

St. Marys Independent

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Issue #1184

Thursday, November 9, 2023

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St. Marys welcomes the Holiday season

Holiday season starts with Kinsmen Santa Claus Parade and lighting of WinterLights



Festive fun is returning to St. Marys on Friday, November 17, with the Kinsmen Santa Claus Parade and lighting of the Winterlights.

Christmas is looking festive and fun this year in St. Marys!

The holiday season begins in St. Marys on Friday, November 17 as Santa Claus will arrive in St. Marys via the Kinsmen Santa Claus parade. The Kinsmen are planning a traditional parade with a departure from the Pyramid Recreation Centre at 7:00 p.m. This year's parade will follow its familiar route up James Street, west on Queen Street through the downtown, then south on Water Street where the parade will end.

The lighting of the WinterLights display will illuminate Milt Dunnell

Field, following the Santa Claus Parade, on Friday, November 17. The Sunset Shack will be on-site for all your warm food and beverage needs as you marvel at the displays. It's easier than ever to support this beloved display; simply visit www.townofstmarys.com/winterlights to sponsor or donate. Your support helps to keep this magical tradition free for all to enjoy!

Holiday shoppers won't want to miss the St. Marys Craft Show, happening on Saturday, November 18 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Pyramid Rec-

Continued on page 2

After Party Altercation Leads to Charges

On Friday, October 27, 2023 shortly before 11:30 p.m. the Stratford Police Service attended a large house party on Elgin Street East, in the Town of St Marys after receiving a report of over 100 teenagers in attendance at the party, causing a disturbance.

The homeowner was issued a ticket under the Noise By-Law for the Town of St Marys and the party was broken up.

Police remained on scene until the situation had settled and many of the youths in attendance had been picked up by family members.

Shortly after 12:30 a.m. on October 28th, the Stratford Police received a report of an altercation in the area of Elizabeth Street and James Street South, in the Town of St Marys, which involved a number of the teenagers from the party.

Police located five victims at a nearby residence who had suffered injuries from being pepper sprayed and a physical assault.

Two accused persons were identified as an 18-year-old male and a 15-year-old male, both of whom reside in the City of Stratford.

The investigation into the matter revealed that one of the victims, a 17-year-old male resident of St Marys had been assaulted by the 18-year-old accused. The accused had attacked the victim and stomped on the victim's head. The accused also used what is believed to be a pellet gun to shoot the victim in the back of the head, causing injuries that required stitches.

A second victim, a 20-year-old male resident of St Marys, attempted to intervene to prevent the situation from continuing; however, the 18-year-old accused and the 15-year-old accused sprayed all five victims with pepper spray before the


Continued on page 2

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COMMUNITY —

Holiday season returns to St. Marys

Continued from page 1

reation Centre. Featuring over 100 vendors, the Craft Show is the perfect place to find gifts for everyone on your list.

Beginning Friday, November 24, the St. Marys BIA hosts their three-day Merchants' Open House. From Friday to Sunday, participating downtown merchants will offer promotions and festive giveaways. This year's event

will feature horse and wagon rides, Victorian carolers and, of course, a visit from Mr. and Mrs. Claus!

Find more information on all Town of St. Marys Christmas activities at www.discoverstmarys.ca/happyholidays.

Be sure to follow the Town of St. Marys' Facebook, Instagram and Twitter accounts for more information and updates as events draw near.

Remembrance Week to continue with service at cenotaph

The Town of St. Marys will continue to honour local veterans with a Remembrance Day service on Saturday, November 11, 2023. The service follows Veterans' Decoration Day and the St. Marys Legion parade and service that took place this past week.

The November 11 service will start at 10:45 a.m. at the Town Hall cenotaph and will be led by Mayor Al Strathdee. Queen Street will be closed between

Peel Street and Church Street North from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. for the event.

Members of the public are welcome to attend in person or view a live stream of the ceremony on the Town's Facebook page. The stream will start shortly before 10:45 am at www.facebook.com/stmarysontario. A Facebook account is not required to view the live stream.

Charges laid following party

Continued from page 1

altercation ended and the two accused persons fled the scene. During the course of the altercation the 18-year-old accused also pointed the firearm at the 20-year-old victim's face.

The two accused persons were identified and attempts to locate them were made. Both of the accused later turned themselves into the Stratford Police. The 18-year-old male was held in custody to attend a bail hearing and is required to re-attend court on November 1, 2023. The 15-year-old male was released from custody on an Undertaking and is required to attend court on December 14, 2023.

Later, on October 28, 2023 at approximately 9:30 p.m. the Stratford Police was contacted by a homeowner on Huron Street, in the Town of St Marys who reported that a backpack containing a handgun had been located on the property. It was suspected that the backpack was associated to the

party that had occurred the previous night and belonged to an unknown person who attended the party.

Police attended the residence and found that the backpack contained four 9mm rounds of ammunition, and a magazine for a handgun; however, no handgun was located. At this point police are unable to prove who was in possession of these items and no charges were laid for this matter.

In regard to charges laid against the two accused, the 18-year-old has been charged with Administer a Noxious Substance, Assault with a Weapon, Carry Concealed Weapon, Possession of a Weapon for Dangerous Purpose, Fail to Comply Release Order, and Breach Probation. The 15-year-old male has been charged with Administer a Noxious Substance, Assault with a Weapon, Possession of a Weapon for Dangerous Purpose, Carry Concealed Weapon, and Breach of Probation.

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The HITCHING POST

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Light rain	Sun/cloud	Mainly sunny	Cloudy showers	Sun/cloud	Sun/cloud	Sun/cloud
2 °C	8 °C	6 °C	5 °C	6 °C	8 °C	11 °C
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ST. MARYS GIVES 2023: WON'T YOU BE MY NEIGHBOUR?



St. Marys Giving Tuesday 2023 is dedicated to Sheila Greason - a true giver and a neighbour to many

Just a few ideas.....

Of what a neighbourhood is planning.....

Two neighbours came up with a plan for Giving Tuesday, they were sure that people would love it and have lots of fun! However, when they presented the plan to other neighbours, it was a NO GO! There was lots of laughter, a bit of debate, and a new simpler but equally great idea emerged.

On Giving Tuesday, November 28 their neighbourhood is inviting all of their neighbours to a "Garage Get - Together". They plan to bake, serve some warm drinks, and get reconnected with folks they haven't seen for awhile. Meeting some new neighbours would make their day even better!

One neighbour is very involved with a local charity, she asked if we might collect items that they always need and appreciate. Everyone was happy to support this but decided to say in their invitation that making donations was optional, they didn't want to put any pressure on people, the number one hope was to get people together!

Another very creative person made invitations that will be delivered door to door, if you're reading this, you could be getting one. 😊😊

Giving Tuesday is a nice way to reach out to others, in any way, big or small!

WHO ARE THE PEOPLE IN OUR NEIGHBOURHOOD, AND WHO ARE THE PEOPLE IN YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD?

And what a youth group has done.....

This past weekend the Snipers U12 Ringette Team (9, 10 and 11 year olds) had a Team Building Event. They wanted to be involved in Giving Tuesday so they reached out and asked what could they do? They decided to make table centres to be used for the Community Dinner at the United Church on Giving Tuesday November 28th. They did an amazing job and these very special works of art will make the dinner even more special!

- DL, St. Marys

GIVING TUESDAY Nov 28

www.givingtuesday.ca

For More Information Contact: johnsonjulie@rogers.com

Bravo

We have 2 Bravos this week.

1) Bravo to the Happy Valley Health Team on a successful inoculation session at the Pyramid Center last week. Very busy yet well organized and smooth. Well done!

2) Bravo to the local girls from the Stratford Aces hockey team for their random acts of kindness this week.

Boo

We have 2 Boos this week

1) A great big BOO to all those that put pumpkins in front of their homes and then on Halloween night turn out their lights and hide. Never answering the door when kids show up for "trick or treats". How hypocritical, the kids really look forward to dressing up and filling their bags with treats. Its fun when they show up in costume. You were a kid once too, remember!

2) To the price of diesel as of Sunday Nov 5th in St. Marys. \$2.19/L when the other gas station on highway 7 was \$1.79 or .40c cheaper. Hard to support local for that reason. C'mon Man!

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

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

Quote of the Week

"I'm honoured to receive the first poppy. I'm honoured to present poppies to the veterans, and I'm honoured to have with us young people, who we are entrusting with these stories. I encourage Canadians, not just today but every day, to remember, honour and support our veterans."

Mary Simon, Commander-in-Chief of the Canadian Armed Forces after receiving the first poppy in 2023's poppy campaign leading up to Remembrance Day.

Overheard at the Coffee Shop

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I hope the teachers all made it through the first week after Halloween.

Auston Matthews should get a hat trick at every game if women are now throwing bras instead of hats.

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

St. Marys Independent

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The St. Marys Independent

THOUGHTS
OF THE WEEK

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Life has no remote, get up and change it yourself.



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- Step 2. Click play on the online player



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STONETOWN CRIER

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POOL RENTALS

Pyramid Recreation Centre

Have an upcoming birthday? Make a splash and rent the Aquatics Centre pool for your next event!

townofstmarys.com/activenet or 519-284-2160

SHOWER PROGRAM

Thursdays, 9 AM - 1 PM | Pyramid Centre

This program provides free showers to those in need. Showers are private, secure and accessible for individuals of all abilities.

Visit Guest Services or call 519-284-2160



WINTER SWIMMING LESSONS REGISTRATION

Save the date!
 Registration for winter swimming lessons (starting November 27) opens on Monday, November 13 at 5 PM.

townofstmarys.com/aquatics or 519-284-2160

BOOKS & BREWS

2nd Wed., 7 PM | Broken Rail Brewing

The St. Marys Public Library is excited to announce a new book club in collaboration with Broken Rail Brewery on the second Wednesday of the month.

townofstmarys.com/library or 519-284-3346



TRIVIA NIGHT

Monday, Nov. 20, 7 PM | Gilly's Pubhouse

Join the St. Marys Public Library for Trivia Night! Come with a team or meet some new friends. Prizes are up for grabs for the winning team.

townofstmarys.com/library or 519-284-3346

Contact us

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Senior of the Week



Our Senior of the Week is Betty Fulcher who celebrated her 85th birthday on November 1st.

