

# St. Marys Independent

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Issue #1169

Thursday, July 27, 2023

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## Life Member Wayne Barber wins Kinsmen of the Year



In-coming president, Cliff Sterritt presents the Kinsmen of the Year trophy to Wayne Barber. Wayne Barber has had quite a year with the Kinsmen Club of St. Marys. Earlier this year he was awarded the prestigious Life Membership award which is one of Kin Canada's highest honours. This past Sunday, after the wrap-up of a successful Summerfest, Wayne was awarded Kinsmen of the Year, voted on by his home club. Wayne can be seen helping out at all events and fundraisers and puts in countless volunteer hours. The other awards presented at the wrap-up were Rookie of the year to Ron Cummings and the GEM award which is awarded to someone who brings in the most new members to the club, went to Chris Swarthout. (Contributed photo)

## Local Hospitals Receive \$6.6M for upgrades and repairs

Matthew Rae, MPP for Perth-Wellington, recently announced hospitals throughout Perth and Wellington Counties would receive over \$6.6 million in funding through the Health Infrastructure Renewal Fund (HIRF). The funding will support local hospitals as they make critical upgrades, repairs, and maintain their facilities.

"This funding is essential for our hospitals to continue to provide the best care possible in our communities," MPP Rae said. "The highest quality of care requires the highest quality equipment and facilities. This funding demonstrates our government's commitment to our local hospitals."

Continued on page 5

## Town Council outlines priorities for Milt Dunnell Field revitalization

### Ring road to remain in future plans for park

After a careful review of public feedback and staff recommendations, St. Marys Town Council has made several decisions about the future of Milt Dunnell Field. Council met on Tuesday, July 18 to consider short and long-term plans for improving the park.

The meeting followed a lively public engagement period that saw over 1,300 people share input about proposed changes to the park. The results of an on-line survey and other correspondence were provided to Council prior to the meeting.

During the meeting, Council instructed staff to explore immediate improvements to the park using grant funding that expires in 2024. These changes could include improvements to park washrooms, an accessible dock, paving for the Farmers' Market, repairs to the lawn bowling pitch, accessible playground upgrades, additional trees, and enhanced conservation efforts.

Council also discussed the vision for a future master plan for the park. They directed staff to develop revised design concepts for the space that retain the ring road and include shoreline erosion protection, pedestrian walkways and trails, an increased tree canopy, enhanced lighting, additional seating, picnic, and river viewing areas, an upgraded pavilion, and enhanced event space.

Town staff will now begin to implement Council's direction, though both the short and long-term changes will require further reports and approvals. Work on the immediate improvements is expected to start in the fall. The revised design concepts for the future

Continued on page 2

**Owen Lewis-Havard**  
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# COMMUNITY —

## Perth County Hosts Successful Mystery Farm Hop

Perth County Tourism, in collaboration with the Perth County Federation of Agriculture, the Ontario Federation of Agriculture, and PC Connect, are thrilled to announce the success of their Mystery Farm Hop that took place on Saturday, July 8, 2023. The event saw 150 enthusiastic participants embark on a 4.5-hour rural adventure across Perth County, exploring four mystery farms.

Throughout the event, participants navigated from farm to farm using PC Connect, enhancing their journey with convenient transportation services. The adventure started at McCully's Hill Farm, where attendees kicked off their day with a wagon ride through the picturesque property. Afterwards, they had the opportunity to interact with friendly farm animals before shopping in the farm store. The second farm on the itinerary was Stonetown Artisan Cheese, where at-

tendees learned all about the craft of cheese production. They sampled artisanal cheeses while browsing the delicious offerings in the farm store. Before hopping on the PC Connect bus to the next farm, participants roamed the property, getting up close and personal with the farm animals.

The next mystery farm stop was Kampkreek Dairies. Upon arrival, attendees took a tractor ride through the farm, learning about their operations and milking facilities, with a special focus on water buffalos. The wagon ride ended in the calf barn, where visitors were delighted to interact with the farm's adorable new calves. Back at the Kampkreek farm store, attendees were greeted with cheese samples and had the opportunity to taste fresh water buffalo milk. The final stop was at Black Creek Flower Farm, where attendees took a guided stroll through the

flower fields, learning about growing seasonal flowers and gardening. To conclude their experience, attendees participated in a floral workshop, where they used fresh flowers to create unique imprints on personalized bookmarks – a cherished memento to take home.

Najma Jose, a Mystery Farm Hop participant captured the spirit of the event perfectly, expressing her appreciation for the commitment to inclusivity and the opportunity for communities to connect. She remarked, "I firmly believe that strong communities are built on the foundations of inclusivity, cultural diversity, and a sense of collective responsibility. Events like the Mystery Farm Hop are a testament to Perth County's dedication to creating spaces where diverse individuals and communities can come together, learn from one another, and form meaningful connections."

"This event was intended to showcase Perth County's incredible agritourism assets and community transit system PC Connect in a fun, non-traditional way. The success of the day is a testament to how special rural Perth County is – the welcoming farms, friendly volunteers, and eager attendees made for a memorable day full of new experiences and meaningful connections," added Meredith Forget, Perth County Manager of Economic Development, Tourism, and Transportation.

The Mystery Farm Hop showcased Perth County's thriving agricultural community and provided an immersive rural tourism experience, highlighting the diverse offerings of our region. Perth County Tourism extends its sincere gratitude to all of the partner organizations, farms, and incredible attendees who made this event an extraordinary success.

## Town Council outlines priorities for Milt Dunnell Field revitalization

*Continued from page 1*  
master plan will be developed over the

next few months and will be presented to Council and the public for further feedback later this year.

Residents are encouraged to follow the Town on Facebook ([www.facebook.com/stmarysontario](http://www.facebook.com/stmarysontario)) or subscribe to the project webpage ([www.discoverstmarys.ca/miltdunnell](http://www.discoverstmarys.ca/miltdunnell)) for future updates. Information will also be shared

with local media for those who do not have access to the Internet. Questions about the project can be directed to André Morin, Director of Corporate Services at 519-284-2340, ext. 217 or [amorin@town.stmarys.on.ca](mailto:amorin@town.stmarys.on.ca).



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# COMMUNITY —

## Melodies at the Museum returns for 2023

### Melodies at the Museum

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**Wednesdays in August, 7:00 - 8:00 pm**

**Cadzow Park, 217 Park Street, St. Marys**

Admission is by donation with all proceeds supporting the St. Marys Museum.

Concerts will move to Town Hall Auditorium (175 Queen Street East) in inclement weather.

Melodies at the Museum is back! Join us on Wednesday evenings in August at 7:00 p.m. in Cadzow Park for a different musical performance each week.

August 2: Jesse Webber

August 9: Phil Ruthig

August 16: The Bone Raddlers

August 23: York Street Thought Process

August 30: Jazzm@x

Admission is by donation and all proceeds support the St. Marys Museum. Concerts will move to Town Hall Auditorium (175 Queen Street East) in inclement weather. This event is generously sponsored by McCormick Canada, Andrew L. Hodges Funeral Home, and the Friends of the St. Marys Museum.

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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!



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| Bravo                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Boo                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>We have two Bravos this week.</p> <p>1) Bravo to the town of St. Marys for implementing seasonal passes to the Quarry for St. Marys residents! It would be even better if extra room could be made for those swimming laps between 4:30 and 6:30 when that single lane can become really busy.</p> <p>2) Bravo to the dedicated team of volunteers that make up St. Marys Minor Soccer and St. Marys Minor Baseball. It is exciting to see every soccer field and baseball diamond full of kids playing the sports they love each night of the week! Thank you!</p> | <p>We have one Boos this week.</p> <p>1) Boo to the construction vehicles such as transport trucks, dump trucks and pick up trucks that are using Southvale Rd from James St to Ridgewood Cres as a race track. There are young children and local residents with pets trying to cross the road and these vehicles are putting lives at risk, not to mention the dust that is created. Slow down.</p> |
| <small>*Please note all Boos and Bravos must be signed in order to be considered.</small>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | <small>Bravos and Boos are submitted by community members and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the St. Marys Independent</small>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |

### Quote of the Week

*"There's a 100% chance that Twitter is going to get sued over this by somebody".*

Trademark attorney Josh Gerben, who said he counted nearly 900 active US trademark registrations that already cover the letter X in a wide range of industries.

## St. Marys Independent

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## The St. Marys Independent

THOUGHTS OF THE WEEK

Sponsored by:



395 Queen Street West

The things that come to those who wait will be the things left by those who got there first.

The shin bone is a device for finding furniture in a dark room.

A fine is a tax for doing wrong. A tax is a fine for doing well.



COMMUNITY —

# Local Hospitals receive \$6.6M for upgrades

Continued from page 1

Ontario is providing \$200 million to hospitals through the Health Infrastructure Renewal Fund and over \$8.4 million to community health service providers through the Community Infrastructure Renewal Fund. This funding from the province allows its health care system partners to address urgent infrastructure renewal needs such as upgrades or replacements of roofs, windows, security systems, fire alarms and back-up generators.

“Ensuring Ontario’s hospitals and community health facilities have the infrastructure in place to deliver the high-quality care patients expect and deserve is a priority for our government,” said Sylvia Jones, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health. “This year’s increased funding will help these facilities address priority renewal needs while ensuring people can continue to receive the world-class care they need in a safe and comfortable environment.”

“This announcement is important for

the Huron Perth Healthcare Alliance and those we serve and the support of Mr. Rae and the government is truly appreciated,” Andrew Williams, President and CEO of the Huron Perth Healthcare Alliance said. “Funds will be invested in our infrastructure that supports the ongoing provision of healthcare and will include projects such as ventilation upgrades, window and door replacements, loading dock improvements, and fire suppression system enhancements. All investments will improve working conditions for our staff and will have a significant impact on the ongoing quality of care we provide.”

