

# St. Marys Independent

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Issue #1185

Thursday, November 16, 2023

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## St. Marys honours our veterans



At the end of the Remembrance Day service held in St. Marys on Saturday, citizens were invited to place their poppies at the cenotaph as a symbol of respect for those who have made the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom. (Stewart Grant photo)

## Celebrate the Holiday season in St. Marys!

The wreaths are hung, and the lights are strung – just in time for the holiday season to return to St. Marys!

Santa Claus arrives this Friday, November 17 to kick off the season via the Kinsmen Santa Claus Parade, beginning at 7:00 p.m. Parking on

Queen Street from Water to Peel and on Water Street South from Queen to Jones is prohibited during the parade. Closures will begin at 4:00 p.m. on November 17. Visit [www.stmaryskinsmen.com](http://www.stmaryskinsmen.com) for more information about the parade route, donations and entering a float.

Continued on page 2

## Town Hall to be closed until May for renovations

St. Marys Town Hall is getting a makeover. The iconic limestone building is currently closed to accommodate renovations to its first floor.

The work will include a full remodel of the space. Council Chambers will be expanded and the technology in the room will be upgraded. New wash-room facilities will be added, including one that is barrier free.

Services usually offered at Town Hall will be provided online, by phone or at other municipal facilities during the closure, as noted below.

- General inquiries: Call 519-284-2340, email [clerksoffice@town.stmarys.on.ca](mailto:clerksoffice@town.stmarys.on.ca), or visit the Municipal Operations Centre (408 James St. S) during business hours (Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.)
- Police: Call 519-271-4141 for non-emergencies; call 9-1-1 for emergencies
- Community Outreach Worker: Call 519-284-2340 or visit the St. Marys Public Library from Monday to Friday, 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (ring the library's doorbell between 8:30 and 10:30 am for assistance)
- Mayor: Email [astrathdee@town.stmarys.on.ca](mailto:astrathdee@town.stmarys.on.ca)
- Licensing, by-law enforcement and Council correspondence: Call 519-284-2340, email [clerksoffice@town.stmarys.on.ca](mailto:clerksoffice@town.stmarys.on.ca), or use the drop box located at the library's Queen St. entrance
- PC Connect inquiries: Call the Community Transportation Call Centre at 1-888-465-0783
- Tourism inquiries: Call 519-284-2340, ext. 272, email [kdeeks@town.stmarys.on.ca](mailto:kdeeks@town.stmarys.on.ca), or visit the St. Marys Public Library, St. Marys Museum or

Continued on page 2



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COMMUNITY —

# Town Hall to be closed until May for renovations

Continued from page 1

downtown businesses for tourism materials

Work on the Town Hall is expected to be completed by May 2024. Updates about the project will be provided through local media, the Town

website ([www.townofstmarys.com](http://www.townofstmarys.com)), Facebook ([www.facebook.com/stmarysontario](http://www.facebook.com/stmarysontario)) and Twitter/X ([www.twitter.com/townofstmarys](http://www.twitter.com/townofstmarys)).

Questions about the project can be directed to 519-284-2340 or [communications@town.stmarys.on.ca](mailto:communications@town.stmarys.on.ca).

# Stonetown Arts 12th Annual Art Show and Sale

By Wendy Lamond

This year's 12th Annual Art Show and Sale is taking place at two lovely locations in town. One being at Riverwalk Commons and the other is at the Studio which is located on the 2nd floor of The Flower Shop and More.

The artists were busy getting the paintings hung on the walls to exhibit their talents.

For specifics on location and times for the Art show and sale, see the advertisement on page 20.



Acrylic artist Chantelle Marshall and glass artist Paula Wilcox make sure the canvasses are level.



Water colour and glass artist Annette Goodale and encaustic artist Anna Koot share their ideas on arrangement. (Wendy Lamond photos)

# The festive season starts this weekend

Continued from page 1

Also on Friday, the fabulous WinterLights will be lit by Santa Claus immediately following the parade – be sure to join us at Milt Dunnell Field! Enjoy the display nightly from 5:00 p.m. until 11:00 p.m. until Monday, January 1, 2024. Donations to the display are greatly appreciated online ([www.townofstmarys.com/winterlights](http://www.townofstmarys.com/winterlights)), at the donor wall or at Waving Santa.

On Saturday, November 18 stop by the St. Marys Craft Show at the Pyramid Recreation Centre. The show will run from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and will feature over 100 artisans. Admission to the show is free and a delicious lunch is available for purchase, with proceeds supporting the St. Marys Friendship Centre.

Beginning on Friday, November 24 and continuing until Sunday, November 26, the Downtown Merchants' Open House is the perfect opportunity to cross everyone off your gift list. Participating merchants are offering festive promotions and giveaways all weekend long! Look for festive deals at your favourite local shops on Friday, Victorian carolers on Saturday, and a farmers' market, free horse-drawn wagon rides, and Mr. and Mrs. Claus on Sunday.

For more information on all these events, visit [www.discoverstmarys.ca/happyholidays](http://www.discoverstmarys.ca/happyholidays).

Be sure to follow the Town of St. Marys' Facebook, Instagram and Twitter accounts for any updates and reminders.

