

St. Marys Independent

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Issue #1215

Thursday, June 13, 2024

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Martin, Key, Stephenson, Heisler, Godfrey, Birnie to be inducted into Canadian Baseball Hall of Fame June 15



Pictured from left to right are Russell Martin, Ashley Stephenson, Jimmy Key and Paul Godfrey, who, along with Rod Heisler and Howard Birnie, will be inducted into the Canadian Baseball Hall of Fame at this weekend's Induction Ceremony on June 15. Contributed photos

By St. Marys Independent staff

Six new members will be inducted into the Canadian Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum (CBHFM) in a ceremony on the Hall of Fame grounds June 15.

Former Toronto Blue Jays all-stars Russell Martin (East York, Ont.) and Jimmy Key will be inducted alongside national team infielder and trailblazing coach Ashley Stephenson (Mississauga, Ont.) and national team pitching legend Rod Heisler (Moose Jaw, Sask.). Onetime Blue Jays president and CEO Paul Godfrey, who played a significant role in bringing Major League Baseball to Toronto, and longtime Toronto Leaside baseball executive Howard Birnie will also be honoured.

"Each member of this year's class has had a tremendous impact on the game of baseball in Canada," said Jeremy Diamond, chair of the Canadian Baseball Hall of Fame's board of directors. "We look forward to celebrating their outstanding ca-

reers in St. Marys on June 15th."

Unfortunately, Jimmy Key will not be able to attend the ceremony, but his former Blue Jays teammate and fellow Canadian Baseball Hall of Fame inductee Jesse Barfield will accept the honour on Key's behalf.

The induction ceremony will be part of a series of activities that will also include a meet-and-greet with the inductees and other special guests called "The Opening Pitch" at the Rogers Centre in Toronto (June 13) and the Hall's 26th annual celebrity golf tournament and banquet (June 14). Canadian broadcasting legend Rod Black will emcee the induction ceremony.

Induction Day Schedule:

9:30-10:15 a.m. – Inductee press conference inside the museum (386 Church St. S.) (media only)

11 a.m. to 5 p.m. - Baseball games will be

played on the Hall's diamonds.

11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. – Museum open to public for regular admission fees.

1-3:30 p.m. – Induction Ceremony on the Hall of Fame grounds. Buck Martinez will also be presented with the Jack Graney Award. (386 Church St. S.). Free to attend.

4-5:30 p.m. – Autograph session* (Please read rules below) with inductees, past inductees and other special guests. Check the Hall's website for more information.

*Autograph session cost and rules:

- Members should bring their membership card. Members must pay \$25 each to enter the autograph session.
- Non-members must pay \$35 each to enter the autograph session.
- Hall of Fame 2024 members will enter the autograph line first.
- Autograph session is 90 minutes long.

Continued on page 14

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COMMUNITY

Brews and Food Fest 2024: Fun for the whole family

By Julia Paul

What's better than spending Fathers Day with your son drinking local craft beer? Spending Fathers Day with the entire family drinking Ontario's best craft beverages, listening to live music and perusing all of the food trucks at this year's Brews and Food Fest.

On Sunday, June 16, the Rotary Club of St. Marys is hosting the fourth edition of the Brews and Food Fest at the Canadian Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum, rain or shine.

Come try mouthwatering food at an overabundance of food trucks. With the purchase of a ticket, attendees can try the best in local craft beverages including craft beer, cider, wine and spirits, too.

"For the first year, the focus was definitely on craft beer ... but if you ask me how (the event) has changed and evolved over the years, it's still very much a craft beer celebration, but we realize not everyone likes craft beer, so we have brought in distilleries, ci-



The Rotary Club of St. Marys' Brews and Food Fest returns to the Canadian Baseball Hall of Fame June 16. Pictured, an adult and child wait while a vendor pours a craft beer for the adult. Photo by Kelsey Garner Photography.

der producers, ready-made cocktail makers, that's probably where it has

evolved the most," said Mark Oliver, Brews and Food Fest event chair.

"... With it always happening on Fathers Day, we need to make this a family event."

The whole family can enjoy nine different food trucks with offerings ranging from Italian to Mexican to Indian, fish and chips to gourmet hot dogs and much, much more. People both over and under the drinking age will love the musical entertainment provided by Upside of Maybe, a rock group from Stratford, who will

perform four sets throughout the day. For the adults, there will be 12 different local Ontario vendors presenting craft beer, cider, spirits and pre-mixed cocktails to try.

VIP tickets allow early access to the Brews and Food Fest beginning at 12 p.m. while regular ticketholders can join the event from 1-6 p.m.

"We would like to thank the Baseball Hall of Fame for allowing us the use of their facilities the day after the induction ceremony," said Oliver. "Rotary and the Canadian Baseball Hall of Fame have a long history. Rotary was instrumental in getting the Baseball Hall of Fame to St. Marys, so our relationship goes back a long ways. It's just natural to have the event at the Baseball Hall of Fame. This is our 100th year as a club, so Rotary is excited to be celebrating their 100th anniversary.

"... (We're) excited and happy to be putting on this event for the people of St. Marys and the surrounding area. Tickets have sold as far away as Toronto, Michigan and up north around Owen Sound."

Tickets are not guaranteed at the door, so be sure to buy advanced tickets online before tickets are sold out. Regular admission is \$38.61 while VIP admission is \$43.93. It is suggested to read the FAQ on their website before arriving. For tickets and FAQs, visit www.brewsandfood.ca.

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Wednesday June-12th	Thursday June-13th	Friday June-14th	Saturday June-15th	Sunday June-16th	Monday June-17th	Tuesday June-17th
Mainly sunny	Thunderstorms	Mainly sunny	Sunny	Mainly sunny	Few showers	Sun/cloud
26 °C	30 °C	22 °C	22 °C	26 °C	29 °C	32 °C
Feels Like 28	Feels Like 34	Feels Like 23	Feels Like 22	Feels Like 28	Feels Like 36	Feels Like 41

COMMUNITY

Canadian Tire hosts barbecue fundraiser for Jumpstart

By Wendy Lamond

On June 1, St. Marys Canadian Tire served up some yummy food and had some great draws to raise funds for the Jumpstart Program.

The program was founded in 2005 and helps children overcome financial and accessibility barriers to be able to participate in sports and recreation. There is so much that kids can benefit from when they get involved in sports and other activities such as building self-esteem, nurturing their creativity and building relationships with their peers and coaches.

Canadian Tire covers all of Jumpstart's general and administrative expenses with 100 per cent of donations going directly to help kids play.

"We are so grateful for everyone who came out to support our Jumpstart barbecue. There were smiles all around and so many customers told us that Matt's smash burger was a huge hit," St. Marys Canadian Tire manager Angie Miskuski told the Independent.

The fundraising target for the year is \$4,500 and from the barbecue alone, there was over \$1,300 raised with 100 per cent of donations staying in our community to help the children in St. Marys stay in sports. Canadian Tire will continue to accept donations during the month of June and are offering not one but four grand prizes for their raffle-prize draw.



The staff at Canadian Tire were all smiles as they took a time out from cooking to pose for a picture. Pictured from left are Shannon Rooney, Geoff Hicks, Matt Miskuski, Angie Miskuski, Keith Hunt, Saelyn Firby, Neal Mahmood, Layne McIntosh and Isaac Zurbrigg. Photo by Wendy Lamond

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EDITORIAL

The tough decisions I need to make as an editor

By Galen Simmons

When it comes to editing a newspaper, having enough content to fill the paper is my primary concern.

Without enough stories, photos, columns and other content, the quality of the paper suffers and, more importantly, we've failed to keep our readers properly informed of what is going on in their communities.

While every editor has, at one point or another, found themselves scrambling for content after a story – or several – has fallen through or reporters are sick or on vacation, recently, I've found myself with the opposite problem.

I have more content than I can fit in my papers.

It's a good problem to have. For all three of my papers – the St. Marys Independent, Stratford Times and Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette – I've found myself having to pick and choose what goes in the paper and what has to wait for the next edition.

Though I prefer having too much content over not enough – it's the sign of a healthy news publication – selecting stories that aren't particularly timely or urgent and holding onto them for another week, or two in the case of the Stratford Times, is difficult.

I know there will be a reporter or a columnist who will be at least a little disappointed their story isn't

running in the edition of the paper they'd written it for. On top of that, the subjects of any story that gets delayed who were eagerly anticipating having their story and photo in the paper may also be disappointed.

As an editor, I too feel as though I've been unable to deliver all the content I could have without the limitations of print.

Luckily, Grant Haven Media recently launched a newly redesigned website, www.granthaven.com, where we can post all the stories we were unable to include in the paper that, for whatever reason, can't wait for the next edition. I encourage all of our readers to check out our website for any stories that may not have made it to print.

I would also encourage our business communities to consider supporting our local papers by purchasing advertising. The more advertising we sell, the more pages I have to share the local stories our readers want to read most. Email our director of business development, Heather Dunbar, at heather@granthaven.com for more information on advertising.

Our editorial team works hard every day to bring our readers quality, local content that informs, entertains and generally enriches life in their communities. Your support helps us share all of that hard work.

Bravo

We have 2 Bravos this week.

1) To Stew and his crew for 10 years of defying the odds and producing highly anticipated weekly newspapers, jammed packed with interesting local information. All made possible by more than reasonable advertising rates

2) Bravo to the Horticultural Society members for the lovely flower beds on the walking path.



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

Boo

We have 3 Boos this week.

1) Boo to men over 50 who mow their front lawns with no shirts on.

2) Boo to the person or persons that destroyed the bird house on the walking path near the old quarry.

3) Boo to the people who blow their grass clippings onto the road. This is very dangerous for motorcyclists and is very unsightly as well.



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

Quote of the Week

"The artwork was priceless. It was murals, beautiful murals. They were stunning. This was the only church that featured artwork by members of the Group of Seven and I'm sorry to say that's been lost, from what I can see."

- Spoken by Father Don Beyers, a priest at St. Anne's Anglican Church on Gladstone Avenue in Toronto that was destroyed by fire on Sunday.

Overheard at the Coffee Shop

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What a pleasant surprise. There is an "Opening Soon" sign at the Stone Willow Inn.

Summer weather is here and the mid-morning coffee group on the hillside at Tim Hortons are taking advantage of the warm temperatures.

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

**GRANT
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at a time!

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**The St. Marys
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THOUGHTS
OF THE WEEK

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do you will never
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Rule your mind
or it will rule you.

COMMUNITY

Quadro completes Perth South fibre project



Quadro Communications Co-operative Inc. recently completed two fibre-connectivity projects, one in Perth South and one in the Township of Lucan Biddulph. Contributed photo

By Galen Simmons

Quadro Communications Co-operative Inc. recently announced the completion of two local fibre-optic internet projects, one of which has enabled roughly 300 homes, businesses and farms in Perth South to connect to fibre internet.

The new high-speed-internet-enabling connections were made thanks to roughly \$1.35 million in funding through the federal government's Universal Broadband Fund (UBF), part of an overall \$3.56-million project aimed at providing cutting-edge connectivity to the communities Quadro serves.

"Some years ago, the Ontario Government and federal government put forward something called, "Bridging the Digital Divide." They just wanted to make sure people had access to quality internet," said Quadro general manager Darryl Evans. "This province here in Ontario put aside about \$4 billion through different avenues. One of those avenues is UBF. ... So they have all these funding groups to (fund projects) in these rural areas and, of course, Quadro and some of the tele-coms cooperatives work in these rural areas. This is our family. This is our domain.

"When all these projects come up, we bid on them and anyone who bids on them has an opportunity. How these projects are awarded is based on the bid. Let's say, for instance, we might bid 50 per cent (of the project costs) and the government would put up 50 per cent. Someone might come along and say, 'We'll put up 60 per cent if the government puts up 40 per cent.' Based on that is how you win the bid."

For the Perth South project, which enabled connections to fibre internet near the border between the township and the Municipality of West Perth, southwest of Mitchell, Evans said Quadro was the successful bidder after agreeing to put up 60 per

cent of the project costs, while the government put up 40 per cent.

While property owners had the opportunity to sign up with Quadro and have themselves connected to fibre internet at no cost during the project, Evans said the goal was to dig main-line, fibre-optic cable to give those 300 households, businesses and farms the opportunity to connect to fibre internet either immediately or at some point in the future for a small fee.

"We probably would say about 90-95 per cent say, 'Yeah, take it to my doorstep. No problem.' But that doesn't commit them to service in any way," Evans said, noting the speed of fibre internet is entirely dependent on what level of service area residents have. " ... What fibre will do will allow you to future-proof for many years to come. ... Fibre to your doorstep will allow you to, one day, enjoy in excess of 500 GB in your home or more. It's limits right now are all almost limitless. You'll be set up for whatever happens."

In addition to the Perth South project, Quadro also recently completed a project extending fibre connectivity to the Township of Lucan Biddulph thanks to funding through Internet Connectivity for Ontario (ICON).

Celebrating its 100th year, Quadro Communications Co-operative Inc., established in 1995, traces its roots back to the Blanshard Municipal Telephone System. As a full-service telecommunications co-operative, Quadro offers internet, television, phone and cellular services to both residential and business customers.

As a co-operative, the company is owned by its members, with all customers having the opportunity to become members for a one-time \$1 membership fee. Members actively participate in the governance of the cooperative through the election of the Board of Directors.

STONETOWN CRIER

The latest municipal news
from the Town of St. Marys



STONETOWN HERITAGE FESTIVAL

This year's Stonetown Heritage Festival takes place on July 12 to 14 and features family-friendly activities, a heritage walking tour, vendor's market, downtown street festival and a fireworks show.

townofstmarys.com/festival

EARLY ON MORNING AT THE MUSEUM

June 22, 9 - 11 AM | St. Marys Museum

Join in on a morning of fun and learning with EarlyON and the St. Marys Museum through engaging activities on the front lawn and a tour of the museum!

townofstmarys.com/earlyon or 226-374-6544



AN EVENING WITH LOCAL AUTHOR JONNY THOMPSON

Local author Jonny Thompson will discuss his projects, including "The Limestone Manor," at the St. Marys Friendship Centre on June 20 at 7 PM. Books will be available for purchase courtesy of Betty's Bookshelf.

