

# St. Marys Independent

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Issue #1156

Thursday, April 27, 2023

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## Quilt Show a resounding success



Approximately 2,300 people attended the 2023 Piecemakers Quilt Show held at the PRC April 20-22, with visitors from all over southern and southwestern Ontario. Pictured above is Diane Carson, winner of the Viewers Choice Quilt. Carson commented "With the caliber of the quilts hanging, the added bonus was for Anne Beaudoin and I to win the Viewers Choice with our quilt called "To The Nines". Anne's piecing of 1/2" 9 patches makes it easy to quilt. We have been a quilt team for almost 20 years". See photos on pg. 18

## St. Marys Firefighters' Breakfast returns May 7, 2023

The St. Marys Firefighter's breakfast is back for the first time since 2019!

This year's breakfast is happening on Sunday, May 7, 2023, at the Fire Hall from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Parking is available in the DCVI lot.

The cost is \$10 per adult or \$5 per child aged five to 12. Children under age five eat for free. Breakfast will include sausage, bacon, scrambled eggs, fried eggs, potatoes, milk, toast, juice, coffee, and tea.

The breakfast is always held the Sun-

day before Mother's Day and is one of the Fire Department's major fundraisers. Proceeds from the event will be put towards the fight against Muscular Dystrophy.

"This breakfast has become a beloved local tradition," says Deputy Fire Chief Kevin Edwards. "The firefighters start planning this event several months in advance to make sure it is a success."

"In the past, we've seen as many as 1,100 people attend," says Fire Chief

Continued on page 2

## Masking to Remain Mandatory in Clinical Areas at HPHA Hospitals

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, the Huron Perth Healthcare Alliance (HPHA) has worked closely with our partners in Infection Prevention and Control to ensure patients, staff, physicians and families/caregivers are safe and protected while in our hospitals. Along with our partner hospitals throughout the South West Region, and based upon the most recent Public Health Ontario guidance, updates will be made to our Universal Masking Policy to reflect current health and safety risks.

Effective Monday, April 24, 2023 masking will be required when in any clinical area of our hospitals and recommended, but not required, in non-clinical areas. Hospital-provided medical grade masks will continue to be provided with masking stations set up throughout HPHA hospital sites, not just at entrances.

"Masks continue to be a key tool for infection prevention and control," says Erica Jensen, Manager of Quality, Patient Safety and Infection Control.

"But with risks being lower right now, due to the fact that the vast majority of Ontarians have been either vaccinated or exposed to the virus, our masking guidelines can be relaxed slightly."

### What This Means for Our Patients, Staff, Physicians, Families/Caregivers and Visitors

Masking is required in all clinical areas where patient care is provided. This includes:

- Inpatient Units
- Emergency Departments
- Outpatient Clinics
- Imaging
- Lab

Continued on page 2

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# COMMUNITY —

## Masking to Remain Mandatory in Clinical Areas at HPHA Hospitals

Continued from page 1

- Waiting Rooms

Masking is recommended, but not required, in public spaces and non-clinical areas.

This includes:

- Hallways
- Elevators
- Cafeterias
- Meeting Rooms
- Administrative Offices
- "Clinical areas that require masking

will be clearly marked," adds Jensen. "If you are not sure, wear a mask. If you feel sick or have symptoms of illness, you are strongly encouraged to wear a mask in all areas of our hospitals. If you are a family member or caregiver who is feeling unwell, it is advised that you postpone your vis-

it with your loved one until you are feeling better."

It is also important to note that Universal Masking may be reintroduced based on disease activity, during respiratory season and for outbreak management.

## St. Marys Firefighters' Breakfast returns May 7, 2023

Continued from page 1

Richard "Andy" Anderson. "Along with being a fundraiser, we also use the breakfast as an opportunity to talk fire

prevention and promote fire safety. It's a chance for us to remind our residents about the importance of smoke alarms and CO detectors."

Those attending can meet the firefighters, explore the Fire Hall and view a display of fire trucks and rescue equipment. Sparky the Fire dog will also be on hand.

Questions about the breakfast can be directed to the Fire Chief at rander-son@town.stmarys.on.ca or 519-284-1752.

## Scrapbookers share their passion while raising money for local seniors' programs

### Scrapbooking Garage Sale on Saturday, April 29 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

A committee of volunteers and the St. Marys Friendship Centre have teamed up to hold a Scrapbooking Garage Sale on Saturday, April 29 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at 317 James St. S.

A variety of gently used or new crafting supplies will be available for purchase tax-free. Admission to the event is free.

"We have a very dedicated group of

scrapbooking enthusiasts who plan this sale to raise money for St. Marys and area seniors' programs," says Hilary Bennett, Senior Services Activity Coordinator for the Town of St. Marys.

The sale will include an array of items like paper, handmade greeting cards for all occasions, stamps, cartridges, embellishments and more.

Once stocked up on the latest supplies, attendees may be interested in attending the Friendship Centre's monthly Scrapbooking Crops or virtual scrapbooking classes.

For details about the sale or classes, contact 519-284-3272 or email hbennett@town.stmarys.on.ca.



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### 7 Day Forecast - Weather Sponsored by The HITCHING POST

Wednesday Apr-26th	Thursday Apr-27th	Friday Apr-28th	Saturday Apr-29th	Sunday Apr-30th	Monday May-1st	Tuesday May-2nd
Sun/cloud	Sunny	Rain	Potential showers	Rain	Potential showers	Light rain
 9°C	 13°C	 11°C	 12°C	 11°C	 8°C	 6°C
Feels Like 6	Feels Like 12	Feels Like 8	Feels Like 10	Feels Like 8	Feels Like 4	Feels Like 2

# COMMUNITY —

## Kirkton-Woodham Optimist Club donates \$15,000 to the Hospital Foundation



Kirkton-Woodham Optimist Club has generously donated \$15,000 to the Hospital Foundations capital campaign! Construction is set to start this summer. (Contributed photo)

**ROYAL LePAGE**  
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 Saturday April 29 10:30 - 2:00pm  
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## COMMUNITY —

### Scam Alert!



The Stratford Police Service is reminding our community members not to send money or provide personal information to anyone before confirming whom you are interacting with.

This warning comes after reports of a scam in which victims are contacted by an individual who identifies as an employee with Amazon. The scammer informs the victim that a crime has been committed and transfers them to speak with a Crown Attorney. The victim is then informed that an investigation is ongoing and personal information and money is required to be sent.

These scams have been using the phone number for our local Crown Attorney's office, as well as giving the identity of local Crown Attorneys.

It is important to remember that a large number of phone frauds involve the use of phone number

spoofing.

This is when the scammer uses technology to display false information on the caller ID to make the call appear to be coming from a legitimate business, organization, or government agency.

Neither the Superior Court of Justice nor the Crown Attorney's office will make phone calls requesting money or asking for personal information. This information stands true with any government agency!

We encourage everyone to ask questions and do your research if you receive a call of this nature.

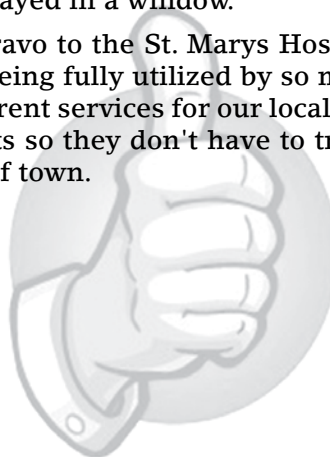
Do not be talked into providing personal information and do not make payments through any unfamiliar methods. Please share this information to help others from being the victim of fraud.

By creating awareness, we can all play a part in fraud prevention!

### Bravo

We have three Bravos this week.

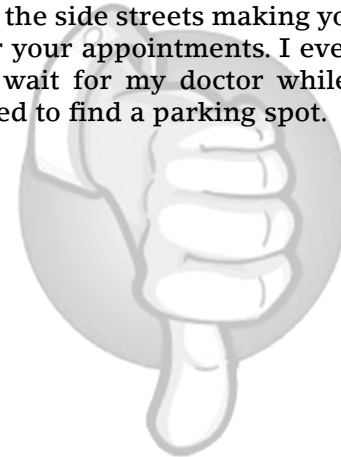
- 1) Bravo to the downtown businesses that are displaying poetry in their windows. The selections are inspiring and make a walk through Stonetown entertaining.
- 2) Bravo to our McDonald's for the colourful (locally bought) potted pansies in the windows & on some tables, also the joyful Pride flag displayed in a window.
- 3) Bravo to the St. Marys Hospital for being fully utilized by so many different services for our local residents so they don't have to travel out of town.



### Boo

We have one Boo this week.

- 1) Boo that there is not enough space at the St. Marys Hospital parking lot to accommodate all the great services available to our local residents. The parking lot needs to be expanded so you can find a parking spot when you have an appointment. Instead we circle the parking lot multiple times before one opens up or we have to park on the side streets making you late for your appointments. I even had to wait for my doctor while they tried to find a parking spot.



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

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

### Quote of the Week

*"Masks continue to be a key tool for infection prevention and control. But with risks being lower right now, due to the fact that the vast majority of Ontarians have been either vaccinated or exposed to the virus, our masking guidelines can be relaxed slightly."*

- Erica Jensen, Manager Quality, Patient Safety and Infection Control Health Unit.

## Overheard at the Coffee Shop

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If the CRA can go on strike and not affect the taxpayer, why are they employed?

Nothing fills the PRC quite like playoff hockey or a quilt show!

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

### St. Marys Independent

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### The St. Marys Independent

THOUGHTS  
OF THE WEEK

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Every day may not be good... but there's something good in every day.

As you grow older, you will discover that you have two hands, one for helping yourself, the other for helping others.

Knowing how to swim doesn't give you mastery over water.

When you know better, you do better.

# COMMUNITY —

## AllWheelsPark donation of the week



Thank you to the St Marys Lions club for their very generous donation of \$5,000 to support the repair and expansion of our Rotary All Wheels Park on James Street. The Steering Committee continues to strive to meet our goal of \$150,000. Please visit our website to learn more, watch a video and donate to this worthy cause. Thank you to our wonderful community! [townofstmarys.com/allwheelspark](http://townofstmarys.com/allwheelspark). Pictured is Joe Sangster, President of Lions Club.

# Stonetown Crier



The latest municipal news from the Town of St. Marys

### PD Day Program

Swing into spring with our PD Day Program on May 5!

Spend the day:

- Exploring nature
- Creating a masterpiece
- Swimming in the pool

This program runs from 8 AM to 5 PM and is aimed at kids in Grades 3 to 7.

Spaces are limited - sign up today!

Register: [townofstmarys.com/activenet](http://townofstmarys.com/activenet) or 519-284-2160



### Home Alone Course

Staying home alone can be a scary prospect - for kids AND parents!

The St. John Ambulance Home Alone course is designed to equip kids with the skills and confidence they need to be on their own.

This program is aimed at kids 10 and older and is happening on May 6 from 9 AM - 3:30 PM.

Register: [townofstmarys.com/activenet](http://townofstmarys.com/activenet) or 519-284-2160



### St. John Ambulance Babysitting Basics Course

The St. John Ambulance Babysitting Basics course teaches youth aged 11- 15 all they need to know to care for younger kids.

Course content includes:

- Basic First Aid
- Diaper changing
- Healthy meal prep
- Handling emergencies
- And more!

The course is running on May 7 from 9 AM - 4 PM.

Register: [townofstmarys.com/activenet](http://townofstmarys.com/activenet) or 519-284-2160



### Family Mindfulness Event

Learn how to have a mindful family lifestyle every day with Melissa McIntosh, founder of Mindful Kids Stratford!

This special event will take place on May 24 at 11 AM at the Pyramid Recreation Centre.

Pre-registration is required. Children are welcome to attend!

Register: [keyon.ca](http://keyon.ca)



Contact us: 519-284-2340 | [townofstmarys.com](http://townofstmarys.com)



# SCRAPBOOKING GARAGE sale

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Saturday, April 29, 2023

9 AM - 1 PM

St. Marys Friendship Centre  
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## Senior of the Week



Our senior of the week is Ken Sterritt who celebrated his 96th birthday on April 20. Born in Motherwell, Ken has 5 children, 6 grandchildren and 9 great-grandchildren, with one more on the way. Happy Birthday Ken!