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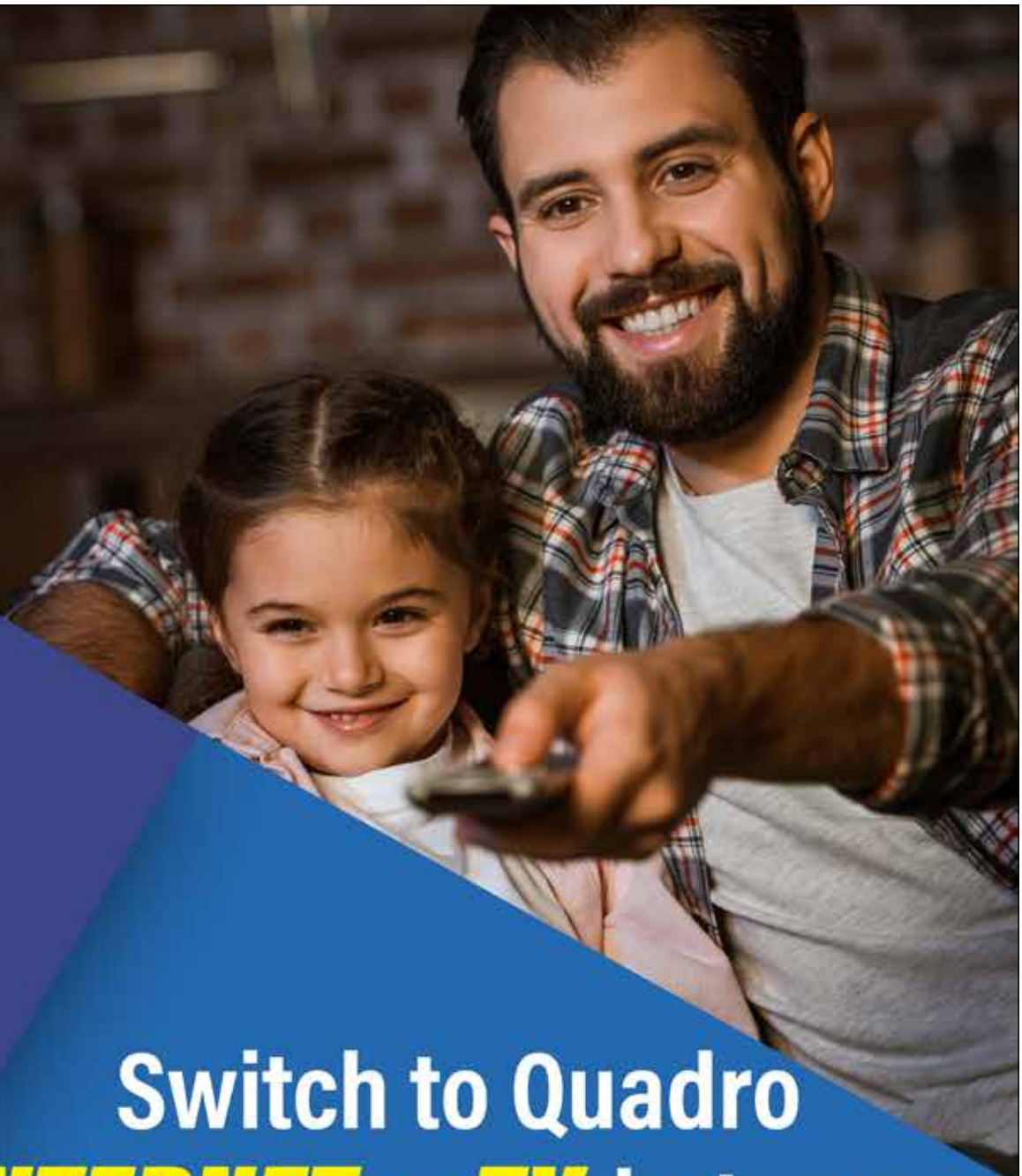
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**Cheryl Campbell, CFP**  
Life Insurance Specialist

[jeffswan@stonetownfinancial.com](mailto:jeffswan@stonetownfinancial.com)

7 Day Forecast - Weather Sponsored by The HITCHING POST

Wednesday Nov-15th	Thursday Nov-16th	Friday Nov-17th	Saturday Nov-18th	Sunday Nov-19th	Monday Nov-20th	Tuesday Nov-21st
Mainly sunny	Mainly sunny	Rain	Mainly sunny	Sun/cloud	Sun/cloud	Light rain
<b>11</b> °C	<b>13</b> °C	<b>10</b> °C	<b>5</b> °C	<b>4</b> °C	<b>4</b> °C	<b>7</b> °C
Feels Like <b>8</b>	Feels Like <b>11</b>	Feels Like <b>7</b>	Feels Like <b>2</b>	Feels Like <b>0</b>	Feels Like <b>0</b>	Feels Like <b>4</b>



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Valid for new customers only. Must quote promo code. Only available during Nov. 1 - 30, 2023. Not valid for business customers. Some restrictions apply.

## 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

....a few initiatives that are happening...

At an apartment building in St. Marys a resident (Brenda M.) has rallied her neighbours together with a 30 day challenge for the month of November.

On each of the three floors of the building there are big boxes wrapped in silver paper. On the box there is an suggestion of a food donation for each day of the month for tenants to put in the box. For example one day is cereal, one day is pasta, one day is boxed or canned milk - there are thirty days in November so there are thirty donation suggestions.

Participation is entirely voluntary and of course people are not expected to donate something every day. At the end of the month everything will be donated to the Salvation Army Food Bank in St. Marys. If everyone does a little, by the end of the month it will be a lot! Better together for sure!



The St. Marys business community has been leading the Giving Tuesday charge for the past seven years and this year is no different. The initiatives they have created to give back to our community are as unique as each business is. Individual businesses are posting their Giving Tuesday plans on social media and in store windows. Better Together Always!



The Celebrate St. Marys Group is creating a book of stories of good deeds done by neighbours in St. Marys and area!

# GIVING TUESDAY

Nov  
28

For More Information Contact:  
johnsonjulie@rogers.com

[www.givingtuesday.ca](http://www.givingtuesday.ca)

## Overheard at the Coffee Shop

Proudly sponsored by: **Tim Hortons**  
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Santa is coming to town on Friday. Time to convince him to take me off the naughty list.

And just like that, Christmas is everywhere!!!

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



**HOW TO LISTEN TO ST. MARYS RADIO**  
Step 1. Go to [www.stmarysradio.com](http://www.stmarysradio.com)  
2. Click play on the online player



## Bravo

We have 6 Bravos this week.

- 1) Bravo to all those who paused on Remembrance Day. Even if a business is open, the people working would appreciate taking a moment at 11am. Next time you are shopping, please keep that in mind.
- 2) Bravo to the concerned Southvale Rd citizen who called the town to report their street flooding from the recent storm. The crew was quickly out unblocking the water drains from fallen leaves. A job well done by all!
- 3) Bravo to the Ontario Early Years Program and their recent partnership with the Stratford police and Canadian Tire to conduct a free Child Care Seat clinic. Thanks for making sure I had a car seat that was safe for my granddaughter.
- 4) My daughter and I were shopping downtown St Marys on Friday. We went into Tim Hortons for lunch and while sitting down at the table a lady approached our table, wished me Season's Greetings and left a really nice gift card. It made our day.
- 5) Bravo to the courteous and helpful Pharmacists at Hubbard Pharmacy. Your kindness does not go unnoticed.
- 6) I would like to thank the kind, young gentleman Mark Thompson who paid for one of my gift cards I was purchasing at Gilly's on Friday. You made my day. Much appreciated.

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

## Boo

We have 2 Boos this week.

- 1) Boo to those people who use out-of-town real estate agents. Not only are you doing yourselves a disservice by using someone who doesn't know the area (amenities, traffic patterns, and facilities); but you are also hurting the rest of us. St. Marys realtors will spend most of their commission in the community, (groceries, insurance, banks, retailers, etc.) as well as pay taxes here. They also volunteer and give to St. Marys charities. All of this makes St. Marys a better community.
- 2) Boo to cat owners who let their cats wander freely outdoors. It is unfair to our birds whose numbers are already dwindling. Bathroom business in flower beds and gardens is not appreciated. For your cat's health and your peace of mind.... Please keep them indoors.

