

St. Marys Independent

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Issue #1227

Thursday, September 5, 2024

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Terry Fox Walk/Run takes place September 15



Organizers for this year's event are left to right: Andrea Macko, Anna Doupe, Arlene Callender, and Kelly Deeks-Johnson. Contributed photo

By Wendy Lamond

This year's Terry Fox Walk/Run for a cure will take place on Sunday, September 15. The walk starts and ends at the YMCA 268 Maiden Lane at Ingersoll Street. Registration is at 8:30 a.m. and opening ceremonies will be held at 8:45 a.m.

The Terry Fox run raises much needed funds for cancer research. When Terry made the request to carry on without him, he selected September for the event to continue as it was typically an important month for the foundation.

The event carries on rain or shine, and you can run, walk or ride at your own pace.

The theme for this year is No Matter the Distance, No Matter the Journey, No Matter the odds, No Matter what. Terry believed in a world without cancer and this mantra passionately shares the drive that he had to keep going regardless of the obstacles. #nomatterwhat.

For more information, to donate or register go to <https://run.terryfox.ca/55650>

Another School Year Begins

By Wendy Lamond

After what seems like a very fast summer, another school year is underway. With this brings changes to classroom numbers and some new faces within school staff.

Little Falls Public School:

Principal Jeremy Brock shared the school's changes with the Independent. Little Falls currently have 455 students enrolled, which is a slight increase over the previous year.

They have had to add a Kindergarten classroom this year, putting them at five spaces for the youngest learners. In that area, there are a number of new faces. The school welcomes Ms. Furtney, Mrs. Brintnell, Ms. Coyle, and Mrs. Brodhagen, who are all going to be looking after the kindergarten classrooms.

Some teachers have shifted grades for this year, including Mrs. Verkuyl and Mrs. McDougall who will teach Grade 2, and Ms. McManus who will teach Grade 4/5. Brock also welcomes Mrs. McGowan to Grade 5 once again, where she will be joined by Ms. Ansems. Mr. Weber joins the school in a prep coverage position.

At the end of last school year, the previous Vice Principal, Ms. Turk, transferred to Stratford. Little Falls now welcomes Mr. Van Schaik, who will be replacing her for the upcoming school year.

The teachers look forward to seeing all the Grade 1 to 6 students on Wednesday, Sept. 4, with the kindergarten students joining as the week wears on. Finally, the teachers also look forward to connecting with all the families at the school's open house on Thursday, Sept. 19, from 4 to 6 p.m.

Holy Name of Mary:

Principal Jennifer Keene shared that Holy Name

Continued on page 2

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COMMUNITY

Another School Year Begins

Continued from page 1

has 205 students registered for this year. This number is down a bit from the 215 that they had last year.

Keene reports that the following are on staff for the 24/25 academic year: Jennifer Keene (Principal), Kim Connolly (Office Assistant), Paige Crawford (Kindergarten A), Christina Boscarato (Kindergarten DECE), Melanie Hughes (Kindergarten B), Melissa Kittmer (Kindergarten DECE), Katie Simons (1A/2A), Ashley Low (1B/2B), Kathleen Cousins (2C/3A), Nancy Wojcik (3B/4), Jared Nash (5/6A), Sandra Gregus (Kindergarten and Itinerant), David Landers (6B/7A), Sarah Becker (7B/8), Stacey Rietmeyer (Special Education Resource Teacher), Tracie Dafoe (French), Angela Bossence (Music and Itinerant), Trish Edey (Educational Assistant), Lori Burlingham (Educational Assistant), Katie Hamilton (Education Assistant), Jesse Luloff (Educational Assistant), Carrie McKichan (Educational Assistant), Julie Ward (Library Technician/Educational Assistant), Chris Damon (Custodian), Mike MacLean (Custodian), Melodie Maddock (Noon Hour Monitor), and Miranda Reason (Noon Hour Monitor).

St. Marys DCVI welcomes new Principal Petra Goetz:

This year DCVI will be welcoming approximately 530 students back under

the new leadership of Petra Goetz.

Goetz, who has 29 years of experience under her belt, grew up in the Welland area and graduated from Welland Centennial High School. She then furthered her education at the University of Guelph for seven years, and after achieving her masters, she earned her teaching degree at Brock University. During her career, she has made a positive difference at schools in Clinton, Listowel and Mitchell. During COVID times, Goetz was asked to manage an online school for 18 months. Not being as familiar with this format, Goetz's love of learning allowed her to make an impact with this structure.

With family in the St. Marys area, Goetz's hope to work in town came to fruition this year as she takes on the role of principal. Scott Richardson, who was the principal for the last seven years, is now at Central Huron Secondary School in Clinton.

Goetz, who is very highly motivated, is most excited about making a positive impact with teachers, which in turn, has the domino effect to benefitting the students' education. She hopes to build a culture that is inclusive and creates a proud-feeling community.

She is excited to be in St. Marys and to lay a foundation for future students that will include her grandchildren.

DCVI also welcomes new staff mem-

bers Michael Barker (Custodian - Lead Hand), Pam Schoonderwoerd (Attendance Secretary), Katherine Diamond-Rock (EA), Courtney VandenBroek (EA), and Kristie Berg (STRIVE).

Returning to the high school are familiar names Dan Dileonardo (Grade 7B), Frank Etwell (SERT), Rachel Hendriksen (Math/Connections/Guidance), Sarah Kipfer (Student Success), Elizabeth Herbert (Eng/Co-op), Sam Mitchell (Drama and English), Rachele Pearson (French), Kiersten Walsh (7A).

Goodbyes go to Elizabeth Herbert (off to Stratford District Secondary School) and Pat Lyons (Oct. 11).



Petra Goetz

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7 Day Forecast - Weather Sponsored by The HITCHING POST

Day	Temp	Feels Like
Wednesday Sept-4th	24°C	26
Thursday Sept-5th	25°C	29
Friday Sept-6th	24°C	28
Saturday Sept-7th	15°C	14
Sunday Sept-8th	15°C	14
Monday Sept-9th	17°C	17
Tuesday Sept-10th	19°C	19

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COMMUNITY

St. Marys Healthcare Foundation 50/50 winner



Congratulations to Jeff Sager of St. Marys on winning the August 50/50 jackpot of \$4,702! Tickets for September's jackpot are now available at www.stmarys5050.com. Don't miss out on the first \$250 early bird prize on Thursday, September 5. All proceeds support the St. Marys Memorial Hospital. Contributed photo



Speed Chat: Budget Edition

St. Marys Farmers' Market

Saturday, September 14 | 9 - 11 AM

Join Mayor Al Stratthdee and members of Council for an informal opportunity to chat about the 2025 municipal budget and community topics.

Enjoy a free hot beverage, courtesy of the Town of St. Marys, and get the answers to your burning budget questions!

More details: townofstmarys.com/budget
Questions: communications@town.stmarys.on.ca



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ST. MARYS GIVES 2024: WON'T YOU BE MY NEIGHBOUR?



What is Giving Tuesday?

- Giving Tuesday is a global day of generosity.
- Giving Tuesday was created in 2012 as a simple idea: after two days of consumerism (Black Friday and Cyber Monday) could there be a holiday that celebrates our human inclination to give? It is a day that encourages people to do good: to thank, help, show kindness and give to those in need.
- Canada was the first country outside of the US to join the movement. In 2023 there were 58 community movements across Canada, including St. Marys!
- St. Marys joined the Giving Tuesday Movement in 2017 with 18 partners. In 2023 we had more than 100 partners.
- Over the past 12 years this idea has grown into a global movement that inspires hundreds of millions of people in more than 100 countries, unleashing the power of people and organizations to transform their communities and the world.
- On this 12 year anniversary, millions of Canadians are expected to participate whether it is by giving time, acts of kindness or financial support.
- Everyone has something to give and every act of generosity counts.
- Giving Tuesday is a time when Canadians, charities and businesses come together to celebrate giving and participate in activities that support charities, nonprofits and their community.
- In Canada, Giving Tuesday 2023 raised over \$50 million dollars in 24 hours. People are inspired to give on Giving Tuesday because they want to be part of a bigger group of people doing good.
- While so much attention is given to what divides us, generosity brings people together across races, faiths and political views. Giving Tuesday is an opportunity for people around the world to stand together in unity – to use their individual power of generosity to remain connected.



GIVING
TUESDAY

Dec
3

www.givingtuesday.ca

For More Information Contact:
jdockejohnson@gmail.com

Bravo

We have 4 Bravos this week.

- 1) Bravo to the Town and select businesses who recognize the increased need for cycling infrastructure such as bike racks for public use. More bikes (e-bikes especially) are looking for places to lock-up.
- 2) Bravo to Snapping Turtle, Friendship Centre, Broken Rail, the Library, Hearn's Ice Cream, The Quarry and Tennis Courts for providing bike racks. Even the new stairs on Emily Street leading to the Grand Trunk Trail has a tire slot to help get cyclists to the top of the stairs.
- 3) Bravo to the kind lady who lugged a large, heavy box of kitty litter down the post office steps and put it in my car. Made my day!
- 4) Bravo to the people on Southvale Road, St. Marys who put a basket of fresh garden veggies out for people to help themselves to. It is nice for them to share the bounties of their garden so that others can also enjoy some fresh produce.

*Please note all Boos and Bravos must be signed in order to be considered.

Boo

We have 2 Boos this week.

- 1) Boo to the owners of the mini-plaza (including Foodland and Canadian Tire) that have no bike racks for patrons. Even The Independent has a bike rack if you look beside the building.
- 2) Boo to the car drivers in town who don't give cyclists space when passing. Cyclists belong on the road too!

Bravos and Boos are submitted by community members and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the St. Marys Independent.

Quote of the Week

"This is a culture change in the classroom."
- Jill Dunlop, Ontario Education Minister,
discussing the new cell phone restrictions in
classrooms effective September 1, 2024.

Overheard at the Coffee Shop

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How soon is too soon to turn the empty nest into a gym?

Here's to hoping your children's homework isn't too hard to figure out.

Have you heard something humorous around town that you think might be of interest to others? Either email them to us at info@stmarysindependent.com with the title "Overheard at The Coffee Shop", call 519-284-0041 or drop by the office to let us know!