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

## COMMUNITY —

# Quadro Communications supports the Hospital Foundation



Quadro Communications donated \$200,000 to the St. Marys Healthcare Foundation to go towards the capital campaign. Pictured, back row L-R: Paul Krevs, Anne McNeill, Remco Brinke, Darryl Evans (General Manager), Stew Slater. Front L-R: Russ Barker (Quadro Board Chair), Cindy Bilyea (SMHF Board Chair) Krista Linklater. (Contributed photo)

## Weekend Quiz

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- 1) What does the acronym "NASA" stand for?
- 2) What is the name of the fairy in "Peter Pan"?
- 3) What does the acronym "SCUBA" stand for?
- 4) "Let them eat cake" is a famous misquote attributed to whom?
- 5) Pickles start out as which vegetable?
- 6) What does "GDP" stand for?
- 7) In what country could you find the Leaning Tower of Pisa?
- 8) Who in Greek mythology is the god of wine?
- 9) In which fictional city does Batman reside?
- 10) What type of animal is Eeyore from Winnie the Pooh?

This week's answers are found on pg. 31



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**COMMUNITY —**

# Hyggeligt Establishes new 'Simply Sewing' Storefront with My Main Street Funding

Hyggeligt Fabrics in downtown St. Marys is a recipient of a My Main Street non-repayable contribution of \$10,000 to support and grow its main street business.

Hyggeligt has grown to be an international retailer of quilting fabrics while also hosting workshops for quilters of all abilities. It offers the best selection of a select group of designer fabrics, giving the customer a one-stop shop for those brands.

With the My Main Street Local Business Accelerator funding, owner Chantal Lynch was able to expand her business to establish Simply Sewing, a small space at 152 Queen Street East. This new expansion will allow Lynch to host monthly workshops as well as offer new supplies and fabrics

to customers. The funding contributed to renovations, signage and updates to the interior to make Simply Sewing a comfortable and welcoming space to shop and learn.

Hyggeligt is located at 144 Queen Street East and features an extensive online store at [hyggeligt.ca](http://hyggeligt.ca).

My Main Street is the result of a \$23.25-million Government of Canada investment through the Federal Economic Development Agency for Southern Ontario (FedDev Ontario) to support the recovery and revitalization of main streets and local businesses across southern Ontario. The funding is being distributed in partnership with investStratford, the Stratford Perth Centre for Business and the Town of St. Marys.



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## COMMUNITY —

# Kirkton's Ashley Giles making her mark in music

By Wendy Lamond

One of the great things about our community is the amount of talent that we can showcase. Kirkton area resident Ashley Giles is no exception. On May 6th, at the Brodhagen Community Centre, Giles will be hosting a Tribute Fest concert with entertainers celebrating the music of big names such as Alan Jackson, Gordon Lightfoot, Stompin' Tom Connors, plus many more.

Ashley herself is a musical talent and will be playing tribute to the amazing Alison Krauss. The event starts at 2 p.m. with a dinner at 5 p.m. followed by the musical talents of Milverton native Janna Leduc.

Ashley has been playing music since she was approximately seven years old, with her lessons starting in the classical genre. After a year, she added fiddle lessons which led her to compete, place, and win many contests around the country, including a fourth-place finish in the Grand North American Fiddle Championships in Alberta. In 2014, Giles started playing with a country dance band called the Country Versatiles. Next, she joined a Celtic Band called the American Rogues which led to her travelling around the globe. Giles commented that her favourite spot to travel was Crieff, Scotland. "The people of Crieff who



invited us made us feel like family and every pub had a dog in it. They toted us around to see everything we could possibly see in the time we had."

Giles has completed both her Viola in the Bachelor of Music and her Masters of Community Music at Wilfrid Laurier University.

This April, she has been accepted

to Western University where she will pursue an additional Master's degree in Viola Performance with the hopes of following that with a Doctoral degree in music. Next year, Giles plans on fundraising for local schools' music departments by organizing concerts that feature local talent. She is hoping this will help students with private lessons or learning an instrument that is not

normally available.

Her musical diverseness has opened many doors for Giles that may not have been possible otherwise. Her end goal is to be a university professor but she would also love to give others the opportunity to learn other genres and thus broaden their skillsets.

Another goal that Giles mentioned is "to host a camp-out weekend next year in Kirkton that will have different bands and different genres available to enjoy in a kind of petite 'world music' festival. The first year will be small but hopefully will be a success and grow".

"I'd personally like to thank my parents and teachers for helping me along this path. If it wasn't for these devoted people, I wouldn't be where I am. This goes for all parents who truck their kids around to lessons, events, etc. and give them the opportunity to grow. I'd also like to thank all the people that show up and participate in these events that I am holding. If it wasn't for the supporters, there wouldn't be events like this," Giles said.

If you are interested in attending the event on May 6th, please contact 519-719-0433 or go to [www.ashley-giles.ca](http://www.ashley-giles.ca) for more details on this concert and other events coming up.

Ashley Giles Presents  
MAY 6, 2023 - 2 PM

## TRIBUTE FEST

BRODHAGEN COMMUNITY CENTRE

	Gordon Ogilvie as <b>GORDON LIGHTFOOT</b>		Al Widmeyer as <b>STOMPIN TOM</b>
	Gerald Davidson as <b>GENE WATSON</b>		Kurtis Stoker as <b>ALAN JACKSON</b>
	Ashley Giles as <b>ALLISON KRAUSS</b>		<b>AND MORE</b>

Tribute Fest - 2 PM  
Catered roast beef dinner - 5 PM  
After show - **JANNA LEDUC** - 6 PM



**Brodhagen Community Centre**  
May 6, 2023  
6708 Perth County Line 44, Brodhagen

All Ages Event  
Licensed cash bar

Tickets:  
2 PM - Tribute Fest - \$20  
5 PM - Dinner \$20  
6 PM - Janna Leduc Concert - \$20  
Whole day ticket - \$50

519-719-0433  
Please call before May 1st to reserve dinner tickets.



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ST. MARYS COMMUNITY PLAYERS

# THE 39 STEPS

ADAPTED BY PATRICK BARLOW

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# COMMUNITY —

## "Poetry Busking" at the St. Marys Library




Mayor Al Strathdee shares a poem for the St. Marys Poetry Circle "Poetry Busking" event at the Library last Saturday. As you walk around town, you may have noticed the colourful posters of poems, displayed in store windows. These are part of the St. Marys Celebration of National Poetry Month. In collaboration with the St. Marys Poetry Circle, the B.I.A have generously sponsored the printing of the poems; some are the original work of the store owners or staff. (Nancy Bickell photo)


## Lions Club donates to Salvation Army Food Bank



The St. Marys Lions Club was delighted to make a donation to the St. Marys Salvation Army Food Bank on April 11. Pictured here is Lion President Joe Sangster, presenting a cheque for \$2,500 to Jennifer Morris, Community & Family Service Manager.



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## SPORTS —

## Lincs' 2022-23 season in review

By Spencer Seymour

Even though the team didn't achieve their ultimate goal, the fantastic season that the St. Marys Lincolns enjoyed made Head Coach Jeff Bradley proud to be a part of the organization.

"Mike [Herman] said it best when he said after Game Five that he and I have both been around some really good teams but not all of them necessarily were special. This year's team, though, was truly special. Honestly, I'm in awe of our players."

"It wasn't just the hockey part, it was the people that they were. It's not often that you have a team of great people, and we had that. That's why I'm proud to be a part of this team. Everyone on this team is going to be battle-tested and hungry coming into next year."

The Lincolns swept the Strathroy Rockets in the first round of the GOJHL playoffs followed by another four-game series win in their semi-final against the London Nationals. The Lincs' season included a winning streak of 15 consecutive home games and a six-month stretch during which the Lincolns didn't once lose two games in a row.

In the Western Conference Final, the highly-potent Leamington Flyers erased the memory of their upset loss a year ago to the Chatham Maroons by eliminating the Lincolns in five hard-fought games. Bradley told the Independent that he believes that the bitter taste of defeat will push the team's returning core to be even better next year.

"Obviously, you wouldn't like to have these lessons, you would rather just win. But it's not a bad thing for us to have these lessons and remember the pain and use it to get better next year. Guys on our team suffered this year. There were really unfortunate injuries. Austin [Keleher] had a big scare. Rourke [McEwan] hurt his shoulder at the most unfortunate time for him. There were disappointing games that we let slip away from us but all of that is character-building and I think we'll be better for it next year."



A fan bus brought a strong contingent of St. Marys Lincolns fans to Leamington for Game Five of the Western Conference Final earlier this month. Jeff Bradley said the fan support was a "massive" factor in the team's success this season, which included a 15-game home winning streak and a six-month stretch during which the Lincs didn't lose consecutive games. (Photo credit: Mike Chennette/McGinny Photography)

Arguably the player who had the hardest year from a health standpoint was defenceman Josh Cornfield, who had a series of unfortunate illnesses and injuries that limited him to just 26 games. Bradley felt bad for the Kitchener product but believes he is going to be chomping at the bit by the time next season arrives.

"He is an elite puck mover, a very calm presence on the ice. This year was tough for him because he was sick for a while and then injured for the rest. We know he's working hard to get healthy and in shape for next season and we think he has the ability to be a really important player for us."

Rourke McEwan, mentioned during Bradley's comments about the team's lessons and pain of this season in regards to his late-season shoulder injury, was credited by the Head Coach along with the team's other hometown player Jimmy Schiedel for their high levels of maturity despite not always having a regular spot in the lineup as rookies on a veteran squad.

"Guys like Jimmy and Rourke, they're young guys on a team that had championship aspirations so they weren't always playing, but they never complained. They didn't

come to practice and sulk. They showed up every day and worked hard."

"They understood that when they weren't playing, their role was to push the guys who were playing to keep getting better. Role recognition is a huge sign of maturity in individuals and that a team as a whole is ready to contend, and that's what guys like Jimmy and Rourke did."

At the start of the season, Jacob Montesi was also in a position of being in and out of the lineup. However, the rookie blueliner's consistent, reliable defensive play, coupled with constant overall improvement, made Montesi a lock in Bradley's lineup every night by the end of the year.

"Jacob's progression went a bit under the radar but his development was really big for us. At the start of the year, he was in the rotation on the bottom pair and by the end of the year, he was a staple of our defence core and a really important player for us."

To start the post-season, Montesi was one of just four defenders available to Coach Bradley along with Nathan Small, Grayden Strohack, and Josh Tidgwell. Despite the depleted nature of the backend, the quarter of rearguards shouldered

the massive load incredibly well.

"Obviously Nathan is a great player but I really respect him for giving me another opportunity to be his coach again," Bradley commented about Small, who was traded by London to St. Marys early in his Junior 'B' career. "I was on the bench when he signed his first junior card in London years ago and it didn't go as he had hoped the start of his junior career would go. For him to come back and let me coach him again speaks to his character. We have a great relationship now and it's all thanks to him being such a great person."

"I hated coaching against Josh because he's so tough and mean," laughed Bradley about the grizzled Tidgwell. "So I was really happy to get him on my team. He's respectful, super committed, and loves the game. We wouldn't have gone as far as we did without him. He was such a stabilizing presence on our blue-line. He made all of our players play a couple of inches bigger because he brought a ton of toughness to our defence."

"The best compliment I can give Grayden is that there's no way he's back with us next year," remarked Bradley on Strohack. "He is definitely an OHL-ready player and he's a really good person who the guys like being around. For a young defenceman to play such a mature game is really indicative of his talent and I firmly believe that he's going to take that next step to the OHL next season."

Part of the reason the task for the four defenders at the start of the playoffs felt so tall was the absence of Adam Barkley to start the blueliners. The native of Inkerman, Ontario was a horse for Bradley's squad all season. But as good as he was on the ice, he also displayed an incredible ability to adapt to his new surroundings and help lead a team far from his home.

"For Adam to come in not knowing anybody and to be as great a teammate as he was so impressive," Bradley said. "Everyone knows how good of a player he is, there's nothing the

Continued on page 11



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## SPORTS —

## Lincs' 2022-23 season in review

Continued from page 10

guy can't do. We played him a ton and used him in every situation. He proved that he is an elite defenceman, but just as importantly, he was also a fantastic leader."

Of course, the leadership conversation with this team can't be had without mentioning the rest of the leadership group. Specifically, those players who, along with the aforementioned Small, wore a letter on their jerseys, including Captain Ethan Lamoureux and Assistant Captains Jacob Chantler, Michael Elliston, and Eric Smith.