Betty lived her entire life in St. Marys and has 3 children, 4 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren. She enjoys playing bridge and her weekly lunches with friends. Sports have played a big part in Betty's life and she is an avid watcher of baseball, curling and golf. Happy belated birthday, Betty!

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

COMMUNITY —

Town tests preparedness with annual emergency exercise

When it comes to emergency management, practice makes perfect.

That's the idea behind the Town of St. Marys' annual emergency exercise. The exercise brings Town employees and their peers together for a simulated emergency. This year, the simulation was based on an imagined cyber incident that affected the Town's water and wastewater systems.

Those involved in the annual exercise include members of the Town's Emergency Control Group – like the Fire Chief, Director of Public Works, and Communications Manager – who have key roles to play during a crisis.

The exercise gives the group an opportunity to prepare for threats and hazards in a low-risk, cost-effective environment. It also tests the Town's Emergency Management Plan, a document that details how the Town will respond during a major public

safety incident.

Through the exercise, the Town can determine resource requirements, capability gaps, strengths, areas for improvement, and potential best practices. The exercise also allows the Emergency Control Group to learn and strategize alongside individuals from other emergency services, municipalities, and government agencies.

"This year's exercise was a tremendous success," says Fire Chief Richard "Andy" Anderson. "It was an excellent opportunity to review what works, what needs improvement and the things we can add to our Emergency Management Plan to ensure we are prepared for any situation."

Questions about emergency management and preparedness can be directed to Chief Anderson at 519-284-2340, ext. 201 or randerson@town.st-marys.on.ca.

"To St. Marys With Love" Returns

Mark December 17 on your calendar for a wonderful community dinner happening at the Pyramid Recreation Centre with doors opening at 5:00 pm.

This is an opportunity to meet new people or to gather in community especially in these challenging times. Volunteers from our local service groups, churches, town council and broader community alongside contributions from local businesses make this a true gift of love.

Organizers David Steward of The Sunset Diner and Rev. Gwen Ament are looking to welcome 350 to this

sit down meal of 'roast beef with all the trimmings' with an encouragement to come and meet someone new. Whether you are on your own, stressed financially, looking to welcome those new to St. Marys or simply hungry, everyone is welcome.

Tickets are free and available through the Library, the Friendship Centre, at the Monday community meals, and the Sunset Diner. Let's celebrate the season together!

Contact Gwen or David for more information.

Weekend Quiz

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- 1) What Canadian officer wrote the poem "In Flanders Fields"?
- 2) Where is the Canadian National Vimy Memorial located?
- 3) How many Canadian soldiers died during WWI?
- 4) What year did Canada adopt the poppy as the symbol for Remembrance Day?
- 5) At what time is a minute's silence held on Remembrance Day?
- 6) How many minutes of silence do we take to honor the fallen?
- 7) What treaty officially ended WWI?
- 8) How many Canadians earned the Victoria Cross at Passchendaele?
- 9) In what country is The Cenotaph located?
- 10) What year did WWI end?

This week's answers are found on pg. 35



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COMMUNITY —

Army, Navy and Air Force Branch 265 and Perth Regiment Legion Branch 236 Parade



Parade coming from the Legion across Church Street bridge.

By Wendy Lamond

On Sunday November 5th the Army, Navy and Air Force Branch 265 and Perth Regiment Legion Branch 236 held it's Remembrance Day Parade marching the Colours from the Legion to the Cenotaph.

There were 46 wreaths laid at the cenotaph representing businesses, organizations, and individuals.

The Last Post was played and then a moment of silence was observed as well as the singing of O Canada and God Save the King.



Mayor Al Strathdee addresses the crowd with stories of Veterans

Mayor Al Strathdee told the history of Veteran William Near whose name is the top one on the front of the monument.

He also shared a memory of the late Charlie Richardson when he raised the flag at a past Canada Day celebration

at Cadzow Park. He related that Mr. Richardson, in the middle of a down-pour, stood his ground and continued raising the flag showing the strength and resilience of our Veterans.



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COMMUNITY —

Coffee with Council held last Saturday



CAO Brent Kittmer, Councillor Fern Pridham and Director of Finance Denise Fee-ney



Councillor Brogan Aylward, Mobility Service Manager Amber Miners, and Councillor Robert Edney

By Wendy Lamond

St. Marys town council was available on Saturday at the Flour Mill in an informal setting to discuss various top-

ics brought forward by the community.

Counsellor Pridham commented that it is a good setting to discuss items not particularly budget related but

any other concerns residents may be having. Mayor Al Stratthdee thought there were approximately 50 people who attended and some of the subjects he touched on were recreation

future, forestry policies, traffic control, crosswalk and traffic lights, housing policies and development and the cost of living.

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COMMUNITY —

Alzheimer Society Huron Perth Information Night a helpful guide for aging population

By Rachel Atkinson

The Alzheimer Society Huron Perth recently held their Annual Fall Dementia Night on November 2nd, which focused on the topic of baby boomers and aging. This year's Education Night featured Dr. Peter Lin, who shared a checklist for staying well and inspiring change in the healthcare system.

Dr. Lin, Primary Care Physician and Director of Primary Care Initiatives at the Canadian Heart Research Centre, leads lectures on topics such as diabetes, vascular protection, heart disease, as well as aging and dementia, which he shared his knowledge on during this online event.

Dr. Lin's presentation involved in-depth answers to the question, "How can we stay healthy as we age?" He shared thorough explanations on how

the body functions as well as threats to these functions, especially in aging adults.

The state of the current healthcare system was also discussed, and how it is currently under great strain. There is a lot of illness to manage, and Dr. Lin mentioned how important patient awareness is for managing and preventing diseases, for both older and younger generations.

Dr. Lin's tips included the "Life's Essential 7" (now 8) list created by the American Heart Association, which includes things like exercise, blood sugar levels, smoking and sleep.

When discussing Alzheimers, Lin pointed out possible causes and how nutrition is a major factor in preventing this disease. He also mentioned the 5 senses and how vital it is to keep these things going to prevent

Alzheimers. For example, people who don't have good hearing can feel more isolated, therefore hearing aids are an essential tool and catching these things early can be very beneficial for long-term health.

Lin discussed our fast-paced society and how this can contribute to aging faster, therefore slowing down is something to be mindful of. He stated that people are not only moving really fast, but they have more stress and are getting less sleep. "My suggestion to you is to slow down, calm down, don't worry and don't hurry—and then maybe add on top of that eat well and sleep well."

A study from National Geographic was shared, showing places in the world where people lived to be 100. These places had no smoking, and elderly citizens were busy with farm-

ing, fixing things, and doing things as a community. Lin discussed the importance of movement and aging and said that "instead of doing an hour of exercise, why not just keep moving?"

The presentation was not only informative, but also presented in a way that could be easily understood, while reminding everyone the importance of paying attention to our health.

Lin concluded with, "We have an elderly population, we have a younger generation, let's protect the younger generation, let's help the older generation at the same time as well."

The 2023 Dementia Night with Dr. Peter Lin can be viewed on the Alzheimer Huron Perth YouTube page. For more information on Alzheimers as well as tools for help and support, please visit www.alzheimer.ca/huron-perth/en.



Join the Recreation & Leisure Advisory Committee!

The Town of St. Marys is currently accepting applications to fill a vacancy on the Recreation & Leisure Advisory Committee for the remainder of the 2022 - 2026 term of Council.

This is an opportunity to get involved in your community and provide invaluable insight and expertise on matters that affect the municipality!

Apply online by November 24, 2023 at townofstmarys.com/boardsandcommittees

Additional Information

townofstmarys.com/boardsandcommittees

519-284-2340, ext. 212 | jmccartney@town.stmarys.on.ca



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SPORTS —

Lincs' special teams shine Friday, falter Sunday

By Spencer Seymour

The St. Marys Lincolns put on a dominant showing in front of their fans at the PRC last Friday in a 4-1 victory over the Sarnia Legionnaires.

While they controlled the majority of the play in the first period, outshooting the Legionnaires 16-4, Head Coach Jeff Bradley felt they were capable of playing at a higher level which he felt they reached in the final 40 minutes.

"I didn't love our engagement in the first period," admitted Bradley. "We didn't make it hard enough on [Jack] Martin. Even though we had 16 shots, not enough of them were hard saves to make. I think we did a much better job in the second and third periods of competing and being hungry around the front of the net. We have to score more goals."

After a scoreless first, the Lincolns broke the ice in the second period with Marcus Dashevsky pushing home his second goal of the season past goaltender Jack Martin. The goal capped off a shift where several lines for the Lincolns came at Sarnia in waves with excellent intensity in the offensive zone. Dashevsky's goal was assisted by Adam Barkley and Chase MacQueen-Spence.

In the third period, despite the Lincolns continuing to dominate the game, a point shot by Matthew Anderson hit off of a body in front and snuck past Colby Booth-Housego, the only blemish on his otherwise strong effort in the Lincs' net.

The Legionnaires began a parade to the penalty box that gave the Lincolns a five-on-three powerplay. In the dying moments of the first penalty, Adam Barkley whipped a wrist shot by Martin to put St. Marys back up by one. Just 15 seconds later, a bouncing puck more closely resembling a ping-pong ball found its way into the net, a goal that was credited to Dashevsky and set a new Lincolns record for the two quickest powerplay goals.

In the final minute of the game, Ryan Cornfield potted an empty netter thanks to some strong forechecking. Cornfield also had an assist on



Jaden Lee helps protect the front of Colby Booth-Housego's net during last Friday's St. Marys Lincolns game, a 4-1 win over the Sarnia Legionnaires.

Barkley's powerplay goal along with MacQueen-Spence. The Head Coach noted Cornfield along with a fellow first-year forward were the team's "two best forwards."

"The two Ryans, Cornfield and Hodgkinson, I thought that was the best game they have both played as a Lincoln. They were engaged all night. Hodgkinson brought a physical presence into his game, he didn't shy away from any contact and was getting right to the front of the net. As for Cornfield, he was chirping at the other team and he hit everything that moved. He has an offensive touch so when he's moving his feet and he's engaged, he's a really effective player."

