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Your Community Newspaper

# The Paris Independent

Saturday, March 1, 2025

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## Alex Faux

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### In Community

Brant County Council Approves  
2025 budget. See Page 5.



Let there be  
Music! Legion  
Granted  
Exemption.  
See Pages 6-7

## A CENTURY OF MEMORIES



Longtime Paris resident and World War II Veteran Henry Foster cuts the cake during his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration at the Paris Legion last Saturday. Read the full story on pages 12-13.

Photo by Daksh Siwas

## Sandra Etherington

Real Estate Broker

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The **KEY** to your next **MOVE**



www.SaturdaysInParis.com



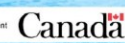
# SATURDAYS in Paris

Every Saturday 1 PM - 4 PM  
In January, February & March 2025

Free, fun and flexible activities for people of all  
ages throughout downtown Paris, Ontario!



Funded by:  
Federal Economic Development  
Agency for Southern Ontario



# COMMUNITY DIRECTORY

**Emergency: 9-1-1**  
 Police Department: 888-310-1122  
 Fire Department: 519-442-4500  
 Willet Hospital: 519-442-2251

**County of Brant Office:** 519-442-6324  
**Paris Public Library:** 519-442-2433

## Paris Councillors & Mayor :

Mayor - David Bailey 226-387-2490  
 Ward 2 - Steve Howes 519-442-4955  
 Ward 2 - Lukas Oakley 226-216-3037  
 Ward 3 - John Bell 519-209-2277  
 Ward 3 - John Peirce 519-442-7134  
 Administration & Bylaw: 519-442-7268

**Paris Customer Service Office** 66 Grand River St.  
 N. 519-442-7268  
 Open Monday to Friday, 8:30 am to 4:30 pm

## **Main Services include:**

- Accounts Receivable invoice payments
- Blue Boxes and Composters (pre-arrange pick up of composter)

- Brant Transit punch cards purchase and pick up
- Building Permits may be submitted and Building staff consulted
- Calendar pick up (free)
- Commissioner of Oath is by appointment only
- Dog license and tag
- Dog Park membership and key
- Parking ticket payment
- Property Tax payments and inquiries
- Public Works permits may be submitted
- Use the computer to meet with a virtual Planner to ask questions.
- Water testing sample bottles may be picked up. Drop off water testing samples on the last Wednesday of the month before 2 pm at the Burford Customer Service Office

## **Brant Sports Complex & Other Facility Booking**

519-442-1944- Open Monday - Sunday, 8:30 am - 8:00 pm.

## **Main services include:**

- Dog Park membership and key
- Dog license and tag
- Tennis Court membership and key
- Camp registration and recreation program registration

Articles, Events & Story ideas, please submit by email to:

[stories@theparisindpendent.com](mailto:stories@theparisindpendent.com)



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**LOCAL NEWS  
MATTERS**

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## STATEMENT

We are an independently owned organization made up of likeminded volunteers from within our community with the main purpose of providing Paris and area with a trustworthy and reliable source of local news. Although every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of everything we publish, we regret any errors that may occur. We limit our liability to that of printing a retraction upon notification of such errors in the next available publication. Our mail and Email addresses are listed below:

Published Weekly on Saturday

7 ANN STREET, PARIS, ON, CANADA N3L 1A1  
 Send Emails to: [sales@theparisindpendent.com](mailto:sales@theparisindpendent.com)

# COMMUNITY EVENTS

**TODAY! CELEBRATING BRANT COUNTY AGRICULTURE** – Join us at the BCFA Banquet on **Saturday, March 1<sup>st</sup>** at 6 pm at the Paris Fairgrounds. The guest speaker Dan Needles! Tickets are \$40/person and can be purchased from BCFA Directors or email at [bcfabanquet@gmail.com](mailto:bcfabanquet@gmail.com)

**DREAMING OF SPRING** – Presented by the Brant County Singers on **Sunday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>** at 3 pm at Sydenham-Heritage United Church Auditorium at 120 Sydenham St, Brantford. Join us for our Charity Concert, free will donation with proceeds going to Brant County Guiding.

**SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER!** **Tuesday, March 4, 2025**, from 5 pm to 7 pm at St. James Anglican Church, Paris, 8 Burwell St. Supper includes pancakes, sausages, bacon and lots of syrup! Admission is by suggested minimum \$8 donation.

**PARIS HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY MEETING** - on Wednesday, **March 5<sup>th</sup>** at the Paris Fairgrounds. The meeting will start at 7 pm with a social time. Our guest speaker is Paul Oliver, Attracting Wild Birds to Your Backyard Garden, owner of Urban Nature Stores.

**BRANT 4-H RALLY NIGHT** – Sign up for 2025 Spring/Summer Clubs, learn more about club offerings and how to get involved! Many clubs of interest are being offered, always with the 4H Motto ‘Learn to Do

by Doig.’ **Wednesday, March 5** at 7 pm at the Paris Fairgrounds.

**EMPOWERED FINANCES** - presented in partnership with Muslim Women of Brant, a non-profit organization formed with the aim of helping others in the community. Join Mahvesh Sheikh, Investment and Wealth Advisor at RBC Wealth Management, to help build your financial acumen and set yourself up for success! **Wednesday, March 5** at 6:30 pm at the Paris Library Branch, 12 William St.

**DOWNTOWN PARIS** **MAR 1 Paris Walks 1 PM to 4 PM**

**SATURDAYS IN PARIS**

**An afternoon of walks throughout downtown Paris!**

One of the reasons many people visit and settle in Paris, Ontario is because we have so many spots for lovely walks: all of our beautiful and historic downtown buildings and the surrounding natural spaces and trails; join us for an afternoon of walks and walking, with history, architecture and man's best friend in mind!

Here are the three walks, their timing info and start location

- **The Paris Museum & Historical Society Meet** at The Arlington Hotel (106 Grand River St North) at 1 PM or 2:30 PM for a Grand River St walk; will be 30 ish minutes
- **Connor Robinson, of County of Brant Public Library Meet** at The Paris Winncy Mills Co (31 Mechanic St) at 1:45 PM or 3:15 PM, walk will be 30 ish minutes
- **Paris Pack Walks** Dogs on leashes and their owners are welcome to join for walks starting at Winncy Mills Co at 1 PM and 3:30 PM, walk will be 30 ish minutes \*please note that temperatures under -8 degrees will mean these walks are canceled for safety!

Join forest + folk in The Paris Winncy Mills (31 Mechanic Street) with a stick spot for the doggies and a crafty event in the Snax pop-up for humans of all ages; all materials provided for the craft!

**HAMILTON/ALTON/BRANT FIND YOUR WAY TO THE HEART OF ONTARIO**  
**Canada**  
Funded By: Economic Development Agency for Southern Ontario

**Winter at Pemberley: A Jane Austen Celebration**

**CAINSVILLE COMMUNITY CENTRE | FEBRUARY 28 | 7:00 PM**

**COUNTY OF BRANT Public Library**

# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

**SPAGHETTI SUPPER** – Etonia United Church, 101 #2 Highway, Etonia on **Wednesday, March 5** from 5 pm to 6:30 pm. Adults, \$20; Children (12 and under) \$5; Preschoolers are free. Includes meat and meatless sauce, meatballs, dessert, refreshments. Takeout available, wheelchair accessible facility.

**BRANT MEN OF SONG** - **March 4, 11, 18 and 25, 2025.** Come check out a rehearsal on Tuesdays from 7 pm to 9 pm at the First Baptist Church located at 70 West St. Brantford. New members are always welcome to attend and learn more about their activities.

**WOMEN INSPIRING WOMEN – WOMEN'S INSTITUTE MEETING** – **Thursday, March 13<sup>th</sup>** from 7 pm to 9 pm at the Paris Fairgrounds Community Room. Guest speaker is Financial Advisor Jason Laidler who will discuss estate planning and avoiding probate.

**BRANT COUNTY MEN'S PROBUS CLUB MEETING** - **Tuesday March 18, 2025,** at 10 am at the Sherwood Restaurant at 799 Colborne Street in Brantford. Our guest speaker will discuss the history of the Railroad Hospitals. New members are always welcome.

**PARIS SKETCHERS CLUB MARCH MEETING** – **Saturday March 22** at 3 pm. This month's sketching location is the Canadian Warplane Heritage Museum, Hamilton Airport (there is a \$16 admission to the airport).

**OPTIMIST CLUB YOUTH DANCE** - The Paris Optimist Club will hold its next monthly Youth Dance on **Friday, March 21, 2025.** The dance is for students in grades 5 to 8 only. Grade 9 and older students are welcome to attend as volunteers. The DJ begins the Dance at 7:00 pm and it ends at 10:00 pm. Volunteers must arrive at 6:45 pm. The Dance is held at the Syl Apps Community Centre, 51 William Street in Paris with adult chaperones to make sure everyone has a great time. Entry fee is \$5.00 with a concession booth for pop, chips, candy and pizza. For any further information and to volunteer as a chaperone or as a high school student, please call 519.757.5020

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MONTHLY MEETING** - **on Tuesday March 25, 2025** at Sacred Heart Parish Hall starting at 7:30 pm.

PLEASE JOIN US AT THE PARIS LEGION TO CELEBRATE



**SATURDAY, MARCH 15**

**SAINT PATRICK'S DAY party**

Dinner: \$15 each. Includes Free Ticket on Pot of Gold Draw. Tickets for sale from the bar tender.

Stacked Corned Beef on Rye with all the trimmings. Pickle. Potato Salad, Coleslaw, and St. Patrick's Day treat for dessert.