"I remember coaching against Ethan thinking he was a good young player and to now see him become an elite player in this league has been a joy for me," said Bradley about Lamoureux. "To watch him become the leader we had hoped for when we made him Captain and the example he set as a player who can play in any situation, I feel truly fortunate to have coached Ethan."

"I was on the bench for Jacob's first junior game with London," Bradley continued regarding Chantler, "so to be on the bench for his first and last junior game, it means a lot to me. When he came in as a 17-year-old in London, he was fantastic and he was the exact same player this year, just older, stronger, and better. He's a great leader, an ultra-competitor, and has set an incredible example for the young players on this team."

"I was fortunate enough to coach Michael in the past and it was fantastic for me when he wanted to join the Lincolns," raved Bradley on Elliston. "I have all the respect in the world for Michael and his family. He's a quiet kid but he's very respectful and he's a heck of a player. We were a team that didn't necessarily have wave after wave of explosive offensive players but Michael gave us an incredible scoring touch."

"Seeing Eric take that next step in his development and how he embraced his role as a leader was great to see," Bradley concluded on the hard-hitting Smith. "Eric is such a positive member of this team on and off the ice. Obviously, he brings that physical edge and this year really developed his game on the defensive side. He's is the kind of player and person you want in your locker room."

Smith wasn't the only player who the Head Coach felt improved his defensive play. Chase MacQueen-Spence arrived as a dynamic offensive player but Bradley saw the first-year

forward bring an incredible drive to round out his game.

"Chase came in as an ultra-skilled player but his game lacked defensive structure. But he put in the work and when we played him with Schnittker and Stubberfield for a little while, he really learned from those guys. He became a trustworthy player who you have no reservations about him being out there in the last minute of a period."

Part of the reason MacQueen-Spence developed his game on the defensive side was a stint playing alongside defensive specialists Cole Schnittker and Adrian Stubberfield. The two overagers received high praise from the bench boss, who often turned to the longtime friends and teammates to shut down the opposition's best scorers.

"I've never seen a kid bleed the jersey colours as much as Cole," Bradley stated. "All that matters to Cole is doing what the team needs him to do. His willingness to block shots and his defensive play are spectacular. There aren't too many kids who have the character that Cole has. I don't think I've seen a player love his team more than Cole."

"I don't think there's a kid that I've enjoyed coaching more in my life than Adrian. He is a great leader who prides himself on being a defensive-minded player. Everything he does, he does it the right way. He's so self-aware. He understands the game incredibly well. Adrian will be good at whatever he does but there's no doubt that he would be a really good coach."

The Lincolns had another pair of longtime friends and playing partners in Jaden Lee and Luca Spagnolo, who quickly solidified themselves as exciting and gritty scoring threats.

"You know guys are going to be good but you don't quite know how good. Having Luca and Jaden come in and immediately be impact players in your top six was such a huge part of this team getting as far as it did. Luca and Jaden are both super competitive, they never quit, and as good as they are in the offensive zone, they're really solid two-way players who aren't scared of physicality."

With the amount of offensive talent like alongside Lee and Spagnolo in the top-six forward group, the personnel on the first two lines could constantly be interchanged. A line that became unshakable for Bradley, however, was the 'Perfect Compliment' line of Keleher, Matt Prendergast, and Owen Voortman.

"This year, we wanted Austin to be a third-line centre and then, in his 19 and 20-year-old years, he's going to get the chance to be even more of an impact player in this league. The thing with Austin is whether he scores or not, the thing that never changes with him is that the more important the game is, the more impactful he becomes."

"Any first-year player coming from minor hockey will have a bit of a learning curve," continued Bradley on Prendergast, "but we had the opportunity to use Matt in the 2022 playoffs which made that learning curve a bit smaller. Matt progressed really well throughout the year in a somewhat new role for him. He works extremely hard, cares about getting better, and he's got speed and competitiveness that could propel him to being an impact player."

"In Owen's case, it's tough for kids to leave home for the first time, go to a new school, and live with a new family, but he seemed to handle it really well. Owen's potential is through the roof. He started as a centreman and we moved him to the wing, which he was able to adapt to really well. You love having players who are flexible and that's what Owen gave us. We could move him to any line when needed and other guys would ask us to put Owen on their line."

One of the biggest reasons the Lincs went as far as they did this season was the fact that they wielded arguably the best goaltending tandem in the GOJHL. Matteo Lalama was coming off a 32-game season with the OHL's Barrie Colts in 2021-22, while Carter George likely would have been the starting netminder for the OHL's Owen Sound Attack in their first-round playoff series against the London Knights had they been allowed to call him up. The two netminders meant Bradley never felt even the slightest bit worried regardless of which one was in goal.

"Getting a player of Matteo's prestige was extremely important for us," said Bradley. "St. Marys hasn't traditionally been the place that gets the big fish at the start of the season. He ended up being everything that was advertised. He didn't just come here, he came here after playing in the OHL and he treated St. Marys with respect and had a great attitude."

"We had told Carter at the beginning of the year that Matteo was going to be guaranteed a certain number of starts and Carter was fine with whatever we felt was best for the team. He always showed up with a

smile on his face. It's tough for Carter to have OHL success and then come back to Junior 'B' and serve as the backup. There are two ways you can handle that and Carter decided to handle it the proper way and was always so respectful."

When asked about the story of the season, Bradley said that he feels the success the organization experienced is going to transcend to even greater things in the future.

"We're a premier destination now. We cemented ourselves as the place to be in our area. To see the steps that this team has taken under Brandon [Boyd] and the executive, this organization has just kept growing over the last few years. We won two games in the second round last year, and now this year we got to the conference finals. Hopefully, we can keep getting better and taking this organization to the next level."

Bradley also felt that one of the most important factors in the team's ability to win their first eight playoff games and advance to the Conference Final were the people in the stands.

"We won 15 games in a row in the regular season. During the grind of a season, especially if you're going into a quieter rink, it can be tough to generate energy for yourself. We never had to worry about that at home. We knew our fans would be behind us and it was a massive help. The fans may not realize that somewhere in that crowd could be a future Lincoln."

"Whether it's a prospective player for next year or a young kid who wants to be a Lincoln when they grow up, seeing us sweep the London Nationals with over 1,000 people screaming and cheering, it's absolutely massive for this organization and makes this a team that kids want to play for."

It isn't just about what those crowd reactions could potentially do to entice future stars to strive to play for the Lincs, but Bradley also hopes that the fans helped make memories for this year's team that they will cherish forever.

"It also creates memories for our players. Whether it's Lamoureux scoring the game-winner against Leamington, Schnittker tying Game Four, or Chantler scoring the shootout winner against Sarnia, hopefully, they can look back on those moments in five-to-ten years and think fondly of their time in St. Marys.

# SPORTS —

## Lincs hand out player awards at annual banquet (Part Two)



Adrian Stubberfield received the Bannerman Memorial Award as the St. Marys Lincolns' Veteran of the Year at the team's recent Year-End Awards Banquet held at River Valley Golf & Tube Slide. Presenting the award were Mike and Chris Bannerman. The 20-year-old Chatham native was known for his excellent defensive play, serving as a mainstay on the team's penalty kill and shutdown line. (Photo credit: Spencer Seymour)



Ethan Lamoureux and Jacob Chantler were co-winners of the Frank Edge Award as the Lincolns' Regular Season MVPs, presented by Edgy himself. Chantler, who also snagged the D.R. Stevens Award for excellence in leadership was unable to attend, so the award was received by his mother Tracey. Both forwards scored 20 goals this season and Lamoureux led the team in points for the second straight year. (Photo credit: Spencer Seymour)



Jimmy Schiedel won the Jack Boyd Memorial Trophy as the team's Most Dedicated Player. The award was presented by Schiedel's own grandmother, Donna Aldis. The St. Marys product and third-generation Lincoln earned one of the loudest crowd reactions of the season with his lone goal in the 2023 post-season. (Photo credit: Spencer Seymour)



Jacob Montesi earned the R.G. Kelly Hearn Award as the Lincolns' Most Improved Player, presented by Kelli Schiedel. Montesi, in his first full Junior 'B' season, started the year in a fight for a job on the St. Marys blueline, but over the course of the year, became a mainstay on the back end for his excellent defensive play and strong skating. (Photo credit: Spencer Seymour)



Jaden Lee took home the Bert Stacey Memorial Award for Ability and Sportsmanship. Lee was just one point shy from averaging a point per game this season and was tied for the fourth-fewest penalty minutes among all St. Marys forwards. The award was presented to Lee by Jeff Shaw. (Photo credit: Spencer Seymour)



Austin Keleher finished atop the voting by the Lincolns' faithful to win the Fan Appreciation Award, presented to the Cambridge native by Lincs' play-by-play voice Spencer Seymour. Very few home games went by without Keleher having a line of fans to interact with or sign autographs for. (Photo credit: Mike Chennette/McGinny Photography)

## SPORTS —

# Strong showing in Listowel by DCVI badminton players

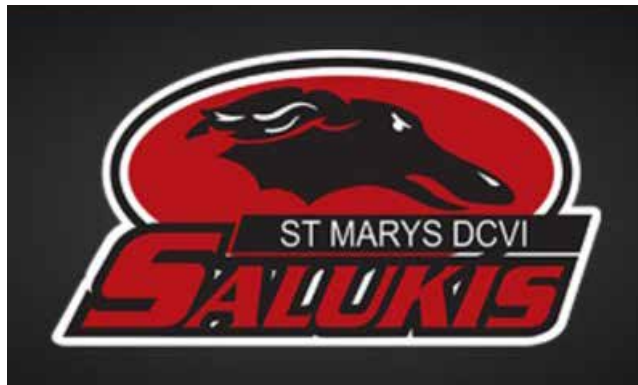
By Spencer Seymour

The members of the DCVI badminton program competed in their final tournament before the Huron-Perth Championship last Tuesday at Listowel District Secondary School (LDSS).

In boys' singles action, Nate Schiedel swept his pool matches, going 6-0 before losing in the semi-finals. Co-coach Julian Twardus said that Schiedel was playing "some really smart badminton".

"He intelligently picked on his opponent's weaker side and hit shots very deep as well as drop shots in order to keep his opponents moving," Twardus told the Independent. "He kept his cool throughout the day and showed a lot of potential both for our next tournament and for next year."

The girls' doubles team of Kylie Fifield and Eden Sinnett posted a winning record in pool play, going 4-2 which wasn't quite enough for the duo to advance to the semis. Twardus praised Fifield and Sinnett for being able to play off of each other very well.



Kylie and Eden have been noticed by some of the other school's coaches for their really smart play," said Twardus. "They have been setting up shots for each other and placing the birdie in intelligent locations. It's been awesome to see them strategize before their matches in order to help them succeed in their matches."

Both of DCVI's mixed doubles teams also posted 4-2 winning records in their pool play. The two pairings consisted of Cyler Pickering teamed with Cortney Linton and Oliver Black with Char-

lie Pickering. Twardus explained that he was very pleased with the effort of both pairs.

"This was the first time that Cyler and Cortney played mixed doubles together at a tournament, which makes their 4-2 record an even more impressive result. Cortney played strong defensively while Cyler capitalized on any opportunity that presented itself for him to smash the birdie."

"Oliver and Charlie have been playing mixed doubles together for most of the season. There has been noticeable growth as Charlie is now as effective at attacking as she is at defending. Oliver is a versatile player who is able to take advantage of the fact that he is a lefty. Overall, the development this season by all of our players has been really great and we're excited to see them in the Huron-Perth Championship."

The H-P Championship took place after the Independent went to press this past Tuesday in Wingham, with chances to go to WOSSAA at stake. The WOSSAA badminton event is being held on May 9th in London.

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**SPORTS —**

# Local connections at OHL Draft



Pictured is Liam Ladds who was one of three St. Marys Lincolns' affiliate players to be drafted in last weekend's OHL Priority Selection along with goalies Aidan Hill and Matthew Koprowski. Hill was one of five Huron-Perth Lakers to get drafted, joined by Carson Harmer, Zach Houben, Teague Vader, and Jordan Visneskie. (Photo credit: Mike Chennette/McGinny Photography)

By Spencer Seymour

Seven players with connections to the area including three St. Marys Lincolns' affiliate players (APs) and five Huron-Perth Lakers had their names called during last weekend's OHL Priority Selection.