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 was very honoured just to be nominated and then to receive it. Working for Perth County Paramedic Services, being able to help our community through our service, aside from 911 calls, is very rewarding and a great way to meet and support our residents."

Perth County Paramedic and St. Mary resident Jacqueline Ussher on receiving the Ontario Association of Paramedic Chiefs (OAPC) Humanitarian Award.

## St. Marys Independent

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## The St. Marys Independent

THOUGHTS  
OF THE WEEK

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Some people come into your life as blessings and some come in your life as lessons.

There is no key to happiness, the door is always open.

Kind words can be short and easy to speak but what they mean to someone could last a lifetime.

One small positive thought in the morning can change your whole day.

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**STONETOWN  
 CRIER** The latest municipal news  
 from the Town of St. Marys



**ST. MARYS CRAFT SHOW**  
 Saturday, Nov. 18 | Pyramid Centre

Shop for local, handmade treasures from  
 9 AM to 3 PM. Admission is free, and a  
 delicious lunch is available to purchase.

519-284-3272

**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**

Registration for winter swimming  
 lessons (starting November 27) is now  
 open!

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



**PA DAY PROGRAM**

Nov. 17, 8 AM - 5 PM | Pyramid Rec. Centre

Youth in Grades 3 - 6 can spend the  
 upcoming PA Day playing games,  
 swimming in the pool, and enjoying a  
 movie with popcorn!

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



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



**Contact us**

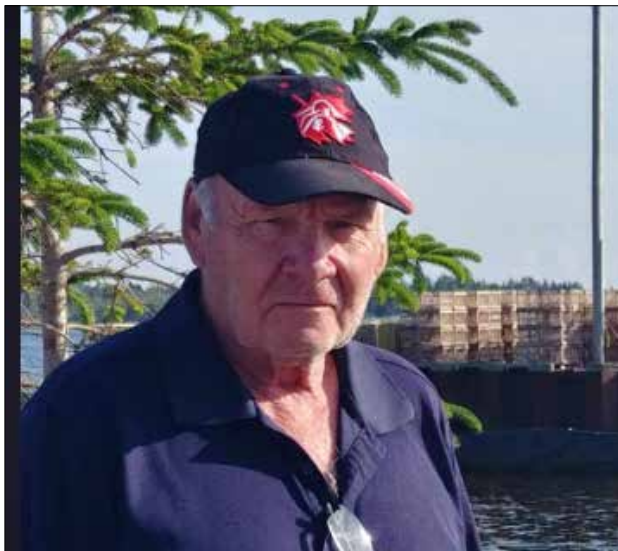
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## Senior of the Week



Our senior of the week is Harold Douglas. Harold will be turning 77 on Nov. 21st. He was born in Listowel and grew up on a farm in Donegal. He has been married to Connie for 53 years. They have 3 children and 5 grandchildren. Harold works at Finnie's. He is a proud Mason and in his spare time likes playing pool, watching baseball and does woodworking. Happy Birthday!

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

## COMMUNITY —

### Friends of the Library hold successful book sale



From left, Nancy Baird, Reg Quinton, and Kate Graham of the Friends of St. Marys Public Library are all smiles as their successful four-day Fall Book Sale concluded at the Town Hall Auditorium on Saturday afternoon. Over 700 guests/patrons visited the sale, and through their kind generosity raised over \$7,500 to support special programs, services, and needs at our St. Marys Public Library. (Stewart Grant photo)

### Giving Tuesday Flag Raising



On Tuesday Nancy Wojcik's grade 4/5 class from Holy Name joined Committee Member Julie Docker-Johnson and Mayor Al Strathdee for the raising of the Giving Tuesday flag at the town hall. Giving Tuesday, a global day of generosity, is November 28th and this year it is dedicated to Sheila Greason. Before her passing, Sheila did everything possible to help others in need. (Wendy Lamond photo)

## Weekend Quiz

SPONSORED BY



16 Water Street South  
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- 1) Who is the voice of Lorax in "The Lorax"?
- 2) What is the atomic number for uranium?
- 3) Which type of wood is commonly used for making pencils?
- 4) How many strings on a Cello?
- 5) What three colors make up The Netherlands flag?
- 6) How many wonders of the world are there?
- 7) What is the capital of Thailand?
- 8) In Shakespeare's Hamlet, what is Hamlet's mother's name?
- 9) What is the scientific name for the windpipe?
- 10) Who sings the song "Head Over Boots"?

This week's answers are found on pg. 31

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**COMMUNITY —**

**Local Canadian Tire helping toy and food drive reach goal**



From left, Colton Lawrence and Porter Huffman. (Nancy Bickell photo)

By Nancy Bickell

Porter and Colton's Toy and Food Drive has gone viral. Those of you who have been following the boys' journey over the last six years will know that they've teamed up with St. Marys Canadian Tire to purchase toys and gift cards for kids and families in the area.

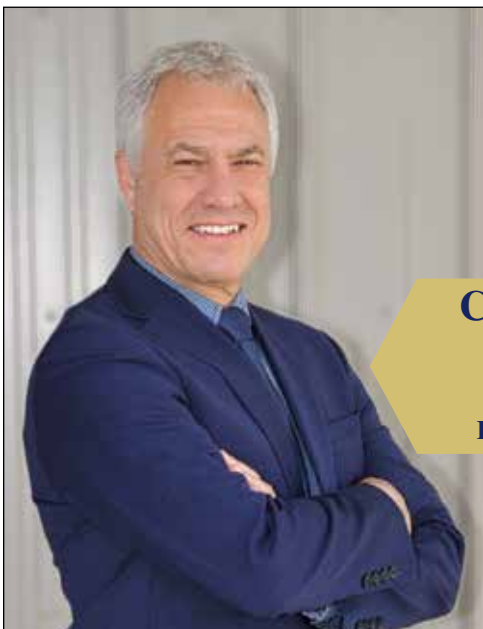
The boys have raised close to \$20,000 over the last five years by collecting Canadian tire money, cash, and bottle donations. They are excited to meet their \$8,500 goal this year.

Canadian Tire has committed to helping these two 11 year olds meet their goal again by offering to set up a dedi-

cated Community Points Reward Card to replace Canadian tire money that is no longer in circulation. Customers can choose to donate their triangle rewards points to Porter and Colton's charity at the time of purchase at the local Canadian Tire St.Marys Store.

Angie Miskuski, co-owner of Canadian Tire in St.Marys, reached out to Colton and Porter with this generous idea and the boys jumped at the chance to work more closely with the store.

If you are interested in learning more about Porter and Colton's Toy and Food Drive, please visit their Facebook page: "Porter & Colton's Toy Drive".



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# COMMUNITY —

## St. Marys Artist's portraits grace the walls of JFK Museum

By Wendy Lamond

There are moments in your life that affect you in different ways at different times and you remember where you were and how you felt when it happened.