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Senior of the Week



Our Senior of the Week is Darlene Smith who celebrated her 85th birthday on June 3. Darlene lives in Uniondale and is known for her big heart and smile. She has five children, 20 grandchildren and eight great grandchildren. Happy belated birthday, Darlene.

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

COMMUNITY

St. Marys Legion donates to St. Marys & Area Mobility Services



The Royal Canadian Legion Perth Regiment Veterans Branch 236 St. Marys recently made a donation to the St. Marys & Area Mobility Service. Pictured are legion president Bim Graham handing over a cheque for \$1,000 to mobility service manager Amber Miners. Contributed photo

Weekend Quiz

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1. What is the first name of Batman's butler?
2. In Crokinole, how many points are awarded for landing in the centre hole?
3. What is the capital of Canada?
4. What is the Spanish word for "cat"?
5. Who does Harrison Ford play in Star Wars?
6. What does the word "ethos" mean in Greek?
7. What is the smallest unit of matter?
8. Who was the first PM of Canada?
9. What country would you find Machu Picchu?
10. What does C.I.A stand for?

This week's answers are found on pg. 31



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COMMUNITY

Grand Opening for Langford Lumber and Home Hardware Building Centre in Lucan



The Langford Lumber staff in Lucan look forward to meeting everyone Saturday, June 22 for their grand-opening celebrations. Contributed photo

By Gary West

If anyone in the St. Marys or surrounding areas have ever had to do business in hardware or lumber, they will have met Brad and Jenny Roth, who are in the business of keeping customers happy in hardware, lumber and building materials.

The active community minded couple, who reside outside of St. Marys with their four young children, have now expanded their St. Marys business in hardware, lumber and building products.

In September, 2019, they were able to purchase Langford Lumber in Lucan, which is a fully family owned service and building-supply location, similar to their St. Marys stores.

Both Brad and Jenny say they carry everything required to build a home, shop or barn.

They have been inspired to be the market leader in the lumber and hardware retail sector as well as leaders in their communities.

Jenny Roth says the vision of Langford Lumber is to provide customer-valued solutions with the most competitive prices and best quality

products. She said they set themselves apart from the competition by having a superior staff with a wealth of knowledge in plumbing, electrical and all aspects of building.

The Roth family wanted to have this grand opening earlier, but the pandemic interrupted their plans.

They are excited to welcome everyone to their Lucan location with a brand-new look, exclusive offers and exciting giveaways on June 22.

They want everyone to come and explore their updated space, play some DIY inspired games and indulge in complementary refreshments including smoked meat from their Traegar specialist – they are raffling off an Ironwood XL Traegar during their grand opening.

The family's special flyer and savings start June 20. Contractors Day is June 21 and the big day for games, refreshments and prizes is Saturday, June 22.

Bring the whole family for fun and food at their Langford Lumber and Home Hardware Location in Lucan.

For more information, visit lucanhomematerials.com

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COMMUNITY

Pride in the Park filled with joyful, family-friendly activities



The St. Marys Pride kicked off their annual Pride in the Park event with a march around Milt Dunnell Field. Photo by Emily Stewart

By Emily Stewart

Many families with young children gathered to enjoy a variety of activities and events as part of St. Marys Pride's annual celebration.

St. Marys Pride held its annual Pride in the Park event June 9 at the Milt Dunnell Field on a mostly sunny Sunday.

The afternoon kicked off with a Pride March around the field with walkers waving various Pride flags and cheering. There was also a children's march with members of St. Marys Pride. Pride in the Park had upbeat pop music throughout the day, Drag Storytime, children hopping on bouncy castles, as well as activities such as facepainting and lawn games. Guests enjoyed free popcorn, cotton candy and food from the Sunset Shack Food Truck.

"We want this to be a family friendly event. That's why we have it on a

Sunday afternoon," said Robin Awock, president of St. Marys Pride. "But also, it instills a sense of openness for the children, and they learn to be friendly with the LGBTQ community and know that it's okay if they want to be gay, straight, trans, whichever they may be. They know there's people out there that will be welcoming for that."

Erin Hagan, a volunteer at Pride in the Park, said it was her first time attending the event and was pleased to see the turnout with many families.

"It's really nice to see it in such a small town because there does still seem to be some pushback on that in some places," Hagan said. "I wouldn't want to live somewhere that didn't have something like this, for sure."

Along with the activities, Pride in the Park also had artisan vendors selling Pride merchandise and organizations sharing information in support of the 2SLGBTQIA+ community. Stratford-Perth Pride had informative



Victoria and Sista Patricia from Drag Storytime Guardians show their support at the popular Pride in the Park. Photo by Wendy Lamond

pamphlets for parents and caregivers, as well as buttons featuring Pride flags like the lesbian Pride flag and the transgender Pride flag at their booth.

Patty Brine, Stratford Perth-Pride's secretary, said the organization also has their own Pride event in June, honours Transgender Day of Remembrance on Nov. 30 and will send the Gender Sexuality Alliance newsletter to area schools. Brine, a former high school teacher and guidance counselor, said she's learned a lot since starting the alliance.

"What I've noticed, and I tell people, in the high schools is the peers are okay with somebody saying, 'I want to change my name or my pronouns or I'm this, I'm asexual, I'm pansexual.' It's us older people that are struggling with it, the parents, because we're not used to it and we just need to educate everyone and say it's okay," Brine said.

PFLAG Stratford had lawn signs ad-

vocating for transgender youth rights available for attendees to take. Laura Taylor, a co-leader of PFLAG Stratford, said most of the support PFLAG offers is for families with transgender children, as that support is highly needed amid anti-trans hate and discrimination. The signs advocating for trans youth were well-received, especially the sign that said, "Trans kids deserve to grow old."

"I always like signs," Taylor said, "because they always can signal to somebody walking by that this is a safe home, a supportive home. Some kid walking by who maybe doesn't have any support can go, 'Oh, there are people here who are okay with who I am.'"

Pride in the Park saw an unexpected storm towards the end of the event, but some guests were still dancing in the rain. After the sky cleared up a bit, the festivities ended with a Proud Puppy Pageant sponsored by Pet Valu.

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COMMUNITY

St. Marys town hall once again open to the public after renovations

By Galen Simmons

After roughly half a year of renovations, St. Marys town hall is once again open to town staff and the public.

Since late last fall, town staff and members of council who normally work in offices and from council chambers at town hall have been working elsewhere as the heritage building underwent a full remodel that includes an expansion to council chambers, new, gender-neutral washrooms, an accessible washroom and the installation of new technology that will improve both the public and staff experience in the building.

"It all went well," St. Marys Mayor Al Strathdee said. "I mean, with an old building, there was a couple surprises. We found a beam that wasn't where we thought it would be. It was kind of funny. When they did the last renovations in the '70s – no one's real sure exactly when they did the last renovations, but it was in the late '70s – they took a beam halfway across the council chambers. I don't know why they did it, but we just assumed they'd put it all the way across – we were trying to open up the council chambers – and it didn't. It only went halfway. So that was something nobody knew.

"It was interesting. They had to drop another beam and they dropped it through the stage and the floor up above. It was really cool how they did it."

Besides using a portion of the project's \$150,000 contingency fund to put that new beam in place and address other unforeseen issues, the town-hall renovations came in nearly \$300,000 under budget. The costs of



Members of staff poke their heads out of their offices after returning to St. Marys town hall following the completion of nearly half a year of renovations. Photo courtesy of Town of St. Marys

the interior renovations themselves came in at just under \$450,000, and the town spent \$150,000 on new furniture and \$80,000 on new audio-visual equipment.

"We actually have proper washrooms now and we also updated wiring and modernized for broadcasting and video and so forth because we're all doing that now. A lot of modernization, we moved a few of the offices around, there's new flooring, new paint and we just fixed up a lot of old plumbing. On the main floor, there was a bunch of plumbing where, once they got into it, it was worse than they thought. So they modernized that.

"(This work) will allow for better internet, better broadcasting capabili-

ties, a bit better for police downstairs; just little things that will make a big difference. The place looks really nice. It turned out better than I expected. I stayed away from the colour choice and all that. It was Coun. (Fern) Pridham and Coun. (Marg) Luna on the committee who did all that stuff. ... It looks really, really good and it's certainly more functional."

Strathdee said the blue paint was selected for the interior walls to be on brand with the town's official colours. And while Strathdee says the space is now more modern and functional with more room for the public in council chambers, the contractors were able to maintain that heritage-building feel throughout the town-hall interi-

or.

"They highlighted a lot of the woodwork and the traditional architecture that was there, which was pretty neat," Strathdee said. "It's got the traditional feel but it's very modern. The people on the committee and staff did a great job. It's better for when we have events upstairs, better for the public when they come for meetings. You'll be able to see better, hear better and it's better for the public when we broadcast, too. All the way around, it will be more accessible. It was just time. Nothing had been done for 50 years."

While the majority of the town-hall renovations are complete, Strathdee said the elevator is still out of service, which means councillors won't return to town hall for meetings for a few weeks yet. In a press release, the town said the public will have an opportunity to see all the work that has been done inside town hall at a future open house, the exact details of which will be announced once available.

Town hall's regular operating hours are 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. The following staff and services operate out of town hall:

- Chief Administrative Officer
- Clerks Department (licencing, by-law enforcement, council correspondence)
- Community Outreach Worker
- Mayor Strathdee
- Stratford Police Service
- Tourism and Economic Development

Staff are also available to assist with general municipal inquiries and accept payments.



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COMMUNITY

The Flour Mill celebrates three years

By Tracey Pritchard and Alex O'Shea, Flour Mill

This summer marks our third-year anniversary, and we wanted to say thank you!

We knew from the natural beauty of the area to the timeless heritage buildings and limestone architecture that make this town so special that St. Marys was home for Flour Mill.

Our vision has always been to be an integral part of the tapestry of this thriving community, a place rooted in history and amidst natural surroundings. We have always felt a responsibility for cultural preservation and economic sustainability and have built our business around this purpose. To us, St. Marys is a one-of-a-kind south-western Ontario destination.

It has been a busy three years that has required all our experience, energy and creative drive to bring our vision for Flour Mill to life – to shop, eat and stay.

The shop is a destination for quality groceries and more, including items from small-batch producers and growers. We work hard to meet all our customers' shopping and entertaining



Picture of Tracey Pritchard and Alex O'Shea three years ago outside Flour Mill Shop when it first opened in downtown St. Mary's. Contributed photo

needs by bringing in new items that will not only be a hit in the kitchen but inspire us to be more creative in ours.

For our customers' eating pleasure, we're always busy creating a delicious selection of freshly baked items including scones, squares and quiche to name a few. Lunch is a favourite time, and we offer gourmet sandwiches and salads as customer favourites. Our love for exceptional food and drink also

shines through in catering, pre-order meal takeaways and weekly brunches. We strive to make meals, small gatherings and large celebrations enjoyable, delicious and beautiful.

Three years later, we are delighted to announce Flour Mill stays. Whether travelling locally, regionally or globally, we want people to not only stay awhile and really immerse themselves in this special place, but also

come back. Our boutique accommodations capture the old-world charm of St. Marys. Thoughtfully designed with downtown views, stone walls and high ceilings, the suites also serve as unique and spacious venues.

It goes without saying that hospitality is a point of pride at Flour Mill, and because we want every guest to feel cared for, we even created a delicious menu that guests can choose from to stock the fridge before they arrive for their stay in St. Marys.

As the season picks up and to help get summer weekends off to a great start, we're now open early on Saturdays at 9 a.m., and we're excited to offer Flour Mill's signature brunch on both Saturdays and Sundays beginning June 15. Making a return this summer are our gourmet picnics, cold-pressed juice and much more.

For a glimpse of the many fresh and inspiring things we are working on, please subscribe to our newsletter, visit the website (theflourmill.ca) or give us a call (519-284-1818).

Warm wishes for an amazing St. Marys summer,

Tracey, Alex and Flour Mill Team



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COMMUNITY

Garage Sale day entrepreneurs



There were lots of people out and about on Saturday for the first of two townwide garage sales taking place in St. Marys. The next one will be on Aug. 10. Everett and Axton Kane were busy selling lemonade while garage salers were out looking for good deals on Saturday. According to mom Amanda, the two had a great day bringing in \$50 for their delicious lemonade. Photo by Wendy Lamond

Rotary Club of St. Marys



The Rotary Club of St. Marys 37th Annual Rotary Golf Tournament WE THANK OUR SPONSORS

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SPORTS

U16-BT3 Storm earns high-octane first win of season

By Spencer Seymour

The U16 Boys Tier Three St. Marys Storm picked up their first win of the season June 6 when they defeated the visiting Delko Brydge 5-1.

Head coach Richard Farmer was incredibly pleased with his team's performance.

"They were awesome," Farmer told the Independent. "This team is the sum of what was two teams last year, and we didn't do very well last year. We lost almost every game. Unfortunately, we lost some kids from the program, but these guys all stuck with the program and they are so much better than they were a year ago. Their game sense is really starting to develop."

Farmer elaborated on how his squad's soccer IQ has developed, dating as far back as last season.

"It takes time. In our practices, we're doing a lot of game-like situations where they're focusing on playing more positionally sound. We try to set up situations in practice that look like situations in games. I also think it's just the fact that it's the second year with a lot of these kids and everyone is starting to have a better sense of which position everyone is strongest in.

"A large chunk of this team also makes up the St. Marys DCVI junior boys team," Farmer continued. "Some played together for St. Mike's, so they've al-

ready had a few games to get their legs underneath them, which I think has helped them coming out of the blocks this season as well as they have."

Matteo Napolitano played a starring role in the victory, scoring a hat trick for St. Marys. Macklin Hern and Connor Wheeler each added a goal.

"I think they've only just begun to get better," said Farmer. "There's a lot of growth still possible with this team. They're starting to talk and communicate, and if we continue improving that, I think we're going to be really good. The tricky part with these divisions is you don't know how good the other teams are yet since we didn't play many of these teams last year because we've moved up in age. So, we will have some surprise teams."

Farmer added his team has the ability to become one of those aforementioned surprise teams.

"I think what happens is, and you've seen it with some of the other St. Marys teams, some of these London clubs coming here thinking, 'It's St. Marys, it's a small-town, rinky-dink team,' and then they struggle against us. They're not prepared for what we have to offer. This team has gotten a lot more physical. We got pushed around a lot last year. I think they got sick of it. So now they're a lot more physical. We got pushed around a lot last year and I think they got sick of it, so now they're playing a lot more physically."