The first local player drafted was Lakers' Captain, nephew of former Lincoln Duane Harmer, and native of nearby Fullarton, Carson Harmer, who was picked in the third round by the Saginaw Spirit. Lakers' netminder and Lincolns' AP Aidan Hill went to the Ottawa 67s in the 12th round.

The first Lincolns' AP to be selected was goaltender Matthew Koprowski who was selected by the Owen Sound

Attack in the fourth round. Then, in the fifth round, Liam Ladds was chosen by the Peterborough Petes.

Koprowski served as the Lincs' backup on numerous occasions this past season and got into one period of play for St. Marys this season, while Ladds played 12 games in total for the Lincolns during the 2022-23 campaign, including seven playoff contests.

The rest of the Lakers' contingent was rounded out by Stratford's Zach Houben going to Ottawa and Gowanstown's Teague Vader going to the Barrie Colts in the fifth round, followed by the Erie Otters nabbing Mitchell native Jordan Visneskie in the sixth round.

# SMMHA announces partial list of 2023-24 coaches



The St. Marys Minor Hockey Association announced the following partial list of coaches for the 2023-24 season. Coach application forms for the remaining vacancies will reopen on May 26th.

OMHA:

- U10A - Brent Kittmer
- U11A - Merlin Malinowski
- U12A - Jayden Rooney
- U13A - Bob Davis
- U15A - Dan McIntosh
- U16A - Gord Cookson

OWHA:

- U11 - Adam Haight
- U13 - Mark Brintnell
- U15 - Kelly Linton
- U18 - Nathan Brown

## COMMUNITY NOTICE



### ANNUAL VEGETATION MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Every year, CN is required to clear its right-of-way of any vegetation that may pose a safety hazard. Vegetation on railway right-of-way, if left uncontrolled, can contribute to trackside fires, and impair proper inspection of track infrastructure. The spray program is not being done for aesthetic reasons.

For safe railway operations, CN will conduct its annual spray program on its rail lines in the province of Ontario. A certified professional will be applying herbicides on and around the railway tracks (primarily along the 16 - 24 feet graveled area/ballast). All product requirements for setbacks in the vicinity of dwellings, aquatic environments and municipal water supplies will be met.

CN may use the following herbicides and active ingredients: Credit Xtreme (Nufarm), Esplanade (Bayer), Detail (BASF), Arsenal Powerline (BASF), Navius Flex (Bayer), Gateway (Corteva), Hasten NT (Norac), Round Up Weather Pro (Bayer), Glyphosate (540g/L),

Indaziflam (200 g/L), Saflufenacil (29.74%), Imazapyr isopropylamine (26.7%), Metsulfuron-methyl (12.6%), Aminocyclopyrachlor (39.5%), Paraffinic Oil (586 g/L), Alkoxyated alcohol non-ionic surfactants (242 g/L), Methyl and Ethyl oleate (esterified vegetable oil) 75.20%

CN only uses herbicides that have been approved for use in Canada and in the province within which they are applied.

The program is expected to take place from May to October 2023.

Visit [www.cn.ca/vegetation](http://www.cn.ca/vegetation) to see the list of cities as well as the updated schedule.

For more information, contact the CN Public Inquiry Line at [contact@cn.ca](mailto:contact@cn.ca) or 1-888-888-5909.

CN.CA



## Doing some Spring Cleaning?

If you have new, or gently used items including antiques and collectibles, please consider donating them to the

### Celebrate Harrington Community Auction

**DONATIONS** will be gratefully received at Harrington Hall, 539 Victoria St., Harrington on Thursday, May 4th: 5pm to 7pm and Saturday May 6th: 10am to noon

Please note: we are unable to accept ALL items, due to health concerns &/or lack of interest from buyers

For more information:  
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sharons@execulink.com  
Philip: 519-475-0484  
philipdkerr@gmail.com

**Hanging Basket & Planter Sale** will be held on Friday May 19th and Saturday May 20th. Further details to follow.

Auction runs May 10th -16th [www.32auctions.com/Harrington\\_2023](http://www.32auctions.com/Harrington_2023)

**SPORTS —**

# Monday Daytime Curling League awards presented



The Monday Daytime Curling League presented its awards at the league's recent year-end event. Pictured above are Ernie Vanderschot, Leslie Cudmore, Joyce Greenaway, and Jim Martin, who received the Burns Blacker Award for winning the Fall 2022 playdown.



Pictured above is the team of Marvin Hartwick, Ted Bestard, and Doug Ranton. The team's final member, Michele Ivanouski, was absent from the presentation. The team was presented with the Burns Blacker Award for the Winter 2023 playdown.



## TOWN OF ST. MARYS Water Flushing Program

The Town of St. Marys will be flushing all water mains and hydrants between May 1 and 26, 2023.

DATE(S)	TIMES	LOCATIONS
May 1 - 5	7 AM - 5 PM	Area west of the Thames River
May 7	6 PM - 12 AM	Queen St. E (downtown core)
May 8 - 12	7 AM - 5 PM	Area south of Trout Creek from the Thames River to James Street, including James Street South
May 15 - 19	7 AM - 5 PM	Area south of Trout Creek and east of James Street
May 23 - 26	7 AM - 5 PM	Area north of Trout Creek and east of the Thames River

### POTENTIAL SERVICE DISRUPTIONS

Your water may be discoloured as naturally-occurring minerals are disturbed during flushing. If you experience discolouration, run cold water until it becomes clear. Avoid doing laundry until the discolouration has cleared. If your water does not run clear after five minutes, turn off the tap and wait 30 minutes before trying again.

Contact: 519-284-2340, ext. 221 or 519-284-1654

# ROTARY CLUB OF ST. MARYS PROUDLY PRESENTS 97<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL RURAL URBAN NIGHT

#### AUCTION INFORMATION

**Name:** Rotary Club of St. Marys Rural Urban Online Auction  
**Auctioneer:** Shackleton's Real Estate & Auction Co.  
**Type:** Online-Only Auction  
**Date(s):** April 20 - 28, 2023  
 Sale begins on Thursday April 20, 2023, at 12:00 a.m. The sale will begin to close on Friday, April 28, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. with a three-minute soft close in effect.  
**Preview Date/Time:** There is no in-person preview.  
**Checkout Date/Time:** The Rotary Club of St. Marys will contact successful bidders to make arrangements related to purchased items.  
**Buyer Premium:** 0%  
**Description:** All proceeds from this auction support the work of the Rotary Club of St. Marys. The club is a major sponsor of the new skateboard park. Previously the club sponsored the Canadian Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum, Cadzow Park Splash Pad, weekly delivery of community meals during COVID, and recently supported displaced Ukrainian families in our area.

**Link for online auction:** <https://shackletons.hibid.com/catalog/443131/rotary-club-of-st-marys-rural-urban-online-auction>

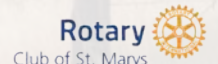
**Scan to go to auction:**



#### AUCTION ITEMS

- Lot 1:** Town of St Marys Facility Tour
- Lot 2:** The Healing Power of Singing
- Lot 3:** Explore the Bruce
- Lot 4:** Chef's Dinner
- Lot 5:** London Knights Prime Seating
- Lot 6:** Blue Jays Tickets
- Lot 7:** St Marys Votorantim Cement Plant VIP Tour
- Lot 8:** Brunswick Pool Table
- Lot 9:** St Marys From the Air
- Lot 10:** Our Nation's Capital

Full details of each auction item can be found on the online auction site or by scanning the QR code.



**SPORTS —**

# Minor Basketball teams play year-end tournaments

By Spencer Seymour

The last two weekends saw season-ending tournaments for the Boys' and Girls' Minor Basketball teams.

This past weekend, the Girls' squad played with considerable passion and energy at their year-end tournament but fell just short of the Championship, losing 21-19 to a spirited Goderich Thunder team, who had come out on the losing end of the last two meetings between the two teams. Alana Savile and Morgan Reid had outstanding games for St. Marys in the Championship battle.

Earlier in the day, St. Marys advanced to the finals with a 38-15 decision over Stratford. Charlotte Richardson led the scoring in the semi-final.

Coaches Tim O'Connor and Alana Richardson both expressed a feeling of pride for the Girls who finished their season with an impressive 10-2 record.

"These girls had a great year. They always showed up at practice ready to work and they made this a very fun year for Alana and I. Our six graduating players did a really good job leading this team and we hope to see all six girls playing basketball for their high school teams in the fall."

The team's six graduating players include Charlotte Richardson, Alana Savile, Sparrow Mund, Ella Haight, Regan Jones and Abi Struben.



The Girls' Minor Basketball team advanced to the Championship game of their year-end tournament this past weekend. The Boys' squad played their final tournament of the season on April 15th and turned in a very valiant effort. Pictured above is the Girls' team. In the front row, from left to right, are Alana Savile, Regan Jones, Charlotte Richardson, Ella Haight, Abi Struben, and Sparrow Mund. In the back row, from left, are Coach Andy Richardson, Sara McClean, Corinna Ropchan, Chelsea Stevens, Lily Holesstelle-Black, Chloe Phillips, Morgan Reid, Addison Jones, Bella Struben, Abby Posthumus, and Coach Tim O'Connor. (Contributed photo)

One weekend earlier, the Boys' team turned in a solid effort in their year-end tournament, coming up just short of cracking the semi-finals.

The Boys started the tournament with a 43-20 victory over Stratford

before losses to Saugeen Shores and Kincardine. Despite the result, Head

Coach Ken French was really happy with the team's effort. "The boys played with tremendous grit and integrity. They each found their role and we played like a team for most of the tournament. Even though we didn't get the outcome we were looking for, I couldn't be more proud of this group."

"They have taken amazing strides this year and I truly can't wait to see what is next for this group in the future. Regardless of their next steps competitively, they have all grown as students of the game, as teammates and as young men."

The team was led in scoring by Ben Ewing, Donny McGregor, and Henry Switzer. They had stellar play at both ends from Peyton Wynands, Quinn McDonald, Harper Murrell, and Parker Levy. There was strong defensive play from Luca Nirta and Mac Hern.

"Steve Reid and I coached the team and really enjoyed the relationships we built with the boys. It's bittersweet as most of the boys will be aging out next year. We look forward to seeing the team continue next season under the veterans Dylan Chateauvert, Spencer Bayer, Noah Diehl and Will Richardson."



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and operated Simply Sew in downtown St. Marys for 13 years.

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**SPORTS —**

# Monday Daytime Curling League awards presented



Pictured above is the quartet of Paul Allen, with Ernie Vanderschot, Susan McCutcheon, and Greg Walker behind him. The team earned the Jim Nairn Trophy, who won the 2023 Wrap-up Mini-Spiel. (Contributed photos)

# St. Marys duo takes Bronze at Provincials



Pictured is the team of Jeff and Jaxon Cubberley who took Bronze at the YBO Two-some Provincial Tournament. The duo was entered into the Bowler and Non-Bowler class. They bowled on Sunday, April 23rd at Lakeview Bowl in Peterborough. (Contributed photo)



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**COMMUNITY —**

# Biannual Piecemakers Quilt Show held at the PRC



One of the participating vendors in the Merchant's Mall was "The Cotton Harvest" from Seaforth. Quilt shops and quilt related businesses are invited to bring their wares and set up a booth for visitors to shop at the show. 16 businesses from across Southern Ontario participated with a wide range of products. (Nancy Bickell photo)



Members of both the Stonetowne and the Huron Perth Guilds were challenged to make a 20" square quilt in any manner but only using blue and/or green with no more than 10% of another colour. All were uniquely different. (Nancy Bickell photo)



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**COMMUNITY —**

# St. Marys Memorial Hospital Auxiliary has been busy

The Auxiliary, which was formed over 70 years ago to raise funds to support the St. Marys Memorial Hospital, has been busy!

In partnership with Sunshine Drugs (Jackson's Pharmacy), the Auxiliary directed funds generously donated by Margaret Watt towards patient care kits. These kits will be distributed on an as-needs basis by hospital staff to hospitalized patients.

The Stonetowne Quilter's Guild donated a beautiful lap quilt to the Auxiliary, stitched and quilted by Guild members, to be used as first prize in a raffle to be drawn on June 7. Second prize is a handbag containing a \$75 gift certificate for the hospital Boutique, third prize is a hand-made decorative bird house. Tickets are now on sale at the hospital Boutique and from any member of the Auxiliary.

In partnership with Troyer's, who made space for display tables in their downtown spice store, the Auxiliary held a successful Bake Sale on Easter Weekend.

A popular Bingo night is coming up at the Pyramid Centre June 7, running from 7:00 to 10:00pm.

