that "it takes about 15 hours of programming to do a really good job" per song, and he likes to include about eight songs, resulting in a 20 to 30 minute show. He and his brother share programs to reduce this considerable task. He can watch a preview on his computer and make changes, testing it every night before the launch.

It takes all of his free time in November to put it together, but the design process actually begins in January, and Jake says that "expansions for the next three years are already planned." As he learns more, he makes many improvements, but it's his enthusiasm that drives the creative process. On Pearl Street, he es-

timates that he had 40,000 lights, but with new lights that can be programmed to change colour, he has a greater capacity for a more colourful show but doesn't need to string as many lights. This year he used 25 to 30,000 lights.

"It's my only hobby," Jake says, "and it keeps the Christmas magic alive."

Some families make hot chocolate and come and watch the show before bedtime throughout December, while others say it has become their Christmas Eve tradition. Jake loves to see the kids singing and dancing in the street. Music from *The Polar Express* is a fan favorite, but he also likes to include clips from traditional movies and Christmas songs from local artists and family members. There's new music every year.

Jake enthuses: "It's free entertainment, it's a show, and people come from all over to see it!"

The holiday season always starts out with a family launch party at his brother's house in Plattsville, including parents and siblings on both sides, followed by a second launch on Windemere Ave here in Tillsonburg. You can't miss that 28-foot-tall tree, which Jake constructed and cemented into the ground. He builds all of the structures using recycled materials.

Jake places a donation bin at the corner of his yard so that people can contribute non-perishable items for the Helping Hand food bank. He won Best Christmas Light Show (outside of the U.S.) in the Light O Rama competition last year, but beyond the accolades, praise and gratitude from visitors, Jake takes this opportunity to encourage everyone to make the season brighter for all.

Keeping it real at Christmas



**SOUTH-
WESTERN
ONTARIO
OUTDOORS**

JEFF HELSDON

Editor

Just a few decades ago, cutting and decorating a Christmas tree was a part of Christmas for most families in rural areas of Ontario.

The tree brought a magical quality to homes with its pine scent. The real tree added an extra sense of magic as families gathered to decorate it. Fake trees look real, and may have the same meaning, but lack some of the Christmas spirit associated with the real tree. Fake trees are also gaining in popularity.

Outside of the Christmas meaning associated with a real tree, an environmental component is often overlooked – a green thing in more ways than one. With the demand for real trees, there were many more acres of trees in Christmas tree farms. These trees provided nesting spaces for birds, and their dense cover was shelter for a diversity of wildlife during harsh winters and helped prevent erosion. I have found deer bedding in Christmas trees numerous times. In addition, the dense stand of trees next to a deciduous forest creates an edge effect, which promotes a wider diversity of bird and wildlife species as some species, such as ruffed grouse, depend on edges for prime habitat.

In Ontario, more than 500 Christmas tree farmers produce more than a million trees for the market every year. With a dense planting of trees, Christmas tree

farms are an excellent carbon sink, removing carbon dioxide from the air over the eight to 10 years it takes a tree to reach market size. An acre of Christmas trees can produce enough oxygen for 18 people. Christmas trees also filter pollutants out of the air.

Cutting your tree is a great family outing and a chance to get outdoors. My family always looked forward to the annual adventure of traveling to the country to cut a tree for the living room. For those less connected to the outdoors, a trip to a Christmas tree farm can be an educational experience beyond buying a tree from an in-town retailer.

Some people may think cutting a tree is bad for the environment. The opposite is true, as there are always more trees in various growing stages for future years, and the demand for trees fuels this environmentally friendly crop.

But what do we do with the tree after the seasonal magic has wound down? In Tillsonburg, trees can be dropped off at the transfer station. These will be ground into mulch. Another alternative is to turn the tree back to nature. It can be a great activity for a family or youth group to collect several trees and make brush piles in woodlots. These provide small mammals and birds a place to seek shelter from predators and weather out storms. Of course, permission is needed from the landowner before dropping off trees.

Using a real Christmas tree supports a local farmer who puts money back in the community. Real trees are also a way of buying local. A lifetime of trips to a farm a few kilometers away would expend less fuel than shipping an artificial tree from halfway around the world.

Include a real tree in your seasonal plans for the year, it's the environmentally-friendly, family-friendly choice.

Jeff Helsdon is an award-winning outdoor writer, a columnist for Ontario Out of Doors and writes for several other outdoor publications.

PEDLAR'S QUAY
Since 1987

A shopping destination for over 35 years
Gifts • Tabletop • Home
20 Ridout St. West in Downtown Tillsonburg
519.842.6993 www.pedlarsquay.com

*We want to hear from
our community!*

info@tillsonburgpost.com

Are ghosts of Christmas past coming to the modern day?



**THE
STAGE
IS THE
WORLD**

LAUREL A. BEECHEY

Tillsonburg Post Columnist

How many families sit down during the Christmas holidays to watch special movies, perhaps about a Grinch, Elf, Rudolph the Reindeer or White Christmas? I love Charles Dicken's 'A Christmas Carol,' with Reginald Owen or Alistair Sims. Why did Charles Dickens, even write such a predominantly bleak story?

In England, Charles would often rent large halls so that the multitude of illiterate people in the England could hear the stories that everyone was talking about. Charles' books were not just for entertainment, they brought awareness to the public of the social injustices of Victorian times that he had lived through.

By 1843, Charles Dickens was well known for The Pickwick Papers, Oliver Twist, Nicholas Nickleby and the Old Cu-

riosity Shop.

The Industrial Revolution had changed society. Machines had taken over jobs and instead of hiring men to run these new machines, they hired children for a pittance and forced them to work in factories and mines, most often in horrific conditions. Charles was appalled by the mass of poor and deprived.

These books exposed these conditions, trying to find a way to make the upper classes change their attitude towards to poor and downtrodden lower classes.

Charles had also been frustrated with the declining seasonal traditions including Christmas celebrations and in October of 1843, the idea for A Christmas Carol came and he became obsessed with the story, finishing it in six weeks.

It focuses on a miserable curmudgeon, Ebenezer Scrooge, who cared only for money, and treated family and employees with disdain. Rather than personally helping the poor and destitute; he wanted to know why they were not in prisons and workhouses, where people in debt or had no money, were forced to go. When told the poor would rather die than go to those institutions, Scrooge responded, "If they would rather die, they had better do it, and decrease the surplus population."

Characters in his previous books, noted that people's attitudes changed at Christ-

mas time: "Who can be insensible to the outpouring of good feeling and the honest interchange of affectionate attachment, which abound at this season of the year... Would that Christmas lasted the whole year through (as it ought) and that the prejudices and passions which deform our better nature were never called into action among those to whom they should ever be strangers." [1]

Charles caught not only the Victorian heart strings, but today's heart strings. How many children are ignored or pushed aside in a family? Who wouldn't want to work for the wonderful Mr. Fezziwig? The mistakes Scrooge made as a young man, continue today and in every new generation. Now, 181years later, people are still obsessed with wanting more and not sharing. Hearts are still tugged when the large, loving, Cratchit family joyfully dines on a very paltry Christmas meal? We all have tears we learn Tiny Tim will not live. We still cheer when Scrooge finally understands the caring and love shown at Christmas is essential all year round.

Are you a Scrooge? Do you wonder if you are doing enough in this world, or just Tillsonburg, to help others? Penalties for selfishness and greed which Charles laid on his society still make readers today, reflect and hopefully, like Scrooge,

change. Victorian Society did work on the deplorable conditions; and child laws were put into effect. The number of work-days and hours were lowered. Statutory holidays were made to afford time for religious holidays or reflections. Better government and charitable institutions were formed to help the poor and destitute, we now call homeless.

Has Canadian society returned to the ways the Victorian's fought to change 181 years ago? Thirteen-year-olds now can work, with not many restrictions. We gave up Sunday as the day of rest and holiday. Once again, many employees are being pushed beyond their limits both physically and stressfully.

One thing that Charles Dickens did not have to write about in 1843, was the reason Christmas was celebrated. They did not eject Christ from the celebration or their everyday life.

Is that the key? Perhaps we need to once again compare A Christmas Carol not just on a personal level but to today's society. Perhaps the ghost of Charles Dickens should return with a new story that will address the greed, which is creeping, nay, galloping into today's society. Would you listen or still ignore the truth?

May this year's Christmas be thoughtful and kind.



QUALITY PRE-OWNED CARS & SERVICE

TILLSONBURG'S LARGEST USED CAR SUPERSTORE

519-688-3202 • 7 Rouse St. W., Tillsonburg

Used Car Sales And Financing + Automotive Service



HAND-CRAFTED CHRISTMAS GIFTS

The Holiday Arts Market at the Station Arts Centre features 34 different vendors, selling unique, locally hand-made items ranging from wood carvings, pottery and paintings to jewellery and books. Three of the artists taking part stand in front of the wonderland of artistry. Left to right are: Jane Grass, watercolour and acrylic artist with paintings and cards; Daniel Couture, jewelry silversmith and lapidary arts; and Maxine MacPhail, who crafts a variety of knitting, crocheting, felting and weaving. The Holiday Arts Market runs from Dec. 2 to 19.

(JEFF HELSDON PHOTO)

Chamber of Commerce deliver a damning report to Norwich council

JENNIFER WILD

Post Correspondent

Township of Norwich council heard a sobering report about business support in the township at the Nov. 26 meeting.

Norwich Chamber of Commerce appeared before township council to present a survey that presented the opinions of businesses operating within the town of Norwich. The Chamber of Commerce had received numerous complaints from businesses over the process of obtaining building permits, site plan approvals and the time it takes to receive approval. Andrew Malcolm and Tim Thompson submitted a 25-page presentation, including graphs showing the results of the survey. The survey is available through the township website, under the agenda for Nov. 26th meeting.

The survey, completed by 85 local businesses, contained questions about the complexity and consistency of the application process, their experience with township staff, and their familiarity with the relationship between the town council, the Chamber of Commerce, and the Business Improvement Association. The survey also touched on experiences with

other townships when applying for permits.

A clear majority, or 80 per cent of respondents reported a poor or bad experience with staff while 68.2 per cent reported their concerns had not been addressed by township staff. The picture wasn't great for council with 37.7 per cent of respondents stated that when they approached council members regarding concerns, these concerns were not addressed, with 43.5 per cent feeling that the council is not growth-oriented. Only 10.8 per cent of responses indicated that the turnaround time for building permits was good.

When responding to the delegation, Councillor Sean Gear called this report extremely alarming, disappointing, unacceptable, and embarrassing.

Councillor Karl Toews declared it a disappointing report, agreeing with the recommendation for change and a review of procedures.

All members of the town council voiced their support for the formation of an advocacy committee, passing a motion requiring staff prepare a report regarding the creation of an Economic Development Advisory Committee unanimously.

New pet tethering bylaw passed

Tillsonburg has a new pet tethering bylaw. Council passed a new bylaw that restricts the maximum amount of time a pet can be tethered outside to four hours. It also con-

tains several other restrictions on tethering, including restrictions on the age of an animal that can be tethered, and the length of the tether.



Accounting • Bookkeeping
Corporate business tax •
Personal income tax

David Simmonds MBA CPA CGA
Chartered Professional Accountant
19 Ridout Street East, Tillsonburg ON N4G 2C6

519-842-4279 info@simmondscpa.ca

40% off Until Dec. 31, 2024

Budget Blinds of St. Thomas and Woodstock
Blinds • Shades • Shutters
Drapes • Home Automation

BUDGET BLINDS
Style and service for every budget.

Elevate your home with Budget Blinds' latest collection of exclusive, on-trend window treatment options. We do it all for you.
Request a Free Consultation today and learn more:
519.532.8290 | budgetblinds.com

© 2024 Budget Blinds, LLC. All Rights Reserved. Budget Blinds is a trademark of Budget Blinds, LLC and a Home Franchise Concepts Brand. Each Franchise Independently owned and operated.

Sacred Spells

PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR

GRAND OPENING

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13TH

New Small Business
A Market for Coven Members New and Old.

We Carry, Crystals, Herbs, Candles, Incense, Books, Jewelry and Apparel for Witches and Warlocks. Plus Much Much More!

71 BROADWAY ST TILLSONBURG
(519) 544-1131



Tillsonburg District Memorial
Hospital Foundation
Partnering to keep healthcare close to home.

Year End Campaign and Angels of Giving 2024



It's that time of year! The hospital needs your help for our year end equipment campaigns. Your year end gift is important to the hospital to improve care. **You CAN make a difference!**

The Canada Post Strike has delayed our year-end campaigns. Our joint Hospital and Foundation Community Report and our Fall Mail Campaign is currently waiting in the mail. In the meantime, we are asking you to consider dropping off your cheque at our office, calling our office, or donating online. Come by and say hello, we would love to meet you!

Be an "Angel of Giving" this holiday season and make a gift in memory or recognition of a loved one. We will display their name on our Angel Tree in the main hospital lobby.

How to support your hospital in our Year End Campaigns:

- Send your gift (or drop of your cheque) to TDMH Foundation at 167 Rolph St. Tillsonburg, ON N4G 3Y9
- Call our office at 519-842-3611 x5311 to donate over the phone
- Online at www.tillsonburghospital.on.ca and click on the Donate Now button.

OR



Scan QR code and complete the donation form.

General Donation: complete the form on screen and follow the prompts. Once complete you will be emailed an e-receipt for tax purposes.

To choose Angels of Giving, check the box "I would like to dedicate this donation" then choose "Angels of Giving Tribute" in the drop down box * Type of Tribute. Complete the form and follow the prompts. Once complete you will be emailed an e-receipt for tax purposes.

Thank You!

Mayor puts foot down on pool completion date

JEFF HELSDON

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Mayor Deb Gilvesy wasn't impressed with another delay in the completion date for renovations and the addition at the Tillsonburg Community Centre.

A report on the work still to be done was presented at the Nov. 25 council meeting, setting a new date for completion of Jan. 31. A prior update from June put the completion date in September, then an update in September estimated the project would be completed in December. The June report also contained additional cost of \$418,050. The additional work still to be completed is tiling the pool deck, dry-wall, pool coping (the transition between the pool and deck) and work related to a revised grading plan to ensure proper drainage at the new entrance.

Mayor Deb Gilvesy told council members she has toured the facility and there is a lot of tiling remaining.

"We have to insist this is done by the end of January," she said. "No more playing Mr. Nice or Mrs. Nice. We're the customer and we need to insist this project is done."

Gilvesy said she alerted the team about the possible drainage issue by the doors a year ago, and it's still one of the items not completed.

"I need this project done and the community needs it done," she said.

The report also asked for another \$13,880 of architectural and project management costs of more than \$13,000. This will be funded from the existing contingency fund for the project. Gilvesy said the longer the project goes, the more it will cost taxpayers.

"It was December and now it's the end of January," she said. "We need to hold their feet to the fire and not accept anything else."

Council received the report as information.

*We want to hear from
our community!*
info@tillsonburgpost.com



breezewoodfloors.ca

FLOORS MADE FROM THE GREAT OUTDOORS

Tillsonburg
1300 Jackson Side Road
Tillsonburg (Courtland), ON
519.888.3553
tillsonburg@breezewoodfloors.ca

Kitchener
1580 Huron Road
Petersburg (Wilmot), ON
519.696.2424
kitchener@breezewoodfloors.ca

Orillia
4071 Digby Road
Orillia (Bass Lake), ON
705.326.3965
basslake@breezewoodfloors.ca



Impaired driver charged in Tillsonburg

Police located and arrested an impaired driver while on patrol in the Town of Tillsonburg.

On Nov. 26, at approximately 9 p.m., members of the Oxford detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) were on general patrol in Tillsonburg when they encountered an impaired driver on Bidwell Street.

Brandon Boulton-Meredith, a 35 years-of-age resident of Tillsonburg, was charged with the following charges:

- Dangerous Operation of a Motor Vehicle

- Operation While Impaired
- Operation While Impaired -Blood Alcohol Concentration (80 plus)
- Drive Motor Vehicle - No Licence

The accused has been released and is scheduled to appear in the Ontario Court of Justice located in Woodstock on Jan. 7, 2025.

The OPP remind motorists that no amount of alcohol or drug is acceptable to consume and drive. Report impaired drivers. Should you observe a suspected impaired driver, please dial 911 or contact the Ontario Provincial Police at 1-888-310-1122 or *677.

Winter driving: Hope for the best, prepare for the worst

Tips To Ensure Your Safety This Winter

Winter weather rolled into Ontario with a vengeance, snarling traffic and stranding some motorists for hours on end in hard-hit areas. With a little road-trip planning, you can ensure your family's safety when the snow starts to fly.

Safe winter driving means motorists should expect the unexpected and prepare for it.

Here are a few recommended tips:

- Consider delaying your trip until the weather improves. Snowplow operators need time to clear the roads.
- If you must travel, be sure to check the current and forecast weather conditions and monitor the media for weather and road conditions.
- Plan your trip before starting out. Visit the Ministry of Transportation (MTO) web site for road conditions

at: www.511on.ca or Municipal 511 at <https://www.municipal511.ca/>.

- Ensure your fuel tank is full before hitting the road. If you encounter a lengthy traffic delay, you'll need your vehicle's heater to stay warm.
- Be sure to dress for winter even though you'll be in your car. You'll be protected if you become stranded.
- Carry a winter driving survival kit in your vehicle. Recommended items include a shovel, blanket, warm clothes, food, booster cables, flashlight, high energy foods, matches and a candle.

For more winter driving safety tips, check out the Ontario Ministry of Transportation website: <http://www.mto.gov.on.ca/english/safety/winterdrive/winter-drive.shtml>.

Slow down, stay alert, stay in control and stay safe!

Tillsonburg radio stations sold

JEFF HELSDON

Editor

Tillsonburg's radio stations have a new owner, pending CRTC approval.

MY Broadcasting Corporation announced on Nov. 21 that it reached a deal with Rogers Sports and Media to purchase CKOT Easy 101 and CJDL Country 107.3. My Broadcasting owns two stations in Norfolk County and one in St. Thomas, Strathroy, and Exeter.

"Geographically, the Tillsonburg stations fill a hole and bolster our resources," said Jon Pole, president of MY Broadcasting Corp.

He and a partner own the company, which they started in 2004. It has grown to 19 stations and will have 26 with the purchase from Rogers and another from Bell.

Pole said there will be an increased focus on local news and advertising people in the community after the change in

ownership. There will also be a Tillsonburg presence for the station. After the Lamers family, who started the Tillsonburg stations, sold to Rogers, it was operated from London. There will also be more live broadcasts from community events.

"The same as it used to be and the way it used to be," Pole said. "We expect our stations to be involved in the community, supporting and reflecting what is happening."

Doug Cooper, a long-time employee at CKOT, says the sale is a good thing.

"I believe the new owners will put more emphasis on being local," he said. "I hope they will consider moving the stations back to Tillsonburg. They now say there are a Tillsonburg station, but in reality they are broadcasting out of London."

Although the deal is finalized, changes will not start until it is approved by the CRTC, which Pole said takes at least eight months.

Numerous charges results from Tillsonburg investigation

One individual was arrested and charged with several offences after an alert was sent out asking residents and businesses on Lisgar Ave to shelter in place. The investigation resulted in the seizure of illegal drugs and a firearm.

On Friday, Nov. 29, at approximately 9 a.m., the Oxford detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) was on general patrol in the Town of Tillsonburg when an active investigation ensued.

Residents and businesses near the active investigation, were asked to shelter in place. This precaution was lifted a short time after. No injuries were reported.

Upon further investigation, with the assistance of Oxford, Brant, Middlesex, Elgin, Haldimand and Norfolk Community Street Crime Units, West Region Emergency Response Team (ERT), Canine and Tactics and Rescue Unit (TRU), an individual was arrested, and illegal drugs and a firearm were seized.

A 19-years-of-age resident of Brampton

with the following offences:

- Careless Storage of Firearm
- Possession of a Weapon for Dangerous Purpose
- Carrying Concealed Weapon
- Unauthorized Possession of Firearm
- Possession of Loaded Prohibited or Restricted Weapon
- Possession of a Schedule I Substance for the Purpose of Trafficking (two counts)

The combined estimated street value of the seized controlled substances is approximately \$10,000.

The accused has been remanded into custody and will appear in the Ontario Court of Justice, located in Woodstock, on a later date.

The investigation is ongoing. If you have any information that can assist with the investigation, please contact Oxford OPP at 1-888-310-1122 or if you wish to remain anonymous you can contact Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477).

OPP requesting public's help in identifying suspicious individual

Police are seeking assistance from the public in identifying an individual who attempted to enter a residence in Courtland.

At approximately 4:42 p.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 4, officers from the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) Norfolk County Detachment responded to a report of a suspicious person on Talbot Street in Courtland, Norfolk County.

It was determined that around 4:15 p.m., an unidentified individual attempted to gain entry to a residence but fled the area on foot after failing to do so.

The individual is described as follows:

- Caucasian male
- Wearing a baseball hat, a black coat,

a grey hooded sweatshirt, dark pants, and brown boots

Photographs of the individual are attached for reference.

The Norfolk County OPP Detachment is actively conducting an ongoing investigation and is appealing to the public for assistance. Anyone with relevant information is urged to contact the police at 1-888-310-1122.

Should you wish to remain anonymous, you may call Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) or leave an anonymous online tip at www.helpsolvecrime.com where you may be eligible to receive a cash reward of up to \$2,000.



HearingLife



Hearing healthcare is not one-size-fits-all, by listening to our clients and asking questions, we can recommend the right solutions for your unique hearing and financial needs.

Katie Koebel,
Audiologist & Senior Manager,
Audiology

FREE GIFT!

Our Biggest Sale of the Year!

HOLIDAY SAVINGS

UP TO \$2,100 OFF

your purchase of a pair of the latest hearing aids, plus receive a **FREE** PerfectDry LUX hearing aid dryer and sanitizer worth \$130.**

Experience the benefits of personalized hearing care and on-going support.

Get started with a **FREE** hearing test today!*

Tillsonburg
114 Broadway St
1-888-451-7965

Port Dover
697 Highway 6 W, Unit 1A
1-888-451-8148

Simcoe
216 West St, Unit 100
1-888-451-8141

Ingersoll
120 Thames St N, Unit 9
1-888-451-8149



Mention code: **NSP-HLDY-TPST**

Book online HearingLife.ca/Holiday

*A comprehensive hearing assessment is provided to adults ages 19 and older at no cost. The results of this assessment will be communicated verbally to you. If you request a copy of the Audiological Report, a fee will apply. **This promotion is valid for select premium or advanced hearing aid models and cannot be combined with any other discount. Applies to private sales of select premium or advanced hearing aids and discount is applied after any Government funding has been deducted. Some conditions apply, see clinic for details. Offer not valid in Quebec. Offer expires 1/31/2025.

Keep being you **Love your ears**



FLOWERS ON WHEELS

The Tillsonburg Horticultural Society (THS) purchased 50 poinsettias for distribution to Meals on Wheels recipients. Society members teamed up with Meals on Wheels (MOW) volunteers to deliver the poinsettias in late November. Left to right are: THS member Mary Jane Leighton, MOW volunteer Mary Gosso, MOW volunteer Hinesh Malakai, THS member Barb Quantrill, THS president Chrisine Nagy, THS member Pat Zeyen, THS member Jean Martin, THS member Penny Esseltine, and MOW volunteer Marie Shearer.