Logan Oke powers by an opposing defender during the U16 Boys Tier Three St. Marys Storm game on June 6. Photo by Spencer Seymour

Rotary Club holds annual golf tournament

By Spencer Seymour

The Rotary Club of St. Marys had 19 foursomes compete in its annual golf tournament, a shotgun scramble held June 6 at the St. Marys Golf and Country Club.

On the backs of a 15-under-par score of 57, the team of Brian Hughes, Brian Humphrey, Scott Graham and Doug Holliday took home the first-place honours. According to Hughes, everyone was having a good day on the course.

"Everyone contributed to the result," said Hughes. "Brian (Humphrey) was definitely the MVP of the team as he made some great putts for birdies. We started in hole five and I think we birdied the next four. We then went seven-under on the back nine. A highlight was a birdie on hole 12."

In addition to his excellent putting, which helped propel his team to victory, Humphrey also won closest to pin on the seventh hole. Hughes said Humphrey's putting helped the rest of the team find their strides as well.

"We really played it hole by hole. As I said, Brian made a lot of great putts as he putted last on every hole. Everyone contributed off the tee and on approach shots. When we had four holes left, we said,



Brian Humphrey tracks a swing during the Rotary Club of St. Marys' annual golf tournament on June 6. Humphrey was called the MVP of his foursome by teammate Brian Hughes and also won the closest to the pin contest on hole seven. Photo by Spencer Seymour

'Let's birdie our last four holes,' and we did exactly that to go 15-under-par."

Scott Graham echoed the sentiments of his team-

mate, saying he felt each member of the foursome was collaborating to come away with the win.

"It was a great day with good friends where everything fell into place," Graham told the Independent. "It was a complete team effort for sure and Brian and Brian especially really stepped up and had some exceptional iron shots and putts. Everyone built off each other's good shots really well."

The team of Gerry Teahan, John Hayter, Casey Zeehuisen and Ken Teifer won the putting contest and were also declared the most honest golfers.

The men's longest drive contest on hole 15 was won by Tyler Graham. Heather Parkinson won the ladies' longest drive contest on hole six. Art Castor won the closest to the pin contest on hole 16.

Pierre Chateauvert, a member of the Rotary Club's directors, said the tournament was a very positive day for the club.

"It was a very successful day," said Chateauvert. "It was a beautiful day for golf with many golfers saying that they had fun, enjoyed their day and that the rib and chicken meal was delicious and plentiful. The Rotary Club of St. Marys appreciates the generous support of the local business sponsors and the support of the golfers who attended."



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SPORTS

Lincs begin off-season by signing seven players

By Spencer Seymour

The St. Marys Lincolns wasted no time in bolstering their roster for the 2024-25 season when they officially signed seven players June 3.

Of the seven signees, four are forwards, two are defencemen and one is a goaltender. Among the forwards is St. Marys' own Chase McDougall. After a season with the U16 Huron-Perth Lakers in which the six-foot-two, 190-pound forward scored eight goals and 23 points in 29 games, McDougall was drafted in the seventh round of this spring's OHL Priority Selection by the Niagara Ice Dogs.

Lincolns general manager Pat Powers explained why he loves the playing style of the hometown boy.

"Chase is a bull in a china shop with skill. He can dangle a guy one shift and the next shift, he's running him over. I think he's going to be able to step into our lineup and contribute right away, whether that means being reliable in the defensive zone, winning face-offs, contributing in the offensive zone, or playing up and down the lineup. He's a very versatile player but the thing I like most about him is that he's physical, he's skilled and his effort is undeniable."

The ability to play a hard-hitting, physical brand of hockey is not just possessed by McDougall. It is also a signature trait of forward Tanner Ducharme. The 17-year-old from London, Ont. was a 2023 12th-round pick of the Erie Otters and, last year, with the U18 London Jr. Knights, Ducharme posted five goals, 14 points and 100 penalty minutes in 32 games. Powers let out a rye chuckle when asked what he thought about Ducharme's style of play.

"Tanner is a big ball of agitate. He will fly around the ice and will finish his tracks. He will be extremely hard to play against and I think he'll be a fan favourite in our rink. He'll get flying around the neutral zone and the forecheck. He'll finish checks, he'll stick guys and he'll just make us a whole lot harder to play against.

"That does not diminish his skillset, though," Powers continued. "He can shoot the puck and he's a very smooth, quick, skillful skater who can handle the puck. He's a bit of a hybrid in that he's a big, physical guy who's also got great skating and skill."

Zander Kechego finished last season tied for most points in the U18 Alli-



The St. Marys Lincolns unveiled their first seven signings of the 2024 off-season on June 3. Pictured from left to right are Rowan Reid, Dylan Searles, Nico Armellin, Tanner Ducharme, Chase McDougall, Zander Kechego and Hayden Barch. Photo by Spencer Seymour

ance after scoring 19 goals and 50 points as a member of the Elgin-Middlesex Canucks. This strong season prompted the Saginaw Spirit to take the 17-year-old in the first round of the 2024 OHL U18 draft. According to Powers, Kechego is bringing an electrifying style to the Lincs' forward group.

"You don't find many guys with his skillset at his size and foot speed. When his feet get moving, his first three or four steps, he's gone. He's not afraid to play a physical game. He pushes the pace of play. I think Zander will be a very nifty player and it'll be good to see how he adjusts to junior hockey."

Three of Kechego's Elgin-Middlesex teammates are also joining the Lincolns, including forward Dylan Searles. According to GM Powers, when it comes to Searles, who turns 18 this July, the name of the game is versatility.

"Dylan is a tenacious player who will forecheck the puck hard. He'll block shots. He'll do all those little things that teams need to be successful. He's another guy that can play up and down the lineup. I think he'll be extremely reliable and, when you're looking for rookies to come in, you want guys who will come in and work hard because the veterans respect that. A guy like Dylan is going to come in and work hard and he'll get the respect of the veterans right away. Our veterans will definitely see value in what he can provide very quickly."

The other two U18 Canucks signing with the Lincolns are blueliners Hayden Barch and Rowan Reid. Beginning with Barch, who appeared in two playoff games for the Lincolns, including once in the Sutherland Cup final against Listowel, the 2023 13th round selection of Saginaw scored seven goals and 18 points in 34 games. Powers believes the experience Barch gained with the team during the post-season will help accelerate his development curve.

"Hayden is a 200-foot defenceman who defends hard. He's got a very good stick with long reach. It's hard to get by him on zone entries. He moves extremely well. He's a very versatile defenceman who can play with pace and can also slow the pace of the other team down.

"I think he will have probably the quickest growth of our new signees next year because he's got the least amount of adjustment to our program. He's already comfortable with the guys. He knows how we do things, so we should see some quick and steady improvement on him fairly early on next season."

Like Barch, Reid was also an affiliate player (AP) for the Lincolns last season whilst playing 35 games with the Canucks in which the London native tallied two goals and 18 points. Powers praised Reid for his ability to produce offence from the blueline while remaining responsible defensively.

"Rowan is a very good, puck-moving

defenceman who sees up the ice very well," Powers said. "He can skate very effectively and he can push the play up the ice. His skating ability allows him to get back once he's been up in the rush. He's a bigger body and he's got that 200-foot game."

Rounding out the Lincolns' initial batch of signings is goaltender Nico Armellin. A product of Woodbridge, Ont., Armellin was picked in the 12th round of the 2023 OHL Draft by the Barrie Colts and played last season with the U18 Vaughan Kings. According to Powers, Armellin's style in between the pipes is reminiscent of the Lincolns' most recent starting net-minder and Jacques Cousineau Award winner.

"Nico is like a younger version of Brandon Abbott. He plays with a lot of composure. He's got small, simple movements to his game. I don't think there are many holes in him in terms of

under his arms or area weaknesses like that. He just plays a very tight game. I don't think he'll ever get out of position. He's a very efficient goaltender in everything that he does, and he might not take up a lot of the net but with the skills that he has, I think he's going to be tough to beat."

The Lincs' general manager also explained the common themes and shared traits of the team's new roster members.

"I'm feeling really good. I'm extremely happy with the seven guys that we just added today. I think we grabbed a couple of top scorers and big bodies. We grabbed guys who can move well. We grabbed a good goaltender. We solidified our back end. I'm really excited with the strategy we implemented with these seven players and now we've just got a bit of tinkering to do from here on out.

"Gone are the times when you find a guy who is a one-dimensional player and I think a lot of these guys fit that mould perfectly," added Powers. "We saw it against Listowel. You have to be able to play with pace in all three zones. You've got to be able to get to pucks in the defensive zone and you've got to be able to catch guys in the defensive zone. You've got to be able to get through the neutral zone quickly. You've got to backcheck through the neutral zone quickly. You've got to get in on the forecheck in a hurry. Those are elements that these players have."

FOR SPORTS TIPS CONTACT SPENCER SEYMOUR

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SPORTS

Martin, Key, Stephenson, Heisler, Godfrey, Birnie to be inducted into Canadian Baseball Hall of Fame June 15

Continued from page 1

- Autographs are limited to one item per person per inductee/special guest.
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- Hall of Fame staff reserve the right to cut the autograph line at any time.
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2024 Inductee Bios

Russell Martin

Born in East York, Ont., in 1983, Russell Martin moved to Montreal when he was two and honed his skills with the Junior National Team before being selected in the 17th round of the 2002 MLB draft by the Los Angeles Dodgers.

After a strong rookie season with the Dodgers in 2006, he hit .293 with 19 home runs and a career-best 87 RBIs in his sophomore campaign and was honoured with his first All-Star Game selection, a Silver Slugger Award, a Gold Glove Award and the Canadian Baseball Hall of Fame's Tip O'Neill Award.

He followed that up with another All-Star season in 2008 and played two more seasons with the Dodgers before signing with the New York Yankees and belting a combined 39 home runs in 2011 and 2012.

On Nov. 30, 2012, he signed with the Pittsburgh Pirates and proceeded to earn two consecutive Wilson Defensive Player of the Year honours. Following the 2014 campaign, Martin landed a five-year contract with the Blue Jays. In his first season with Toronto, he belted a career-best 23 homers to earn his fourth All-Star selection and help the club to their first postseason appearance in 22 years.

Martin played 14 big league seasons and ranks in the top 10 among Canadians in most major league statistical categories, including first in dWAR

(16.5), third in WAR (38.8), and sixth in hits (1,416). He also holds Canadian major league postseason records in games (58) and hits (38). On the international stage, Martin suited up for Canada at the World Baseball Classic in 2009 and coached for Canada at the event in 2017 and 2023.

"My first thought when I heard the news was, 'Man, I must be getting old.' My next thought was what an honour to be inducted into the Canadian Baseball Hall of Fame alongside other greats," said Martin. "I've never played the game for awards and accolades, but this is pretty darn special."

Jimmy Key

Born in 1961 in Huntsville, Ala., Jimmy Key was selected in the third round of the 1982 MLB draft by the Toronto Blue Jays. The crafty left-hander rose through the team's ranks to make his big-league debut on April 6, 1984.

In 1985, the Blue Jays' first division-winning season, the steady southpaw joined the club's starting rotation and posted a 14-6 record and a 3.00 ERA in 212-2/3 innings in 35 appearances to earn his first All-Star selection. Over the next seven seasons, Key continued to be a top-end starter for the Blue Jays, registering at least 12 wins in each campaign.

His finest season with the Blue Jays was in 1987, when he went 17-8 and topped American League pitchers with a 2.76 ERA while tossing a team-leading 261 innings. For his efforts, he was named the American League Pitcher of the Year by The Sporting News.

Four years later, he almost equaled his 1987 campaign when he registered 16 wins and a 3.05 ERA and was named to his second All-Star team. In 1992, he notched 13 regular season victories and added two more in the World Series against the Atlanta Braves to help the Blue Jays capture their first championship.

Key ranks near the top in many of the Blue Jays' all-time pitching categories (minimum 1,000 innings pitched), including tied for first in ERA (3.42) and WHIP (1.20) and fourth in wins (116) and innings pitched (1,695-2/3).

In total, in his 15-year major league career, which also included stops with the New York Yankees and Baltimore Orioles, he registered 186 wins and finished with a 49.0 WAR.

"I would like to thank the Canadian Baseball Hall of Fame and their executive committee for this great honour," said Key. "This recognition caps off nine great years that I played in Toronto for the Blue Jays organization. To be a part of the first professional baseball World Championship team in Canada is the highlight of my career."

Ashley Stephenson

Born in Mississauga, Ont., in 1982, Ashley Stephenson was a member of the first Women's National Team in 2004. She excelled with the team for 15 seasons and helped lead them to seven medals, including silvers at the WBSC Women's World Cups in 2008 and 2016 and at the Pan Am Games in 2015. She was also a force on four bronze-medal-winning teams at the World Cup (2004, 2006, 2012 and 2018). Along the way, she was named Women's National Team MVP twice (2005 and 2008).

After concluding her playing career, Stephenson became a coach and was part of the Women's National Team staff that led Canada to a bronze medal at the COPABE Women's Pan-American Championships in 2019. Three years later, she became the first woman to manage the Women's National Team when she was the dugout boss for their five-game series against the United States in Thunder Bay, Ont.

Stephenson would make history again that November when she became the first woman to capture

Baseball Canada's Lionel Ruhr Elite Coach of the Year Award.

In 2023, Stephenson was hired as a position coach by the Blue Jays' High-A Vancouver Canadians. She has returned to this role this season.

A highly respected ambassador for baseball nationally and internationally, Stephenson also served as a member of the WBSC Athletes Commission from 2018 to 2022.

"Wow! Thank you so much. This was one of the best surprise calls I've ever received," said Stephenson when informed she was being inducted into the Canadian Baseball Hall of Fame. "I played baseball because I love the game. Never in my wildest dreams did I think I'd play for my country and have some of the experiences and opportunities I've had. I hope girls and women see this as an example of what you can do through hard work, dedication and perseverance. The Hall of Fame is forever. I'm so incredibly honoured to be a part of it!"

Rod Heisler

Born in 1957 in Moose Jaw, Sask., Rod Heisler pitched in a record 14 international competitions for the men's National Team.

The Canadian left-hander attended Bemidji State University where he earned All-Conference honours in 1978 and 1979 and was also named All-District in 1979.