HIRF was established in 1999 and provides annualized funding to assist hospitals in renewing their facilities. This includes upgrades, repairs, and maintenance projects. Grants through the HIRF supplement hospital needs on a priority basis. This allows hospitals to decide where to invest the money and lets them proceed quickly with projects.

| Hospital                                 | Total 2023-24 HIRF Funding |
|------------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Listowel Memorial Hospital               | \$2,854,377                |
| North Wellington Health Care Corporation | \$1,335,173                |
| St. Marys Memorial Hospital              | \$396,461                  |
| Stratford General Hospital               | \$2,086,448                |
| Total                                    | \$6,672,459                |

# All Wheels Park donation of the week



Many thanks to Wayne and Sherri Barber for their generous donation of \$1200 to the Rotary All Wheels Park. Their support will help to make this improved and expanded community park a reality! There’s lots of info and details on making your own donation at [www.townofstmarys.com/en/recreation-and-culture/skatepark](http://www.townofstmarys.com/en/recreation-and-culture/skatepark).

# STONETOWN CRIER

The latest municipal news from the Town of St. Marys



## YOUTH TENNIS LESSONS

We are serving up Youth Tennis Lessons with the help of St. Marys Tennis Club! Lessons are geared to help youth ages 8 to 16 years ace their tennis skills and get introduced to the game!

[townofstmarys.com/activenet](http://townofstmarys.com/activenet)

## SHOWER PROGRAM

Tuesdays, 9 AM - 1 PM | Friendship Centre

The shower program has moved to the St. Marys Friendship Centre! This program provides free showers to those in need.

519-284-3272



## SUMMER SWIM CLUB

Summer Swim Club is a great way for youth to improve their current swim ability while having fun! Youth must be able to swim a minimum of one length of the pool (25 meters).

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## MOVIES IN THE PARK

Friday, July 28 @ Dusk | Cadzow Park

Join the Friends of the St. Marys Public Library for a FREE outdoor movie at Cadzow Park. Bring your own lawn chair or blanket. Movie starts at dusk!

[townofstmarys.com/library](http://townofstmarys.com/library) or 519-284-3346



## NOW BOOKING AUGUST ICE RENTALS

There are plenty of ice rentals available in August at the Pyramid Recreation Centre. Visit our website for availability, then call Guest Services to book.

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### Senior of the Week



Our senior of the week is Norma Seymour who celebrated her 95th birthday on July 25th. Norma has 3 children, 7 grandchildren and 4 great grandchildren. She taught primary school in London for 40 years and has lived in St. Marys for almost 30 years. Her children and grandchildren wish her many happy returns. Happy Birthday Norma!

**If you would like to nominate someone for Senior of the Week, Contact us at 519-284-0041 or [info@stmarysindependent.com](mailto:info@stmarysindependent.com).**

## Weekend Quiz

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- 1) Which breed of dog is believed to be the fastest?
- 2) Who was the author of Peter Rabbit?
- 3) How many lines does a Limerick have?
- 4) Who had an 80s hit with the song entitled '99 Red Balloons'?
- 5) What is the name of the largest river in France?
- 6) Which famous poet wrote 'An Ode to a Nightingale'?
- 7) What is the largest planet in the solar system?
- 8) How many ribs are in a human body?
- 9) What is the largest island in the world?
- 10) What is the name given to animals that eat plants only?

This week's answers are found on pg. 27

## COMMUNITY —

# True pickling occurs at St. Marys Pickleball courts



A rarity took place last week at the St. Marys Pickleball courts when the team of Christina Kerekes and Pablo Lopez (pictured above) shut out the team of Mike Brine and Tracey Marshment 11-0 during one of the St. Marys Pickleball Association's weekly nights of competition. All 11 points were won consecutively on Kerekes' serve. In other games, Barb Nicholson and Nicki Martin defeated Andrew Bradley and Barry Stone by a score of 11-8. Bradley is one of the younger club members and is steadily improving his ground strokes and court positioning. Patty Brine and Tim Moore challenged Tracey Aldis and Ron Kerekes and won the match 11-9. This match had numerous soft rallies at the net followed by backhand punches for winners. Dan Ferguson and Merlin Leis played Tyler Grenda and Chris Evans in a close match with both teams using dink shots at the net and topspin roll volleys. Ferguson and Leis were too much for their opponents on this night and won 11-9. (Contributed photo)

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## COMMUNITY —

# St. Marys Library and Hall of Fame announce new partnership



The St. Marys Public Library and the Canadian Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum are proud to announce their new partnership.

Scott Crawford on behalf of the Canadian Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum has provided the library with a pass that will allow free admission for two adults. This pass will be available until September 30, 2023, and is available for check out with your St. Marys Library card.

"We are always looking to add new passes to various institutions and unique items as a way to enhance our collection and offer more experiences to our patrons" says Acquisitions and Cataloguing librarian Kate Long.

The following is a list of the current Library + collection:

Birdwatching Kits

Board Games and Puzzles

Fishing Rods and Tackle

Kayaks

Light Therapy Lamps

London Children's Museum pass

Parks Passes (Grand River, Provincial, Upper Thames)

Pickel Ball kits

Portable Wifi hubs

Seed Library

Sewing machine and serger (for in house use)

Snowshoes

Tennis Equipment

Walking Poles

The St. Marys Library has a few more ideas up their sleeve. Follow them on social media to stay up to date on what is happening at the library!

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## COMMUNITY —

# Neighbours remember times of Amish and non-Amish cooperation

By Stew Slater

(Part 2 of a two-part article)

The newly-constructed Amish schoolhouse west of Uniondale had only been open a few months when the Great Blizzard of 1971 struck southwestern Ontario. The school's first teacher, Catherine Troyer (now Stutzman) recalled those four late-January days last weekend as she observed the auction sale on the property she has lived on for many years with her husband John. It was the final auction sale among the local Amish community, which over the past two years has been gradually relocating to other church communities in Canada and the United States.

"Thirteen pupils attended the first year," explains a write-up about what was known as the Brookside Parochial School in the 2012 East Nissouri History Committee's book. "Family names were Coblentz, Hochstetler, Mast, Troyer and Yoder."

After moving with her family to the area in the early 1960s and before the Amish built their own school, Catherine had taken the later years of her schooling at Union School No. 15, still standing as a private home near the Delta Power Equipment roundabout. She and her brother Henry (visiting from Michigan with his children and grandchildren for last weekend's auction) both recalled the stern yet effective tutoring of the one-room school's teacher, my great-aunt Nellie Slater.

"Some of the Amish schools I had been in, it was sometimes bedlam," Catherine smiled. "But I saw what Nellie Slater did to control the classroom and I tried to do what she did."

She described the moment of insight that a student often experienced when their teacher was able to make a concept clear, and said this is what made teaching so enjoyable.

"A map of Amish homes in the area was made by the pupils" during the first year of the Brookside school, the History Book article explains. "Pupils used their knowledge of scale drawing to position roads. Making or drawing farm buildings was an art assignment. The older boys walked along creeks on the weekends to see where they went."

Most clear in Catherine's memory, however, is the Blizzard of '71. The storm roared in shortly after 9 a.m. on Tuesday and Catherine wasn't able to make her way home near Highway 7 by horse and buggy until Alan Hutton and his snowblower emerged through the massive snowbanks in



Photo by Sean Camp/Lucid Musings Photo at [www.lucidmusings.com](http://www.lucidmusings.com)

the post-blizzard calm on Friday, Jan. 31.

The teacher, aged 21, knew early on it would be too wild for the children to walk home so she sent an older student up the laneway to the Yoder home to ask about bringing food for supper. Instead, the student returned and said they should make their way to the house for the night.

Afraid the smaller kids might get blown away, she tied each younger student to an older student and they set out through the gale. Steps from the door, the teacher stepped on an errantly-placed sled and fell. "I thought, 'How am I ever going to make it to the house with the children!'" she remembers.

They made it, and in the morning set out again to spend the day in the schoolhouse. For two days as the storm continued to rage they did this, until finally they were able to return to their homes on Friday.

It surely couldn't have always been easy, though, growing up alongside neighbouring kids who boarded a school bus each day instead of walking to school, began driving tractors and dirtbikes and snowmobiles by the time they were 12, and eventually driving off in their parents' pickup trucks or minivans to attend secondary and post-secondary schools in towns and cities near and far.

During this time of out-migration, as area residents share memories of sharing meals with Amish families during community fundraisers and stories of neighbours helping neighbours in the aftermath of farm mishaps or injuries, they also recall stories of Amish teenagers sneaking out

to party with their non-Amish counterparts, of young adults who decided to "leave the fold," or even the Amish man who, late in his life, decided to earn his driver's license and purchase a vehicle even though he continued wearing Amish clothing and maintained an austere Amish household.

Community elder John Henry Coblentz also shared a story that hinted at the challenges of fitting into a wider society driven by technological advances and aspirations of material wealth. He talked of a late 1960s Halloween prank that caused the destruction of an Amish buggy. The buggy's owner pursued and secured financial compensation from the culprits but Coblentz claims they returned on multiple occasions to purposely inflict further property damage as a form of vengeance.

"If (the Amish man) had left that buggy incident alone, perhaps none of that would have happened," Coblentz said – obviously still troubled by these incidents that happened 50 years ago.

David Graber, bishop of the now-dissolving local church and a resident since the early 1960s, is quick to note, however, that on the whole the Amish community in East and West Nissouri leaves with an enduring gratitude for the way it was welcomed and made to feel at home over the decades.