Hodgkinson had five high-danger chances while Cornfield snapped an 11-game points drought with his two-point night.

Sarnia laid two hits from behind in the third that drew game misconducts and the ire of the Lincolns. Bradley praised his squad for their response while not getting too carried away with their emotions.

"We want a response. We don't want teams thinking they can get away with taking liberties with our guys I thought Jaden Shiell and a few other guys did a great job at providing

that response. I don't want our team taking needless, retaliatory players but we also want to have a response in moments like that. It can be a thin line to walk sometimes but I think we did a good job at having that response while not taking anything needless."

Penalties cost Lincs in Chatham

Their normally disciplined nature and air-tight penalty kill were anything but in Chatham when the Maroons pulled off a powerplay-fueled comeback, beating the Lincolns 4-3 after being down 3-1 to start the third period.

The loss, in no uncertain terms, was gut-wrenching for the Lincolns.

"In the moment, it felt absolutely crushing," Bradley stated. "We challenged our top guys before the game to give us more offence and we got that response right from the start. That first shift, the Lee-Spagnolo-VanSumeren line was one that we talked to and said we needed more from and they went out, had a dominant shift, and got rewarded with a goal."

Luca Spagnolo got the scoring started just 28 seconds into the game with assists going to Jaden Lee and Billy VanSumeren.

The scoring continued in the second with Cornfield scoring for the second straight game, this time on the powerplay. MacQueen-Spence and Noah VandenBrink picked up the helpers. After a powerplay goal by Brendan Gouin cut the lead in half, the two-goal deficit was restored on a gorgeous tally by MacQueen-Spence, whose forehand-to-backhand beauty was facilitated by a good play near the blueline by Colton Henderson.

Heading into the final 20 minutes, Bradley said the team knew to expect a big push by the Maroons but they didn't execute on their strategy.

"We knew they were going to give a big push in the third. We mismanaged the puck in our own zone too much and when it came to battling, Chatham won a lot of battles and we didn't. We took six straight penalties to end the game and whether we agree with every call or not doesn't matter. We put ourselves in positions to get called and we made mistakes that we shouldn't have made and our penalty kill couldn't bail us out again."

Three Chatham powerplays proved to be the difference in the third with Maroons scoring on each one, erasing a 3-1 St. Marys lead to take it 4-3.

"We are doing good things and these players are working their tails off but the bottom line is we lost. We're trying to get into that top tier in the league but right now, we're in limbo a bit. I think, had we won against Chatham, we would be in that top tier. We can look at the games we've lost and say we played well enough to win most of those but the fact is we didn't and if we want to call ourselves a top team, we have to win."

"I thought their hunger around the net continued getting much better. I'm never going to fault these guys for trying. We as a staff love the kids on this team. They are great kids and great players. They genuinely care about the team and we can tell that they care about us and the team by listening and doing everything we ask them to do. They all want to win and know what it takes, it's just a matter of bringing that consistently."



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SPORTS —

U16 A Boys win Regional Silver Stick

By Spencer Seymour

The St. Marys Legion U16 A Boys St. Marys Rock are Regional Silver Stick Champions after a 3-2 overtime win this past Sunday over the Woolwich Wildcats in Owen Sound.

Head Coach Gord Cookson said the team was riding high after yet another banner weekend.

"It was a great weekend for sure," Cookson told the Independent. "Even when we were down in a game, they kept their heads down and kept playing. In the moments they didn't have the lead, they were able to shake things off, have a short memory, and battle back by playing our game. Everyone had their moments where they really shone for us."

Cookson described the message delivered to the team prior to the Championship game this past Sunday.

"Before the game, we told them that winners come out and are the best versions of themselves on championship days. That's what we saw from them in that final game. It seems like they are always the best versions of themselves on championship days and this weekend was no exception."



The St. Marys Legion U16 A Boys St. Marys Rock won the Regional Silver Stick tournament this past weekend in Owen Sound. Pictured in the front row, from left to right, are Finn Wright, Reid Taylor, Myles Clinton, Grier Mahoney, Sam Johnson, Nathan Wolfkamp, Brody Higham, and Luke Binning. In the back, from left, are Eric Burford, Lucas Spence, Gord Cookson, Owen Dittmer, Hayden Wright, Andre Mollet, Evan Ballantyne, Evan Pym, Simon Taylor, Donovan McGregor, Danny Switzer, Eli Rovillos, Blake Lalande, Jared Ballantyne, Frasier Lewis, Kyle Spence, and Brendan Near. (Contributed photo)

Before getting to Sunday's final game against Woolwich, the Rock went undefeated in round-robin play, winning their first two games to clinch a spot in the semi-finals. They first defeated the Halton Hills Thunder by a score of 4-1 before doubling up the Collingwood Blues 4-2.

In the semis, St. Marys took on the Owen Sound Jr. Attack and once again, the Rock outlasted the opposition, remaining undefeated and punching their ticket to the finals with a 3-2 win over Owen Sound.

On Sunday, the Rock squared off against the Wildcats with the Regional

Silver Stick banner at stake. St. Marys found themselves in an unfamiliar position as they trailed two different times in the game. However, they clawed back to tie each time thanks to goals from Brody Higham and Donovan McGregor which forced overtime. In the extra frame, Andre Mollet potted the game-winner for the Rock to claim the Regional Silver Stick title.

Cookson said the team's resiliency was crucial to their victory.

"The big thing for us was having no quit. We went down 1-0 early on but we kept on them and kept testing the goalie and eventually got it back. We fell behind again but we kept pushing and were able to get it to overtime. I think we had our legs underneath us and more gas in the tank in overtime and fortunately, we got the last goal."

"We have that experience of winning and having the lead but we don't have a ton of experience losing or playing from behind. Seeing them be able to persevere and not just give up when we were down was a big learning experience for our group because we're not always going to play with the lead and it's important that we have the resiliency to battle back like we did this weekend."



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Lest we Forget

SPORTS —

DCVI Sr. Girls basketball team outlasts Goderich in quarters

By Spencer Seymour

The St. Marys DCVI Senior Girls basketball team opened their Huron-Perth Playoff schedule with a quarter-final victory over Goderich, winning 33-22 on their home court last Wednesday.

After a strong first quarter in which the Salukis outscored Goderich 12-4, the team struggled somewhat in the second and parts of the third, before eventually retaking control of the game en route to their 11-point victory. Head Coach Monica Ryan explained that both the good portions of the game, as well as the sluggish period, were all related to the team's defensive intensity.

"We played tentatively at times," Ryan admitted. "But, when we got back to our characteristic tough defence, it brought us back into the game and allowed us to really spread things out. I think in the second quarter, we lost our defensive momentum. We lost our checks and we lost the ball pressure we'd had in the first which I think hurt us at both ends."

Goderich led in scoring 10-3 in the



Ellen Thorup drives towards the basket during the St. Marys DCVI Senior Girls basketball team's quarter-final playoff game last Wednesday. (Photo by Spencer Seymour)

second before the Salukis held a 7-2 advantage in a low-event third quarter. St. Marys led the scoring in the fourth 11-6.

Ryan also mentioned the keys to the team getting back to the brand of basketball that has made them successful

this season. The DCVI Senior Girls finished third in the Huron-Perth regular season standings.

"Communication and focus are both big keys to our defensive system. I do ask them to do some fairly tricky things defensively and when we got

back to communicating well and our focus was restored in the third, I think they executed on those things well and it allowed us to get more stops and, in turn, put up more points."

Several of the team's key players stepped up to lead the way in their own zone which Ryan said provided a boost for the rest of the team.

"Getting back to doing what we do to maintain our defensive success is individually driven. Ellen Thorup and Eden Sinnett led the way with the tough defence that we needed and then Paige Barr and Anna Ropp also did a great job at getting us back to playing the way we want defensively."

"All of those girls had really tough on-ball pressure which is where it starts," Ryan continued. "But, from there, I think what we also saw the girls improving at our help defence and anticipating what the next pass or play will be. Once you get one or a few starting to do those things, it spreads quickly throughout the entire team."

Thorup and Niko Taylor led the team in points with seven while Barr put up six and Ropp scored five.



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SPORTS —

Minor Sports Scrapbook



Everett Douglas fires a shot on goal during this past Sunday's St. Marys Ford U9 LL Boys 2 St. Marys Rock game.



Ashton Ropp backhanded a puck on goal during the Finnbilt Contracting St. Marys Rock game this past Sunday.



Jack Bilyea rips a shot during the Dunny's Source For Sports U10 A Boys St. Marys Rock game last Wednesday.



Braydon Wheeler tracks a loose puck skipping by his blue paint during the St. Marys Fire Department U13 A Boys St. Marys Rock this past Monday.



Cam Hughes maneuvers the puck down the boards during last Wednesday's Home Hardware Building Centre U13 C Boys St. Marys Rock game.



Lachlan Gilchrist shovels home a goal after it trickles through the goalie's five-hole during last Thursday's A.N.A.F. U15 A Boys St. Marys Rock game.

SPORTS —

DCVI Cross-Country runners compete at OFSAA

By Spencer Seymour

The St. Marys DCVI Cross-Country team had their Novice and Junior Boys contingents qualify for OFSAA which was held this past weekend after the Salukis' Cross-Country runners competed at WOSSAA late last month.

At OFSAA, the Novice Boys group of Charlie Bender, Nic Brintnell, Abe Bender, Vaughn Barr, and Ben Robson captured the Bronze medal thanks to three top-50 finishes. Charlie Bender took 23rd with Brintnell coming in 27th and Abe Bender in 42nd.

In the Junior Boys division, two Salukis finished inside the top 50, with Kaleb Dingman finishing in the 18th spot and Myles Clinton claiming 33rd.

According to Cross-Country Head Coach Megan Bryan, a major key to the Novice Boys' success is their team-first mentality.