His first national team assignment came in 1978 at the Amateur World Series. He would pitch for Canada at the same competition in 1980 and 1982. In 1982, he went 3-0 with a 2.35 ERA and was named the left-handed pitcher on the tournament All-Star team.

Two years later, Heisler started Canada's first game at the 1984 Olympics and allowed just two runs in 10-1/3 innings in a loss to Nicaragua. He was also selected to Canada's 1988 Olympic Team but was sidelined due

Continued on page 15

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SPORTS

Martin, Key, Stephenson, Heisler, Godfrey, Birnie to be inducted into Canadian Baseball Hall of Fame June 15

Continued from page 14

to an injury.

Heisler also toed the rubber for Canada at three Pan Am Games (1979, 1983 and 1987) and three Intercontinental Cups (1981, 1983 and 1985). For his efforts, he was recognized with a Government of Canada Merit Award in 1988.

Following his playing career, Heisler became a teacher and coached baseball at Notre Dame College in Wilcox, Sask.

In 2006, he was inducted into the Bemidji University Hall of Fame and 11 years later, he was inducted into the Moose Jaw and District Sports Hall of Fame.

"When you first told me that I was being inducted I was so thrilled. I assumed that it was our (1984) Olympic team nominated and the guys were getting called about the news. Then when you said it was me, that took me by total surprise," said Heisler. "Not in my craziest dreams would I have put myself in any consideration for such an honour."

Paul Godfrey

Born in Toronto in 1939, Paul Godfrey played a crucial role in bringing Major League Baseball to Toronto. As an ambitious, young North York alderman in 1969, he paid his own way

to Major League Baseball's Winter Meetings in Bal Harbor, Fla., to tell commissioner Bowie Kuhn that he wanted to secure a big-league team for Toronto. Kuhn told Godfrey he would have to have a baseball stadium in Toronto before they would even consider it.

Armed with that feedback, Godfrey returned to Toronto with his sights set on creating a stadium. In 1973, Godfrey was elected chairman of Metropolitan Toronto, and on his first day in his new position, he promised he would land a big-league team for the city and see that a dome stadium was built.

In the short term, however, he needed a budget-friendly alternative, so he came up with the idea to retrofit Exhibition Stadium into a dual baseball/football stadium. In November 1973, he convinced Ontario premier Bill Davis to chip in half the estimated \$15-million cost to renovate the stadium. The resulting retrofit of Exhibition Stadium helped lay the groundwork for the ownership group of Labatt Breweries, CIBC and Howard Webster to secure a major-league team in 1976.

Eight years later, Godfrey was appointed to the Crown Corporation that was in charge of the design, construction and of selecting a location

for what would become SkyDome.

In 2000, Godfrey was hired as president and CEO of the Blue Jays, a position he would hold through the 2008 season.

The highly respected Toronto native was named a member of the Order of Canada in 1999 and to the Order of Ontario in 2010.

"I was very surprised and thrilled with the news of being inducted into the Canadian Baseball Hall of Fame," said Godfrey. "It even brought tears of happiness to my eyes. Being inducted into this wonderful institution is one of the great honours of my life. I love baseball and joining this Hall of Fame is a thrill beyond belief."

Howard Birnie

Born in Toronto in 1937, Howard Birnie has been involved in baseball in his home city for more than 70 years as a player, coach and umpire.

During his tenure as a baseball coach in Toronto from 1958 to 1988, he guided teams to seven city championships and one national championship with the Toronto Leaside All-Stars in 1964.

Over the years, Birnie has assumed countless leadership roles, including serving as president of the Leaside Baseball Association since 1973 and president of the Ontario Baseball As-

sociation in 1991 and 1992.

Birnie, however, may be best known as one of the country's most respected umpires. During his 34 years of calling balls and strikes, Birnie worked six national championships between 1979 and 1989, three international championships (1985, 1987 and 1990) and two World Junior Championships (1986-87). He was also selected to umpire three Pearson Cup games, an annual exhibition contest between the Toronto Blue Jays and Montreal Expos.

In recognition of his 50 years of volunteering in amateur baseball, Birnie received the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Award in 2012 and five years later, he was inducted into the Ontario Baseball Hall of Fame. He continues to serve as an appointed director of the OBA.

"I was incredibly surprised to begin with then very much humbled and grateful to be recognized for simply doing something I have loved most of my life," said Birnie after being told he was being inducted into the Canadian Baseball Hall of Fame. "With my past connections to the Hall, I know that the list of inductees is composed of a stellar number of people who have been involved in our game in different ways. My inclusion is beyond my dreams."



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SPORTS

Coach Bradley reflects on 2023-24 Lincolns

By Spencer Seymour

The St. Marys Lincolns may not have captured the ultimate GOJHL prize, but the team is coming off of the most successful season in close to five decades after winning their first Western Conference Championship since 1993-94 and securing their first Sutherland Cup Finals appearance in 48 years.

Head coach Jeff Bradley reflected on the season and noted, while the team accomplished something substantial, the returning core has their sights set even higher.

"This year was obviously amazing and fun but, in talking to the players, they want more and they want to take that next step," Bradley told the Independent. "So, I think the most important thing that we did, from the players to the coaches to Pat Powers and Brandon Boyd, was finish off the creation of this culture in St. Marys that winning is the most important thing and knowing what it takes to do that."

Bradley added he firmly believes the organization is knocking on the door of the highest accolade available.

"It's hard for me to say it because I'm zero-for-four, but the Sutherland Cup isn't elusive for us. We can definitely win this thing. You try to take things from other teams that you go up against. This has been two years in a row that we've been beaten by the best. We've got minor tweaks to make when it comes to our team, but the culture is definitely in place."

The Lincs' head coach also reflected on each individual player, beginning with St. Marys native Jaden Shiell, who Bradley credited for his commitment and loyalty to his hometown team.

"I thought Jaden had a great year. This is a kid who skipped a year of hockey during the pandemic, he went to play Junior C and then made a Junior B team and not just any Junior B team, but his hometown team that



has championship aspirations. It was a huge accomplishment for him to make this team and play the amount of games he did. He did a great job for us. He was a very committed player to this team. He's a very loyal player and that was great for us."

Arguably the greatest attribute for the Lincolns' blueline as a whole was reliability, and perhaps no pairing embodied that steady consistency than the duo of Jacob Montesi and Luke Bogart.

"Jacob's trajectory has continued to go up since he made the team out of camp last year. I thought the progress he's made under Mike (Herman) has been amazing. This year, he continued moving up and up and up, and he became a very important part of our penalty kill and our depth in general. He's established himself as a big part of our core.

"Luke played with Jacob, and they were a really good defence pairing for us," continued Bradley. "They complement each other very well. It was a great first full year for Luke. We think he's

going to be a really good player in this league for a long time and he's got the ability to be very good if he decides to move up as well."

Despite having his season ended in November due to injury, Marcus Dashesky brought a sturdy presence on and off the ice to the Lincolns, which Bradley said was reminiscent of one of their key overage forwards from the 2022-23 season.

"He was a really good replacement for Jacob Chantler. Marcus has grown up as a real hockey player, having to do real hockey player things. He's had to work incredibly hard to make a BCHL team as an 18-year-old, which is the best junior league in Canada outside of Major Junior. He's used to doing things the hard way and the right way, and even though he wasn't with us for the majority of this season, he certainly left an imprint on our team."

The winner of the R.G. Kelly Hearn Award as the Lincolns' most improved player was St. Marys' own Ryan Hodgkinson, who Bradley saw growth from on close-to-nightly basis.

"He seemed to get better every game. We committed to him right before training camp and he started the year as the fourth-line centre and then ended up being used in all situations by the end of the season. Ryan was a really big and important piece to our playoff run. We certainly aren't where we are without him."

Josh Cornfield came into this season on a mission after a tough 2022-23 season that was hampered by injuries. According to Bradley, who has witnessed almost every moment of Cornfield's junior hockey tenure, the overage defenceman added to his strong offensive game in the late stages of the season and the playoffs.

"I've coached Josh every season of his junior hockey career and one thing that we've seen from day one to the final day was his ability with the puck. He is a great puck mover and I thought as the season went on and the games started to get more important, he developed a different style as a more physical and responsible defenceman."

Josh's younger brother, Ryan Cornfield, became well known for his physical style and ability to agitate the opposition, which Bradley felt filled a hole for the Lincolns.

"We harnessed certain things and encouraged certain things about Ryan's game that we lacked, which was, first and foremost, the intensity that Ryan played with. He had always been a highly skilled player before coming to junior hockey and he learned the way we want to play the game and gave us something we didn't have a ton of. We know this year is going to serve him very well next season."

Two of the team's key leaders on and off the ice, and fan favourites, are linemates and best friends Luca Spagnolo and Jaden Lee, whom Bradley had glowing reviews of.

"Luca is one of the best, if not the best. Luca ate a lot of our top minutes. He was one of our top penalty killing forwards. He was one of our top powerplay guys. He played top minutes at five on five. He's a guy we relied on in every situation and in just about every aspect of the game, we needed Luca. His will to win is incredible. He just wants to win and he'll do whatever it takes to get there.

Continued on page 17



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SPORTS

Coach Bradley reflects on 2023-24 Lincolns

Continued from page 16

"Every single thing Jaden does; he's amazing at it," Bradley added. "Whether that's being a leader, scoring goals, assisting on goals, or defending, there's nothing he doesn't do incredibly well. He's a real treat to coach. To get two guys from Milton in Jaden and Luca and have them become two of the most important players on our team is pretty special. They are going to be remembered by this generation of Lincolns' fans and hopefully will be able to give this town a couple of championships."

Lee and Spagnolo were two-thirds of the Lincolns' best line in the Sutherland Cup Final, a trio completed by Owen Voortman, whose power-forward style allowed him to thrive in the team's most difficult hockey games of the year.

"Owen became one of, if not our most important player coming down the stretch in the Sutherland Cup. We saw glimpses of it in the preseason which made us think, if he can keep this up throughout the season, then he's going to be a beast and that's what he ended up being. He just needed an opportunity on a top line and as soon as he got it with Luca and Jaden, he ran with it."

The mid-season acquisitions of Billy VanSumeren and James Sigmon brought a Sutherland Cup-winning experience the Lincolns didn't have. The Lincolns' bench boss credited the pair of former Leamington Flyers for bringing much-needed intangibles.

"There were talks early about getting Billy and, obviously, we remembered him from Leamington and how effective he was. The thing that Billy had that we needed so much was that championship pedigree and the leadership that comes with that experience, which was why he won the Veteran of the Year award for us.

"As the season went on, James ended up being one of, if not our best defensemen, especially in the playoffs. He just never took a night off. It's not a secret why. He was part of a Sutherland Cup Championship team and then followed that up by being part of a Western Conference Championship team here. You need guys like James to win."

Matt Prendergast's sophomore season saw the native of Dorchester, Ont. triple his points total, which Bradley felt added some much-needed offensive production from deeper in the lineup.

"I think Matt has had two really good years. I know last season, statistically, he didn't score as much as he hoped and he wanted to improve on that, which he did. He went from one goal

to 14 and having that depth scoring was important for us. Considering his size, skill and speed, he was a great piece for us."

After a regular season in which his offensive production dipped lower than expected, Chase MacQueen-Spence exploded in the playoffs, posting 13 goals and 26 points in the Lincolns' 15-game march to the Western Conference Championship. Bradley praised the Western Conference playoff MVP for his knack for coming up big when the team needed it most.

"When the game was on the line and you're looking for somebody to step up, it always seemed to be Chase, especially in our most important games. I know, statistically, he wasn't happy with his regular season even though we thought he was still benefitting the team a lot. His growth defensively and responsibility in becoming a centre was massive for this team. But when the playoffs came around and we needed a goal, it seemed like it was always Chase who got it for us."

The Lincolns used their two 16-year-old roster spots on Ethan Weir and Cohen Bidgood, both of whom emerged as key members of the team's forward group.

"Ethan came in with a great attitude. I know he wanted to make Kingston, but he looked at this season as a good development year and I think it was good for him. He had a lot of success points-wise throughout the season and then moulded his game to fit when we needed a different style in tough games. He's gotten a good, first-hand look at what junior hockey is like and hopefully, the experience he had here serves him well going forward.

"Before we got Cohen, we were going through a little bit of an identity crisis," Bradley continued. "But once we got him, everything changed for us in that regard. We needed guys that got their noses dirty, and we needed people to bring others along to get their noses dirty. Even though he was a 16-year-old, that's exactly what he was able to do for us. He was a big part of changing the trajectory of our season."

An underrated bright spot for the Lincolns was Blake Elzinga, who emerged as a fiercely dedicated member of the roster as evidenced by his willingness to shift to playing as a defenceman when the Lincs' blueline became depleted.

"I'm sure on any other team, Blake would be a much more prominent piece," said Bradley. "But Blake stuck with it and was incredibly mature. He took this year to develop and when he got the opportunity, he was really

good for us. He went through a stretch there when he wasn't playing as much but all he wanted to do was learn and get an opportunity and, once he did, he stuck in the lineup. To come back into the lineup for the Sutherland Cup Finals and not miss a beat, I think says a lot about Blake's character and compete level."

Injuries prevented defenceman Ethan Sullivan from playing a game this year, but Bradley credited Sullivan for doing his best to remain a supportive part of the group.

"Ethan was somebody we really looked forward to having this season but, unfortunately, he had some bad luck injury-wise. But even though he didn't play for us, he really tried. He would come

out to practice. Even after opting to get surgery, he still continued to come out to the games and be around the team. We're very excited to see him next season because he knows what our standard is here and he's got to witness what it's like here."

After being acquired at the GOJHL trade deadline from the OHL's Kingston Frontenacs, Maddox Callens scored 10 goals in 15 games. Although his offence stagnated in the playoffs due to injury, Callens remained an important contributor on both sides of the puck and was a go-to player for Bradley in protecting late-game leads in the post-season.

"He was fantastic. Normally, if you get a guy that played three and a half years of major junior to come in, they feel like they're owed something, but that's not what Maddox did. He wanted to be a part of a winning team. He provided offence for us, he provided leadership for us and he provided defence for us in key moments of huge games."

Points may not be how Ryder Livermore made his name, but the physical shutdown defender was a vital piece of the Lincolns' blueline.