Funds raised by the Auxiliary through these and many other initiatives include a donation to Rotary Hospice Stratford Perth, the purchase of a Sara Steady chair lift for St. Marys Memorial Hospital and a commitment for the purchase of a Bariatric Commode and a Dynamic Tilt Wheelchair also for the town's hospital.

You can support the Auxiliary by visiting the Boutique in the hospital lobby for tax-free shopping (open Monday to Friday 2:00 to 4:00), attending our many fundraising events, or by becoming a member, as new members are always welcome!

For more information, The Boutique at St. Marys Memorial Hospital or [smmhauxiliary@gmail.com](mailto:smmhauxiliary@gmail.com)



Left to right: Auxiliary members Janis Fread and Vicky Vine; Julie Richardson, Front Store Manager, Jackson's Pharmacy; Joyce Mulholland, Auxiliary member; and Margaret Watt.

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What's the difference among prose, poetry, history, allegory and parable? What about the "kind of weird" or scary bits of the Bible?

If you've ever wondered how to read it, here's your chance: a weekly lecture with time for questions and discussion.

**When:** Tuesdays in May, 6.30 - 7.45 p.m

**Where:** St. Marys Public Library. 2nd floor.

**Who:** Dr. Mark McKim, minister of First Baptist Church, holds degrees from the University of New Brunswick, Acadia University and a doctorate from Boston University. He has twice undertaken sabbatical study at Oxford University, England. In addition to dozens of journal articles and reviews, he has written several books and has taught in Canada, the United States and Asia.

For people of any faith or none, the curious, confused, conflicted, seekers, skeptics and every one in between.

No previous knowledge of the Bible needed.

No one will be "put on the spot", asked questions or be asked to sign up for anything.

# COMMUNITY —

## DCVI students help plant 190 native trees and shrubs on Cement Plant property



Pictured above, from left to right: Aarthi Aruliah (Cement Plant Graduate Engineer); Tony Black (Cement Plant Quarry Manager); Brynn Anderson (Upper Thames Employee); Kara Terpstra (Cement Plant Environmental Manager); Vanni Azzano (Supervisor, Community Education for Upper Thames).

On Friday April 21st, one day before earth day, approximately 50 DCVI students helped plant 190 trees and shrubs on St. Marys Cement Plant property on Carrall Street.

The planting initiative was a joint effort between the Cement Plant and

the UTRCA who have worked together in the past. There were 12 different species planted which included: red maple, paper birch, silky dogwood, red-osier dogwood, northern spice-bush, trembling aspen, black cherry, bur oak, staghorn sumac, elderberry, white spruce, and red oak.



DCVI students watch on as Upper Thames employee Brynn Anderson shows them the proper way to dig holes for the trees and shrubs.

A number of the students that participated are currently enrolled in the SHSM Environment Program, which is based on knowledge, skills, and on the job learning opportunities focused on the field of environmental studies. On Thursday, April 20th an Eco conference was held in Strat-

ford for students who are enrolled in the SHSM program. The purpose of the conference was to discuss climate change and social action.

The 190 trees planted, covered approximately one half of an acre of land.

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# Thames Centre hosts Volunteer Breakfast in Thorndale

By Nancy Abra

National Volunteer Week was from April 16th to 23rd. The Municipality of Thames Centre hosted their annual 'Volunteer Breakfast' on Tuesday, April 18th at the Thorndale Lions Community Centre to honour the many people that contribute to their communities.

The national theme for 2023 Volunteer Week was 'Volunteering Weaves Us Together'. The importance of volunteering strengthens and brings vitality to the communities in which we serve and live. Getting involved in various ways, we find friendships, link relationships and reinforce our ability to grow, thrive and create positive change with our communities. (<https://volunteer.ca/nvw>)

In Thames Centre's Mayor Sharron McMillan address to the gathered volunteers, she thanked everyone for coming and expressed the gratitude of Thames Centre Council for the time, energies and experience the



volunteers give to their communities. She also stated, "No matter how you choose to volunteer...whether it's with a service group, organization, church, sports team, or a simple act of kindness...it strengthens our com-

munities and weaves our lives together. The impact of volunteers...your kindness and generosity will leave a lasting legacy ... and perhaps inspire more to follow in your footsteps."

Deputy Warden, Aina DeViet, of Mid-

dlesex County was also on hand and stated in her address to the volunteers, "On behalf of Middlesex County, I want to express our heartfelt appreciation to all of you, for [your] unwavering dedication and commitment in making our communities a better place. Your passion, generosity and kindness are an inspiration to us all. Thank you for your service and for being an integral part of the community's successes."

There was a good turnout of approximately 150 volunteers from across Thames Centre. Alberta's Restaurant & Pizzeria of Dorchester catered the full breakfast which was served by Thames Centre councillors. Volunteers represented their service groups and organizations active in Dorchester, Thorndale and throughout the municipality. Bill Tipping, president of the Thorndale Optimists remarked, "having this volunteer breakfast has been well received as we appreciate being recognized for our community work."

# Heeman's celebrating 60 years

By Nancy Abra

Bill and Susan Heeman had a dream. They wanted to come to Canada to raise a family and start a business after immigrating from Holland in 1963 and settling south of Thorndale. Every new venture has some risks. But the Heemans knew determination and hard work were vital to fulfill their dream, especially in a new country.

While Bill worked as a mechanic in London, Susan worked their small farm, growing strawberries and selling them on the side of the road. Today this strawberry patch has expanded to 70 acres of various varieties of strawberries available from June to October.

In the mid-1970s, Bill and Susan Heeman expanded their little farm into growing bedding plants. From one greenhouse to now a conglomerate of state-of-the-art greenhouses and

growing facilities, the Heeman family continues to produce quality plants for their customers.

Since that dream was planted 60 years ago, the second and third generations have taken the wheel of innovation and fortitude as they continue to grow and serve their customers.

Will Heeman, the grandson of Bill and Susan, remarked, "Celebrating our 60 years gives us the reason to pause and reflect on our growth and how we got here."

Over the years, Heeman's commitment to its customers and community has not wavered; sustainably grow the highest quality plants and produce a great product for their guests at a fair price. The vision for Heeman's is to make their space a 'happy place' for customers when they visit their greenhouse or berry farm.

The Heeman values also extend past their business location and into their community. Will stated, "Our community is like a plant; it must be nurtured to grow. We take pride in giving back to the community and see the results."

Heeman's is planning some fun activities to celebrate its 60th anniversary with a special Anniversary Open

House weekend on May 6th and 7th. Guests that day can expect behind-the-scenes tours (reserved ahead of time on their website), free cookies, face painting, live music and over \$10,000 in prizes being given away. For more details, visit their website [www.heeman.ca/60th-anniversary/](http://www.heeman.ca/60th-anniversary/)



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## HISTORY —

## HISTORIC ST. MARYS: The Barbour Family

By Mary Smith

When Agnes Robertson Barbour marked her 90th birthday on May 20, 1913, the St. Marys Argus described how her many friends and relatives gathered for the happy event. She was, the newspaper stated, "one of the town's oldest and most highly esteemed citizens," having lived in the community since 1854. Agnes died a few months later on December 8, 1913. Her husband, contractor and builder Robert Barbour, had died in 1898. Of the Barbours' eight children – three sons and five daughters – only one had predeceased his parents. William, born in 1863, the Barbours' seventh child, had died at the age of 28. The nature of his death must have shattered his close-knit family. In April 1891, William was murdered in Portland, Oregon, the victim of a violent robbery.

In the late 1800s, like many others in eastern Canada, some of the Barbours left the comforts of well-settled southern Ontario and went west. In the 1870s, the Barbours' eldest son, Henry, a carpenter like his father, went to Grand Falls, Montana. Although he kept in touch with his family, there is no record of his ever returning to St. Marys. The Barbours' second oldest daughter, Agnes, married John Donald, a Scot from Aberdeenshire. She was a school teacher and he was a clerk in a local store. The couple moved west and settled in Moosomin, a small town in what was then called the Territories, later Saskatchewan, near the provincial border with Manitoba. John Donald again found work as a store clerk. Eventually, he was appointed postmaster of Moosomin. He and Agnes became part of the community, raising three daughters and a son in Saskatchewan.

Robert Barbour himself was drawn to the Territories. Having built his fine, limestone residence at 210 Thomas Street in the mid-1880s, he then went west for an extended period and may have considered moving permanently. But for whatever reason, he changed his mind. A small item in the St. Marys Argus, February 10, 1887, states: "Mr. R. F. Barbour and two sons, residing for two years in the North-West, will soon be home and take up residence again in the Stone Town." Robert was back to stay and became involved once more in town affairs. But his sons, William and Peter, went west again and found work in Moosomin where their sister, Agnes Donald, lived. Peter later returned to Ontario and by 1901, was married and living in Huntsville. By 1911, he was a leather shipper, undoubtedly one of the many employees of the prosperous Huntsville-based Anglo-Canadian Leather Company. He later moved to London, Ontario, closer to his St. Marys family.

William, however, looked further west for opportunities. In 1890, he went to Lebanon, Oregon, where, with a Mr. Dagleish, a colleague from Moosomin, he established a retail business. With everything going well, he sent for his fiancée to join him. William and Minnie Barbour were married on November 26, 1890, in Oregon. They had less than five months together. In mid-April, William travelled to Portland to buy stock for his store. When he failed to return, his worried business partner instigated a search of the city by the Portland police. But it was not until May 3 that William's body was found, floating among some logs in a local millpond. He had been shot in the back of the head. Detectives were able to track two men who had tried to pawn and sell William's good watch and diamond ring. Two ex-con-



The five Barbour sisters, ca 1880. From left to right: Elizabeth, Jean, Margaret (in front), Rubina, Agnes

victs were arrested in Butte, Montana, on April 28, already suspects in another murder in California the previous fall.

It took some time for these details to make their way back to St. Marys. We know from a Calgary Standard article, reprinted in the Argus, that the Oddfellows Lodge helped the young widow, both in Lebanon and in Moosomin. She appointed Mr. Dagleish to close out her husband's business and accompanied his sealed casket by train back to Moosomin where her sister, Fanny, and husband, George Perry, owned a hotel. William's brother, Peter, and his sister, Agnes Donald, were also there to meet her. After the casket was removed from the train, "...the Oddfellows assembled, and led by the Moosomin Brass Band and in appropriate regalia, proceeded to the residence of Mr. Donald where a vast assemblage had gathered." The largest funeral procession ever seen in Moosomin accompanied the casket to the cemetery. The funeral service was conducted by the local Presbyterian minister and the burial ceremony under the auspices of the Oddfellows Lodge. "The sad case of the young widow and her deep grief aroused the deepest sympathy of all."

The other four Barbour sisters remained in Ontario, three of them spending most of their lives in St. Marys. In the December 7, 1933 issue of the Journal Argus, a front-page, retrospective about these sisters accompanied the photograph reproduced with this column. The article mentioned that all five sisters had graduated from the St. Marys Collegiate and that four of them had become teachers. In those days, young people with a high school certificate could find teaching jobs in one-room rural schools. The oldest Barbour sister, Jean, began teaching in 1866 at the age of 16, in Cherry Grove, West Nissouri Township. She then taught for a number of years in St. Marys before marrying James Watson, a farmer from Paisley, in 1885, and moving to Bruce County. The Watsons had a son and three daughters.

Robina and Margaret Barbour were, according to the Journal Argus article, "two wonderful teachers who spent all their teaching days in St. Marys." Robina began teaching at 18, but her career was interrupted in 1887 when she married William Atkinson, a cattle drover, 15 years older than she was. They

lived in Robert Barbour's first stone residence at 216 Thomas Street. There were no children and when William died in 1903, he had not provided well for Robina. Their house was sold, Robina moved back to 210 Thomas Street with her mother and sister, Margaret, and resumed her teaching career. For many years, she taught the same primer class in West Ward School. The Journal Argus article stated: "The children loved her. On different occasions, the inspector ranked her class as the best in the county." She was over 70 years old when she finally retired.

Her sister, Margaret Pringle Barbour, received formal teacher training at the Ontario Normal School in Toronto, and began her teaching career in Madoc and then in Mitchell. She was hired to teach in St. Marys in 1875 when she was still just 17 years old. The newspaper described her teaching career: "During all but three years, she taught the Junior Fourth. She was for many years principal of the West Ward School. She, like her sisters, had remarkable success as a teacher and hundreds of former St. Marysites feel a debt of gratitude to their former teacher. The Right Honourable Arthur Meighen was a pupil of hers." She retired in 1932, at the age of 74. In the days before pensions, it was necessary for people with no younger family to assist them to work as long as they were able.