How to LISTEN TO ST. MARYS RADIO
Step 1. Go to www.stmarysradio.com
2. Click play on the online player



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The St. Marys Independent
THOUGHTS OF THE WEEK

Sponsored by:

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A good education is a foundation for a better future

Prepare the child for the path, not the path for the child.

Teachers can open the door but you must walk through it yourself.

No one is perfect, that's why pencils have erasers.

COMMUNITY

Teddy Bears donated to Emergency Department at the hospital



Teddy Bear Reunion organizer Marlene Forman and RN Marcy Taylor show some of the bears that were donated. Wendy Lamond photos

By Wendy Lamond

The successful Teddy Bear reunion, which celebrated its 37th year in August, is not only a great event for kids and families to enjoy but it also raises money for a great cause. Orga-

nizer Marlene Forman uses proceeds from the day to purchase teddy bears. These are generously donated to the Emergency department to help calm the fears of children and some older adults that may need the comfort.



Brenda Sims was the winner of the beautiful quilt from the Teddy Bear Reunion draw. Proceeds from the draw go towards teddy bears for the hospital.

STONETOWN CRIER

The latest municipal news from the Town of St. Marys



READING BUDDIES LITERACY TUTORING VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Volunteer tutors work with readers at the St. Marys Public Library to help build confidence with reading through reading practice and games at the age level of the reader!

townofstmarys.com/careers or 519-284-3346

SCRAPBOOKING GARAGE SALE

Sept. 14, 9 AM - 1 PM | Pyramid Centre

Shop a variety of gently used and new crafting supplies. Admission to this cash-only event is free and a portion of sales will support local seniors' programs.

519-284-3272



SPEED CHAT: BUDGET EDITION

Sept. 14, 9 - 11 AM | Farmers' Market

Our Speed Chat: Budget Edition event aims to bring the discussion to you in a casual environment, providing an opportunity to engage one-on-one with a member of council.

townofstmarys.com/budget or 519-284-2340, ext. 217

EARLYON PLAY & BROWSE

Sept. 23, 9 - 11 AM | Community Closet

Come and join EarlyON at the St. James Anglican Church (65 Church St. S) for a play and an opportunity to browse the free Community Closet.

townofstmarys.com/earlyon or 226-374-6544



SHOWER PROGRAM

Thursdays, 9 AM - 1 PM | Pyramid Centre

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Senior of the Week



Our Senior of the Week is Bernice Coulson who will be celebrating her 85th birthday on September 15. Bernice was born in Cornwall, Ontario and moved to St. Marys in 1967. She was supervisor of admitting at St. Marys Memorial Hospital from 1973-1995 and still maintains an interest in our local hospital as a member of the Auxiliary. Bernice has two children, five grandchildren and one great grandchild. Happy Birthday, Bernice.

If you would like to nominate someone for Senior of the Week, Contact us at 519-284-0041 or info@stmarysindependent.com.

COMMUNITY

Generous support for our local hospital



Bryanston Optimist Club generously donated \$2,100 which went to five new walkers for the hospital. Your support will make a world of difference to the patients. Pictured left to right: Cindy Bilyea, Don Foster, Ron Smith, Elizabeth Campbell, Erin Reynolds, Doreen Foster, Arlene Lanting. Contributed photo

Weekend Quiz

SPONSORED BY



16 Water Street South
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1. Who was known as Johnny Hockey in the NHL?
2. Who is the current President of El Salvador?
3. What kind of animal is an Aye-Aye?
4. Radiohead's "Ok Computer" album was released in what year?
5. Shylock, Portia, Bassanio and Antonio are all characters in what play?
6. What direction does the sun set?
7. What is 50 in roman numerals?
8. Who was the first pope?
9. What is the capital city of Massachusetts?
10. When was Great Wolf Lodge Resorts founded?

This week's answers are found on pg. 27



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Sheldons generously donate \$25,000 to the St. Marys Healthcare Foundation



Jim and Candace Sheldon have had the experience of living in both a big city and the small town of St. Marys. Although both have their benefits and drawbacks, they both love the feel of our small town and being able to make a difference in our local hospital. The \$25,000 donation will go towards needed equipment. From left to right is Cindy Bilyea (past chair of the St. Marys Health Care Foundation), Candace Sheldon and Jim Sheldon. Photo By Wendy Lamond

Museum's popular seminar series returns on Sept. 19

By St. Marys Independent staff

The popular St. Marys Museum seminar series returns for its 12th season, promising a lineup of engaging evening presentations.

The museum will hold a seminar on Thursday, Sept. 19 on the history of baseball presented by Andrew North. This lecture will investigate the St. Marys connection to the early form of baseball that was reportedly played near Beachville in 1838. Andrew North is a director of the Centre for Canadian Baseball Research, which hosts a Canadian baseball history conference annually. North, a St. Marys resident, is a longtime volunteer at the Canadian Baseball Hall of Fame, where he maintains the reference library.

Jim Goetz from the Kitchener-Waterloo Astronomy Club will be giving a presentation all about astronomy on

Thursday, Oct. 17. For anyone curious about the night sky, this seminar will educate about telescopes and the tools used to observe our universe. The evening will include stargazing in Cadzow Park, weather permitting.

On Thursday, Nov. 21, the story of influential entrepreneur J.D. Moore will be presented. As an important business owner, J.D. Moore also worked to build the block at the southeast corner of Queen and Church streets. Mary Smith and Paul King will present key events from Moore's life and his impact on the industry of St. Marys.

The seminars are fundraisers for the museum. The cost per person is \$12 or \$10 for museum members. Space is limited and therefore pre-registration is necessary. For more information or to register, call 519-284-3556 or email museum@town.stmarys.on.ca.

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COMMUNITY

Town Hall Flag Raising honours International Overdose Awareness Day



Joe Gladding spoke about his experience with overcoming substance use issues, which he said stemmed from trauma he dealt with from losing his grandfather in his early childhood.

By Emily Stewart

About 20 people gathered around St. Marys Town Hall to honour those who lost their lives to overdose, the families affected, and those who still struggle with substance use.

A flag was flown for International Overdose Awareness Day on August 31 to mark the grief felt by family members and friends affected by their loved ones who either passed away or experienced an injury from overdose. International Overdose Awareness Day aims to raise awareness on overdose and decrease the stigma of substance use.

Three purple chairs on the grass represented those who died from overdose, as well as photos and a memorial collage.

Joe Gladding spoke of his experience with substance use issues before recovering and becoming a mental health and addiction support worker. For so long, he didn't know why he was struggling because he grew up with a supportive family in a safe neighbourhood without abuse or neglect. However, Gladding struggled with depression from the time he was five-years-old after losing his beloved grandfather "Papa Joe."

"I think a lot people think trauma has to be a really big thing, but it really doesn't. Trauma is whatever affects that individual," he said.

During his speech, Gladding often spoke of the collage with the people who died from overdose.

"They are loved. They are still loved," he said of the people on the board. "They will always be loved, and I will always cherish them and re-

spect them because they are all me. There's no reason I'm standing here and they're on there. It's just as easily that one of them is standing here and I'm on there. There's no rhyme or reason, there's no face to addiction. There's no type of person that dies from this thing. It's not discriminatory."

Members of Mom Stop The Harm, an advocacy group offering grief support to families who lost their loved ones to overdose, attended the event in purple shirts and ribbons honouring their family members. Anna Marie Iredale lost her son Matthew Keller in 2017 to overdose. Wearing a purple t-shirt with her son's picture that said, "Forever 36," she said that her son had substance use issues after the death of his brother Travis and it



Moms Stop the Harm honoured their family members who died from overdose on International Overdose Awareness Day on August 31, during a flag raising at St. Marys Town Hall. From left to right: Debbie Donner (Amelia's granny), Kelly Gordon (Junuh's mom), Anna Marie Iredale (Matthew's mom), Tina Coutts (Erin's mom), and Kathy Marys (Hayley's mom).



The flag recognizing International Overdose Awareness Day was raised on August 31 in front of St. Marys Town Hall.

eventually led to his own death.

"My life has never been the same again," Iredale said. "I've had people come up to me and say 'Hey, you should be ok by now to return to work,' 'Oh you should be fine to do this,' 'Well, you should be over it now,' 'You should be returning to life,' and I think 'Woah - have you lived through this?' No they haven't, so I just disregard what they're saying and carry on,

"I got my mom friends. They get it and I have some good friends, they get it."

She added that the turnout for the St. Marys flag raising for International Overdose Awareness Day was larger than in 2023.

"I find that each year it's growing,

which is good because we want to get the awareness out there," Iredale said. "We want people to learn a new way to look at substance use and people who use substances."

In late August 2024, the Ontario Government announced the ban of safe injection sites within 200 meters of schools and childcare centres by March 31, 2025. The decision will lead to the closure of 10 supervised consumption sites across Ontario, including in Toronto, Hamilton, Ottawa, Kitchener, Guelph, and North Bay.

"On a personal level, I'm scared by the announcement that came last week," Gladding said. "I'm scared. I believe very strongly in harm reduction, and I believe that what just happened the other day is harm production. We need the pieces to help us get from the worst days of our lives to the conscious recognition that 'I can't do this anymore,'

"Without the things that so many people have thought for so long for, without those things in the middle, more and more people aren't going to make it."

Iredale's also disappointed by the closure noting that she used to think safe consumption sites should not be around schools, at one point, before changing her mind. She now recognizes the need for such centres.

"We need them bad, otherwise our towns and cities become one huge consumption site and instead of having a building next door to a school, we're going to have people on the sidewalk beside the school overdosing," she said. "It's going to be a nightmare and there's going to be a lot of people dying."

COMMUNITY

My Propane Buddy; Self-serve, 24/7 propane option now available in St. Marys

By Wendy Lamond

If you have ever been caught barbequing for friends or family and realize at the last minute that your propane tank is empty, there is now an option in St. Marys that is available 24/7 to either exchange or purchase a new tank.

On location at Little Falls Car Wash are two new "My Propane Buddy" vending machines that will provide access to 20lb propane tanks that are traditionally used for BBQ's, fire tables, patio heaters and more.

After selecting the option to exchange or purchase, a voice prompt will guide you through the instructions. For example, if you wish to exchange, a door will open with an empty bay to put your tank in, and another door will open with a full tank. If you don't have a tank, you can press purchase, and a tank will be available once the door opens. The machines can hold up to 24 tanks on a carousel system. With competitive pricing, the propane buddy will accept debit, credit, Apple pay, and Google pay.