"He's just the best. He is very low maintenance. All he cared about was winning and working hard. Ryder is a great kid and a complete warrior. People kept calling him an unsung hero, but I don't think that's right, at least for the guys inside the dressing room. I know everyone on our team really valued everything that Ryder brought all year long."

After rookie goaltender Colby Booth-Housego became one of the great revelations of this season and helped stabilize the Lincolns early on, he was joined by Brandon Abbott. The 20-year-old netminder put forward a lights-out showing in the playoffs and was one of the team's most consistent

and important players in their run to the Sutherland Cup Finals.

"This was an amazing season for Colby," Bradley said. "He came right into the fire at the start of the year when we were having some issues early on keeping the puck out of the net. He ended up taking the net and really changed the season for us. It should serve him well next year. He's going to have an opportunity to run with it a little bit. He knows our standard and what we need out of him.

"Brandon was amazing and, as good as he was on the ice, he added so much more to our team off the ice as well. He was a leader in our dressing room. When I think of us winning the West and who the best player was and what we needed the most, it's Brandon Abbott. Plus, he was a great mentor for Colby. They drove to the rink together and Brandon was able to help Colby through some tough points in the year."

Noah VandenBrink returned to the Lincolns and quickly re-established himself as a key member of the Lincolns' forward group. However, according to Bradley, even more than his offensive skill, the Belmont, Ont. resident brought incredible maturity and leadership to the team.

"I know there were times when Noah maybe wanted a bit more in terms of point production but what Noah understands that I think is a great testament to his ability and character is, if he's not doing something, he's got to do something else. He's mature enough to know that. This team was in need of leadership and that kind of mentality. When things aren't going right, Noah is one of the guys who says, 'We should have a team meeting,' and he's the one that sets people straight. To have an 18-year-old with that type of maturity and those leadership qualities is amazing for our team."

At the heart of the Lincolns' win in the West Final was Captain Adam Barkley, who Bradley feels has left a lasting legacy with the Lincolns and the Town of St. Marys as a whole.

"I think his legacy will be serving as the captain who got us a Western Conference title. In many ways, he helped vault us to where we are as an organization. He wanted to make the OHL as a 19-year-old, which didn't happen, but then he came in here last year and became a Western Conference all-star. And then he came back to lead this team to its first conference title in 30 years. He was the one that had the experience and knew the pain from losing the year before and he truly led this team to what we accomplished."



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SPORTS

Nakluskis of St. Marys compete in U.S. slingshot tournament



Pictured from left to right are St. Marys natives Jake Nakluski and Bill Nakluski, who were part of the Kirby Electric T.N.T. team that recently competed in a modified softball tournament. The team was comprised of players like the Nakluskis, who play for the Saints of the Old Timers' Slingshot League based out of Mitchell, as well as members of Huron County Fastball, who play in Fullarton. The Kirby Electric T.N.T. team travelled to Binghamton, N.Y. for a tournament held May 25-26. Jodi Nakluski told the Independent that the players were "treated like superstars" and earned the respect of their opponents, who expressed interest in coming north of the border to play and visit the Canadian Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum. Contributed photo

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Bryson Nairn dashes towards first base during the St. Marys Firefighters U9 WOBA White St. Marys Rockies game last Wednesday.



Hannah Schmidt makes contact with the ball during last Wednesday's Dave Hensel U11 HP St. Marys Rockies game.



Kolton McAllister dives out to make a catch during the Red Rock Construction U15 OBA Boys St. Marys Rockies game last Thursday.



Ben Kissler lines up a long-range shot during this past Sunday's U10 Boys Tier Two St. Marys Storm game.



Angus Queen fires a shot that gets by the opposing goalkeeper during the U10 Boys Tier Three Two St. Marys Storm game this past Sunday.



Madison McCutcheon battles for a loose ball and scores a goal during last Saturday's U12 Girls Tier Two St. Marys Storm game. All photos by Spencer Seymour

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Pelvic physio services expand – thank you, St. Marys

Submitted by the Physio Nook Team

The Physio Nook is a place for those looking to improve their quality of life who are impacted by pain, physical injury or dysfunction. We treat conditions from head to toe including many “taboo” conditions related to the pelvis and pelvic-floor muscles. We know these can often be embarrassing or uncomfortable to talk about and we strive to offer a welcoming, safe environment with expert knowledge for anyone seeking care.

Since opening in the fall of 2020, we have been blown away by the positive response for these services in our community. This past spring, with the help of many individuals, we were able to expand to a larger space located in the iconic St. Marys Opera House. To say thank you for your ongoing support, we’d like to invite area residents to an open house at our new location, 18 Water St. S. We hope locals will stop by on Saturday, June 15 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. to see what we’ve been up to.

What is pelvic health physiotherapy?

Pelvic health physiotherapy is a relatively new, special-interest area within the physiotherapy profession. A physiotherapist with pelvic health training can assess and treat musculoskeletal issues related to the pelvic region (i.e. organs, muscles, nerves and joints). This type of physiotherapy is most commonly known for treating incontinence and focusing on conditions that arise during pregnancy, postpartum, childbirth and menopause. However, it has grown to include many other areas as well.

Myths about pelvic physio:

1. Pelvic Physio is only for women who’ve had a baby.

Fun fact: while we often see issues arise during pregnancy or postpartum, anyone with a pelvis can experience pain or dysfunction in the pelvic area at various points across the lifespan. Did you know pelvic-floor dysfunction can be a cause of genital pain and conditions like erectile dysfunction? Did you know pelvic dysfunction in kids might present as bedwetting, constipation, or fecal smearing? Did you know pelvic floor can refer pain to areas like the low back, groin, hips and sciatic area? Did you know tightness in the pelvic floor can mimic UTI symptoms, the urge to pee (even though you pee 10 minutes ago), or add to the intensity of menstrual cramps? Now you know!

2. I pee a little when I cough or sneeze, but I’m getting older – this is just how it is. Fun Fact: Approximately one in two women and one in three men



Pictured from left are The Physio Nook team members Brooke Scheele, PT, Jaclyn Seebach, PT, Rochelle Furtado, PT. Photo By Andrew Darimont

over the age of 65 experience urinary incontinence. Muscles are never too old to strengthen or retrain. In fact, because of its effectiveness, research supports pelvic physiotherapy as the first-line treatment for incontinence. You’re never too old to make changes.

3. I’m having problems “down there” – I just need to do more Kegels.

Pelvic Physio does not equal Kegels. While it’s true that we need muscles to be strong, more than just strength is required for them to function well. Just like any muscle in the body, the pelvic floor can be weak but it can also be too tight, poorly timed/coordinated, lack endurance, or not work well with other muscles during a task. Other body areas can also impact pelvic floor such as foot/ankle stiffness, hip tightness, shoulder weakness, jaw tension, breathing mechanics, or even emotional and psychological stressors. A physiotherapist can assess the physical factors associated with a person’s condition, develop individualized recommendations and exercises, and use a variety of tools and skills to help patients more fully reach their goals.

Some of the things we help people with at The Physio Nook:

- Aches, pains and injuries from head to toe.
- We help people stop peeing their pants.
- Get back to pain-free intimacy.
- Not have to plan trips or outings around where restrooms are.
- Be able to participate in PAP tests without pain.
- More fully resolve chronic back, hip, groin, hamstring or sciatic pain.
- Be able to sit without tailbone pain.
- Return to sport or exercise after

birth.

- Prepare the pelvic floor for birth.
- Painful C-section, hysterectomy, or abdominal scars (yes, even years down the road).
- Lift weights and exercise with a pelvic organ prolapse or diastasis recti.
- Manage symptoms of chronic conditions like endometriosis or bladder pain syndrome (interstitial cystitis).
- Help kids and teens stop wetting the bed.
- Improve bladder and sexual function after prostatectomy or cancer treatment.

- Decrease or eliminate the need for pain medication.

- Reduce or eliminate cost for adult pads/diapers.

- Avoid unnecessary surgeries for incontinence or prolapse.

- Recover from surgery (including knee, hip, shoulder, hand, hysterectomy etc.).

- BPPV and vertigo.

- We help you get back to doing the things you love.

Not sure if the Physio Nook is right for your health journey?

Visit our website, www.thephysionook.ca, for more information or to book a complimentary meet and greet to see if we are the right fit for your care. Services may be best suited to individuals with private benefits as we are currently not covered by OHIP. We provide direct billing for most insurance companies. A doctor’s referral is not required to be assessed and treated by a physiotherapist, however insurance companies may require a referral for reimbursement. Still have questions? Email us at info@thephysionook.ca or call/text (519) 703-9729.

Find us on Instagram and Facebook @thephysionook.ca where we have the most fun mixing good laughs with pelvic-health info.

Ask the Arborist

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



Dear Arborist,

I have Pine Beetles in my wood lot. What can I do?

Sincerely

Jack

Dear Jack,

Pine Beetle is rather difficult to exterminate. Out west, the northern prairies have thousands of square kms that have been devastated by this insect.

You can get the trees injected with pesticides, although this is rather expensive, especially if it is a wood lot. I have heard of some people having limited

success with phosphorous fertilizer.

One customer I spoke to recently used wood ash at the base of the trees.

Apparently, the beetle does not like the taste of the ash. The customer claims it works very well.

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

ARTS & CULTURE

The marriage of architecture and art

By James Giles with Dan Schneider, edited by Alice Rixson

Architecture can be defined as the art of building, distinguished from actual construction skill, as well as the product of that activity — a building or place that serves both utilitarian and aesthetic ends.

Art is indispensable to the making of good architecture and the history of both are closely bound up. Many historical figures were both architects and artists. Michelangelo (1475-1564), an Italian Renaissance sculptor, painter, poet, architect and innovator, stands out as one of the most famous examples.

Architecture and art, as close companions, have influenced each other through the common denominator of design. For architecture, the result is a building or place where space, composition, shape, materials, textures and colours can be experimented with and melded in three dimensions. Art makes buildings more welcoming, inspiring and relevant to the community and society. Apart from its inherent artistry, architecture can also showcase artistic attributes such as sculpture, frescoes and murals, bringing special vibrancy to exterior and interior architectural spaces.

The integration of architecture and art stretches back thousands of years. Egyptians and other ancient civilizations amalgamated architecture and art to commemorate their gods and rulers, reflecting their significant societal roles.

Architecture in Canada aligned itself with European and American trends, especially in public buildings. From the eighteenth to the twentieth century, Neoclassical, French Renaissance, Gothic and Romanesque revivals were dominant. After the mid-1800s, here in St. Marys, prosperity allowed religious, educational and cultural facilities to reflect these architectural styles. Established churches in town built beautiful new places of worship with steeples visible

for miles. A good example is Holy Name of Mary Catholic Church, constructed in the Gothic Revival style in 1892.

The Gothic genre is part of the picturesque and romantic movement in architecture, reflecting the public taste for buildings inspired by Medieval design. It was a departure from previous popular approaches that favoured the classical forms of ancient Greece and Rome characterized by columns, porticos and rectangular door and window openings.

An exceptional illustration of Gothic Revival style is the St. Marys Opera House. The local Independent Order of Oddfellows was seeking a larger facility with various amenities and in May 1879 decided to construct an opera house with commercial space on the ground level, a concert hall on the second floor and a meeting room on the top. This four-storey limestone structure, constructed between 1879 and 1880, was designed by a young London, Ontario architect and sculptor, Silas Weekes (1853-1881), who was well known to the residents of St. Marys from other building projects.

The Opera House became the focal point of cultural and social life in St. Marys. As the regional centre for the arts, it featured Shakespearean plays, musical comedies and vaudeville shows. One of the many performers was St. Marys native Nora Clench, a musical prodigy and internationally-known violinist, who gave her farewell performance there before departing for Europe. Political rallies were also attractions and Canada's first prime minister, Sir John A. MacDonald (1815-1891), visited the Opera House in 1891 where he spoke about the dangers of free trade with the United States.

According to the Ontario Heritage Trust, which holds a protective easement on the property, "due to the large size and intricate design of the Opera House, construction tasks were divided with decorative stonework contracted to local masons Fitt and Tobin, carpentry undertaken by local tradesmen Craig and Hamilton, and painting and decorating appointed to John Willard." Significant character defining elements of the Opera House include Gothic Revival, Scottish Baronial and Medieval



St. Marys Opera House.

motifs.

As defined by Parks Canada the heritage designation of this prestigious building highlights its artistic features, including a "highly ornamental roofline of the main façade with pronounced battlement, bartizans featuring lancet windows at the corners, and miniature turrets...the main façade with ornamental cast iron pilasters, painted wooden panels, and stone buttresses. Gothic arch entrances feature twin coffered doors, Gothic-arched transom, sidelights with simple tracery, and a peaked triangular drip mould."

The Opera House is one of more than 100 buildings in St. Marys that form a significant portfolio of stone architecture in Ontario. The Romanesque-inspired Town Hall, the Gothic Revival St. Marys Museum and the Beaux Arts-influenced Public Library all include elements of art encompassing line, shape, texture, form, tone, space and colour that make these buildings unique, interesting and majestic. Of course, there are many brick and wood frame buildings in town that also demonstrate high degrees of artistic craftsmanship. A number of these locations bear plaques attesting to their history. It's worth the time to wander through "Stonetown" to witness and experience our homegrown examples of the marriage of architecture and art.

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

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HISTORY

HISTORIC ST. MARYS: Sarah Shand McCully

By Mary Smith

Last week's column dealt with the lives of two remarkable sisters, Elizabeth Moore and Margaret McConkey, daughters of John and Sarah Shand. The youngest of the Shand children, Sarah Louise, was born in 1857 on the home farm in Downie Township. In their married lives, Elizabeth made overseas trips for the family business and Margaret homesteaded in Alberta when it was just entering Confederation. In contrast, Sarah lived almost all her life in Downie Township. But research conducted by Elsie Turnbull, her great-niece by marriage, suggests Sarah had a strong, positive influence on her family.

Elizabeth married J. D. Moore in 1869 and Margaret married Robert McConkey in 1876. That left Sarah alone with her parents. Sarah did more than just work on the family farm. She completed high school, trained as a teacher and taught school for several years. In 1884, when Sarah turned 27, several important events occurred. The first one was happy: in February 1884, she married her next-door neighbour, John Henry McCully. But then there was sadness. John Shand, her father, died in April 1884, and her mother a few months later in September. Sarah's life with her elderly parents was over but she had exchanged it for a household containing a number of elderly McCullys.