Live Music By

**JAMIE AND ALLISON**

Dinner from 5:00 to 6:30 p.m. Music from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.  
Pot of Gold Draw at 7:00 p.m.

Legion 

⚡ BRANCH 90 PARIS PRESENTS ⚡

**2nd Annual CHILI COOK-OFF**

**BRING THE HEAT!**

**Saturday March 8 Noon to 4pm**

10 Team Format.

Get Ready! More Info To Follow!



# COMMUNITY NEWS

## Brant County Council approves 2025 budget

*Residents will see property tax increase of 5.3%, plus 1% property tax surcharge to help fund the new hospital project*

**MEDIA RELEASE- County of Brant, ON** – The County of Brant Council has approved the 2025 Budget.

Following careful deliberation and consideration, Council approved the 2025 budget, resulting in a property tax increase of 5.3%, plus a 1% property tax surcharge as a local contribution towards the New Hospital Project. This results in an annual approximate \$240.94 increase for the median home. “A great deal of discussion and thought has gone into this year’s budget,” said Mayor David Bailey. “While budget discussions can be challenging, our commitment remains to serving the community’s needs—both now and in the future—while balancing realistic expectations. Investing in our community today is essential to planning for what’s ahead.”

The budget covers essential services such as roads and infrastructure, parks and recreation, emergency services, community development initiatives, and more.

In a press release issued on Wednesday, it was noted the approval of this year’s budget demonstrates the County’s dedication to balancing financial responsibilities while meeting the evolving needs of residents, maintaining essential services, and advancing strategic initiatives that promote growth and prosperity.

Highlights of the 2025 Budget include:

- A \$12 million investment in asset management capital, for the maintenance, repair, and replacement of existing infrastructure throughout the County.
  - Revitalization of the downtown Paris core through completion of the Grand River Street North Reconstruction Project.
  - Investments in new business developments, including a Cainsville Secondary Plan and infrastructure in Southwest Paris.
- Reinvestment of revenues from solar and renewable energy projects into future climate action initiatives.

The community was invited to engage in the 2025 budget process through the Engage Brant website, which received 1,500 visits. For the first time, a pre-budget public engagement survey was conducted, receiving 259 responses. Key themes from the survey—financial restraint, infrastructure improvements, and healthcare funding—are reflected in the 2025 budget.

“Thank you to everyone who took the time to engage with us on the budget,” said Mayor Bailey. “Your input is invaluable in helping us understand community priorities, make informed decisions, and ensure that our decisions align with the needs of residents.”

More information on the County of Brant’s 2025 Budget and Finances is available online at [www.brant.ca/Budget](http://www.brant.ca/Budget).

Engage  


## Public Events in the County of Brant



The County of Brant is home to a variety of exciting events, from music and food festivals to cultural celebrations and seasonal gatherings.

We want to hear from you! Visit [EngageBrant.ca/Events](http://EngageBrant.ca/Events) to share your thoughts on the events you love, what's missing, and how we can better support and promote them.

Prefer to engage in person? Join us at one of our **pop-up events in Paris, Burford and St. George** to discuss event planning in your community.

**Engage with us!**

Engagement closes on **Friday, March 28, 2025.**

- Complete the survey
- Submit your event ideas and/or vote on your favourites! ❤️
- Leave a comment or question for staff.
- Join us for **in-person** events!





**EngageBrant.ca/Events**

[brant.ca](http://brant.ca) | [info@brant.ca](mailto:info@brant.ca) |   

**519.44BRANT** (442.7268) | 1.855.44BRANT



# COMMUNITY NEWS

## Paris Legion granted noise bylaw exemption to play music on patio this summer

*Exemption does come with concerns, says Legion President Roy Haggart*

**By Casandra Turnbull**

It was music to his ears earlier this month as Branch 29 President Roy Haggart and legion members received news that they were granted an exemption to the noise bylaw. The legion successfully lobbied to bring music back to their patio this summer, however, that exemption doesn't come without some concerns, said Haggart.

He was before council on Tuesday, along with Legion 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Earl MacDonald to bring forward some of those concerns and challenge council to examine how county staff grant noise bylaw exemptions.

He started by thanking council and staff for support throughout the process, noting Legion members are extremely grateful for the opportunity to continue to provide outdoor entertainment on the patio, which is a major source of revenue for the non-profit organization. That revenue in turn is donated back to the community through various fundraisers, sponsorships and donations.

"Along with thanks, we have some concerns. It's the concerns that led us to where we are in the first place, fundamentally communication," Haggart explained.

The exemption states that staff have authorized bylaw officers to request that the music be turned down if complaints are received and that it's at the discretion of the bylaw officer

to determine if something is excessively loud. Repercussions could lead to the exemption becoming null and void. "I don't know how many bylaw officers you have or OPP officers that could be involved, but each one of those persons could have a different opinion (of loud)," said Haggart, questioning why the County's noise bylaw cannot outline specific decibel levels to determine appropriate levels of noise, mirroring the City of Toronto's noise bylaw. "This would provide consistency on site rather than staff trying to determine what is appropriate," he added.

Councillor Lukas Oakley suggested county staff should investigate the possibility incorporating decibel levels into the noise bylaw and exemptions to the bylaw. He commented, "I would really like us to look into something more quantitative, like decibel level, versus a more qualitative level, even though its more flexible."

Oakley also pointed out this would help provide more firm guidelines for all exemptions, making note that there are events of larger magnitude that take place in the community and decibel levels could help govern those events in a more fair and consistent process.

In the end, Haggart reiterated that he hopes county staff will continue to keep the open lines of communication open and if a complaint is received, he hopes



Jeff Dawdy plays during an August 2023 BBQ on the Paris Legion patio.

**Photo by Kim Clarke-Dawdy Photography**

they will work with the Legion, instead of making the decision to shut down an event or pull the exemption.

"Can you let us know if there is a problem? Rather than shut us down for one person in a neighbourhood of 400 or 500 people?" He added the last time that happened it cost the Legion a \$6,000 loss in just one fundraiser, not to mention the loss of revenue the remainder of the summer. He also noted the Legion held a successful neighbourhood meeting last fall to communicate to neighbours how important the music was to the success of the BBQs, and in turn the success of the Legion remaining self-sufficient and good community ambassadors. This small victory means a lot to the Legion and its volunteers who host BBQs throughout the summer and when the music is playing, they say attendance increases between 500% - 600%.

This exemption will allow them to play amplified music and sound producing instruments on the outdoor patio between May 1<sup>st</sup> to October 31<sup>st</sup> this year, on select days and/or weekends between 12 pm to 8 pm.

# COMMUNITY NEWS

## County to pay DPAI Architect \$143,000 to cover fees related to delays and changes in Bawcutt Centre / Library project

*DPAI has received \$1.388 million to date for the cancelled project*

**By Casandra Turnbull**

Even though the Bawcutt Centre Main Branch Library Centre project was nixed in late January, the County is still paying out money related to a budget shortfall for the design and tendering phase.

County staff requested approval from council this week to pay DPAI Architecture Inc. \$143,039 for additional fees related to the increased scale of the project from the 25,000 square foot facility that was originally described in the county's request for proposals, as well as fees associated with project delays. The county is still on the hook for these costs even though the project, as it was proposed, failed to pass when council voted against a critical Zoning By-law Amendment application that was required for the project to go to tender.

County staff told council they felt the design fees were fair and reasonable and recommended council approve the request. DPAI's request also noted that the design budget shortfall of \$143,039 was causing financial hardship to their firm. They asked that the request for payment be presented to Council to expediate approval, ahead of working through other fees to cover subconsultant costs related to sustainability studies and for the overall termination of the design contract. County staff are currently awaiting documentation from DPAI to support these additional requests and once received they will be reviewing the documents with County's legal counsel.

Councillor John Peirce said he understood that without a doubt the fees are payable to DPAI, however he took offense with the statement that they were causing financial hardship to the firm.

Peirce asked county staff to clarify when the fees would have been paid, if the project had proceeded, and Mark Maxwell confirmed they would have been paid when there was a change in the project's scope in 2023, but at the time, DPAI offered to wait for payment until the project went to tender.

Councillor Brian Coleman asked Maxwell to confirm how much money has been paid to DPAI to date. Maxwell confirmed the figure was \$1.3888 million and that included the construction fees allotment to complete the design.

"But this final amount is causing them financial hardship? Weird," said Coleman.

In the end, councillors voted to support payment for the requested fee of \$143,039, with only Coleman voting against it.

County staff also asked council to give the CAO authorization to approve reasonable costs related to the termination of the design contract and any outstanding subconsultant fees. Results of these final discussions and payments will be reported by to council through staff briefing notes.

It was also noted that Finance Staff will bring forward recommendations on next steps for the Main Branch Library and the Bawcutt Centre including budget allocations for costs incurred to date, as available funding sources may depend on Council's direction for next steps.

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR NOISE EXEMPTION COUNTY OF BRANT NOISE BY-LAW 108-22 Applicant:** Noisemaker Presents, 200 Caroline St N, Hamilton  
**Exemption location:** Two Rivers Stadium at Syl Apps Community Centre, Paris ON  
**Description of sound:** Amplified Music, Loading Equipment **By-law Section:** Schedule B - Section 6(a); Schedule C Item 4. **Exemption period:** August 14-16, 2025 from 8:00am-11:00pm and August 17, 2025 from 8:00 am to 2:00 pm.  
**Reason:** Paris Drinks Fest (Festival) **Objections:** Must be received in writing **10 days** from the publication date. Please ensure to provide your contact information and reason for the objection. Where an objection is not received within the time indicated above, no further opportunity to file an objection will be granted. Send to the Bylaw Enforcement Division via email or mail to:

The County of Brant By-law Enforcement Division

26 Park Avenue Burford, Ontario NOE 1A0

Tel: 519.449.2451

Fax: 519.449.3382

Email: [bylawenforcement@brant.ca](mailto:bylawenforcement@brant.ca)

# COMMUNITY NEWS

## Grant Haven Media partners with Paris Independent

*Paris' online newspaper will launch print edition March 19th*

**By Stewart Grant**  
**Grant Haven Media Publisher**

*The following content was shared in other Grant Haven Media community newspapers.*

“Start the Presses!” was the big headline in the Saturday, Feb. 15 online edition of The Paris Independent, as managing editor Casandra Turnbull broke the exciting news to her hometown that their newspaper would be available for the first time in print format on Wednesday, Mar. 19.