This was the way it was for a young Anita Ruthig when she heard of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy on November 22nd, 1963, 60 years ago.

At 18 Anita left Germany and moved to Canada to be an aspiring musician, teacher, and examiner. Anita was also an art enthusiast who attended classes taught by Mrs. John Dalrymple after developing the love of art from her aunt.

The assassination was very upsetting to Ruthig who decided that instead of painting the weekly assignment, she would rather paint portraits of the president and one of the first lady, Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis, to send to the widow to share her condolences.

Using fine oil paint, she put her brush to canvas and the results were incredible. The portraits were sent to Mrs. Kennedy.

Not knowing if she would get a reply, Anita was very happy to receive a letter from Nancy Tuckerman who was secretary to Mrs. Kennedy. The letter stated that Mrs. Kennedy deeply appreciated her thoughtfulness in remembering her and her family and due to the tremendous volume of letters and gifts, it prevented the first lady from thanking her personally.

That was the last for a long time that she had heard anything about the portraits until recently.

She always wondered what had happened to them and wasn't sure she would ever know until January when her daughter was searching on the web and low and behold was able to find out where they were.



A photo of the JFK portrait

Ruthig was so honoured and pleased to find out that her portraits are presently hanging at the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum in Boston MA.

They were donated by a private citizen between 1966 and the present day and it states in the details that it was gifted by Anita Ruthig.

The portrait of Jacqueline Kennedy was painted from the Life Magazine Cover photograph of her, and the President's portrait was from the Yousuf Karsh photograph of him.

When asked if she will ever get to go and see the paintings, Anita commented that she hopes to. From 1984 to 2001 she was a member of the Faculty and Board of Examiners of Western Ontario Conservatory of Music. At the spry age of 85 Anita retired from her music studio this year which she had for approximately 20 years.

She has also been an organist in a couple of local churches for 46 years in St. Marys and has just re-



A picture from 1960 in the St. Marys Journal Argus of Anita Ruthig as she puts the finishing touches on her JFK painting.

cently retired from that as well. Mrs. Ruthig still lives at home and cares for the one acre of land on her property.

In retirement, Anita is still painting and just finished a winter scene from the Northwest Territories and has donated it to the Catholic Women's League for their upcoming auction.

Her last singing gig took place when she was 64 years old when she sang the Messiah with the Choral Society of Georgetown "When you are 64 you have to work the voice." Ruthig states. Her conductor at the time was a student of hers named Dale Wood.

Anita has led a very creative, interesting life full of arts and travel and to know that her talents were seen by Mrs. Kennedy and are now being shared with many people from all over the world offers a feeling of pride for the artist.



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COMMUNITY —

# Skillful driver with no brakes takes the pole position

By Stewart Grant

Earlier this week, someone on one of the local Facebook pages shared photos of the 1978 Soap Box Derby that occurred down St. Marys' Queen Street hill, and it brought back a lot of fond memories from people.

Don Scheuermann recalled of the event, "I got first [place] back in the sixties when you didn't have to have brakes." Richard Currah added, "I remember those races well, the speed was unreal if you had axle wheel bearings from a lawnmower instead of wagon wheels."

Although the soap box races are a distant memory, what hasn't changed about the Queen Street hill is that vehicles can really pick up speed with the help of the force of gravity.

This past Saturday at around 2:30 p.m., the driver of a pickup truck found himself in the unfortunate situation of heading west down Queen Street towards a red light at the Wellington Street intersection without the use of brakes.

Although the driver went through the intersection and plowed into the traffic light pole by Meridian Credit



At approximately 2:30 p.m. on Saturday, November 11, local police, fire department and paramedics were called to the intersection of Queen and Wellington Streets following a one-vehicle crash. (Photo credit: Stewart Grant)

Union, by all accounts he did some excellent driving under pressure to avoid hitting any other cars, pedestrians, or buildings.

Jack Broers, a close witness to the scene, was turning left onto Queen Street and starting to drive eastward when the truck flew past him (on

Jack's right) heading west.

Broers described the situation to the Independent. "I had just turned [onto Queen Street] and he flew by. There were already cars in his lane because it was a red light. There were two or three cars in the straight lane and two cars in his left-hand turn lane."

"He just missed me by a centimetre. There was no brake. He must've had a heart attack, or his brakes weren't working. Something was up. He missed me, and then a split-second later there was a bang. I didn't hear a brake or a screech. He went between the pole [by Bank of Montreal] and my car and that [parked] black car [before going through the intersection and striking the pole near Meridian]"

Although the Independent has not received a police report of the incident as of press time, based on the successful evasive maneuvers taken by the driver to avoid other vehicles, it appears highly likely that it was not a heart condition but rather brake failure that was the cause of the accident.

The driver of the vehicle was taken to the hospital as a precaution, as the truck's airbags were deployed upon striking the pole near Meridian.

Although brake failures are fairly rare, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (in the USA) released a report in 2018 that found that faulty vehicle parts accounted for only 2% of crashes overall, and faulty brakes made up 22% of that 2% figure.

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## COMMUNITY —

### Money raised from the Teddy Bear Reunion buys teddy bears for hospital



From left, Marlene Forman, organizer of the Teddy Bear Reunion, donated 3 bags of adorable teddy bears to the hospital on Monday. Accepting them on behalf of the hospital was RN Karrie Bibby and RN Marcy Taylor. The money for the bears was raised from the annual Teddy Bear Reunion that takes place every August. All the bears stay in St. Marys and are used to console and comfort during times of extreme stress. (Photo credit: Wendy Lamond)

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**SPORTS —**

# 'Scrappy' Jr. Girls claim H-P title

By Spencer Seymour

The St. Marys DCVI Junior Girls basketball team are Huron-Perth Champions after defeating Stratford District Secondary (SDSS) 40-34 in the league playoff final last Wednesday.

Head Coach Tim O'Connor was thrilled with how his team fought in the final game, a will that they have built up over the course of this season.

"We played very well," O'Connor raved. "The kids battled really hard and they got rewarded for it. We had a lot of difficult challenges that we had to navigate. The other team had an elite guard who scored 20 points so we had to work incredibly hard to contain her. We also had to mix up what we were doing a bit because some of our best players started getting in some foul trouble."

O'Connor added that the girls came up big at both ends of the court when it was needed most.

"We hung in tough defensively and we shot the ball very well. We're not a big three-point-shooting team but we hit three big three-pointers. We started very well and were able to slug it out in the latter half of the game to hang on."

With key players getting into foul trouble, the Junior Girls needed players to come off the bench and turn into quality minutes which O'Connor said several players stepped up and gave the squad.

"We got a great game from Claudia Laino who scored five points but also came into the game off the bench and had to guard their really skilled guard which she did very well. Naomi DeVries and Alanna Savile also had good defensive games. Stratford is a bigger team than we are so we really had to scratch and claw on the inside and those girls worked really hard."