"We had a good neighbourhood," Graber said. "Our children grew up with the neighbours' children. And one thing I always thought was good was that we were accepted for who we are."

Catherine Stutzman agrees. She says Amish visitors to this community

have always been impressed and often surprised by the strong relationships and friendships maintained between Amish and non-Amish residents.

John Henry Coblentz remembers the first time he truly realized the surrounding community was there for the Amish if they needed anything. In the late 1960s, Elmer Yoder was nearly killed during the rebuilding of a barn destroyed by a fire. Two men were buried in rubble when a surviving stone wall collapsed; Enos Hertzer was protected by a wheelbarrow and was pulled free with minor injuries but all that could be seen of Elmer was his hand. The memory is seared in Coblentz's mind of working feverishly to free him.

"You could tell he was still living, but oh boy," he said, his voice trailing off. Yoder spent seven weeks in hospital and there was an outpouring of support from the surrounding community.

More than 25 years later, overheated hay during a "really sticky summer" caused Coblentz's own barn to burn. It was a Sunday, with the Amish gathered to worship at a home on the next road over. Someone saw smoke over the treeline and tried to determine which farm it might be coming from; moments later, Ken McLellan roared in to get the Coblentzes home as quickly as possible. By the time they arrived, Rae Brocklebank was on scene to keep the pasturing cattle from going near the barn, and brothers Jim and John Muir had bravely led the stallion out of the stable to safety. The roof had already collapsed.

"When that barn burned down, we really found out how many neighbours we had," John Henry commented.

Amish life in this neighbourhood, as with non-Amish life, was also landmarked by the COVID-19 outbreak. Just prior to March 2020, the decision had already been made to begin looking elsewhere for land and eventually dissolve the church.

"When the price of farms was doubling in a short time like it was, we just didn't see a future for the next generation to continue on," Graber explained.

Graber uses a German word to describe their philosophy of decision-making: *gemeinschaft*. There's no direct English translation but it refers to a morality that puts the community well-being first, as opposed to the individual-first approach that

*Continued on page 9*



## COMMUNITY —

# Neighbours remember times of Amish and non-Amish cooperation

*Continued from page 8*

might be labelled “libertarianism” or the state-first approach that might be labelled “socialism.”

The local Amish carefully weighed the potential community impacts of dispersing their families to other existing communities near and far. And they also weighed the potential community impacts of COVID-19 and the control measures brought in by governments in its wake.

Amish don't vote. And they don't accept any government subsidies or child benefit payments. But they weren't among churches – some which sought the media spotlight; others which did not – which defied government orders not to gather. They stayed in their own homes to worship, ripped by the pandemic from their tradition of gathering as a community at a different family's

home every Sunday. And their school closed, replaced by home visits by the teacher.

Eventually, when limits for gatherings were eased for spaces of a certain square footage, they gathered on Sundays – each family seated separately – in the wide-open workshop of one of the community's pallet-making businesses.

“You can read the Bible at home but it's better to worship as a group,” Graber said. “And we were very thankful that they left (our church) alone once we got started in the pallet shop.”

Not long after David and Irma Graber married, the local Amish were so numerous that a meeting was held to consider splitting the church into two congregations. “The 1970s were our best farming years, that's for sure,” Graber commented.

Instead, shortly thereafter, a few families pulled up stakes and moved to Paraguay. John Henry Coblentz's father was the local bishop at the time and he remembers his parents making two separate voyages – four weeks by boat – to help that group establish a church in the South American nation.

Since the 17th century, Amish people have been on the move. It should come as no surprise to either Amish or non-Amish residents of the Wellburn/Uniondale neighbourhood that farm financial pressures and a “gemeinschaft” approached to decision-making have spurred yet another move.

Catherine Stutzman says it doesn't make it any easier. She has heard from numerous Amish that she'll now be near other family members who already made their homes in Mich-

igan – either recently, in the case of her daughters, or several years ago in the case of her brother Henry. It will become her new “home.” But she knows a huge part of her heart will stay in the St. Marys area – where she has made so many non-Amish friends.

Many of the area's non-Amish residents have different approaches to decision-making – based in the family or the individual as opposed to the community. It doesn't stop them from lamenting, however, that the neighbourhood “won't be the same without them,” and perhaps even hoping that one day, in the next generation or the generation that follows, a group of Amish travellers – maybe even descendants of the Yoders, the Coblentzes, the Troyers or the Grabers – will roll through and find enough reasonably-priced farmland to re-establish a St. Marys-area church.

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# COMMUNITY —

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From left, Kinsmen Ryan Leaman, Cliff Steritt and Chris Swarhout welcome the cornhole teams and give instructions for the tournament.



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Chris Mabb plays Saturday afternoon in the tent during Open Mic. (Wendy Lamond photos)

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## COMMUNITY —

# Fun for the whole family at Kinsmen Summerfest



One of the amusement rides this year was the fun slide. Pictured from left, is Jess Betteridge holding her daughter Willow and beside her is daughter Blake.



Two year old Tanner Sparling loves trains. This ride for him was the highlight of the day. (Nancy Bickell photos)



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## SPORTS —

# U16-GT3 Storm earn Silver at Soccerfest

By Spencer Seymour

Despite being the only third-tier team in a tournament made up of Tier One and Two squads, the U16 Girls St. Marys Storm used their unflappable competitive spirit to scratch and claw their way to a Silver Medal at the Girls Soccerfest held this past weekend in St. Thomas.

According to Head Coach Nathan Brown, the team seemed to be feeling some “nerves” due to being the only Tier Three team in the tournament, but after one admittedly lacklustre half, the team bounced back and got on an incredible roll.

“We started slow against Dorchester, they were playing a really hard brand of soccer and pushed us off the ball more than we’d like to. But once we got the engines going and got over the nerves of playing teams in higher tiers, we were playing really well. There’s no quit in our girls. Their compete level is very high.”

St. Marys did lose their opening match 4-0 to the Dorchester Lightning, however, all of Dorchester’s goals came in the first half. In the second half, the game was scoreless, showing how the Storm were able to tighten up.

The second game for St. Marys came against Lambeth, another Tier One squad, and finished as a 1-1 draw. It was this game, said Brown, that the team began building a sense of belief in their ability to hang with the higher-tiered opponents.

This belief translated very well into their third game against Tier Two Strathroy, from which the Storm came away with a 3-1 win. Carlie Muir, Charlotte Richardson, and Regan Jones came up from the U14 team to bolster the lineup with the U16 Girls down to one substitute.

One day later in the semi-finals, St. Marys and Strathroy met in a rematch with a spot in the Gold Medal game on the line. The Storm led the game 2-1 until a late game-tying tally by Strathroy forced penalty kicks. After five rounds of extra kicks solved nothing, the officials decided to have the goalkeepers shoot on each other. Keeper Isla Unich, who Brown said was “hands down” the team’s best



The U16 Girls Tier Three St. Marys Storm pulled off an improbable underdog story this weekend, leaving the Girls Soccerfest tournament in St. Thomas with a Silver Medal despite all of their opponents being in either Tier One or Two. Pictured in the front is goalkeeper Isla Unich. In the middle row, from left to right, are Sofia Sanchez, Regan Jones, Charlotte Richardson, and Carlie Muir. In the back row, from left, are Coach Nathan Brown, Haruka Omachi, Bronwyn Hawkins, Adrianna Hollestelle-Black, Maddie Monisit Brown, Rowan Aitken, Olive Aarts, Marin Chateauvert, Libby McCurdy, Abby Martin, Sydney Grant, and Coach Gord Aitken. Not pictured were Erin Green, Leah Hachler, and Guin Jester. (Contributed photo)

player of the semi-final match, came up clutch twice, first by stopping the opposing keeper and then burying the game-winner.

“It was pretty awesome,” Brown raved as he described the unusual sequence of events. “The girls went absolutely bananas and charged Isla at the penalty kick line with all she had done to help them win. You definitely could feel the belief setting in that not only could we compete, but we had a shot at winning this thing.”

By this point, the Storm had already become the story of the tournament with their improbable place in the final game secured in another rematch of the round-robin. This time, however, it was the only team who had defeated St. Marys so far, Dorchester. With the rust shaken off, the group’s belief in each other overflowing, and their trademark unwavering work ethic, St. Marys and Dorchester had a hard-fought battle.

In the end, it was the Lightning who came away with the top prize on the

ashamed of.

“After we went up 2-1, Dorchester was able to tie it up and eventually got it to 4-2. Our girls, of course, with such a high compete level, were a little on themselves but we put it into perspective. We gave a Tier One team everything they could handle and they had to earn it. We had no quit and kept pushing right to the end.”

Brown also noted that the team went into the weekend aware of the higher-level opponents and even they weren’t expecting just how far their compete level would take them in this tournament.

“Gord [Aitken] and I are so proud of these girls. The heat that they had to play through, the level of competition they were facing, and the way they never gave up, this was an awesome weekend. I’m sure it will be a big confidence booster.”

“Going in, our goal was to have fun,” Brown continued. “We knew what we were up against and it’s not our normal mantra but we wanted to just go in, have some fun, and test ourselves. But these girls can’t help but go out and try to win and they got rewarded for it. This tournament may have galvanized this group to make a run for the league championship”

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## SPORTS —

# Lincs sign Dashevsky; Barkley named Captain

By Spencer Seymour

The St. Marys Lincolns have made a significant addition to their top-six forward group in the form of 19-year-old Marcus Dashevsky.

A native of Richmond, British Columbia, Dashevsky spent last season with the Powell River Kings of the BCHL, the top junior league in Canada outside of the CHL. In 26 games with Powell River, Dashevsky scored four goals and nine points. The fact that Dashevsky was able to play close to 30 games in the BCHL as an 18-year-old indicates that Dashevsky will be a top player in the GOJHL.