Effective Mar. 1, the Paris Independent becomes the 11<sup>th</sup> newspaper under our Grant Haven Media banner as we continue to follow our mandate of “restoring local journalism, one community at a time.”

I have admired the work of the Paris Independent for over a year; ever since our company expanded into Brant County in January 2024 with the purchase of the Brant Farms publication. The Paris Independent, like the St. Marys Independent in my hometown, developed locally in response to failures of the media conglomerates to safeguard local news reporting. Three years after St. Marys saw the closure of its Journal-Argus, Paris lost its Star.

Paris Independent founder Chris Whelan wrote in his history column the



Some of the Paris Independent team got together at the Paris Inn recently to plan for the first print edition and beyond. Pictured from left to right: George Le Gresley (Sports Reporter), Michelle Malvaso (Photographer), Stewart Grant (Publisher), Casandra Turnbull (Managing Editor), and Chris Whelan (Editor).

**Photo by Cindy Whelan**

Feb.15<sup>th</sup> edition about the rich history of journalism in Paris. “The Paris Star, a stalwart publication, stood as a testament to the town’s commitment to news dissemination ... Had fate been kinder, the Paris Star would have celebrated its 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2025. Alas, the echoes of its presses fell silent in 2020, hushed by the hand of Postmedia.”

Though Postmedia had closed the Paris Star during the pandemic, along with 14 other community newspapers, a grassroots campaign began the

following year to fill this void. “Throughout the majority of 2021, our community endured a notable absence of a vital communication channel precisely when it was most needed,” recalled Whelan, who put a call on social media hoping to find like-minded people to help launch a new digital publication. “The outpouring of support was truly overwhelming, notably from key figures such as Casandra, the former editor of The Paris Star until 2011.”

*Continued on page 9*



# COMMUNITY NEWS

The first edition of the online Paris Independent was launched in September of 2021. For each of the last 180 weeks, Whelan, Turnbull, and the rest of their Paris-based team have put out a digital newspaper, building up a loyal following of over 2,000 readers. Still, an online paper has its limitations. It's not something that you can see or be aware of when you are walking the streets of Paris and visiting the stores, restaurants, or coffee shops.

Last month, I met with Chris for lunch at the Cobblestone Public House in Paris and suggested that we establish a partnership with the goal of converting the Paris Independent into a print publication so that it may make an even greater impact to its community, with a more visible presence and a powerful new distribution model.

Following our meeting, Chris, who I've found quickly to be a kindred spirit, consulted with Casandra who agreed that this was the perfect time to take their newspaper in this direction.

"This was always our end goal," said Casandra of a print edition. "When we started the Paris Independent, we promised the community that if it was viable, one day we would roll out a print edition. With a strong online presence and digital footprint, it's only natural that we take that next step in growth and publish a weekly edition that will reach stores, businesses and community centres across Paris. Even as the community has adjusted to digital news, we still get the occasional question, 'where can I pick up a copy?' There will always be a longing for a print edition, something tangible to hold in your hands and flip the pages as you digest what is happening in your own backyard."

The presses will begin to roll soon, with the first print edition being delivered to Paris on Mar. 19, while also being available online at [www.granthaven.com](http://www.granthaven.com).

## Reminder of Upcoming Publication Dates

Today's edition is the last edition to publish on a Saturday.

Your Paris Independent will remain online but will be published to <https://issuu.com/theparisdependent> on Tuesdays, starting March 18th. Email subscribers will continue to receive their PDF copy weekly on Tuesdays. You can also follow the news online at <https://www.granthaven.com/paris-independent>

The first print edition will hit stores in Paris by Wednesday, March 19<sup>th</sup>.

As a reminder, there will be no weekly publications on March 8 or March 15<sup>th</sup> while our team works to transition deadlines to bring you the first print edition.



## WANTED: Letters to the Editor! Be A Part of Our Premier Print Edition

We want to publish your Letter to the Editor in our March 19<sup>th</sup> edition. Email [stories@theparisdependent.com](mailto:stories@theparisdependent.com). All letters must be signed by the writer and are subject to editing for length and clarity. Deadline for submission is March 12th. Share your thoughts on issues happening in your community.

Additionally, if you have a story idea, feature or want to recognize an amazing individual in Paris, reach out to our editorial team with your news tip: [stories@theparisdependent.com](mailto:stories@theparisdependent.com)

If you're interested in advertising rates and availability, email [sales@theparisdependent.com](mailto:sales@theparisdependent.com) to book your space now! More information on advertising opportunities are available [here](http://www.granthaven.com).

# COMMUNITY NEWS

## All Aboard for The Paris Express Grand Adventure

*Written by Spicy Jan, experience designer – Tasty Road Trips Inc.*

Something wonderfully delicious will be taking place on Saturday March 22, and you will absolutely want to be part of this Paris centric adventure. When I met with Emma from The County of Brant Public Library to discuss the visit from author Emma Donoghue, we knew something deliciously local needed to take place. Author Donoghue will be launching their book *The Paris Express* in Paris next month which is one of the many events celebrating the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the One Book One Brant program.

Here is where my love of local, and experience design, as a food tour host got creative. For the past seven years, our mission at Tasty Road Trips is to create opportunities to explore in small town Ontario, and when I was given the chance to curate an adventure for One Book One Brant I know exactly where to begin. The Paris Express Grand Adventure, designed in partnership with the County of Brant Public Library – Paris Branch, is not just an afternoon out—it's a curated experience, a chance to immerse yourself in the hidden gems of downtown Paris, Ontario.

This will be a tasty, history-rich journey where each stop has been handpicked to bring you a mix of flavour, creativity, and discovery. Think of it as a secret destination map, unfolding as you go—one that leads to delectable bites, stunning views, and hidden corners of town you may have never noticed before. On Saturday, March 22, we'll gather a group of registered explorers and set off on a 2.5-hour adventure through the charms of Paris.

In true Tasty Road Trips style, we won't give away too much detail in advance, yet I can share that you will follow a trail of tastes that will have you savouring something sweet, something savoury, something that will fill your belly, and much more that is delightfully unexpected. You'll meet talented local artists whose studios are tucked away in places you might not expect. And, of course, we'll make sure there is time to uncover pieces of Paris' past, standing in the very spots that shaped our town's story.

*Continued on page 11*

### About One Book One Brant

The Paris Express Grand Tour is an exciting and highly anticipated lead up to the One Book One Brant main event which welcomes feature author Emma Donoghue who will visit Paris to launch her new book *The Paris Express* on Saturday, April 6<sup>th</sup>.

Donoghue will also speak about another one of her prize-winning books, and this year's One Book One Brant community reads pick titled, 'Pull of the Stars'.

One Book One Brant celebrates its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2025.

One Book One Brant is an annual literacy event that celebrates and recognizes Canadian authors.

Join Emma Donoghue on April 6<sup>th</sup> from 2 pm to 4 pm at the #ForParisCentre.

More information is available online [here](#), including an opportunity to reserve a copy of the novel before the event!

# COMMUNITY NEWS

Along the way, participants will collect grab-and-go treats and snap breathtaking views at some of the most picturesque landmarks in town. Yes, those places the locals know and love. Expect a stop that celebrates the rich railway history of Paris, and maybe even a little surprise that ties back to this year's One Book One Brant selection—but you'll have to join us to find out!

## Navigating the Unexpected

With the Big Dig happening downtown, you might think it would throw a wrench in our plans—but trust me, I've designed this route to weave around the work and still make

the experience seamless and accessible. If anything, it just adds a little more mystery to the adventure.

If you have been on a Tasty Road Trips food tour before you know this isn't just about the food—it's about experiencing Paris in a whole new light. It's about letting curiosity lead the way, adventure in the unexpected, and creating an unforgettable afternoon together to celebrate One Book One Brant.

Spaces are very limited, so if you are interested, please quickly connect. Tickets are \$60 per person plus HST for all ages—all tastings stops on your itinerary are included and we can

guarantee you will fill your belly to fuel the journey. On this walking adventure, we are unable to accommodate individual dietary restrictions.

Ready to hop aboard? Reserve your ticket now and let's make this an adventure to remember! Register online, <https://brant-ca.libcal.com/event/3853018> or email for information to [jan@tastyroadtrips.com](mailto:jan@tastyroadtrips.com)

***Friends, please note this is a walking self-guided tour and you will need to be able to walk or be pushed for approx. 1 km in total.***

## GrandBridge Energy gives Conestoga College Powerline Technician Program a lift; donates two vehicles

Members of the GrandBridge Energy Operations and Fleet teams visited the Conestoga College Ingersoll Skills Training Centre on February 19 to donate a bucket truck and a pickup truck to the Powerline Technician Program to enhance hands-on learning. Current students and instructors were present to welcome the arrival of the vehicles and share their gratitude. The donation is part of the ongoing partnership between GrandBridge Energy and Conestoga College to support the next



generation of skilled trades professionals. "Our donation of two utility vehicles reinforces the strong relationship that GrandBridge Energy and Conestoga College have built over several years. We are committed to fostering learning opportunities that support the next generation of skilled trades professionals who will play a key role in the future success of our industry," said Sarah Hughes, President and CEO of GrandBridge Energy.