The McCully farm at Lot 2, Concession 14, Downie Township, was part of the Huron Tract. The township had been laid out in 100-acre farm lots by Canada Company surveyors in the early 1840s. John McCully acquired this property soon after it was surveyed and was granted the deed in 1847. He and his wife, Rebecca Campbell, had come to Canada from Derry, Ireland, possibly in the company of other members of the McCully family. By the time of the 1851 census, they were living in a log house on their farm, later named Sunnyhill. Rebecca died in 1857, at the age of 45. She and John had no children. John did not remarry, but he did have a son born in 1863 – the result of a brief relationship. The boy, Alexander Ferris McCully, was raised on the farm by his father and his aunt, Margaret McCully, who kept house for her brother after Rebecca died. Well-respected in the area, John McCully served as a Justice of the Peace for many years.

The 1851 census also records another McCully brother, Joseph, living in St. Marys. He was born in 1807 and, by the time of the census, was married to Mary Jane Green and employed as a bailiff. They had three children, all born in Canada, ranging in age



Elsie Turnbull took this photograph of the McCully brick farmhouse in 1954 when she was visiting St. Marys. The veranda in this picture is a 20th century addition. Otherwise, this lovely house looks much the same as when it was built in the 1860s. Today, it is still a beautiful residence. Collection of the St. Marys Museum.

from one year to six years old. In the mid-1850s, Joseph McCully and family moved to Wisconsin where more children were born, the youngest, John Henry McCully, in November 1857. When the Civil War broke out in 1861, Joseph McCully, although he was now in his 50s, left home to join the US Army. While he was gone, his wife, Mary, died of a fever. The older children stayed in Wisconsin, but young John Henry was sent to Canada to live with his Uncle John, his Aunt Margaret and his little cousin, Alexander. The two boys grew up together on the McCully farm, next door to the Shands.

When the Civil War ended, Joseph McCully, now a widower, came back to Canada to live with his family at Sunnyhill Farm. Then the youngest brother, Andrew Campbell McCully, arrived to join the household. When he left Ireland, Andrew had gone to the United States and found employment with the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, a growing corporation. He also joined the state militia, attaining the rank of lieutenant-colonel. This rank came with him to Downie Township. For the rest of his life, he was called Colonel A. C. McCully.

In the mid-1860s to meet the demands of his expanding household, John McCully replaced his log house with a fine, storey-and-a-half brick house that still stands today. The brothers enjoyed each others' company. According to Elsie Turnbull, they liked to sit on the wide veranda, drinking whisky or mint juleps, reminiscing and arguing. Sarah Shand knew them very well. Frequently, in the evening, they would wander along the creek

and up the hill to the Shand farm to visit her father.

When John McCully died in 1879, he divided his estate between his son, Alexander, and his nephew, John Henry. Alexander eventually left to go to the United States. John Henry bought out his share of the farm and continued to live there with his father, uncle and aunt. Sarah became part of the household in 1884 following her marriage. She was apparently concerned about the drinking habits of the two elderly men and astonished how they could quote scripture in support of their many arguments which got fiercer and louder as they drank. The drinking continued until Joseph died in 1886 and the colonel in 1892. Perhaps as a result, Sarah was all her life a strict temperance advocate.

John Henry's aunt, Margaret McCully, died in 1886, leaving Sarah in charge of the household. As well as farming, John Henry operated two lime quarries nearby, carting loads of slaked lime to Stratford. (The lime kiln was located approximately where Wildwood Dam crosses Trout Creek today.) He was proud of his horses, breeding Clydesdales both for working and for showing at area fairs. Meanwhile, Sarah was busy raising their four children: Violet, born in 1885, A. Campbell in 1888, Margaret in 1895, and finally, Norman, born in 1899. In 1912, she persuaded John Henry to go to investigate farms in Alberta where the McConkey relatives were homesteading. She and young Norman stayed home to manage the Sunnyhill Farm. Two years later, John Henry returned, preferring his life in Downie Township. He died there in 1935.

Meanwhile, two of his children did stay in the west: Violet, who had trained as a nurse, married William Barss, a homesteader in Delia, Alberta. She became a highly respected medical advisor, involved as a volunteer in many community activities. In 2019, a plaque was unveiled in the village of Delia recognizing Violet as the first woman in Canada to head a municipality – she had served as village mayor in 1919. After he graduated from St. Marys Collegiate Institute, her brother, A. C. McCully, also went to Alberta to homestead. In 1937, he joined the provincial civil service and went on to hold many responsible positions. Margaret McCully became a teacher and taught in various locations in Ontario, including Manitoulin Island. She married W. A. Hamilton and moved to Toronto. Her mother, Sarah, went to live with her before she died in 1948 in her 91st year.

Norman McCully, the youngest son, was a graduate of the two-year program at Ontario Agricultural College, a program geared to preparing young farmers in practical and up-to-date methods of farm management. Norman took over Sunnyhill in 1925 when his father retired from farming. Interested in animal husbandry, he became internationally known for his breeding of Suffolk sheep. In 1983, he was inducted into the Ontario Agricultural Hall of Fame. His induction citation (in part) stated: "Norman McCully epitomized all that is good in rural leadership. A breeder of good livestock, a pioneer in new field crops like grain corn, a teacher for rural short courses and leader for Junior Farmers and 4-H Clubs, his influence in his community was very great. He served as school trustee and assessor. Deeply concerned about conservation, he planted trees long before this was popular."

In 1933, Norman married Elizabeth Burns, a friend of his sister, Margaret, in Toronto. They had three remarkable daughters. Margaret Elizabeth became a biology professor at Carleton University; Florence married Don Pullen and they farmed near Clinton. Florence and Don are Huron County legends in agriculture. The youngest, Kathleen, earned a PhD in bacteriology and then a medical degree from Western University. She was, until retirement, a greatly loved family practitioner in London. Norman McCully died in 1978 and his wife, Elizabeth, in 1992.

Today, Sunnyhill Farm is best known for the great produce and seasonal activities at its market, McCullys' Hill Farm, owned and operated by the Aarts family.

Thorndale News

A section within the
St. Marys Independent



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Local Horticultural Society continues to beautify

By Nancy Abra

For more than 25 years, the Thorndale and Area Horticultural Society and its members have been diligent in beautifying Thorndale.

The society plants and maintains thirteen large planters and six gardens within the town. One of these floral displays are the planter boxes on the bridge over Wye Creek in Thorndale. The idea for these bridge boxes was to add some colour and beauty to the west end of the business section on King Street. Initially, there were four of these planter boxes, two for each side of the bridge. They have been increased to 10, five for each side, to give a better floral showing. Society member Dian Chute and her husband, Kris, built these boxes and Heemans Greenhouse plant them for the Thorndale Horticultural Society at no charge every year.

"Heemans has been in partnership with our horticultural society since the very beginning," said MaryLou Bontje, president of the Thorndale Horticultural Society. "Their continued support has been



The Thorndale and Area Horticultural Society maintains 10 planter boxes along the Wye Creek bridge in Thorndale. Photo by Nancy Abra

very important to our club. Heemans goes above and beyond in helping us out and provide high-quality plants for our community gardens."

As for the large, cement planters located throughout Thorndale, Bontje said they primarily contain red and white dragon

wing begonias and purple fountain grass this year.

"We find they weather our hot summers well and look good right through to the end of September. Municipality of Thames Centre gives us good support too," she said. "More importantly, staff

help us out by watering the planters in town. They have increased the flower display by adding 15 hanging pots along the streets, for the past few years."

The Thorndale and Area Horticultural Society has a very dedicated group of volunteers who work hard to keep the village looking smart and beautiful. They meet most Wednesday evenings to do some weeding in the community gardens, and residents are more than welcome to come and help. Bontje mentioned they will be starting a group that meets one morning a week to suit those who prefer the earlier time.

On Sunday June 23 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., the Thorndale and Area Horticultural Society is hosting its annual fundraiser, the Green Thumb Garden Tour, which will feature five gardens consisting of rural gardens north of Thorndale and in the village, too, along with the public gardens in Thorndale the society maintains. The Garden Tour Passports are available from society members and will be sold at the cenotaph in Thorndale on June 23, the day of the tour.

Welcome Dr. Conner Overstrom

By Nancy Abra

Since 2022, Dr. Conner Overstrom has been covering for Dr. Kae at Thorndale Chiropractic at 160 King St., Thorndale. Effective June 1, Dr. Overstrom has taken over the ownership and practice to continue to provide the community of Thorndale with prime chiropractic care.

Growing up in Niagara Falls, Dr. Overstrom enjoyed playing lacrosse and hockey. He became aware of injuries due to playing vigorous sports and developed an interest in rehabilitation of those injuries. After high school, he studied Kinesiology at Brock University and continued his studies at the Canadian Memorial Chiropractic College (CMCC) in Toronto, where he graduated with distinction. While at CMCC, Dr. Overstrom received certification in functional rage conditioning, neurofunctional acupuncture from McMaster University and selective functional movement assessments.

In his practice, Dr. Overstrom uses various therapeutic methods to treat patients such as myofascial release technique, manual adjusting rehabilitation exercises and acupuncture. When he is not at his practice treating and helping his patients, Dr. Overstrom can be found on the golf course, weight training or spending time with his fiancé, Danielle.


"I am thrilled to continue to provide the community of Thorndale with quality care," said Dr. Overstrom. "My focus is to optimize your performance through rehab therapy. Whether your goals are to improve your golf game, keep up with the grandkids, or simply do the things you love pain-free, we want to help you move and feel your best. And I look forward to meeting more community members and becoming more involved in various community activities and events."

I Love Thorndale (ILT) welcomes Dr. Conner Overstrom as one of its community business partners and



Dr. Conner Overstrom has taken over ownership of Thorndale Chiropractic. Contributed photo

when you shop, use local services or "love local," you make a difference in the community of Thorndale. For more information on business partners and community events, check out www.ilovethorndale.ca.



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MOVING YOUR FAMILY? My clients say, "Just ask Sue"

COLUMN

HOSTING UKRAINE: Looking forward

By VJ Knutson

“The kids’ school is having a fundraiser, Mom, and I was wondering if you would donate a piece of your art for the silent auction.”

I did one better. I posted on Facebook for donations. Kathleen and John Rose, former hosts, were the first to respond. John offered a fabulous medieval inspired sculpture. Then Kostia Kutyk, aka the BEARded CaT, donated a handmade, portable barbecue. Vira Spivak, from Our Daily Bread Gluten Free, supplied three boxes of gluten free pastries, and Natasha and family (De Varenyk) baked cookies for the occasion.

My daughter reports that 500 people attended and “many people went home very happy” with their acquisitions. She sends a warm thank you to all who supported their cause. The Home and School event raised over \$5,000.

Ric and I had the privilege of meeting up with Richard Hone and his wife at the home of Svitlana Stoyko and her husband recently. Richard Hone was my inspiration for volunteering to help Ukrainians. He is the one who initiated the Ukraine Help Middlesex Facebook page that became the communication hub for everything that followed. Svitlana, who



was located in Poland at the time of our initial contact, was instrumental in helping Richard’s mission. We first met, back in March of 2022, at a small rural church, Richard in charge, and Svitlana via Zoom. Hard to believe so much has happened since.

As you might imagine, the conversation was lively. “Whatever happened to...?” was asked over and over, as we pieced together the many threads of the lives we touched. We shared success stories and commiserated over the challenges. We laughed at the unexpected dramas, and the characters we met along the way. Then we turned the conversation to what is next for our Ukrainian friends, and the tone of the meeting grew somber.

The state of affairs in the US has deeply affected the war in Ukraine, unfortunately. The large, and much needed offer of aide was held up by bipartisan bickering. Consequently, Russia gained in its advances, worsening the situation in Ukraine. Desperate for men on the ground, Zelensky’s government has enacted laws to bring their men back. As a result, men who chose family over fighting are facing new challenges imposed by their home country. Passports and other documentation needed to retain their work permits are being denied renewal. While Canada will not, on principle, deport individuals to a war zone, they have failed to announce a response to an issue that affects our economy on many levels.

Without active work permits, Ukrainians will be forced to rely on social services for support. Furthermore, the many businesses that employ these workers will find themselves under staffed, affecting their profits.

Ric and I outlined our concerns in a brief that was forwarded to the Prime Minister’s office. We have received no response. We are now considering our next steps. In two or less years since Ukrainians chose to settle in our communities, we have witnessed their motivation to work hard and to integrate into our society as active and vital citizens. Our intention is help them continue to thrive.

Under the Canada-Ukraine Authorization for Emergency Travel, Ukrainians were given three years temporary residency and an open work or study permit. These privileges will continue into 2025, and longer, if they are able to extend their visas, or better, obtain Permanent Residency. It is what happens beyond the three-year mark that is of concern, and as slow as the government is to respond to such issues, we see a need to lobby for answers now.

So that’s what we’re up to these days. Until next time.

Sudoku

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COLUMN

WHAT'S FOR DINNER: Midsummer ideas

**By Lauren Eedy**

Midsummer (or Midsommar in Swedish) falls on Monday, June 24 this year, but celebrations usually begin on a Friday throughout Nordic countries and in Canada and the United States.

It essentially marks the summer solstice and is considered one of the more important holidays in Sweden. It is a celebration of summer, fertility, friends and family, and traditions such as singing, dancing, drinking and, most importantly, eating. The following are a few ideas for welcoming in the season; don't forget your floral wreath!

Swedish potato salad

This is a take on my Grandmother Eedy's (nee Strom) potato salad. It can be served warm or cold and is perfect served as a main or side dish

during warmer weather.

2 lbs fingerling potatoes (or small new red potatoes)

1 red onion, chopped

2 tbsp white wine vinegar

2 tbsp olive oil

¾ cup broth (beef or vegetarian)

Freshly ground black pepper to taste

¼ tsp white ground pepper

2 tbsp capers

3-4 radishes, thinly sliced.

6 bacon slices cut into small pieces

Fresh dill for garnish

Method:

- Cook the fingerling potatoes until fork tender, cut up into desired pieces.

- In a small saucepan, combine red onion, vinegar, oil, broth and pepper. Cook for a few minutes.