Elizabeth, or Lizzie, the youngest Barbour sister, was the only one who did not become a teacher. In 1884, she married Hugh Fraser who had been a farmer in West Nissouri and was a well-known barn builder. They settled in St. Marys and were the parents of four sons and a daughter. In 1903, the Frasers bought the spacious limestone house at 178 Ontario Street, built by Robert Barbour's old colleague, stonemason Francis Anderson. Hugh Fraser died in 1925 and Elizabeth stayed on in the house with various family members. After their mother, Agnes, died in 1913, 210 Thomas Street was sold and Robina and Margaret shared an apartment in downtown St. Marys. Margaret Barbour died in 1936 and Robina Atkinson in 1937 – just a few years after the newspaper article. Elizabeth Fraser died in 1952, age 89, the last surviving member of Robert and Agnes Barbour's family.

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COLUMN —

# HOSTING UKRAINE: Babies and Goodbyes

By VJ Knutson

I now have 433 Facebook friends. Not bad for someone who swore she was going to quit the app, except for that one family member who refuses to communicate any other way. Half of my new friends post in a language I can't read, and have names I am unable to pronounce, but they are there as a reminder of the many people who have reached out asking for or offering help over the past year. Despite the bad rap social media gets, without it this grassroots movement to help displaced Ukrainians would have never happened.

Last Sunday, Ric, Lesia, and I attended a baby shower for two Ukrainian families expecting their first. Hosted by Heidi and Harold Van Galen (stepping in for the original host who was suddenly ill) the party was a blast with games, lots of food, and plenty of laughter. It felt like such an honour to be part of this celebration, sharing in the warmth and excitement. Anxiety was present too – a young father worried how the birth will all unfold, while he is at work, in a strange country....

"Post on our group," I advised, "and we will come running to help. That is what we are here for."

I look forward to meeting the newest, and youngest, members of our community.

Moving is on the mind of many, with several families competing for rentals. Thanks to the generosity of our community, many are finding the furnishings and household items they need to set up their new lives. "Everything Free St Marys" is a great Facebook page to post offerings, as the site is followed by all.

Sadly, these past two weeks, we have had to say some goodbyes. One family of five, who I helped get settled outside of London, decided that life far from their maternal grandmother was too hard to



bear. They will rejoin extended family in Europe.

The second goodbye hits close to home, and certainly close to my own heart. Our beloved Tanya (#2 as we called her), friend to Tania whom we hosted, made the decision to return to Ukraine. Without her husband and adult daughter, Tanya came to question her reason for being in Canada.

"Maybe in Ukraine, I can do something to help my people," she shared with me.

Tanya is grateful for her time in Canada and expressed how much of her experience she hopes to take back with her.

"Before the war, I thought work was everything. I worried about my job, and poured my whole life into it. Now, I know that I can do anything, and that there are more important things. Canadian people

have taught me the importance of caring for others."

We wish her all the best and hope she will return safely with husband and daughter in tow.

After a year – this is my 52nd column – I was beginning to think that my job might be done. People are settling in, they are building their own connections and networks, and my role is less hands-on...

...and then I received that message, late in the day, on the eve of the baby shower...

VJ, there are two Ukrainian men living out of their car in Toronto, and money is running out, can you help?

Till next time

(Reach me at [english.knutson@gmail.com](mailto:english.knutson@gmail.com).)

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Solutions on page 31

## COLUMN —

## WHAT'S FOR DINNER: Spring Inspired Dishes



**By Lauren Eedy**

Our first recipe this week is a simple dish, perfect for Spring fiddleheads at the market. They taste like a combination of broccoli, green beans and mushroom and yield an umami taste once cooked. Ensure fiddleheads are washed thoroughly but gently before adding them to the boiling water. Never eat fiddleheads raw. Use fresh pasta for this dish or opt for

gluten-free pasta for those with an intolerance.

The second recipe featured this week is an ingenious way to use up leftover rice. Also a gluten-free dish, this can be served as an appetizer, main, or dessert. These tender and delicious rice cakes have an appealing nutty flavour with Spring-ready local maple syrup.

**Lemon Garlic Fiddleheads & Spaghetti**

Prep: 5m Cook: 20m Serves: 6

2 c fresh fiddleheads (washed and ends trimmed)

1-pound fresh spaghetti (regular or gluten-free)

3 cloves garlic (minced)

¼ c olive oil

2 tbsp fresh lemon juice

½ tsp salt

¼ tsp freshly ground pepper

Grated parmesan Reggiano cheese to sprinkle on top

**Method:**

-Wash and trim fiddleheads: after washing, trim fiddleheads so only about ½ inch of stem is remaining.

-Bring a large pot of salted water to a boil. Add fiddleheads and spaghetti, cooking until pasta is al dente, about 10m. Reserve ¼ c of pasta water and drain.

-In a large skillet over medium heat, add minced garlic, olive oil, butter, lemon juice & salt and pepper; mix until garlic is lightly sautéed, and butter is melted.

-Add spaghetti and fiddle-

heads into the skillet along with pasta water and stir to fully coat the pasta in the sauce. Taste, adding more salt if needed.

-Serve with a sprinkle of parmesan.

**Maple Walnut Rice Cakes**

2 eggs

2 tbsp milk

1 tbsp maple syrup

2 c cooked long grain rice, white or brown

½ c rice flour

½ c toasted walnuts, chopped

½ tsp salt

½ tsp ground cinnamon

2 tbsp melted butter

Additional maple syrup

Chopped fruit (optional)

**Method:**

-In a large bowl, whisk eggs with milk and maple syrup; stir in rice, rice flour, walnuts, salt and cinnamon.

-Brush a large non-stick skillet with some of the butter and set over medium heat. Working in batches, spoon 1/3 cup of rice mixture per cake into skillet. Press lightly with the back of spatula to flatten.

-Cook for 3m or until set and bottoms are golden. Turn and cook for 3m or until golden. Repeat, brushing skillet each time with butter as needed until all the rice mixture is used. Serve with additional maple syrup and fresh fruit if desired.

Enjoy!

## FROM THE GARDEN: Tulips ~ a Spring favourite



**By Nancy Abra**

People love the bright colours of blooming Spring flowers, which seem to boost the spirits on those dull and dreary days. For many, tulips are a Spring favourite. There are thousands of tulip varieties which are divided into more than a dozen groups based on flower type, size, and blooming period. As for flower colours, there is a wide range from solid to bi-colour cultivars of petal edges or feathered contrasting shades.

We associate tulips with the Dutch, but in fact they originated in the Ottoman Empire of Turkey. They grew wild in the valleys of the Tien Shan Mountains of Central Asia. As early as the 11th century, they began to be cultivated in Constantinople (now Istanbul) and planted in the gardens of the Sultan. Constantinople was important for its commerce and culture. It was also considered as one of the most beautiful cities of the world

and many people came to admire the Sultan's gardens.

The botanical name for tulip, tulipa, comes from the Turkish word tulbent, meaning turban. Its name refers to the resemblance of its petals to the overlapping folds of cloth in a turban. So, the word 'tulip', as the flower itself, has Turkish origins.

By the 16th century, tulips were among the most prized flowers of the Ottoman Empire – a symbol of wealth and power. Besides growing in their gardens, the image of this special flower was colourfully portrayed on decorative tiles, ceramics, on carpets and in embroidery. The tulip even influenced the Ottoman architecture of the early 1700's.

By the 1500's, tulips were beginning to be introduced into Europe. The Sultans were proud of their magnificent tulips and gave some to their important guests, which were usually ambassadors from other countries. And the love and desire for the tulip spread.

Botanist Carolus Clusius, who managed the gardens of the Austrian Emperor, planted the acquired some tulips in the emperor's gardens. Later in the 1590's, he accepted an appointment to become the

head of horticulture at Leiden University in the Netherlands. In his garden there, he planted tulips. His work on tulip cultivation led to the development of the Dutch tulip industry.

New wealth coincided with the newfound fascination of 'Tulipmania' which engulfed the merchant class for a time in the 17th century. The craze for tulips drove prices to absurd heights before the market crashed. Driving 'Tulipmania' was the desire for 'broken bulbs' of striking variations of colours and patterns. People, then, didn't know the bulbs of these blooms were caused by a mosaic virus which over successive generations weakens the bulbs' ability to blossom or to multiply.

Like onions, tulips are a member of the lily family. They are not poisonous, but not particularly good to eat either. In the darkest days of World War II, when food shortages gripped the Netherlands, people turned to tulips. Growers marketed the bulbs as food and doctors even issued instructions on how to prepare them safely.

The Netherlands is the global centre of tulip breeding and more than a third of global plant and flower exports pass



through the Netherlands. But you don't have to book a flight to Amsterdam to take in the beauty of tulips in bloom. For suggestions here in Ontario, check out [www.todocanada.ca/5-tulip-farms-and-fields-](http://www.todocanada.ca/5-tulip-farms-and-fields-)

[for-a-u-pick-spring-day-in-ontario/](http://for-a-u-pick-spring-day-in-ontario/)

Source: [www.tulipstore.eu/en/tulips/history-of-the-tulip](http://www.tulipstore.eu/en/tulips/history-of-the-tulip)  
[www.rareseeds.com](http://www.rareseeds.com)



**COLUMN —**

# Straight from the Shelves

By Laura McAsh, St. Marys Public Library

Have fun playing a range of board games at the Library on Game Days! Drop in anytime between 1:00pm and 4:00pm every other Saturday to snack on some popcorn while you play games like Jenga, Sorry, Crokinole, Euchre, Connect Four, and Uno. Bring your friends, your fam, or join up with others when you arrive. Our next Game Day is next Saturday (May 6th). We hope to see you there!

**This Week's Recommendation**

In addition to the board games we have available are a selection of puzzles. "Comfy Cat", "Harvest Festival", and "Calm Campsite" are just a handful of the puzzles we have on offer. Check one out and get lost in the beauty of a puzzle today.

**Up This Week**

Friday, Apr. 28th: Open 10:30am-5:00pm

Saturday, Apr. 29th: Open 10:00am-4:00pm

Monday, May 1st: Open 10:30am-8:00pm

Tuesday, May 2nd: Crafternoons (2:00pm-4:00pm)

Wednesday, May 3rd: Play and Read (9:30am), Mahjong Intro Sessions (1:00pm), Mahjong! (2:00pm), Writing Club (6:00pm)

Thursday, May 4th: Open 10:30am-8:00pm

## Kirkton Horticultural Society

**Tuesday May 2nd 7:15**

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# Riddles

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|--|---|
| What kind of lion never roars?<br><b>A dandelion.</b>                                | What's black, white and blue?<br><b>A sad zebra.</b>                                |
| What has a thousand needles but cannot sew?<br><b>A porcupine.</b>                   | I jump when I walk and sit when I stand. What am I?<br><b>Kangaroo.</b>             |
| What's bright orange with green on top and sounds like a parrot?<br><b>A carrot.</b> | Where would you take a sick boat?<br><b>To the dock.</b>                            |
| Why do bees have sticky hair?<br><b>Because they use their honeycombs.</b>           | What did the zero say to the eight?<br><b>"Nice belt"</b>                           |
| What do you call a bear with no teeth?<br><b>A gummy bear.</b>                       | What gets wet while drying?<br><b>A towel.</b>                                      |
|  | I'm tall when I'm young, and I'm short when I'm old. What am I?<br><b>A candle.</b> |

## - Word Search -

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M O Q G S W M R I I G D O O F T A E R G

### Word List

- Annual event
- Rotary Club
- Rural
- Urban
- Residents
- Fellowship
- Community
- Great food
- Speakers
- Entertainment
- Dan Needles
- Pyramid Centre
- Auction items
- Sold out



The **Riddle Kid** OF THE WEEK

How do you know a snake is a baby?



It has a rattle

**Ewan Bennett (9)**

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## COLUMN —

## OH, THE PLACES WE'LL GO: Philadelphia's art collections make a strong impression



**By Paul Knowles**

Let's be honest. It's probably true that the most well-known feature at the Philadelphia Museum of Art is the set of 72 steps leading up to the entrance. They're known as the Rocky Steps because of their appearance in the famed Sylvester Stallone movie, "Rocky" and there is even a statue of Rocky near the base of the steps.