Angelo Cosco, Chair, School of Trades & Apprenticeship at Conestoga said the school was grateful for the donation. "This donation will enable our students to learn and train with modern technology, ensuring they are prepared with the skills and knowledge needed for successful careers. We look forward to continuing our partnership and working together to support the next generation of skilled trades professionals."

GrandBridge Energy delivers safe and reliable electricity to 113,000 customers in the City of Brantford, the City of Cambridge, the Township of North Dumfries and the County of Brant.

Photo submitted by GrandBridge Energy

# COMMUNITY NEWS

## Family, friends and community embrace Paris' World War II Veteran during his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration

By Daksh Siwas

There were 100 different reasons to celebrate on February 22<sup>nd</sup> as friends, family and fellow legion members gathered to celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> birthday of longtime Paris resident and Navy Veteran Henry Foster. The open house celebrations took place at the Royal Canadian Legion.

Foster's kids and grandkids joined him on his special day, making his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday memorable with family pictures, a cake cutting, lunch, and a lot of reflecting on their time with him as they shared family stories. Granddaughter Hayley Clarke thinks of her granddad as an icon, noting how he is admired by everyone who knows him. She is probably not alone in those thoughts. "He deserves it. He's an icon, and everyone loves him," said Clarke. She continues saying, "We couldn't be happier than to have a granddad like him. He's so well-rounded, knowledgeable, and kind."

Reflecting on her memories, Clarke recalls how she used to spend a lot of time fishing with him, and those are memories she really cherishes. Another one of Fosters' granddaughters, Heather Jones, shared how he enjoyed spending his time at the legion over the years, so much so, "He taught kids how to throw darts at the Legion club," she remembers. But it wasn't just about his love for the legion; Heather, and Foster's daughter Sheila, talked about how his values helped shape the family's values and created an unbreakable bond passed down through the



Henry Foster celebrated his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday with friends and family at the Paris Legion on February 22<sup>nd</sup>. The Legion was packed with well wishers who took the opportunity to share memories with Henry.

generations.

Foster is a lifelong Paris resident who served in the Canadian Armed Forces during World War II. He enlisted in the Navy before his 18<sup>th</sup> birthday and served as a gunner on a Defensively Equipped Merchant Ship. He is the oldest living veteran in Paris, Ont. Foster continues to play an important role in the Paris Remembrance Day ceremonies each year. Despite all the decades that have passed, Foster said he very much remembers his time in Canadian Armed Forces and the people he met and the experiences they had together. Over one million soldiers fought in World War II.

*Continued on page 13*

# COMMUNITY NEWS



As of November 2023, Veteran Affairs Canada estimated only 9,267 were alive, and that number is dwindling. As the average age of a veteran is increasing, that makes stories like Fosters more sacred. His dedication to his country and community was evident during his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration as the Legion was filled with smiles, laughter, joy and stories.

Foster's family easily expressed their pride for him, noting a more recent honour bestowed upon him by the town when they named a street after him last year. Henry Foster Lane runs between Broadway Street West and West River Street, close to the Paris Library.

Catching up with Foster during his birthday celebration, he shared, "It feels great, I am overwhelmed," when asked how he felt to be the centre of so much love and support from the community. He also shared his secret to longevity, "keep moving" he said, that's the key to a long, fulfilling life.

## Brant Eats returns to the County of Brant this month

**MEDIA RELEASE County of Brant** – The County of Brant is thrilled to announce the return of Brant Eats, a month-long celebration of the local culinary scene. Running throughout March, this initiative encourages both residents and visitors to discover the diverse and delicious dining options available in the County. From cozy cafés and family-owned gems to innovative new eateries, there's something to satisfy every palate.

"The County of Brant is home to an incredible array of local restaurants, cafés, and eateries, and Brant Eats is the perfect opportunity to showcase them," said Zach Gable, Director of Economic Development and Tourism. "We invite everyone to explore, support, and enjoy the fantastic food our community has to offer."

To help food lovers navigate the local dining scene, the County has created a Restaurant Map, available at [www.brant.ca/BrantEats](http://www.brant.ca/BrantEats). This resource makes it easier than ever to plan a food-filled adventure in Brant.

### Exclusive Brant Eats Specials and Prizes

Throughout March, a number of participating restaurants will be offering exclusive Brant Eats specials and limited-edition Brant Eats swag. Diners who mention Brant Eats at a participating restaurant can receive a FREE Brant Eats prize (*while supplies last*).

### Participating restaurants include:

- Blue Gables Acres
- Burger Factory
- Capeesh Craft Kitchen and Cellar
- Devlin's Country Bistro
- Dog-Eared Café
- Grand Tour BBQ
- La Trenza Taco
- Moore-ish Caribbean Cookhouse
- Secret Lunch
- Skyway Café

### Capture and Share for a Chance to Win

Diners are encouraged to show their love for local eats by sharing photos of their favourite meals on social media using the hashtag #BrantEats. To enter to win a prize, photos can be uploaded online at [brant.ca/BrantEats](http://brant.ca/BrantEats). All photos submitted online featuring meals from County of Brant restaurants will be entered into random prize draws. Gift certificates to local restaurants will be awarded, including three \$100 prizes and a grand prize \$200 gift card.

"Brant Eats is a celebration of the incredible culinary talent in our community," said Gable. "We encourage everyone to dine local, share their experiences, and support the hardworking restaurant owners who make Brant's food scene so special."

# LOCAL HISTORY

## Paris Independent Transitions from Digital Dawn to Print Renaissance



### Paris Past

by  
Chris Whelan

On this historic day, we bid adieu to the online only publishing of "The Paris Independent," our pioneering digital-only newspaper that has been a flicker of hope for local news coverage for the past 3 1/2 years. While this marks the end of an era, it also signifies the dawn of an exciting new chapter in Paris journalism history.

When the tumultuous year of 2020 saw the closure of 15 local newspapers, including our cherished "Paris Star," a sense of loss gripped our community. The absence of the Star, which had been continuously published since 1851, spurred me to embark on a journey to fill the void left by its departure.

The vision to create a new newspaper was not without its challenges. Operating a traditional print publication seemed financially daunting, especially for a small community newspaper without the backing from a major publisher. Turning to social media for support, the response from our community was overwhelming and heartening.

With an amazing photographer - Michelle Malvaso, and a long list of contributors, I wish I could name



Photo ^: Our first published news page

you all and thank you all personally, a journalism major from Laurier – Bailey Zimmer, and a couple of writers Karon Sinning, and Carolina Saenz, and of course the former editor of the Paris Star, Cassandra Turnbull, we all joined forces back in September 2021 to breathe life into the Paris Independent. With a little expertise and a lot of unwavering dedication, we embarked on a journey that mirrored the humble beginnings of the Paris Star of the 1850s.

Through 183 issues of the Paris Independent, this column has served as a platform for me to celebrate our heritage and history. As I reflect on the past 3 1/2 years, I am filled with gratitude for the writers, reporters, and contributors like Rubyyy Jones and George Le Gresley as well as our Jr. Reporter

Stephen L., you have all been integral to our success.

This journey has been marked by highs and lows, but the support of our community has been a guiding light. From the generosity of over 100 local residents who pledged their support as paid email subscribers to the challenges of operating a digital-only publication, every obstacle has been met with resilience and determination.

As we close this chapter, a new partnership with Grant Haven Media heralds a new beginning for the Paris Independent. With their support, we will be launching a printed version of the newspaper on March 19, 2025, to complement our digital presence and elevate our journalism to new heights.

I extend my deepest gratitude to all who have been a part of this remarkable journey. My friend and neighbour Doug "Scoop" Stewart, your support and dedication has been a driving force in taking us to the next level too and I am so grateful for your help. While we bid farewell to our digital-only newspaper, the spirit of community journalism in Paris will continue to thrive in the pages that lie ahead.

With heartfelt appreciation and anticipation for the future,

I'm Chris Whelan for "Paris Past"

# LOCAL HISTORY

## History in the Making – Click to visit our Digital Archives



The Paris Independent for Sa...  
April 23, 2022



The Paris Independent for Sa...  
April 16, 2022



The Paris Independent for Sa...  
April 9, 2022



The Paris Independent for Sa...  
April 2, 2022



The Paris Independent for Sa...  
March 26, 2022



The Paris Independent for Sa...  
March 19, 2022



The Paris Independent for Sa...  
March 12, 2022



The Paris Independent for Sa...  
March 5, 2022



The Paris Independent for Sa...  
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January 22, 2022



The Paris Independent for Sa...  
January 15, 2022



The Paris Independent for Sa...  
January 8, 2022



The Paris Independent for Fri...  
December 31, 2021



The Paris Independent for Fri...  
December 24, 2021



The Paris Independent for Sa...  
December 20, 2021



The Paris Independent for Sa...  
December 10, 2021



The Paris Independent for Sa...  
December 4, 2021



The Paris Independent News ...  
November 27, 2021



The Paris Independent News ...  
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The Paris Independent News ...  
November 6, 2021



The Paris Independent News ...  
October 30, 2021



The Paris Independent Satur...  
October 23, 2021



The Paris Independent News...  
October 16, 2021



The Paris Independent free s...  
October 9, 2021



The Paris Independent - Satu...  
October 2, 2021

# SPORTS

## Former Paris woman recalls how she broke barriers and stereotypes to play minor hockey

By Cassandra Turnbull

International Women's Day is a celebration of social, economic, cultural and political achievements of women. It's a time to recognize the women who paved the way to the liberties women cherish today. It's a time to mark the progress we've made as a society and a time to realize there's still work to be done to ensure empowerment is accessible for all women, non-binary and trans, equally.