"Offensively, Charlotte Richardson and Marin Chateauvert came up big for us," continued O'Connor. "Charlotte put up 19 points for us which obviously was an incredible performance for her and she has been fantastic for us all season. Marin had a great day and scored nine which included two key three-pointers."

Some teams win with overwhelming skill and size. Other teams, like DCVI,

are successful because they have the mental and physical resolve to compete harder than any team they run into. That, said O'Connor, is how these Salukis reached the heights they have.

"They've really embraced being a team known for being scrappy. They fought for every rebound and even if they didn't get it, every time, there were four hands up and trying to pull the ball down or force jump-balls. They've been a scrappy group all year long and they like to compete. The final was a tough game and they seem to enjoy that. The bench was loud and energetic and the kids were all there for one another so it was a fun win to be a part of."

O'Connor further discussed the team's work ethic, saying it has been the biggest constant for the team all year long.

"All year long, Ava [Bettger] and I talked and we've been really happy with the fact that they're always trying. We may make a mistake here and there and our baskets may not always fall in but we haven't had a moment when we thought they weren't trying. Our leaders set a good example in that regard. The kids have done a great job this season and I'm very proud of them."

"They have a great work ethic and have been very committed to the team. They are all coachable. They work hard in practice and all of them barely ever miss a practice. They really pick things up well during games, as well as any team I've coached. They're really sharp at picking things up mid-game. They have fun playing together and they play for each other."

As noted, Ava Bettger was part of the coaching staff for the team this season. Bettger, a former DCVI student and basketball player herself, has brought a valuable viewpoint to O'Connor as part of the coaching staff.

"Ava is fantastic. I knew Ava when she was in grade two and came over to the St. Marys Minor Basketball program before going on to play here at DCVI. She is very calm but very honest with the kids. She has really good insights into what we need to work on which I really value. She notices what the kids are doing and I think the kids have a really healthy respect for her."



The St. Marys DCVI Junior Girls basketball team won the Huron-Perth Championship last Wednesday over Stratford District Secondary. Pictured in the front row, from left to right, are Alanna Saville, Charlotte Richardson, Marin Chateauvert, Naomi DeVries, Claudia Laino, and Holly Black. In the back row, from left, are Ava Bettger, Marieke Van Lierop, Libby McCurdy, Chloe White, Sophie Richardson, Cammi Lobb, Regan Jones, and Tim O'Connor. (Contributed photo)



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## SPORTS —

# Lincs earn three of four points in interleague games

By Spencer Seymour

The St. Marys Lincolns didn't get the result they wanted or deserved last Friday but their first two interconference games were positive overall, with the team turning in one of their better efforts of the season against the Hamilton Kilty B's followed by a decisive 5-1 win over the Brantford Bandits.

Head Coach Jeff Bradley said that, despite coming away with only one point against the Kilty B's in a 4-3 shootout loss, the Lincolns turned in a very strong performance.

"I was really happy with the way we played," Bradley told the Independent. "We were up against a very good team and we held them to 23 shots in regulation. It was an awesome effort on our part even though we missed a few chances. I thought everyone played well and gave a really solid effort."

With almost half a dozen shots hitting a post or crossbar coupled with even more 10-bell saves by Hamilton goaltender Vlad Visan, it was one of the most glaring examples of a common issue thread in many of the games the team has lost. That thread is the Lincolns outplaying and outchancing their opponent but somehow not getting the two points.

"It comes down to one puck going in for them and one not going in for us, essentially. You have a good feeling

when you feel like the team played a good game and that's how we felt after that game. We controlled pretty much everything in the game and it's just unfortunate we didn't get the win."

The only goal in the first period came off of the stick of Kaleb Frank who put the Kilty B's ahead 1-0 despite St. Marys leading 11-6 on the shot clock. In the second period, however, the Lincolns' 14-6 advantage in shots paid off with the Lincs getting goals from Matt Prendergast, Billy VanSumeren, and Adam Barkley, the latter two of which came on the powerplay. Tanner Hunt got Hamilton's lone goal of the period on a Kilty B's powerplay.

The only goal of the third frame was scored by Joshua Avery who tied the game at three apiece. After overtime solved nothing, the game went to a shootout in which Avery potted the only goal on an unfortunate bounce that Carter McDougall initially stopped before the puck popped over the St. Marys netminder and trickled across the goal line.

Bradley credited his entire roster for what he described as "one of the most complete games of the season so far" as well as one of the team's rookie forwards for filling in admirably for one of the team's top centers.

"I was happy with everyone on our

team, I don't think anyone had a bad game against Hamilton. Our top six all played really hard and then, when we lost Marcus [Dashevsky], who is obviously an important player for us, we asked Ryan [Hodkinson] to step up and take those minutes and he did so without missing a beat."

The Lincs continued their double-header one day later when they travelled to Brantford to take on the Bandits in their second interconference game of six to be played this season. In a less boisterous building than the excitable crowds at the PRC, the Lincolns had to be their own source of momentum.

"When you're playing on a Saturday at five o'clock in a quieter rink, coming off of a game like Friday night, it can be a bit tough because you have to manufacture your own energy," Bradley explained. "I thought we did a good enough job of that and certainly we as a staff were happy that we got the win."

With Dashevsky remaining out of the lineup, Hodkinson continued to play in between Chase MacQueen-Spence and Noah VandenBrink, a trio that continued to have success. MacQueen-Spence potted a hat-trick with VandenBrink assisting on all three of those goals and Hodkinson picking up helpers on two of the three.

"Ryan did well once again. He plays a complete game and he understands that because of the way he plays, he can move up and down the lineup and doesn't really have to change how he plays. He's an important player for us with the way he plays and how effective he can be in any position."

"It's very important for them to do that," Bradley continued, speaking on MacQueen-Spence and VandenBrink taking over the game throughout the contest. "We've been trying to make up for not having Ethan [Weir] with us the last couple of weeks and when you're missing someone who brings so much offence, you need guys like Chase and Noah to step up and contribute even more and they did a great job of that."

Bradley also had praise for two second-year forwards, Matt Prendergast, who scored two goals against Brantford, and Jimmy Schiedel, as well as one of the West's most consistent rookie players, Luke Bogart.

"It's great to see what he's doing. Watching how he played last year and then into this year with how he's continued developing, you

could tell he would start putting the puck in the net if he added a little bit more consistency. He's got speed, strength, and size, so he has all the tools to be a good power forward and it seems like he's starting to put it all together."

"Luke was really good. He is always just really steady and close to mistake-free, which is especially impressive for a guy in his first full year of junior hockey. I thought Jimmy [Schiedel], after missing some time with an illness, stepped up and played his guts out for us. When Jimmy plays like he did in Brantford, he is a really effective player for us."