Lincolns' General Manager Pat Powers told the Independent that Dashevsky brings multiple strong dimensions to his game.

"Marcus is a smooth skating offensive threat with size and length to his game," Powers said. "He will provide more scoring to the already-deep offensive group that we've been building. He will be a handful for any defence in our league to control."

Dashevsky joins a top-six forward group containing plenty of high-end skill such as Jaden Lee, Chase MacQueen-Spence, and Luca Spagnolo. With several other players who will likely push for larger roles, the GM is excited about the lineup's adaptability.

"The depth of our lineup will allow us to interchange guys as needed to find the best possible chemistry. The sum of the pieces will be greater than any one of them individually which is hard to match up against for other teams."

The other big news coming from the local Junior 'B' organization as of late revolves around who will wear the 'C' for the team this coming season. It was announced this past Monday by the team on social media that defenceman Adam Barkley will serve as Captain this year.

Head Coach Jeff Bradley told the Independent that

he believes Barkley is "the perfect leader for the way we want to operate this season."

"I think the role of a Captain changes depending on the circumstances of the team," explained Bradley. "In our case, I think last year, we were really happy with our team last year and the culture. Coming into this season, we're losing a lot of the veteran leaders who played big roles in making us such a mature team. We wanted someone who could continue that leadership and culture and Adam was the right guy to do that this year."

When asked why Barkley fit the bill of captaincy, Bradley cited his "temperament, demeanour, and the way he carries himself" as key factors.

"It's all those things. Adam came in as a highly touted player that we knew would be really important on the ice and he came in and was right at home with our team right away. He fit in immediately, he's always got a smile on his face, and guys like being around him. And, as the season progressed, Adam's leadership just grew more and more despite not wearing a letter."

Last season, Barkley put up 11 goals and 41 points in 47 games for the Lincolns. Bradley expressed a high level of excitement about having the Inkerman, Ontario native back in the Stonetown for his final season of junior hockey.

"We're really excited to have Adam back. We knew that he loved playing here. He played like he loved playing here. Speaking to Adam during the Summer about the team and our goals, he is just as excited as anyone and he is planning to come in early and be a big part of camp and develop a good bond between the guys right from the start. Adam is going to be a big part of what we do and he knows that and he's proud to be the Captain of this team."



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## SPORTS —

# Monday thriller ends deadlocked for U15 Red Rockies

By Spencer Seymour

Had the 11:00 p.m. time limit not ended the game at a 12-12 tie, the Social Thirty-One U15 Red St. Marys Rockies and Exeter Express might have continued swapping leads all night long at the Rotary Diamond in St. Marys.

Isaac Cousineau got the ball for St. Marys on the mound to start the game and was strong for three innings, giving up just three runs on three hits. After three innings, the Rockies led 5-3.

The fourth inning was when St. Marys seemingly hit a chasm, with the Exeter bats coming to life. Single after

single coupled with a few fielding errors caused a nightmarish six runs to cross the plate and give Exeter the 9-5 lead.

But, like they have done all season, the St. Marys boys stayed calm and focused to answer the rally with four runs of their own to tie things up at nine apiece. Kyler Rooney, Jonah Thomson, and Jared Ballantyne all got on base to start the bottom of the fourth. Evan Ballantyne got a couple of big RBIs with a single and he was subsequently driven home by Ty Camden who also nailed a clutch single to empty the bases.

Jared Ballantyne was called upon to close the game on the bump and he

threw two excellent innings. However, the pesky Exeter bats would not go quietly into the night, mustering a run in the fifth and two more in the sixth to put all the pressure back on St. Marys to find some last-inning heroics down by one.

A ball off the back of Jared Ballantyne to lead off the bottom of the inning put him on base once again and, according to Coach Chris Chessell, "gave us the life we needed." Now with two outs, Ballantyne advanced to third with a steal and a fielder's choice. Camden was called upon once again to get a clutch hit, which is exactly what he did, just barely squeezing a liner out of the reach of the shortstop

to score Ballantyne and tie the game.

While the game was called there due to the clock striking 11:00, Chessell told the Independent that the Rockies' ability to stay in the fight amidst the vertigo-inducing momentum changes was on full and impressive display.

"Coming into the game, the boys were excited as they knew our lineup was going to be facing an equally talented Exeter team," Chessell said. "As the game wore on, you could see the desire to not give an inch, the refusal to quit, the refusal to lose. That was the attitude in the dugout and it was a huge reason why we were able to tie it up before the game ended."

# U18 OBA Boys dominate both sides of plate in Exeter

By Spencer Seymour

Head Coach Jayden Rooney told the Independent that the St. Marys Building Centre U18 OBA Boys St. Marys Rockies were great on the mound and in the batter's box last Tuesday when the team hit the road and left Exeter with a 20-9 win over the Express Blue. "We got great pitching and everyone

was hitting very well," said Rooney. "It was really good to see the guys giving lots of run support considering the really sloid pitching they were getting. Overall, we were happy with the effort and hope it's something we're able to build on."

Braedan Roth put on a show in the contest, going three for four at the

plate while also combining with Charles Black to pitch four scoreless innings.

Rooney expanded on his happiness with the team's hitting success, saying it was due to a patient, methodical mindset brought by everyone throughout the lineup.

"No one was overthinking it at the

plate. Everyone was going up with a game plan. They were waiting for the right pitch and protecting on two strikes. You could see that they were thinking very well and doing a good job and making every swing of the bat count."

# U11 HP Girls win fourth in a row

By Spencer Seymour

The St. Marys Cement U11 HP Girls St. Marys Rockies won their fourth straight game last Tuesday with an exciting 11-10 victory over the Mitchell Hornets.

According to one of the team's coaches Erin Holliday, the team's development is very visible with every passing game.

"Our players continue to work hard and are improving upon their hit-

ting, fielding, and pitching skills. Our throws and catches are more often on point and our pitching continues to get better and better. We look forward to seeing how they progress in the latter half of the season."

On the pitcher's mound, Violet Holliday started the game and pitched two scoreless innings. The team also recently had Don Scott join some of their pitchers to work on their skills, which Holliday said was very benefi-

cial in more ways than one.

"Having Don come out to share his knowledge and help our payers build their strength has been instrumental, both in the development of the players and our understanding as coaches since none of us were pitchers."

With the team's win last Tuesday extending their winning streak to four games, Holliday said the players are not only feeling their collective confidence building but more importantly,

are having loads of fun.

"Our girls tend to not be as concerned about the score as they usually focus more on cheering on their teammates as they pitch, make a play, hit, or strike out. The way they encourage each other puts out a positive vibe throughout the game. Our players have a lot of fun together and winning a game, or four in a row, is just a bonus."

# U11 OBA Boys take one of two in Saugeen Shores

By Spencer Seymour

The St. Marys Firefighters U11 OBA St. Marys Rockies travelled to Saugeen Shores this past Sunday for a doubleheader against the hometown Sting and an explosive offensive output coupled with great defence propelled the Rockies to a 7-1 victory in the first half of the back-to-back two-game series.

According to Head Coach Trevor

Ward, the U11 OBA squad is showing strong signs of improvement and overall understanding when it comes to stepping up to the plate with patience and focus.

"The boys are coming along really well by having a good eye and approach at the plate. That willingness to wait for a pitch they like is allowing them to swing at good pitches more and more consistently."

As part of their 7-1 win, Mark Richardson went two for three at the plate with three runs scored. Additionally, James Holliday and Ryder Boemer both went two for three as well and scored once. Talan Ward went a perfect three for three with one run scored. On the mound, Holliday pitched five innings with only one run and five hits surrendered.

Coach Ward also praised the group

for their progress on the defensive side of the ball, saying their commitment to getting better is paying off.

"Their defensive skills are really coming along. It's nice to see because the boys have been working really hard at this area of the game in both our practices and games. I find they are gelling as a team and really starting to work well with positioning and making some great plays together."



SPORTS —

Minor Ball and Soccer Scrapbook



Nico Thompson maneuvers around a St. Thomas defender during the U9 Boys Tier Three St. Marys Storm game this past Sunday.



Finley Newton rockets the ball towards the plate during the Canadian Tire U15 Blue St. Marys Rockies game this past Monday night.



Camille Crummer fires a shot on the South Huron goalkeeper during this past Sunday's U13 Girls Tier Three St. Marys Storm game.



Tys De Wit pots a goal for the U14 Boys Tier Three Two St. Marys Storm during their game last Friday against the visiting squad from Clinton.



Ben Becker (left) makes a play from the outfield, while Jude Schotzhauer (right) whips a pitch during the Cubberley Plumbing and Heating U13 Red St. Marys Rockies game last Wednesday.



Aiden Hibbert sprawls out to get an out at second base during last Wednesday's Dunny's Source For Sports U9 Red St. Marys Rockies game. (Photos by Spencer Seymour)



## HISTORY —

## HISTORIC ST. MARYS: The History of the Flats, Part Two

By Mary Smith

In the early years of World War II, the town's administration and council decided, somewhat arbitrarily, that Sunday, September 13, 1942 should commemorate the 100th anniversary of the founding of St. Marys. The first permanent settlers arrived in St. Marys ca 1840 and the settlement became an official village in 1855. Nine years later, it became an incorporated town. So, the reasons for selecting 1942 to mark the centenary are not clear. But plans went ahead and the favoured community gathering place – the Flats – was made ready to host the main event.

The late summer of 1942 was a very anxious time in St. Marys and elsewhere in Canada. The war in Europe was going badly. The Dieppe raid had taken place just a few weeks earlier on August 19, and had ended in monumental failure with many Canadian casualties. The Perth Regiment was training in England and although their members had not been part of the Dieppe expedition, friends and families at home were, of course, concerned about what their future involvement would be. The Axis powers were gaining ground in North Africa and in the United States, the Navy was still recovering from the attack on Pearl Harbor.