Right now, there are 11 My Propane Buddy locations in this part of On-



Pictured above is Brad Rice (Director, Business Development of My Buddy Propane) and Mayor Al Strathdee (Little Falls Car Wash owner) showing the new 24/7, self-serve propane units. Photo by Wendy Lamond

tario, with six more on the way. The Community Center in Thorndale is also a host location for My Propane Buddy.

The machines are safe and reliable. If the machine senses a propane leak,

there is technology built in to deal with that too.

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COMMUNITY

Perth-Wellington MPP Matthew Rae announces increases in provincial funding for local paramedic services

By Galen Simmons

Perth-Wellington MPP Matthew Rae has announced a modest, eight per cent increase in funding for land-ambulance service in Perth County as well as grant funding to help manage offload delay for ambulances and paramedics at the Stratford General Hospital.

The Perth County Paramedic Service will receive nearly \$8.2 million in operations funding from the province this year through the Land Ambulance Service Grant (LASG) as well as a little more than \$109,000 through the Dedicated Offload Nurses Program (DONP) to ensure adequate staff for the offloading of patients at the Stratford hospital.

"We are pleased to receive this additional investment from the province for paramedic services in Perth County," said Perth County Warden Rhonda

Ehgoetz in a press release. "This investment will support our paramedics in continuing to provide excellent and critical health care across our rural region."

Speaking with the Stratford Times, Perth County Paramedic Service Chief Mike Adair echoed Ehgoetz's gratitude for the support through the LASG, which this year includes an additional nearly \$566,000 in provincial funding. The cost of operating paramedic services in Ontario is split equally between the province and the local municipalities served by each ambulance service.

As for the DONP funding, Adair said it will allow the paramedic service to hire a dedicated nurse or paramedic to be stationed at the hospital during times of high demand in the emergency department to reduce offload delay for ambulances – the time paramedics must wait in an emergency

department for a patient to be transferred to the care of the hospital.

"We will have the option to work with the hospital to put someone in the hospital – it could be a nurse, it could be a paramedic, it could be a respiratory therapist – during those crunch times to get ambulances out of the hospital as quick as possible," Adair said.

"(The Stratford General Hospital) is one of the better-performing hospitals in Ontario, but we are trending towards increases (in offload delays) over the last couple of years. This year, we're forecasting it to be a little bit less than the year before, so the hospital is doing some great things, but this still will help take the pressure off. Us being a smaller ambulance service, let's say we only have, at night time, seven (ambulances) that are on. During that crunch times in flu season or whenever, this might

help us with that surge to make sure we have ambulances available to respond to the community."

The DONP funding will only be used to lessen offload delay at the Stratford General Hospital, but Adair and the province say lessening offload delay at that hospital will help ensure ambulances are back on the road to respond to emergencies and serve patients throughout the county, St. Marys and Stratford. According to the press release, DONP funding has helped reduce peak offload-delay time in the province by as much as 50 per cent since October 2022.

"Our rural communities rely on our first responders to provide timely and high-quality care," Rae said in the release. "Our provincial government will continue to support our first responders to ensure they have the resources they need to help save lives."



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- 9:00 - 11:30 am: Community Breakfast and Exhibit Hall
- 10:00 am: Community Church Service
- 1:00 pm start: Demolition Derby and Classic Car Show
Food Trucks

COMMUNITY

Dr. Tamara Surujbally: New Chiropractor providing results-oriented care

By Wendy Lamond

Stonetown Health and Wellness Centre on Station Street has a new chiropractor, and she is very excited to be serving the wonderful community of St. Marys.

Dr. Tamara did her undergraduate degree at Wilfrid Laurier University in the field of Kinesiology. Her passion for living healthy and appreciation for how the body works led her to the Canadian Memorial Chiropractic College where she earned her Doctor of Chiropractic degree.

Her practice consists of a diversified, evidence-based approach to help solve the underlying causes of her patients' symptoms.

Dr. Tamara told the Independent she is most passionate about three things: chiropractic treatment, vitiligo and bodybuilding. In her youth, she studied martial arts and also competed in dance. Her love of living a healthy and active lifestyle inspired her to become a bodybuilder. She has competed in one competition with more to come in the 2025 season.



At left, one of the warm and welcoming treatment rooms at the Station Street location. At right, Dr. Tamara Surujbally

"My education plus experience in these activities gave me appreciation for how the human body moves and how much better life can be when everything is functioning optimally and feeling good," Dr. Tamara said.

Dr. Tamara has experience in treating a variety of conditions from headaches, neck pain and lower-back pain, as well as upper and lower extremity issues. She is also certified in acupuncture and focuses on doing what

she can to reduce a patient's pain.

In her training, Dr. Tamara worked under Dr. Jeffrey Tuling, was hired on, and is now looking forward to sharing her expertise.

She has a special interest in helping athletes of all ages, children, pre/post-natal patients and everyone in between. Dr. Tamara currently resides in Stratford with her fiancée Brice.

She is currently splitting her time between all three Health and Wellness Centres with the following hours.

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Mitchell – 107 St. Andrews St.

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SPOTLIGHT ON ARTS & CULTURE

Celebrating Local Arts Through Writing

By Alice Rixson

James (Jim) Giles is the main contributing writer for the Arts and Culture column in the *St. Marys Independent* that is celebrating its first anniversary. Last September, Giles was approached by Cameron Porteous, curator at the St. Marys Station Gallery, who envisioned a bi-weekly column in our local weekly newspaper celebrating local artists and arts initiatives.

The objective of this joint volunteer effort of articles is to introduce readers to the various forms of art that influences our societies and cultures. "We hope that residents gain new insight into and appreciation of visual arts, theatre, music and the dedicated locals who create," says Giles.

Giles grew up in the small northern Ontario community of Elk Lake, population 500. He studied piano with Mary Tremain, a Mennonite teacher, who charged \$1 for a 30-minute lesson. He competed in the local Kiwanis music festival in voice and piano and was encouraged by London ON adjudicator Lance McDowell to study music. Giles found Betty Almost, a vocal teacher, in New Liskeard ON where he attended high school and was accepted into its vocal program. During this time Giles contributed a column in the *Temiskaming Speaker* newspaper.

"While attending the Faculty of Music at Western University in London, I made a point to see every play staged at the Stratford Festival. Those were the days when Robin Phillips oversaw the Third Stage, now the Tom Patterson Theatre. The sets were minimal, the costumes were predominantly beige and cream and the productions were magnificent!" Giles fondly recalls. "During those couple of seasons, the Young Company, featuring actors such as Nancy Palk, Albert Shultz and bolstered by veterans like William Hutt, represented the best the Festival had to offer.



James Giles

"I loved my years at the Faculty of Music. It was considered the foremost place to study classical music with talent from around the world. I learned choral conducting with Deral Johnson and sang beside singers soprano Adrienne Pieczonka and tenor Michael Schade who went on to have international opera careers," says Giles.

At Western, Giles appeared in musical and theatrical productions like Gilbert and Sullivan's *Princess Ida*, *The Velveteen Rabbit* and in Peterborough in the summer of 1988 performed in R. Murray Schaefer's *Greatest Show*, an immense outdoor theatrical and musical extravaganza in the form of a county fair or carnival.

After graduation, Giles applied to the Faculty of Education at Western's Althouse College to pursue a teaching career in elementary education. His second year of teaching music was at Central Perth Elementary School in Sebringville ON before moving on to work for the Peel Board of Education and complete his graduate studies in Arts education.

"While working towards my Master's Degree, I revised written assignments to render them suitable

for publication in educational journals. My articles caught the attention of staff at the Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario (ETFO) who asked me to lead summer professional development workshops for educators and principals," recalls Giles. "I believed in multi-age instruction, teaching Grades 1, 2 and 3 in one classroom and keeping students for three years. Arts was the core of my programming for primary pupils."

Giles continued to write about the importance of Arts education in schools for the ETFO magazine and shared the creative activities he planned in his classroom to improve cognitive and social skills and emotional regulation.

After 10 years with the Peel District School Board and receiving an award for Excellence in Teaching, Giles moved to the Toronto District School Board and chose work in the inner-city schools. In 2007, the ETFO selected him to lead the Poverty and Education Project, which enabled him to oversee a number of books for elementary education, including *ETFO Arts Possibilities - Addressing Poverty in Elementary Schools*. This included publications of *More Than a Play*, in both English and French, featuring scripts for elementary students. Giles produced the film *One in Six* about poverty issues for ETFO. He also directed and produced a number of his own short films, as well as a feature documentary film shot in Medellin, Colombia entitled *La Dany*.

Giles first stumbled upon St. Marys when enrolled at Western. He would swim and hang out at the St. Marys Quarry with actors from the Stratford Festival on their days off, developing many long-time acquaintances.

In 2018, after devoting 31 years to education in the Toronto area, Giles retired and relocated to St. Marys. He was struck by the number of artists - past and present - who called the town home.

"I am, by nature, a conversationalist. Listening to people about their passions, what drives them, what inspires them, what repulses them, fuels my curiosity and hopefully that of others," says Giles.

Please send comments and proposed topics for Arts articles to - smindependentarts@gmail.com

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COMMUNITY

The Flower Shop and More's flower quilt places in Top 4 of Canadian Flowers Week competition

By Emily Stewart

Regional flower businesses let their creativity bloom as they worked on an installation together celebrating all things floral.

Canadian Flowers Week runs from August 15 to 21. The event by the Toronto Flower Market raises awareness on the flora in Canada and the national florist industry. The week-long celebration held a contest encouraging businesses to create floral installations.

The Flower Quilt, made in collaboration by Debra O'Connor of St. Marys' the Flower Shop and More and Tavistock's The Garden in Harrington, Carol Dufton of the Flowerbed on 41, and Ashley Zehr of Yellow Door Flower Farm, placed in the Top Four finalists. The Canadian Flowers Week social media post indicated that there were 29 flower installations submitted for public voting.

"We were actually really pleased," O'Connor said. "We were around a

lot of really great competitors in this year's competition, so we were a little shocked and pleased."