And yes I succumbed, and on my Facebook page there is an embarrassing picture of me doing a very lame and unconvincing impression of Rocky at the top of the steps.

But anyone who thinks that this film location is the best thing about the Philadelphia Museum of Art is sadly mistaken. Because those who climb the steps and enter the stately building will find one of the two finest collections of Impressionist art I have ever encountered.

I say "one of the two" because, ironically, the other one is just down the

street – the Barnes Foundation, offering an equally amazing exhibition of Impressionist art all garnered by a private collector about a century ago.

Let's start where Rocky stopped and step inside the front doors of the Philadelphia Museum of Art. Like all great art galleries there is a mind-boggling selection of art on display and of course, that's only a sample of their total collection. There is a good sampling of Chinese art from many periods, captivating works from the medieval European period, and art from cultures ranging from Mexican to Korean.

But two collections captured my attention: Impressionist and Cubism. From the former group, works by Claude Monet, Vincent Van Gogh, Camille Pissaro and Pierre-Auguste Renoir for example. From the latter, some spectacular paintings by Pablo Picasso.

Walking through the rooms filled with such masterpieces is like experiencing a visual symphony. I probably missed dozens, perhaps hundreds of other great works of art in other galleries and on other floors of the museum, but I frankly could not tear myself away from the wonders in these two particular collections. (It's an interesting footnote that

the Director and CEO of the Philadelphia Museum of Art is Sasha Suda, formerly CEO of the National Gallery of Canada in Ottawa, another of my favourite art hang-outs).

As a devoted, if relatively unlearned, fan of Impressionist art, I thought it could not get much better than my experience at the Philadelphia Museum of Art. That impression – pun intended – lasted until the moment I walked into the Barnes Foundation.

The Barnes was founded by art collector and philanthropist, Dr. Albert C. Barnes (1872-1951). He amassed an astounding collection of art, focusing especially on impressionist, post-impressionist and modern art.

Today, the collection fills the walls of this Philadelphia treasure. And I do mean "fills". There are dozens of paintings on every wall of the two dozen or so galleries you visit. Some of them hold temporary exhibitions – during our visit, "Tell Me What You Remember", a powerful, emotional exhibition of works by South African artists Sue Williamson and Lebohang Kganye. That, in itself, was worth the visit.

But the permanent collection is nothing short of amazing. The central, two-storey gallery is highlighted by an enormous work by Henri

Matisse. It was specially commissioned by Barnes and the story of the negotiations between the collector and the artist is outlined in an intriguing display in the foyer. And that's just one of 59 works by Matisse at the Barnes. Fifty-nine! And if that sounds impressive, the artist most represented in the collection is Pierre-Auguste Renoir. The Barnes holds 180 paintings by Renoir and one of his sculptures. It's the largest collection of Renoir's work in the world.

We stood before works by van Gogh, Monet, Picasso, El Greco, Degas, Cézanne... virtually every master of Impressionism. All represented many times over in the seemingly never-ending display.

If you are not sated by amazing art after visits to the Barnes and the Philadelphia Museum of Art, there are other options in the artistic heart of the city as well. The Moore College of Art and Design is nearby – a school with a mandate to welcome female art students. Much of the building doubles as a gallery of the students' work and it's worth your time to check out what young, talented, often digitally-focused artists are creating.

Also in this district is the Rodin Museum containing one of the larg-



**A diorama at the Barnes, part of the temporary exhibition by Lebohang Kganye. (All photos by Paul Knowles)**

est collections of Rodin sculptures outside Paris, France. And if you like sculpture, Philadelphia has the most public statues per capita of any city in the United States. Bronze effigies of former citizens are everywhere including of course, Benjamin Franklin, whose image and name seem ubiquitous throughout the city.

Philly is a city of art. And it made me wonder if Rocky had actually kept

going and entered the art museum, instead of leaping about at the top of the steps, would inspiration have struck, resulting in a movie about a struggling artist instead of a struggling boxer? Rocky Van Gogh instead of Rocky Balboa? I'd go to see that.

*Paul Knowles is an author and travel writer. To contact Paul about travel, his books, or speaking engagements, email [pknowles@golden.net](mailto:pknowles@golden.net).*

## 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 25

### Friday, April 28

- Royal Canadian Legion hot dog/sausage lunch at Noon
- A.N.A.F. meat draw – 6 pm
- SMCP Opening Night of "The 39 Steps" at the Town Hall Theatre – 8 pm

### Saturday, April 29

- Scrapbooking Garage Sale at the PRC – 9 am to 1 pm
- Poetry scavenger hunt at Betty's Bookshelf – 11 am to Noon
- Lunch with the poets at Riverwalk Commons – 1 to 3 pm, Purchase tickets at [rwcommons.com](http://rwcommons.com)
- SMCP Performance of "The 39 Steps" at the Town Hall Theatre – 8 pm
- Royal Canadian Legion meat draw – 5 pm
- Royal Canadian Legion Steak BBQ – 7 pm, Live music by Slim Pickens

### Sunday, April 30

- SMCP Matinee Performance of "The 39 Steps" at the Town Hall Theatre – 2 pm

### Tuesday, May 2

- St. Marys Minor Hockey annual general meeting at the PRC, Endzone – 7 pm
- Kirkton Horticultural Society Spring Flower Show at the K-W Community Centre – 7:15 pm

### Thursday, May 4

- SMCP Performance of "The 39 Steps" at the Town Hall Theatre – 8 pm



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St. Marys, ON

N4X 1B7

Fax: (519) 284-4471

[stmmc@stmmc.ca](mailto:stmmc@stmmc.ca)

*The Happy Valley Family Health Team has a mandatory vaccine policy.*

*Thank you to all applicants who apply.*

*Only applicants selected for an interview will be contacted.*

*The Happy Valley Family Health Team welcomes and encourages applications from people with disabilities. Accommodations are available on request for candidates taking part in all aspects of the selection process.*



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We currently have openings for the following position:

### PART TIME COMMUNICATOR (911-DISPATCHER)

Please refer to the City of Stratford website at [www.stratford.ca](http://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 Communicator position will be accepted until May 12, 2023.

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

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

## St. Marys Independent



### Hiring paper deliverers

**We have paper routes available:**

- Thamesview Crescent / Emily Street
- If you're interested please contact us.

Call **519-284-0041** or email [info@stmarysindependent.com](mailto:info@stmarysindependent.com) for details.



### THE TOWNSHIP OF PERTH SOUTH PERMANENT, FULL TIME FINANCE/TAX CLERK

Local governments, like the Township of Perth South, are made up of professional staff that makes life happen in their communities. From taking care of necessities like waste, recycling, roads, and water to creating diverse tourism experiences, to finding innovative solutions to tomorrow's challenges, local government professionals are change-makers and community builders.

For those looking for variety, there is no "typical" day in the life of a local government professional. Local government professionals tackle the day-to-day issues that have an impact on virtually everyone in the community or rural area where you live. Government professionals take care of a long list of essential services, things we all rely on for a happy, safe, and productive lifestyle, from overseeing the community's law enforcement, fire, and emergency response operations to implementing a new recycling program, to ensuring that the tap water you drink and shower with when you wake up is safe and plentiful. If you are an innovator, a social entrepreneur, or someone who wants to make a difference, a career in local government may be the perfect opportunity for you!

The Township of Perth South seeks to fill a position in the Finance Department to assist primarily in Property tax billing, collection, financial reporting and analysis, and counter customer service. Further details are available on the website [www.perthsouth.ca/employment](http://www.perthsouth.ca/employment) or by emailing [rclothier@perthsouth.ca](mailto:rclothier@perthsouth.ca)

Interested candidates are invited to submit a detailed resume expressing their interest to the undersigned clearly marked as "Finance/Tax Clerk" by Monday, May 8th, 2023.

We thank all candidates for their interest, however, only those applicants selected for an interview will be contacted.

Rebecca Clothier

Township of Perth South

3191 Road 122

St. Pauls, ON N0K 1V0

Email - [rclothier@perthsouth.ca](mailto:rclothier@perthsouth.ca)

Information gathered is under the authority of the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act and shall only be used for candidate selection purposes.

**OBITUARY**

*Kennedy*



Harold John Kennedy, age 95, formerly of Kitchener, passed away peacefully at Wildwood Care Centre, St. Marys on March 29, 2023.

Beloved husband of Isabel (McDonald) who predeceased him March 2, 2023. Predeceased by siblings Doug, Jean, Al and Shirley. Harold

is survived by several nieces and nephews and their families.

A graveside service will be held at Williamsburg Cemetery 1541 Fischer-Hallman Rd, Kitchener on Friday, May 12, at 3 p.m. As expressions of sympathy, memorial donations may be made to Stratford General Hospital Foundation through the W.G. Young Funeral Home, 430 Huron Street, Stratford. 519.271.7411 [www.wgyoungfuneralhome.com](http://www.wgyoungfuneralhome.com)

**OBITUARY**

*Droog-Hooydonk*



Emmy Droog-Hooydonk (nee Kok), born in Spierdijk, The Netherlands, passed away with family by her side on April 22, 2023 at the age of 81. She spent her best years having adventures with her husband, Peter (predeceased 1983).

With four kids in tow, they immigrated to Canada in 1973.

Mother of Tina and Norm Malbrecht and their children Nathan and Laura, Christina and Jim, Danielle and Sean; Paula and Ian Wilcox and their children Marianne and Jon, Ben and Jess, Rebecca and Andrew; John and Krista Droog and their children Ian and Rebecca, Hayden, and Trevor; Annette and Rob Wrigley and their children Drew, Mathew, Thomas and Owen. Great-Oma of Hudson and Cohen; Mäison; Graydon, Leland, Rowan and Oaklynn. Also survived by siblings in Holland, Piet, Corrie, Siem, Henk, Jan, Jos, Greet and Anneke (in Chile). Remembered by many nieces and nephews. Predeceased by Kees, Wim and Gerard.

Emmy and her husband Peter farmed in the Thornedale area. Trained as a nurse, Mom was a hardworking and life-long caregiver. After Peter passed away, she met and married Tony Hooydonk (predeceased 2006) and they had many travelling adventures together. Emmy emphasized the importance of family. She enjoyed serving a cup of coffee with a Dutch treat and always had time to play a game of "Rummy Cup", making sure everyone had a chance to put their hand in the "Droppie Pot" before they went home - Hardstikke Leuk.

She was a faithful parishioner of Holy Name of Mary Parish and a member of the choir. She enjoyed babysitting the grandchildren, her social opportunities playing cards with friends and her weekly aqua fit session. She will be missed for her positive attitude and bright spirit.

Visitation at the Andrew L. Hodges Funeral Home, 47 Wellington St. S. St. Marys, on Wednesday April 26th, 2023 from 2 - 4 & 7 - 9 p.m. The Funeral Mass will be held at HOLY NAME OF MARY PARISH, Northeast corner of Peel St. N and Widder St. E., St. Marys, on Thursday April 27th, 2023 at 11am with Fr. Don Pumptis. Interment in St. Marys Cemetery. Memorial donations may be made to the Canadian Cancer Society or to a charity of choice. Online condolences at [www.hodgesfuneralhome.ca](http://www.hodgesfuneralhome.ca).

**LOOKING BACK**



By AMY CUBBERLEY

**Square dancers' mecca**

25 years ago (1998)

Cops for Cancer hair-cutting event will be held at the Canadian Tire store in St. Marys this Saturday. Scott Bentley, J.J. Barron and Jeff Doupe of St. Marys OPP and Gary Barnhardt of the Sebringville detachment will get their heads totally shaved. Proceeds will go to the Canadian Cancer Society.

In 1996, the Town of St. Marys issued 99 building permits at a total value of \$7,252,000. One year later, there were 120 permits issued and the value nearly doubled to total \$14,145,000. One of the reasons Pargat Sehra, Chief Building Official, gave for the boom in building was an active economy. He said that with interest rates as low as they were, it had a positive impact on construction.

According to Ray Bennett, the Parkview East condominium development is half-way completed, with four pods and 16 suites built. The Parkview housing development is overseen by the Rotary Club, and Bennett is one of the members who sits on the board responsible for it.

St. Marys area teenager Jenine French starts school at 7 a.m. to study in a classroom with completely bare walls, and she loves every minute of it. Jenine, 18, is taking part in a year-long Rotary exchange program in Brazil where school is just one of the many culture shocks for a teen who is used to life in Canada.