"What has impressed me about the Novice Boys team is that they are out there racing for the team," Bryan told the Independent. "They are always very excited about the team's results and are driven to do the best they can to benefit the team. They rarely talk about what places they get individually and are more focused on the team's placing. They are all naturally athletic and have worked really hard this season and have all improved greatly as runners."

To qualify for OFSAA, the Novice Boys left WOSSAA held during the last week of October as their division's champions thanks to Charlie Bender claiming first, Abe Bender finishing fourth, and Brintnell taking ninth.

In the Junior Boys category at WOSSAA, Dingman came in second while Clinton took fourth. Charlotte Richardson's ninth-place finish at WOSSAA earned her a spot at OFSAA in the Novice Girls division. Meanwhile, Charlotte Clinton captured third in the Senior Girls race at WOSSAA to earn her spot at OFSAA.



Pictured from left to right are Coach Megan Bryan, Vaughn Barr, Ben Robson, Abe Bender, Nic Brintnell, and Charlie Bender. The five boys made up the Novice Boys troop competing at OFSAA last Saturday and representing St. Marys DCVI. The Novice Boys squad came away as WOSSAA Champions during the final week of October. (Contributed photo)

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SPORTS —

SKC students win seven medals at World Championship

By Spencer Seymour

For the first time in the local facility's history, the Stonetown Karate Centre sent an all-women's team to the World Karate Championships held recently in Orlando, Florida and they certainly didn't disappoint.

The trio of Lisa Sheldon, Shannon Campbell, and Jalyne Lorentz combined to bring home six medals on the global stage, facing competitors from 13 different countries. Those nations represented included the USA, Canada, England, Guatemala, Puerto Rico, Mexico, Venezuela, Scotland, Ireland, Wales, Germany, Argentina, and Spain.

Sheldon captured three of the team's medals including a pair of Golds, finishing atop the field in both the 35+ Women (+85kg) and 42+ Women (+85kg) divisions of Light Contact Continuous Fighting. In the 42+ Women (+85kg) Point Fighting, Sheldon captured a Bronze.

Campbell added a pair of Bronze medals to the St. Marys haul including in the 42+ Women (-85kg) divisions of the Light Contact Continuous Fighting and Point Fighting competitions.

Lorentz also picked up two Bronze medals while representing the local karate scene. The young Sensei took



Pictured from left to right are Shannon Campbell, Sensei Jalyne Lorentz, and Lisa Sheldon. The three Stonetown Karate Centre students recently competed at the World Karate Championships in Orlando, Florida and the trio combined for seven medals including two Golds. (Contributed photo)

the Bronze in Classical Forms and Freestyle Forms in the 15-17-year-old division.

Sensei Jeremy Lorentz was beaming in his reviews of the local competitors.

"We couldn't be more proud," Lorentz told the Independent. "The amount of hours put into training for this event

was extreme and it paid off for them all. Every moment of this journey was incredible to be a part of and we can't wait to see what these three competitors have in store for 2024."

The journey to the World Championships for the three local karate students began with making the top eight at the Provincial tryouts on April 1st.

They then had to crack the top four at the National Canadian Team Tryouts in Ottawa from May 19th to May 21st. Finally, they were on the road to the World Championships from October 21st to October 27th where all three ladies became 2023 world title holders.

Lorentz explained what he believes makes Sheldon, Campbell, and Lorentz such strong competitors

"Their dedication to their craft is remarkable. Each of them put so much time and hard work into trying to get better. They all have that mindset to constantly learn and alter their form and technique to constantly improve. They love and respect the sport and that passion for martial sports combined with their dedication makes them such great competitors."

The Sensei also mentioned a frequent compliment given during the World Championships which matter just as much as the medals.

"Other competitors and judges at the event commented on our students' sportsmanship and the respect they showed in and out of the ring. These are some of the core values we strive to teach at every class and it was amazing to see these values noticed at an international level of competition."

DCVI Sr. Boys volleyball team takes one of two on the road

By Spencer Seymour

The St. Marys DCVI Senior Boys volleyball team won one of two games in their final regular-season outing last Tuesday when they visited Central Huron Secondary School.

In their first game of the day, the Salukis dropped two of the three sets against F.E. Madill. Head Coach Steve Chateauvert told the Independent that there were positives in the loss but several key factors ultimately led to coming out on the wrong end of the result.

"In the sets we lost, we struggled to pass consistently and made some unforced hitting errors," said Chateauvert. "But we were still aggressive and willing to swing which I was definitely happy to see. Oliver Black did a good job at the setting position while

Arthur Douglas hit well from the left side."

The second game of the day went much better for the DCVI Senior Boys against the host squad in Central Huron. DCVI enjoyed the higher skill level and as a result, they took the match in two straight sets, downing Central Huron 25-19 and 25-17.

According to Chateauvert, the game served as an opportunity for the group to continue getting their game in order ahead of the post-season.

"We did well against Central Huron and we got rewarded for it as we won both sets. Cyler Pickering and Trevor Aarts did well at the middle position, getting more comfortable with the pace of the game and with what they need to do on both offence and defence."

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ARTS AND CULTURE —

These Moments We Have - An Evening of Poetry with Music

By Alizon Sharun

St. Marys is a poetry friendly town with a vibrant poetry circle that meets every month. Earlier this year Mayor Al Strathdee and the Town Councillors proclaimed April Poetry Month in St. Marys, aligning with National Poetry Month across Canada. The St. Marys Poetry Circle, supported by the Public Library and downtown businesses, offered several opportunities to experience poetry, including public readings, busking and posting poems in store windows. Melissa Barton, owner of Riverwalk Commons, also hosted an elegant Lunch with the Poets, featuring Poet in Residence Ronna Bloom.

In her work as a hospital administrator, Melissa encouraged programs using the Arts in healthcare initiatives and recognized a link between poetry and mental health. She says "both reading and writing poetry offer meditative self-reflection which is highly recommended and even prescribed for mental health and well-being."

Riverwalk Commons is again the venue for an exciting poetry experience this Friday, titled "These Moments We Have", which features London poet, Joanne Stryker. Dan Welcher, an internationally recognized composer, also a poem contributor, will complement the readings with his music. They will be joined by fellow members of The St. Marys Poetry Circle, Rosemary Radcliffe and Alizon Sharun, whose poems are included because they either inspired one of Joanne's or otherwise connected thematically.

Before the Covid-19 pandemic, Joanne spoke with Dan Welcher about a music and poetry collaboration. In his career as a composer and Professor of Music, Dan set, performed and recorded many poems for vocal and orchestra or small ensembles.

When Carl Stevenson of the Blyth Festival Art Gallery invited Joanne to be a featured reader in the 2023 summer poetry reading series, the



Joanne Stryker & Dan Welcher

creative project with Dan took flight. The overall theme emerged as a celebration of connections with family and friends, the natural world and the translucent memories and moments, which can heal and illuminate our lives.

From Joanne's selection, Dan chose poems where he could develop an over-arching emotive theme or leit motif for the different sections and tempos of the program. The result is a brilliant and moving underscore to the images stirred by the spoken words.

Poetry invites a deep personal response to life's experiences

and makes connections with the listener by describing the true essence of an emotion. Joanne is just such a poet who uses the authentic fabric of her life and observations. She suggests that, "The seed for my poems is often in a lived experience, but then they take on a life of their own."

Born of Dutch immigrants, who settled in Huron and Wellington Counties, Joanne grew up near Clinton. She began writing poems in adoles-

cence "as a way to discover and get in touch with emotions." Joanne trained as a journalist and worked as an editorial assistant for a cattle magazine in Calgary before returning to Ontario to raise her children. A degree in education led to teaching Adult Education classes and then to a high school program for at-risk youth.

After the devastating loss of her adult daughter, Joanne's poems flooded out over a three-month span. A hiatus followed before the editing of *After* began. (Several of those mourning poems will be featured in Friday's recital.) A publisher in the UK encouraged her to compile the poems into a sequence, which resulted in a resonant and deeply compassionate collection, which was a winner in the *Cinnamon Press International Poetry Pamphlet Award*.

Reserve your seat online at rwcommons.com; or by calling (647) 992-9620, or in person at Riverwalk Commons, 84, Water Street South, St.Marys- (Open Wednesdays from 9am to 3pm or other days by appointment.) Seating is limited for this event slated for Friday, November 10 at 7pm. Light refreshments will be served.

Admission is free and a donation is invited to support CMHA Huron Perth Addiction and Mental Health Services.

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I do what is mine to do. Then the small bird of my heart opens its wings and flies out into sunlight, and I see that

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- Joanne Stryker



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COMMUNITY —

Rivermoira Cottage open for short-term rentals

By Stewart Grant

There might not be a nicer vantage point to view St. Marys than from the east side of Robinson Street, looking out over the Little Falls and towards our charming downtown.

It's a view that residents Jackie and Steve Cousins have enjoyed for many years – as had their longtime neighbour, Moira, who resided down the street at 29 Robinson.

Recently, Moira approached the Cousins with a proposal – would they be interested in buying her place when she moved?

"She knew we would not tear

her place down," Jackie told the Independent of why she thought Moira asked.

Never afraid of tackling a new adventure, the Cousins agreed to the transaction and Jackie thus began the process of renovating "Rivermoira Cottage" and establishing it as a short-term rental for people to enjoy as a getaway in St. Marys.

"Although it was not a project that I anticipated doing, we are very happy with the results," said Jackie, whose experience in short term rentals includes growing up on Pelee Island where her family rented cottages and bed & breakfasts.

The house at 29 Robinson Street was built in 1887 and has housed many families over the years including Fred and Dorothy Anderson who lived there between the 1940s and early 1960s. One of the first rental bookings at Rivermoira came from Fred and Dorothy's granddaughter who organized a family reunion there, recalling memories of past family gatherings held at the property.

The renovated space sleeps six people comfortably within its three bedrooms, with potential for two more by utilizing the fold out queen size sofa bed on the main floor. There is a fully equipped kitchen, a back deck and sun-



Recently, descendants of Fred and Dorothy Anderson rented the renovated "Rivermoira Cottage" for a reunion at 29 Robinson Street in St. Marys where the Anderson family resided from the 1940s to the early 1960s. The home, just a short walk from the downtown, now provides St. Marys' newest short-term rental opportunity.

room (each with a view of the river), dining area, and a living room with a flatscreen TV. Jackie has established a web-

site for Rivermoira Cottage at ilovestmarys.weebly.com. For more information, email jackiecousins56@gmail.com or call 519-630-2627.