Perhaps this was all the more reason to bring the community together, to try to create a feeling of solidarity. The organizers, led by Mayor David C. White, knew that an extravagant celebration would be inappropriate and the day had a hopeful but solemn tone. It began with special services in all local churches. In the afternoon, the Perth Reserve Battalion Band led a small parade through downtown St. Marys to the Flats. A platform was set up in front of the grandstand and those unable to get seating, crowded around this small stage. The weather was perfect and, according to the *Journal Argus* report, the crowd at the Flats was “perhaps the largest in history.”

The special guest was the St. Marys “old boy” and former Prime Minister of Canada, the Right Honourable Arthur Meighen, shown in this week's photograph as he addressed the crowd. Meighen's own two sons were in uniform, serving overseas. Another speaker was renowned elocutionist Agnes Knox Black, almost hidden in this picture behind Lieutenant-Colonel Lincoln Rice on the left. Perth MP Fred Sanderson (in a top hat, back centre) also spoke. Mayor White, in a reservist's uniform on the right, was chairman. F. E. Butcher, beside him, as the oldest surviving previous mayor of St. Marys, was a platform guest. When the speeches were finished, the band played “God Save the King. The crowd and guests returned to wartime realities, perhaps with a stronger will to meet adversity and hope for peace.



The Right Honourable Arthur Meighen addresses the crowd on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of the founding of St. Marys.

Following the war, the St. Marys District Collegiate formed an active cadet corps and the Flats was the venue for drills and the annual cadet inspection. The park was also used for sporting events, such as school track and field meets. In the summer, young folks still sat on the top rows of an increasingly rickety grandstand to watch ballgames. But through the 1950s, attention drifted away from the Flats. The centre of the community's recreational activities was on Water Street South. The quarry became a municipal swimming pool in 1950 and a few years later, concrete tennis courts were installed across the road on the west side of Water Street. The old tennis courts on the Flats had fallen into disrepair during the war years and were totally abandoned. In 1954, the St. Marys Collegiate moved to a new school building on Elizabeth Street with its own field for sports and cadet inspections and left the Flats behind.

In 1952, a new arena on Water Street South opened and it was used not only for hockey, figure skating and public skating but also for events and banquets in the second-storey community hall. A ball park was developed just south of the arena and it became the preferred venue for St. Marys Minor Ball and competitive men's fastball. On July 1, 1967, the community's celebration of Canada's 100th birthday took place at the new Centennial Park, south of the Quarry. As part of the ceremonies, the nearby ball park was officially named Teddy's Field, after neighbour and longtime volunteer, Ted Blackman.

However, in 1973, a major development took place in St. Marys that brought the Flats back into focus. A long overdue project to install sanitary sewers throughout the town got underway. The pavement on all the streets was torn up and deep excavations were made for the sewer pipes. The project generated an enormous amount of fill. How could

it be used in a positive way? Eric Taylor, Superintendent of Public Works at the time, had an inspired idea. He contacted his friend, Hugh Munro from Uniondale, who at that time was chair of the Upper Thames River Conservation Authority. They arranged to meet at the Flats. Together, they agreed that the fill could build up the muddy track that circled the park and create a proper raised ring road so that people could easily drive or walk along the riverbank and admire the scenery. Rob Taylor of McLean Taylor Construction gets great pleasure in telling this story about his father, Eric. Rob points out that relations between the town and the UTRCA were more personal and informal 50 years ago. Today, such an agreement would not be so easily reached.

When town council, led by Mayor Clifton Brown, decided to hold a Homecoming celebration on the Canada Day weekend in 1978, they were eager to show off the facilities at the brand new arena and community centre on James Street South. But the five-day weekend program was wide-ranging and events

spread out all over the town, including the Flats where a pet show was held on the first evening. The Flats was the venue for a pancake breakfast to start off Saturday's activities, followed by a horse show in the show ring at the north end, normally used during the annual agricultural fair. For Thursday, Friday and Saturday, a midway and the popular beer tent were also installed. Sunday and Monday afternoons saw the Stonetown Homecoming Regatta – canoe and novelty races beside the park on the Thames River. The lawn bowling club held a special jitney and club members encouraged spectators and participants. In 1978, the event organizers knew that many Homecomers would have strong memories of the Flats and the park was well used throughout the entire event.

Many Independent readers will have their own memories of the Flats – maybe playing slow pitch during the summer or going with their families to the fair. A traditional activity might be an evening drive on the ring road each December to enjoy the Winter Lights display. There have been continuous improvements – the Lions Pavilion and access to the Grand Trunk Trail, for example. The relocation of the Farmers' Market to the north end of the park has been a popular move. The park's importance to the community is certain. During the pandemic, walking around the ring road or just sitting beside the river provided solace to many local residents.

Council has released its short and long-term plans for the future of the park. While some important upgrades will be done – an accessible dock, for example – the unique features of the Flats will remain. Everyone will still be able to get close to the river via the ring road to enjoy its beauty through the changing seasons. The Flats – Milt Dunnell Field – will remain an open flexible space for community events – a welcoming place to gather.

## CORRECTION

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# The Wandering Bee

By Nancy Abra

Sometimes the decision where to put down roots can be challenging, especially when the couple grew up in different countries. Dan Mund is originally from Connecticut, while his wife, Bronwyn grew up in London. The Munds decided on the London area and purchased a small 23acre farm north of Thorndale in 2016.

Initially, the couple's aim was to have a place to grow their own vegetables and have some farm animals like alpacas and chickens for their children. After the first couple of years of growing vegetables and spending time with the land, they decided to use Dan's knowledge from being a dairy farmer and Bronwyn's business experience to start their own family farm business. At this time their focus shifted to growing flowers, and they have never looked back.

In 2018, the Munds started with 30 50ft flower beds. At present they have 100 50ft beds of perennials and annuals. They grow approximate 75 species of flowers with a multitude of varieties of each flower species. Their peony bed alone consists of over a thousand plants.

Their flower season starts in March or April, depending on the weather, with tulips and daffodils grown in a large hoop house. The season extends well into October or beyond depending on when the flower beds are hit with a hard killer frost.

Besides being reliant on weather, the soil is very important to what and how they grow. "This land



is hard clay" Dan remarked, "and we use organic compost to help amend the soil. We also grow cover crops such as oats and winter rye. As for watering, we can't always depend on Mother Nature, so we have installed drip irrigation for our warm season annuals."

No matter what is farmed or grown, it usually means many hands are needed. "Our girls are working with us this summer," Bronwyn said, "plus we have two staff for the season doing field work and harvesting. My Mom helps too. She was a florist, and her knowledge and artistic eye is invaluable as I have learnt so much for her."

Once the flowers are harvested, which is daily, they are cleaned, put in buckets, and stored in a small building with an innovative cooler system. Through technology, this system can be monitored by the Munds' cell phones even when they are out in the flower fields.

"The bees and pollinators are important to every garden and our farm", Bronwyn said. "I wanted our farm name to be whimsical and fun. I wanted to bring the energy in our name to what we grow and the floral designs I create. 'The Wandering Bee' just makes sense."

The Wandering Bee is a 'farm to vase' flower farm with their goal to share colour, love, and joy with their flowers. They offer preordered flowers for pickup or local delivery, for August and September a new bouquet subscription, flowers for special events as well as at two farmers markets in London.

"We love being part of Thorndale's vibrant community and a member of 'I Love Thorndale' with the aim to share a little joy in the town through friendships, fun and flowers." [www.thewandering-bee.ca](http://www.thewandering-bee.ca).

# From Councillor Tom Heeman

By Nancy Abra

There was a motion passed by Thames Centre Council with unanimous support last month in regards to the crosswalks in Thorndale. The Thorndale Road/King Street is increasingly busy with more vehicle traffic as well as pedestrian traffic as the development in the town grows. It was noted in this resolution that some vehicles are still travelling at a high rate of speed after crossing the

Wye Creek bridge and between the railway crossing where visibility is reduced.

Heeman posted last week that "two new crossovers were proposed and approved in Thorndale in both the west and east end of Thorndale. The crossover between the post office and Angels Daycare on King Street will get new signs and be repainted."

Heeman continued, "It was proposed

and approved that the west end [at Brooker Trail and King Street] receive the crosswalk with a light to slow traffic down before entering town and allow residents of Rosewood [development] to cross the street. As this section has yet to receive sidewalks council also voted to work with the county to add sidewalk curbs and streetlights and to add this project to the 2024 budget. Once the side walks are installed the lighted

cross walk will be installed at the same time. Due to the influx of new families with school age children in Rosewood with more to come, multiple future commercial sites, and a proposed community trail linking it to the new dog park, this area was selected for lights. New signs and lines should be up before the school year."

For more details regarding this go to [www.thamescentre.on.ca/articles/council-highlights-july-17-2023](http://www.thamescentre.on.ca/articles/council-highlights-july-17-2023).

# It's time to get ready!

By Nancy Abra

If you have been meaning to clean out that closet or cupboard or go through those mystery totes in the basement, now is the time. The bargain hunters are coming to town.

On Saturday, August 12th, the streets of Thorndale will be bustling with ea-

ger shoppers looking for great deals on nearly-new closet items to basement and garage wares. The Thorndale street and yard sale has been an annual summer event for more than thirty years. It was initially spearheaded by Karen and Don Bentum, owners of Thorndale Hardware Store as a summer promotional event for

their store. Since then, it has grown into the shopping event of the region, drawing people from miles around to the town seeking out those unique treasures. Everyone gets involved - businesses and churches along King Street to community organizations and residents on the back streets and in the subdivisions that make up

Thorndale.