50 years ago (1973)

Perth County Road employees have planted a number of trees along area county roads recently. The 250 trees planted include silver maple, green and white ash, Russian olive, and basswood. The Water Street extension to the by-pass and the Rannoch area have received new trees.

A new chain link fence, a project of the Kinsmen Club, is being erected around the local swim quarry.

St. Marys is becoming something of a square dancers' mecca. The Collegiate large auditorium, plus plenty of parking and the active nature of the local group have all contributed. We note that the S.W.O.S.D.A. will stage a big event with dancers from all over western Ontario here next Saturday evening while the following Saturday the same organization will hold their annual Freshman's Frolic in the same location.

Many favourable comments have been heard concerning the recent grading and seeding of the bank of the Thames River at the Flats by the Board of Works. Best of all, due to a tie-in with disposal of material during the sewage installation, the cost to the taxpayers, as the youngsters phrase it, has been "practically zilch".

75 years ago (1948)

The purple martins, harbingers of spring, arrived in town on Wednesday morning and set up housekeeping in Art Somers' renovated bird apartment.

The decorum of the regular Town Council meeting on Monday was rudely shattered when a driver of a tractor trailer truck walked into the Council Chamber and asked where he could find a policeman. For a moment the Mayor and his Councillors sat silent wondering what gruesome crime had happened. Then the man spoke again to say that a runaway parked car had collided with his truck across the street. Red lights went on for the police as Coun. Dunsford stepped to the nearest telephone.

100 years ago (1923)

On Saturday evening, the annual organization meeting of the St. Marys Tennis Association was held in Town Hall. The club last year had a very successful year and although the game was new to most of the members, this year promises to be a bumper one, owing to the training received last season.

George Towle, Water Street South, had the misfortune to be caught in a drilling machine at the Maxwell Works on Wednesday afternoon, thereby losing a finger from his right hand. The young man was operating the machine when the accident occurred.

For some time, past negotiations have been going on for the disposal of the St. Marys branch of the Stillman Creamery. Some two months ago an agreement was entered into with Mr. Ernest Corey, a well-known businessman of Brantford, who has now purchased the factory here. Mr. Corey will probably make an announcement of the change soon.

**SPRING IS HERE!**

So is our Spring session of children's meetings!

Where: St. Marys Gospel Hall  
632 Jones St. E

When: Fridays 7.30 PM starting April 14 for 10 weeks

Sing songs, learn Bible stories and verses, Earn prizes  
All welcome - rides available

Contact 519-272-7580 or 519-229-6183

**OPEN HOUSE**

*Rigney*



Barbara Ann Rigney (Bradshaw), (nee McFalls) of St. Marys, Ontario, who passed away on December 15, 2022, will have an Open House Celebration of Life at the ST. MARYS LEGION, 66 Church St. N. St. Marys, on May 5, 2023 from 4 to 7 pm with Words of Remembrance at 5:30 pm.

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**Seeking newspaper boxes and stands**

Looking to buy old newspaper distribution boxes or display stands. Please contact stew@granthaven.com or text or call 519-868-1290. Send picture of item(s) if possible.

**Wanted**

**Cash for your RECORDS and LP's**

Jazz, Rock, Alternative, Folk, Soundtracks are of particular interest. Diamond Dogs Vinyl - 114 Ontario St., Stratford 226-972-5750

**For Rent**

Downtown apt, 3 story walk-up, 3 bedroom, wifi, laundry, util, parking included Call 519-697-4985

**Wanted**

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

**Local Lawn Cutting**

Prefer larger lawns. Insured, reliable service, fair prices Call 519-933-8636

**Wanted to buy**

All collectibles including sports cards, beanie babies, Funko pops and stamps. Highest prices paid. Free appraisals. Call or text Stan anytime 519-868-3814.

**For Rent**

1 bedroom, senior apartment located in Exeter \$1050 + utilities. Email faehewood@hotmail.com

### QUIZ ANSWERS

- 1) National Aeronautics and Space Administration
- 2) Tinker Bell
- 3) Self-Contained Underwater Breathing Apparatus
- 4) Marie Antoinette
- 5) Cucumber
- 6) Gross domestic product
- 7) Italy
- 8) Dionysus
- 9) Gotham City
- 10) A donkey

### SUDOKU ANSWERS

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

### ANNOUNCEMENT

*Happy 75th Birthday*

**Vic (Mouse) Mansfield**



Please come and celebrate Vic's birthday  
Saturday May 6 at 7 pm at the Legion  
There will be food, music and laughter

### THANK YOU

*Pieroni*

The family of Gerry Pieroni wishes to thank everyone who dropped by, called, sent cards, food, flowers, or posted a tribute to Gerry, for their love and support at this difficult time. The sheer volume of folks who were able to come in person on April 13th is a testament to Gerry and a great comfort to his family.

### THANK YOU

*Fowler*

A birthday celebration to remember. With sincere thanks to my family, friends and neighbours for the beautiful flowers, cards, phone calls, gifts, cakes, bubbly and hugs. I am truly blessed and grateful.  
Love Pat

### CEMETERY MEMORIALS

**Frank M. Ball**

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### ANNOUNCEMENT

**Don and Ruth Favacho**  
May 4, 1963



*Happy 60th Anniversary*

Love Always, Tim & Tammy, Randy & Keri, Thelia, Jon & Elena, Haydn & Carly

### ANNOUNCEMENT

**80th Birthday Party Open House for Ruth Ann Haves!**



Come drop in and celebrate Ruth Ann's 80th Birthday with us on Sunday, May 7, 2023 from 2-4 p.m. at Browns United Church Schoolhouse

136545 13th Line, just west of Medina. (Your presence is present enough. We'll be so happy to celebrate with you!)  
~ The Haves Family

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## Friday May 5th and Saturday May 6th

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Farm Equipment, Buggies, Household etc. on Friday May 5th, 2023

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Terms: Cash or Cheque with Proper I.D.

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### Day 1 – Friday May 5th

#### FARM EQUIPMENT

Wooden Favorite thrashing machine, McCormick 7' grain binder, McCormick 6' grain binder with new knives and guards, 3 binder trucks, 2 Int. 13 run seed drills with grass seeder, Int. corn binder, JD 290 2-row corn planter, JD 3-row corn planter, 2 1-row corn scufflers, Int. #9 hay mower with 6' bar, 2 Int. #7 hay mowers with 5 bars, I&J hay mower with 7' bar (like new with extra set of knives), 2 New Holland 268 balers with motors, 5 Massey Harris side rakes, 3 bale stokers

2 50' Allied bale elevators (with undercarriage), 2 50' Forage King bale elevators (with undercarriage),

1 25' bale elevator, 1 Master 9' hay tedder (ground drive like new), 3 kicker hay tedders, 3 flat-rack wagons,

JD grain wagon on rubber, 5 section diamond harrows, 3 Int. 6' field cultivators, JD 8' cultivator with Power lift, 8' field cultivator, 8' sprocket packer, 3 6' one-way discs, 2 8' 32-plate disc,

1 Pioneer fore-cart (heavy duty), 2 fore-carts on steel,

1-furrow Pioneer foot-lift plow (with KV bottom)

1-furrow Pioneer Sulky plow (with KV bottom)

New Idea manure spreader, Int. 4-wheeled manure spreader, gravity wagon on steel,

JD ground drive L&M manure spreader, potato plow, multiple garden scufflers, harrow cart, Int. W6 tractor, pull-type lane grade

#### BUGGIES

Multiple top buggies, democrat, pony cart, quick-hitch jog cart with buggy wheels, 3 horse drawn cutters,

Mascott pony cart, 4 Mascott tri-wheel lawn mower, Mascott pony lawn mower (brand new),

Multiple reel push mowers, neck yokes, whipple-trees, horse harnesses and collars, small wagon Gear on rubber,

#### MISCELLANEOUS

Large selection of T-posts (like new), chicken crates, 3 – goat milk stand, 2 6-goat stands,

Marweld creep feeder for sheep (new), Roll over hoof-trimming crate for sheep, 2 small feed mixers, Champion oat roller, bale chopper with motor, selection of gates and panels, selection of sheep and goat feeders, 800-gal. ss milk tank, Toledo 500kg platform scale, F.W. water pump, belt lacers, sap supplies, 2 smaller sap pans, selection of steel wheels, new v-belts.

\*\* Approximately 6 wagon loads of miscellaneous items too numerous to mention\*\*

#### HOUSEHOLD

Sausage stuffers, Victoria strainers, weight-lifting set, beds, dressers, singer treadle sewing machine, 3 3-burner kerosene stoves, portable bake oven, small China cabinet.

### Day 2 – Saturday May 6

#### TRAILERS

20' Steel car hauler with loading ramps and beavertail with electric winch,

18' aluminum landscaping trailer with aluminum sides and tool box, with ramp (like new),

12' aluminum trailer excellent condition,

18' enclosed aluminum tool trailer with ramp and side door with shelving inside 2 years old,

8' enclosed aluminum cargo trailer 2 years old,

8' steel landscaping trailers with ramps in excellent condition,

Gooseneck Belore Silver star 4-horse aluminum slant load trailer with ramp, good condition,

Bumper hitch 2-horse trailer

\*\* All trailers have been safetied on a regular basis\*\*

#### CONSTRUCTION TOOLS

Several sections of scaffolding with braces and wheels and aluminum platforms, Bakers scaffolding,

Numerous aluminum extension ladders at various lengths,

Aluminum and fibreglass step ladders, selection of aluminum sawhorses, aluminum ladder horns,

2 Tapco pro19 aluminum 10' brakes with coil holder and cutters in excellent condition,

2 DeWalt sliding dual compound mitre saws with stand (1 electric only and 1 with battery or electric),

12" Rigid electric mitre saw with stand, DeWalt laser level and stand, Stihl concrete chain saw (like new),

Quantity of DeWalt battery drills, impacts, saws-all, skill saws.

Quantity of Max and Bostich air-roofing nailers.

Air hoses, shingle strippers, electric air compressors, roof jacks, Battery DeWalt, Metabo, Milwaukee Framing nailers, Battery DeWalt trim nailers. DeWalt battery tool, Battery caulking guns.

Selection of Makita battery drills & impacts. Milwaukee drills & impacts. 2 DeWalt SDS concrete drills.

DeWalt jigsaw & plainer. DeWalt grinder. Large selection of batteries & chargers. Bostich flooring nailer.

Rigid shop vac. 2500watt Ducar gen. 3500watt Powertech gen. 7500watt Generac gen. like new.

Walk behind battery forklift, electric fans & heaters, propane heater, air pegs, Bosch 10" table saw.

DeWalt blowers and fans. Echo back pack leaf blower, 2 Stihl leaf blowers. Safety harness etc.

Flack-Hill mechanical wood splitter, Selection of hand tools & shelving, DeWalt laser level, Brush mower with gas engine, DeWalt 60 volt battery powered table saw (like new), DeWalt table saw with wheeled stand, electric (like new), 2 DeWalt 20Volt 5000 Lumen work lights (new), DeWalt 1800 watt portable power station (new), DeWalt cordless roofing nailer, 2-DeWalt battery aircompressors (new), 2 Paslode cordless framing nailers (like new).

#### MISCELLANEOUS

Jaco-Lite 7'x9' allum. Green house (nice)

S.S. Dog kennel 8' x 10', 2-DS circulator coal stoves, DS Anthra Max XV16 coal stove, S.S. Ashland water kettle.

3 S.S. Kettles, S.S. Water heater, Allum. Ice-saw with 13HP Honda, Apple chopper and cider press,

2 A Frame chain hoists, Trash Pump, 6" edger, power hacksaw, 26 school desks, 2 office desks,

Filing cabinets

#### HUNTING

Selection of rifles, and shot guns, crossbows, hunt blinds, decoys, tree stands, 12' aluminum boat,

Wood gun cabinets, many items not mentioned.

#### ANTIQUES

No. 6 J. Fleury's & Sons two furrow walking plows, Maytag wringer & washer

Sausage stuffers, old cash register,

Hit & Miss Int. 1 1/2 - 2 1/2 HP (not running), Railroad lantern.

#### HORSES

Approximately 6-8 well Bred Standard Bred Buggy Horses. From Local consignments, 5 year old Shetland pony stallion, A few more Local pony consignments expected.

\*\* Approximately 2 wagon loads of miscellaneous construction items\*\*