(JEFF HELSDON PHOTO)

SWOX council considers new \$7 million municipal building

DEBBIE KASMAN
Tillsonburg Post Correspondent

At its regular council meeting on Dec. 3, South West Oxford Township (SWOX) council began preliminary discussions to build a new municipal office and child-care centre in Mount Elgin.

The new building, located west of Highway 19 on Mount Elgin Road, would potentially include a new child-care facility on the first floor, the new municipal office on the second floor, and allow for other uses on a possible third floor, which could include a new space for the public library and/or affordable housing and/or apartments for seniors.

The square footage of the new building would be 15,200 square feet with an additional 7,600 square feet on the potential third floor.

The cost for a two-story building, based on a cost per square foot of \$450, would be \$6.84 million. Costs will be higher if council opts to include a third floor.

These costs include building and site construction costs and are based on present-day conditions and current market

rates. The costs do not include contingency, land costs, information technology, security systems, furniture, appliances or HST.

Possible library relocation

Oxford County is seeking 2,000 square feet of library space, plus 400 – 500 feet of program space for the Mount Elgin library. The county has reached out to inquire if the township is considering the location of a new library on the west side of Mount Elgin. Discussions are preliminary.

Ward boundary changes approved in-principle

Council approved proposed ward boundary adjustments in-principle, which will impact all six wards in the township. Changing population trends, particularly in Wards 2 and 3 (Mount Elgin), prompted the review. Both wards have experienced significant demographic shifts. The amending by-law will come forward early in 2025 for final approval and will take effect for the 2026 Municipal Election.



Trump's not joking about Canada becoming 51st state



STEWART GRANT

Publisher

Well, that didn't take long.

Trump is still six weeks from officially being back in office, but already he is floating the idea of redrawing the North American map.

Reported recently that "when Trudeau told President-Elect Trump that new tariffs would kill the Canadian economy, Trump joked to him that if Canada can't survive without ripping off the U.S. to the tune of \$100 billion a year, then maybe Canada should become the 51st state and Trudeau could become its governor".

Something we should know about Donald Trump by now is that he's not known as someone who "jokes". Moreso, he's

known as someone who says the quiet part out loud.

Most of all though, he's known for being an extreme narcissist; one who constantly seeks attention and one who considers himself to be of great importance.

The thing that worries me most about a second Trump presidency is that his first term, in the grand scheme of things, was not that historically "important". Now that Trump has secured the first goal of his second term (staying out of jail), he can move on to doing something of equally great importance to him: building a legacy so that his name will be remembered - not just in our century, but for the many centuries that follow.

But how does one be remembered for a thousand years? It's not easy. Good or bad, you need to do something very significant, very memorable. Many of the names that will long be remembered, such as Alexander the Great, Charlemagne, Genghis Khan, Adolf Hitler... were all empire builders. Redrawing maps is the number one way to be remembered,

unless you are Jesus.

I don't believe for a minute that Donald Trump truly cares about "Making America Great Again" for your everyday person. It's a memorable and effective catch phrase. I also don't believe that illegal immigrants coming over the Canadian border is of particularly great danger to the security of the United States. Instead, Trump highlighting this issue, and threatening a 25% tariff, was a means to open a dialogue about Canada. In the coming months, expect right-wing talk shows, social media bots, and Elon Musk's X platform to spread misinformation exaggerating about "the problems with the Canadian border" or making the case for "why Canada should join the U.S."

Canada, with its vast resources, is a very attractive asset for a U.S. president who constantly seeks recognition and notoriety.

There's Trump Tower, Trump National Golf Club, Trump Coins, even a Trump Bible... does he envision a 51st state, perhaps dubbed Trump North? It's a terrifying thought.

Police seize \$281,000 worth of cocaine and methamphetamine

Seven people are facing 18 Criminal Code (CC) and Controlled Drugs and Substances Act (CDSA) charges after police executed 10 search warrants in southwestern Ontario.

The Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) Community Street Crime Units (CSCU) in West Region, in partnership with the Woodstock Police Service (WPS), began Project NAPOLI in August 2024 as a result of drug trafficking activity in Oxford County, Brant County, Elgin County, Norfolk County, Woodstock, London and Waterloo. On Nov. 21, a total of 10 search warrants were executed in Kitchener, Woodstock and Oxford County by Brant, Oxford and Haldimand County OPP, several OPP specialized units, Woodstock and Waterloo Police Services.

As a result of the search warrants, police seized: 1.6 kilograms suspected methamphetamine, 1.3 kilograms suspected cocaine, 2,500 alprazolam tablets, \$20,000 in Canadian currency, five cell phones and two digital scales. The drugs seized in this investigation have an estimated street value of \$281,000.

Project NAPOLI resulted in the arrest of seven individuals for a combined 18 offences contrary to the CC and CDSA.

Those charged were: Wahid Wahab, 30, of Kitchener, two charges under the CDSA and one for breach of undertaking; Johny Nguyen, 33, of Kitchener, five charges under the CDSA and one for breach of probation;

Cindy Nguyen, 28, of London, three charges under the CDSA; Ferry Chanthanong, 31, of Kitchener, three charges under the CDSA; Edward Houghton, 44, of Woodstock, one charge under the CDSA; Lisa Freeman, 52, of Woodstock, one charge under the CDSA; and Kirk Messenger, 56, of Norwich Township, one charge of breach of conditions.

Anyone with information about possession, production or trafficking of illegal drugs should contact the OPP at 1-888-310-1122 or Crime Stoppers anonymously at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) or ontariocrimestoppers.ca.



A police photo shows the drugs and items seized as part of Project Napoli.

(CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)

Worship With Us 

GATHERING | GROWING | GOING



Watoto Children's Choir - February 13th at 7:00 pm
First come, first serve for seating.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
Tillsonburg
18 HARVEST AVENUE, TILLSONBURG



PROUSE SUPPLY
Kitchen & Bath Showroom

About Our Showroom

Explore our curated collection of beautiful fixtures, stunning finishes and innovative designs that will elevate your home.

Whether you envision a sleek modern kitchen, or a tranquil spa-inspired bathroom, our showroom offers hands on access to products that will add the perfect finishing touch to your home projects.

Visit Erin in our Showroom...
She is ready to support you through your Kitchen & Bath updates!

 75 Spruce Street, Tillsonburg

What We Offer

- Tubs
- Showers
- Tub & Shower Doors
- Toilets
- Sinks
- Faucets
- Shower Systems
- Vanities & Countertops
- Lighting
- Bath Fans

Contact Us

 519-842-9410

 prouse@execulink.com

 www.prouse.ca



LETTERS TO

Santa



ANNANDALE PUBLIC SCHOOL



*Mrs. Caporicci's Gr. 2/3 class
Tuesday, November 26, 2024*

Dear Santa Claus,

Hi! How are you this year? I wish that all the kids around the world get what they wish for this year. I want 3 things. I want a purple camera, a teddy bear and a big furby. I have been bringing some laughter to my family this year. Santa, I would like to ask you one question. How do reindeer fly? I hope you have a great flight on Christmas Eve.
Love, Kaelyn

Dear Santa,

Thank you for bringing me presents on Christmas day. Here is my list of presents that I would like from you. I would like warm, cozy hot chocolate from you. I love it! It makes me feel nice and cozy. I also want a new pet dog. It would be great friends with my Dad's dog. Since I love Santa so much, I want cozy Santa Claus pj's too. It would make me very happy. I want some cool, new, toy cars to add to my collection. Chocolate chip Christmas cookies would sound good too. They are very yummy. I love the sweet chocolate chips inside them. I would also like a new pet cat to remind me of my old cat. I have been very nice to my parents and my teachers. If you would, you can get me all of the presents I want but you don't have to because I know you're trying your best. Happy holidays.
From, Carson

Dear Santa,

I want two newborn baby dolls with a stroller and a car seat. I would like a five-year-old doll that is one meter tall. I would also like two barbie dolls with a wheelchair and a baby. I want a crib that is one meter tall and the

colour of it is purple and pink. Could I also have a playpen? The last thing I want is two bottles and two soothers. The reason why I am on the nice list is because I do my chores every time I come home from school. I would like to know how elves move at night, Santa?
From, Paityn

Dear Santa,

Hi Santa. My name is Leon. I like the gifts that you gave me last time. Can you please get me a skateboard this year and a bike too, please? I will leave you cookies and milk. I wish that my family can be healthy. Last year I saw you at the mall and did you know that I went on your lap, and I took a picture with you. I help clean the house with my Mom.
From Leon

Dear Santa Claus,

Hi, how are you? Thank you for putting me on the nice list this year. I was very nice to my sister. Could you please bring me candy this year? I would love some candy this year. Thank you for that Gabby swimming pool last year. I'm very appreciative of that. I also want a Gabby doll house for Christmas and if you could I want a lego Gabby doll house.
From, Jami

Dear Santa Claus,

How can you fly with those reindeer? Are they magic reindeer? Thank you for the Spider-Man toy. It is super cool! This year for Christmas, I would like a new iPhone 16. I would also like a dirt bike and riding gear. Finally, I'd like an action figure. Thank you.
Love, James

Dear Santa,

Hi Santa. This is what I want for Christmas. I want an iPad and a projector for my brother and me. I also want a Dork Diary book. I like them because they are fun to read. Thank you for the gum last year. I really liked it. I also would like candy for Christmas. Please give me candy canes. I like the red and sour ones. I also like mints and kisses. I would also love sneakers. They have to be brown, or I won't wear them. I would like these gifts because I really like them and also, I was on the nice list. Thank you so much for all you have done over these years.
From, Avery

Dear, Santa

Hi Santa. For Christmas I want a Robot and a Toy Story Puzzle. Thank you for all the gifts. I am on the good list because I help my parents with the laundry and with putting away the dishes. Good job giving all the gifts.
From, Thomas
PS Have a good trip.

Dear Santa,

I have a question: How does your reindeer fly? Thank you for giving me a transformer last year and hopefully an action figure this year. The reason that I am on the nice list is because I work at school almost every day.
From, Aedyn

Dear Santa,

I'm so glad you gave me the Mario Kart steering wheels last Christmas. This year I want a Disney Cars 3 track with a Mack and with lots of Disney cars. I wish that

Sharkboy and Lavagirl came to life. I want to stay on the nice list because I can go to my Nana's. Santa, how do reindeers fly? I wish you a merry Christmas, Santa.

From, Grayson

Dear Santa,

Hi, my name is Lilyana. Are you okay? Thank you for the pj's last Christmas. I hope my Mom will take care of my dog. Santa, I want a Barbie, Play-Doh, and markers for Christmas this year. Santa, how are you doing today? I have been good this year by doing good things like feeding the animals. Merry Christmas!
From, Lilyana

Hey Santa,

How's the weather up there? Here's what I want for Christmas. I want a Barbie doll that you can dress up. Next, I want a kitten and then I want a watch. One day I would like to ride a reindeer. I will leave you milk and cookies.
Love, Kieran

Dear Santa,

Hi, how are you? Thank you for getting me lego. I'm on the nice list because I'm good at home and I'm good at school. This year I want Legos; a drone and I also want a red-light saber. I also have a question: Santa, how old are you? I am seven years old. I also hope you have a Merry Christmas.
From, Bryson

Dear Santa,

Hi, how are you? Thank you for a good family. I did something good in school. I want a dog day stuffed animal. How is your day? My day was amazing. Merry Christmas!
LOVE, Lauren

Dear Santa,

Hi Santa. My name is Felix. Have a good night. Thank you for giving everybody gifts. I will give you milk and cookies. I want \$100 for Christmas. I also want Pokémon cards.
Bye Santa.
From, Felix

Dear Santa,

I'm so happy that you gave me a puppy! That's why I love you. I've been really good, so has my sister. I've been helping Mom and Dad. I've been cleaning my room. I've been really nice. Thank you, Santa, for being so nice! Am I on the nice list? I promise I will leave you cookies and milk and carrots for your reindeer.
Love, Abbi

Dear Santa,

Hi, how are you, Santa? Thank you, Santa, for giving everyone joy. Santa, I've been listening very well. For Christmas I want a kid's camera. I also want a unicorn stuffy. Santa, how do your reindeer fly? Bye Santa. I wish you a great flight.
From, Sia

Dear Santa,

I hope you are doing well. I would like a new ball, slime and kinetic sand. I really like your long white beard. Merry Christmas!
From, Zaria

Happy Holidays!

From the AHAC family, we send our deepest thanks and warmest wishes for a happy holiday season and a healthy new year.

HEAR BETTER FOR THE HOLIDAYS - CALL US!

AHAC Alternative Hearing Aid Clinic Family Owned and Operated
alternativehearing.ca

TILLSONBURG A2 - 51 Simcoe St. 519-842-5500	DELHI 96 King Street 519-582-2300	NORWICH 32 South Court 519-842-5500	PORT ROWAN 1009 Bay Street 519-586-9500
--	--	--	--

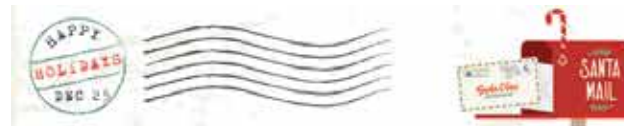


ANNANDALE PUBLIC SCHOOL

Dear Santa,
Hi, my name is Adijah. I am eight years old. I am so excited for Christmas. I hope I am on the nice list. I'm being good by helping my Mom clean. Thank you for my bracelet. Bye Santa.
From, Adijah

Dear Santa,
I want a bearded dragon. Also, I would like a mini quad. I think I'm on the nice list. I would like to meet you. I wonder if I could visit you. I like Rudolph, the Red Nosed Reindeer. I wish you a Merry Christmas.
From, Logan

Dear Santa Claus,
Hi, how are you? For Christmas, I would like a bear stuffie, a Christmas tree, and I also want my Mom and Dad to be happy. Thank you for coming to my house. I am very excited for Christmas. I have helped my Mom and Dad. That's why I should be on the Nice List. This is my final good-bye, Santa. Merry Christmas!
Love, Viha



ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Miss. Graham's Grade 1/2 Class

Dear Santa
My name is Ryder. I have been good and bad. I promise to be good by helping my mom/ I hope you bring me a Remote control car and a Pockeadox, and v bucks. I hope you have a Merry Christmas.
Love Always Ryder.

Dear Santa,
My name is Emma. I have been kind like I always am. I promise to be good by being kind to my sister. I hope you bring me a big Joe or if you cannot find that you can give me a moose squishmallow or a led light show. How is it going in the workshop. I hope to see you.
Merry Christmas Emma.

Dear Santa,
My name is London. I have been a good girl this year. I promise to be good by being kind to my brother. I hope you bring me 1: realistic baby doll. 2: big LOL doll. 3: Small LOL doll. I hope it shows. From London.

Dear Santa,
My name is Reid. I have been very good this year I hope you bring me Tesla Cyber Truck. Remote control. Bluerock crawling. Alex Uspull back car. I'll set out cookies!
From Reid.

Dear Santa,
My name is Chantel. I have been very good this year. I hope you bring me watch, scissors, pencil case. I'll set out some cookies!
From, Chantel.

Dear Santa,
My name is Halley. I have been good this year. I promise to be good by bring kind. I hope you bring me Alive Pets Ducks and a puppy.
Merry Christmas!
From Halley.

Dear Santa,



My name is Zipporah. I have been nice this year. I promise to be good by helping my mom. I hope you bring me a mini tv and LED lights for my room and scented stickers. Merry Christmas.
From Zipporah.

Dear Santa,
My name is Mallory. I have been very good this year. I hope you bring me an LOL doll, Stuffies, baby dolls. I'll set out cookies!
From Mallory.

Dear Santa,
My name is Mariam. I have been very good this year. I hope you bring me LOL doll, lights for my room, squishmallow. I'll set out cookies!
From Mariam.

Dear Santa,
My name is Oliver. I have been very good this year. I hope you bring me remote control car. LED lights, real cat. I'll set out cookies!
From Oliver.

Dear Santa,
My name is Luca. I have been good and I promise to be good by not hurting people. I hope you bring me Lego, a toy, lizard or a play station 5. I wish you a Merry Christmas!
From Luca.

Dear Santa,
My name is Blake. I have been good and bad. I promise to be good by helping my mom with the dishes. I hope you bring me a Xbox, LED lights and a VR. I wish you a Merry Christmas!
From Blake.

Dear Santa,
My name is Luke. I have been good this year. I promise to be good by planting tree. I hope you bring me a pet dog, Mr. Beast lab toys, and a remote-controlled Lamborghini car. I hope it snows. From Luke.

Dear Santa,
My name is Harrison. I promise to be good by holding the door. I hope you bring me a squishmallow, a Lego set, or a colouring book.
Merry Christmas!
From Harrison.

The Church of Living Water

Merry Christmas from The Church of Living Water

Join us for Christmas Eve service at 7pm, 5 Rouse St. in Tillsonburg

We meet Sundays at 10am. See us at churchoflivingwater.ca

SIMPLY SECONDHAND COMMUNITY SHOP

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR

25 Spruce St., Unit 10, Tillsonburg

MERRY Christmas & HAPPY NEW YEAR

Aspira Harvest Crossing Retirement Living

15 Harvest Ave, Tillsonburg, ON

aspiralife.ca



ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Dear Santa,
My name is Camilla. I have been very good this year. I hope you bring me a Furbie, LOL dolls, squishmallow. I'll set out cookies!
From Camilla.

Mr. Hennessey's Class

Dear Santa,
I have been a good boy this year. I have paid attention in class and behaved at home. For Christmas I would like a soccer jersey and how is Mrs. Clause doing and are the elves working on the toys? Am I on the nice list? Santa are you giving my class presents? Yes or no?
Love: R.A.

Dear Santa,
How are you doing and how are the reindeer Santa. I hope I am not bothering you well your elfs are making presents. I am just asking for a present so can I have a new knee pad and can I have a boss from arcadoses for Christmas please you can get the rest of my presents we love you Mrs. Clause and Santa we will leave cookies for you and I will leave a lot of carrots for the reindeers they will like it.
Love Chase.

To Santa,
I have been a good boy this year I have paid attention in class and behaved at home. For Christmas I would like FreddyFazBear mining kit can I have the golden FreddyFazBear please. How are the elves doing? Are they being silly? How are you doing? How is Mrs. Santa Claus? How do you make the toys? How are the reindeer doing?
From TJ.

Dear Santa,
How are you doing? I also have a few questions. How do you make toys? Is our class on the nice list? Are the elves cute? How are the reindeer doing? How is Mrs. Santa. My mom makes very good cookies me and my mom worked very hard. I hope you like it. I just used candy it was so good. I think you will like it. My papa got a few and he loved them and then I went to bed.
From Emerson.

Dear Santa,
How are you doing? This year for Christmas I would like slime. How do you make the you the toy snackadles, bathbomb, horse stuff. How is Mrs. Clause. Are the elves cute, gymnastics stuff. Gem stuff. Taylor Swift stuff. How are the elves doing. Are the elves making toys. How are the reindeer doing. What are your favourite kind of cookies?

Dear Santa,
How are you doing? Are the elves making toys? Are the elves cute? I hope you have a Merry Christmas. Can Bot and the geckodot and I really really really really wantd a cookie but not any cookies. I want a cookie bot mobile of them please it means a lot.

Dear Santa,
I will like a kopd and a pokemon club and a video game and dragon master and a survivor kit and Jurassic world kit. How are the elves doing? Hpw is Mrs. Clause? Hoe do you make the toys?
From LA.

Dear Santa,
I have been a good boy this year. I have paid attention in class and behaved at home. For Christmas, I would have a lexibook. How are the elves doing? Are they being silly? How are you doing? How is Mrs. Santa Clause? How do you make the toys? How are the reindeers doing? Is our class on the nice list? I hope you have a Merry Christmas. Are the elves cute? Are the elves making toys?

Dear Santa,
I have been a good boy. How are you doing? How do you make the toys? How is Mrs. Clause doing? Is our class on the nice list? Are the elves making toys? Are they being silly?
Love Cody.

Dear Santa,
How are you doing? How is Mrs. Clause? Are the elves making toys? Are the elves being silly? How are the elves doing? How are the reindeer doing? How do you make the toys? Is our class on the nice list? Are the elves cute? For Christmas, I would like a remote control car and an iPhone and a Flute and a harmonical! I love Christmas! Have a Merry Christmas! Christmas is my favourite holiday because it is Jesus' birth. And I also love the presents that you bring to everyone in the world. I'm going to get you home-made cookies. I've been a good boy this year.
Love Zachary.

Dear Santa,

My name is Violet. How are you doing? Is our class on the nice list? How is Mrs. Clause? How are the reindeer doing? How are the elves doing? Can I have a remote control drone?
From Violet.

Dear Santa,
How are you doing? I've behaved at home. And I would like some mini brands please and some glue on nails please and some LOL dolls please and how is Mrs. Clause? And the elfs? And can I have some Hello Kitty stuff and some plushies please? And some chapter books and a Roblox gift card.
Love Kristine.

Dear Santa,
How are the reindeer doing. This year I have paid attention in class. How do you make the toys. Is our class on the nice list. How is Mrs. Clause doing? Are the elves getting into any trouble. How are you doing? I hope you have a Merry Christmas. Are the elves making toys. For Christmas I want a fanny pack. And I want a gift card to winners. And I want a LOL house. And LOLs and I want socks.
Love Lily.

Dear Santa,
How are you doing? I have been a good girl this year. I have paid attention in class and I have behaved at home. For Christmas I would like a Roblox gift card and clothes and head phones and Sanrio plushes and Sanruto stuff and plushes.
Love Jojo.

Dear Santa,
How are you doing? I have been a good girl. How are the elves and reindeers? For Christmas I would like American Girl doll please and Elawel house please. How many presents are you delivering this year? This year I have been a good girl. I have been a good girl. I have not been rude to my cat. And I would like a Mini Fridge. Are the elves being funny? How is Mrs. Clause doing. If you like cookies I like cookies.
Love Hayden.

Dear Santa,
How are doing? How is Mrs. Clause doing? What does North pole look like? How is Rudolph doing? How do you and your elves make the toys? Do you think that my class is on the good list and can I please have a gingerbread man stuffie please and have a holly jolly Christmas and a happy New Year and can I please have a stuffie grinch and a dog?
Love Gwen.



More than 30 programs providing recreational, social, educational and wellbeing-based benefits, with new programs coming online all the time. Membership is available to anyone age 50+.

Buy a membership for 2025 between now and Dec. 20 for only \$45!
(Price goes up to \$55 on Jan. 1.)

We wish our community well this holiday season, and invite you to start the New Year with us on a healthy footing!

45 Hardy Ave, Tillsonburg • (519) 688-2520
tillsonburgseniorcentre.com

101 Broadway, Tillsonburg
Tue to Sun: 8 am to 2 pm, Mon: Closed



HAPPY

holidays



 **Zehrs**TM

400 SIMCOE ST, TILLSONBURG

(519) 842-9031

OPEN MON-SAT 7AM-9PM, SUN 8AM-9PM

PRICES IN EFFECT DECEMBER 12 TO DECEMBER 24



COWARD
PharmaChoice
Part of Tillsonburg's Independent Spirit Since 1874

**QUALITY STREET
OR AFTER EIGHT
MINTS**



160 G

\$4.99

**HERSHEY
KISSES**



180 G

\$4.99

**GHIRARDELLI
CHOCOLATES**



151 G

\$6.99

**PLANTERS MIXED
NUTS OR CASHEWS**



200 G

\$4.99

**HICKORY FARMS
BEEF AND CHEESE
SAMPLER**



446 G

\$19.99

POT OF GOLD



243 G

\$6.99

**ASHLEY AND FOSTER
BATH SETS**



2 PIECE

\$8.99

**ROSE AND ROBIN
TRAVEL SET**



4 PIECE

\$28.99

**RIVERSOL
SKINCARE
PRODUCTS**



25% OFF

**SNOOZIES FOOT
COVERS**



LADIES
STYLE ONLY

\$9.99

**ATTITUDE
SKINCARE
PRODUCTS**



20% OFF

**VIA ART HAIR
DRYER**



2 SPEED

\$16.99

SAVE. EVERYDAY. COWARD!