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COMMUNITY —

Love your neighbour? Tell us why!

As part of Giving Tuesday St. Marys, the Celebrate St. Marys team is collecting stories of good deeds done by neighbours in St. Marys and area.

If you have a story of something wonderful your neighbour has done for you, please write it up and submit it.

A book of stories will be made available both online and in hard copies at the St. Marys Public Library.

Make sure your story is included!

1. Deadline for Submissions

- For your story to be included as part of the project launch on Giving Tuesday, please submit by November 25, 2023.

- Final deadline for submissions to be included in project story book is December 15, 2023.

2. Story Format

- Title of good neighbour story
- Maximum of 500 words. Please do not include your neighbour's name

- Your name for our records
- Whether you give permission for your name to be published in the list of contributors: Y or N

- The name of your street or the area in or around St. Marys where you and your neighbour live (or lived in at the time of that your story)

3. How to submit

- Email your story to Celebratestmarys19@gmail.com

- Write your story on paper and submit it to the St. Marys Library or the drop box at the Pyramid Centre

- PM your story to the Celebrate St. Marys Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/CelebrateStMarys>

Note: Stories will be edited for typos, unacceptable language and names.

Selected stories will be posted on the Celebrate St. Marys Facebook page during the period that submissions are being collected.

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HISTORY —

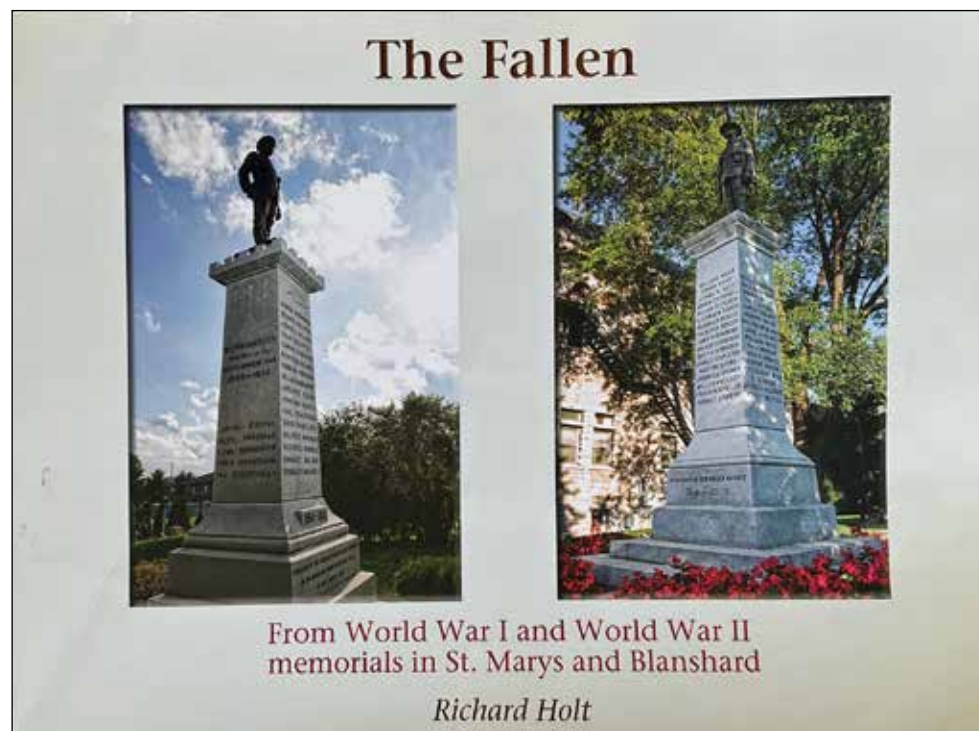
HISTORIC ST. MARYS: Richard Holt and the St. Marys Cenotaph Project

By Mary Smith

Every year in November, St. Marys people gather at the cenotaph beside the town hall for ceremonies marking Remembrance Day. In fact, there are two gatherings. One has already taken place. Last Sunday, a mild and sunny November 5, the day of Remembrance began with a church service in St. James Anglican Church with members of the Royal Canadian Legion as guests. They then returned to the Legion by bus to be part of the parade to the cenotaph for the mid-day ceremonies. Led by a pipe band, area politicians and the Scouts marched as well. The familiar service of commemoration included the Last Post, two minutes of silence, our National Anthem and God Save the King. Wreaths were laid by representatives from all levels of government, veterans' organizations, service clubs, industries, businesses – all doing so in gratitude for the service of those whose names are on the monument. Later in the afternoon, a similar service was held at the cenotaph in Rannoch.

This coming Saturday morning, on the actual Remembrance Day, November 11, another ceremony will be held at the cenotaph for St. Marys and area residents who wish to attend. There will be an honour guard from the Legion and Mayor Al Strathdee will lead a similar moving service of commemoration. The two minutes of silence will be observed at 11 a.m., recognizing that the Armistice to end the hostilities of World War I was declared at the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month of 1918. The statue of the Canadian soldier of World War I on the top of the cenotaph has overseen these ceremonies for decades. He is a symbolic representation of all those who served in a Canadian uniform during the Great War. The statue is symbolic: the 65 names carved on the cenotaph plinth were real men who once lived and worked right here in St. Marys.

It was while attending one of these cenotaph services that Richard Holt (1948-2017) realized that there was a disconnect between these carved names and the people who were attending the ceremony. A few names on the cenotaph, such as Near and Richardson, were familiar; they belonged to families who were still represented in town. But for most of the others, the direct connection to St. Marys had been lost in time. When the service was over, Rick turned to the man standing next to him and, choosing a cenotaph name at random, asked if he knew anything about him. The man replied that he knew nothing. From that point, it became Rick's



Richard Holt's book, *The Fallen*, gives capsule histories of all the men listed on the cenotaphs in St. Marys and Rannoch. The photographs of the two cenotaphs were taken by Sean Camp in 2014. *The Fallen* is in the St. Marys Public Library and is available for sale at the St. Marys Museum.

mission to learn what he could about these men who had died while in the service of their country and also to share this information with the community.

Although he was a relatively new resident of St. Marys at that time, Rick Holt had family connections to St. Marys. He was born in 1948 into a military family and the Holts lived in a number of places as he was growing up. However, until he was 14, he regularly spent summers with his maternal grandparents, Gottfried and Laura Larsson. His grandfather was trained as an engineer in his native Sweden. He immigrated to Canada and when St. Marys Cement began operations in 1912, Larsson was the company's first chemist. Rick joined the Canadian Forces (Reserve) in 1965 and the Regular Forces in 1969. He served with the Royal Winnipeg Rifles and the Royal Canadian Regiment, retiring in 2004 with the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel. When he was reaching the final years of his active service, he and his wife, Victoria, looked for a home where they could settle permanently and raise their family. They chose St. Marys, buying a house on Thomas Street.

Always fascinated by history, Rick took the opportunity while he was based at Wolseley Barracks to take courses towards a history degree at Western University. He also became involved with the St. Marys Museum, serving on the board and undertaking a number of research projects related to local history. When he came to the

Museum looking for assistance for a new project – researching every name on the cenotaph – his proposal was greeted with enthusiasm. Over the next three years, Rick,

with his military connections, found the service records of the 65 men. Stationed in Ottawa for some of this time, he delved into military personnel records in government archives there. St. Marys Museum staff and volunteers helped him discover local connections, using such resources as newspaper obituaries and cemetery recordings, as well as census records for the area. In 1995 and 1996, he produced two booklets with capsule histories of the men named on the town's cenotaph and on the memorials in adjacent townships. These were issued as inserts in the St. Marys Journal Argus.

The Fallen, published almost 20 years later – the book's cover is shown with this column – was a greatly revised and improved version of the earlier newsprint booklets. It was printed on high-quality paper with a full-colour cover but, for Rick, the improvements to the text were the most important. When he retired from the Canadian Forces, he devoted himself to full-time post-graduate studies. In 2012, he received his PhD (History) from Western University. His field was Canadian Military History and his thesis, *Filling the Ranks*, dealt with the recruitment of soldiers for the Canadian Expeditionary Force from 1914 to 1918. Rick was a much more experienced researcher by the time he

undertook the revisions of the earlier booklets, able to correct and expand on many of his original short biographies. Also, by 2014, more resource material was available on-line – the Canadian censuses, for example – and so it was possible to fill in some of the details that couldn't be found earlier. *The Fallen* was released in 2014, the 100th anniversary of the start of World War I.

The book is in two sections. The first provides background stories for the men who died in World War I, named on the cenotaphs in St. Marys and in Rannoch, with names from the Blanshard Township community. There are a few cases where the names appeared on both the St. Marys and the Rannoch cenotaphs but altogether, 84 men are commemorated. Photographs of the men are included if they could be found. Their war service is described and the circumstances of their deaths. Most of them had enlisted in the army but the stories include an Able Seaman attached to the Royal Navy, one member of the Royal Army Medical Corps, and two cadets in the Royal Flying Corps who died in training flights. Some were from families who had lived in this area for generations. Others were recent immigrants. In civilian life, they had been farmers, labourers, railway men, university students, bankers, teachers, and skilled craftsmen. Above all, they had been sons, brothers, husbands, and fathers. The second part of *The Fallen* gives biographies of the 55 men commemorated in St. Marys and Rannoch who died in World War II. The deaths of local men in this second war occurred in all three branches of the Forces – Army, Navy and Air Force – as well as two men who were Merchant Mariners. As many surviving relatives as possible were identified in the biographies for both wars to help place the men in a family and community context.