The installation included 1,000 fresh flowers from the participating businesses. Once the flowers were harvested and processed, it took about 10 hours to create the installation. The Flower Quilt was on display at the Flower Shop and More on 147 Queen Street East for four days and residents got to go up and see it before it was removed. The Flower Quilt installation also included fabrics from O'Grady's Clothing and Hyggeligt Fabrics.

"It was great to see the community's support in helping us celebrate Canadian flowers and it was just a wonderful experience all around," O'Connor said.

She also said that residents should continue to support the nine flower farms in the area, and receiving the honour of being a Top Four finalist showcases the beauty of florals across Canada.

"It just highlights how great Canadian flowers are and for us," she said. "It's just perfect for letting everybody know we don't have to bring in flowers from worldwide. For us,

it's just a really exciting way to show that local flowers are great and can be used in varied ways."

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Record-setting Sedley signs with AHL's Phantoms

By Spencer Seymour

After stamping his name in the Owen Sound Attack record books last season, St. Marys native Sam Sedley signed an AHL contract with the Philadelphia Flyers' affiliate, the Lehigh Valley Phantoms, earlier this month.

Sedley explained why he is excited to be a part of the Flyers organization as a member of the Phantoms.

"I think it's a younger organization and they're in the process of building a good team," Sedley told the Independent. "So, my agent and I thought it would be the best opportunity for me to develop and hopefully grow with the team. Also, being at their development camp for two years and then going to their main camp, I just feel really comfortable in the Flyers' organization and I'm really excited about getting started with the Phantoms."

It isn't hard to see why the Flyers took such an interest in bringing Sedley into their organization after the 21-year-old's stellar final OHL season with the Attack, which saw Sedley score nine goals and 63 points in 64 games. In his last three seasons with the Attack, Sedley combined for 161 points from the blueline in 194 games. Overall, Sedley finished his OHL career with 168 points, all of which came with Owen Sound.

Arguably the most important of those points, however, came at the 7:01 mark of the first period in a game on Feb. 13, 2024, against the Oshawa Generals when, after some give-and-go passing with Deni Goure, Sedley found Attack star and Winnipeg Jets' 2023 first-round pick Colby Barlow backdoor who banged home the Attack's first goal of the game.

With the assist on Barlow's goal, however, Sedley took possession of the Attack's all-time franchise record for points by a defenceman.

Sedley remarked on how it felt to take the record, as well as a congratulatory response from the previous record holder.

"It was just a huge honour to take that record and to pass Santino Centorame," Sedley said. "Santino



St. Marys native Sam Sedley signed with the Lehigh Valley Phantoms, the AHL affiliate of the Philadelphia Flyers, earlier this month. The signing comes after a strong final season of junior hockey in which Sedley set a new Owen Sound Attack franchise record for most career points by a defenceman. Contributed photo

actually also lived at the same billet house as I did and he texted me after it happened to say congratulations. That was very special for me."

Sedley added that even with time to reflect on his place in Attack history, it still carries an incredible weight that he will be remembered as one of the best blueliners in Owen Sound history.

"There have been a lot of great defencemen that played in Owen Sound, both when they were the Platers and then the Attack. So, to be the one to have my name at the top of that list is a

huge honour. To me, it really is a credit to my teammates. I can't thank them enough and wouldn't have accomplished this without them."

According to Sedley, the team has given him just as much as he gave to the Attack en route to his turning pro.

"Owen Sound has just done everything to make me the player and person I am. Dale DeGray, the general manager, took a chance on me in the fourth round in 2019 and I came here as a 15-year-old with a point to prove. Thankfully, they liked what they saw and I've been here ever since. It's been a huge family to me these past five years.

"I think I've developed my game a lot here in Owen Sound, and I can't thank the coaches enough for putting in so much work to help me get better every year," Sedley continued. "I feel like they've helped me become a much smarter player and just play the game the right way, both offensively and defensively. I think I've learned how to get coaches to trust me, and now I'm excited for the next step."

These days, whenever hockey is discussed in St. Marys, Sedley's name is seldom absent from the conversation and, according to Sedley himself, he still feels a sense of gratitude to his hometown.

"Coming from St. Marys and representing that town; I can't thank the people of St. Marys enough, especially those who coached me there and helped me along the way. Even the people who worked with me when I started playing ringette with my cousin; I can't thank them enough for teaching me how to skate.

"That was a bit of a funny story looking back on it all these years later. My mom got me into ringette as a kid because she thought it would be a good idea to help me learn to skate a bit better. It was a bit of a faster game at that point, and I think it helped me become a better skater overall."

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SPORTS

Mills wins medals at Legion Nationals in Calgary

By Spencer Seymour

Local track-and-field star Isabella Mills has once again added to her impressive list of results.

The St. Marys native helped Team Ontario capture two relay medals along with an individual medal of her own at the Legion Youth National Track and Field Championships held Aug. 9-11 in Calgary. Mills noted that even with the short amount of time to get to know her counterparts, the national meet allowed the members of Team Ontario to quickly forge strong bonds.

"It was a really good experience," Mills told the Independent. "It was a good opportunity for all of the athletes getting to travel with the team and stay with their teammates. I got to connect with people from different provinces for a whole week, which was a great learning experience."

Mills added the high-intensity level of the meet posed an exciting challenge.

"It was good to see how serious the sport can be and get to experience all different aspects of the sport in terms of meeting different people who do track and field in different ways. That gave me a chance to get to learn new tactics and have new coaches show me new things."

In the U16 Women's 1,600-metre sprint medley, Mills, along with teammates Anieue Chan, Alexia Jones and Kiana Charest, captured the gold medal for Team Ontario. Mills highlighted the incredible talent comprising the relay team that captured the 1,600-metre top prize.

"We had a very strong team. We had two OFSAA record-breakers on our team and then the top na-

tional athlete who got the most medals on our team as well. So, we had a really strong team that just progressed really well together and we all came together in a really good way."

Additionally, Mills, Chan, Jones and Addyson Parish captured the silver in the U16 Women's 4x100-metre relay. Mills talked about her enjoyment of the relay events, which were somewhat atypical for the types of competition to which Mills is most accustomed.

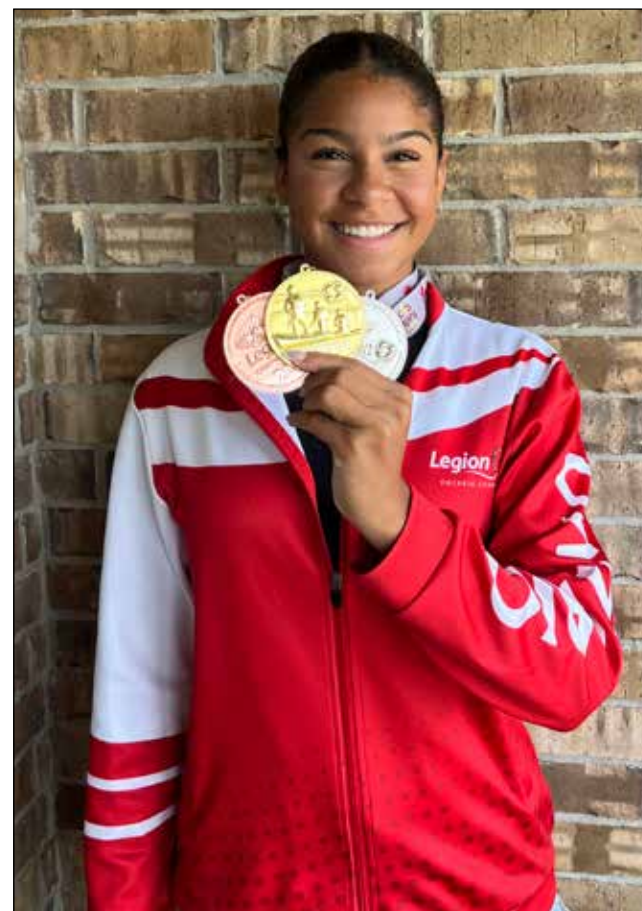
"When I'm competing with my club, we don't do as many relays as I was a part of in Calgary, so it was a really great learning opportunity, especially in the relays. Learning relay aspects like the exchanges was cool to get a better understanding of how to do those things, especially with some of the top sprinters in the country.

"I really enjoyed doing the relays," Mills continued. "They were great to be a part of. In both of the relays, the sprint medley and the 4x100, we had great teams and I think that we did really well considering the relatively short time we had to train together."

Individually, Mills also collected a bronze medal in the U16 women's long jump event.

Overall, Mills called the meet a "great experience."

"It's great to wear your province's name while you're running and get to hold up the flag when you're on the podium. It's a lot of pride when you get to do things like that. It's also amazing the support the Legion gives us to make all of this happen. They sponsor everything and they're great about hosting the meets and giving all of the athletes this experience."



St. Marys native Isabella Mills helped Team Ontario win gold and silver medals in two relay events at the Legion Youth National Track and Field Championships held Aug. 9-11 in Calgary. Mills also earned the bronze in the U16 women's long jump. Contributed photo



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COMMUNITY


Melodies at the Museum final performance for 2024




Jaron Camp and Rachel Frankruyter created the dual project "York Street Thought Process" and on Wednesday night they entertained the crowds with their musical talent. Not only did they sing some beautiful songs from their CD's, they played many instruments including the mandolin, the baritone and electric guitar and the acoustic guitar. They have been together 5 years. August 28 was the final night for the Melodies at the Museum. Nancy Bickell photo

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HISTORY

HISTORIC ST. MARYS: Our First Small Churches, Part Two

By Mary Smith

When settlers in this part of Ontario first carved out homesteads in the dense forest, they were often isolated from any community support. In the struggle to shelter and feed their families, they might set spiritual matters aside. The main religious denominations in Canada at that time were aware of the situation and concerned about these pioneer families. They sent out missionaries, mostly newly ordained young men, to care for their spiritual welfare.

In 1852, the missionary priest, Father Thaddeus T. Kirwan, held the first mass in St. Marys for the small group of Roman Catholics living in the area. The service took place in the home of Patrick Whelihan, a prosperous and influential Catholic and a natural leader within the new congregation. The first Catholic church building was a small log structure on Church Street North. This was soon replaced by a larger building, sided with wooden planks, on the south side of Widder Street, between Peel and King Streets. This early church was poorly insulated with chinks in the walls and around the windows. In winter, some men in the congregation had to arrive early to shovel snow out of the sanctuary.