In the past, the Thorndale street sale has been a great community event. Many friends and family get together and look forward to a fun morning of seeking out those treasures and good deals. Literally, there is something for everyone.



COLUMN —

# WHAT'S FOR DINNER: Gluten Free Comfort Foods



By Lauren Eedy

One of the great joys of writing a cooking column is receiving feedback from readers!

Recently I was approached by a friend who, although she enjoys this column, requested some gluten-free recipes to enjoy. I didn't want to write about the usual potatoes or quinoa and meat options and thought that a traditional comfort food would be more up her alley.

The majority of the gluten-free ingredients can be found in that section in local stores. Please, always feel free to send me your suggestions on what you would like me to cover here.

**Gluten-Free Chicken Pot Pie**  
Prep: 15 Total: 1hr5m Serves: 8

1/2 c butter  
3 1/3 c Gluten-Free Flour Mix

- (recipe below)
- 1 14.5oz can gluten-free reduced-sodium chicken broth
  - 2 3/4 c milk
  - 3 c chopped cooked chicken
  - 1 16oz package frozen mixed vegetables
  - 1 1/2 c frozen small whole onions
  - 1 1/2 tsp salt
  - 1 tsp gluten-free poultry seasoning
  - 1/8 tsp ground black pepper
  - 1 tbsp sugar
  - 1 tbsp gluten-free baking powder
  - 3/4 tsp cream of tartar
  - 3/4 c butter
  - 1 tbsp milk
  - 1/4 c grated parmesan cheese
- Gluten-Free Flour Mix**
- 3 c white rice flour
  - 3 c potato starch
  - 2 c sorghum flour
  - 4 tsp xanthan gum
- Mix all ingredients together in an airtight container and store at room temperature for up to 3 months. Recipe can be doubled or tripled so you have gluten-free flour on hand.
- Method:
- Preheat oven to 400°F. In a

large saucepan, heat the 1/2 c butter over medium heat until melted. Stir in 1/3 c Gluten-Free Flour Mix; cook and stir for 1m. Gradually stir in broth and 1 1/2 c of milk. Cook and stir until thickened and bubbly. Stir in chicken, frozen vegetables, frozen onions, 1/2 tsp salt, poultry seasoning and pepper. Cook until heated through, stirring frequently. Keep warm.

-For biscuits, in a large bowl stir together the remaining 3c of flour mix, the remaining 1 tsp salt, the sugar, baking powder, and cream of tartar. Using a pastry blender, cut in 3/4 c butter until mixture resembles coarse crumbs. Make a well in the centre of the flour mixture. Add remaining 1/4 c milk all at once. Using a fork, stir just until mixture is moistened. Turn out onto a work surface and pat into a 3/4" thick rectangle. Cut into 12 squares.

-Transfer hot chicken mixture into a 3-quart oval or rectangular baking dish. Arrange biscuits on top of chicken. Brush tops of biscuits with 1tbsp milk and sprinkle with cheese.

-Place baking dish on middle oven rack. Place a large baking sheet on the bottom rack to catch any drips. Bake about



40m or until edges of chicken mixture are bubbly and biscuits are lightly browned. Let stand for 10m before serving.

**Brown Sugar Grilled Peaches**

Peaches are ready! The perfect taste of summer in this dessert.

Prep: 5m Cook: 6m Total: 11m  
Serves: 8

- 4 medium peaches, halved and pitted
- 2 tbsp unsalted butter, melted
- 2 tbsp brown sugar
- 1/2 tsp cinnamon to taste

Ice cream for serving, optional

Method:

- Preheat grill to med-high.
- Brush cut side of peaches

with butter and sprinkle with brown sugar. Rub the sugar into the butter so it sticks. Sprinkle with cinnamon.

-Place peaches cut side up and grill for 3m. Flip over and grill for 3-5 more minutes. Serve warm with ice cream of your choice.

**To Remove Peach Pits:**

**Freestone:** Run a knife around the peach along the seam of the peach. Twist and pull apart to remove the pit with your fingers. It will be easy to pull out.

**Clingstone:** Cut the peach across the middle so you have the top and bottom (opposite of the natural line). Twist the peach to separate the halves. Use a spoon or knife to remove the pit from the one half.

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Solutions on page 27



A dark blue circle with a white border containing the text "GNMI" in large white serif font and "MEDICAL IMAGING" in smaller white sans-serif font below it.

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# COLUMN —

## HOSTING UKRAINE: Grateful

By VJ Knutson

(This piece is fictional, based on my observations)

First dawn light streams through my undressed window, invites me to rise, but I stay in my make-shift bed. As much as my back craves movement, I listen for sounds from the household above. I won't make any noise until I know my hosts are awake. I don't want to disturb them.

Two months I have slept in this small cot, hastily set up for my stay. My daughter sleeps nearby in a regular bed. Her breathing is deep and steady. I am grateful for that. She needs the rest. Next to her, her daughter also sleeps, wide mouthed and snoring. It makes me smile.

Soon, footsteps will signal the hosts are awake, and I will pop out of bed and pray my legs carry me up the stairs. I will offer to make breakfast, and they will refuse – a dance we do every morning. I want to feel useful. It is embarrassing to be staying in a stranger's house for free – I don't ever want them to think I'm ungrateful.

It is Saturday, so no one needs to rush out to school, or work. Today we have rest. Later, daughter and I will clean, even though Mrs says please don't. We will look for jobs to pay our way. It's a matter of honour.



My daughter follows closely behind me and the hosts emerge. Greetings all around. Reassurance that we have slept well – not that I would say so, if I hadn't. I don't want to be ungrateful. I notice black circles beneath my daughter's eyes. She is worrying too much. I curse the war that brought us here, the job she is forced to take because her English is not good enough.

I curse my own useless legs that won't let me do the drudgery in her place.

The hosts take their morning coffees and retreat to read the news or check emails. I think about what I will cook for the day. Later, we'll go to English lessons. I am determined to learn English.

I want to do better, set a good example

for my daughter and granddaughter.

The hosting situation is temporary. The expectation is that we rent our own apartment and become independent, but my daughter will have to support the three of us, and with the high cost of rent, I am afraid we will not be successful. At home, she had a good job, years of experience, and a high salary. None of that matters here. Here she is only good for a factory job. I bite my tongue, and try to hide my anger. I must not appear ungrateful.

I take my coffee outside and watch the birds. I am reminded of my own garden, back at home. At home, where I was busy each day, knowing my place. I don't know my place here, in this strange country. I am an outsider. I have lost so much.

I give my head a shake, and chastise myself for these thoughts. My home no longer exists. There is no going back. I must look forward. I need to look forward...but, really, given all the uncertainty...I don't even know what that might look like.

I pray that my daughter has the strength to carry us through. And remember to be grateful.

(Have a question, comment, or idea for an upcoming column? Reach me at [english.knutson@gmail.com](mailto:english.knutson@gmail.com).)

## Straight from the Shelves

By Laura McAsh, St. Marys Public Library

It's a strange world out there, especially when things aren't as they seem. Avalonia is a picturesque town surrounded by a wall of mountains and powered by Pando, a miraculous plant discovered 25 years ago by local hero, Searcher Clade. Nowadays, Searcher and his family lead an idyllic life farming Pando until one day they are greeted with the unwelcome news that the mysterious metabolic miracle is in danger. What happens next? You'll

just have to join us tomorrow at Cadzow to see "Strange World" at our next Movie in the Park! Admission is free and so is the popcorn, all thanks to our dedicated Friends of the Library. The movie starts at dusk. Bring your own chair or blanket for maximum comfort. "Strange World" is rated PG.

### Up This Week

Friday, Jul. 28th: Funday Friday – Meet the St. Marys Fire Department (1:00pm), Movies in the Park – Strange World (Dusk @ Cadzow Park)

Saturday, Jul. 29th: Dungeons & Dragons (10:30am),

Game Days (1:00pm-4:00pm)

Monday, Jul. 31st: Crafty Kids (10:30am-12:00pm), Club SMPL (1:30pm-3:00pm), Mahjong Intro (6:00pm-6:30pm), Mahjong! (6:30pm-8:00pm)

Tuesday, Aug. 1st: Reading Help (10:00am-12:30pm), Wonder Workshop (1:30pm-3:00pm), Writing Club – Write On (6:00pm-7:00pm), Writing Club – Write of Way (7:00pm-8:00pm)

Wednesday, Aug. 2nd: STEAM League (10:30am-12:00pm), Mahjong Intro (1:00pm-2:00pm), Reading Help (1:30pm-3:00pm), Mahjong! (2:00pm-4:00pm), Scrabble (6:00pm-8:00pm)

Thursday, Aug. 3rd: Open 10:30am-8:00pm



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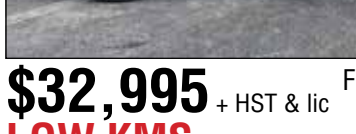
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Word List

- Saturday  
Milt Dunnell Field  
Producer based  
Vegetables  
Fruit  
Garlic  
Kyiv Kooking  
Flowers  
Bread  
Pizza  
Maple products  
Honey  
Wines  
Indian cuisine  
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THE WEEK AHEAD

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

St. Marys Public Library events - See Page 20

Friday, July 28

- A.N.A.F. meat draw - 6 pm
- Frank St. Germain live at TuttCo - 6 to 8 pm
- Thorndale Back 40 Youth Bash at the Thorndale  
fairgrounds - 6 to 10 pm
- Live music at River Valley featuring the Bone Radlers

Saturday, July 29

- St. Marys Farmers Market at Milt Dunnell Field - 8 am  
to Noon
- Royal Canadian Legion meat draw - 5 pm
- Thorndale Back 40 Adult Bash at the Thorndale  
fairgrounds - 7 pm to ?