Rick Holt died on April 17, 2017, a victim of ALS. Just a month earlier, he had the pleasure of seeing his thesis, *Filling the Ranks*, published by McGill-Queen's University Press, a valuable reference for future researchers. Every year since then, Remembrance Day services also bring memories of Rick and the meaning he restored to the names on the cenotaph. Last Sunday, as part of the Remembrance Day ceremony, Mayor Al Strathdee related the story of William Near, the top name on the south side of the cenotaph. The details of his enlistment, service in Belgium, death from enemy shellfire and his surviving family in St. Marys were taken from Richard Holt's *The Fallen*.



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COLUMN —

Whats happening at the Thorndale Library

Looking for fun fall programs? Make an origami heart with a kind message inside at our Kind-HEARTedness Origami PA Day program, November 17 at 11:30am. Write some love into the world!

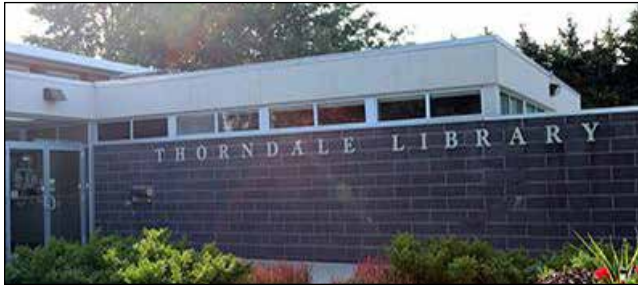
Don't Worry, Be Crafty! Our monthly adult paint night meets November 29 at 6:00pm. Blend the rules, paint mistakes, and get crafty! Registration required.

To register, please visit library.middlesex.ca/events or contact library staff at 519-461-1150.

We have fantastic drop-in programs, too. Story-time is the place to be for little ones and caregivers, Tuesdays at 10:30am. Afterschool Hangout meets Thursdays at 4:30pm. Join us each week for a different craft or game.

It's National Novel Writing Month. Check out our writing resources in branch and get working on your masterpiece!

Staff at the Dorchester and Thorndale branch-



es would like to extend a special thank you to the Thorndale Lions and supporters of the Wings & Trivia night held on Friday, October 20 at the Thorndale Lions Community Centre. More than 80 participants gathered for an evening of fun and food while showing their support of our local organizations.

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



Winners of Legion Elimination Draw October 28, 2023

Early Bird	\$400.00	Dave Carlberg
1st Ticket	\$200.00	Vivian Rosseel
50th Ticket	\$50.00	Toni Bradley
100th Ticket	\$150.00	Brady Rowland
150th Ticket	\$50.00	Dave Marshall
200th Ticket	\$150.00	Nicholas Marchain
250th Ticket	\$50.00	Chris Brundson
300th Ticket	\$300.00	Mike Bannerman
350th Ticket	\$50.00	Suzanne Sharp
Due to a bookkeeping error between the 350th Ticket and the 400th Ticket, which was not discovered until after the 500th Ticket was drawn, there were two winners for the next three draws.		
400th Ticket	\$200.00	Mark Hedberg
400th Ticket	\$200.00	St. Marys Fire Dept.
450th Ticket	\$50.00	Vic Mansfiel
450th Ticket	\$50.00	Paula McEwan
500th Ticket	\$200.00	John Heard
500th Ticket	\$200.00	Tom Cawston
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Strategic Plan Open House held in Thorndale

By Nancy Abra

Last week on November 1st evening, the Municipality of Thames Centre hosted an information open house at the Thorndale Lions Community Centre on the preliminary results of the Strategic Plan's Community Survey. This information gathered is intended to guide Council and staff in prioritizing budgets, policies, and local municipal services for the next four years. Mayor Sharon MacMillan and Chief Administrative Officer, David Barrick, along with a couple staff members were on hand to answer questions.

The Strategic Plan survey provided the residents, business owners and people who work in Thames Centre the opportunity to comment, input and reflect on their needs and values of their

community. The demographics of survey respondents were 86% residents of which 34.1% were identified from the Thorndale area.

In the 2021 Canada Census, the population of Thames Centre increased 6% from 2016 to 2021. Community members were asked to respond to this growth rate, with 52.76% indicated the growth rate was too high, 34.12% indicated they either liked the growth rate or it should be higher and 13.12% offered no opinion. As for housing, a significant number of respondents commented the future residential development should be focused on young families purchasing their first home and housing options to allow seniors to live in the municipality longer.

Strategic Plan survey partici-

pants were also asked to rank the municipality's services by importance and performance. Fire and police services ranked the highest in importance to the respondents. As for performance, 'fire services' ranked 'above expectations' with 'Council info' ranked 'below expectations'. By-law services, Planning and Police services were ranked with a failing performance.

This survey identified four common themes that prioritize areas for improvement within the Municipality of Thames Centre. These strategic priorities are as follows: Smart Planning, Community Communications & Engagement, Active Living and Economic Development. There was a listing of recommendations for each of these themes that were posted as well as this open house information session.

Lest we forget



Trumpeter Ted Bestard plays during last year's Remembrance Day service. (Photo credit: Nancy Abra)

By Nancy Abra

The population of Canada in 1914 when World War 1 broke out was approximately 7.8 million. By the end of this war 600,000 men signed up to fight, some with direct ties to Great Britain and some young men just wanting an adventure. More than 10% or 66,000 of these brave souls lost their lives in this conflict and more than 172,000 were wounded. As for World War 2, over 45,000 Canadian uniformed men and women died, with another 55,000 wounded.

On November 11th in villages, towns, and cities across Canada and around the world, people will gather to pay homage to these brave men and women who sacrificed their lives for our freedom in these wars and in military conflicts since.

At 10:45am on November 11th, at the cenotaph at the corners of Harrison and King Streets in Thorndale, there will be a Remembrance service and the laying of memorial wreaths. As in the past few years, Jodi McGuffin will read out the profile of two of the names on the cenotaph who never returned from war. Lest we never forget.

Thames Centre Awarded OTF Grant for Thorndale Community Park Accessibility Enhancement Project

By Nancy Abra

The Municipality of Thames Centre announced last Friday, November 3rd, that they have been awarded a \$85,000.00 grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation for the Thorndale Community Park Accessibility Enhancement Project. The objective of this project is to improve the accessibility by leveling and paving the existing walking path system.

Thames Centre CAO, David Barrick stated "We've increased our efforts in submitting grants like this to support our community and alleviate property tax burden pressures. This successful grant award further motivates us to continue delivering for our

Municipality."

The Thorndale Community Park serves a growing and vibrant community with a wide range of amenities from field sports and playground to numerous community centre activities. To ensure that this space is accessible to all, including those with mobility barriers and visual impairments, the current walking path system will be transformed to provide a safe and enjoyable experience for everyone.

The project has received widespread support from the community, with backing from the County's Accessibility Coordinator, Montieth Brown Planning Consultants, and the Thorndale Op-

timist Club. Feedback gathered through open houses and an online survey as part of the Community Services Master Plan Update has further reinforced the need for these improvements.

"It's always great to be able to share exciting news with the community," stated Mayor Sharon MacMillan, "especially regarding the enhancement of the walking system at Thorndale Community Park. We look forward to the positive impact this improvement will have on our community."

Source: www.thamescentre.on.ca/articles/thames-centre-awarded-ontario-trillium-foundation-grant

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COMMUNITY —

Recycling the Halloween Pumpkins



Sue and Greg Fowler on Trillium Crescent had quite the collection of pumpkins and hay bales dropped off at their place after Halloween. Sue had reached out on social media that they were collecting jack o' lanterns for the DeWetering Family Farm again for their animals. The pile kept growing and it ended up taking 2 trailers to haul them away. Thanks to the DeWetering family and some great neighbors on Trillium for helping to load them up. Pumpkins without paint, candle wax, staples and toothpicks can be used as a good food source for livestock.



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COLUMN —

HOSTING UKRAINE: What's Cooking?

By VJ Knutson

I've been thinking of asking for a recipe for borscht, but after having witnessed several different cooks prepare this traditional Ukrainian dish, I have concluded that written recipes likely don't exist. Instead, I'll offer an observational rendition:

Collect your ingredients: onion, potato, carrot, cabbage, meat (chicken wings, or ribs), fresh herbs, garlic, salt and pepper, and, of course, beets. Scrub and clean the vegetables, and dice or shred them. Lightly sauté the vegetables in a large pot and add water, meat, herbs, and spices. Cook till meat and vegetables are tender and an aromatic broth has evolved. Serve warm with sour cream and a side of bread.

Every cook's final outcome is slightly different – their signature dish. I make soup all the time. Some prechopped veggies, a container of chicken broth and pre-cooked chicken, and it's good to go. Not Ukrainians though. Nothing they make begins with a can or any pre-processed food. I couldn't even begin to explain the process of making perogies.

That's why when we come together for a gathering, as we did last Saturday, I am amazed that the women have found time to cook up the offerings they presented. There were buns filled with cheese and onion, apple squares, sugar donuts, chocolate squares - lots of chocolate - and Ric's favourite, Napoleon cake.



It was our first chance to get together since Spring, and everyone was happy to have this time to reunite, thanks to the St Marys United Church. The children were gone in a flash, happy to find their friends and make new ones. Moms settled their food on the table, and gathered around the coffee pot. Men caught up on men talk. Friends from the community came and there were hugs of recognition all around.

The highlight for me was seeing the babies: no longer newborns, but crawling, wriggling little personalities. Was it really a year ago that we surprised a then pregnant Alona with a baby shower, just days before her David was born? So much has happened in the past year. Happy first birthday, David,

born on Remembrance Day.

Volunteers in Stratford are hosting a community event on November 19th, bringing together Ukrainians and Canadians for a sharing

of traditional dishes. The event, which will be held from 2 – 5 pm, is at the Falstaff Family Centre, 35 Waterloos St N in Stratford. Not a fundraiser, this event hopes to create stronger community ties. Information will also be available about services in support of newcomers. St Marys and area residents are welcome as well.

On a sadder note, it has come to my attention that many families, Canadian and Ukrainian, are struggling to put food on the table. The high cost of housing, and food, with little in the way of wage increases, has taken its toll. It's not hard to do the math. I know that there are many

services in town that help, but I can only imagine they are feeling the pinch. At our house, we are looking for ways to top up local services – either financially, or by donating food goods. Please join us in this mission.