- Cook bacon pieces until crisp, set on paper-towel-lined dish.

- Pour mixture over potatoes and mix, then mix in capers, radishes and bacon. Finish with freshly chopped dill.

Cured salmon (gravlax)

Marinated salmon that is similar to smoked salmon, often served with a sweet dill and mustard sauce (senap). Wildly popular in Swedish cuisine.

2 filets of salmon (preferably from a fishmonger, ask for it to be deboned), frozen for 72 hours to kill any parasites.

3 tbsp caster sugar

4 tbsp salt

2 tsp crushed black pepper

1 bunch of fresh dill

Grated zest from one lemon

Method:

- Mix the sugar, salt, pepper, lemon zest and finely chopped dill. Run the salmon filets with the mixture and put them together on top of each other so both meat sides are touching.

- Arrange them so the narrow tail meets the thicker neck section, that way you get one evenly thick salmon 'package'.

- Put a weight on the salmon (such as milk bag, bag of potatoes, slab of limestone) and leave in the refrigerator for 1-2 days. Flip the package every now and then, remembering to replace the weight.

- Remove the small bones from the salmon (if the fishmonger did not) with forceps and cut each filet into thin slices before serving. It's also best to freeze the cured salmon when not in slices.

Strawberry cream cheese half moons

Made with fresh Ontario strawberries, this dessert is best served the same day as prepared.

Prep: 40 minutes; Baking: 25 minutes; Serves: 12

1 cup diced strawberries

2 tbsp granulated sugar

1 tsp cornstarch

3 oz (90g) cream cheese, softened

¼ cup icing sugar

½ tsp vanilla extract

1-1/2 packages of frozen puff pastry, (three sheets) thawed

1 egg yolk

Garnish; granulated and icing sugars

Method:

- In a bowl, combine strawberries, granulated sugar and cornstarch. Set aside.

- Combine cream cheese, icing sugar and vanilla; mix

well with a wooden spoon until smooth, set aside.

- On a slightly floured surface, roll each pastry sheet into a 10-inch square (if necessary). Using a four-inch round cutter, cut out 12 rounds (four rounds for each sheet). Arrange on parchment-lined baking sheets.

- In bowl, beat egg yolk with 1 tsp water, brush over edges of each round. Dollop a heaping teaspoon of cream cheese in the centre of each. Top with scant tablespoon of strawberry mixture. Fold in half to form a half-moon shape; pinch edges to seal.

- Garnish: lightly brush each half moon with egg wash; sprinkle a little granulated sugar. With tip of a paring knife, cut steam vents in the centre of each.

- Bake at 375 degrees Fahrenheit in the oven for about 25 minutes or until golden brown. Let cool slightly on baking sheets then place on cooling racks. Sprinkle with icing sugar.

Tip: Freeze fresh, sliced strawberries in the summer and make these in the winter.

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Canada Day

**CANADA DAY
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**Monday July 1, 2024 11am
St. Marys ON**

It's that time to begin planning for this year's Canada Day parade. Beginning at the Pyramid Centre and proceeding to Cadzow Park. To enter your school, business, organization or any other interested folks, contact Don or Margaret at 519-284-1548. Deadline for registration is Friday, June 28th

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Riddles

What is silver and has a head and tail but no legs or arms?

A coin

What is a bunny's favourite music?

Hip Hop

What is a kangaroo's favorite year?

Leap year

What's the best way to paint the ocean?

In watercolours

What a cow's favourite past time?

Going to the MOOVies

How do pigs get to the hospital?

By HAMbulance

What is a racer's favourite sauce?

Ketch-up

How do you fix a broken pizza?

With tomato paste

What happened when 500 hares got loose on the main street?

The police had to comb the area

Why did the girl throw the clock out the window?

Because she wanted to see time fly

There are many castles in the world, but who is strong enough to move one?

Any chess player

- Word Search -

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Word List

- Seniors
- Programs
- Services
- Support
- Recreation
- Active living
- Fitness
- Line dancing
- Zoomba
- Knit and chat
- Quilting
- Pickleball
- Jamboree
- Scrapbooking
- Chair yoga
- Meals on wheels



The Riddle Kid OF THE WEEK

What do you call a chicken staring at lettuce?



Chicken sees-a-salad!!

Sawyer Terpstra (4)

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

TONS OF FUN FOR KIDS EVERY WEEK!

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 Chi-Chi, a four-year-old chihuahua crossed with a Chinese Crested. She loves walks in the forest, chasing squirrels and cuddling in blankets. She loves the people and dog she knows well but she's wary of strangers. She lives with three little girls, Hannah, Hailey and Charlotte and she absolutely adores them!



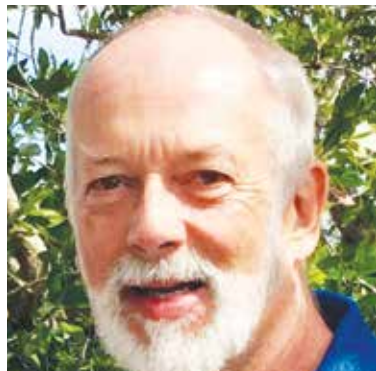
St. Marys Veterinary Clinic is pleased to be the sponsor of the **PET OF THE WEEK**
June is National Pet Microchip Month

It's the perfect time to ensure your furry friends stay safe and secure! Microchipping provides a permanent form of identification, helping lost pets find their way back home.

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COLUMN

OH, THE PLACES WE'LL GO: "Doubleday didn't invent baseball... baseball 'invented' Doubleday"



By Paul Knowles

A few weeks ago, I wrote a feature about quirky things that can befall you on a road trip. I mentioned our recent journey through the eastern United States had included a stop at Cooperstown, N.Y.

This brief reference inspired a reader to send me a rather passionate warning. He wrote, in part, "The story about baseball being invented in Cooperstown, N.Y. in 1839 by Major Abner Doubleday is apparently a total lie. Evidence suggests that Cooperstown is not the birthplace of baseball. The first recorded baseball game may very well have occurred in Beachville, Ont. on June 4, 1838."

So, I thought it appropriate to reassure my correspondent that the Cooperstown Hall of Fame does acknowledge the fact that the Doubleday story is a myth. An exhibit makes this clear; the explanatory poster is headlined, "Inventing Abner Doubleday," and the text reads, "In 1905, the United States was taking its place on the world stage, eager to establish its distinct heritage. In that spirit, sporting goods magnate Albert

Spalding handpicked a special commission to prove the national game's American roots. The eventual verdict? Civil War hero Abner Doubleday created baseball in Cooperstown in 1839.

"In fact, baseball was played decades earlier, evolving from similar bat and ball games. Doubleday didn't invent baseball; baseball 'invented' Doubleday."

This certainly doesn't support the Beachville story, but it does acknowledge the Doubleday myth is simply that – a myth with no historical foundation, even though the baseball diamond in Cooperstown still bears his name.

Now, about the museum; the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum is most definitely designed with the baseball fanatic in mind.

There are some great features that would appeal to almost anyone – a really fine movie, for example, and some very well executed statues – but the bulk of the exhibits are memorabilia with explanatory notes that demand time and attention.

A non-fan could probably visit the hall in about half an hour. A fan can spend a day. You can get immersed in baseball trivia, linger over bats, balls, gloves, jerseys, hats, shoes, water bottles, all of which have direct ties to specific, special moments in the history of the game. My favourite? The bat with which Joe Carter hit the home run that won the game – and the World Series – for the Toronto Blue Jays in 1993.

That was the famed "Touch 'em all, Joe," moment described by Blue Jays announcer, the late Tom Cheek.

There are exhibits focused on heroes of the game – Babe Ruth, Jackie Robinson, Hank Aaron, Cy Young and more. There is a noticeable attempt to be honest about the challenges of race relations within baseball. There are exhibits about women in baseball.

And then there is the plaque gallery, where fans can view the plaques of every member of the Hall of Fame – a decidedly non-digital, non-virtual experience that is relaxing and rewarding.

Most visitors come to Cooperstown to visit the Baseball Hall of Fame. But they soon discover there are two other fine museums in this small town, as well.

The Fenimore Art Museum features a number of exhibitions, some permanent and some temporary, but it specializes in American folk art. There is also an extensive exhibition titled, "The Thaw Collection of American Indian Art." I was intrigued – and a little disgruntled, given the exhibit's title – to discover that a significant number of the decorative artifacts on display were created by Indigenous people from Canada. But that quibble aside, the Fenimore is well worth visiting.

Just across the road is The Farmers' Museum, a living museum with many historic buildings,



The National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum in Cooperstown, New York. Photos by Paul Knowles

lots of live farm animals and helpful docents. I learned from one that the phrase, "bar and grill," did not originally refer to cooking – it was "bar and grille," the grille being the screen that was pulled down to close the bar.

The Farmers' Museum is a great place to wander, with lots to interest people of all ages.

I don't always highlight accommodations in my features, but in this case, I do want to recommend The Inn at Cooperstown, a historic building that maintains a bed-and-breakfast feel, has comfortable rooms and offers a terrific breakfast.

But the best thing is, guests who check out in the morning are welcome to leave their cars in the lot for the day. Since the inn is a five-minute walk from the hall of fame, this solves the ever-present tourist parking

problem.

During the warm months, Cooperstown also operates a free trolley, which runs from parking lots on the outskirts of town and will take you to all the attractions I have mentioned. Of course, you can leave your car at the inn and use the trolley to get to the Fenimore and Farmers' museums.

Cooperstown is about a six-hour drive from our area. I highly recommend it as a weekend get-away for families, couples, or baseball fanatics, even if baseball wasn't actually invented there.

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.

NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNERS TO DESTROY WEEDS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to all persons in possession of land within the municipalities of the County of Perth that:

In accordance with the WEED CONTROL ACT, R.S.O., 1990, Chapter W.5, Sections 3, 13, 16 and 23 and the respective property standards bylaw of each municipality, you are requested to destroy all noxious weeds on your property by June 15, 2024 and throughout the season.

The co-operation of all citizens is earnestly solicited.

Marvin Smith, Weed Inspector

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OBITUARY

Reid



Michael Douglas Reid, age 50, of Stratford passed away on Saturday, June 1, 2024 at St. Mary's General Hospital in Kitchener. Born in London, son of Brian Reid and the late Ann Reid. He is survived by his son Hunter Reid, daughter Malori Reid and sister Kathryn Reid. Visitation was held on Thursday, June 6, 2024 at

the W. G. Young Funeral Home, 430 Huron Street, Stratford from 2 – 4 pm where the funeral service was held at 4 pm followed by a reception in the funeral home reception centre. Cremation to take place. As expressions of sympathy, memorial donations to the Stratford Minor Baseball Association or the Heart and Stroke Foundation may be made through the funeral home. 519.271.7411 www.wgyoungfuneralhome.com

CELEBRATION



Barnett - Finlayson

Sydney Clare Barnett and David Andrew Finlayson were united in marriage on April 14, 2024.

Parents of the Bride, Meredith and Murray Barnett of Perth-South and parents of the Groom, William Finlayson and Elizabeth Booth, wish Sydney and David a long and joyful life together

OBITUARY

Mugford



MUGFORD, Edythe Yvonne (nee Abbott), born on March 11, has left this world to join the majority.

Edythe counted her riches in the family she held close and the many friends she made along her way – and she was rich beyond comparison.

Born and raised in Lucan, Ontario, she spent memorable years in London, Toronto and Prospect Hill, before settling for several decades in St Marys, then making her last move to Peterborough so that she could be closer to her children, Jamie & Lisa (Ennismore) and Julie & Jeff (Ottawa). Edythe will be missed by her children, her many nieces, nephews and cousins, and countless friends, many of whom were like family.

Edythe loved every card and photo she received, cherished every phone call and visit, and never lost sight of those in her life. Edythe lived what she taught – to live every moment like it's your last, experience all you can, love to the fullest, forgive with an open heart, and eat to your heart's content!

Her passing will leave a void in the lives of many, but her love will endure time and distance. We were all lucky to have Edythe in our lives and we can take solace in her legacy and the lessons she taught us all.

The family would like to extend a special thanks and appreciation to the staff at the Peterborough Retirement Residence, as well as to those at the Peterborough Regional Health Centre, at Hospice Peterborough, who all provided such excellent care and support.

In lieu of flowers, donations to the Heart & Stroke Foundation or to the Alzheimer Society of Canada would be appreciated.

A celebration of Edythe's life will be held on Sunday, June 16, 2024, from 1:30 – 4:30 pm, at St Marys United Church.

CELEBRATION

Come Celebrate Ed & Jean Frayne 50th Anniversary Open House

June 23rd, 2024 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

St. James Lodge, St. Marys Ontario

Best Wishes Only Please

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THANK YOU

Blackler / Nau

We would like to thank the St. Marys Fire Department, who arrived quickly and assisted us in the early morning hours on May 22/24.

To our wonderful Ann St. neighbours, friends and family, your love and kindness will not be forgotten.

To the T.D. Bank employees and the Independent Grocery Store, thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

We feel very fortunate and blessed to each and everyone who reached out and helped us during this "Our week of woes"

Jayne and Jim

IN MEMORIAM

Taylor



Kelly (Hyatt) Taylor

Nov 25, 1982 - June 13, 2022

We think of you in silence

We often speak your name

But all we have are memories

And your picture in a frame.

Your resting place we visit

And put flowers there with care

But no one knows the heartache

As we turn and leave you there.

Always Loved and Forever Missed

Mom, Dad and family

IN MEMORIAM

Lang

In loving memory of Dan Lang

We miss you more than anyone knows

As time goes by, the emptiness grows

We laugh, we talk, we play our part

But behind our smiles are broken hearts.

Love ya forever

Sam, Erin, Jesse and family

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You'll hear Cher, The Pointer Sisters, The Dixie Chicks, Ariel, Tammy Wynette, Marilyn Monroe, Nancy Sinatra, Aqua, Connie Francis, and more!

Friday, 21 June – 7 PM

Free admission – come early to get a good seat!

All donations support the St Marys Legion
66 Church Street North, St Marys

COLUMN

Straight from the Shelves

By Laura McAsh, St. Marys Public Library

On Thursday, June 20 at 7 p.m., join us at the Friendship Centre for an Author Talk with Local Author Jonny Thompson! Thompson will discuss his projects, passions, and his latest work, "The Limestone Manor". Secure your spot at this free event by visiting the following link: tinyurl.com/SMPL-Bookings. Thompson's books will be available for purchase courtesy of Betty's Bookshelf.