565 BROADWAY STREET, TILLSONBURG
519-842-4081

FREE DELIVERY WITH PRESCRIPTION
OPEN MONDAY - FRIDAY 9 - 9, SATURDAY 9 - 5:30, SUNDAY NOON - 4



ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Dear Santa,
How are you doing in the North Pole, are you cold in the North Pole? I really want a guitar and slime and socks and a phone and a tee shirt. How are the reindeers doing?
Love Olivia.

Dear Santa,
For Christmas I would like a Ninjago flashsuit. I promise I will be the best behaved student all year long.
Love Marner.

Dear Santa,
How are you doing Santa and Santa how much toys are they making is my Drezaent and how is Mrs. Clause doing? And Santa can I get a football helmet that is the only thing I want from my mum a medium one. I hope I am on the nice list. I hope you have a great Christmas I do to. I really think I am on the nice list. Have hope a great Christmas to everyone. And I hope they are on the nice list. Really hope I am on the nice list. Have a great Christmas Santa Clause.
Love Connor.

Mrs. Donais' Grade 1 Class

Dear Santa
My name is Charlie. I am 6 years old and I love my family. I run fast. How are you doing? How is Rudolph? This year I want sketch books and a bible and lols dolls.
Have a nice flight
Love Charlie

Dear Santa
My name is Norah. I have a pet named Sophie. I have a brother and sister. How does Rudolph's nose shine so bright?
I would like a Gabby doll house and a toy hape
Merry Christmas
Love Norah

Dear Santa
Hi my name is Nyla. I am 6 years old and I have a dog named gizmo. How do the reindeer fly? How many elves do you have? How is Mrs. Claus doing at the North Pole? I would like lego and sa feder. I will leave your reindeers some carrots
Love Nyla

Dear Santa
Hi my name is Elisa. I really like my best friends. They are really funny. How is Mrs. Claus? Reindeer fly? I want B5 and colouring books with markers. I will leave carrots for your reindeer.
Love Eliza

Dear Santa
Hi my name is Melina. I have 1 dog. He is 1 years



CHILDREN SHOP FOR CHRISTMAS

Talk Tillsonburg hosted its ninth annual Children Shop for Christmas at the Upper Deck Youth Centre on Dec. 7. The event gives children an opportunity to pick out Christmas gifts for their parents, and then enjoy play time. This year saw 204 children come through the event. Organizer Cathy Lynn Ryan gave credit to local businesses who donated towards the event, as well as the volunteers who made it happen. (CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)

NEW YEAR NEW LEAGUES

<p>MEN'S & LADIES GOLF LEAGUES</p> <p>Weekly Games: Discounted weekly league rounds. Fair, friendly competition with flights for all skill levels. Flexible timeslots: Book any day, anytime Great Prizes: Weekly prizes, draws & drink deals! REGISTER BEFORE THE NEW YEAR</p>	<p>CORNHOLE LEAGUE</p> <p>Calling all cornhole enthusiasts! Tuesday nights @ 7 PM \$5 per person/per week Spots are limited so don't wait. Room for 12 Teams REGISTER BEFORE THE NEW YEAR</p>
---	---

519-602-7839 to register or email us at birdsgolf_na@outlook.com for more information!



ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL

old. How are your elves? How are you Santa? I like this year, I would like a toy cat. I will leave a carrot.
Love Melina

Dear Santa
Hi My name is Shay. My favourite colour is purple and I am 6 and I like myself. How many elves do you have? What are all the elves names? This year I would like sketch books and a LOL and a watch.
Have a safe flight.
Love Shay

Dear Santa
Hi my name is Hayden. I am 6 years old. I have cats. My cats names are Sasha and other cats name is mooky. I like myself. How is Rudolph? How is the elves to get to the North Pole? This year I want a Nintendo Switch and I want a furby for Christmas. Have a nice flight.
Love Hayden

Dear Santa
Hi my name is Jill. I am 5 years old. I like hockey. How are the elves? How are you? I want a switch.
Love Jill

Dear Santa
Hi my name is Vera. I am 6 years old. I have two beds. I have brown hair. How are you doing? Do you stop time? This year I would like a laptop and note book watch. I will leave you milk and cookies
Love Vera

Dear Santa
Hi my name is Dorian. I want a transformer that can talk. How do the elves work? How do the reindeer fly? How many elves do you have? I would like a transformer that can talk. I will leave out some

milk and cookies and some carrots.
Love Dorian

Mrs. McDermott's Grade 1 Class

Dear Santa
My name is Jaxon and I am six years old. I wonder how old are your elves? I have been nice this year. A gift I would like is a camera. Love Jaxon

Dear Santa
My name is Cohen and I am 6 years old. I wonder if you like my cookies and milk? I have been good this year. A gift I would like is a big mario set.
Love Cohen

Dear Santa
My name is Johnbert and I am 6 years old. I wonder how do you go to every house in one night? I have been kind this year. I would like a toy for christmas.
Love John

Dear Santa
My name is Logan and I am 6 years old. I wonder do you eat all the cookies in one night? I have been respectful this year. A gift i would like is Rainbow Road.
Love Logan

Dear Santa
My name is Javier and I am 7 years old. I wonder do you buy or make the presents? I have been good this year. A gift I would like is a 3D pen a toy

Love Javier

Dear Santa
My name is Brooke and I am 6 years old. I wonder how hard do your elves work? I have been good this year. A gift I would like is a small toy horse.
Love Brooke



"Travel Agent: Someone who turns your dreams into reality"

TILLSONBURG TRAVEL SERVICE LTD.

175 Broadway, Tillsonburg
info@tillsonburgtravel.com • (519)842-5931
www.tillsonburgtravel.com

WARM wishes



Full Service Travel Agency: Travel Insurance, Airline Tickets, All Inclusive Packages, Motorcoach Tours and Cruises.



TICO #50027743



Merry Christmas

Wishing you a joyful holiday season filled with warmth, comfort, and happiness from all of us at End of the Roll!

END OF THE ROLLTM
FLOORING CENTRES

Hardwood | Laminate | Area Rugs | Luxury Vinyl | Carpet | & More!

Tillsonburg 612 Broadway St endoftheroll.com f @
tillsonburg@endoftheroll.com

petvalu
your pet • your store



400 Simcoe Ave, Tillsonburg
519-842-3664
www.petvalu.ca


ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Dear Santa

My name is Monte and I am 7 years old. I wonder do you drink coke? I have been helpful this year. A gift I would like is a transformer.

Love Monte

Dear Santa

My name is Anna. I am 7 years old. I wonder what is your favourite food? I have been kind this year. A gift I would like is a toy.

Love Anna

Dear Santa

My name is Isabella and I am 6 years old. I wonder how do you get to everyone in one night? I have been helpful this year. A gift I would like is a fur-by.

Love Isabella

Dear Santa

My name is Michael and I am 7 years old. I wonder do you like my milk and cookies. I have been kind this year. A gift I would like is a toy.

Love Michael

Dear Santa

My name is Ryan. I am 6 years old. I wonder how did you become Santa? I have been good this year. A gift I would like is a remote control car.

Love Ryan

Dear Santa

My name is Taylor and I am 6 years old. I wonder how old you are? I have been helpful this year. A gift I would like is a Barbie dream house.

Love Taylor

Dear Santa

My name is Oliver and I am 6 years old. I wonder

how do you get an elf? I have been good this year. A gift I would like is Rainbow Road.

Love Oliver

Dear Santa

My name is Aliana B and I am 6 years old. I wonder if I can have a wiener dog and Wiener cat they are going to be black and white please? Can I have two bunnies and I want a yoda stuffy because I think that they are cute. How do you deliver presents without me hearing you? I have been kind this year.

Love Ali

Dear Santa

My name is Sophia and I am 7 years old. I wonder how do you put stuff in stockings? I have been good this year. A gift I would like is a small horse from the tack shop.

Love Sophia

Dear Santa

My name is Brandy and I am 6 years old. I wonder how do the reindeer fly? Do you give pets as presents? How do you get into my house? Wiener cat and wiener dog, A doll with a green dress. I love Santa, and pet bunny. I have been grateful this year. A gift I would like is a Taylor Swift dress shirt.

Love Brandy

Dear Santa

My name is Easton and I am 6 years old. I wonder how do you get the reindeer? I have been good this year. A gift I would like is a remote control fish.

Love Easton

Dear Santa

My name is Arya. I am 6 years old. I wonder how many elves do you have? I have been good this year. A gift I would like is a rainbow sun catcher

Love Arya

Grade 3

Dear Santa,

How is everyone at the North Pole? How do you get around the world in one night? Are you busy in the North Pole? What kind of cookies do you like? What kind of cookies do you like? How many elves are there? Where is the North Pole? How old are you? How did you get your magic? And how old were you when you became Santa? How the elves make toys so fast. Am I on the nice list Santa? Do you like chocolate milk or just white milk? Are you kind Santa and nice and the best? I really like your magic. I hope you have a safe trip, Santa. From Scarlett.

Dear Santa,

Hello Santa. How are you doing? How are the elves doing? How is Rudolph? I love your magic. How are you? Santa you are the best! I have been good this year. Will I get presents? How many elves do you have?

From Spencer.

Hello Santa,

Greetings. Hello how are the elves doing? Are you guys doing packing? I hope you are feeling good. Now I play rep soccer. I hope you have a safe trip to my house.

Love Briar.

Dear Santa,

I hope you have the best day today, but for now, let's have a big chat. How about we talk about Christmas? Oh I forgot to tell you that Christmas is in 29 days, can you believe that! I have a question: have you set up your Christmas tree and ornaments because I have not set anything up? how are the elves and reindeer doing and are

they okay? That's all I wanted to talk about so now I will tell you what I want, this boxing bag, and gloves, a soccer ball, basketball. I hope you have a safe trip around the world. From Austin.

Dear Santa,

How busy are you? How is Mrs. Clause. How are the elves this year? Do I put out cookies and milk? I hope you have a safe trip.

Love Pabe.

Greetings Santa,

How do you get through the snow? I hope you have a good time in your sleigh. Merry Christmas Santa. And I love your magic. Have a safe trip. From Kaitlen.

Dear Santa,

I think I have been good byt maybe a little bad. But please do not put me on the naughty list because I am not always naughty. Hey what type of milk do you like white milk? Or chocolate? Hope you have a safe trip. Bye.

From Amiah.

Dear Santa,

How are you doing? Are the elves doing good? How are the reindeer doing? How do you get around the world in one night? Santa I love you! How many elves are there? Where is the North Pole? Santa am I on the nice list? What do you like more chocolate milk or normal milk? I hope you have a safe trip!

From Julian.

Greetings Santa,

How do you get around the world so fast? Santa are you always happy to your elves? When was your first Christmas Santa? Why do you need your sleigh Santa? Why was your name Santa Clause? What kind of cookie do you like? How many elves do you have? I hope you have a safe trip. How



Schep's Bakeries Ltd.

FROM ALL OF US AT SCHEP'S BAKERIES,

*We wish you a Merry Christmas and
many blessings in the New Year!*

WE ARE SO EXCITED TO BE JOINING THE
TILLSONBURG COMMUNITY IN 2025!





ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL

is Rudolph? How are the elves doing? I have been good this year. I love your magic. How are you Mrs. Clause? Are the elves busy at work? How are you Santa, are you good? What are the people like you Santa. What are the elves favourite thing to do at Christmas time. Santa, I have always wanted football gear every single time. Love Isaac.

Hello Santa,
My name is Sophia and I have been on the good list. I hope I am on the good list this year. Sometimes, if I drink pineapple juice and I can be naughty. I hope I am still on the nice list. How do you fly around the world so fast? You were just a saint now you are magical it is a miracle and I love magic! It is easy. I wish I could come with you to stay and celebrate Christmas with me! You are the best. I hope you have a wonderful and fun Christmas, and could you check on the reindeer and Mrs. Clause for Christmas? Could you get me some things? I hope you have a fun and amazing and safe trip.
Love Sophia.

Dear Santa,
How are you doing? How is the reindeer doing, good or bad? How are the elves doing? How do you get around the world so fast? I am just asking have I been good this year? Can you use your magic to put kids to sleep? How much cookies does Mrs. Clause make? How many do elves do you have? Have a safe trip.
Love, Michael.

Dear Santa,
How is Mrs. Clause? How is your winter? How are your elves doing? For the good people that are on the good list?
Love Blake.

Dear Santa,
How are the elves doing? How are you? How is Mrs. Clause? How is Rudolph? How do you deliver presents so fast to every house in the world? Do you like chocolate or regular? Do you like oatmeal cookies or chocolate chips? Have I been good this year. How many elves are there. I think one billion elves? Love Madden.

Dear Santa,
What kind of cookies do you like? Have I been good this year and I hope you have a safe and good trip. Finally I am looking forward to Christmas!
From Malcom.

Dear Santa,
Where is your sleigh? Where do you live? How are you? Safe travels!
Love Ethan.

Mrs. Wooley Grade 3 and 4 Class

Dear Santa Clause,
Hello Santa. How are you doing? Do you know when Mr. Elf will come? My guess is the start of Advent. I am tell you just going to tell you my Christmas list if that's okay with you I am pretty sure you would be. May I have Pikachu slippers, a micro card because Fortnite won't work without a new one, Pokémon cards, and V bucks (aka Fortnite money), Robucks (aka Roblox money) and that is my Christmas list Santa. Now for some more questions. Is Rudolph still young? We can get him baby carrots. Do you like normal milk, or chocolate or strawberry? You're choice! Do you like chocolate chip cookies or the oatmeal raisin ones? I prefer chocolate chip better than oatmeal raisin cookies. The raisins are weird. Anyways back to you. I hope you bring me, Layla, and Hunter lots of gifts! Merry Christmas!
Love, Nick!

Dear Santa,
How are you? When are Liv and Lulu coming? This year, I am going to change things up a lot. For Christmas, I would like make it mini lifestyle, new clothes, new shoes, Taylor Swift stuff, a fishing rod, loom bracelets, and a my live horse! I hope you have safe travels! Also I want flare pens.
Love Harleigh.

Dear Santa,
What is your favourite kind of cookie? And how are your reindeer doing? For Christmas, I would like a rainbow loom bracelet kit and a hand made lip balm kit. If you can't bring me those gifts then please bring me a noise machine and an iPhone 15. And please hope that cherry's ok from that accent down the stairs. I would also like a trampoline and tumbling track. Those are my expensive stuff on my Christmas list. Thank you Santa. From Everly. P.S. Sorry Santa but I would also like flared pens.

Dear Santa,
Can you give me a toy? Can you tell me are you ok? How is Rudolph? Can you give me a PS5. Please give Kierah a happy birthday card please.
From Leo.
Dear Santa,
What cookies do you want? can you make snowy fly? Can you give me and Sophie a bean bag chair? I'm going to get you a present! Thanks for making Snowy have the best time! Write back please! Merry Christmas! P.S. How's Rudolph?
Love Sarah.

Dear Santa,
How are the reindeer? What cookies do you like? If I am on the good list, can I have a Star wars Lego set, and two remote control bumper carts? From Lucas. P.S. How are the elves and Mrs. Clause?

Dear Santa,
Hi Santa, how are you doing? I hope you're really doing great! I know you don't like me asking for presents right away but I know it's a really big job. I love puppies. I've been wanting one so bad, but I know the most important thing is your family. So maybe I would like new shoes and some stuff so you can surprise me. But yeah, maybe shoes or whatever you think I deserve. I will also like a remote control car and v bucks. Well this is kind of all I want so bye Santa!

Dear Santa,
My name is Dillion. I am in grade 3 and eight years old. How are you and the elves doing. Do you like the milk, cookies, and carrots we make for you and the reindeer? For Christmas I would like a mountain bike please. I made a Santa rock for you! If I met you I would give you a big hug and say thank you!
From Dillion.
P.S. Make sure Bell comes this year.

Dear Santa,

hope you are doing ok Santa. I've been a pretty good kid. I will like to have for Christmas a Barbie Camper play set. I would like another two toys. They are some ground skates. My foot size is 2. It would be great if they were pink. The last toy I would like is a bracelet-making set. Have a wonderful Christmas.
From: Abby.

Dear Santa,
How are you doing? I hope you are doing well. For Christmas I would like a goat squishmallow. If you wouldn't mind could you send me and Keith an elf? Two more things I forgot how are the elves and how are the reindeer? I hope they are well. Have a good Christmas.
Sincerely, Emily.

KELSEYS *original* ROADHOUSE

Have yourself a merry little Christmas

**247 Broadway
Tillsonburg
(519) 688-7674
Reserve your table now!**

Merry Christmas

**JOSEPH'S FURNITURE IN THE HEART OF DOWNTOWN TILLSONBURG
DRESS UP YOUR HOUSE IN TIME FOR THE HOLIDAYS**

Quality Canadian made Furniture, 3 Floors to Shop, Free Delivery and Setup

OPEN MON TO FRI 10 TO 5 • SAT 10 TO 4 • CLOSED SUN

JOSEPH'S FURNITURE

"We Sell The Best For Less Guaranteed"

137 BROADWAY, DOWNTOWN TILLSONBURG • 519-842-8747

mymotors.ca 

QUALITY PRE-OWNED CARS & SERVICE

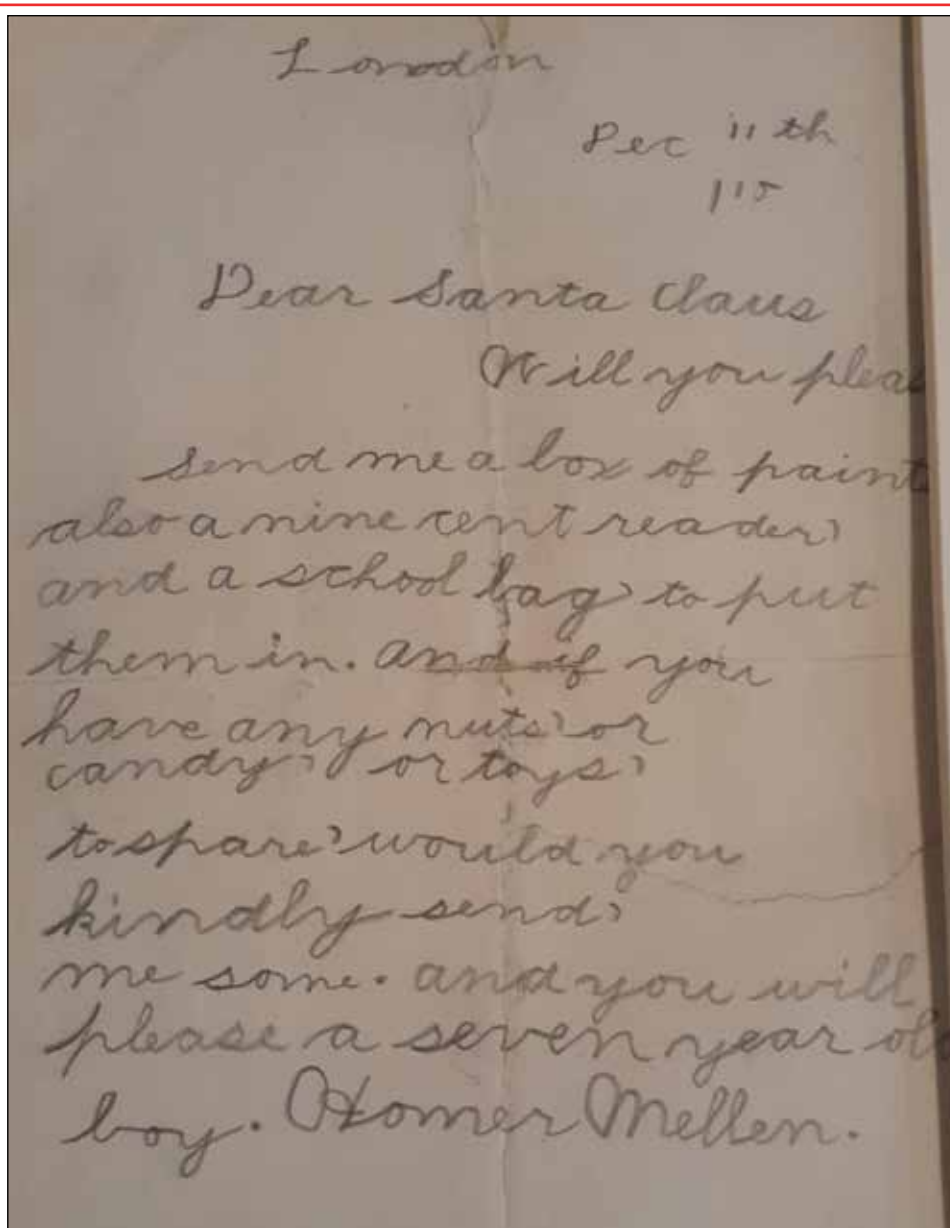
TILLSONBURG'S LARGEST USED CAR SUPERSTORE



Merry
Christmas
&
Happy
New Year



519-688-3202 • 7 Rouse St. W., Tillsonburg
Used Car Sales And Financing + Automotive Service



109 YEARS AGO...

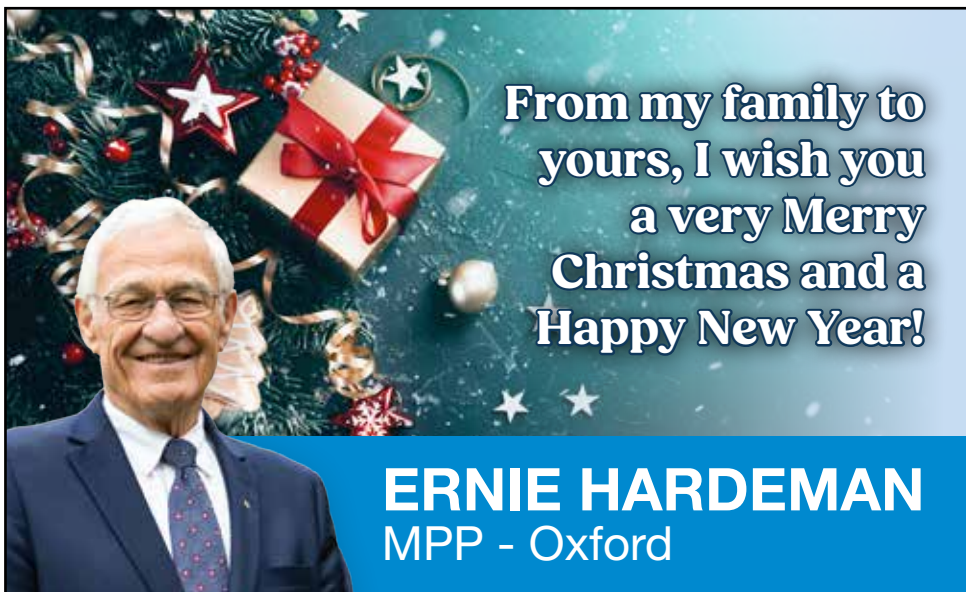
Amongst Tillsonburg resident Suzanne Murphy's family heirlooms is a copy of a letter her grandfather, Homer James Mellen, wrote to Santa Claus in 1915 when he was seven years-old. Mellen was born on August 11, 1908 in London, Ontario and died in 1970 in London. He was employed for years by Supertest. Homer married Kathleen Marie Cowan and they had four children, the second of which was Murphy's father Lawrence George Mellen. The letter gives an insight into life over a century ago. (CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)



DOOR WORLD
a division of E&E McLaughlin

PROVIDING FIRST-CLASS DOOR INSTALLATION, REPAIR SERVICES, AND LOCKSMITHING SERVICES IN SIMCOE, TILLSONBURG AND SURROUNDING AREAS FOR BOTH RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL PROPERTIES

519-842-4671 info@doorworld.ca doorworld.ca



From my family to yours, I wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

ERNIE HARDEMAN
MPP - Oxford

ernie.hardeманco@pc.ola.org • 519-537-5222 • 1-800-265-4046



THE MUDMEN IN TILLSONBURG

Canadian Celtic band The Mudmen brought their energizing show to the Legion on Nov. 29. The band is a favourite at the Legion, and drew a good crowd out for the evening to listen to a combination of rock and bagpipes.