Colby Booth-Housego stopped 26 of 27 Brantford shots in the Lincolns' 5-1 win.

Last weekend's pair of games also saw a season-long trend continue. Every time the Lincolns have outscored their opponent at even strength this year, as they did in Brantford, they have picked up the two points. However, every time they have been outscored at even strength, as happened on Friday against the Kilty B's, the Lincs have come out on the losing side.

With no Friday home game this week as the team participates in the Santa Claus Parade, the Lincolns' next game is Saturday in Strathroy taking on the Rockets. They then play on Sunday in St. Thomas against the Stars.

St. Marys Lincolns 2023-24 stats (as of Nov. 14)

Rank	Player	GP	G	A	PTS
1	Chase MacQueen-Spence	17	11	9	20
2	Noah VandenBrink	17	4	8	12
3	Adam Barkley	17	4	6	10
T-4	Ethan Weir	7	4	5	9
	Josh Cornfield	14	0	9	9
T-6	Matt Prendergast	17	6	2	8
	Jaden Lee	15	4	4	8
	Luca Spagnolo	13	3	5	8
	Ryan Hodkinson	15	0	8	8
T-10	Colton Henderson	13	3	4	7
	Luke Bogart	16	2	5	7
T-12	Billy VanSumeren	9	3	3	6
	Marcus Dashevsky	13	3	3	6
T-14	Ryan Cornfield	16	4	1	5
	Owen Voortman	17	1	4	5
T-16	Blake Elzinga	12	2	2	4
	Ryder Livermore	17	1	3	4
	James Sigmon	12	0	4	4
19	Jimmy Schiedel	14	1	2	3
20	Jacob Montesi	16	0	2	2
21	Jaden Shiell	9	0	1	1
22	Ethan Sullivan	0	0	0	0
#	Goalies	GP	GAA	SV-%	W
1	Colby Booth-Housego	10	1.83	0.933	6
31	Carter McDougall	8	3.10	0.881	3

Western Conference Standings (as of Nov. 14th)

Rank	Team	Record	PTS	GF	GA
1	London Nationals	12-4-1-0	25	69	45
2	Strathroy Rockets	12-4-0-1	25	61	43
3	LaSalle Vipers	12-5-1-0	25	76	46
4	St. Marys Lincolns	9-6-1-1	20	58	44
5	Chatham Maroons	8-8-2-0	18	66	67
6	Sarnia Legionnaires	7-9-1-0	15	66	84
7	St. Thomas Stars	7-10-0-1	15	59	78
8	Komoka Kings	3-17-0-0	6	40	93

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**SPORTS —**

# U18 B Girls back on track with two straight wins

By Spencer Seymour

Last Wednesday saw a back-and-Head Coach Nathan Brown called last weekend “a breath of fresh air” for the Hubbard Pharmacy U18 B Girls St. Marys Rock who broke out of an early-season slump by winning back-to-back games.

“We had a pretty rough start to the year,” Brown told the Independent, “But, I think the win [on Saturday] in Stratford really began turning around the way the girls think as a group. It was the first time they were playing together as a group and they continued that [on Sunday] when we had all 19 girls playing. They hustled and played really hard.”

Last Saturday saw the Rock, with only 17 players available, visit the Stratford Aces and come away with a 2-1 victory with both St. Marys goals coming as a result of hard-working plays. First, it was Ella Carter drawing a defender in before feeding Delanie McKay who buried the game’s first goal in the second period. After the Aces tied it late in the second, the game-winner was scored by Avery Faulhafer and was assisted by Madeleine Monisit Brown who won a tough battle in the corner to get it to the front of the net.

Coach Brown said that Saturday’s game was a “turning point” for the team as they really began to find their confidence in their system.

“They are starting to show that they



Madeleine Monisit Brown hunts down a loose puck on one of many goal-mouth opportunities in during the Hubbard Pharmacy U18 B Girls St. Marys Rock game this past Sunday. Brown had two goals in the contest. The U18 B Girls won two straight games last weekend, their first two wins of the season, in a back-to-back that Head Coach Nathan Brown called “a breath of fresh air.” (Photo by Spencer Seymour)

have belief in what they are doing. We are up against teams who have a lot more third-year players than we do. The big thing for us has been getting them to believe that what they’re doing is the right thing. Once they believe, they really start working together, pumping each other’s tires, and

driving positivity from the bench.”

One day later, the U18 B Girls returned home to host the Ilderton Jets and recorded a 5-2 win. Madeleine Brown had a pair of goals with Faulhafer scoring for the second straight game. Marin Chateauvert, Leah Hachler, Elizabeth McCurdy, and Ki-

ersyn Wood all earned assists. Captain Kylie Fifield and Ally Wheal also got on the scoresheet, both with unassisted goals.

The bench boss said the vibes around the team were much better this past weekend.

“There was a lot more positivity and team spirit. Team-first mentality will always win and they showed that in our two games this weekend. It started on Saturday and it got them rolling on Sunday. It was a lot louder in the dressing room. They were fired up and ready to go as a team. When we have all four forward lines and all six of our defenders rolling and playing as fast as we did on Sunday, we will be tough to beat.”

Although they didn’t have the discipline the Head Coach would have wanted, Brown was pleased with how the team began putting the pieces together when it came to their offensive zone forecheck.

“Good things happen when you go to the net. We got two really ugly goals that popped into the air and over the goalie’s back and our girls were chasing it to try to push it in. If they play below the hashmarks, because of how fast they are, other teams can’t catch them down there. Then they go to the net, play a bit of east-west to get the goalie moving and have someone in front banging away, and they score. Sunday was the first game that every line put all of those things together.”

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**SPORTS —**

# U15 A Boys win 3-2 thriller over Mt. Brydges

By Spencer Seymour

The A.N.A.F. U15 A Boys St. Marys Rock got back in the win column last Thursday with a heart-stopping 3-2 victory over the Mt. Brydges Cougars.

According to Head Coach Dan McIntosh, the win came as a result of the good work they did in the opening and final frames of the game.

"In the first and the third periods, we had really good puck pursuit and it helped us create a lot of good chances early on that we unfortunately didn't capitalize on," said McIntosh. "We were winning the races to the puck and battling hard for it. I think in the second we took our foot off the gas and [Mt. Brydges] took it to us a little bit. It all came down to the puck pursuit and whether we were winning the races to the puck or not."

Despite controlling the play in the first period, the Rock were unable to find the back of the net. The first goal of the game didn't come until the second when the Cougars broke the deadlock. Mt. Brydges took the 1-0 lead into the third.



Hayden Wright celebrates after scoring the game-winning goal with just eight seconds left in the A.N.A.F. U15 A Boys St. Marys Rock game against the Mt. Brydges Cougars last Wednesday. (Photo by Spencer Seymour)

The already-exciting contest was ratcheted up in the final frame with an early-period goal by Hayden Wright.