This building was only a temporary solution. The Catholic congregation set out to find a permanent home. In 1860, James Ingersoll sold two lots on the east side of Peel Street North to the Roman Catholic Episcopal Corporation of the Diocese of London for a nominal sum. This was the site of the first substantial Catholic church. Built of limestone, it was much larger than the small frame building, with a steeply pitched gable roof and pointed gothic windows. The contractor was a local stonemason, David Hunter, who also built the second Guest block at the southeast corner of Wellington and Queen Streets. Bishop Pierre-Adolphe Pinsoneault of the London Diocese consecrated the new church in 1861.

As the years passed, the Roman Catholic Church expanded its property, thanks, largely, to the generosity of parishioners such as Patrick Whelihan. The Diocese acquired, on the local church's behalf, additional lots to build a rectory to the east in 1867, and to the north for a two-room schoolhouse in the 1870s. Eventually the property encompassed the entire block between Peel and King Streets, with Widder Street as the boundary to the south. The congregation worshipped in the gable-roofed stone church for 30 years until the current



This building, currently 155 Park Street, was built as a Free Presbyterian Church in 1857. It is one of the oldest frame buildings in St. Marys. From the St. Marys Museum's Historic Image Collection

church with its magnificent steeple was built and consecrated in 1893.

The Baptist congregation in St. Marys also began as a missionary church. In 1862, the Baptist Home Mission sent the Reverend S. Jones to visit the village. By 1863, the Baptist Council agreed to recognize a new congregation in St. Marys. The first meetings were held in Victoria Hall, the auditorium in the old, frame town hall at the corner of Queen and Church Streets. There were 18 members of this fledgling congregation. The church grew, and by 1865, the members were able to buy a lot on the northwest corner of Queen and Robinson Streets. Their new chapel was opened in January 1867. Also built of limestone, it was rectangular in shape, similar in layout to the early churches of other denominations. For almost four decades, this church served its congregation well. The building is still standing and is currently a duplex – 139 and 141 Queen Street West.

Perth County historian, William Johnston, was impressed with the St. Marys Baptist congregation. In his book, *History of Perth County*, Johnston wrote: "A largely increased membership has led to steps being taken to construct a new building, more in keeping with the wealth and importance of the congregation." He predicted that before his book was published, a new Baptist Church would be standing. In fact, the cornerstone to the building on the northwest corner of Church and Jones Streets was laid on June 26, 1902, and the church was open for worship later that same year, some months before the release date of Johnston's book in 1903. John-

ston added: "Financial affairs in this church have been managed with skill and economy," pointing out that the congregation had sufficient resources to complete the building without incurring a large debt. The church itself was evidence of this practical approach. It had more modern features than the old stone church on Robinson Street and was in a much more central location. It served the needs of a church with about 100 members, but it was not built to impress the entire town with its size and grandeur. The current membership still fit comfortably in their 120-year-old brick building. The acquisition of the house immediately to the north to serve as a manse increases the practicality of the First Baptist Church complex.

The building in the photograph with this week's column has a complicated history. It was built in 1857 as a Presbyterian church, even though, just five years earlier, the first Presbyterian church building had been erected on Widder Street in the north ward of the village. There was a schism in the church in Scotland in the 1840s, resulting in the creation of the Free Church of Scotland, with Dr. Thomas Chalmers as the first moderator. This church believed strongly in the separation of church and state. Free Presbyterian missionaries in the New World, established churches in many communities, including one in St. Marys in 1855. Two years later, the congregation was prosperous enough to erect its own church building.

Named Chalmers Free Presbyterian Church, it was a simple frame building measuring 40 feet wide by 75 feet

in length, standing on the northwest corner of Church and Park Streets. The lot had been purchased from George Tracy, who owned much of the land in the south ward of the village. About this same time, Tracy built a large limestone house on a hilltop facing Church Street as his family residence. (The house is currently the St. Marys Museum.) The Free Church was erected on the site of Tracy's sugar shanty. This earned it the nickname, "Taffy Church." This congregation was short-lived. By 1861, the governing bodies of these two Presbyterian Churches united to form the Canada Presbyterian Church and the members of the Free Church on Park Street joined with the Presbyterians on Widder Street.

The building was sold to the Methodist Episcopalians who used it for worship until 1884 when most Methodist sects united to form the Methodist Church of Canada. The Methodist Episcopalians moved to the larger Methodist church at 85 Church Street South and put the frame church up for sale. For a short time, it was privately owned, but in 1884, it was purchased by the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints who established a local congregation. By 1911, the old building had become rather dilapidated, and the members considered abandoning it. But a thorough examination showed that the original timbers were as strong as ever and, with a great deal of volunteer help, the church was restored for another three decades of service. The congregation disbanded in 1940, its members either attending Latter Day Saints churches in communities nearby or worshipping with other local denominations. The building was sold once again and converted to apartments. Although greatly altered, it still stands at 155 Park Street.

William Johnston described the St. Marys churches in 1903: "The location of all is exceedingly fine, crowning those beautiful elevations which add so much to the picturesque environment of this delightful little town." Visitors to St. Marys still admire the architecture and beauty of these churches. But the congregations in the largest of them – the Roman Catholic, United, Presbyterian and Anglican – are now challenged to make these wonderful buildings relevant to the community in the 21st century, and to justify the increasing expense of their upkeep. Perhaps the early simpler churches, discarded long ago, would have served better in the long run.

Thorndale News

A section within the
St. Marys Independent

For the love of music



The choir. Submitted by Cathy Baskerville

By Nancy Abra

It began with a few people with the love of music who gathered at the home of Cathy and Glenn Baskerville in 2011. Patrick Mudge's vision to form a community choir grew from there and he became their first musical director. Mudge held degrees in art and music and loved to work with people to pursue their passion for music and reminding them 'you are never too old

to learn.'

Glenn Baskerville said the highlight in the early years of the Thames Centre Community Choir was when they were invited to go to Panama and sing in a concert for the grand opening of a children's orphanage.

Over the years, the Thames Centre Community Choir have performed at various venues in and around the area, as well as putting on special con-

certs in Thorndale. They sing a diverse repertoire of music that includes folk songs, pop and contemporary, show tunes and holiday music to mention a few.

In 2014, the choir established an annual memorial music award at Western. This award is given annually to an undergraduate voice student entering or registered in the Don Wright Faculty of Music. Based on financial

need, preference is given to a student in performance who has contributed significantly to a choir and has shown great promise, based on choral and vocal experience. The choir invites various students from the faculty of music to participate and perform in special concerts to help showcase their talent along with the choir's.

The Thames Centre Community Choir is actively looking for people from teens to seniors to join them. They meet every Tuesday evening at 7pm at the Thorndale Lions Community Centre. They need more members, especially male voices of tenor and bass to balance the choir's sound. As an incentive to join, dues, which covers sheet music, room rental etc, for new people joining the choir this fall will be waved for this year. If you are looking for a way to connect to the community and to pursue your love of music, contact Cathy Baskerville at 519-461-1679 or email at c_baskerville@hotmail.com.



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Thorndale Lions Dog Park grand opening, August 27

By Nancy Abra

"It has been only three years since Kirk Hallman, a 12-year-old from Thorndale, presented the idea of a dog park to Thames Centre Council in April 2021" stated Councillor Tom Heeman, at the official grand opening of the Thorndale Lions Dog Park to the gathering of approximately 40 supporters and community residents and a few of their four-legged friends. "That is pretty much a record. From

the proposed idea and need, two different councils, finding the location for this dog park to today's grand opening reality. Kirk and Logan were the driving force and worked diligently to see this project come true. Committee members, Stephanie Williams with her passion and Jeff Wischlinski working hard to raise funds for the project, thank you. And many thanks to the Thorndale Lions Club and the many supporters and contributors that are listed on this sign that made the

Thorndale Lions Dog Park a reality. And a reminder, community projects like this in Thames Centre are 25% community lead innovative."

The Thorndale Lions Dog Park is located south of the county road, at the corner of Nissouri Road and Gerald Parkway. The municipality covered the basic costs of the dog park including fencing, parking area and operating costs and with the successful fundraising campaign covered the extras,

such as benches, agility equipment and trees for shade.

Kirk Hallman and Logan Barnes worked hard on this three-year project. They said they went after school, Dorchester High School to the municipal offices and helped staff with this project. Both Kirk and Logan said, "we are so happy with the success of this dog park and relieved it has become a reality for all of our community with dogs can enjoy."

Happy September from the Thorndale Library

By Middlesex County Library staff

Thank you and congratulations to everyone who participated in Middlesex County Library's Summer at the Library programming. A special thank you to the Thorndale Optimist Club for sponsoring our summer programming for children and youth this summer at the library.

Our programming continues this month with our Recycle Wreath program on Thursday, Sept. 12 from 11:30

a.m. to 12:30 p.m. where we'll be creating fall wreaths with scrolls made from weeded book pages. Registration required.

Storytime is the place to be for little ones and their caregivers on Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. Please join us for stories, songs and rhymes.

Visit www.library.middlesex.ca/events or contact library staff for more details and/or to register.

Need some reading inspiration? Middlesex County Library has provided reading suggestions for each month. For September? Get ready for the coziest season by reading a cozy mystery. You could try *Murder Under a Red Moon: A Bangalore Detectives Mystery*, by Harini Nagendra; Joanna Fluke's *Chocolate Chip Cookie Murder*, from the series behind the *Murder, She Baked* films; or, for nostalgia, you might choose to read a *Murder, She Wrote* paperback.

Please let us know if you'd like some help choosing a book and be sure to pick up a bookmark or colouring sheet at the library to keep track of your reading progress.

As always, feel free to drop in, call us at 519-461-1150, or email us at thorndale_staff@middlesex.ca with any questions or to register for upcoming programs.

We hope to see you at the library!

COLUMN

UKRAINIAN CORNER: Independence

By Kateryna Maslova

Independence: I love this word. It sounds beautiful in both Ukrainian and English. It symbolizes freedom, the ability to choose your own path and to shape your life according to your desires and beliefs.

Aug. 24 is Ukraine's Independence Day. In Canada, many cities celebrate this day, which is important for many Ukrainians.