(JEFF HELSDON PHOTO)



CRAFT SHOW

The craft and vendor sale held at the Legion on Nov. 23 featured a wide variety of crafters, selling a wide variety of seasonal crafts. Cathy Kristopher, left, and Luciana Mazza were doing a brisk business at The Crystal Compass table. The show was organized by Allison Lea, who had over 20 vendors there.

(JEFF HELSDON PHOTO)



VIDEO GAMES - VINTAGE TOYS - SPORTS COLLECTABLES
GOLD & SILVER - COINS & JEWELRY - CRYSTALS

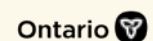
FARMER
**WELLNESS
INITIATIVE**

**Agriculture
Wellness
Ontario**

**FREE MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT
FOR ONTARIO FARMERS,
FARM WORKERS AND THEIR FAMILIES**

1-866-267-6255

AVAILABLE IN ENGLISH, FRENCH & SPANISH



Holiday trees a love letter to family, nostalgia

NANCY PUHR-SLINGERLAND

Tillsonburg Post Contributor

There are generally two questions people ask when I say I put up 14 Christmas trees every year: Number One is 'Are you serious?' and Number Two (which is always preceded with a look hovering somewhere between abject horror and utter bemusement) is: 'Why?'

On question Number One the answer is a simple 'yes', although I didn't start out with that many trees...I can't precisely say where my Christmas obsession began. Certainly, my childhood home was always decorated for the holidays, but it wasn't excessive. We had our tree of course, and there was always a nativity scene, and like most families with kids in the '80s, we had one of those light-up ceramic trees with the plastic bulbs. You know the ones I mean - the ones that, in the '90s were relegated to gathering dust in storage and, in the early 2000s were eventually packed off to Goodwill only to have them return to popularity post-pandemic and now sell for a small fortune on Marketplace. We had stockings for Christmas Eve, a homemade wreath on the door, and a ceramic candy dish in the shape of a giant holly leaf that was always filled with that old-school striped ribbon candy.

In actuality, I think my love of decorating for the holidays has less to do with the decorations themselves than with the history, tradition and nostalgia they symbolize. As a child, I always looked forward to decorating for Christmas with my mom. There was just something comforting about the sight of those well-loved ornaments, the strings of tinsel and the lights. They always made the house instantly warmer and cozier. More than the decorations though, was the time mom and I spent together decking the halls before having dad come in to survey the final product. I remember a year when we crafted felt ornaments that we filled with stuffing and decorated with ric-rac and sequins. Only two felt gingerbread folk remain of that venture, and while some might see their broken stitching and leaking stuffing and think it's time to file them under 'g,' they still get a place of honour on one of my trees. They join the somewhat tattered ornaments made from popsicle sticks and macaroni noodles that my son

crafted in daycare, and live happily alongside newer additions like the blown glass sasquatch we found on a trip to Tennessee, and the glitter-covered 747 that pays tribute to my hubby's past life in the sky.

As a child, the first order of business after finishing the tree was always to turn off every light in the house, lay on the ground and wriggle myself under its bottom branches. I'd lay there staring up at the lights and the tinsel, and in those moments, everything was right with the world.

Although my 50-year-old back won't permit me to lay under my trees anymore, I still find myself feeling waves of nostalgia when I drag out those bins and boxes, and perhaps none more so than when I decorate my vintage tree. Opening that tote box of ornaments is like a step back in time. The glass bulbs have taken on a cloudy patina and the old glass glitter doesn't really sparkle anymore. But those ornaments are still some of the most beautiful to me, mostly because I remember the spirit in which they were given.

It was sometime in the early '80s when it happened. Mom had gone to the basement to retrieve the Christmas decorations, but she came upstairs empty-handed. In an effort to prevent the decorations from being damaged by moisture that was an occasional issue in our basement, she'd placed the boxes of ornaments inside plastic garbage bags and, you guessed it, somehow between last Christmas and that day, the bags had been chucked.

Mom felt sick to her stomach about it, but at that point there was little to be done but to head to Woolco to fill a cart with new decorations, which we did. We tried to make the best of it, but those tacky satin-wrapped balls and plastic snowflakes dipped in glitter were a pale substitute for what we'd lost. There was no tradition on those new ornaments, no patina from Christmases past - just a smell of cheap plastic and defeat.

Enter mom's Aunt Lola and my paternal grandmother who, quite literally, scooped ornaments off their own trees to help us decorate ours. It was an impactful moment for me, I think, because not only were the ornaments we received as beautiful as the ones we'd lost in 'the incident,' but it was the ultimate demonstration of the selfless, giving spirit of Christmas, and I never, ever forgot it.

As an adult, my mom made me the steward of those ornaments and their history. They deserved their own tree, I reasoned, and tree Number Two was born. That was many years ago now, and from there, it's been a steady descent into obsession as trees have been added that pay homage to vacations taken, life milestones, collections, pop culture and more.

As for question Number Two - why so many Christmas trees - I guess my answer is 'Why not?' Some people scrapbook or do genealogy. I just happen to preserve my family's story in glass and glitter.



Oldridge
heating & cooling
Established 1961 - Locally Owned

**Your local, full-service
heating, ventilation, and
air conditioning technicians**

Servicing residential communities and
industrial businesses in the Tillsonburg,
Delhi, Aylmer, Ingersoll, and
surrounding areas.

"We give you comfort"

oldridge@execulink.com
www.oldridgeheatingcooling.ca
519-688-2947

definite styles
hair salon
39 brock street w,
tillsonburg
(519) 842-6336

**definite
styles**

- Mortgages
- Reverse mortgages
- Debt consolidation
- Construction financing
- Alternative lending
- Private financing

DAVID SIMMONDS
MBA CPA CGA
Mortgage Agent Level 2
Brokerage License 12728

19 Ridout Street East
Tillsonburg ON N4G 2C6
519-403-5020
david@davidsimmonds.ca

MA
MORTGAGE
ARCHITECTS

PREPARING FOR
CHRISTMAS
CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

NORTH BROADWAY CHURCH
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2024 @4:30PM & 6:30PM
6 NORTH STREET E. TILLSONBURG
NORTHBROADWAYCHURCH.CA/CHRISTMAS

70 YEARS
'Tis the Festive Season

400 Simcoe St., Tillsonburg

*Valid until Dec. 29, 2024. Taxes and upgrades of sides extra. White Meat add \$2.00 per entree. At participating locations, while supplies last. Registered trademark of Recipe Unlimited Corporation.



Bronwil Construction specializes in renovations

Bronwil Construction is a contractor with a difference. Started by Josh Manary in November 2022, Bronwil was started after Manary was working in construction with his brother Cody.

“It started with buying my own homes and needing a crew to work on them, and it evolved into being a general contractor,” Josh said.

The brothers kept getting busier and then the decision was made to start the company. The company’s name is based on Josh’s children’s middle names, which is Bronwen for his daughter and son William.

True to the company’s origins, renovations are the biggest thing at Bronwil. This includes a lot of bathrooms, kitchens, decks and fences. As a general contractor, Manary subcontracts the trades such as electrical, plumbing and HVAC. There is no job too large or small for Bronwil.

“You’ve got to have the small to fill in between the big,” Josh said, adding as an example one of the large projects is an entire house in London.

One of the differences with Josh is he can offer everything from selling and buying homes to the renovations after.

Bronwil also works in the commercial sector, such as building the kitchen display at Moffatt and Powell in Tillsonburg. Besides, himself and Cody, Tyler Hurren rounds out the Bronwil crew.

Cody went to school for one year for finish carpentry, but didn’t finish his course. Josh started off taking electrical at school but also didn’t finish, working in construction instead.

His business is generally 45 minutes from Tillsonburg, basically London to Long Point.

Asked the difference between his business and the competition, Josh answered, “I have Cody. He’s sought after.”

Expanding on this, Josh said Cody is great at finishing carpentry. “He’s very meticulous, very clean. People like to have him in their house. I get texts all the time from clients saying ‘Can Cody come back to do this’.”

Josh’s strength is in design and he explains his concepts to Cody. Some examples of Cody’s projects include trimming doors, fireplaces, decks, built-in cupboards and even a custom-made bed.

Bronwil Construction is located at 164103 Brownsville Road.

Give us a call to start the process on any of your 2025 projects



226-970-1823
office@customlivingsolutions.ca



BRONWIL CONSTRUCTION
Residential/Commercial Contractors
226-970-1823



Commercial & Residential Windows • Doors • Glass
213 Tillson Ave, Tillsonburg
519-842-5932 • tillsonburgglass.ca

Christmas Sale
Buy \$100.00 Gift Certificate and we will give you an extra \$20.00 for your gift certificate.
A Gift for you \$120.00
*see store for details
nu-decor
www.nu-decor.ca

SKILL SHOT
AN ACCESSIBLE PINBALL PARLOUR
102-I Tillson Avenue, Tillsonburg
519-544-1799
skillshotpinball.ca



j.d.lighting
Your local lighting & decor store!
Visit
www.jdlighting.ca
216 Tillson Ave, Tillsonburg
Family-owned & operated since 2007

ADVERTORIAL

Tillsonburg Unveils New Downtown Gift Card, Featured in Hometown Holiday Catalogue

Tillsonburg is making local shopping more convenient and exciting with the launch of the new Downtown Tillsonburg Gift Card, which can be used at participating restaurants, stores, and venues throughout the downtown area. As part of an ongoing effort to encourage a shop local trend, the Gift Card replaces the previous Downtown Dollars paper cheque system, providing a modern and easy-to-use solution for both locals and visitors alike.

To help shoppers discover the many offerings in downtown Tillsonburg, the new Downtown Tillsonburg Gift Card is featured in the Tillsonburg Business Improvement Area's (BIA) newly released Hometown Holiday Catalogue. This catalogue, available for download digitally, highlights the variety of local businesses that accept the Gift Card and showcases the great gift-giving possibilities available in the downtown core. The Hometown Holiday Catalogue can be downloaded from the official website at www.downtown-tillsonburg.com.

Mark Renaud, Executive Director at Tillsonburg BIA, said: "Downtown Dollars was successful at helping keep dollars local but the paper cheques were time consuming. Tillsonburg is a growing town with a proud history and

our new Gift Card matches our aspirations for the future. With one Downtown Tillsonburg Gift Card, people can enjoy our family-owned businesses, unique shops and diverse range of downtown restaurants, as well as big box stores within the downtown core. There really is something for everyone.

Mark adds: "With the ease and versatility of the Downtown Tillsonburg Gift Card, we also see the Gift Card as an accessible tool for local organizations to use as rewards and incentives for customers and employees."

The Downtown Tillsonburg Gift Card is also being supported by Tillsonburg Town Centre, with the Gift Card replacing their existing program.

Roselyn D'Ascanio, Director, Brand Strategy & Marketing at Salthill Capital, owners and managers of Tillsonburg Town Centre, commented: "Tillsonburg Town Centre's tenant roster features both national and local brands, making it a focal point of shopping and services in the region. Historically Tillsonburg Town Centre offered a gift certificate program. However, with all the positive changes happening at the shopping centre and throughout Tillsonburg, we felt that it was time to modernize and improve this offering, while simul-



taneously partnering with the community to ensure our customers are getting the best value and experience."

"The BIA is so well connected throughout the community, and the team at the BIA inspires us every day to do more. The Gift Card is a tangible example of this, and we are so excited to be a part of the program. Further, our shopping centre occupies a substantial space in downtown Tillsonburg and we want our tenants to be as integrated with the community as possible and feel this program in partnership is a great way to do so."

"Apart from integration with the community, we see this new Gift Card program to be beneficial for the shopping centre and our tenants. It gives our tenants more exposure to new customers, provides deeper contact with current customers, and offers collaboration between national brands and local businesses. In general, we feel this program will help Tillsonburg Town Centre, the Tillsonburg BIA, and Salthill on our mission to bring more people, excitement and dollars to the Tillsonburg community so that we can continue to grow Tillsonburg and engage in more opportunities."

A new addition to the Downtown Tillsonburg Gift Card program is Dande Collective Owner Emma Gaffney said: "At Dande Collective, we offer a curated collection of both new and preloved home décor, home goods, clothing, and local artisan items. We're thrilled to participate in the Gift Card program as it helps us connect with other local businesses and reinforces the importance of shopping local."

"Being part of the Gift Card will benefit our business in many ways, including spreading our name within the community and offering customers a more flexible payment option while supporting downtown."

The technology for the Downtown Tillsonburg Gift Card is provided by fintech Miconex in association with international payments technology solutions provider EML Payments. Miconex operates its Downtown Gift Card concept across Canada.

The Downtown Tillsonburg Gift Card is issued by Peoples Trust Company, part of Peoples Group. Card funds are not insured by the Canada Deposit Insurance Corporation (CDIC) or any other government deposit insurer or agency. Funds do not expire, are non-reloadable and have no cash access. For Cardholder Agreement or Customer Service: www.getmybalance.com or 1-833-558-1108.

A Message from the Tillsonburg BIA Marketing Team:

"As the team behind the Downtown Tillsonburg Gift Card and the Hometown Holiday Catalogue, we're proud to offer a tool that helps bring our community closer together. The Gift Card makes it easy for locals and visitors alike to support the wonderful businesses in our downtown core, and we hope everyone in Tillsonburg enjoys a happy and prosperous holiday season. Whether you're shopping for gifts, dining out, or exploring our unique stores, we're excited to see the positive impact this initiative will have on our local economy."



SPORTS

Tillsonburg **POST**
SECTION 2

COWARD PHARMACY
PharmaChoice
Part of Tillsonburg's Independent Spirit Since 1874

Find our weekly flyer at cowardpharmacy.ca
519-842-4081
165 Broadway, Tillsonburg

STORE HOURS:
MONDAY TO FRIDAY 9AM TO 9PM
SATURDAY 9AM TO 5:30PM
SUNDAY 12PM TO 4PM

wiltshire
REALTY INC. BROKERAGE
We Are Helping Your Friends & Family
519-544-HOME
21 Brock St. E, Unit #3, Tillsonburg
www.wiltshirerealty.ca

Bryan Wiltshire** 519-318-0736
Amanda Wiltshire* 519-777-8801
Cam Hughes* 519-852-5431
Craig Todt* 519-550-5212
Melissa McDonald* 519-688-6916

*Sales Rep.
**Broker of Record

Fire department douses competition in bonspiel

The Tillsonburg Ice Rescuers, a team with representatives from the Tillsonburg Fire Department, were the winners at the 67th annual community service bonspiel.

While local community groups compete for the trophy in two six-end games, entry fees and sponsorship money is distributed to the community through a draw system. This year more than \$1,300 was distributed to local charities, based

on the charity chosen by the teams. Recipients were: Tillsonburg Hospital Foundation, Tillsonburg Children's Centre, Tillsonburg Salvation Army and the Tillsonburg Fair.

There were six teams in the early draw, and at the end of the first game three teams were tied with 16 points and in contention for the trophy. After the second game, the Kinsmen Club took top place on the draw with 31 1/2 points edging out the Tillsonburg Curling Club team by 1/4 point. Now the Kinsmen had to wait for the second draw to finish before they could claim the trophy. The late draw, which had eight teams on the ice, had four teams tied at 17 points after their first game. In the second game, team Ice Rescuers played the Knights of Columbus team and the Hospital Foundation played the Rotary Club for the first-place spot. The Rotary Club won their game, finishing with a total of 32 1/4 points but it wasn't enough to take the trophy honours as the Ice Rescuers (Fire Dept) won their game to finish with a total of 34 3/4 points and emerge as the newest trophy winners. Organizers are hoping to



The Tillsonburg Ice Rescuers team were the winners in the Community Services Bonspiel. Left to right are: Tony Hietkamp, Terry Hildebrant, Barry Lasook, Dennis Vandevyvere and sponsor Chris Appleton of Good, Redden and Klosler.

(JEFF HELSDON PHOTO)



Amanda Way, left, and Shirley Becht were two of the curlers taking part in the annual community service bonspiel hosted by the Tillsonburg Curling Club.

(JEFF HELSDON PHOTO)

have a full draw next year with more participation from the community. "It's all about the fellowship and camaraderie," said fire chief Shane Caskenette. "It benefits the community and supports so many local charities. Curling comes second."

"We are so grateful to be invited back each year," said Jen Olcsvary, Multi-Service Centre Fundraising Coordinator. "The curling club and its members are always welcoming and carry on the spirit of our community services. The curling bonspiel participants are

always so helpful and encouraging." "I'm a big fan of anything that brings community together in a fun way," said Coun. Kelly Spencer from the town team. "This is a blast and comfortable enough for everyone even if they don't know curling."

Come see us for parts and service and all your mattress and appliance needs

Hurley's
MATTRESS & APPLIANCE

15 Oxford St.
Tillsonburg, ON
N4G 2G1



BRANDS WE CARRY

Appliances

- Whirlpool
- Electrolux
- GE
- Huebsch
- Marathon
- Panasonic

Mattresses

- Serta
- Simmons
- Sealy
- Dreamstar
- ... and much more!

519-688-3464

1-866-688-3464

hurleys.appliance@gmail.com

STORE HOURS

Mon-Fri: 10:00 am - 5:00 pm

Sat: 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

www.hurleysappliance.com



TILLSONBURG'S
Christmas
STORE

**THOUSANDS OF
GIFT IDEAS
ON SALE!**

**248 BROADWAY
(519) 842-5926
canadiantire.ca**

South Oxford Storm U14 A qualify for Silver Stick International

JEFF TRIBE

Post Correspondent

The Roulston's Pharmacy U14 A South Oxford Storm have already met coach Adam's Hunter's primary 2024/25 goal. And then some.

"They're finding themselves, finding some confidence and having a great time doing it," he summed up in arrears of an International Silver Stick tournament qualifier tournament victory in Coburg the second week of November.

Hunter has been coaching members of the same group for the past three seasons, the last two as a South Oxford Storm entry featuring athletes from both Ingersoll and Tillsonburg. Last year, the squad qualified for three tournament finals, heartbreakingly finishing as finalist in each.

This season, the U14 Storm opened with a come-from-behind tournament victory over Woolwich at Hespeler, backed this success up with a win in their own South Oxford draw and rounded the hat-trick at the Silver Stick qualifier level at Coburg. "They've got themselves over the hump, which is great to see," said Hunter.

The Storm opened pool play at Coburg with a comfortable 8-1 win over the Ottawa West Golden Knights, a result predicted by the teams' respective provincial rankings.

"It was great to get our feet underneath us," said Hunter.

South Oxford upped its record to 2-0 with a 4-0 shutout of the Whitby Wildcats, who said Hunter provided 'a solid challenge.' The Roulston's Pharmacy U14's final pool play game offered an opportunity for the Storm to expand their experience in their first year of body-checking and special teams play (power-play and penalty-killing), up against a large Quinte West Golden Hawks team.

"It was a real physical game," said Hunter of a 4-1 win.

South Oxford faced the Perth Wings in semi-finals, scoring early and taking a 2-1 lead out of the first period against a competitive squad.

"They hung in there and played us



The Roulston's Pharmacy U14 A South Oxford Storm qualified for the International Silver Stick championship tournament in Markham during the second week of January, with a 5-0 record at their qualifier draw in Coburg. (CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)

tough," said Hunter.

However, the Storm kept on coming, taking advantage of pressure deep in the Perth zone to eventually wear the Wings down en route to a 6-1 victory.

Nate Bozang opened scoring for the winners and finished with two goals, and Liam Peters, Rydan Bonifacio, Ederson Hodges and Kaelen Howard added a marker apiece, with Peters (2), Hodges and Howard contributing assists.

Despite entering the final with an impressive 4-0 record, 18 goals for and just three against, South Oxford took nothing for granted while facing off against a familiar foe. At Hespeler, the Woolwich Wildcats opened up an early 3-0 lead before the Storm rebounded to eventually take the tournament title.

The script was flipped at Coburg, the traditionally slow-starting Storm building a 3-0 advantage through the game's opening five minutes.

"They came out flying and had a great start," credited Hunter.

However, as expected, the Wildcats re-

sponded.

"They pushed back really hard."

South Oxford carried a 4-2 lead out of the second, and while Woolwich pulled within a single goal with 2:23 remaining in regulation time, the Storm was able to close out a 4-3 Silver Stick International berth-clinching victory.

"It was great to see," Hunter summed up. Bonifacio finished with two goals for South Oxford, Sam Hunter and Howard a goal each, and Lucas Thompson, Peters and Miles Botzang an assist apiece.

Ranked fourth provincially at their level as of December 5th, South Oxford boasted an overall record of 25-3-0, including a 9-1-0 mark in Shamrock League action. Hunter says the team has a high skill level, his approach getting them comfortable with both systems and body checking while focussing on continued learning and development as the season advances.

"Working with our speed is one of our

biggest things," said Hunter. "We spend a lot of time on special teams too."

The addition of four skaters and transition/development of three former forwards on defence has given the U14 A Storm greater depth and flexibility the coach continued.

"That has really benefitted us in some of our tournaments."

The International Silver Stick A final tournament will be contested the third week of January in Markham.

"There are some quality teams in it for sure," said Hunter, including Woodstock, which South Oxford has a 1-1 record against this season. "They will be a tough opponent for us."

However, the Storm is looking forward to the event with both confidence and expectations at a high level.

"It will be a challenge no doubt about it, but I think it's one the boys will be ready for by that point of the season," Hunter concluded.

Weekend Quiz

- 1) What is the traditional birthstone of December?
- 2) Who plays the role of the Winter Soldier in the Marvel universe?
- 3) How many times did the boy call "Wolf!"?
- 4) What was the original name for the song Jingle Bells?
- 5) What year was the Star Wars Holiday Special televised?
- 6) What color are the berries of the mistletoe plant?
- 7) "Mele Kalikimaka" means Merry Christmas in which language?
- 8) How many points does a snowflake have?
- 9) True or False. Greenland has green on their flag.
- 10) What's more dangerous: hypothermia or frostbite?

This week's answers are found on pg. 47

**MERRY
CHRISTMAS**

...from the staff at the Post! We'll be taking a break for the holidays and will not be publishing on December 26th. Our next issue will be out on January 9th. Thank you so much for the huge amount of support since our launch in September. We're excited to bring you more Tillsonburg Post in 2025!