Just over two minutes later, however, the Cougars retook the one-goal lead. St. Marys trailed for the next

nine minutes until their hard work was finally rewarded with a goal by Jack Turner tying the game at two apiece.

Time continued to tick off the clock and it appeared that both teams would settle for a time. That was, until, Wright found the puck and was left open in the slot who fired a shot into the Cougars net with just eight seconds left on the clock.

McIntosh expanded on what went into the team's puck pursuit success or lack thereof at different points of that game which ended up helping them find the game-winning goal in the dying moments of the third.

"Anticipation is a big part of winning those races to the puck," McIntosh told the Independent. When we dump the puck into our opponent's zone, we need our weak side player to anticipate that a bit quicker so that we can get a bit of a head start on the defender. We didn't do that enough in the second but we did a great job of that in the first and third."



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# SPORTS —

## DCVI Jr. Boys qualify for WOSSAA with quarter-final win

By Spencer Seymour

Despite dropping their semi-final matchup against the powerhouse Stratford District Secondary (SDSS), the St. Marys DCVI Junior Boys volleyball team had a great day last Tuesday when they qualified for WOSSAA on the backs of a quarter-final victory over Goderich.

The Salukis had a great start to their quarter-final match, dominating the first set and ultimately winning it 25-11. In the second set, however, the Junior Boys lost steam and dropped the round 25-21. They refound their form from the opening set in the third and once again took it by a score of 25-11. Strangely, they once again experienced a sharp drop-off in their momentum in the fourth set leading to Goderich taking it 25-20.

This meant a fifth and deciding set was required and early on, things appeared to be going off the rails with a sluggish start allowing Goderich to jump out to a 9-2 lead. Thankfully, St. Marys once again dusted themselves off, taking the final set 16-14.

Head Coach Ian Moore called it “a great day” but admitted that Goderich gave them an incredible fight in the quarters.

“The quarter-final was a grind,” Moore told the Independent. “In the first and third sets, the boys played with confidence as a team. Offensively, they looked at putting the ball in play on Goderich’s side to force them to make mistakes. It was a huge win obviously because it means they qualified for WOSSAA.”

Moore also noted that the team’s

mental fortitude allowed them to battle back in the face of adversity.

“They have a no-quit attitude. They are doing a much better job of picking themselves up when they are down. I think they gained confidence in the quarter-final win and that allowed them to go toe-to-toe against Stratford. Even when they had down moments, they picked themselves up and got back at it.”

In the semis, the Salukis ran into the juggernaut squad from SDSS who went unbeaten during the Huron-Perth regular season. Despite a loss in three straight sets, Moore praised the group for not going down without a fight.

“Stratford is a really strong team. They are probably three times our size but even still, we were right there

with them in all three sets. We never gave up and we kept competing right until the very end so even though we lost, I am really happy with how we battled.”

Several players also turned in strong efforts on the day, according to the Head Coach.

“Donovan McGregor did well setting. He had to step up to start because our other setter was injured. Left-side hitters Simon Taylor and Justin Ropp did well attacking. Middles Henry Switzer and Rumley Sider blocked well in the front row and were solid defensively in the back row. Right-side player Zach Larmer did well passing.”

The Junior Boys will be in Woodstock this Thursday for WOSSAA.

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## SPORTS —

# U11 A Boys stun Mt. Brydges in 3-2 comeback win

By Spencer Seymour

The Social Thirty-One U11 A Boys St. Marys Rock earned a victory this past Monday night in the most exciting of ways, erasing a 2-0 deficit late in the third to shock the Mt. Brydges Cougars and win 3-2.

Head Coach Merlin Malinowski was

still feeling the excitement after the game when he told the Independent that the coaching staff had preached not giving up when they fall behind, a message the team clearly took to heart.

"We've been telling the kids that, when the other team scores, don't de-

flate like a balloon," said Malinowski. "Come right back at them. They got behind tonight but they never let up. They never quit. They went down early in the game and they just kept coming hard and never quit. That was the big takeaway for us. We had some good chances early in the game that didn't go in for us but they just kept coming and finally broke through at the end."

A back-and-forth first period didn't end the way the Rock would have liked as the Cougars scored twice in the final 28 seconds of the opening frame to take a 2-0 lead into the second period. After the middle frame went by without a goal at either end, St. Marys came out flying the third.

Malinowski said the team rose to meet the moment rather than wilt under the pressure.

"The first period, the other team scored two late ones even though I thought it was a pretty even game. Both teams were playing well. I think, in the third, they pushed a little harder, they embraced the urgency, and they just turned it up a notch which is the natural instinct of great athletes to find that next gear when you need it most."

"We did say that the thing we want to guard against when we were down by two late in the game was

the kids trying to do everything by themselves," Malinowski continued. "They were great about sticking to the gameplan, continuing to stick together and look for their teammates. They stayed with it and with each other and played with that urgency it allowed them to come back."

The comeback began with three minutes and 23 seconds left with a goal from Attley Ehgoetz assisted by Nick Simons and Liam Showers. Then, 51 seconds later, Talan Ward scored his first of two goals assisted by Keaton Ward. Talan Ward's second of the game and the eventual game-winner came just eight seconds later and was unassisted.

According to the Head Coach, Monday's victory was the kind of win that not only brings the team closer together, but also shows the will and mental resolve of each player.

"It's good to see that they can do because that isn't something you can coach into a player. They either do it or they don't and these kids have it. A win like this is a real team-builder and confidence-booster. To get three goals in a minute to win a game, it builds character within a team and, as a coach, it's events like this that build a team's positive attitude."

## Huron Perth Healthcare Alliance Community Connections

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**November 20, 2023 at 7 p.m.**

St. Marys - Pyramid Recreation Centre

**November 21, 2023 at 7 p.m.**

Seaforth & District Community Centre

**November 22, 2023 at 7 p.m.**

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ST. MARYS, ONTARIO

# HISTORY —

## HISTORIC ST. MARYS: Who was Eric M. Abendana?

By Mary Smith

Remembrance Day is over and soon the town's brightly lit Christmas tree beside the town hall will be the focus of attention with the cenotaph in its shadow. The memorial banners will be stored away for another year and sparkly decorations will take their place on light standards around the town. However, the names of the men who have been memorialized remain in place. They should not necessarily wait until another Remembrance Day to have some of their stories told. The names are arranged alphabetically on the cenotaph, beginning with Eric M. Abendana – the name at the top of the north side, facing the library. In the early 1990s, when Richard Holt and volunteers at the St. Marys Museum began to research the men who were named on the cenotaph, this particular name presented a puzzle. The name Abendana is not commonly found in this part of Ontario. There are no graves with that name in our cemetery and no Abendanas show up in the censuses for this area.