I was only two years old when Ukraine gained its independence. This historical moment was a turning point for the entire nation, opening new horizons and opportunities for development. It's a moment that Ukrainians fought for over many centuries and are still fighting for today. Although I don't remember life in the Soviet Union, I feel how the system we grew up in affects our perceptions and behavior.

Growing up in independent Ukraine, I realized that despite the changes in political and social circumstances, many aspects of life and behaviour are still saturated with dependency and adherence to established rules. This dependency can come from the

system or from the people who were shaped by that system.

The country's independence gave the people the chance to create a new path and choose their future. However, personal independence is often much harder to achieve. A country can be free, but how often are we truly free from the opinions of others, imposed stereotypes and societal expectations? Independence from the system is only the first step. What's really important is to free yourself internally from the fear of being yourself, from the dependency on other people's standards, from the need to please others while forgetting about your own values.

What are we dependent on today? For example, other people's opinions. In Ukraine, a popular phrase is: "What will people say?" We often think too much about how others perceive us and we allow these opinions to influence our appearance, decisions, actions and even who we become. In Canada, people seem to take this more lightly. I see more individuality, more freedom to be yourself. The younger generation, born in indepen-

dent Ukraine, also strives for independence, but the influence of the old system still lingers.

Dependency on deviation from standards is another example. In the Ukrainian educational system, children can still lose marks for incorrect spacing in their notebooks, even if the solution is correct. What kind of traits does this system promote? Conformity – being like everyone else, doing what everyone else does, not standing out. Canada, in my opinion, leads the way in progressiveness, tolerance and respect for individuality.

Another form of dependency is the fear of stepping outside our comfort zone. We become accustomed to certain boundaries, to life within a comfort zone, and any deviation from this familiar order creates anxiety. However, the current challenges facing Ukraine force us to adapt and become more creative. We see many emigrants who are compelled to drastically change their lives and seek new ways of realizing themselves. Some of these examples are quite successful, but would they have dared to do this while staying in their comfort zones?

Dependency on societal expectations often limits our freedom to be ourselves. We try to live up to the roles imposed on us by parents, colleagues and society. In the end, we may be living someone else's life rather than our own, not understanding what we truly want. The fear of being ourselves, the fear of disappointing others; these things suppress our true selves and prevent us from being authentic and alive.

True independence begins with accepting yourself and learning to trust yourself. It's a difficult journey, but it brings incredible rewards – the ability to live by your own rules, not by the rules of others.

As we build a new life in Canada, we begin to appreciate independence in a different way. Here, personal freedom feels more tangible, but our roots and history stay with us. Ukraine's independence reminds us that freedom can be fragile and that it is worth fighting for. We are gaining new independence in Canada, but we must not forget our responsibility to Ukraine – a country that continues to fight for its rights and its future.

Many lessons to learn, including the obvious, from Gaudreau tragedy



By Stewart Grant

Each day there are millions and millions of people across the world who suffer tragedies – so many that it would be impossible for all these stories to be told.

But when a well-known person is touched by tragedy, as was the case last week with NHL star Johnny Gaudreau and his brother Matthew, a recognizable face becomes connected to an issue that continues to plague our North American society. This week, as a result of the heart-breaking death of these two fine young men, the focus in the news is on the perils of drinking and driving.

In the media, we often find that many police reports don't

go into much detail. This is unfortunate because detailed police reports provide the opportunity for people to learn from other people's mistakes in the hopes of not repeating them. In the Gaudreau case though, the police report painted a clear picture of what exactly happened to cause a drunk driver to plow into two cyclists.

There's more here to learn than simply the obvious, "don't drink and drive." There are lessons for sober drivers here as well, particularly drivers who struggle with patience.

Lesson: Don't assume you know what's happening. Have you ever been stuck behind slow or stopped traffic in town, thinking that the drivers in front of you are stupid... only to find out moments later than they were stopped for a perfectly good reason, such as showing respect to a funeral procession, or a flock of ducklings crossing the road? Sometimes things aren't what they seem, so you shouldn't assume. You

should be patient.

The Gaudreau tragedy was caused by the incorrect assumptions of a drunk driver, 43-year-old Sean Higgins, whose lowered inhibitions encouraged him to make extremely reckless manoeuvres.

Incorrect assumptions:

- Higgins assumed that he'd be fine to drive home after "5 or 6 beers", and was even confident enough in his abilities to pass two slower-moving vehicles (a sedan and an SUV) at the same time

- After passing the sedan, he approached the second vehicle (the SUV) and saw it veer across the centre line on the two-lane highway; he assumed that the SUV was rudely trying to obstruct his attempt to pass. He didn't consider other possibilities, such as the SUV making room for two unseen bicycles on the right.

- The time of day was 8:19 p.m. in New Jersey, on the east side of the Eastern time zone. The sun had set about 45 minutes earlier. Many people,

even sober ones, might not be thinking about the possibility of cyclists on the road after dark. Again, remember this lesson - don't assume you know everything.

With alcohol clouding his decision making, in an instant Higgins made the radical, reckless move to the right shoulder, passing the SUV on the right instead of the left. It was at this moment that Higgins must've learned the horrible truth that there was another reason why the SUV was in the middle of the road... and it was in this moment that two brothers innocently lost their lives because of the needless and stupid actions of a jackass drunk driver.

DRINKING AND DRIVING STATS:

In researching for this article, I read in the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police's National Facts and Stats for Canada Road Safety Week that Canada reported 1,768 road fatalities in 2021, and that about 18.4% of fatal col-

lisions were due to impaired driving, trending down from 26.0% in 2017. So there's about 325 deaths in Canada per year from drunk driving.

What was even more interesting in comparison was a report from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, which is part of the U.S. Department of Transportation. In the USA in 2022, a staggering 13,524 people died in alcohol-impaired driving traffic deaths, or an average of one person dying every 39 minutes.

Although the USA has roughly 9x the population of Canada, their death rate from drinking and driving is 42x higher than in our country.

Cumulatively, I've spent well over a year of my adult life in the United States, and I've never once seen anything resembling a RIDE program. In my opinion, it is the lack of fear about getting caught for a DUI that encourages more drunk Americans to get behind the wheel than drunk Canadians.

COLUMN

EAT AT OUR HOUSE: Dinner in Under 30 Minutes



By Lauren Eedy

September has arrived and busy schedules are in the forecast. The following is a flavour-packed dinner idea that provides excellent leftovers for lunches the following day. Flatbreads can be used with dips in lunches and the prawn curry can be a refined lunch with rice at work.

Don't let the size of the second recipe daunt you - it comes together very easily and quickly but involves a lot of exotic spices. Both recipes can be made in under half an hour!

Quick Garlic Flatbreads

Prep: 10m Cook: 20m Total: 30m

- 2 c all-purpose flour
- 1 tsp baking powder

- 1/2 tsp salt
- 3/4 c plain Greek yogurt
- 1/4 c water
- 2 tbsp olive oil
- 3 cloves minced garlic
- 2 tbsp fresh parsley, chopped

For garlic butter:

- 1/4 c melted butter

Method:

Prepare the dough:

- In a large mixing bowl, combine 2 c all-purpose flour, 1 tsp baking powder and 1/2 tsp salt. Stir.

- Add 3/4 c plain Greek yogurt and 1/4 c water to dry ingredients. Mix until dough forms. If dough feels too dry, add a bit more water; if too sticky, sprinkle in a little more flour.

- Turn the dough onto a floured surface and knead for 2-3m until it becomes smooth and elastic.

- Divide the dough into 6-8 equal portions. Roll each portion into a ball.

- Using a rolling pin, flatten each dough ball into a thin, round disc about 1/4 inch thick.

- Heat a large skillet or grid-

dle over med-high heat. Brush skillet lightly with olive oil.

- Place each disc of dough into the skillet and cook for 2-3m on each side until golden brown and cooked through. Remove flatbreads from skillet and set aside.

Prepare Garlic Butter:

- Combine 1/4 c melted butter with the minced garlic.

- Brush the garlic mixture generously over the warm flatbreads.

- If desired, sprinkle with chopped parsley.

- Enjoy warm as a side dish or snack. These pair wonderfully with soup, salad or as an accompaniment to your favourite dips. These can be frozen and reheated in the skillet or oven.

Easy Prawn Curry with Coconut Milk

Prep: 5m Cook: 25m Serves: 4

- 17.5 oz large shrimp or tiger shrimp, peeled and deveined
- 3 shallots, finely chopped

- 1 tbsp garlic paste or finely grated

- 1 tbsp ginger paste or finely

- grated
- 10-12 curry leaves
- 9 oz tomato paste or finely chopped tomatoes
- 300 ml coconut milk
- 3 tbsp coconut oil or vegetable oil

- 2 tsp tamarind paste

- 1 1/2 tsp of salt to taste

- 4-5 green chili cut into think slices

Handful of curry coriander leaves roughly chopped

Spices:

- 1 tsp mustard seeds

- 1 tsp cumin seeds

- 1 tsp turmeric

- 1 tsp chilli powder

- 1 tsp garam masala

- 1 tsp coriander powder

Method:

- Heat a large pan over medium heat. Heat coconut oil in the pan and add the mustard seeds, cumin seeds, and curry leaves. Sautee for a few seconds and once spices start to pop, add in the chopped shallots and cook until soft and translucent.

- Follow with the garlic and ginger paste, stirring well until onions are slightly browned.

- Add tomato passata and cook until the tomato is reduced and oil separates. Next add the spices: turmeric, chilli powder, coriander powder and garam masala. Stir for a few seconds until fragrant.

- Pour the water and coconut milk and cook for a few seconds until the sauce is thick. Add tamarind paste and salt to taste.

- Add prawns and cook another 3-4m or until cooked through. Taste and adjust salt and water if needed.

- Finish with green chillis and coriander. Serve with basmati rice, coconut rice, garlic flatbread.

Notes:

- Use any large sized prawns, shrimps, fish, squid or choice of seafood. Do not use cooked prawns for this recipe.

- You can find most, if not all these spices including the tamarind at Troyer's Spices on Queen Street downtown.

Ask the Arborist

By Joel Hackett | 519 272 5742 | jtsquote@gmail.com



Dear Arborist,

When is the best time to prune fruit trees?

Sincerely

Jane

Dear Jane,

The best time to prune fruit trees is winter when they are fully dormant. However, most people don't think about it when there is 2 ft of snow on the ground. Also trying to clean up

the branches with snow is not ideal. So normally we do it end of October to mid December.