Ponting Financial Group U12 A South Oxford Storm takes 'team' approach

JEFF TRIBE

Post Correspondent

The Ponting Financial Group U12 A South Oxford Storm took a collective approach to an International Silver Stick regional qualifier victory at Northumberland November 22-24.

"We're deep," said coach Greg Mitchell. "Some teams have 'a guy.' We don't have 'a guy,' we have 'a team' and we play as a team."

The qualifier broke into two separate portions, statistically-closer games in pool play followed by what was on paper, domination in the Storm's semi-final and championship outings.

They played out closer on the ice than the scores indicated said Mitchell, a 10-0 shutout of the Ottawa West Golden Knights in semi-final play, and a 7-0 final result against the Quinte West Golden Hawks.

Both teams provided quality opposition credited Mitchell, however South Oxford's ability to put the puck in the net when it had the chance stretched out the final scores.

"No game is easy, it's still good hockey," said Mitchell. "We capitalized on our opportunities and they didn't."

The U12 A Storm had opened round-robin play with an 8-0 shutout of the Perth Lanark Blue Wings, following that up with a tight 5-3 win over the Whitby Wildcats Blue squad.

The following day, with first place in their pool already clinched, South Oxford skated by Quinte West Golden Hawks 4-2 in what would be a preview of the final.

When meeting South Oxford

in pool play, both Whitby and Quinte West were undefeated in their leagues, the former 13-0-1, the Golden Hawks 11-0-1, records including a mutual tie. Mitchell says parents from the opposing teams were complimentary about the Storm's level of play.

"They thought we'd give the AA teams a good go."

Offensively, Lawson Baker (3 goals, 8 assists), Blake Lauwerier (8/2), Brody Geerts (5/4), Brady Ungar (5/3) Easton Dunn (4/4) and Carter Tryon (6/1) paced the attack in Northumberland. Charlie Donkers (1/2), Gavin Gozzard (0/3), Carter Ponting (0/2), Colton Parrott (2/0), Jeremy Homick (0/1) and Blake Buchner (0/1) also hit the scoresheet.

On strength of the qualifier tournament victory, South Oxford will compete in the International Silver Stick U12 A championship in Newmarket. To date, the draw features the host team, a squad from Flint, Michigan and the defending Silver Stick and OMHA champions from Welland.

The Ponting U12 A Storm is 11-0 in regular season Shamrock League play thus far, 29-3 overall, leading to a #2 provincial ranking in its division, behind St. Thomas. The teams have split two games this season, St. Thomas defeating South Oxford in the final of its own tournament, while the Storm beat their number one-ranked opponents in league play. South Oxford's other local loss came in an early-bird tournament semi-final game during which they outshot their opponent by a 45-5 margin, only to lose 2-0.



The Ponting Financial Group U12 A South Oxford Storm won its regional International Silver Stick tournament qualifier in Northumberland, adding a memorable experience to an earlier Can/Am tournament victory in Nashville, Tennessee.

(CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)

Mitchell credits his squad's depth as a significant strength.

"We're a good team, we're balanced, very balanced."

The Ponting U12 A's also won the Can/Am Challenge Cup in Nashville, Tennessee, playing against American opposition a year older. South Oxford opened the tournament with a 6-1 win over Centre Ice Atlanta, and following a 4-2 setback against the North Jersey Avalanche, rebounded to edge the Louisville Ice Cardinals 5-4 and double the Houston Junior Aeros 4-2. In the gold medal final, the Storm skated to a 4-1 win over the Lake Forest (California) Gold Rush, adding an empty-net goal to extend a tight 3-1 score.

"It was good hockey," said Mitchell.

Tryon had seven goals and three assists in Nashville to lead the

attack, Gozzard contributed four goals and two assists and Ungar three goals and two assists.

A signature tournament is part of his approach, striving to make the season both fun and memorable. Nashville replaced a Las Vegas event from previous seasons, taking the flight out of the equation for those who wished to drive to a location with live music everywhere, 'like going to Disneyland for music,' said Mitchell.

"You want the parents to have fun too."

In a nutshell, that sums up his coaching philosophy for his players.

"If they're not having fun, what are we doing this for?" he asked rhetorically.

Obviously, Mitchell continued, players are having more fun

when winning than losing.

"But it's not win at all costs."

The coach is also about individual development. Using an extreme example, Mitchell pointed out that Ryan Reaves will never be a better hockey player than Connor McDavid. However, each strives to better themselves within their own framework of expectations.

"We push every practice every game for each individual to be better than themselves, not the guy beside them."

To sum up, success through personal development within a team framework, while never losing sight of the primary goal of making sure the players are enjoying the experience.

"We want them to want to be there," Mitchell concluded. "Make it exciting, fun in the room."

Tillsonburg POST

Pick Up Locations

TILLSONBURG

Annadale Historic Site
Apple Convenience
Around the Corner Variety
Canadian Tire
Chrissy's Corner Store
Circle K
Cool Convenience
Corner Convenience
Coward PharmaChoice
Coyle's Country Store
Esso
Goodwill Community Store

Home Hardware Bldg

Centre
Korner Perk
Maple View Variety
Nectar Coffee & Bar
Oxford Mini martes
PetroCanada
Pharmasave
Pioneer Gas & Convenience
Queen's Cafe
R&P Convenience
Royal Canadian Legion
Salvation Army Thrift

Store

Shoppers Drug Mart
Sobeys
Station Arts Centre
The Country Table
Tillsonburg BIA
Tillsonburg Community Centre
Tillsonburg Library
Tillsonburg Hospital
Tillsonburg Senior Centre
Tim Hortons locations
Walmart
Zehrs

COURTLAND

Courtland Variety & Cafe
Courtland Bakery Ltd.
MT. ELGIN
Esso
LANGTON
Langton Community Centre
Langton Pharmacy
DELHI
Home Building Centre
Pharmasave
Tim Hortons
Wilkinson's YIG

NORWICH

Shoppers Drug Mart
Circle K
Village Restaurant
Norwich Deli & Bakery
Shell
Home Hardware Building Centre
Norwich Arena
Norwich Feeds Country Store
Rivansh Gas & Variety
Tim Hortons
Foodland

Close battles in recent Club Oxford play

JEFF GWYN

Post Contributor

November 24

ReMax 1, Agrospray 0

ReMax was able to capitalize on some pressure late in the first to get their goal. They played well defensively and were backed up well by relief goalie Tommy Lee. Agrospray had a lot of jump in this one, but couldn't get their shots to bounce their way. A good defensive game as well with some stellar saves by relief goalie Tyler Gubesch.

Matt Wight had the goal for ReMax.

Fody's 5, Distinct 2

Fody's seemed dangerous all night. They had their top line going and were able to pressure Distinct anytime they had a rush or were in close. Distinct had trouble with Fody's speed early and couldn't control them in the defensive zone. They did have some rushes throughout the game, but couldn't cash in.

Shane Balcomb and Jeremy Hilliard had three points each for Fody's. Dave VanWyk and Brian Velthove had goals for Distinct.

RND 1, Precision 0

RND was able to get more chances and killed off three penalties in this one. They didn't let Precision get anything going until late in the game. Precision matched RND's speed and were able to keep them from getting many second chances. They had some late pressure but couldn't find the net to tie it up.

Dan Irvine had the goal for RND.

Royal LePage 3, Airmount 1

Royal LePage worked hard in front all night and were rewarded with some goals in close. They were able to kill off a few penalties which helped keep Airmount at bay. Airmount took a bit to get things going but were able to get some rushes. They couldn't capitalize on the powerplay and that faltered their momentum.

Jacen Kirton had two goals for Royal LePage. Dylan Thompson had the goal for Airmount.

Carquest 4, B-Line 1

Carquest had problems connecting in the first, but rebounded in the second. They had some good plays from the blue line to keep pressure for extended periods. B-Line looked to be a step ahead in the first with their rushes and work down low. They seemed to get a bit tired in the second when Carquest had some puck possession.

Adam Matthews and Denver Vander-scheur had two points each for Carquest.

Ben Addley had the goal for B-Line.

Glass 4, Source 3

Glass worked hard to keep their streak alive. They used the front of the net for their offence and kept digging all night. Source had a strong night. They had some great chances in the second, but were just missing their shots in close.

Jeff Prouse had three points for Glass. Darryl Wilson had two points for Source.

November 27

Fody's 5, ReMax 0

Fody's was able to control most of this game. They had rushes and quick passes all game and cashed in on them. They didn't let much get through defensively in this one. ReMax had trouble getting into the offensive zone all night. When they did, they couldn't get much going. They did well to keep Fody's in check on the scoreboard as the game went on.

Jeremy Hilliard and Chris Durham had three points each for Fody's.

Agrospray 5, Distinct 4

Agrospray is finally catching some breaks offensively. They had five different scorers, which kept Distinct busy trying to defend. Distinct didn't let the game get away from them and had their chances late to tie it up. They ran out of time against a hungry Agrospray team.

Dan King had three points for Agrospray. Brian Velthove had two goals for Distinct.

Glass 7, RND 2

Glass controlled this game from the start. They had tons of pressure in the first and kept RND away from getting anything going. They had multiple chances from all over the ice. RND was a step behind from puck drop. They had a few chances in the second, but the first period took them out of the game.

Jeff Prouse had a hat trick, Parker Terryberry had four points for Glass. Andy Metselaar and Wade Kirby had the goals for RND.

December 1

ReMax 2, Distinct 2

ReMax had some good chances in front in this one and helped them earn a point. They matched the Distinct rushes, but couldn't pull ahead in the end. Distinct had some nice rushes, but couldn't find the back of the net. They did well to keep ReMax at bay and got the deserved point. Kyle Jones and Ryan Dayman had goals for ReMax. Spencer Meron had two points for Distinct.

Fody's 5, Agrospray 3

After falling behind early, they got both lines going and put pressure on Agro all night. Their speed and crisp passing have them some solid chances. Agrospray was able to get some good net front presence and score in close. A couple broken Fody's passes defensively may have changed the game.

Adam Vandepoele and Andrew Tapsell had three points each for Fody's. Travis Horvath had three points, Brandon Lawler had two points for Agrospray.

Glass 1, Royal LePage 0

Glass had some chances on the powerplay and cashed in once. They also killed off four straight, themselves. They fought hard against a tight checking Royal LePage team to keep the streak alive. Royal LePage did well to kill off a few penalties in the first, but couldn't cash in on their powerplays in the second. They had some great chances in the second, but couldn't find the back of the net.

Brian Beaumont had the lone goal for Glass.

Source 4, Precision 2

After a back and forth first, Source buckled down a bit and were able to get some one-sided offense in. They held off late pressure from Precision to get the win. Precision did well to stay in this one, only slipping up when they gave up a short-handed goal. They had chances late, but couldn't find a goal.

Jamie Haines had three points for Source. Justin French had two points for Precision.

B-Line 2, RND 1

B-Line played well in both ends and were rewarded with a win. They had some good chances offensively and didn't let RND get things going at all. RND ran into a tough defense in this one. A lot of neutral zone missteps stifled their chances as the game went on.

Chris VanKasteren had two points, Duane Nutt had a goal for B-Line. Wade Kirby had the goal for RND.

Carquest 7, Airmount 0

Carquest dominated this game. Their top line had six of the goals and 16 points on the night. They didn't let Airmount near the net defensively except for a couple chances. Airmount was caught off guard from the beginning. They had trouble stopping Carquest's passing in the offensive zone. Only a few chances offensively couldn't answer back.

Josh Soares had three goals and three assists, Ryan Crandall and Evan Prouse had five points each for Carquest.

December 4

Glass 5, Airmount 5

Glass started off quickly and looked to set a tone early. While they played well all game, they let Airmount get under their skin. Still undefeated after 13 games. Airmount started off slow, but were able to pick up some energy. They kept pressure on Glass all night and fought to the end to earn a point.

Brendan Soares had a hat trick, Kyle Winters had four assists for Glass. Zach Alton had three points for Airmount.

Royal LePage 1, Precision 1

Royal LePage played a sound defensive game. They couldn't get this in-close quality chances, but did have pressure at times. Precision continues to match the play of their competition. They settled things down defensively, but couldn't get second chances on the offense.

Ryan VanStemp had a goal for Royal LePage. Spencer McDowell had a goal for Precision.

Source 7, B-Line 5

Source found some offence in this one. They bounced back after being down early. Late in the second they scored four goals in 2:15 to secure the win. B-Line played a strong game and had the scoring going. They've been having trouble late in games and that has cost them some points. Chris VanKasteren had three points for Source. Stephan Coulombe and Chris Wilson had three assists each for B-Line.

CLUB OXFORD A DIVISION	GP	W	L	T	PTS
FODY'S AUTOMOTIVE	12	6	4	2	1
REMAX REALTY	12	6	5	1	13
DISTINCT EXTERIORS	12	5	4	3	13
AGROSPRAY	12	3	7	2	8

CLUB OXFORD B DIVISION	GP	W	L	T	PTS
TILLSONBURG GLASS	13	12	0	1	25
CARQUEST AUTO PARTS	12	6	3	3	15
RND CONSTRUCTION	12	6	5	1	13
SOURCE FOR SPORTS	13	6	7	0	12
ROYAL LEPAGE REALTY	13	5	6	2	12
CALIBRATED PRECISION	13	3	5	5	11
B-LINE TRUCKING	13	3	9	1	7
AIRMOUNT FARMS	13	3	9	1	7

Tillsonburg Post is available for free in print and online:
www.tillsonburgpost.com

November was a busy month for the TCC as we held the first bonspiels of the season



**ON
THE
BROOM**

NORA PETERS

Tillsonburg Post Columnist

Our Fall Classic Mixed Bonspiel was a fun and successful day. We have two great local sponsors in Zeplyn Enterprises Inc. and E&E McLaughlin Ltd. The high point overall winner of the Zeplyn Enterprises trophy was local skip Yonna DiLella, who had friends from Niagara on the Lake and another local curler, to round out her team. An out-of-town rink skipped by Mary Bushell from Ingersoll also a two-game winner took the McLaughlin trophy. Off the ice, the curlers played a fun game of dice and enjoyed some great meals – all part of a great day.

The club also hosted the 67th Community Service Club Bonspiel jointly sponsored by Good Redden Klosler. Fourteen teams vied for the right to hoist the unique trophy which had The Fire Department Ice Rescuers earn the honours. Another \$3000 was donated to charities and organizations in the community. Convenors Les Peter and Chris Appleton hope they will attract teams for two full draws (16) in next year's event.

December is shaping up to be a busy time in the club with the Senior Men hosting an Interclub event, a Tier 55 happening and several leagues having special fun nights filled with Christmas spirit! All club leagues are collecting for the food bank as part of their Christmas drive. The Ladies will host their annual Yuletide Fun Bonspiel and Past Presidents Luncheon on Dec. 19. All ladies in the club are invited to join in the curling, plus committee members will be calling past members and presidents to join us for curling, Christmas cheer and a catered lunch. There is a sign-up sheet on the ladies bulletin board. Don't miss it.

Need a gift for a curler for Christmas – check out the equipment offered in the club- brooms, shoes, sliders, grippers, clothing. The club is doing their major

fundraising draws again known as “Beer for a Year”- the name is there to catch your attention but prizes of \$2000, \$500, \$100 plus an early bird draw of \$250 are actually paid out in gift cards. Tickets are only \$10 and only 1000 are sold. Great stocking stuffer for those on your list, ask any curler or at the bar for tickets. Proceeds go to support of the “Future of Curling” in Tillsonburg.

Early January brings another major club bonspiel – this time the Dale Fanset Memorial Men's Spiel on the 11th. Check out the club website for entry details. One week later, Jan.18, the Viva Las Vegas Funspiel happens. There are openings for one draw of triples and one eight-team draw of four-person teams. This is a fun day of two curling games and fun off-ice activities open to all club members. Get signed in before it's too late. Check the club website for more info.

I have yet to weigh in on what's happening in the ranks of elite curlers in Canada and around the world. If you're looking to watch curling on tv you won't see anything until Jan. 16 on Sportsnet when the Sleeman Grand Slam is aired from Guelph- although games are being streamed on something called HomeTeam. TSN doesn't show any curling until the Tournament of Hearts starts on Feb. 14 out of Thunder Bay. The biggest news in curling seems to be the ‘firing’ of players and who the teams pick to replace them. Gushue got rid of E.J. Harden and picked up Brendan Botcher, who had been fired from his team at the end of last season. His former team eventually brought in Brad Jacobs to skip their team. Most recently Matt Dunstone axed BJ Neufeld and I have a hunch E.J. Harden may find his way onto that team. On the ladies' side, Rachel Homan continues her winning ways and is the Number 1 team in the world. The Swiss team Tirinzoni is rated second. Einarson still continues to use super spares as Briane awaits the results of her doping appeal and second Shannon Birchard recovers from an injury. If I had to pick a favorite team right now, my choice for a men's team would be local skip Jayden King's team who currently rank 12th on the CTRS. I hope to see this team represent Ontario at the Brier this year! First, he will need to win the Ontario Tankard in Coburg at the end of January.

Curling Rocks. See you on the ice.

Thunder win a pair of games

MICHAEL HOLLY

Post Contributor

This week's article is quite the opposite of last week's. The Thunder are riding a two-game winning streak with home and road wins versus the Dunnville Aeros.

The road game in Dunnville on Nov. 30 was an entertaining game with the Thunder winning by 4 - 2. Avery Antone scored the only goal in the first from Braden Roberts and Jayme Forslund. The Aeros took a 2 - 1 lead in the second with goals from Mike Marquis and Matt Ruigrok. Jamie Forslund from Sheldon Thompson and Andrew Harris tied the score at 9:11. Braden Roberts from Andrew Harris and Sheldon Thompson scored the game winner on the power play at 14:15 in the third. Sheldon Thompson from Andrew Harris added an insurance marker with only 2:53 left in the third. The Thunder tender was the player of the game holding the Aeros to only two goals.

The second half of the home and home series was on Dec. 7 in the Thunderdome. The Thunder opened up a 4 - 0 lead in the first with goals from Andrew Whalen, from Antone and Abraham, Thompson from Couto, Couto from Thompson and Braletta, and Roberts from Thompson and Findlay. The Aeros broke Sagratt's shutout with 0:19 left in the first. The game tightened up in the second with Dunnville getting two goals to make it 4 - 3 at the end of the second. The Aeros got the tying goal on the power play from Mike Marquis.

The Thunder responded with two goals by Andrew Harris from Chris McGuffin and Brandon Couto, and Brandon Couto from Whalen and Thompson. Bobby Visca from the Aeros answered but it was not enough. The Thunder took the contest 6 - 5. Brandon Couto was the player of the game with two goals and two assists. The dressing room picture of his teammates is included.

The wins put the Thunder in fifth place, one point out of fourth and four points out of third.

The Thunder's next game is against the Petrolia Squires on Saturday, Dec. 14 at 7:30. There always seems to be an intensity between these two clubs as they have battled each other for decades. This is also a special night as this is the annual Teddy Bear Toss. When the Thunder score their first goal, throw your new to gently used Teddy Bears on the ice. They will be collected and given to the Salvation Army to be included in the Christmas hampers that they give out to the Tillsonburg and surrounding area. This is the 17th year the Thunder has hosted the Teddy Bear Toss and it's always a great event.

The Thunder are on the road to Dunnville on Saturday, Dec. 21 at 8 p.m.. Many Thunder fans follow the team, and in some venues, Tillsonburg fans outnumber the home team.

Final numbers for the Hockey Fights Cancer are in. The Thunder and their fans raised \$3,203.50!! This will be donated to Children's Cancer Research. The Thunder thank you!!

OLIVE EATERY



Greek and Canadian Cuisine



518 Broadway St # 1, Tillsonburg
(519) 688-2080 • oliveeatery.ca

Missed an issue?

View all past issues online anytime:

www.tillsonburgpost.com

Merry Christmas

& HAPPY NEW YEAR

Let the chimes ring out at St. Paul's United

NORMA COLLIS

Post Contributor

Every Yuletide season, my dad's side of the family took turns hosting a big family Christmas dinner and an evening of fun. This always took place during the



school Christmas break. All of his family lived in the Norwich/Woodstock area so when we moved to near-by Tillsonburg, it was our turn to host this big event. I should add that my dad was a minister and he had accepted an appointment at a very beautiful Tillsonburg church called St. Paul's United. We lived next door in the manse, which was an equally beautiful Victorian style home.

Most years there were 23 of us in attendance at the big family event. Twelve of these attendees were children. Every year, my Grandma Taylor would request that we kids put on a "concert" for her.

Dressed in our seasonal finery, we did our best to please her, presenting well-rehearsed solos, piano pieces and funny poems.

We had finished our command performances and the "younger natives were getting restless."

Sensing that rambunctious behavior was about to unfold, my dad suggested that he take us next door to the church gym where we could, hopefully, run off some of our energy. This plan worked for a short while until one of the cousins said that they thought it would be fun to see more of the church building.

My sister, who was the oldest of the cousins, led the way. When we entered the circular sanctuary, everyone was most impressed.

That year, it had been decided to set up interior spotlights showcasing the magnificent stained glass windows. This light show made the windows visible to anyone passing by on the street outside. To add to the season, the large pipe organ had been set up with a public address system. Each evening at 7 p.m. the organist played Christmas carols for half an hour. The

music rang out over the town setting the perfect mood for the days leading up to the "big day".

An older cousin, was a very accomplished pianist. At a young age, she had earned awards of merit from the Toronto Royal Conservatory of Music.

"I want to play that pipe organ" she said. "I know how to do it."

Saying this, she flipped on the switches and we waited for the behemoth instrument to warm up. Now she could have performed something like Minuet in G major or The moonlight Sonata by Beethoven, however, this was not to be.

"Hold on to your hats" she said and she began to "rock out" a piece of music that took us a while to recognize as an old favorite, well known around the world.

Eleven cousins were all lined up on a front pew "moving and grooving" to the music, when my dad came charging into the sanctuary.

He was a man who rarely raised his voice but he belted, "Stop that right now!!!"

Unbeknownst to us, my cousin, as well as switching on the power to the organ, had also powered up the public address system.

The entire little town of Tillsonburg, was now experiencing the rock version of.....Chopsticks.

Even my grandma, who was usually thrilled with displays of musical talent from her grandchildren, was less than impressed with our attempt to provide a lively, and very public encore to that years family talent show.

Norma Collis is a Tillsonburg resident and author of books in the "Holly Cottage" series.



PEPPERMINT *Wishes*

MOOSE TRACKS *Kisses*

Shaw's ICE CREAM SINCE 1948

Proudly made in Tillsonburg

AVAILABLE locally

- ★ The Country Table ★
- ★ Metro ★
- ★ Chrissy's Corner Store ★
- ★ Zehrs ★
- ★ Sobeys ★
- ★ Bre's Market ★

10 Clearview Drive, Tillsonburg | shawsicecream.com



SEASONAL CONCERT

The Tillsonburg Senior Centre Singers presented their annual Christmas concert on Nov. 26. Director Janice Edmund and accompanist Ronda Keller took the singers through a mix of seasonal favourites. (JEFF HELSDON PHOTO)



• MERRY •
Christmas

**J&S Collision
and Refinishing**

**56843 Green Line RR3, Tillsonburg
(519) 688-0246**

From carols to conversations

immerse in joyful sounds



amplifon
Hearing Care Experts

**Book a FREE
hearing test today!**

105 Main Street
Delhi
☎ 226-917-3708

100 Colborne Street North
Simcoe
☎ 519-953-9910

*Valid on select models. Discounts may vary by product tier level. Applicable to binaural purchase, the second aid only. Cannot be combined with other offers. The offer expires on December 31, 2024.