Sunday, July 30

- Windmill Family Campground Classic & Antique Car  
Show - Noon to 4pm

Wednesday, August 2

- Melodies at the Museum in Cadzow Park - 7 to 8 pm



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OF THE WEEK

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breakfast?



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Addilyn Smith (4)

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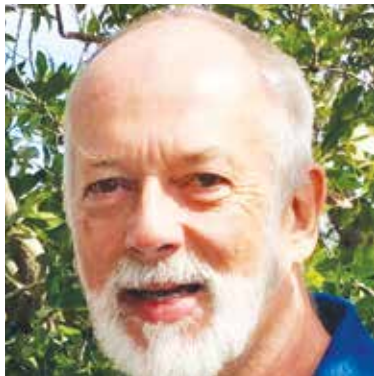
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## COLUMN —

## OH, THE PLACES WE'LL GO: The romance of the sea and the mystery of military tunnels



By Paul Knowles

There is always something just a little more special about visiting a place you can only reach by boat. The trip across the water, whether brief or lengthy, gives you time to reflect on the uniqueness of your destination.

And you also realize that you are among the relatively few who have actually visited this site.

A visit to George's Island, in Halifax's inner harbour, offers exactly that experience with a couple of additional pluses. First, the island is the site of Fort Charlotte, first constructed between 1792 and 1798 and named for Queen Charlotte, wife of England's King George III. (Their son, Edward, was Commander-in-Chief in Halifax at the time). Second, when you visit George's Island today, you are among the first visitors to set foot on the island in the past few decades. It has been essentially unoccupied since the end of World War II and although it was named a National Historic Site in

1965, only in the past couple of years has Parks Canada re-developed the place into a fascinating tourist attraction.

A highlight of a visit to Fort Charlotte is a tour of the underground tunnels, reminiscent of the underground passages at Dover Castle in England.

The Fort Charlotte tunnels were constructed circa 1877, almost a century after the first fortifications were built on the island. What is described as a "labyrinth of underground magazines and tunnels" was dug out to serve extensive batteries of guns and cannons that were put in place as a response to the tensions engendered by the American Civil War.

In fact, most of the construction and subsequent changes at Fort Charlotte had to do with international conflict. The first fortifications here, now long replaced, were built in 1750 to defend what was now an English island against possible attack by the French. The defenses of the Fort were improved and augmented again – during the Seven Years' War (1756-63), the American Revolutionary War (1775-1783), the French Revolutionary War (beginning 1792, the era in which the current fort was constructed), the War of 1812, the American Civil War (the 1860s), World War I and World War II, when anti-aircraft guns were installed on the island.

All of that led to virtually no

actual action. I can't find any record of a battle, or conflict of any kind, involving Fort Charlotte. But to be fair, the Halifax Military History Preservation Society points out that "The end of the war (WWII) marked the last time that George's Island was used for defending Halifax, a role it upheld for two centuries after the founding of the city."

Today, young guides in period uniforms will lead tours through the damp tunnels that connected the underground magazines, tunnels and gun batteries. So not only does your visit include the romance of a sea voyage (albeit relatively brief), but also the mystery of exploring underground tunnels that have only been opened to visitors like you in the last couple of years.

It's also worth exploring the island above-ground. Parks Canada is a terrific organization and, in my experience, always does it right. So there are picnic tables and the iconic red Muskoka chairs acting as invitations to relax and enjoy the island and the terrific view of Halifax. The island is open to visitors from Thursdays through Mondays, 10-3, to September 9, and weekends, until October 8.

Oh, yes – George's Island has one other claim to fame. It is home to unique, black garter snakes, smaller than their mainland cousins and never happy to encounter come-from-away visitors.

When you return to the main-



George's Island lighthouse. (Photos by Paul Knowles)

land, you arrive at the completely revitalized Halifax waterfront. Personally, I could explore this district with its three-kilometer boardwalk for hours. It's a place for food and drink and talented buskers and museums and did I mention food?

It's also the location of one the most up-scale hotels in Canada, the newly constructed Muir hotel. Waterfront wanderers are welcome to wander through the Muir's section of the waterfront which includes some symbolic steps right down into the sea and intriguing art installations.

The museums along the waterfront include the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic where you can learn all you would want to know about Nova Scotia's maritime history, and where you can also enjoy free outdoor concerts every Tuesday night during the summer.

A 15-minute walk away is Pier 21, home of the Canadian Museum of Immigration where your hosts boast that "one

visit can change your life" as you will learn the history of immigration Canada and may discover new facts about your own ancestral history.

While it's not on the waterfront, I have to suggest you also wander up to the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia. (It's a three-minute walk... well, more like a climb, given the streets leading down to the harbour... from the Maritime Museum).

There's so much more to explore in Halifax, including the iconic Citadel, but it is certainly worth the time to spend a day or two at the waterfront and immediate environs. The local powers that be and Parks Canada have done so much to entice visitors and you, the visitor, will reap the rewards.

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

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OBITUARY

Carter



Margaret Carter  
December 20, 1927 - July 21, 2023  
Mom came into this world on a stormy winter night in December of 1927, the firstborn to Olive and Mervyn Linton, who farmed in Logan Township, north of Mitchell.

Margaret Mary Carter (nee Linton) left us, at the age of 95, on July 21, 2023. She lived for over 60 years in the same house in St. Marys, raising four children Kathy Blake (John), Bud Carter (Mary Atkinson), Linda Carter (Gordon Barnett) and Jane Bedford. Mom was a Legal Secretary and Title Searcher for Waghorn and Stephens Law firm. Mom was an excellent homemaker and cook, and loved local history.

She read Mary Smith's column in the Independent, with great interest every week, missing it when her eyesight was failing. Mom was so sharp right up until the end. She could tell us the story of every item of Canadian glass or piece of furniture that Dad had refinished. Mom's memory was second to none. She was a private lady who loved her children, her 10 grandchildren and 19 great grandchildren with all of her heart.

She put such thought into every birthday and Christmas gift, keeping careful track in her little black book, treating each child fairly. She was so proud of them all. Mom was the keeper of family history, with a large collection of photo albums that she would reference often and lay out for us all to see on the kitchen table. She loved her home, her roses, fine china, linens from King-smills, fish and chips and a cold pint.

When Dad and her two younger brothers, Bob and David, passed away as well as most of her friends and neighbours, she often wondered why she had lived so long. She was a role model for all of us. We'll miss you, Mom.

Cremation has taken place. A private family interment will take place in St. Marys Cemetery at a later date. Special thanks to those who gave Mom such good care: Aida, Dr. Berta, Dr. Hepburn and Cheryl, and Andrew Hodges. Donations can be made to the St. Marys Healthcare Foundation. Online condolences at [www.hodgesfuneralhome.ca](http://www.hodgesfuneralhome.ca).

OBITUARY

Evans



Millie Evans passed away at Kingsway Lodge on July 21, 2023 at the age of 81. Beloved wife of Bob Evans, married August 8, 1959.

Loving mother of Kathy Cookson (Tom), Wendy Evans (Walter), Michael Evans (Wendy), Bobby Evans (Tanya). Also survived by 14 grandchildren and 17 great-grandchildren. Sister of Margaret Thompson and Joan Kneller (Frank) and sister-in-law Marjorie Baker, Greg Evans (Diane). Also survived by many nieces and nephews.

Cremation has taken place. A private family interment will take place in St. Marys Cemetery. Memorial donations may be made to the Alzheimer Society. Online condolences at [www.hodgesfuneralhome.ca](http://www.hodgesfuneralhome.ca).

OBITUARY

Reiche



Edburg (Edda) Reiche -  
Sept.8, 1938 – July 20, 2023  
Edda Reiche (nee Ambrosius) in her 85th year passed away peacefully with her family by her side on July 20th, 2023.

Beloved wife of 60 years of Winfried Reiche, loving mother of Jorg and wife Delia and Heike Reiche. Forever cherished by grandchildren Lazaro and wife Parmida Reiche, Jasmine and husband Darrell Vitello, Julian Reiche and soon to be wife Miriam Cohen, Pierson Grasby and partner Kelly Chau, Ethan Reiche and partner Emily Veldhuis, and Liam McCann. Also survived by great-grandchildren Luca and Mirabella Vitello, and Roman Reiche.

Edda was born in Trier, Germany where she met her husband Winfried in 1959 and married in 1960. They immigrated to Canada in 1963. Edda & Winfried operated Conroy's Custom Butchery from 1970 to 1984 on Hwy 7 in Perth County, retiring to Dorchester.

Enjoying early retirement with her devoted husband, they enjoyed worldly travels together to sunny destinations over the years. A marvelous baker, homemaker and loving Oma that adored the time she had with her grandchildren and great grandchildren that were the centre of her life.

There will be a private family service at Andrew L Hodges Funeral Home. As expressions of sympathy, memorial donations may be made directly to the Alzheimer Society of Canada. Online condolences at [www.hodgesfuneralhome.ca](http://www.hodgesfuneralhome.ca).

OBITUARY

Leslie



Norma Grace Leslie passed away peacefully at Kingsway Lodge on July 22, 2023 at the age of 93.

Beloved wife of the late William "Ken" Leslie. Dear mother of Jim and Jan Leslie, Linda Munro, Rick and Linda Leslie, Jeff and Jennifer Leslie and Bonnie and Brad Taylor. Proud grandmother of James and Madge, Jason, Bryant and Jennifer, Sarah and Eric, Michael and Trish, Matthew and Janna, Scott, Angie, Nick and Michelle, Eric, Chad, Melanie and Mike, Kory, Kara and Jarrod and 22 great-grandchildren. Predeceased by her parents Eric and Gladis White and step-mother Ethel White, brothers Tom, Jim, Ralph and sister Joan, son-in-law Kenneth Munro and Jason Davidson.