Sincerely

The Arborist

Joel Hackett is a certified Arborist residing in the St. Marys area. Currently, he spends most of the year running Joel's Tree Service. For contact call 519 272 5742 or email jtsquote@gmail.com



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ST. MARYS, ONTARIO

Riddles

- What is the best time to have lunch?
After breakfast
- What animal keeps the best time?
A watchdog
- What is it that one needs most in the long run?
Your breath
- What makes a man bald-headed?
Lack of hair
- What horse never goes out in the daytime?
A night mare
- What has fingers but can't type?
Gloves
- What has ears but can't hear?
Corn
- What has arms but can't hug?
A Chair
- What has a head and a foot but no body?
A Bed
- When is a car not a car?
When it turns into a driveway
- What has a mouth but never smiles?
A river

- Word Search -

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AUGUST HIGHLIGHTS

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

Word List

- Paris Olympics
- Kamala leads
- Ukraine invades
- Water on Mars
- Triathlon
- Lions Car Show
- Museum Melodies
- Teddy Bear Picnic
- Penrose Suites
- Johnny Gaudreau



The Riddle Kid OF THE WEEK

What clothing does a house wear?



Address!

Austin Coulthard (4)

Hey Kids... Every Riddle Kid that appears in the paper gets a FREE MILKSHAKE at the Sunset Diner!

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PET OF THE WEEK

Each Pet of the Week will receive a FREE treat bag from St. Marys Veterinary Clinic



Our pet of the week is Lenny, a 14-month-old Bernese Mountain Dog. Lenny loves bum scratches, car rides and giving hugs. Lenny got to experience his first wagon ride on the weekend.



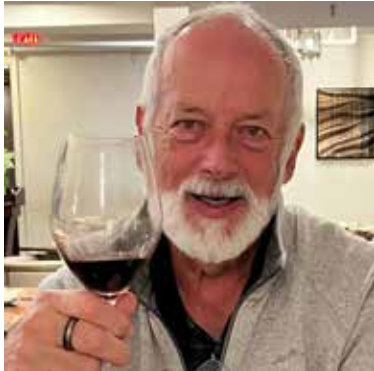
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COLUMN

OH, THE PLACES WE'LL GO: Air Force Museum a destination that touches the heart



By Paul Knowles

Kevin Windsor was excited because his museum's 1945 Halifax bomber is the only fully restored Halifax in the world. I was deeply moved because of a story my dad told me about his service in the Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF) in World War II.

We were visiting the National Air Force Museum of Canada, in Trenton, Ont. Full disclosure: I was totally unaware this amazing museum, located at CFB Trenton, even existed. It was quite the revelation and a place that really plucked at my heartstrings for a number of reasons.

Windsor is the enthusiastic and dedicated executive director of the air force museum. He is justifiably proud of his collection and exhibits, which include 38 aircraft displayed in the museum and in the field adjoining the building. There are many other exhibits as well, some very informative, others very emotionally charged.

But let's return to the Halifax for a moment, and to my dad's

service in the air force. Dad – his name was Ralph Knowles – enlisted in the RCAF and volunteered to be a tail gunner in a bomber. That was among the most dangerous assignments during World War II. A much higher percentage of tail gunners perished, perhaps twice the proportion of other crew members.

Dad's request was denied because of his eyesight and he served on ground crew, based in Truro, N.S.

I asked him much later in life why in the world he had volunteered for that very dangerous position. He told me, "I knew if I died, I was going to heaven and I wanted to give the other boys the chance to make that decision, too."

One of the bravest things I ever heard.

So, when Windsor asked if I wanted to climb into the Halifax bomber and make my way back to the tail gunner position, I was quite choked up. The tour of the Halifax was an eye-opener. We explored the very cramped space occupied by the brave bomber crews as they flew into life-threatening danger.

In fact, the museum's Halifax was recovered after crashing during a run to deliver supplies to the Norwegian resistance. Five of the six crew died in the frigid waters of Lake Mjosa after the plane was hit by Nazi anti-aircraft fire. Ironically, tail gunner Thomas Weightman survived and lived until 2007.

The plane was located in the lake in 1991 and a project was launched to recover and restore the aircraft. It arrived in Trenton in 2005. Twelve years later, the restoration project was completed. It's now seen by 40,000-50,000 visitors a year, though there is a \$100 charge to tour the interior of the plane.

And Windsor is especially excited that the Halifax, one of only 700 originally built, will be joined this year by a restored Lancaster bomber, meaning the Trenton museum will be the only place visitors can see both historic aircraft.

This is an especially appropriate year to visit the museum, because 2024 marks the 100th anniversary of the official designation of the Royal Canadian Air Force. Visitors not only get to be up close and personal with iconic aircraft, but there are many other exhibits here as well.

There is a dramatic recreation of the prisoner-of-war barracks that was the setting for the real-life great escape that inspired the well-known movie. There are artifacts from key moments in Canadian air-force history and displays about well-known air-force personnel such as astronaut Chris Hadfield.

There is an exhibit of greatly enlarged graphic novels about air pioneers from many countries. There are digitized prisoner-of-war diaries to read. There is a well-displayed timeline exhibit starting with the 1909 flight of the



The only fully restored Halifax bomber on display at the National Air Force Museum of Canada in Trenton, Ont.

Silver Dart in Baddeck, N.S. The timeline is currently being extended to 2001 and, in a unique move, the museum has left the under-development section open so visitors can see the process involved in building an exhibit. Windsor told me that visitors spend at least two hours at the museum; I suggest twice that.

The exhibits are powerful, replete with emotional hooks that remind us of the contributions RCAF personnel have made to the history of our country, many of them making the ultimate sacrifice. Perhaps the most poignant is the Camp Mirage memorial, honouring the 161 members of the Canadian Armed Forces who died during Canada's participation in the Afghanistan conflict. The Canadian forces were based at Camp Mirage in Dubai. When the mission ended in 2014, the memorial

honouring those lost in the mission was brought home to Canada. It's now located at the air force museum. It's not possible to visit this shrine without choking up – and that's a testimony to the importance of this museum.

The museum collection and facility continues to grow; an expansion project is currently underway.

In a society where our awareness of history is waning, the National Air Force Museum of Canada plays an essential role in reminding us of vitally important people and their contributions that have played crucial roles in creating the Canada we love today.

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.



Aircraft on display inside the museum.



The museum. All photos by Paul Knowles

OBITUARY

Dundas



The family of Elizabeth Ann Dundas (nee Robson) is sad to announce the passing of Liz in her 76th year on August 25, 2024, at Fairhill Residence in St. Marys, Ontario.

Elizabeth was born to the late Maurice and Dorothy Robson on January 2, 1949 and will be deeply missed by her

daughter, Tammy Scheuermann (Barry) and her sons, Jason Betteridge and Ryan O'Rourke. She was the proud and devoted grandmother of Britton Scheuermann, Mackenzie Scheuermann, Lexi Betteridge, Isla Betteridge and Kellan O'Rourke. She is survived by her brother James Robson (Julie). Elizabeth was preceded in death by her husband, Robert "Bob" L. Dundas. She will be missed by Bob's children, Lynn Killinger (Dave), Tara Alden (Rob) and their families. She will be sadly missed by her nephews, Mark Robson (Heather), Joe Robson (Tina) and family.

As we say goodbye to Elizabeth, we celebrate her life as a loving daughter, sister, mother, grandmother, and aunt and for the care she took of others as a nurse at St. Marys Memorial Hospital.

In remembrance of Elizabeth, on Sept. 3, 2024 a Graveside Service took place in St. Marys Cemetery followed by an Open House Celebration of Life at River Valley Golf Course. A video of the graveside service can be viewed from Liz' memorial page at www.hodgesfuneralhome.ca. Donations may be made to the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Ontario.

OBITUARY

Cole



Sandy Cole (Henderson) passed away suddenly at Happy Hills on August 29, 2024 in her 69th year. Beloved wife of Jim. Dear sister of Lorraine, Donna, Tina. Stepmother of David (Rob) and also remembered by Marlene and family, grandchildren, nieces and nephews. Predeceased by her first husband Jim

Mulcahy, brother Stephen, and her parents Stephen and Cissie. Cremation has taken place. A private family service will be held. A Celebration of Sandy's life will be held at a later date. Memorial donations may be made to the Ontario Heart & Stroke Foundation. Online condolences at www.hodgesfuneralhome.ca.

OBITUARY

Krowchuk



Anne Theresa Krowchuk (née Czech)

July 27, 1931 - September 1, 2024

Died peacefully surrounded by family at Rotary Hospice in Stratford Ontario in her 94th year.

Anne was born in Milton Saskatchewan to parents Anna

and Stanley Czech who immigrated from Poland along with five of her eventual nine siblings. Predeceased by her parents, brothers John, Steve and Julius (twins), Joe, Stan and sisters Jean and Rose. Survived by her younger sisters Bernice and Val. Anne lived in Raymond Alberta before eventually marrying James Joseph Krowchuk (deceased 1999) and moving to Ontario.

Anne was a going concern like her mother before her, active in sports such as badminton, dancing and managed her daughters hockey team in Belmont Ontario. In her 50s, Anne took up scuba diving and then bought a horse farm. After fixing up the barn, fence and paddock, she opened a boarding stable which housed several horses including her own Arab. Anne attended service and volunteered at Holy Name of Mary Parish in St. Marys and also enjoyed aquafit, travelling, reading and playing cards especially Cribbage, Bridge, and Pepper.

Anne lived independently until she was 92 when she briefly moved into River Gardens in Stratford, Ontario. Anne is survived by children Marie Anne Hay and husband Steve of New Hamburg Ontario, Nancy Sharon Patterson and husband Dave of Nanoose Bay BC, Pamela Jean Asselin and husband John of London Ontario, Christopher James Krowchuk and wife Dana of Hawaii USA, and Carey Lynn Pope and partner Burt Damen of St. Marys Ont.

Anne loved spending time with her grandchildren Jillian Leah Buchanan, Bryan Asselin, Colin James Krowchuk, Kainoa Krowchuk and Wesley, Hayden and Nathan Pope. Anne is also survived by great grandchildren Deione and Jordan Buchanan, and Jacob Garrett Asselin.