S.M. Claus' insight on the Holiday Home Tour

S.M. CLAUS

Post Contributor

'Twas mere weeks before Christmas,
when all through the homes

Santa set out on a tour with his little elf
gnomes;

This annual tradition by the Station
Arts Centre

Is hosted by your neighbours, their
home you do enter

While those who committed had months
to prepare,

In hopes that St. Nicholas soon would
be there;

With decorations modern, classic and
some downright groovy,

It was like stepping into a Hallmark
movie.

I tour a lot of homes on my annual quest,
Yet this Tillsonburg showcase remains
as the best.

The first house was stunning, a rural
estate,

Even Merle and Norman thought it was
great

With gorgeous high ceilings and a Sea-
foam green shade,

It was easy to give this stop an excellent
grade.

With Silver and Gold adorning the tree

I also noticed they had more reindeer
than me

The dining table looked welcoming,
and ready for cheer

Mrs. Claus and I will be over for dinner
next year.

As we left the front porch and took one
final check,

We headed off with smiles for the next
part of our trek.

The second home is not that hard to de-
scribe,

A stately manor with a contemporary
vibe.

From traditional to modern, and art on
the walls

The home was just lovely – a real Deck
the Halls!

From the blue and ginger pots that
brought so much charm

And the beautiful hydrangeas as long as
my arm.

There was so much to see and so little
time

So I headed for the roof and up the
chimney I'd climb

If I knew this then and it sure would be
great

I would have my elves update my own
real estate.

House number three was a winter won-
derland

A true artist lives here, you can sure un-
derstand

From watercolorus, to oils, alcohol ink
and lacquer

The paintings were beautiful as was the
nutcracker.

The redesigned kitchen had a unique
built in nook

For the Christmas trees that deserved a
second look.

With glittering silver accents and trees
galore

This was truly a place Mrs. Claus would
adore.

I spoke with the artist as I made my es-
cape

And hoped to acquire her "Mountain
Landscape".

The last home I entered looked familiar
to me

Then I realized the designer has been
active lately

With eclectic golden tones and shim-

mering lights

A metallic masterpiece that brought
such delights

The travel room was a true favourite of
this jolly old chap

With globetrotting ornaments and my
Christmas route map

A classic location, no Griswalds live
here,

Just memories of Margaritaville at this
special time of year.

There was no Grinch to be seen or a
stocking with coal

Just neighbours and friends and the
Holiday Mole!

With the private homes done, all the la-
dies did well

It reminded me so much of the First
Noel.

Not a creature was stirring, not even a
mouse.,

So I next headed over to Annandale
House.

I was greeted by the mascots Oscar and
Wilde,

And felt the magic that makes an adult
feel like a child;

Inside the volunteers did their usual cel-
ebratory best,

While outside the Horticultural Society
did all the rest.

The festive season is just starting at this
historical site,

So please join the community to see
how things are done right.

To all the hostesses and their great vol-
unteers,

Mrs. Claus and I send you all our holi-
day cheers;

To the men showing patience and sup-
porting when asked,

You did amazing work with whatever
was tasked.

To the Station Arts Centre, I thank you
for hosting,

And providing for a tour that was cer-
tainly worth toasting.

From the families with children and
those with a pet,

I felt welcomed and was warmed by the
people I met.

As I returned to one home with chest-
nuts to roast,

I bumped into Jeff from the Tillsonburg
Post;

There were pictures with me by the fire
so warm

And sugary candy canes to expand my
fit form.

As I headed inside for more warmth and
some cheer

I asked these ladies to decorate the
North Pole next year.

So I headed back inside rather than my
return reindeer flight,

Because that one special hostess asked
me to spend the night.

It was a magical tour, full of warmth,
beauty and delight.

"Merry Christmas to all, and to all a
good night!"

*NOTE ... Attached poem based on
original "A Visit from St. Nicholas" (by
Clement Clarke Moore - 1823)*



S.M. Claus was seen posing for pictures during the Holiday Home Tour. Sandra Codling, left, and Kate Hawley took a moment from their tour to have their photo taken with Claus. (JEFF HELSDON PHOTO)



Ruffin's

PET CENTRES

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

VALID UNTIL DECEMBER 24, 2024

\$12 OFF



PURINA PRO PLAN



- ALL LARGE BAGS OF PROPLAN Dog Food (10 kg or Larger)
- Vet Recommended!
- Expires December 24, 2024

WOW!
\$10.99
18kg/ 40lb



SUPERMIX

Clumping
Cat Litter
18kg/40lb



SALE
\$5
reg: \$8.99
170g



GABO CHICKEN JERKY 170G
HEALTHY DOG TREATS!
Whiles Supplies Last

BIG Holiday SAVINGS

SCAN ME



LIFETIME
FREE TREATS

- FREE \$8.99 BAG OF LIFETIME DOG TREATS (BACON OR CHARCOAL) WITH ANY IN-STORE PURCHASE
- LIMIT ONE PER PERSON
- NO CASH VALUE
- Expires December 24, 2024

Sorry No Rain Cheques, Quantities Limited

GET SOCIAL WITH US!!
@ruffinstillsonburg



WWW.RUFFINSTILLSONBURG.COM

589 Broadway, Tillsonburg * 519.688.7474

Holiday plants bring colour indoors and out in the winter

SUE HEALY

Post Contributor

The holiday season can be filled with greenery despite the snow and chilly temperatures. We are fortunate to have a range of plants to grace our homes and landscapes even at this otherwise bare time of the year. While some plants are seen only during the holidays, used as gifts and décor, others are found in our own back yards. All shine in the winter with glossy evergreen foliage, brightly coloured berries and even flowers.

Hollies (Ilex) are quintessential winter plants. This large genus has over 400 species of evergreen



shrubs, trees and even climbers. The most popular, English holly (*Ilex aquifolium*), has spiny, glossy leaves and red berries. A handsome profile and hardy nature make this an excellent addition to the garden. Preferring acidic soil, it can grow 25 to 50 feet tall and just as wide so is best suited as a specimen or foundation plant. To produce berries, both male and female plants are needed, with females flowering in late spring. Hollies offer year-round interest and opportunities to use home-grown greenery to “deck the halls”.

Mistletoe is an ancient plant and thought to be magical by the Druids. The tradition of kissing under the mistletoe is thought to have originated with them. It grew, seemingly without roots on the limbs of the evergreens and oaks. There it bloomed and produced fruit, deadly white in the cold season of winter. We

now know that mistletoe is in fact a semi-parasitic plant that uses host trees for water and nutrients. American mistletoe (*Phoradendron lencarpum*) is used in traditional Christmas decorations and often cultivated for that sole purpose. Mistletoe berries are toxic to humans but an important food source to wildlife.

Poinsettias (Euphorbia pulcherrima) are native to Mexico and grow into waist high shrubs that produce coloured bracts



in mid winter. Introduced to the North American public in the late 1950's Poinsettias have become a holiday staple gift. Originally offered only in red, the colour choices have expanded to a dizzying number. Colours range from deepest burgundy to bubble gum pink, to snow-white, etched in green and every shade in between. The hardest part is choosing. Poinsettias are difficult to bring back into bloom, requiring specific timing of light and darkness. But once in full, glorious bloom, they can last a surprisingly long time. Given a few essentials; a cool spot out of warm and cold drafts, consistently moist but not soggy soil and as good light as possible your gift can last well into the new year.

Christmas rose (Helleborus niger) is another garden plant that offers blooms in winter. Flowering from January to March, Hellebore are one

of the few perennials that offer blooms in winter. Beautiful and variable,



single or double blooms in shades of cream and mauve, dusky purple or even speckled black can last for months in the garden. Foliage is dark green and leathery, remaining intact year-round in shade with evenly moist but well drained soil. Hybridizers have been working on this group of plants to offer a broader range of colours, forms, and growing preferences. Although individual plants can be expensive, they are

a spectacular, long-lasting addition to our North American gardens.

Wintergreen (Gaultheria procumbens) is native from Eastern Canada to Manitoba and as far south as Georgia. This underused perennial is low growing and shrubby with leathery, oblong leaves and fleshy red berries. The shiny leaves flush with colour as the cold sets in and the leaves smell of wintergreen if crushed. A useful groundcover under trees, it also offers a food source to wildlife. Best grown in acidic soil and full to part sun.



Merry Christmas

LUBRICARE
14 MINUTE OIL CHANGE, OIL RUSTPROOFING

127 Simcoe St, Tillsonburg
519-842-5230

Sobeys Canada's Family Grocery Store
Tillsonburg

Local grocery store offering full-service meat & seafood, farm-fresh produce, fresh bakery, and prepared foods.

PROUDLY SERVING OUR COMMUNITY SINCE 2003

678 Broadway St., Tillsonburg
Open 7 days a week 7am-9pm



TILLSONBURG'S Christmas STORE

THOUSANDS OF GIFT IDEAS ON SALE!

OPEN MON-FRI: 8 AM - 9 PM,
SAT: 8 AM - 7 PM, SUN: 9 AM - 6 PM

BOSE FLEX
NOW **\$89.93**
Premium Portable Speaker
Reg \$189.99
SKU 499-1240

SAVE \$100



I-ROBOT VACUUM
NOW **\$299.93**
Braava M6 Model
Reg \$599.99
SKU 43-8252

HALF PRICE



KNIFE SET & BLOCK
NOW **\$79.93**
Sabatier, 15PC
Reg \$399.99
SKU 499-0030

SAVE 80%



PROFORM VUE FITNESS MIRROR
NOW **\$299.93**
Reg \$1999.99
SKU 184-0978 (one only)

SAVE 85%



CAT PLAY TOWER
NOW **\$39.93**
Reg \$79.99
SKU 142-4954

HALF PRICE



LG ALL-IN-ONE STICK VACUUM
NOW **\$249.93**
SAVE \$800
Reg \$1049.99
SKU 43-9490

SAVE 85%



DYSON OMNIGLIDE VACUUM
NOW **\$199.93**
Reg \$549.99
SKU 43-8648

SAVE 65%



WOODS SOLAR PANEL SET 100W
NOW **\$149.93**
SAVE \$400
Reg \$549.99
SKU 11-2520

SAVE 70%



LINCOLN POWERMIG PROGRADE WELDER
NOW **\$1499.93**
save \$2650
Reg \$4149.99
SKU 58-8988

SAVE 60%



MAXIMUM 4200 PSI PRESSURE WASHER
NOW **\$899.93**
SAVE \$700
Reg \$1599.99
SKU 39-8066

SAVE 43%



PROFORM 750R ROWING MACHINE
NOW **\$499.93**
SAVE \$700
Reg \$1199.99
SKU 184-0977 (4 left)

SAVE 60%



CHAMPION 5500W PORTABLE GENERATOR
NOW **\$499.93**
(Gasoline powered)
Reg \$949.99
SKU # 55-0378

NEW LOWER PRICE



CHAMPION 8-TON LOG SPLITTER
NOW **\$599.93**
(Gasoline Powered)
Reg \$1199.99
SKU # 60-0568

NEW LOWER PRICE



PRO-FIT PERCUSSION MASSAGER
NOW **\$19.93**
Reg \$99.99
SKU # 184-0937

NEW LOWER PRICE



CAP OLYMPIC WORKOUT BENCH
NOW **\$99.93**
Reg \$299.99
SKU # 184-0041

NEW LOWER PRICE



SEGWAY MAX E-SCOOTER
NOW **\$699.93**
Reg \$1269.99
SKU # 184-0670

NEW LOWER PRICE



SEGWAY F30 ELECTRIC SCOOTER
NOW **\$399.93**
Reg \$899.99
SKU # 184-0677

NEW LOWER PRICE



WHILE SUPPLIES LAST
VISIT OUR STORE OR GO ONLINE
FOR OUR FULL FLYER AND
THOUSANDS OF OTHER ITEMS ON
SALE. ONLINE ORDERS USUALLY
READY FOR PICK UP IN 30 MINUTES!

248 BROADWAY (519) 842-5926 canadiantire.ca





DOWNLOAD THE
WASTELINE APP



519-539-9800
1-800-755-0394
info@wasteline.ca
wasteline.ca

HOLIDAY COLLECTION GARBAGE AND RECYCLING



WILL YOUR COLLECTION DAY CHANGE?

Residences and businesses in Blandford-Blenheim, East Zorra-Tavistock, Ingersoll, Norwich, South-West Oxford, Zorra and parts of Tillsonburg (North of Concession, West of Broadway) will have regularly scheduled collection during the holidays.



TOWN OF TILLSONBURG

ORIGINAL DAY	NEW DAY
Wednesday, December 25	Saturday, December 28
Wednesday, January 1	Saturday, January 4

Remember to have all garbage bags and recycling bins to the curb by 7:00 a.m. on your collection day. When severe weather hits this winter, collection may be delayed or cancelled. Monitor local news, visit www.wasteline.ca or download the wasteline app to receive service alerts.

LOCATED IN WOODSTOCK?

Please visit www.cityofwoodstock.ca for adjusted collection dates over the holidays.

DON'T LET YOUR HOLIDAYS GO TO WASTE

1. Remove all tape, plastic film, twist ties and other decorative objects before recycling cardboard.
2. Flatten and bundle cardboard boxes no larger than 75 x 75 x 20 centimetres.
3. Recycle wrapping paper, except foil-based paper.
4. Remove all ribbons and bows. Save and reuse for next year where possible.
5. Bulky Styrofoam can be dropped off at the Oxford County Waste Management Facility, Tillsonburg Transfer Station and Woodstock EnviroDepot.

HOLIDAY HOURS WASTE MANAGEMENT FACILITY

Monday – Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Saturdays, 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

CLOSED: Wednesday, December 25, 2024
Thursday, December 26, 2024
Wednesday, January 1, 2025

2025 TIPPING FEES

Please refer to the Fees and Charges By-law for 2025 pricing details at oxfordcounty.ca.

TILLSONBURG TRANSFER STATION

YEAR-ROUND LARGE ITEM AND YARD WASTE DISPOSAL FOR TILLSONBURG RESIDENTS

Need to get rid of large household items, construction and demolition material or yard waste? Tillsonburg's Transfer Station offers depots year-round for large items and yard waste.

Proof of residency is required.

LARGE ITEM DEPOT

Open Saturdays (9 a.m. - 5 p.m.)

YARD WASTE DEPOT

Open Monday - Saturday (9 a.m. - 5 p.m.)

CLOSED: Wednesday, December 25
Wednesday, January 1

50 Newell Rd., Tillsonburg

For a list of acceptable items, fees, facility rules or for more information:

tillsonburg.ca/transferstation
519.688.3009



DROP OFF your real Christmas trees at the yard waste depot and your artificial trees at the Large Item Depot.





Shop Local
SHOP TILLSONBURG & AREA

EXPERIENCE SMALL TOWN
PERSONAL SERVICE
THAT'S SECOND TO NONE!

Korner Perk a downtown fixture

Since moving downtown in 2019, the Korner Perk has become a regular fixture in downtown Tillsonburg.

The eatery is open from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., Tuesdays to Sundays. The menu features homemade soups and salads, fish and chips, hamburgers and chicken burgers. Typically, there is a lunch special.

Owner Linda Smith said the menu constantly evolves.

"It's like a work in progress," she said. "We just evolve it."

One of the unique features of the Korner Perk is the extra room for catering, private parties, birthday parties, celebrations of life, meetings and Christmas parties.

On Sundays, the Korner Perk gets before and after church crowds.

"I don't think anyone is open anymore in the downtown core on Sundays," said Smith. "Sundays are just crazy."

Smith opened the restaurant in 2017 at 145 Simcoe Street. She worked for years in construction and was the coordinator for an electrical company for 35 years.

"I had a good mentor from many years ago," she said. "He said why work



(JEFF HELSDON PHOTO)

for somebody else when you can invest in yourself?"

Smith always had a love of cooking and decided to open a restaurant. She took the necessary food handling training and now is the head chef.

Her reputation quickly grew and she decided it was a time for a move.

"I knew I needed more space and the owners couldn't provide it," she said. "This opportunity came available and I took it."

She signed a lease for 101 Broadway in January 2019. Major renovations were needed, including building a kitchen. There were construction delays due to a sheet metal workers strike impacting the arrival of a range hood and other factors. It was September 2019 when the doors opened on Broadway. Then COVID hit.

Besides the hired staff, Smith's husband Byron helps out as well as her sister-in-law Cindy.




Linda Smith (JEFF HELSDON PHOTO)



(JEFF HELSDON PHOTO)

The additional room in the Korner Perk is perfect for meetings and special occasions. The room is adjacent to the main eatery at 101 Broadway.

Your Korner for Coffee & Comfort.



101 Broadway, Tillsonburg
Tue to Sun: 8 am to 2 pm, Mon: Closed

PATIO COVERS | AWNINGS
SUNROOMS | MOTORIZED SCREENS



Southwestern Ontario's
Outdoor Living Space Specialist

ENJOY THE OUTDOORS

SouthCoastAwning.ca
519-409-5754
Simcoe / Tillsonburg / Woodstock

GIVE THE GIFT THAT EVERYONE NEEDS...

The Country Table
THE FROZEN FOOD OUTLET

ORDER YOUR CUSTOM GIFT BASKETS HERE!

STOCKING STUFFERS FOR THE FOODIE ON YOUR LIST

TASTY PARTY APPETIZERS

CHARCUTERIE SUPPLIES

CLOSED: CHRISTMAS DAY, BOXING DAY & NEW YEARS DAY

OPEN: 9-4 CHRISTMAS EVE & NEW YEARS EVE

See full product list at www.countrytable.ca
Located at 2 Vance Drive Tillsonburg, ON

Celebrating 29 years of locally family owned business.



Fresh made foods, in house smoked meats and lot of love, just like Mom used to make.

- Live Entertainment
- Karaoke
- NTN Trivia
- Fundraisers
- Birthdays
- Anniversaries
- Meetings • & More

79 Broadway St, Tillsonburg
519-842-6227

GIFT CERTIFICATES AVAILABLE

Portrait gift certificates make the perfect lasting Christmas gift

HELSDON photography

519-983-3947
info@helsdonphotography.com

SIMPLY SECONDHAND COMMUNITY SHOP

15,000 sq ft chock full of gently used vintage to now treasures and New Liquidation Overstock

25 Spruce St., Units 10, Tillsonburg

MUSIC CORNER

Juno Award winner Hawksley Workman brings holiday cheer to Paddy's Underground



BEN ADDRESS

Tillsonburg Post Columnist

Two-time Juno Award winner Hawksley Workman's Christmas album *Almost A Full Moon* has been a holiday staple for over two decades due to its warm-hearted story of family, community, food and home. The album was written and produced by Workman in Paris, France at Recall Rooms in 2001 and released by Universal Music.

"I was celebrating my grandma," recalls Hawksley. "When I wrote it, I didn't set out to create some kind of commercial Christmas package that I could sort of reap some

sort of potential economic reward from."

However, the evergreen quality of these songs have gained commercial success with countless sold-out tours across the globe as well as adaptations including a Penguin Random House hardcover book illustrated by Jensine Eckwall and a holiday musical written by playwright Charlotte Corbeil-Coleman.

"It's not Christmas Baby Christmas Baby type music, like it really did come from an honest place," Workman said. "The songs and stories were also inspired by fond memories of growing up in the 1980s in small town Ontario."

Workman, who was born and raised in Huntsville, Ontario spent winters outside like most kids.

"The amount of time my brother and I spent together with our dogs on the toboggan hill," Workman reminisces when asked about his favorite memories from the time. He also speaks fondly

about the toys he received as Christmas gifts. "It felt like Christmas was tangling with the future in a way in the 1980's."

The future is looking compelling for fans of Workman. His new song *Obsessed* produced by Hot Hot Heat's Steve Bays was released this past September and is a preview of what can be expected from Workman's forthcoming EP.

"Steve is almost having, and kind of creating, a nostalgic production of like what he imagines Hawksley Workman kind of to be in the modern era," explains Workman. "It was really his influence to go in that general direction."

Other songs from the session are available by joining the Hawksley Workman Patreon community where fans have access to exclusive releases from the archives, chances to join sound checks, tour content and a new song every month including an annual Christmas song.

Steve Bays and Work-

man are also collaborators in the Canadian indie rock supergroup *Mounties* with singer-songwriter Ryan Dahle of the bands *Age of Electric* and *Limblifter*.

Workman brings his small town aura and Christmas cheer to Oxford County on Wednesday, Dec. 18 with his *Almost A Full Moon* tour at Paddy's Underground located at 20 John Pound Road. Doors open at 7:30 p.m. with an 8:30 p.m. showtime. Tickets are \$45.20, and are available in advance by calling the Mill at 519-842-1878 or by visiting online outlet Eventbrite. Tickets will also be available the night of the show at the door for \$50 subject to availability. This is an all ages/licensed event.

Anyone wanting more details can visit hawksleyworkman.com or the Paddy's Underground Facebook page.

Ring in the New Year for the youth

Over the years, The

Copper Mug has been host to hundreds of events and is known to go all out for their holiday parties like New Year's Eve. Last year was no exception with the establishment hosting a New Year's Eve event for both kids and adults for the first time ever.

"Hosting the kids Noon Year's Eve Party was magical. Seeing the joy on the kid's faces while they watched the balloon drop was incredible," co-owner Kim Sage, said recalling a room full of pure joy and excitement. "Watching the kids dance and sing is so amazing."

This year will be no different with the staff going all out to ensure everyone rings in 2025 with a smile on their face.

"New Years is over-commercialized. It is a night that money is charged just because it can and people will pay it because they expect it. In saying that, we are hosting a karaoke dance party with no cover charge," explains Sage. "The Copper Mug's resolution for the

new year is that we continue to be there for our community. I personally don't like New Year's resolutions because you can do that daily. You don't need one day to do that."

The Copper Mug will actually be hosting two New Year's Eve parties. The first is a Kids Noon Year's Eve Party. Doors open at 2 p.m. The event includes chips and snacks, a meet and greet with Chase and Rubble from Paw Patrol, Karaoke with a countdown and balloon drops at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$10 per person, and are available in advance by calling 519-842-6227. Tickets will also be available the day of the event at the door subject to availability. This is an all ages/licensed event. Children under 3 are free. The adult New Year's Eve Karaoke Dance Party will follow with doors at 8:30 p.m. and a countdown at midnight. The evening is a free 19+ licensed event with no cover charge.

Anyone wanting more details can visit The Copper Mug's Facebook page.