Norma will be remembered for her enjoyment of biking around town, swimming at the quarry, love of music and friendly social personality. Cremation has taken place. Special thanks to Dr. Gattfield and the staff at Kingsway Lodge especially Carly Zub for her compassion during Norma's stay.

A private family interment will take place in St. Marys Cemetery at a later date. Memorial donations may be made to the Alzheimer Society. Online condolences at [www.hodgesfuneralhome.ca](http://www.hodgesfuneralhome.ca).

OBITUARY

McLean



Erma Hilda McLean (Vock) passed away peacefully at Kingsway Lodge, St. Marys, on July 21, 2023 at the age of 90.

Predeceased by her beloved husband Bruce McLean (2013). Cherished Mother of Sharon Bannerman (Chris), Linda Muir (Max), Joan Dakin (deceased, 2016) (George), Donna Barber (Murray), Ron McLean (Joanne) and Suzanne McLean (Kevin). Loving Grandmother of Erica Mizzen (Brent), Lyndsey Bannerman (Mat), Ashlea Bannerman, Kurtis Bannerman, Keri Favacho (Randy), Tracey Muir, Matt Muir (Lori), Mark Ezekiel (Nicole), Josh Ezekiel, Scott Smale, Jess Barber, Leigh Meta (Mike), Dylan Carter (Kelly), also survived by 21 Great-grandchildren and 3 great-great children. Sister of Shirley Aver (Peter, deceased), Clare French (Joanne) and predeceased by Carl Vock (Betty) Pearl Henderson (John) and by her parents William and Hilda Vock. Sister-in-law of Lloyd (Helen McLean-Nethercott) [Gordon] all deceased, John McLean, deceased (Marlene), Jean Foster (Earl), Ken McLean (deceased), Murray McLean (Linda, deceased), Doris Forman (Ray) and Leonard Boreham (Marg).

Family and friends are invited to an Open House Celebration of Life at the ST. MARYS LEGION, 66 Church St. N., St. Marys on Friday, July 28, 2023 from 2 - 4 pm. Memorial donations may be made to Kingsway Lifecare, the St. Marys Healthcare Foundation the or charity of choice. Online condolences at [www.hodgesfuneralhome.ca](http://www.hodgesfuneralhome.ca).

OBITUARY

Morrison



Pauline June Morrison passed away at Kingsway Lodge, St. Marys, on July 19, 2023 at the age of 92.

Predeceased by her parents Emerson and Gladys Paton, husband Ray Morrison (2020), brother Ron Paton and daughter-in-law Marion Morrison. Survived by sons: Randy (Cindy Pyne), Dennis (Libby Ipsen), Brian (Cherie Stewart), Ian, siblings: Lyle Paton (Jan), sister-in-law Joy Paton and numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Pauline was a longtime member and former president of the Quilters Guild and St. Marys United Church Women and former member, serving on the executive, of the McConnell Club.

Cremation has taken place. A graveside service will be held at the KIRKTON UNION CEMETERY, 70411 Union Line, Kirkton, on Friday July 28th at 11:30 a.m. with Rev. Marion Jackson Tyler officiating, please bring a lawn chair to the service.

A video of the service will be taken and posted later on [www.hodgesfuneralhome.ca](http://www.hodgesfuneralhome.ca). Reception to follow at the Kirkton Woodham Community Centre, 70497 Rd 164, Kirkton. Memorial donations may be made to the St. Marys Healthcare Foundation.



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# LOOKING BACK



By AMY CUBBERLEY

## Cubans visit Hall of Fame

25 years ago (1998)

Ali and Dayna Prest won second place at the Pet Show on Saturday with Seymour, their 26-lb family cat.

Visitors from Cuba went through the Canadian Baseball Hall of Fame recently, reports Jack Tudor. The Hall's premier diamond, meanwhile, has a brand new backstop and side-fencing down both foul lines.

The \$1.4 million sewer project in the town's west end is complete, with the exception of the laying of sod which has been delayed until August due to the current watering ban.

50 years ago (1973)

Rosemary Ratcliffe was the subject of a feature article in the Globe and Mail on Tuesday. Rosemary has a role in the "Sisters of Mercy" production at the Shaw Festival in Niagara-on-the-Lake.

The St. Marys Fire Department had a call to the Four-Mile Bush Corner late Sunday afternoon where a small grass fire was threatening the property at the rear of Adrian's Wildwood service station.

Many boulevards along Queen Street and elsewhere are not being mowed like they should be. The east side of Church Street is also anything but a thing of beauty. The weeds are as high as the stone wall in places.

Renovation work is proceeding on the interior of the former Maher Shoe Store on Queen Street. Eaton's order office is expected to be moving in within a few weeks.

75 years ago (1948)

The lack of heavy rains recently has reduced the level of the Thames River and Trout Creek to such an extent that the fish therein are in danger of extinction.

Citizens of the West Ward are becoming decidedly annoyed by the number of dogs which are allowed to run at large contrary to the town by-laws, especially at night. These animals are playing havoc with flower and vegetable gardens and are liable to cost their owners dearly if not controlled.

Roy and Max Sharpe, formerly of Lakeside, have purchased the Noel's Taxi business from Percy Noel and are now operating that service. The brothers, who are natives of the Harrington area, have had some experience in the business. Roy has been a driver for Mr. Noel for some months. They intend to give first-class day and night service in town and district.

100 years ago (1923)

One of the most commendable acts at this time of year is for those who have autos to take the shut-ins for an outing. We noticed last week Mr. Grieves Jr. taking Miss McLeod of Water Street for an outing. It is hoped others will follow his example with other shut-ins.

It would be well if the citizens of St. Marys who motor would remember that Rannoch siding is served by the engine that also works the C.N.R. town yards and often flies to and fro on the Sarnia line. There have been some "near squeaks" at the James St. North crossing. It is difficult to see trains coming from the west and an engine backing freight cars is not usually what motorists look for. Someday an accident may occur.

In Listowel, the stores are compelled to close their doors at 11:00 on Saturday nights by a by-law passed at a recent Council meeting. Many St. Marys stores close at 10:00, but it is a difficult task to persuade the people to leave at this hour.



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CLASSIFIED ADS

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

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

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

**Wanted**  
Dion threshing machine with straw shredder Any condition. Phone Evenings (905)983-9331

**For Rent**  
For rent, 5 minutes from St Marys, Rannoch, 1 bedroom up- per apartment. All utilities included. Laundry in unit. separate entrance. Non smoking, references, Furnished is an option. \$1495.00 Call 519-697-1925

**For Sale**  
Wooden Kitchen table with two leafs and four chairs \$100 Call (519) 284-8149

GIANT YARD SALE  
Saturday, July 29th

229 James St. North - 8 AM to ?  
Vintage stuff; old bottles & milk bottles  
Dishes, china, housewares, bedding  
Xmas décor - some vintage  
Camping chairs in bags, dining shelter,  
large patio area mats; metal detector  
Loads of items to outfit your camper or  
cottage or college apartment

SUDOKU ANSWERS

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

THANK YOU

Library Karen

Thank you to everyone who made my July 7 Retirement Open House a day that I will never forget. In my wildest expectations, I never imagined seeing so many people, even people I hadn't seen in several years.

The "everyone" includes my co-workers. They were busy little bees. The library looked beautiful, and the treats were so good. I really thought you had way too many. I guess I was wrong.

I would love to thank each and everyone of you for all the cards, flowers, gifts, and kind words. It was so very nice of you. I must admit that I had a few tears.

I would like to thank all the patrons who made my 26 years at the library enjoyable. I always looked forward to our chats and getting to know you and your families and watching them grow. It would be remiss of me not to mention all the children, parents and teachers I met during my years doing Tales for Tots and class visits. I have so many fond memories.

Lastly, I would like to thank my wonderful family who threw me a surprise Retirement Party. I wish you could have seen the amazing cupcakes. They were every book lover's dream.

It has honestly been my deepest pleasure to serve St. Marys and community..

Karen Coddington

IN MEMORIAM

Megens

In memory of a loving Father, Grandfather and Great Grandfather John J. Megens who passed away July 14, 1998

Time slips by,  
But memories stay.  
Quietly remembered every day,  
Happy thoughts of times together,  
Memories that will last forever.  
You left us beautiful memories,  
Your love is still our guide,  
Although we cannot see you,  
You are always by our side.

Lovingly remembered by  
the Megens, deGroot and Brandt Families

GARAGE SALE  
Saturday, July 29th

Perth Road 130 3034 - 8 AM to ?  
Farm with happy face on silo

CELEBRATION

David and Donna Mitchell



Love and Friendship that has never stopped  
blooming for 35 years  
August 13, 1988

"How sweet it is to be loved by you"  
May your Love Story never end.

Happy Anniversary to the best Parents and  
Grandparents we could ever have.

All our Love,  
Marty and Melinda, Daniel and Tanya, Jonathan and  
Breanna, Aaron, Levi, Caleb and Noah

ANNOUNCEMENT

Congratulations!



Happy 50th Anniversary!

Ross & Lois McIntosh

Married July 21, 1973

Have a wonderful summer celebrating!  
With Love from your Family

QUIZ ANSWERS

- |                   |                |
|-------------------|----------------|
| 1) The Greyhound  | 5) Loire       |
| 2) Beatrix Potter | 6) John Keats  |
| 3) Five           | 7) Jupiter     |
| 4) Nena           | 8) Twenty-four |
|                   | 9) Greenland   |
|                   | 10) Herbivore  |



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