As we celebrate successes and victories, the Paris Independent wants to share this local story of bravery, empowerment and an unyielding determination to follow your dreams. A Paris Independent reader, Stephanie Mesich-Carter, reached out to share her story of breaking through barriers in the minor hockey system over 20 years ago.

She was one of the first female players to join the Ontario Minor Hockey Association in 2001-2003. Her dad, Mike Mesich, lobbied OMHA, attending meetings and presenting in front of board members, to advocate for his daughter's right to play the sport she loved, regardless of her gender.

"I wanted to play hockey with body contact and prove I could play just as good. It was unheard of back then and there were many people who didn't want it to happen," Mesich-Carter shared in an email. After a successful campaign, she joined the Paris Wolfpack association with an understanding between herself and her dad that if she couldn't handle it, he would pull her off the team. At the time, she was a bit naïve, not fully understanding the challenges that would come with being the only girl on the ice, but she admits most of her team members made her feel welcome and accepted. There were still a few nay-sayers that felt she had to prove she deserved a spot on the team, even if no one else had to try out to make the team.



Stephanie Mesich-Carter (pictured back row, right side) recalls all the challenges she overcame as a girl, playing in the minor hockey system in the early 2000s. Do you recognize the one coach in the back row?

*(Hint, he writes a lot of sports columns for the Paris Independent!)*

As she gained confidence, Mesich-Carter rose to the challenge. "It wasn't long until the other teams just wanted to find the girl on the team so they could knock me around. I ended up cutting my hair short to blend in. I also showed them I was a force to be reckoned with. Holding my own and winning more fights than I can count," she recalled.

It wasn't just challenging for her, but for her brother Milan as well who was often stuck in the middle of guys telling him girls shouldn't play hockey, while he defended and protected his sister.

In the early 2000s, society wasn't as progressive and open-minded as it is today (even if we still have a long way to go). Mesich-Carter remembers getting changed in a custodian's closet or a washroom, as there was no dedicated space or willingness to create one, but she didn't care.

"I would have done anything to put on my skates and get out on the ice."

Fast forward a couple decades, and she's able to see now that pushing for what she believed in opened many doors to some great life lessons and successes.

*Continued on page 17*



# SPORTS



Mike Mesich, Stephanie Mesich-Carter and her two children, before hitting the ice. Mike supported Stephanie as she chased her dreams and broke barriers to play minor hockey in a time when it was almost unheard of.

Her story is one of many across the country and because of trailblazers like her, paving the way for women in sports, in January 2024 the first puck was dropped in the Professional Women’s Hockey. Mesich-Carter proud to see how much the sport has developed and it’s a moment she was able to experience with her dad.

“Being able to go watch a PWHL game with my dad was a very emotional moment for both of us,” she shared.

Now, Mesich-Carter is raising two daughters of her own, instilling in them the same root values and sense of independence and determination her dad taught her all those years ago.

International Women’s Day falls on March 8<sup>th</sup>, which happens to be Mike’s birthday, so it’s only fitting that she’s able to pay tribute to the man who helped her find her voice and fight for what she believed in.

“My dad was an advocate for women to have the same chances as men and I am so glad I was given the opportunity.”

## Bob Dale Memorial Spiel title shared among Paris and Brant Teams



The Bob Dale Memorial Bonspiel was held at the Paris Curling Club on February 21<sup>st</sup> and two teams tied for the top honour. Pictured from left to right: Glen Tanguay, lead, (Team Brant); Scott Sharland, vice, (Team Brant); Sue Cunningham, skip, (Team Paris); Richard Luszczek, vice, (Team Paris); Tracy Sage, second, (Team Paris); Marilyn Maude, lead, (Team Paris); Jack McLean, skip, (Team Brant) and Steve Walsh, lead, (Team Brant).

Submitted Photo

PARIS FIGURE SKATING CLUB  
**YEAR END GALA**  
 MARCH 29, 2025  
 SHOWS AT 1:00 & 6:30 PM  
 CANSKATE SHOWCASE AT 5:00 PM  
 Brant Sports Complex,  
 944 Powerline Rd, Paris  
 \$5.00/person aged 10 and up. Tickets available at the door. Cash Only  
 www.parisfigureskating.org

## SPORTS

# U15 Rep Battalions bring home Gold from American tournament

By Cassandra Turnbull

Team Canada players weren't the only ones to win a trophy recently against an overly confident American team. The U15B Brant Battalions shared the same honour when they travelled to Buffalo last weekend and came home with the Annual Falls Classic Tournament trophy.

The U15 Rep B team faced some tough competition across the border but worked together as a team to show that the true skill in the sport lies within the camaraderie and determination of everyone on the roster, and not within the team's rank. And just like the Four Nations Cup, the young team didn't let a round robin loss define who they are or who would skate away with the trophy when it counted.

The action started on February 21<sup>st</sup> with the Brant Battalions facing the EC ice Wings of Elmira New York. Brant dominated that opening game with a final score of 6-2. Ridley Bowles netted the winning goal of the game, assisted by Brady Schooley and Dylan Drinkle.

In the second game of the day, the Battalions were faced with a strong Genesis AA Hockey Club from Colmar



Pictured above is the Annual Falls Classic Tournament Champions – the U15B Brant Battalions. In no particular order: Hudson Szabo, Brady Schooley, Hunter Ventoso, Jackson Hayhoe, Madix Davis, Kash Morris, Spencer Pizzey, Sawyer Robinson, Emmitt Hunter, Dalton McCallum, Mason Macnamara, Cam McNaughton, Matthew Vince, Michael Szarka, Ridley Bowles, Dylan Drinkle, Coaches John Vince, Chris Szarka, Shane Pizzey and Glen Drinkle.

Pennsylvania. Their defense was tough to break, and Brant fell 5-0 to the higher tiered team.

The following day, Brant completed the round robin play against Lambton Shores Predators, which turned out to be a pivotal game to secure a seat in the finals. With all the makings of a true Canadian classic game, the Battalions played their opponents at Riverworks Outdoor Ice Rink. The competitive match had fans bundled up at the edge of their seats. Cam McNaughton was solid between the pipes keeping Brant alive throughout

the entire game. In the end it was the same offensive line that scored Brant's game winner, Schooley assisted by Drinkle and Bowles. Fresh off the high off earning a spot in the final game, Brant had to come back down to earth and mentally prepare for what they knew would be a strong opponent, and the opportunity to avenge their earlier loss to the Genesis AA Club.

"They knew they would have to play their best hockey to overcome them," said head coach John Vince.

*Continued on page 19*

# SPORTS

“The Genesis team, so far, had only one goal scored against them in their previous three games of the tournament.”

The Battalion rose to the occasion and showed their opponents good hockey teams aren’t defined by their “B” or “AA” ranking, but by the determination, focus and execution of game plans, as they defeated Genesis in a glorious 4-2 victory. The game winning, short-handed goal was the result of Spencer Pizzey making a strong defensive play to feed the puck to Bowles who scored breaking in on the Genesis goalie with a laser wrist shot.

Brant’s Goaltender Matthew Vince was able to keep the high scoring Genesis team to two goals, upsetting the team who most believed would win the tournament.

“What I saw from this team at this tournament was amazing! They really bonded as a group,” said Vince. “This tournament championship not only speaks to their dedication and commitment to improve as individuals but also to work as a team. They recognized only a team effort would win the final

game and that is exactly what they did. What a great memory for the players and their families.” The top point players for the tournament were centre Ridley Bowles with four goals and two assists, Dylan Drinkle with one goal and four assists on defense and winger Spencer Pizzey with two goals and three assists.

Congratulations to the entire team who proudly wore Maple Leafs on their jerseys and showed everyone the patriotic spirit and sportsmanship of the game.



## BRANT BATTALION HOCKEY SCOREBOARD – Feb. 21 – Feb. 26



**February 21**–U13B Battalions lose 4-0 against Delhi Rockets

**February 21**– U10A Battalions lose 6-2 against Mt Brydges

**February 21**– U13A Battalions lose 5-2 against Strathroy Rockets

**February 21**– U11A Battalions lose 4-0 against Mt Brydges

**February 21**– U16A Battalions lose 5-4 against St. Thomas

**February 21**– U12A Battalions win 3-2 against Mt Brydges

**February 21**– U14A Battalions lose 8-2 against Mt Brydges

**February 21**– U18A Jr. Titans tie 4-4 against New Hamburg

**February 22**– U13A Battalions lose 2-1 against Strathroy

**February 22**– U13B Battalions lose 5-0 against Twin Centre

**February 22**– U15A Battalions lose 4-1 against Mt Brydges

**February 22**– U18A Jr. Titans tie 3-3 against Dorchester

**February 22**– U14A Battalions lose 2-1 against St. Marys

**February 22**– U21 Jr. Titans lose 5-0 against Milton

**February 23**– U11B Battalions win 1-0 against Ayr Flames

**February 23**– U13B Battalions lose 2-0 against East Elgin

**February 23**– U16A Battalions lose 5-4 against Strathroy

**February 23**– U11A Battalions lose 4-2 against Norfolk Knights

**February 23**– U21 Jr. Titans lose 10-4 against Woolwich

**February 23**– U15A Battalions win 3-1 against South Oxford

**February 23**– U18B Battalions win 4-0 against South Oxford

**February 24**– U12A Battalions win 5-2 against New Hamburg

**February 24**– U13A Battalions tie 1-1 against South Oxford

**February 24**– U16A Battalions win 3-1 against Dorchester

**February 24**– U15B Battalions lose 4-2 against Twin Centre

**February 25**– U11A Battalions lose 3-1 against Mt Brydges

**February 26**– U18B Battalions tie 1-1 against Twin Centre

**Thank-you Brant Battalion sponsor Ayr Farmers Mutual Insurance Company & Stybek Roof for all your support!**

# SPORTS

## Paris Titans struggle on the penalty kill and fail to capitalize on power plays



Paris junior hockey teams have had a long-standing rivalry with the Woodstock Navy Vets. When Paris heads out on the road, the rivalry between these teams is always emotionally contested.