Till next time.

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COLUMN —

FROM THE GARDEN: Remembering them



By Nancy Abra

Many of you know I am an avid gardener, but another passion of mine is history. I am interested in the social history of the Victorian and Edwardian era along with a strong interest in military history of World War 1. Both my grandfather, Private Joseph Gover and my great uncle, Private Frank Thompson, living in the London area but with strong ties to England, joined the Canadian Expeditionary Force in 1915 and 1916 respectfully. My grandfather & Uncle Frank survived although severely injured. My grandfather's younger brother, George who lived in England, signed up with a regiment in the British Expeditionary Force. He wasn't so lucky and was killed in April 1917 and buried in Gaza Strip.

We remember those brave soldiers who sacrificed their lives on memorials erected in our villages, towns, and cities. Almost 66,000, approximately 10% of the men who enlisted in the Canadian Expeditionary Force lost their lives in World War 1. They are buried where they died in Europe. As for the brave men with no known graves they are remembered on the memorials here in Canada and across the world. In memorials such as Mein Gate in Ypres, Belgium, there are over 52,000 soldiers' names of the Commonwealth who lost their lives in that region and at Vimy Ridge memorial there are over 11,000 Canadian soldiers who were killed in France with no known grave.

Besides these memorials, we remember these brave souls where they have been laid to rest.

Nature has long been recognized as a healer. In the early years before the Commonwealth War Graves Commission was formally constituted, plants and flowers were introduced into the burial grounds along the Western Front, transforming them from bleak graveyards into memorial gardens. As such,

horticulture is central to the Commission's work of commemorating the fallen.

Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC) is a non-profit organization established in 1917 as the Imperial War Graves Commission, then renamed in 1960. It maintains 23,000 sites in 154 countries and has constructed 2,500 war cemeteries and memorials. The Commission pays tribute to 1.7 million men and women who have died in war around the world.

Horticulture is very important at the Commission. They are considered the world's leading horticultural organization. The concept of the original design in 1918 is still as important today. The Commission employs approximately 1,300 around the world, including 900 gardeners. The gardeners make sure these cemeteries are living places to honour the soldiers that are buried within them. The standards are high as to always look the best for visitors.

CWGC cemeteries have no religious symbols, but each have a 'Cross of Sacrifice' and a 'stone of remembrance' in the cemeteries with over



10,000 graves. The cemeteries are not laid out like Christian burials, but the graves are laid to face the enemy. The maintenance is year-round when possible and hands on with a strong policy of sustainability, recycling as well as minimizing the impact on the environment. The Commission's gardeners go to great lengths to ensure that the right plant is chosen for the right cemetery location and its environment as well as carefully managed and nurtured. Usually, small flowering plants are replaced every 5 years and no more than 20% of the cemetery at a time so it doesn't disrupt the overall look.

The plants chosen for these cemeteries provide variety in texture, colour, height and flowering time but does not

overshadow the white marble gravestones. Low growing plants are grown in front of the headstones so personal inscription is not obscured and helps prevent the stone from getting dirty during a rain.

The Commission had a special rose developed for them. The 'Remembrance Rose' is a floribunda and a repeat bloomer of red orange (colour of the poppy) with a height of approximately 80cm and width of 60cm. This special rose can be found in many of the Commission's cemeteries across Belgium and France.

For more information on the Commonwealth War Grave Commission, check out <https://www.cwgc.org> on their valuable work in caring for the fallen.

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Solutions on page 35

- Word Search -

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 X T A I X D Z Z I X K E Z Q H X V C Y S

Word List

Memorial

Peace

Medals

Honor

Veterans

Poppy

Remember

Heroes

November

Brave

Salute

Wreath

Sacrifice

THE WEEK AHEAD

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

Thorndale Library November events - See Page 24

St. Marys Public Library events - See Page 33

Friday, November 10

- Friends of the Library book sale at the Town Hall auditorium - 10 am to 5 pm
- Royal Canadian Legion hot dog/sausage lunch - 12 Noon
- A.N.A.F. meat draw - 6 pm
- An evening of poetry with Joanne Stryker at Riverwalk Commons - 7 pm
- Reserve your seat online at rwcommons.com or call 647-992-9620
- St. Marys Lincolns vs Hamilton Kilty B's at the PRC - 7:30 pm

Saturday, November 11

- St. Marys Farmers Market at the PRC - 8 am to noon
- Remembrance Day service at the Town Hall cenotaph - 10:45 am
- Friends of the Library book sale at the Town Hall auditorium - 12 pm to 4 pm
- A.N.A.F. Men's Dart league - 12:45
- Royal Canadian Legion meat draw - 5 pm
- St. Marys Lincolns vs Brantford Bandits at Wayne Gretzky Sports Centre - 5 pm

Sunday, November 12

- St. Marys Hospital Auxiliary Sip & Shop at Riverwalk Commons - 11 am to 3 pm

Monday, November 13

- Kingsway Lodge Silent Auction starts today - View available items on their FB page

Thursday, November 16

- Stonetown Arts art show & sale opening reception at Riverwalk Commons - 6 to 9 pm
- Villages United Church presents Bob Finley - 7 pm to 9 pm



The Riddle Kid OF THE WEEK

What do butterflies sleep on?



Caterpillars

Blake Parsons (4)

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

TONS OF FUN FOR KIDS EVERY WEEK!

PET OF THE WEEK

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



Our pet of the week is Auggie Stewardson. Auggie is a 4 month old cocker spaniel. He loves his family and playing with all of his toys. Here he is sporting his new sweater.



St. Marys Veterinary Clinic is pleased to be the sponsor of the **PET OF THE WEEK**

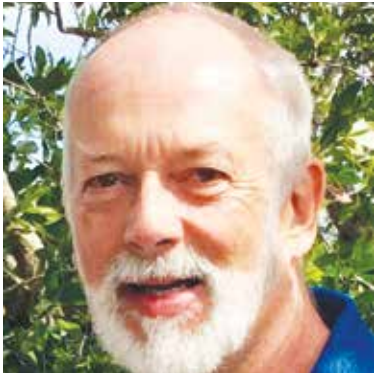
November is Adopt a Senior Pet Month
 Puppies, kittens and other baby animals steal our hearts, but what about a senior? Sadly, seniors often get left behind

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COLUMN —

OH, THE PLACES WE'LL GO: Sun, sand, sea ... and scones



By Paul Knowles

Odds are good that the autumn cold snap has you thinking of travelling to somewhere warm. That's a very Canadian phenomenon. And, stereotypically, you may be dreaming of "sun, sand and sea."

Let me suggest a fourth "s" – "scones."

I know baked goods are probably not top of mind when you think of spending a few days or weeks at a sunny resort. But that's because you haven't met Peg Mullin Laron, owner of Bay Harbor Lodge and Coconut Bay Resort in Key Largo, Florida.

Peg is a former school teacher who has invested a lot of passion and creativity in developing her waterfront resort which she started in 1994. Today, she runs the place in partnership with her son, Jonathan.

There are a lot of reasons to stay at Bay Harbor including sun, sand and sea but first on Peg's guests' daily to-do list each morning is "scones." Peg's scones are famous. Each morning, Bay Harbor guests can help themselves to one or

several of at least eight varieties of home-baked scones. Over the course of a year, she will offer about 85 different kinds of scones.

So that means there are 85 different reasons to visit Bay Harbor and Coconut Bay. But actually, there are a lot more than that. This is no ordinary resort and a far cry from the multi-storey, hundreds-of-units, condo style facilities that abound in any sun-and-sea destination. Peg's place offers what I would call cottage-style living. There are 22 options including pleasant, single-storey water-front units and a few that are located in a two-storey building. All are steps from Florida Bay where guests can enjoy spectacular sunsets almost every evening.

Not incidentally, those few steps will take you through an array of tropical plants. Peg and her team have focused on creating wonderful gardens throughout the property.

You can swim in Florida Bay or you can use the lovely, heated pool. If this all sounds like I was really impressed with Bay Harbor – well, yes I was. It exudes relaxation and has all of the plusses that come with hands-on involvement of owners who are passionate about their project. If a day goes by when a guest does not have a warm conversation with Peg or Jonathan, that would be a shock. They are there and they care.

The location of Bay Harbor is also a plus. Key Largo is the northern-most of the Florida

Keys and has a lot of unique attractions in its own right. While we stayed in Key Largo, we made sure to take a cruise on the African Queen. This small boat is the authentic craft from which the famed, 1951 Humphrey Bogart-Katharine Hepburn movie got its name. And unlike the dramatic ending of the movie, the African Queen did not actually blow up. It's docked in Key Largo where its captain, Dave Lawrence, is ready to take you on a cruise out into the Atlantic and back in time about 80 years!

Another way to experience the Atlantic, about 10 minutes from Bay Harbor is one of the very best scuba and snorkeling locations anywhere – John Pennekamp Coral Reef State Park. You can visit the park with great beaches, a visitor centre, and plenty of water activities or you can book an excursion through one of several dive shops throughout Key Largo.

Half an hour south of Bay Harbor is a quirky but important attraction – the Laura Quinn Wild Bird Sanctuary. Visitors are welcome (there is a voluntary donation jar) but the focus is really on the birds they are saving and protecting. Depending on the time of year, you may see almost any of the amazing species that make the Keys their home. My favourites include the roseate spoonbills and the night herons.

Perhaps the most eye-opening destination we visited was the Coral Restoration Foundation located in an un-



Bay Harbor owner Peg Mullin Laron is famed for her home-made scones, with different varieties served to her guests every morning. (All photos by Paul Knowles)

prepossessing building a few minutes north of Bay Harbor. Visitors can choose to join a seminar on coral restoration and the presentation is jam-packed with information on the extreme challenges facing coral due to climate change, human interaction, pollution and more.

Coral reefs are vital to the earth... and they are dying in unprecedented numbers. We learned that some reefs are experiencing 90 per cent loss of coral! This is disastrous news because the coral reefs provide food and shelter to innumerable species of fish; they also clean the ocean's water and they protect waterfront land.