UPCOMING SHOWS

DEC. 12 - OPEN MIC WITH BILLY GIBBONS
Paddy's Underground;
20 John Pound,
Tillsonburg
Free - 7:30pm - all ages/
licensed

DEC. 13 - COTY ROBINSON
The Copper Mug;
79 Broadway,
Tillsonburg
Free - 9pm - all ages/
licensed

DEC. 14 - CHRIS KOSTER & ETHAN WALL
The Mill;
20 John Pound Road,
Tillsonburg
\$20 - 7:30pm - all ages/
licensed

DEC. 15 - TOO COUNTRY
The Copper Mug;
79 Broadway,
Tillsonburg
Free - 5pm - all ages/
licensed

DEC. 15 - MUSIC TRIVIA
The Copper Mug;
79 Broadway,
Tillsonburg
Free - 7pm - all ages/
licensed

DEC. 16 - DAYGLO ABORTIONS, BLACKOUT & THE MCBAINS
Paddy's Underground;
20 John Pound Road,
Tillsonburg
\$20 - 7:30pm - all ages/
licensed

DEC. 18 - HAWKSLEY WORKMAN
Paddy's Underground;
20 John Pound Road,
Tillsonburg
\$45.20 - 7:30pm - all
ages/licensed

DEC. 19 - OPEN MIC WITH BILLY GIBBONS
Paddy's Underground;
20 John Pound,
Tillsonburg
Free - 7:30pm - all ages/
licensed

DEC. 21 - UGLY SWEATER KARAOKE
The Copper Mug;
79 Broadway,
Tillsonburg
\$10 - 8:30pm - all ages/
licensed

DEC. 31 - KIDS NOON YEAR'S EVE PARTY
The Copper Mug;
79 Broadway,
Tillsonburg
\$10 - 2:00pm - all ages/
licensed

DEC. 31 - THE COPPER MUG NEW YEAR'S EVE KARAOKE PARTY
The Copper Mug;
79 Broadway,
Tillsonburg
Free - 8:30pm - 19+

DEC. 31 - NEW YEAR'S EVE 2025 OPEN MIC KARAOKE PARTY
Paddy's Underground;
20 John Pound Road,
Tillsonburg
\$10 - 7:30pm - 19+



- Live Entertainment • Karaoke • NTN Trivia
- Fundraisers • Birthdays • Anniversaries
- Meetings • & More

Fresh made foods, in house smoked meats and lot of love, just like Mom used to make.

79 Broadway St, Tillsonburg
519-842-6227



20 John Pound Road
Tillsonburg

Live Music • Comedy • Pub



Unique stories and art at Belleville's Victorian mansion



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

PAUL KNOWLES

Tillsonburg Post Columnist

It was not my finest hour. When I first met Anna Fraiberg, of the Bay of Quinte Regional Marketing Board, I waxed eloquent about how much I like Prince Edward County, and how much I would like to visit the area as a first stop on our road trip to eastern Canada.

Anna listened patiently for several minutes, and then said, "I think I should explain that we don't represent Prince Edward Country."

Rats. I swallowed hard, thought for a moment, and said, "I'm sorry. Tell me what you do represent."

Anna was more than gracious. She acknowledged that their neighbouring area, PEC, is a terrific destination, but then suggested that her region is also pretty special, although less known. In fact, I have since learned that the Bay of Quinte website starts with the low-key admission, "You might know us as a midway stop on road trips between Toronto and Montreal."

Anna wondered if I was still interested in spending a few days in Bay of Quinte, given the misunderstanding. I told her that I would be thrilled to explore a region that was still under the radar, and our conversation led to three terrific days in Belleville, Quinte West, Trenton, Brighton, and Napanee.

I wrote, a number of weeks ago, about the really fine National Air Force Museum of Canada, in Trenton. It is a must-see destination, but there is much more in Bay of Quinte. It's a perfect, multi-day destination, easily reached from

south-western Ontario.

One of our favourite stops was at the Glanmore National Historic Site, an 1883 Victorian mansion that has been a museum since the 1970s. It was designated a National Historic Site in 1971.

I know what you're thinking – there are a lot of Victorian era homes in Ontario that have been converted into museums. But Glanmore is unique, quirky, and very interesting. It's also inexpensive – adult admission is \$8, students and seniors \$6.50 – and open year-round except Mondays (afternoons only from September to May). This time of year, it is lavishly decorated for the season, an added perk for cold-weather visitors.

What I especially enjoyed during our tour, led by long-time staff member Melissa Wakeling, were the unique exhibitions and features of the museum, quite different from anything I have seen in other sites.

First, much of the furniture and furnishings are original to the home, which was built for \$7,000 in 1883 by wealthy banker John Philpott Curran Phillips and Harriet Dougall Phillips. Harriet was an artist of some repute, and romantic portraits she created still hang in the house.

The home remained in the family – more or less – until it became a museum, 90 years later. I say, "more or less in the family" because the house passed to Jessie Patterson-Phillips, a young woman who was informally adopted by the Phillips. She was the daughter of a local labourer, but came to be part of the Phillips family, and their heir, although no legal adoption ever took place.

The home remained in the family for four generations.

But Glanmore is home, not only to authentic furnishings and art from the four families, but also to the extensive "Coudery Collection". Bertram and Cecilia Coudery, who lived in England, visited Belleville in the 1880s, and liked the community so much, they bought a second home here. Eventually, their eclectic collection of arts and crafts was donated to Belleville,



Glanmore Museum in Belleville. All photos by Paul Knowles

brought there from England, and eventually given a home at Glanmore.

The rather unusual highlights of the collection are 42 animal paintings by Horatio H. Coudery. Horatio, who was Bertram's brother, was a well-known British artist who specialized in painting animals. His works add a unique ambience to the elaborately furnished rooms at Glanmore.

Although Glanmore is a National Historic Site, the museum is also committed to local history, and has an extensive collection of Bay of Quinte region artifacts, ranging from clothing to tools to toys. Our host Melissa – who has lost none of her passion for Glanmore in her 24 years here – led us through temporary exhibits of local history, and showed us the well-stocked kids' activity area in the basement of the house.

Children are welcome, and families will be given scavenger hunt cards that encourage kids to spot specific items on display. Kids and adults

will also enjoy the appearances of a small paper doll called "Flattie Hattie", a permanent resident in the house.

If you happen to be a fan of Murdoch Mysteries, you have already paid brief visits to Glanmore. The home was featured in Season Three and Season 17.

But trust me – seeing glimpses on TV will not give you the unique and highly enjoyable experience you will get as you explore Glanmore, marvelling at the Victoria opulence, and discussing the plethora of animal paintings with your pet-loving friends.

For more information, visit the really excellent website: www.glanmore.ca.

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



The opulently furnished living room at Glanmore.



The dining room – many of the furnishings are original to the home, which remained in the same family for almost a century.



"Travel Agent: Someone who turns your dreams into reality"

**TILLSONBURG TRAVEL
SERVICE LTD.**

Full Service Travel Agency: Travel Insurance, Airline Tickets,
All Inclusive Packages, Motorcoach Tours and Cruises.

TICO #50027743

175 Broadway, Tillsonburg
info@tillsonburgtravel.com
(519)842-5931
www.tillsonburgtravel.com

Glendale students learn about Trick of the Trades



This group of Grade 10 female students stopped by the LiUNA 1059 booth to find out more information about careers in the trades. (JEFF HELSDON PHOTO)

JEFF HELSDON

Editor

Students at Glendale High School received insight into trade careers at the Trick of the Trades event held at the school on Nov. 26.

Organized by Tillsonburg Multi-Service Centre, the Town of Tillsonburg and Glendale High School, Trick of the Trades was an event for the entire Glendale student body, not just certain grades or segments.

There were 14 different vendors at Trick of the Trades, covering everything from concrete work to plumbing to construction and hairdressing.

Samantha Ton, an employment consultant with the Multi-Service Centre, explained the purpose of the event: "The hope is even after receiving education outside the community, they will

hopefully come back and work in Tillsonburg. It's highlighting what the local opportunities are in the trades."

From a student standpoint, the incentive for entering the trades is certainly there. If accepted for an apprenticeship, which is available for many trades, students can start being paid after completing school, don't have to pay for their schooling and finish with a high-paying career that is in demand. Ton added that in many cases the pay for trades is as high as many careers for those attending university, and there are more grant and scholarship opportunities available for trades.

"It's a needed field," Ton said.

A unique feature of Trick of the Trades is there are a number of hands-on activities designed to help engagement.

"It's not just walking around and



Grade 10 students Kayden Pittao, left, and Lucas Hussey participate in a hands-on activity at the LiUNA 1059 booth in Tricks of the Trade. The students were challenged to disassemble and assemble a model scaffold in two minutes. (JEFF HELSDON PHOTO)

looking at posters, it's trying stuff," said Jen Olcsvary, Fundraising & Community Engagement Coordinator with the Multi-Service Centre.

"It gives them a piece of what the job will look like," Ton added.

Ontario government figures back this assertion with estimates the province will need 100,000 new trades people in the next decade.

Traditional thinking may be that trade careers are male dominated, more females are entering fields that were historically men only.

"A lot of females students I talked to are engaged," Ton said.

Trade opportunities are more diverse than many may believe.

Tim Davis, head of co-operative education at Glendale, pointed out there are more than 100 trades. These fall under four general areas: motive power, services, construction and industrial. In more detail, they include a chef, hairdresser, blacksmith, cabinet maker, locksmith, millwright, welder, baker and a variety of careers in agriculture. However, Davis said most students think of traditional trades such as mechanic, plumber and electrician. While he has had many ask about electrical, he has only had one student in the last six years ask about being a millwright.

"We need to do better with things like this (Trick of the Trades) so kids know trades exist," he said.



SENIOR CENTRE CRAFTERS SHOW

Knitting was one of the items for sale at the Tillsonburg Senior Centre Craft Show. Faye Roose, left, looks at this Christmas stocking at a table run by Christine Burr and Blanche Knight. There were also paintings, toys, tree hangers and quilts for sale. Proceeds from the sale go to the centre's programs. (JEFF HELSDON PHOTO)



CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

St. John's annual Christmas Bazaar and Coffee Break Cafe was held Nov. 23. Volunteer Sharon Harris, left, was selling baking that was part of the cafe portion of the event. Proceeds were split between a variety of church groups for church functions and community service. (JEFF HELSDON PHOTO)

Harvard pilot, 101, flies again



Pilot Allan Paige, front, took 101-year-old Ken Raven up in a Harvard, giving him a chance to be in a Harvard for the first time since 1946. Raven flew the plane for about 10 minutes of the 30-minute flight. (JEFF HELSDON PHOTO)

JEFF HELSDON

Editor

The last time Allen Paige was in the seat of a Harvard, he was in the Royal Canadian Air Force. That changed when the 101-year-old flew with the Canadian Harvard Aircraft Association on Nov. 27.

At the time, during the Second World War, the roar of Harvards flying in southern Ontario was common with bases for the Commonwealth Air Training Plan scattered across the province. Although there were several bases within an hour of Tillsonburg, and the Tillsonburg airport was a reserve landing field, Raven started with the Royal Canadian Air Force by flying Tiger Moth biplanes in Oshawa. He then moved to Ottawa to train in Harvards.

The Toronto resident said he joined the air force because his brother did. His brother flew in a Lancaster bomber, had 28 trips in, and only two to go when he was shot down over the water. The plane or bodies were never found.

Transferring to England, he trained in Hurricanes and Spitfires. Raven arrived in England in June 1944, four days before D-Day. He was stationed with the 541 Squadron in Benson, England, and flew in reconnaissance units. Although

he earned his commercial license, Paige never flew as a commercial pilot. Raven now lives with his daughter Dee and son-in-law in Huntsville. They own a resort there, and when they heard about CHAA, arranged the flight, and accompanied him and wife Sandy on the trip. Although 101, Raven still golfs and skis.

Asked about his experience flying Harvards, Paige said it was a heavy plane, but easy to fly. The Tiger Moths Raven

started in were cloth and wood.

Paige was discharged in 1945 and was last in a Harvard in 1946. He was part of a private group of pilots providing instruction during the Korean War in de Havilland Chipmunk trainers.

Between talking to members of the Canadian Harvard Aircraft Association that hosted him about technical information on the Harvard, Paige was sharp and knew his stuff. He



Second World War veteran Ken Raven climbs in the cockpit of a Canadian Harvard Aircraft Association plane when given a chance to fly in the plane similar to the one he trained in before heading to England. (JEFF HELSDON PHOTO)

said he was looking forward to the flight. When there was talk of putting another stick in the plane to let Paige fly, he perked up, quickly saying, "Yep, yep," when asked if he was interested in flying it.

"I'll take him up, give

him the stick and see what he wants to do," said CHAA pilot Allan Paige.

The flight lasted 30 minutes, with Raven taking the stick for about 10 minutes.

"He was very smooth on the controls and everything seemed to come

back to him on how to fly," Paige said.

Outside of special events like Raven's flight, CHAA makes flights available to the public several times per year. For more information, visit the group's website, www.harvards.com.

ESSENCE OF OLIVES

BEAUTY SPA & BOUTIQUE

manicures • pedicures • waxing
tinting • braiding • cornrows

Ladies & Gents - Soak & Sip

Treat yourself to a relaxing evening. During your pedicure services every Thursday. Enjoy a complimentary refreshing sparkling beverage while you soak your tiredness away. Walk-ins are accepted.

Every Wednesday - Seniors Day

Seniors receive a complimentary manicure with purchase of a pedicure or complimentary pedicure with purchase of a manicure. Please call to book your appointment.

Spa gift certificate and gift items are also available.

29 BROCK ST WEST TILLSONBURG • 519-409-9501 • 647-401-0948
alphaomegaprophecy@gmail.com

Sunday: Open for appointments only • Monday: Closed
Tuesday: 10 am - 6 pm • Wednesday: 10 am - 6 pm
Thursday: 11 am - 8 pm • Friday: 11 am - 8 pm
Saturday: Closed

SAME OWNERS!

SAME FLOORING EXPERTS

NEW LOOK!

Floors Now Tillsonburg is now

END OF THE ROLL™

FLOORING CENTRES

Hardwood | Laminate | Area Rugs | Luxury Vinyl | Carpet | & More!

Tillsonburg 612 Broadway St endoftheroll.com

Purple bench contains code to assist victims of violence

JEFF HELSDON

Editor

Downtown Tillsonburg has a new purple fixture with a special purpose. In front of the Tillsonburg Town Centre is a purple bench with a QR code to provide information to aid victims of domestic abuse.

Unveiled on Nov. 26, the purple bench is one of eight across Oxford County that were installed as part of the Purple Bench Campaign. This campaign began in 2015 in Spryfield, N.S., as a memorial to Barbara Baillie, who was a victim of domestic violence.

"These benches serve as more than just seats," said Sophie Foster during the unveiling. "They feature plaques displaying emergency contact number for individuals experiencing gender-based violence."

The QR code provides links to Domestic Abuse Services Oxford (DASO), Domestic Assault Resource Team (DART) and Ingamo Homes, a non-profit organization committed to ending gender-based violence by providing second-stage homes, outreach and programming to women and their children. Foster is the fundraising and communications coordinator for DASO and Ingamo. DASO provides emergency shelter, which typically is for six to eight weeks.

Foster said there have been over 60 women killed in domestic violence incidents since last November.

"Here in Oxford County, we might



Several partners came together to unveil a purple bench in front of the Tillsonburg Town Centre, including the Town of Tillsonburg, the BIA, DASO, and the Tillsonburg Multi-Service Centre. The bench has a QR code to provide contact information for victims of intimate partner violence. Left to right are: Coun. Kelly Spencer, Meini Knelson, Allison Biggar, Vanessa Fortner, Mark Renaud, Sophie Foster, and Randi-Lee Durham.

(JEFF HELSDON PHOTO)

be a smaller community, but we're not immune to gender-based and intimate partner violence."

Joanna Piatkowski, former manager at Ingamo Homes, brought the concept to Oxford, and presented the idea of the purple benches to Tillsonburg council

in May. Then, Coun. Kelly Spencer brought forward a motion on Aug. 12, which passed, asking for the installation of a purple bench this summer.

"It was one of those situations where we couldn't say no because it was donated and organized by Ingamo and

DASO," Spencer said.

The motion directed working with the BIA to find the ideal spot for the bench. BIA executive director Mark Renaud said in front of the mall is the busiest spot in town and with one million person visits per year it is an ideal high profile location for the bench. With the bench in a high profile location, it is hoped it will be seen by more people.

"Intimate partner violence is all too prevalent in our society. Victims are often scared to reach out or don't know who to contact," said Tillsonburg Mayor Deb Gilvesy. "The purple bench signifies that you are not alone and that help is available. The QR code located on the bench provides a link to help for those that continue to suffer in silence. This is a wonderful and meaningful addition to our community."

"Having the purple bench in Tillsonburg signifies hope, support, help and professional services to citizens in our community that are experiencing domestic abuse, gender based violence and/or family violence," Spencer said. "It is a strong message" You are not alone, there is help".

Oxford OPP responded to 1,570 calls for domestic violence in 2023. Randi Crawford, community services officer with Oxford OPP, reminded victims need to call 9-1-1 if they need assistance.

"Oxford OPP is proud to work with our community partners to promote safety surrounding the topic of intimate partner violence," she said.

DeCloet donates \$100,000 to preserve forest diversity

ALEX HUNT

Post Correspondent

Paul DeCloet was formally recognized with a token of appreciation from Norfolk County at a Nov. 19 council meeting after donating a \$100,000 endowment to preserve and maintain The DeCloet Forest in Clear Creek Valley.

The donation was marked as a significant contribution to Norfolk County's environmental heritage.

Mayor Amy Martin said, "Paul your dedication to our land and longstanding advocacy for agriculture serves as an inspiration to all of us."

Adam Biddle, Norfolk County Forestry Supervisor said that the endowment will ensure the ongoing maintenance in securing the preservation of the forest's rich diversity while providing the public with a fulfilling natural experience.

DeCloet lived the life of a tobacco farmer west of the forest and owned the land for over 40 years before donating it, along with another forest property, through the Government of Canada's Ecological Gifts Program in 2021.

Titled in Norfolk County's Official plan as a 'Signature Natural Site,' the 124-acre Carolinian forest thrives with biodiversity - 26 different tree species such as, sassafras, tulip

and oak trees along with a variety of wildlife. The funds will be used to enhance the forest's features by adding benches, signage, trail maintenance, forest inventory and other park accessories.

Throughout his time as the landowner, DeCloet operated various tree harvesting projects through the years, while also ensuring the forest kept its diversity.

"We are deeply grateful to Mr. DeCloet for his extraordinary generosity," said Mayor Martin.

"His donation of the Paul DeCloet Forest and the establishment of this endowment demonstrate his profound dedication to preserving Norfolk County's natural beauty. This thoughtful contribution ensures the forest will remain a vital and cherished part of our community for generations to come."

DeCloet immigrated to the county from Belgium with his family 71 years ago and expressed his gratitude with how the Norfolk communities have treated his family before moving to Tillsonburg later in his life.

"The county was good to my family, they gave us an opportunity to prosper and raise a family. Norfolk County itself is incredible in diversity and possesses a lot of natural aspects," said DeCloet. "We've got organizations that operate with the main goal of long-term protection.

"When I moved to Tillsonburg, I left my



Paul DeCloet, original owner of The DeCloet Forest, stands next to a family of trees grown from a former harvested tree.

(ALEX HUNT PHOTO)

heart in Norfolk County."

The forest, located where two branches of water converge before merging with Lake Erie, currently has various logging trails that hikers can use to explore the many natural qualities that forest has to offer. DeCloet said that more trees will be planted to continue growing the forest's biodiversity and pre-

serving ecosystems for the long-term future.

"I've enjoyed this forest a lot over the years, and I want other people to enjoy that too," said DeCloet.

The property does not condone hunting, motorized vehicle riding and other forms of activities that potentially disrupt the forest's ecological environments.

Rose fundraiser for Rotary Club



The sale of roses assists Shriner's Hospitals. Roses and vases are available in a variety of colours. (JEFF HELSDON PHOTO)

JEFF HELSDON

Editor

These roses have a beauty that never goes away.

Dave Palmer uses a 3-D printer to make unique roses and vases as a fundraiser for the Tillsonburg Shrine Club. This is the third year he has done this, and he sells them at Christmas, Mother's Day, and Valentine's Day in the Tillsonburg Town Centre. Palmer will sell his roses on Dec. 14 and 21, and Shriner cookies and cakes will also be available.

The roses are available in various co-

lours, which can be mixed and matched. Dave teams up with his wife Cathy to sell the roses.

"Cathy is good at giving people colour suggestions," Palmer said. "You can mix roses and vase colours."

A vase and three roses are \$20; a single rose is \$5, and a vase is \$10.

Dave pays for the material, so all the money raised goes to the Shriner Hospital for Kids in Montreal. Last year, this amounted to \$5,000. The Shrine hospital also opened a clinic in London one day a week.

"That's what I'm doing it for is to help kids," Palmer said.

He has visited the Shrine Hospital in Montreal with other Shriners and has seen the state-of-the-art facility firsthand.

Palmer, who taught math at both Glendale and Annandale, joined the Masons in 2009 after he retired, and then the Shriners in 2015. He is currently Deputy District Grand Master. He was drawn to the group when he discovered both of his grandfathers were Masons.

"I looked into it and thought it would be a good experience for me," he said. "It's all about individual growth in Masons and the Shrine is fundraising."

Palmer purchased a 3-D printer five years ago. When he came across the rose pattern, he saw an opportunity for the Shrine Club. He now has multiple printers making roses prior to his sale periods.

Purchasing a rose is also an opportunity to reminisce with the Palmers. Cathy taught math at Glendale, so many people who went to high school in Tillsonburg had one or the other for a teacher.

And best of all, these roses don't have thorns.



Dave Palmer checks on the operation of one of his 3-D printers as it's making a synthetic rose. The roses have a lustre finish and almost a metallic look. Palmer has several of the machines. (JEFF HELSDON PHOTO)

ARC Industries manufactured ceramic trees

JEN GIBSON AND KATHLEEN WATKIN

Tillsonburg Post Contributors

This holiday season Annandale National Historic Site (30 Tillson Avenue) invites you to explore a new Christmas exhibition, Faux Christmas Tree. This colourful exhibit celebrates the evolution of artificial Christmas trees—including Christmas trees made right here in Tillsonburg!

Did you know that Tillsonburg was once a hub for artificial tree production? In 1971, the Adult Rehabilitation Centre (ARC Industries) ran a workshop where 22 adults with disabilities worked from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. daily to meet the high demand for ceramic Christmas trees. Among their creations was an iconic

large, white ceramic tree with multi-colored plastic bulbs that was gifted to local Woolworth's manager and active community volunteer, Jim Keating. The tree was donated to the Tillsonburg Museum's collection by Jim's wife Reta Keating. Woolworth's, located where the Salvation Army Thrift Store is today, sold many artificial Christmas trees and decorations during the 1970s.

Artificial Christmas trees have come in many forms over the years, from goose feathers and tinsel, to wood, ceramics, and plastic.

Faux Christmas Tree runs from Friday, November 22 through to Sunday, January 5, 2025, in the Pratt Gallery, located on the museum's main floor. Learn more at www.tillsonburg.ca/annandale



Jen Gibson uses a remote to light up the trees in Annandale National Historic Site's Faux Christmas Tree exhibit. The exhibit runs through until Jan. 5 in the museum's Pratt Gallery.



This historical photo from ARC Industries shows ceramic Christmas trees in the early stages. The green ceramic trees were common in homes throughout Tillsonburg in the 1970s

Who's Who in the Region

©2024 Western Canada Press westcanpress@gmail.com



Quality Sales & Service For Over 50 Years

950 James St., Delhi 519-582-3100

McKee Sport and Garden Ltd. one of South Western Ontario's Largest dealerships provides more than just sales—it's a full-service partner for anyone passionate about recreational vehicles. With a wide range of vehicles, expert staff, maintenance services, and a supportive community, they help enthusiasts get the most out of their powersport experience.

For powersport enthusiasts, owning a Kawasaki or Yamaha recreational vehicle means embracing performance, innovation, and an exhilarating riding experience.

Whether you're looking to purchase your first motorcycle, ATV or Side by Side selecting the right dealership is essential to ensure you receive the best service and value. A diverse inventory allows you to compare different models and find the one that fits your style, skill level, and budget.