Anne will be remembered for her love of life, unlimited energy, and she will be missed greatly by her extended family. Thanks to the excellent care she received from the staff at St. Marys and Stratford hospitals and River Gardens.

Special thanks to the caring staff at Rotary Hospice Stratford. Family and friends are invited to HOLY NAME OF MARY PARISH, northeast corner of Widder St. E and Peel St. N, St. Marys, on September 14, 2024 for visitation from 1pm until the time of the Funeral Mass at 2pm. Reception in the Parish Hall to follow. In lieu of flowers, donations gratefully accepted for Rotary Hospice Stratford Perth or the St. Marys Healthcare Foundation. Online condolences at www.hodgesfuneralhome.ca.

OBITUARY

McMullen



Michael "Mick" Christopher McMullen May 26, 1951 – August 28, 2024

We are devastated and heart-broken to announce the passing of Michael Christopher McMullen. He passed away at home, surrounded by loving family following a short battle with cancer on August 28, 2024.

Beloved husband of Anna McMullen. Loving father of Christopher and Angela McMullen, Matthew and Brianne McMullen, Jennifer and Sean Thompson, and Stephen McMullen. Proudest Grandad to Ethan, Anderson, Blake, Geordie and Zaine. Brother of Eileen Burke, and predeceased by siblings John and Billy.

Family and friends are invited to HOLY NAME OF MARY PARISH, northeast corner of Widder St. E and Peel St. N, St. Marys, on Friday, September 6, 2024 for visitation from 12:30 until the time of the Funeral Mass at 2pm. Reception in the Parish Hall to follow. Memorial donations may be made to the Canadian Cancer Society or Holy Name of Mary Parish. Online condolences at www.hodgesfuneralhome.ca

CELEBRATION



Please join Bernice Coulson in celebrating her 85th Birthday

Sunday Sept 15th at the St Marys Legion Hall
Drop in between 2 to 4



www.gardenontario.org/site.php/stmarys

Carnival of Flowers Show Open Meeting

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 9TH AT 7:00 PM

ST. MARYS LEGION HALL

Speaker: Denise Hodgins

Topic: Caring for Your Indoor Plants



Email for Show Info: stmarys.horticulture@gmail.com
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COLUMN

Straight from the Shelves

By Laura McAsh, St. Marys Public Library

Discuss engaging reads over a fresh pint at Books & Brews, a monthly book club held at Broken Rail Brewery. Previous titles read by the club include "The Push", "A Nearly Normal Family", "Dark Matter", "And Then She Fell", and "Miracle Creek". We suspect some laughs will be had at the next meeting as the current theme is humour. Contact the Library to join the club!

This Week's Recommendation

"The Cartographers" by Peng Shepherd is another recent read of Books & Brews. In it, we find Nell Young, a woman with a passion for maps, just like her father before her. Nell has not seen Dr. Daniel Young since an explosive argument between them resulted in Nell's firing from her dream job at the New York Public Library. Regrettably, the two are only brought back together when Dr. Young's body is found lifeless in his office. The shock of his suspicious death is compounded when Nell discovers a worthless map amongst his things, the same map at the epicentre of their fight years earlier. What's so important about this dime-a-dozen gas station

map? Read "The Cartographers" to find out, available in hard copy, and on Libby as an eBook and eAudiobook.

Up This Week

- Fri., Sept. 6: Open 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Sat., Sept. 7: Dungeons and Dragons (10 a.m.)
- Mon., Sept. 9: Open 10:30 a.m. to 8 p.m.
- Tues., Sept. 10: Open 10:30 a.m. to 8 p.m.
- Wed., Sept. 11: EarlyON Play and Read (9:30-10:30 a.m.), Mahjong Intro (1-2 p.m.), Mahjong! (2-4 p.m.), FOL Social (6:30 p.m.), Books and Brews*~ (7 p.m.)
- Thurs., Sept. 12: Open 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

*Registration Required

~Held at Broken Rail Brewery (480 Glass St., St. Marys)

LOOKING BACK



BY AMY CUBBERLEY

No bungee jumping

25 years ago (1999)

St. Marys teens have been warned by police that the Sarnia Bridge portion of the Grand Trunk Trail is not a site for rock climbing or bungee jumping. Police have spoken to several youth and young adults over the past couple of weeks about the activity after receiving several complaints.

As a result of a noise complaint, police laid a drug charge Monday evening. Police attended a St. George Street North home around 11:35 p.m. Monday, entered the backyard where the noise was coming from and found three youths with a quantity of marijuana, a hash pipe, and other drug paraphernalia. A 20-year-old has been charged with possession of a prohibited drug.

Following the first week of training camp, the St. Marys Lincolns have reduced their number of hopefuls from 52 to 32 players.

50 years ago (1974)

According to unofficial word, the contract has been awarded to a Guelph firm for the building of the 32-unit Senior Citizen apartment on Queen Street West. Scuttlebutt has it that the present service station on the lot will be leveled shortly with footings for the new building to be in by October 1.

\$632 was raised in the golf tournament held on August 24 in St. Marys for the Penny Hasson fund. Jim Craigmile of St. Marys was the winner. He was presented with the Penny Hasson Trophy, donated by Sealed Power Corporation, Stratford.

The cataloging team of Chester Burt, Ellen Annett, and Bellabeth Porter have completed a major project at St. Marys District Museum. 3,000 articles were recorded and described in the Master Catalog with a cross index of donors and artifacts prepared.

75 years ago (1949)

Ten years to the day, the Perth Regiment was ordered to mobilize for participation in World War II.

The need for the new St. Marys Hospital was demonstrated recently when a local ambulance had three calls to go to Stratford within an hour's time.

A St. Marys lady had a difficult time one evening last week convincing an out-of-town telephone caller that he had the wrong address. Our local lady was getting pretty desperate until the operator broke in to tell her that due to an error the call has been put through to St. Marys, Ontario instead of St. Marys, Kansas.

100 years ago (1924)

A lengthy discussion in regard to the dumping ground took place at council this week. Councillor Millson pointed out that steps were being taken to keep the dump in proper shape and that last week Councillor Crozier and himself had taken about 15 gallons of coal oil down and after sprinkling it around, had set the place on fire and succeeded in burning up practically all the paper, etc.

Jonathan Cooper of Elimville, just to see how it would feel, cradled a half-acre of grain and bound and stooked them as they used to in the old pioneer days.

Mrs. Agnes Knox Black, who will give a recital in the Presbyterian Church of St. Marys next Monday evening, is acknowledged to be the premier elocutionist of America. You should hear her.

Community Liaison Committee

The next Community Liaison Committee Meeting will be held on **September 6th at 10am** at the St Marys Municipal Operations Center. Members of the public who wish to observe are welcome to attend.

Residents who wish to speak in front of the Committee may submit a detailed request in writing at least 3 days prior to the meeting in writing to the Committee. The request will be considered by the Committee and approved prior to the meeting. Please submit all requests, questions, and concerns for the meeting to kara.pelissero@vcimentos.com by **September 4th, 2024**.

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Solutions on page 27

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- Office desk, Bullet top table desk, 72 inches long 36 inches wide, Black Ebony on Oak veneer, solid oak headers, three legs, one leg is solid Oak, two legs are metal, black. Newly finished. \$150.00. CASH ONLY - St. Marys area Call 519-272-5951 and leave a message.

For Sale

- Office desk, Bullet top table desk, 60 inches long 30 inches wide, Natural Cherry on Cherry veneer solid cherry headers, three metal legs one black two silver colour. Newly finished, some flaws in the veneer. \$75.00. CASH ONLY - St. Marys area Call 519-272-5951 and leave a message.

For Sale

- Office Desk top, 60 inches long and 30 inches wide, Medium cherry colour on Maple veneer, solid Maple headers, newly finished. No legs or base supplied, you can obtain legs from Richleau, Amazon, Wayfair. Can be made into a table desk with legs. \$50.00. CASH ONLY - St. Marys area Call 519-272-5951 and leave a message.

QUIZ ANSWERS

- | | | |
|--------------------|---------------------------|--------------|
| 1. Johnny Gaudreau | 4. 1997 | 7. L |
| 2. Nayib Bukele | 5. The Merchant of Venice | 8. St. Peter |
| 3. Lemur | 6. West | 9. Boston |
| | | 10. May 1997 |

IN MEMORIAM

Megens

In memory of a loving Mother, Grandmother and Great-Grandmother Maria A. Megens who passed away Sept. 6, 1985

God looked around His garden
And found an empty place.
Then He looked down on earth
And saw your loving face.
He gently took you in His arms
And lifted you to rest.

God's garden must be beautiful
He only takes the best.

It broke ours hearts to lose you
But you didn't go alone.

For part of us went with you
The day He called you home.

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PRC & Friendship Centre events - See the Stonetown Crier on Page 5

Thorndale Library September events - See Page 19

St. Marys Public Library events - See Page 25

Friday, September 6

- St. Marys Cement community liaison committee meeting at the MOC - 10 a.m.

- Kirkton Fall Fair - 6:30-9:00 p.m., Fireworks at dusk

- A.N.A.F. meat draw - 6 p.m.

Saturday, September 7

- St. Marys Farmers Market at Milt Dunnell Field - 8 a.m. to Noon.

- Kirkton Fall Fair - 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Parade and fair activities - 3 p.m. start Truck & tractor pull, Food trucks and beer garden

- Royal Canadian Legion meat draw - 5 p.m.

Sunday, September 8

- Kirkton Fall Fair community breakfast - 9-11:30 a.m., Community church service - 10 a.m. 1 p.m. start Demolition derby and classic car show, food trucks

- St. Marys Lincolns vs Stratford Warriors at William Allman Memorial Arena, Stratford - 2:30 p.m.

Monday, September 9

- Community Dinner at St. Marys United Church - 5-6:30 p.m., Sponsored by Avonbank Church

- St. Marys Horticultural Society flower show & open meeting at the Legion hall - 7 p.m.

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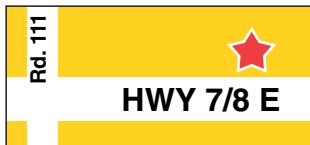
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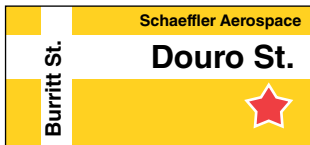
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