Organizations like the Coral Restoration Foundation are, through research and development, beginning to find solutions to begin to restore the reefs. We learned a lot about "coral trees" – underwater nurseries "at the forefront

of innovation", on which living coral are being grown for transplanting back onto reefs to bring them back to life.

The foundation is also active in encouraging individuals and governments to take steps to mitigate actions that damage reefs.

My notes from our session go on for dozens of pages. But instead of pretending to be an expert, I encourage you to visit the foundation at www.coralrestoration.org.

That's just a sample (and I haven't even mentioned the wonderful, waterfront restaurants) of the activities you can find around Key Largo.

And did I mention Peg's scones....?

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.



Florida Bay – the view from Bay Harbor.



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LETTER TO THE EDITOR —

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Fri. Nov. 03 - Tina Hartwick, St. Marys	\$50.00
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Dear Editor,

On a recent visit to St. Marys I read notices eliciting feedback on where people wanted to get information about the town, but what I needed was something much more basic.

I have always enjoyed going to St. Marys. I love looking in its unique independent shops, exploring its library, parks, and museums, and taking in its stone-faced ambience and streetscapes; it is a beautiful town. On that Thursday in mid-October, though, I was not in town to enjoy any of these attractions. Instead, I had an appointment at St. Marys' Hospital's Physio for my very sore hip, after which I intended to go to the Pyramid Centre for its aquafit program.

A friend drove me to the Hospital but had to get back to Stratford by 4:00 so I would be on my own getting home. I planned to take the PC Connect bus downtown after my appointment, spend some time at the Library, take a taxi to the Pyramid Centre and then another to the Train Station to catch the eastbound train I had travelled on so many times before. It left at about

8:30, so I would be back in Stratford by nine, in time to get a city bus home.

Then came the shock. At the Library I discovered there was no taxi, and there was no longer an evening train.

Should I have known this in advance?

In my experience, St. Marys always had at least one taxi option. But I was told it had been a family business that had closed. What do travelers without wheels or older residents do, I wondered. St. Marys is not large, but not everyone can walk.

The train was another, even bigger problem. I had thought of taking a St. Marys taxi home if need be, but now I was without the train and that option as well. Instead, I had to call for a cab in Stratford and pay well over \$40.00 for an out-of-town pick up.

How did I get to the Pyramid Centre? I hobbled up James Street with my cane. It took me 40 minutes but at least I had some more gentle exercise when I got there.

It was a discouraging day. There is so much to go to St. Marys for, but so few ways for those of us without cars to get there. While VIA and GO Transit focus on speedy trains between major cities, and phase out service to smaller communities, those in this part of the country are left stranded. PC Connect is fine, but its last ride from St. Marys leaves at 4:55, which eliminates any evening visits or activities in town.

Is this the way it will be from now on?

Sincerely,

Julia Schneider

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COLUMN —

Straight from the Shelves

By Laura McAsh, St. Marys Public Library

Come and play Euchre at the Library! Bring your friends, family, or meet someone new Tuesday afternoons from 1:00pm to 3:00pm and Thursday evenings from 6:00pm to 8:00pm. Since the game requires four players, registration is required. Please call us at 519-284-3346 or email Meaghan at meverett@town.stmarys.on.ca to tell us which day(s) you're interested in playing. Euchre is free to play, and everyone is welcome.

This Week's Recommendation

Welcome to Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children. Here you will meet a child with super-human strength, one with the ability to conjure fire, another with the power to control plant life, and more still with interesting abilities/abnormalities, such as a boy with a stomach full of bees and a girl who's lighter than air. These children are protected by their home's namesake, Miss Peregrine, who, like other Ymbrynes, can turn into a bird at will and maintains a time loop that shelters the children. Partake in the peculiar with "Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children" by Ransom Riggs, available as an eBook, an eAudiobook, and in hard copy.

Up This Week

Friday, Nov. 10th: Crafty Tales (9:30am), FOL Book Sale+ (10:00am-5:00pm)

Saturday, Nov. 11th: FOL Book Sale+ (10:00am-4:00pm)

Monday, Nov. 13th: Open 10:30am-8:00pm

Tuesday, Nov. 14th: Euchre* (1:00pm-3:00pm)

Wednesday, Nov. 15th: EarlyON Play and Read (9:30am), Mahjong Intro (1:00pm-2:00pm,

6:00pm-6:30pm), Mahjong! (2:00pm-4:00pm, 6:30pm-8:00pm)

Thursday, Nov. 16th: Euchre* (6:00pm-8:00pm), Scrabble (6:00pm-8:00pm)

*Registration required

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LOOKING BACK



By AMY CUBBERLEY

Flirting with trouble

25 years ago (1998)

Kelly's Cigar, a St. Marys area horse, raced in the "Grass Roots" final this Saturday at Western Fair Raceway in London. The two-year-old trotting colt is owned by Barry Hearn.

Five citizens have put their names forward as potential replacements for Dave Cunningham on Town Council. They are Penny Kramer, Margaret Luna, Bruce Symons, Sandy Tays, and Mary Van Den Berge. Council is expected to choose the municipality's newest councilor at its regular meeting next week.

The schools are staying open! Last Thursday night, the Avon Maitland District School Board chose not to make up a list of schools to be closed for the Ministry of Education by its December 31 deadline. By not meeting the deadline, the board risks not being eligible for funding of new pupil places in the future.

50 years ago (1973)

The decorating team of Jack Scheuermann and Roly Tonks has completed a posh job of work in the new quarters for Town Clerk and staff at Town Hall. Work is underway at installing new lavatories on the same floor.

The future development of some twenty building lots along Markham Street, north of the hospital, moved at least one step closer toward a possible start next spring when Dept. of Transport and Communications personnel visited the site last Friday morning. Possible subsidies on replacement of storm drain through this area was the subject being pursued.

Halloween was quiet around St. Marys probably due to a combination of the weather conditions and "beefed up" patrol activity by local police using radio equipped ears. The radio equipment was provided by the Emergency Measures Organization.

75 years ago (1948)

Fire Chief Hardy White now has his car equipped with a special red spotlight, the same as used in larger centres.

All herds of cattle in Biddulph Township have now been tested under government sponsored plans to make this part of Ontario a T.B. free area.

Rob Elliott grows whopper carrots in his garden on Ontario Street, West Ward. A specimen he turned over to the Journal Argus this week weighed over three pounds and was 12 1/2 inches around at the top.

100 years ago (1923)

The lake above the dam was covered by a thin coating of ice on Friday morning. Several diving birds that have been making their home there the past month were forced to keep close to the brink of the dam to avoid being frozen in.

Snow fell for the first time this year in St. Marys on Wednesday. At about 7:30, the snowstorm was blinding and the streets were soon covered with a three-inch layer.

Making love while driving is flirting with trouble.

A St. Marys man was fined \$200 and costs in the London Police Court on Saturday for having liquor in his car and being intoxicated. He was accompanied by a lady friend.

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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.

For Sale

2 Men's Winter Coats
1 -Black Leather Coat
1 -7 in 1 Coat (which means can be changed into different types of coats)
Both Size 2XL
Phone 519-284-4068

For Sale

Solid Oak Door: Lead Glass Window, Brass Hardware, Oval Shape Knobs, Key, Mail Slot
Please call 519-393-5576 after 6 p.m.

Snow removal

Help! Snow is coming! We are a mature couple looking for an individual to shovel our single car driveway and a small area walkway in the Southvale Rd area of St. Marys. Please call 519-284-3754.

QUIZ ANSWERS

- | | |
|----------------|-------------------------|
| 1) John McCrae | 6) 2 mins |
| 2) France | 7) Treaty of Versailles |
| 3) 66,000 | 8) Nine |
| 4) 1921 | 9) England |
| 5) 11 a.m. | 10) 1918 |

SUDOKU ANSWERS

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

CELEBRATION OF LIFE

Williams



Sandy Janet Williams, passed away on September 5, 2023 at the age of 76. Friends and family are welcomed to Celebrate her Life at the ST. MARYS LEGION, 66 Church St. N., St. Marys, on November 17, 2023 from 6 to 8 pm. Words of Remembrance will take place at 6:30pm. Please

be aware that the St. Marys Santa Claus Parade is taking place the same evening. Queen St. will be closed to traffic from 7 to 9 pm.

THANK YOU

Firby

A heartfelt thank you to all our wonderful family and friends who shared in our 25th celebration. It was such fun to see or hear from you. Your kindness will always be remembered.

Love to all
Ken and Cheryl Firby

THANK YOU

Massey & Hopkins

Kim Massey and Kim Hopkins would like to thank all the family and friends who joined us in celebrating our 65th birthdays.

Thank you for all the best wishes, cards, texts, emails, gifts and flowers.
Much Appreciated, Kim & Kim

CONDO FOR SALE

#503-22 St Andrew St. S. St Marys, Ont.

Parkview West is a 55+ community in St. Marys, Ontario.

This life lease condo (unit 503) is a 2 bedrooms, 2 bathroom unit with a balcony facing south.

The controlled entrance building is located one block south of Queen Street.

A monthly fee covers property taxes, water/sewage, parking, maintenance of common areas and the use of a licensed hall with kitchen facilities, library, workshop, exercise and games room.

**Available November 15th (flexible).
Priced to sell at \$325,000.
Call 519.859.6736**

THANK YOU

Petrie

The family of Manfred Petrie wish to express their sincere thank you to our community, relatives, and many friends who brought food, sent cards and flowers and travelled miles to offer condolences to the family.

Thanks to Rev. Mark Wolfe for his comforting words. Thank you to Andrew Hodges Funeral Home for their professional help and guidance through all the proceedings, including the assistance of Bob Sass.

Thank you to the staff of St Marys Presbyterian Church and the kindness shown at Stratford General Hospital.

Thank you to all who made donations in Fred's memory.

At the end of the day
When the sun sets in the west
Know you are Blessed.

The Petrie Family

ST. MARYS UNITED CHURCH

Bake & Craft Sale

Saturday, November 18th
8 a.m. to 12 p.m.
Crafters, Bake Table,
Chilli & Auction Items



Come early to get Christmas Baking!

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519.871.8069

Norraine.galloway@culliganwater.ca

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