Choosing the right dealership can make a significant difference in your recreational vehicle buying journey. From a knowledgeable sales team and comprehensive after-sales service to a range of inventory and transparent financing options, **McKee Sport and Garden Ltd.** will ensure you're well-equipped for your next adventure.

At **McKee Sport and Garden Ltd.** you'll discover a great selection of Yamaha and Kawasaki ATV's and side by sides for work or play, plus a full complement of motorcycles ranging from MX bikes, sport bikes, to street bikes and more. They also sell Thumpstar® Electric Balance Bikes, Pit Bikes and Dirt bikes. Trade-ins are welcome. They carry reliable Yamaha portable inverter generators that are ideal for emergency backup power for homes, cottages and businesses.

McKee Sport and Garden Ltd. parts department offers genuine OEM replacement parts, plus popular after-market accessories, tires and riding apparel. The credibility of their Service Department is astounding with top-notch services delivered by highly skilled technicians. From diagnostics, tune-ups, and upgrades they service popular makes and models.

McKee Sport and Garden Ltd. is guided by the Family Owned Business and any Family Staff will direct you to your New Ride.

Drop by their relaxed showroom in person, or check out their inventory online at www.mckeesport.ca as they come highly recommended.



Quality Products and Exceptional Service

3503 Hwy #3, West, Simcoe 519-426-1090

Norfolk Tractor is a **KUBOTA** One Dealership and part of the **D&W Group** that was founded in 1950. They proudly sell quality new and pre-owned equipment backed by exceptional service.

Guided by General Manager **Mike Doughty**, **Norfolk Tractor's** team will take the time to understand your equipment needs and recommend the right products.

Whether you're a farmer, contractor, land owner or landscape professional, **Norfolk Tractor** offers reliable and efficient solutions to help you succeed in your endeavors.

Norfolk Tractor is a proud dealer for **KUBOTA**, a respected manufacturer renowned for quality-built equipment since 1890. **KUBOTA** has a Canada-wide network of 137 dealerships.

Norfolk Tractor offers **KUBOTA** tractors from subcompacts to the M8 Series up to 200 HP, mini excavators, compact track loaders, stand on compact loaders, TLB, track carriers, skid steer loaders, wheel loaders, K-Haul trailers, along with implements, and construction attachments. They sell dependable **KUBOTA** RTV (rugged terrain vehicle) side-by-side four-wheel versatile (UTV) Utility vehicles for work or play.

Norfolk Tractor sells a complete line of reliable **KUBOTA** mowers including riding and zero-turn models.

Norfolk Tractor carries Stihl power products, push and self-propelled battery-powered lawnmowers, gas zero-turn mowers, gas and battery powered trimmers, grass and hedge trimmers, brushcutters and clearing saws, leaf blowers, rototillers, pole pruners, vacuums, gas or electric chainsaws, electric or gas pressure washers, lightweight handheld battery blowers, and complete accessories. They also feature **ECHO** outdoor power equipment.

Norfolk Tractor's well-stocked parts department is devoted to serving you, their customers with genuine replacement parts.

Norfolk Tractor provides professional service by Certified licensed mechanics with maintenance and repairs when unexpected problems arise. Their goal is to minimize your downtime, help prevent breakdowns and help you maintain your equipment's resale value.

Call or stop in soon at **Norfolk Tractor** a community-minded business or visit them online at www.norfolktractor.ca to view their new and used equipment.

Norfolk Tractor can tailor a variety of finance programs to meet your needs. Like them on Facebook www.facebook.com/norfolktractor86/



U-HAUL

A Clear Choice for Quality Service

50 Gilbertson Drive, Simcoe 519-428-0980

Your car's windshield does more than just provide a clear view of the road—it's a critical safety component. A damaged windshield can impair visibility and compromise the structural integrity of your vehicle. Fortunately, timely windshield repair can restore its function and save you the cost of a full replacement.

Windshields are repaired using a special tool that injects resin into the window, sealing the chip and preventing further cracking.

Regional Auto Glass can fix the chip or crack in your windshield quickly and efficiently. Their Insurance claims specialists will coordinate your entire transaction with your insurance company.

For peace of mind and optimal results, consult **Regional Auto Glass** whenever damage occurs.

Regional Auto Glass is your destination for professional window tinting, high-performance parts, vehicle accessories, floor liners, mud flaps, soft and hard tonneau covers to push bars and bed slides, plus headlight and windshield treatment.

Canada's #1 Rust Protection **Krown®** is an environmentally friendly, proven effective body maintenance program designed to help protect vehicles, fleet or heavy machinery from rust and the corrosion process. Rust can shorten a vehicle's lifecycle, cause mechanical and electrical parts to fail, plus could affect vehicle safety.

Krown® the ultimate rust protection corrosion inhibitor is endorsed by the APA and CAA. **Krown®** can be applied any time of year, taking about 30 minutes to an hour to protect your vehicle. **Krown®** offers a corporately backed national warranty, plus Locked-in Pricing. CAA Members save \$10 on a **Krown®** rust control application, and 20% off various **Krown®** retail detailing products.

They are a local **U-Haul®** neighborhood dealer "Your moving and storage resource." They rent **U-Haul®** trucks, trailers, towing equipment and sell moving supplies and in-store pickup for boxes.

These impressive community-minded businesses are locally owned and operated by **Dan** and **Heather Hooper**, who are assisted by a professional team. Gift cards are available and perfect for the holiday season.

You can also visit their website www.regionalautoglass.ca to learn more about this exceptional company. Call for a free quote today. Like them on Facebook www.facebook.com/regionalautokrown/

SouthCoast



HYUNDAI

Have Your Next Vehicle

121 Queensway E. Simcoe 519-426-1515

SouthCoast Hyundai is a premier dealer for Hyundai Auto Canada, a top-tier vehicle manufacturer selling cars in Canada since 1984.

When it comes to innovation, reliability, and cutting-edge design in the automotive world, Hyundai Motors stands tall as a paragon of excellence. With a relentless pursuit of quality, safety, and sustainability, Hyundai has carved out a prominent place for itself on the global stage.

SouthCoast Hyundai provides sales, leasing, parts and service for the award-winning Hyundai line whose build quality allows them to be backed by one of the best-backed warranties in Canada.

SouthCoast Hyundai sells vehicles for any lifestyle and budget including Hyundai compact and sedans, high performance, minivans, crossovers, SUVs, and Canada's most awarded fully electric vehicle line-up.

SouthCoast Hyundai offers H Promise Certified pre-owned vehicles that come with a Carfax Report, transferable 1-year/20,000km. Powertrain Limited Warranty. Vehicles have passed a 120 inspection point program, plus you get 24/7 roadside assistance for one year, and 30 days/2,000 km. exchange program for added peace of mind. They also offer free trade-in estimates.

Getting into the model you've always wanted is easier with their knowledgeable finance department that has all the tools necessary to help make the process go smoothly finding the financing or leasing option for you.

Winter is just around the corner—are you ready? **SouthCoast Hyundai** offers quality service and is committed to providing the care and expert service that their guests trust. Their trained technicians have spent thousands of hours understanding every Hyundai vehicle, and use only genuine Hyundai parts to service and repair your vehicle.

General Manager, **Mark Lavigne** invites you to stop by soon to discover everything that Hyundai and the sales and service team at **SouthCoast Hyundai** have to offer.

You can also visit their website www.southcoasthyundai.com view the new Hyundai models, get a part quote, schedule a test drive, or book your next service appointment online. Like them on Facebook. www.facebook.com/SouthCoastHyundai/ Follow on Instagram.

Save money! Clip out this article on SouthCoast Hyundai and present it to the service department for a 10% discount on an oil change.



Working Hard to Keep You Going

7 Grigg Drive, Simcoe 519-426-8991

Numerous area motorists are looking for the same thing—a shop with trained technicians they can rely on and trust to do automotive repairs right, and at a fair price. The team at **Expert Auto Clinic** with years of experience has built a reputation for performing repairs and factory-scheduled maintenance replacing only what is needed, earning customer's trust.

Guided by brothers **Marcos** and **Carlos Relva**, **Expert Auto Clinic** is a **NAPA Autocare Centre**. They offer a vast list of services using quality genuine **NAPA** parts, the largest supplier of auto parts in Canada. You receive an impressive 12 months and 20,000 km **NAPA AutoCare** Peace of Mind Warranty with your repairs.

Expert Auto Clinic specializes in custom and performance exhaust and import service repairs for VW, plus Ford and service repairs to all other makes and models.

Today's modern vehicles are high-tech marvels with digital dashboards, oxygen sensors, electronic computers, and more. They run better, longer, and more efficiently than models of years past.

Because of all of this technology, it's more important than ever to find a reliable repair shop with the tools, equipment and expertise to repair your vehicle.

Expert Auto Clinic provides professional diagnostic problem solving, lube/oil/filter service, ABS brakes, steering and suspension, shocks & struts, heating and cooling systems, belts & hoses, mufflers, transmission service, electrical systems, tires sales, mounting, balancing, major and minor repairs, Interstate batteries, factory scheduled maintenance, along with fleet service and vehicle inspections.

When your Check Engine Light comes on, drop by **Expert Auto Clinic** as they have the most advanced diagnostic computers to retrieve the fault codes from your car's onboard computer via the OBDII port, analyze the findings and provide you with a game plan to get your vehicle back on the road. Appointments are preferred, emergency situations will be addressed in a timely manner.

Regular maintenance not only saves you from the inconvenience of unexpected breakdowns but also increases your confidence in your vehicle's reliability.

If you're having issues with your vehicle look to **Expert Auto Clinic** who come highly recommended. They are open Monday-Friday 8 AM- 5:30 PM. Facebook www.facebook.com/expertautoclinic/



Independent
Your Independent Grocer

Competitive Pricing & Exceptional Service

227 Main St. Delhi 519-582-0864

With Canadians looking to stretch their grocery budgets without sacrificing quality **Your Independent Grocer** stores are the go-to destination for all their shopping needs.

Wilkinson's Your Independent Grocer a community-minded business is one of more than 100+ "Your Independent Grocer" stores operating under the umbrella of Loblaw Companies Limited, Canada's largest food distributor.

Franchise Owner /Operators **Matt** and **Kristie Wilkinson** believe that the secret to operating a successful grocery store is ensuring that the customer's satisfaction is first and foremost. Their store is family-friendly and comfortable, with amazing people behind the scenes that keep their store running.

Wilkinson's Your Independent Grocer goes beyond traditional grocery offerings by including an in-store bakery, full-service Butcher Shoppe offering the finest choice cuts, a deli with an impressive selection of prepared foods, and specialty sections that feature gluten-free, organic, and vegan products. Mealtime is made easier with ready-to-eat hot foods with Meals To Go.

Wilkinson's Your Independent Grocer stock consists of private label products under President's Choice®, over 300 PC® Organics™ products, PC® Blue Menu™, PC® Black Label - exotic flavours from around the globe, environmentally friendly PC® Green™, Club Pack® large size or multi-pack items, and no name® Naturally Imperfect™ line of fruits and vegetables. Look for the Simple Check™ symbol on hundreds of no name® products.

Earn points towards FREE groceries by using your PC Financial® MasterCard® or PC® Money Account to pay for purchases. With the PC Optimum™ program, members receive points with every eligible purchase.

Wilkinson's Your Independent Grocer has PC Express™ grocery pickup, with in-store prices and promos; perfectly picked freshness guaranteed! When you arrive at the store, park in one of the designated PC Express™ spots and call them at **519-582-0864**.

Visit www.pcxpress.ca and let them take care of your shopping needs! Get more perks with the PC Express™ Pass. Also, check out the PC® Insiders Report™

Wilkinson's Your Independent Grocer is open 7 days a week 8 AM- to 8 PM for your convenience. Like them on Facebook.

RIDDLES

What do miners put on their face at night?
Coal cream.

Why did the coach go to the bank?
To get his quarterback.

What is green and sings?
Elvis Parsley.

Did you hear about the man who got his left arm cut off?
He's all right now.

Why did the bird go to the restaurant?
Because he wanted a tweet.

What do frogs drink?
Croak-a-cola.

Why can't a leopard hide?
Because he's always spotted.

Why did the rancher name his ranch "Peanut Butter"?
It was a great spread.

What's the richest kind of air?
Billionaire.

How come my uncle does not brush his hair?
Because he is bald.

SUDOKU

by PeterS 2024

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

Solutions on page 47

Basic (4)

PET OF THE WEEK



EACH PET OF THE WEEK WILL RECEIVE A FREE GOODIE BAG FROM RUFFIN'S TILLSONBURG!



OLLIE

HELLO! MY NAME IS OLLIE.
I AM A 4 YEAR OLD MINI POODLE - SHITZU MIX.
I LIKE TO RUN AROUND WITH MY SISTER, AND SNUGGLE MY MOM AND DAD. I LOVE SNEAKING A CHIP OR A LITTLE PIZZA CRUST IS MY FAVOURITE! MY FAVORITE TOY IS MY NEW GIRAFFE FROM REN'S PETS!

SPONSORED BY:



VISIT US ONLINE!



WWW.RUFFINSTILLSONBURG.COM

589 BROADWAY, TILLSONBURG

MONDAY-TUESDAY: 9AM-7PM

WEDNESDAY-FRIDAY: 9AM-8PM

SATURDAY: 9AM-5PM

SUNDAY: 10AM-5PM

NOMINATE YOUR PET TO BE PET OF THE WEEK BY EMAILING [INFO@TILLSONBURGPOST.COM](mailto:info@tillsonburgpost.com)

WORD SEARCH

NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS

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

- Success
- Dedication
- Ambition
- Hobbies
- Progress
- Travel
- Goal
- Fitness
- Improvement
- Happiness
- Charity
- Volunteer
- Healthy
- Persistence
- Commit

COMING EVENTS

CHRISTMAS FAMILY DANCE

December 20, 7pm-11pm
Tillsonburg and Area Optimist Club and the Tillsonburg Legion Branch 153

All ages welcome. \$5/person. Silent auction and door prizes.

THE FRIENDSHIP TABLE - FREE FRIENDSHIP DINNERS

Monday, Jan. 13, Feb. 10, Mar. 10, Apr. 14, May 12, June 9, 2025;

Doors open at 4:30.

Dinner Served 5:00-6:30

St. Mary's Church Basement, Corner of Rolph St & Venison St, Tillsonburg
SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL HELPING THOSE IN NEED. GOOD NEWS!! FREE FRIENDSHIP DIN-

NERS ARE BACK! Everyone Welcome

GREATER THAN THE SUM II

Norwich United Church

Tuesday December 10th at 7:30pm.

The Norwich Musical Society Band will host a Christmas concert in combination with the Mitchell Legion Band. Admission is by donation.

CHRISTMAS TOY DRIVE

Tillsonburg Chiropractic & Wellness
10 Brock St. E., Tillsonburg

Accepting toy donations for those under 18 and pets too!

Will be distributed by Salvation Army. Drop off: Mon 9am-6pm, Tue 8am-1pm, Wed 8am-6pm, Thu 9am-6pm. Info: 226-641-5155

DON'T BE ALONE THIS CHRISTMAS

12 noon at Delhi United Church,
105 Church Street, West, Delhi Ont.

If for some reason you will be dining alone on December 25th please come and share a free Christmas Dinner with us! Individuals and families are welcome. Please contact Dorothy Stedman for more information at (519)582-4935 or stedmanles@gmail.com

CHRISTMAS RAFFLES

Saturday December 14th

2:00 pm- 5:00 pm

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

For More Information

Call, the Legion at 519-443-5588 or <https://www.teetervillelegionbranch526.ca>

COMMUNITY KITCHEN LUNCHEON

Every Saturday

St. Paul's United Church

88 Bidwell Street, Tillsonburg

Doors open at 10:30 am

MESSY CHURCH

January 4; 10am to 12 noon

St. Paul's United Church

88 Bidwell Street, Tillsonburg

Join us at Messy Church as we "Juggle in January." Snacks, hot lunch, crafts, games, music and a story. This is a family oriented event.

OXFORD COUNTY

Now hiring Public Works Divisional Assistant



Competition number: # 2024-113

Employment status: Permanent full-time

Wage range: \$28.98-\$36.22/hour

Location: Oxford County Administration Building, Woodstock

We're hiring! Oxford County is seeking a Divisional Assistant for the Transportation and Waste Management division of Public Works. In addition to performing general office duties, this role provides professional and confidential administrative support to staff, including supporting legal processes, documents, customer service, procurement and records maintenance.

To view the full job description and qualifications, scan the QR code or visit oxfordcounty.ca/careers

Please include the competition number and position title in the email subject line. Resumes will only be accepted electronically via e-mail at hr@oxfordcounty.ca.

Please apply by Friday, January 10, 2025 at 4:00 p.m.



SINGING FOR A CAUSE

Local county singer Olivia Mae Graham performed to a packed house at the Carriage Hall on Dec. 1, presenting her music as well as seasonal classics. There was \$450 raised for the Helping Hand Food Bank and over 95 pounds of non-perishable food collected during the show.

(ALIYAH HELSDON PHOTO)

PROMOTE YOUR EVENTS WITH US! HERE'S HOW

Deadline: Tuesday prior at 3 p.m. • Contact: info@tillsonburgpost.com

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

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

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

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

Tillsonburg POST

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

AUTOMOTIVE

GEORGE'S AUTO REPAIR INC.

Tire Services | Oil Changes Maintenance & Repairs

519 842-7058 • GEORGESAUTO.CA
10 Bridge St W., Tillsonburg
OPEN MON TO FRI: 8 AM - 5 PM

NAPA AUTOPRO

FIREPLACES & HVAC

SOUTH COAST FIRE PLACE

Fireplaces | Heating | Cooling Heating & Cooling Sales & Service

- Furnace Repairs & Sales
- Heat Pump Installation & Service
- Fireplace Sales & Service
- Air Conditioner Sales & Repairs

72-A Vienna Rd., Tillsonburg
southcoastfireplace.com | 519-688-2468

TQSDT RUUD NEW

GLASS & MIRROR

Royal GLASS & MIRROR

HOME · INDUSTRY GLASS AND PLASTICS

370-B Simcoe St
Tillsonburg, ON N4G 2J9
Tel: 519-842-4970 | Fax: 519-842-3385
Replacement Window Specialists
royalglasstillsonburg@gmail.com

MERRY CHRISTMAS

...from the staff at the Post! We'll be taking a break for the holidays and will not be publishing on December 26th. Our next issue will be out on January 9th. Thank you so much for the huge amount of support since our launch in September. We're excited to bring you more Tillsonburg Post in 2025!

ACCOUNTING

Need to catch up and file several years of income tax returns?

David Simmonds MBA CPA CGA

- Agriculture
- Construction
- Manufacturing
- Transportation
- Professionals

Call me at 519-842-4279

FOOT CARE

On the mend

ADVANCED FOOT CARE

39 North Street East, Unit B, Tillsonburg
519-788-6672
Book Online:
onthemendadvancedfootcare.com

CLASSIFIEDS

SEWING SALES & SERVICE

SEW-U-CAN Sales and Service

B-145 SIMCOE ST, TILLSONBURG

sewucan.sew@gmail.com | 519-617-7398

TACKLE & FISHING

ERIE & CREEK TACKLE

359 SIMCOE STREET, TILLSONBURG

ERIEANDCREEKTACKLE.CA
FACEBOOK OR INSTAGRAM:
@ERIEANDCREEKTACKLE

MORTGAGE SPECIALIST

Earn 8% to 13% interest investing in private mortgages secured by real estate.

David Simmonds MBA CPA CGA
Mortgage Agent Level 2 - Brokerage License 12728
519-403-5020
david@davidsimmonds.ca

PSYCHOTHERAPY


VINCENT LIZOTTE PSYCHOTHERAPY

Offering Individual and Couples Therapy

548-881-1364
vincentlizotte@protonmail.com
vincentlizotte.com
518 Broadway St, Tillsonburg, ON, N4G 3S7
Be Brave. Find Flow. Cause Connection. Let's Get Clear.

OBITUARY

ROB DOERR



I would like to thank all those who honoured my husband, Rob Doerr, by attending the visitation, the Legion Maple Leaf Service and Rob's funeral, as well as people who sent cards, flowers, food and other expressions of support and sympathy, all so thoughtfully conveyed. Also, gratitude is extended to the staff of T.D.M.H. who cared for him, along with Dr. Cluett, Suzanne and Rosabel from Care Partners and so many others. In addition, the Maurice J. Verhoeve Funeral Home staff was beyond helpful. Blessings to you all.

- Carol Honsberger

Buying, selling, providing a service? Get the word out in the classifieds.

YOGA & PILATES

NOW OFFERING SESSIONS FOR SENIORS

Align Yoga & Pilates
MOVEMENT FOR EVERY BODY

1 Library Lane Unit #202
alignyogaandpilatesstudio.com

YOUR BUSINESS

Advertise Here!

PAINTING

CONTEMPORARY PAINTING AND DESIGN

CHRIS IMHOFF OWNER
905-325-1189

CHRIS@CONTEMPORARYPAINTINGANDDESIGN.COM
CONTEMPORARYPAINTINGANDDESIGN.COM




FROSTY FAIR
St. Paul's United Church Frosty Fair is a decades-old seasonal tradition in town, which features a craft show and luncheon. The Nov. 23 event was organized by the United Church Women (UCW) at the church.
(JEFF HELSDON PHOTO)

QUIZ ANSWERS

- 1) Turquoise
- 2) Sebastian Stan
- 3) Three
- 4) The One Horse Open Sleigh
- 5) 1978
- 6) White
- 7) Hawaiian
- 8) Six
- 9) False
- 10) Hypothermia

SUDOKU

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

Maurice J. Verhoeve Funeral Homes - Burial and Cremation Services Inc.

TILLSONBURG and LANGTON



Maurice J. Verhoeve
Owner/Funeral Director



Margaret Verhoeve
Secretary



Robert Verhoeve
Funeral Director



Krystyna Verhoeve
Funeral Director



Hector Verhoeve
(1938-2015)

Funerals and other ceremonies at a time of death help us process our most profound thoughts and feelings.

They make a significant difference in helping us channel our grief toward healing.

When everyday words and actions are inadequate, the ritual of ceremony provides a needed structure of what to say and do. Funerals also help us acknowledge the reality of the death, remember the life that was lived, support one another in our grief, express our grief outside of ourselves, consider the meaning of life, and begin the long, hard process of coming to transcend our grief and move toward a new wholeness.

“People who take the time and make the effort to create meaningful funeral arrangements when someone loved dies often end up making new arrangements in their own lives. They remember and reconnect with what is most meaningful to them in life. They strengthen bonds with family members and friends. They emerge changed, more authentic and purposeful. The best funerals remind us how we should live.”

— Dr. Alan Wolfelt

Did you know? When funeral expenses are pre-paid, prices for all prepaid goods and services are locked in.

Your personal life insurance is separate from having your funeral prepaid,
it does not guarantee the cost against price increases.

We will price match services. There is no cost to transfer.

Please contact us to get started.

Call: (519)-842-4238 Today.

The Verhoeve family has been serving the Langton and Tillsonburg communities since 1958,
we are 100% family owned and operated with the goal of putting your family first.

We take great pride in everything that we do. Our online reviews and the testimonials on our website from families that we have served will undoubtedly help you see why you should trust the Maurice J. Verhoeve Funeral Homes to care for you and your loved ones.

www.verhoevefuneralhomes.com



262 Broadway, Tillsonburg



40 Queen Street, Langton