After last week's come-from-behind overtime win, the series moved to Woodstock on February 21st for game two. At the ten-minute mark of the first and with a Titan in the penalty box, Woodstock gets a power-play goal 16 seconds into the penalty. With only one second left on the clock, the Navy Vets score to take a 2-0 lead.

The second period also belonged to Woodstock, scoring another two goals and a 4-0 lead. In the third period, the Titans had four power-play opportunities, one of which Emerson Verschoore scored to make the score 4-1, with an assist awarded to Tyler Ward.

On February 22, game three of the best-of-seven series returned

to home ice at the Brant Sports Complex. Woodstock had three power plays and scored a goal on one, taking a 1-0 lead at the end of the first period.

In the second period, the Titans continued sitting in the penalty box, giving the Navy Vets four power play opportunities, of which they scored on one power play; conversely, the Titans had four man-advantage opportunities and scored none. Woodstock marked two more goals and had a 4-0 lead.

The Titans scored the only goal in the third period. The goal scorer was Spencer Edwards, with assists going to Jonah Cochrane and Owen Lalaonde. The final score of 4-1, and Woodstock takes a 2-1 in the best-of-seven series.

Game four was Tuesday, February 25 in Woodstock. Paris goalie James Gall was in the net and through the series, had been steady, rarely letting in easy goals. Tuesday in Woodstock was not one of his nights. The only goal in the first period wasn't a hard shot from the left side of the net, finding a gap between the goalpost and the goalie pad.

The second period started with a 1-0 Woodstock lead and scored two more goals. The period ended with the Titans trailing 3-0. The third period's only goal was a power-play goal for the Titans. Cole Kersey scored off a pass from his brother Jack for a 3-1 final.

The Woodstock Navy Vets now lead the series 3-1, with game five taking place last night, details of the game were not available before press deadline. Paris needs a win to extend this playoff series. For the Titans to extend this playoff series and play a home game at the Brant Sports Centre tomorrow evening (March 2<sup>nd</sup>), a few things have to happen. First, they need to stay out of the penalty box and take advantage of extra man situations when the Navy Vets are serving a penalty. Second, they must make better passes and finally they have to take more shots on net and chase the rebounds that the Woodstock goalie always gives up.

Click [here](#) to find out if the Titans were successful in securing a win to extend the first-round playoff series.

# SPORTS

## Season comes to an end for Paris' best hockey team in town

### *PDHS Panthers lose 3-2 to Simcoe Composite in double overtime*

**By George Le Gresley**

On Friday afternoon, the Paris Panthers Girls Hockey team faced the Simcoe Sabres, the winner qualifying for the CWOSSA tournament and the loser closing the chapter on this season. The Simcoe team had lost to the AABHN South champion Holy Trinity.

Kenzie Coats had the start in goal for the Panthers in a period where the Paris side outshot their opponent 7-2. Late in the first period, Maddi Burr took a shot that hit the goalie's pad, with the puck rebounding on the stick of Naren Parker, for the first goal of the game and a 1-0 lead.

The second period was all Simcoe, stopping the Panthers offense. Meanwhile, Paris had to play short a player because they spent seven minutes in the penalty box. Simcoe tied the score at 1-1 halfway through

the period and with seven minutes left, took the lead. At the end of the second, the score was Paris 1 and Simcoe Composite School 2. For the first time this year, the Panthers had trailed an opponent on a scoresheet in any period!

The Panthers pushed hard to get that tying goal in the third period, and Simcoe was having none of it until, with 1:22 left in the period, Maddi Smith scored, with Naren Parker earning the assist, sending the game into overtime.

The format for overtime was that the teams would play four minutes of four-on-four hockey and if still tied, another five-minute period of three-on-three hockey. If both teams were still tied, the last overtime period would be a shootout.

Both teams had their chances in the first overtime, but no one could get

the puck past the goal line with the goaltenders standing on their heads to keep the game tied. Paris had two opportunities to have a player advantage due to Simcoe's penalties, but the Panther offense still couldn't net the winning goal. In the end, no one scored, and the game moved to the second overtime period.

This second overtime period also presented some great opportunities for both teams, but it remained tied until there was 2:52 left on the clock and Simcoe scored to win the game, ending the Panther's season.

Congratulations to the coaching staff, the players, and especially the graduating seniors, who teach the younger players on the team how to play Panthers hockey. By the way, young ladies, you are still the best hockey team in Paris this season.

## PARIS WOLFPACK

### SCOREBOARD Feb 21 – Feb 27



February 21–U18#2 lose 5-2 against Delhi Rockets 1  
 February 22–U9LL#1 lose 6-3 against Simcoe Warriors  
 February 22–U9LL#2 lose 8-3 against Ingersoll Express 1  
 February 23–U13LL#1 lose 5-1 against Port Dover Pirates 2  
 February 23–U11LL#1 lose 3-0 against Burford Coyotes 2  
 February 23–U18LL#1 win 4-2 against Ingersoll Express 2

February 23–U18LL#3 win 5-2 against Waterford Wildcats 2  
 February 24–U15LL#1 lose 5-3 against Tillsonburg Tornados  
 February 25–U15LL#1 tie 1-1 against Delhi Rockets 2  
 February 25–U13LL#1 tie 4-4 against Port Dover Pirates 1  
 February 25–U15LL#2 tie 3-3 against Norwich Knighthawks  
 February 25–U15LL#1 tie 1-1 against Norwich Knighthawks

**Thank-you Paris Minor Hockey sponsors Paris Optimist Club, Kings Wood Products, Mike Yarek Dodge, Dairy Farmers of Ontario, No Frills, Canadian Tire, Brant Sports Excellence, Ayr Farmers Mutual Insurance Company, Cobblestone Medicine Rehab, Desjardins, Tremco, Adkins Financial Service, Foodland for all your support!**

## SPORTS

# Paris Billiards Beat at Sharkeys in Brantford

By Scoop Stewart

**MVP:** Paul Dalpe, Paul played outstanding throughout the evening the best he's ever played in his life making some miraculous shots look easy. Rumour has it he has been practicing on the side.

**Winners:** Larry Heath and Steve Kopp mowed down the competition

all night long. It looked like they were in a butt kicking contest with one legged men, and all the other teams were the one legged men.

**Runner up:** Darin Ayres and Billy Beechey, thanks to Darin filling in at the last minute. He is also known as the big man with the soft touch. Billy Beechey was also runner-up for MVP as he got on several rolls

knocking down five or six balls at a time all night long. Welcome back from the sunny south Billy.

**Winners of the losers:** We are definitely gonna have to change the name to the *Editor's Challenge*, as the editor of this paper Chris Whelan won it again for the ump teenth time even with Stones as his partner. Congrats Chris for never giving up.



Thumbs up for Dan! from the Paris Billiards League

**Good guy award:** This goes to our buddy Dan, owner of Sharkeys. He has made all the Paris boys feel at home since day one starting two years ago. Congratulations on your successfully surgery, the Paris boys are making you an official Parasite... You are one of us now! Hope to see you back at the table soon, my friend.

**Quote of the day :** "Either make em or break em..." Little Al O.

**Shot of the day :** Was not Paul Dalpe's lag shot to get into the semifinals. He dalped it and that turned into a grudge match, with his partner Motor Wilson. Motor soon learned his lesson who is carrying the team that night as Dalpe beat him like a rented mule, two games straight. They also play hockey together and Motor is Dalpe's Former Centre man in hockey , Paul said it was a donut line anyhow...

**Nothing in the middle!**

In the upcoming weeks when we go to print, I'll be starting another column "Hometown Sports Heroes". Stay tuned to read about Paris' own great 8 of Paris29ers fame and one of my personal favourite hockey players of all time Andy Moran.

This is Scoop Stewart signing off until next week *always a pleasure!* and keep your stick on the ice.

# COMMUNITY NEWS

## Paris Canadian Tire Ownership Changes this Month

*Karel Vantol accomplishes big feat of balancing big box brand while retaining store's small-town charm*

**By Casandra Turnbull**

Over the last 13 years, Canadian Tire Paris owner Karel Vantol has watched the store transform and grow, while maintaining the comfortable small-town atmosphere.

As the franchisee, Vantol oversaw the day-to-day operations, witnessed staff growth, enjoyed newfound friendships with customers and was at the helm when the store made a massive move from downtown to a newly renovated facility on

Grand River Street North where its located today. It's been an incredible journey that's had a profound impact on his career and personal life.

However, all good things eventually come to an end; from this end comes a new beginning as Vantol will hand over the keys to Paris' Canadian Tire to new owners Angie Kim-Miskuski and Matt Miskuski later this month. He's already taken ownership of a new Canadian Tire in Hannon.

It's an exciting transition, even if that means saying goodbye to the staff that he has grown close to over the last decade.

"I have appreciated everyone that I have worked with over the years. They bought into my vision and executed it at such a high level. The most difficult part of leaving will be saying goodbye to the team," said Vantol.

"Without their unwavering support and commitment, my success wouldn't amount to much."