This Week's Recommendation

Retired police detective Clifford Shaw finds himself in the one place he swore he'd never return to, his hometown of St. Marys, Ontario. Shaw scored a room rental from an old friend, but it turns out that said room is in a house occupied by six other retirees. This discovery adds insult to the previous injury of Shaw's forced involvement in a murder mystery threatening the tranquil town. Will Shaw choose to stay in St. Marys? Can he solve the mystery before it's too late? Find out by reading "The Limestone Manor" by Jonny Thompson.

Up This Week

Friday, June 14: Open 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Saturday, June 15: Dungeons and Dragons (10:30 a.m.), Father's Day Craft* (Drop In, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.)

Monday, June 17: Trivia Night at Gilly's Pubhouse^ (7 p.m.)

Tuesday, June 18: Writing Club* - Ages 10-17 (6-7 p.m.), Writing Club* - Ages 18+ (7-8 p.m.)

Wednesday, June 19: EarlyON Play and Read (9:30-10:30 a.m.), Mahjong Intro (1-2 p.m., 6-6:30 p.m.), Mahjong! (2-4 p.m., 6:30-8 p.m.), Scrabble (6-8 p.m.), What to Know Before You Go*~ (7 p.m.)

Thursday, June 20: Author Talk with Jonny Thompson*~ (7 p.m.)

*Registration Required

^Held at Gilly's Pubhouse (17 Water St., St. Marys)

~Held in Pyramid Recreation Centre or Friendship Centre (317 James St., St. Marys)

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

I am trying to put together a book on the history of Transvaal. The problem I am being told by current and former residents is that it can't be done. I need people to send me their memories of life in

Transvaal and memories of their walk to the SS #7 Transvaal schoolhouse. Growing up in Transvaal, I want to know what they experienced.

This is an open call to all former residents, their families and current residents. Come on people, we can get it done.

Transvaal - "Rooted in Tradition"

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THE WEEK AHEAD

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

St. Marys Public Library events - See Page 29

Friday, June 14

- St. Marys Cement community liaison committee meeting at St. Marys Municipal Operations Center, James Street South - 10 a.m.

- Station Gallery preview of "Invited" exhibit - 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

- Royal Canadian Legion hot dog/sausage lunch at Noon

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

Saturday, June 15

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

- Physio Nook open house at 18 Water St S - 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

- Canadian Baseball Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony - 1-3:30 p.m.

- Station Gallery reception for "Invited" exhibit - 1-4 p.m.

- Stan Brookshaw 80th birthday celebration at 1860 Road 138, St. Marys - 1-4 p.m.

- Square One Skate Shop fundraiser and skate contest at Rotary All Wheels Park - 5 p.m.

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

Sunday, June 16

- Rotary Club Brews & Food Fest at the Canadian Baseball Hall of Fame. VIP ticketholders access at 12 p.m., Regular ticketholders 1-6 p.m.

- The Coulthard twins 85th birthday celebration at Downie Optimist hall, St. Pauls - 1:30-4:30 p.m.

Monday, June 17

- St. Marys Horticultural Society Rose & Flower Shop and open meeting at the Legion - 7 p.m.

Wednesday, June 19

- Friendship Centre 50th anniversary open house - 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

LOOKING BACK



BY AMY CUBBERLEY

New golf courses

25 years ago (1999)

Parks Canada, with the assistance of the Historic Sites and Monuments Board, has worked with the Town of St. Marys to provide upgrades to Arthur Meighen's grave at the St. Marys Cemetery. Bilingual bronze plaques have been installed near the cemetery chapel, just a few steps from the former Prime Minister's final resting place, and a Canadian flag will grace the grave site as well.

The Board of Health has announced that the Perth District Health Unit has received a four-year accreditation. This is the highest award that a health unit can earn from the Ontario Council of Community Health Accreditation.

Computers for the children's library were donated by the Toronto Dominion Bank last week. Linda Schuyler of TD presented the computers to Lynn Brooks of the Friends of the Library and Barb Taylor, Chief Librarian.

50 years ago (1974)

Gary Douglas of St. Marys, current club champion at Stratford, has been invited to compete in the 1974 Ontario Champion of Champions Golf Tournament. This will be played at Scarborough Club.

Work is moving ahead on construction of greens for the new golf course in connection with the Miller recreation area complex along the West River Road at Glengowan in Blanshard Township.

Local motorists will be pleased to know that Board of Works personnel plan to begin a two-week program of pothole plugging late this week.

75 years ago (1949)

Sunday's heat wave brought hundreds of bathers to the local Stone Quarry swimming pool, the first mass immersion of the season.

St. Marys Golf Club Ltd. now has 215 registered memberships according to Lions Golf Committee Chairman J.J. McLaughlin. Several social functions are planned for the clubhouse soon.

An appeal against a judgement handed down last year upholding a discriminatory clause in a deed banning Jews and people of colour from Beach O'Pines summer resort near Grand Bend was dismissed last week in Ontario Appeal Court in written judgements.

100 years ago (1924)

At the annual convention of the Weekly Newspaper Association of the entire Dominion held at Toronto on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, Lorne Eedy was elected President and also Chairman of the advisory board.

On Wednesday afternoon a small but representative group of citizens assembled at the Golf Course and were delighted with the progress made by Dr. Fred Page and his staff of men. Mayor Richardson officially opened the links by teeing off.

The St. Marys Baseball Club are going to have another try at fame in the entertainment field when they stage their big vaudeville and motion picture show at the Lyric Theatre next Wednesday evening. The feature is "The Gunfighter" and the vaudeville will include a variety of well-known local talent.



www.gardenontario.org/site.php/stmarys

Rose and Flower Show and Open Meeting

MONDAY, JUNE 17TH AT 7:00 PM

ST. MARYS LEGION HALL

Speaker: Heather Jerrard

Topic: Weird and Wonderful Plants



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\$ Cash Paid \$ for your RECORDS and LPs. Jazz, Blues, Rock, Pop, Folk, Soundtracks, and more. Selectively buying CDs, Cassettes, Turntables, and Stereo Equipment. For more information: Diamond Dogs Music 114 Ontario St. Stratford/ 226-972-5750

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A working camcorder that will play Hi-8 digital tapes. Phone 519-284-3774

Wanted to buy

All collectibles including sports cards, beanie babies, Funko pops and stamps. Highest prices paid. Free appraisals. Are you downsizing or need an estate clean out? We can help. Call or text Stan anytime 519-868-3814.

Wanted

I will pay cash for antiques and collectibles. Coca Cola, Pepsi or any pop company. Brewery items - Kuntz, Huether Labatts, etc. Old radios and gramophones, wristwatches, pocket watches, old fruit jars - Beaver Star, Bee Hive etc. Any old oil cans and signs - Red Indian, Supertest etc. Any small furniture. If you are moving or cleaning out stuff please contact me - 519-570-6920.

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Shade trees, Fruit trees, Apple, Pears, Peaches, Plums, Sweet and Sour Cherries, Apricot, Nectarines, Blueberry, Haskopp, Black Chokeberry, Grapes etc. Lots of Spruce, Pine, Cedars for windbreaks and privacy hedges, Sizes 1 to 6+. Flowering shrubs and much more. Come check us out Mon-Sat 7:00am - 6:00pm Martin's Nursery 42661 Orangehill Road Wroxeter (1 concession north of Wroxeter on Belmore Line)

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2017 Toyota Hybrid Camry XLE 62,000kms \$24,999 certified. Call 519-301-1353

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HELP WANTED

Stratford Police Service



SERVING SINCE 1854

Stratford Police Service

We currently have openings for the following position:

CELL GUARD CASUAL/ON CALL

Please refer to the City of Stratford website at www.stratford.ca for details of the duties for this position, minimum qualifications, and application submission process.

Application forms will be available on the Stratford Police Service website under the "Careers" link.

Completed application packages for this Cell Guard (Casual/On Call) position will be accepted until June 28, 2024.

Please mail or deliver completed applications to Stratford Police Service, 17 George Street West, Stratford, ON N5A 1A6.

We thank all applicants for their interest; however only those selected for testing will be contacted.

THANK YOU

Kestle-Youngson-Mills

The Family of Edith Kestle would like to express our deepest thank you to everyone who sent condolences, cards and wishes in the death of our beloved mother. Thank you to all who attended the celebration of life on June 3rd. We were overwhelmed by the amount of people who came to share sweet memories of our mother with us.

Thank you to Andrew Hodges for such care and attention to the smallest of details for our mother's burial and celebration. A great big thank you to Gary Mallalieu for such a beautiful graveside service. Each piece of it was chosen with our mother in mind. And to the ladies of the Legion for a delicious lunch for the celebration.

We especially say a huge thank you to the nurses of CarePartners who took such good care of Mom in her apartment the last 9 months of her life; your care and dedication so touched our hearts. Many thanks to the doctors of the HPHA, especially Dr. Travail and Dr. Burley. And a final thank you to the nurses at St Marys Hospital in the final moments of Mom's life. Your compassion did not go unnoticed. It was very touching.

Edith's Children

IN MEMORIAM

Facey

In memory of our Mother, Margaret Facey who passed away 25 years ago, June 12, 1999.

We also remember at this time our Dad, Wilbur Facey who left us 10 years ago, July 11, 2014.

Sadly missed along life's way

Quietly remembered every day

No longer in our life to share

But in our hearts, you're always there.

Loved and missed by Shirley, Edith, Joan and families.

THANK YOU

Facey

The family of Reta Facey would like to thank friends, relatives, and neighbours for their cards, visits and memorial donations.

Also thank you to caregivers, PSW's, doctors and nurses at St. Marys Memorial Hospital and Wildwood Retirement Center. Andrew Hodges was a big help in our time of need. Reta was a great lady and will be sorely missed.

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

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Dylan wants to know two things:

1. Where her mom is
2. Why her Grampa likes Elvis so much

Photo of Goldie Garratt by Gemma James Smith

Saving Graceland

Written by Gil Garratt

PREMIERES

JUNE 19 - AUGUST 3

Blyth Memorial Hall
Blyth, ON

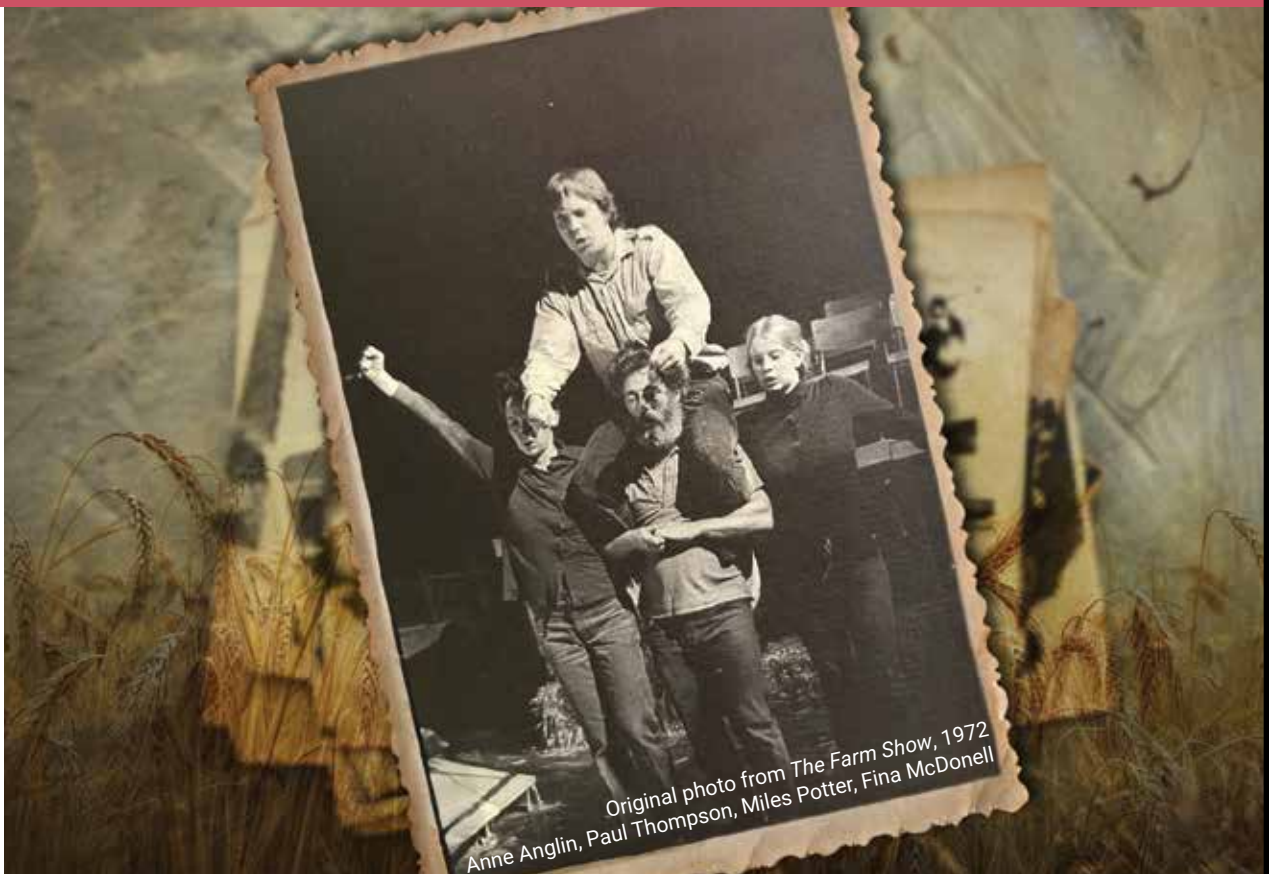
The Farm Show: Then & Now

PREMIERES

JUNE 12 - AUGUST 4

Outdoors on the Harvest Stage

The Play that inspired the Blyth Festival. In 1972 a group of actors volunteered on some farms in Huron County. Then they made a play about it and the farmers went to the play. Folks laughed and cheered and saw themselves onstage for the first time ever. 52 years later, we're celebrating by putting that magic onstage all over again.



Original photo from The Farm Show, 1972
Anne Anglin, Paul Thompson, Miles Potter, Fina McDonnell