Vantol's vision throughout his ownership was to build the store's potential, both in sales and merchandise, but maintain that smalltown warmth. "I think we have been able to keep the local small town feel that people want when they live in communities like this. It's a difficult balance to be part of 'big box' brand and keep that small town

charm. I like to think myself and the staff have accomplished that."

Driving that point home, Vantol noted it wasn't uncommon to see customers chatting with locals, greeting customers by name as they entered the store and sharing a laugh in the aisles. It was an exciting switch for Vantol who left London in 2012 to take over the Paris store. The smalltown atmosphere was one he embraced with open arms. He immediately fell in love with Paris' unique charm and felt welcome from his first visit. He became involved in many organizations, joined the Economic Advisory Board, supported youth clubs, coached youth and was instrumental in reviving the Tennis Club. He made his impact by volunteering and becoming a real part of the local grass roots movement.



Outgoing Paris Canadian Tire Owner Karel Vantol with some of his amazing staff, pictured left to right: Dave Groh, Marlene Pereira, Megan MacDonald, Karel Vantol, Lonnie Wood, Dave Liciskai, Terina Wakeford, Kristen Labonte and Kevin Rice.

*Continued on page 24*

# COMMUNITY NEWS

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Reflecting on his time in Paris, he noted there's been a lot of change over the years, most notably was the store's relocation from downtown, where it operated for many years in the Wincey Mills building, to a brand-new renovated 19,000 square foot facility in the North End of Paris.

"It was certainly exiting times moving from downtown to where we are located now. While I love the nostalgia of the old building it was certainly refreshing to be part of the change that made the store far more accessible for all customers. The town once again

rallied behind us and has supported us extremely well over the years," said Vantol. It's hard to believe that move took place 12 years ago.

Another notable moment in time, like so many business owners, was managing the pandemic. Vantol couldn't praise the community enough for continuing to support the store, calling in orders, ordering online and picking up curbside to keep the business going.

With change comes excitement and new challenges, which Vantol finds very intriguing.

"It felt like the right time for someone else to come into Paris and hopefully carry the ball forward with fresh ideas. I also felt like it was the right time to challenge myself again. The store I am moving to is two and a half times larger and comes with different challenges and opportunities, I find that exciting," he shared.

Angie and Matt take possession of the Paris Canadian Tire on March 12<sup>th</sup>. Watch for their story in an upcoming edition of The Paris Independent.

## County of Brant partners with CIRA to benchmark community broadband levels

**MEDIA RELEASE** County of Brant, ON – The County of Brant is proud to announce a new partnership with the CIRA (Canadian Internet Registration Authority) and leverage their Internet Performance Test (IPT) to benchmark broadband levels within the community. This partnership emphasizes the County of Brant's commitment to improving local internet infrastructure to support economic growth, education and overall quality of life throughout our communities.

"We all recognize the importance of having access to reliable, high-speed broadband," said County of Brant Ward 4 Councillor David Miller. "The pandemic made this abundantly clear. To that end, all three levels of government have worked with Internet Service Providers to bring broadband to those lacking it. Partnering with CIRA to monitor internet performance is an excellent tool to help us ensure that the

taxpayer invested monies are being effectively utilized across our County."

The IPT is a powerful tool designed to provide accurate and detailed data on internet performance, including download and upload speeds, latency and other metrics. By utilizing this tool, residents and the County can better understand current broadband access and identify areas for potential development. The tool, if an account is created, will record previous test speeds and provide residents with a performance snapshot over time.

"We are pleased to partner with the County of Brant to help better understand local internet performance," said Jeff Buell, Program Manager of the Internet Performance Test. "This initiative aligns with our mission to empower Canadian communities with the insights they need to make data-driven decisions about reducing

barriers to digital access."

Residents are encouraged to participate by frequently running tests, which can be accessed at <https://performance.cira.ca/brant/>. To run a test with the best results, ensure you're as close to your wireless router as possible or plug into your router directly. Stop any ongoing downloads or background apps that could be using your connection. Also, ask other users if they can pause any online activities while you test. To begin the test select Start, you may be asked to confirm your location before submitting.

Running tests frequently and at different times during the day will help create an accurate picture of your connection and if there are any time-of-day bottlenecks. By participating you are helping create a comprehensive view of broadband performance across Brant.



# COMMUNITY NEWS

## Double the Fun at last weekend's Saturdays in Paris!



The Mystery Sip Scavenger Hunt was a fun and interactive family activity that happened last Saturday with six different stops on the hunt - thanks to the supportive businesses who partnered for this event: El Thrift, Bird & Bee, The Gem Marketplace, Baby B Home, Cocoa & Crumbs and 2 Rivers Restaurant. Top left, Baby B Home was the penultimate stop on the Mystery Sip Scavenger Hunt, once the participants answered the riddle right - delivered fantastically by Deb McGregor. Also above, Two happy participants kicking off the Mystery Sip Scavenger Hunt at El Thrift in downtown Paris! To the far left, The Dawson family were participating in BOTH the Mac & Cheese



Competition and the Mystery Sip Scavenger Hunt, they said it was a lot of fun and they were very full only halfway through! The Mac & Cheese contest was another fun event held last weekend. The winners were: Capeesh! Craft Kitchen & Cellar as Judge's Choice, My Taste of Home as Sample Champ and Grand Tour BBQ for the Big Cheese! Pictured left is a Paris family enjoying some mac and cheese samples. They participate in every Saturday in Paris event with enthusiasm! Below left is 1939 Author and entrepreneur Alison Fishburn rating Van Laeken Farm's Sample Champ entry. Van Laeken



Farms were the 1<sup>st</sup> runner up in the Sample Champ category with their Pesto Mac & Cheese Salad! Also pictured left is Dog Eared Café employee Emily Mann holding the Dog Eared Café's creative croissant concoction!

**All photos courtesy of Sarah Evans**

# ENTERTAINMENT NEWS

## Saturdays in Paris this March will boost your recreation!

**By Rubyyy Jones**

It looks like the Groundhog was right, and we'll have a few more Winter-y weeks before we get full blown Spring. The good news is that Saturdays In Paris continue in March to get you out and about! March's theme is 'Recreation' so there's a highlight on events help you become more active!

Saturdays In Paris take place in Paris' downtown between 1 pm - 4 pm giving people an opportunity to gently move your body while also giving you time to eat, sip and shop in our buzzy downtown core.

This Saturday is starting off strong with Paris Walks, an afternoon with three types of guided walks, each are free and last around thirty minutes. Two of the walks are guided and come with brain boosting info. The first brain booster walk is guided by The Paris Museum & Historical Society (meeting at 1 pm and 2:30 pm, at the Arlington Hotel) and the second brain booster walk is guided by Connor Robinson, of County of Brant Public Library, (meeting at 1:45 pm and 3:30 pm, on the patio of The Paris Wincey Mills Co). Both walks run twice a day, are free to attend and don't require sign up. The third guided walk is for dogs (on leashes) and their owners, taking participants on a pavement walk starting at The Paris Wincey Mills Co at 1 pm and again at 3:30 pm (for 30 ish minutes each). These walks are led by Paris Pack Walks.

The second Saturday in March is called CHILL MOVES and we're providing easy movement spaces to shake out those cobwebs and get you bending, flowing and going. There'll

be four, free, mini movement classes – the selection is yours. Right As Rain Health Collective will be running Pilates and Bend And Stretch classes in their downtown wellness space. Over at the Library (in the program room) there will be Tai Chi and QiGong classes happening. These classes do require sign up, cause spaces are limited, go to [www.SaturdaysInParis.com](http://www.SaturdaysInParis.com) to find these links, learn more and book your spot!

Saturday March 15th will be a fun afternoon activity with kids in mind. A Photo Treasure Hunt will have you traversing the downtown, snapping pics of beautiful birds hidden in stores, shops and spots, and you'll win a prize. This event kicks off at The Gem Marketplace and you'll report back there at the end, to collect your Treasure Hunt treat. Saturday March 22nd is the DANCE DANCE DANCE event, and while a few aspects of this program are still coming together, I can tell you there are already five different pop up dance classes coming up: Ballroom Dance at 2 Rivers Restaurant, Salsa Dancing with Triana Salsa Studio, Bollywood dancing at Capeesh! Craft Kitchen and Cellar and more! All these classes will be drop in, are free, and open to people to try, learn and just have fun; keep your eyes on [www.SaturdaysInParis.com](http://www.SaturdaysInParis.com) for updates, final timings and all delectable dance that will be available.

March has five Saturdays - lucky us - and so we'll be finishing off, with a bang and with an event created to get you out of your house into our incredible downtown businesses. The Paris Winter Games 2025 will bring

to beautiful boutiques, charming eateries, friendly bars, etc. You'll grab a score card from The Paris Wincey Mills Co and compete in various categories, Shopping, Eating, Exploring & Creating. With each buy, bite and slurp you'll receive a 'medal' and each scorecard which gets 'gold' (participate in three bites, buys, adventures or activities) in all categories will be put into a draw for a big, fat, prize basket featuring goods and gorgeousness from participating downtown spots. It's a grand finish for this fabulous Winter series and a great chance to win big while supporting small and local.

The response and support of Saturdays In Paris has been absolutely phenomenal. The support from the County, our citizens, visitors and our vital downtown businesses has been so affirming and so inspiring and, as the organizer, I have to thank each and every one of you! It's been a huge effort, imbued with lots of love, and I couldn't be more grateful for the energy, the feedback and all the positivity; things are going to be challenging in downtown Paris for the next few months and to be able to start off - in a typically slow season - with enthusiasm and community participation has been so encouraging and bolstering, thank you all! If you want to participate in Saturdays In Paris, make sure you check out [www.SaturdaysInParis.com](http://www.SaturdaysInParis.com) where details, information and updates are available for you to peruse so you can pop downtown and get involved.

# COMMUNITY NEWS

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## MPP Will Bouma elected to third term in Brantford-Brant

Brantford-Brant MPP Will Bouma will continue to represent constituents following his third consecutive victory in this riding on Thursday.

Bouma, representing the Progressive Conservative Party of Ontario received 47.26% support, collecting 24,169 votes. Harvey Bischof, representing the NDP, collected 23.47% support with 12,002 votes. Ron Fox, of the Liberals had 10,364 votes, equal to 20.3% of the ballots cast. Green Party candidate Karleigh Csordas received 2,567 votes. A total of 51,239 ballots were cast in



this riding. In correspondence with The Paris Independent last week, Bouma said he would spend his third term committed to building new schools in Brant and lobbying for a new hospital.

“There's no more gratifying experience than to connect great people in our community with each other and see great solutions happen. I continue to stand by my first two promises. To leave things better than I found them and to treat people the way I'd like to be treated,” said Bouma.

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## Grand Erie Public Health Board announces the passing of Dr. Malcolm Lock, Acting Medical Officer

**Statement Shared by Grand Erie Public Health Board (formerly Brant County Health Unit)** - It is with profound sadness that we announce the passing of Dr. Malcolm Lock, who served for over two decades as a Medical Officer of Health in our community, and who was currently serving as Acting Medical Officer of Health for Grand Erie Public Health.

Dr. Lock's career was a testament to his unwavering commitment to both his private general practice and public health. After his studies in Ireland, Dr. Lock relocated to

Brantford, Ontario where he began his career in private practice. As a general practitioner in Brantford for over three decades, he provided care to countless patients, and his leadership in public health significantly improved the well-being of our community.

Throughout his distinguished career, Dr. Lock served as the Medical Officer of Health for the Brant County Health Unit, Haldimand-Norfolk Health Unit, and most recently as the Acting Medical Officer of Health for the newly formed Grand Erie Public Health. His dedication to individual

patient care and broader public health initiatives will leave a lasting legacy.

During this difficult time, we extend our heartfelt condolences to Dr. Lock's family and loved ones. We respect the family's request for privacy as they navigate this difficult time.

We appreciate the community's support and understanding as we mourn this significant loss together.

*John Bell*

*Acting Chair, Board of Health  
Grand Erie Public Health*

# COMMUNITY NEWS

## Paris Museum & Historical Society is Open for Business!

Did you know you can explore Paris' rich history at our town's fascinating museum? Discover artifacts, photos, and interactive exhibits that bring the past to life. View exhibits of local history and learn how Paris grew to the thriving community it is today.

The museum is also a great place to conduct research, by appointment only so be sure to call ahead! There is a \$20 fee to research archives for the afternoon. Information in Archives includes genealogy,

and research books as well as history of buildings, business & events of Paris.

The Paris Museum & Historical Society was closed from mid December until February 5<sup>th</sup> so volunteers and staff could conduct its annual clean up, and records upkeep.

The museum is now open regular hours, Wednesdays to Saturdays from 1 pm to 4 pm. You can contact the museum by calling 519-442-9295 or by

email at [info@theparismuseum.com](mailto:info@theparismuseum.com). Pictured are volunteers Linda Gee (above) and Mary Kitching sorting and organizing artifacts during the recent shut down.



## Ayr Farmers Mutual Insurance Declares \$1.53 Premium refund for Policyholders

If you're an Ayr Farmers Mutual policy holder, keep an eye out for your premier refund coming in the mail by early March. Earlier this week Ayr Farmers Mutual Insurance Company announced that its Board of Directors approved a \$1.53 million refund from premiums, the second largest in the company's history, benefitting 84% of its policyholders. According to the company, the approval comes after another financially strong year and reflects the company's enduring commitment to its policyholders.

Serving more than 13,000 families and businesses across Southwestern Ontario, Ayr

Farmers Mutual operates on a mutual model, where policyholders are not just customers but members of the organization.

"Approving this refund is a reflection of our mutual values and long-standing commitment to our policyholders," said Dave Thompson, Board Chair. "Our priority has always been to protect and advocate for policyholders when they face unexpected events, and it's truly rewarding when we can also share in the company's success with them."

With a legacy of financial strength, Ayr Farmers Mutual has offered refunds from premiums in 32 of

the past 39 years — a testament to its thoughtful management and commitment to delivering value to members.

"This year's \$1.53 million refund is our second largest ever, and it exemplifies the heart of mutual insurance," said Jeff Whiting, CEO of Ayr Farmers Mutual. "Our mission goes beyond just being an insurance provider. We are firm advocates for our members, and we are deeply invested in the communities we serve. It's our way of showing gratitude and reinforcing that success is mutual at Ayr Farmers."

# ASTROLOGY

- Aries: March 21 - April 19 (Fire)** – Time to get deep. You can't ignore those hidden thoughts and feelings any longer. Pull out that journal, hit up some meditations, and let your subconscious spill its tea. Don't be scared to feel it all—surrender, don't resist. When you stop gripping so tightly, everything flows. Trust the process!
- Taurus: April 20 - May 20 (Earth)** – If you're still hanging onto friendships that are toxic and aren't doing anything for your growth, let them go. Trust your gut—who's lifting you up, and who's weighing you down? Ditch the drama, drop the baggage, and make room for the real ones who vibe with your soul.
- Gemini: May 21 - June 20 (Air)** – No pushing or forcing outcomes. You're being encouraged to follow the flow. Success is waiting for you when you stay open to what comes your way and let your intuition guide your decisions. If it feels aligned, dive right in. But if something doesn't vibe, step back.
- Cancer: June 21 - July 22 (Water)** – Whether you're leveling up in your career, manifesting your dream relationships, or diving deep into your spiritual growth, the universe is giving you a nudge to think BIG. Dream so big it scares you! Tip: Focus on the outcome, and don't get tripped up on the HOW.
- Leo: July 23 - August 22 (Fire)** – I know you love having things your way, but the Universe is like, "Chill, and trust me." Not everything needs to be in your control to work out. Surrender, trust in the unknown, and watch the magic unfold. The Universe has your back in ways you can't even imagine.
- Virgo: August 23 - September 22 (Earth)** – You'll be more tuned into others' needs—empathize, but don't absorb their energy. If something feels off, pause and check in with yourself. Do you need to show compassion, or is it time to set some boundaries if you've been playing the martyr or ignoring red flags?
- Libra: September 23 - October 22 (Air)** – Ready for a "Does This Bring Me Joy?" purge? Channel your inner Marie Kondo and get intuitive with your decluttering. Clear out your closet, donate what no longer vibes with you, and make space for things that make you feel good. Don't overthink it—if it doesn't spark joy, it's gone!
- Scorpio: October 23 - November 21 (Water)** – Start or reignite a passion project you've been dreaming about for a while. Whether it's writing a novel, starting a YouTube channel, or creating a piece of art, now is the time to dive into your creativity and take a chance on putting your work out there.
- Sagittarius: November 22 - December 21 (Fire)** – It's like your feelings are on full display. If you've been suppressing emotions consciously or unconsciously, expect them to come bubbling up for a good release. Maybe you have a breakthrough during a solo walk or while journaling about your childhood—like, "Whoa, I didn't realize that still bothers me!"
- Capricorn: December 22 - January 19 (Earth)** – If you've been overthinking how to say something, trust your gut. Whether it's drafting an important email or having a sensitive conversation, speaking from the heart will hit the right note. Let it flow—even if it doesn't seem totally logical, it's exactly what needs to be said.
- Aquarius: January 20 - February 18 (Air)** – Manifest that dream bank account! Picture those checks rolling in—imagine how it'll feel and what you'll get to experience. It may sound woo-woo, but when you visualize and tap into that energy, you're aligning yourself with the financial growth you desire. It's just as crucial as the strategy.
- Pisces: February 19 - March 20 (Water)** – Your intuition is on fire. Lean into this gift—whether it's offering support to friends or being open about your own feelings. If you've been hiding your sensitivities or spiritual gifts, now's the time to face any insecurities or fears that are holding you back from embracing them as your superpower.

## Horoscopes

### Your Weekly Horoscope



Aries



Taurus



Gemini



Cancer



Leo



Virgo



Libra



Scorpio



Sagittarius



Capricorn



Aquarius



Pisces



## Showtimes for Galaxy Cinemas Brantford For Saturday, March 1, 2025

### [Captain America: Brave New World](#)

Standard 12:30p.m. 1:00p.m. 3:30p.m.  
4:00p.m. 6:30p.m. 9:20p.m.  
3D 7:00p.m. 9:45p.m.

### [Paddington in Peru](#)

Standard 1:10p.m. 3:50p.m. 6:40p.m.  
9:30p.m.

### [The Monkey](#)

Standard 12:10p.m. 2:35p.m. 5:00p.m.  
7:20p.m. 9:45p.m.

### [Last Breath](#)

Standard 2:10p.m. 4:30p.m. 7:15p.m.  
9:40p.m.

### [Dog Man](#)

Standard 12:00p.m. 2:20p.m.  
4:40p.m. 7:10p.m.

### [Heart Eyes](#)

Standard 1:40p.m. 4:10p.m.  
6:35p.m. 9:10p.m.

### [Chhaava](#)

Standard 1:30p.m. 5:10p.m.  
9:00p.m.

### [Love Hurts](#)

Standard 9:35p.m.

### [Wallace & Gromit: Vengeance Most Fowl](#)

Standard 12:00p.m.