The first place to start a search for a mystery soldier is the website of Library and Archives Canada (LAC) and the database of personnel records for those who served in World War I. A great deal of information can be found from the attestation forms filled out when a soldier enlisted. He was required to answer questions including: his name, date and place of birth, name and address of next of kin, trade or calling, religious affiliation. He was also asked if he was married, if he was willing to be vaccinated or re-vaccinated, and whether he had any previous military experience. Finally, he made a witnessed declaration and signed a solemn oath that he was willing to serve in the Canadian Overseas Expeditionary Force for the duration of the war or until legally discharged.

It was easy to find our Abendana in a search of World War I personnel records. He was, however, an officer and signed a different form on enlistment: the Officers' Declaration Paper for the Canadian Overseas Expeditionary Force. His full name was Eric Montague Abendana and he was born on July 10, 1892, and so was 23 years of age when he signed his declaration on January 25, 1916, at the Canadian Engineer Training Depot in Ottawa. His occupation was Civil Engineer and his religion



Eric Abendana at an air field in England, 1917. Photograph by Hartley Lofft.

Anglican. He had been with a militia unit while he was in university and, in 1915, had joined another – the 7th Field Company Canadian Engineers. His place of birth was a surprise: Port Antonio, Jamaica, British West Indies, and his next of kin, his father, I. M. Abendana, still lived at that address. How did the name of a young officer from Jamaica end up on the St. Marys cenotaph? Additional personnel records provided several more leads to investigate.

In March 1916, Lieutenant Eric Abendana transferred to the 14th Field Company, preparing to go overseas. Following leave for a brief visit home to Jamaica, he was recalled to Halifax and in May 1916, sailed with his company for England. The company was broken up to reinforce the 10th Canadian Field Company but, perhaps because of a surplus of junior officers, Eric was placed on reserve in another Canadian Engineer Training Depot in Shorncliffe, England. According to Richard Holt's account in his book *The Fallen*, in 1917 Germany began sending bombers and Zeppelins on raids over England and it became necessary to bolster the recently created Royal Flying Corps. In August 1917, Abendana was appointed by the War Office to assist in the construction of three air fields in southern England. There he met an acquaintance – Hartley Lofft, the son of A. H. Lofft, owner of a large dry goods store in downtown St. Marys. Lofft had transferred to the Royal Flying Corps. He had a camera and took several photographs of his friend from St. Marys, including the one with this week's column. He labelled it "Good old Abendana." Eric is seated at his desk in a temporary office under canvas at one of the airfields. Hartley Lofft lat-

er created a photo album of his wartime experiences. His photograph of Eric Abendana was scanned from that source.

Eric Abendana's placement with the War Office lasted until April 1918 when he rejoined the Canadian Engineer Training Depot. In July, he was posted to France and joined B Company, 2nd Battalion Canadian Engineers. He was with the 2nd Battalion during some of its most challenging battles, at Amiens, Arras and Cambrai, as they pushed the German Army back. On October 11, 1918, Lieutenant Abendana took ill and was admitted to a Casualty Clearing Station. He died there five days later. The cause was given as pleurisy but that may have developed from the Spanish Influenza virus that led to the deaths of many soldiers during the final months of the war.

When the date of Eric Abendana's death was known, researchers looked in the St. Marys newspapers for an obituary. This notice appeared in the *Argus*, October 31, 1918, and provided a few more answers to the mystery: "Many friends in St. Marys will regret to learn of the death in France of Mr. Eric M. Abendana. Mr. Abendana's home is Port Antonio, Jamaica. After his course at Toronto University, he joined the laboratory staff of the St. Marys Cement Works where he was employed for about a year when the war broke out. He enlisted in Ottawa and has been overseas for about two years. His name appeared in the casualty list in Tuesday's papers. He was a great favourite with the young people of St. Marys and his death will cause sincere regret." If the young Eric Abendana had worked in the laboratory at the cement plant, he would have certainly

known Richard Holt's grandfather, Gottfried Larsson, who was the first chemist there.

Richard Holt felt that there was still more to learn. In 1993, he wrote a letter to the editor of the *Gleaner*, the foremost daily newspaper in Jamaica, outlining what was known about Eric Abendana and requesting more local information about him and his family if any readers could provide it. He received two enlightening responses. The first arrived in July 1993 from Geoffrey de Sola Pinto who had a marketing company in Montego Bay. He identified Eric Abendana as a member of a prominent Sephardic Jewish family, established in Port Antonio for several generations. His father was Israel Moses Abendana and one of his brothers had served in the Legislative Assembly. The second letter came in September from Mrs. Evelyn Matalon of Morant Bay, Jamaica. Her grandfather and Eric's mother, Rachel, were brother and sister; her father and Eric had been first cousins. Mrs. Matalon was only two years old in 1918 when Eric died but she had known his brothers, Ken, Roy and Vin, and his sisters, Vivia and Karlene. By 1993, the brothers had all died and both sisters had married Americans and gone to the United States. She enclosed a small clipping from a 1941 publication, "A Record of the Jews in Jamaica," that confirmed the details of Eric Abendana's military service.

Eric Abendana attended St. James Anglican Church during the year he lived in St. Marys. When he enlisted, he gave his religion as Anglican. Did he hide his Jewish background because of anti-Semitism? When he came to Canada in 1910 to attend university, it may have just been easier to be an Anglican in the very "White Anglo Saxon Protestant" University of Toronto, to continue in St. Marys and into his service with the Canadian Field Engineers. Apparently, he was not alone in doing so. To the frustration of Jewish chaplains, possibly only a third of Jews serving as officers with the Canadian Expeditionary Force had enlisted as Jewish. However, in Eric Abendana's case, true identification was finally established. He was buried in Duisans British Cemetery in France and his gravestone bears the Star of David. It is also engraved with an epitaph chosen by his parents: "If love could have saved thee, thou wouldst not have died."

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BAKED FRESH BRIOCHE BREAD, TOPPED WITH GARLIC BUTTER AND PARMESAN CHEESE  
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**DYNAMITE ROLL-UPS (ANTILJITO)**  
CREAM CHEESE, JALAPENOS, ONIONS, CORN, PEPPERS, CHEESE, FLOUR TORTILLA, CHIPOTLE DIP  
**FIRE CRACKER SHRIMP**  
BREADED COCONUT SHRIMP, SERVED WITH SPICY CHILI GARLIC DIP

**GF** CREAMERY STYLE HUMMUS  
MADE FRESH IN HOUSE, TOPPED WITH ONIONS, TOMATOES, PEPPERS. SERVED WITH WARM PITA & CORN CHIP

**GF** SRIRACHA TOT SKILLET  
SRIRACHA TOTS TOPPED WITH CHEESE, PULLED SMOKED BEEF CHILI, CREAMY GARLIC SAUCE

**GF** CRISPY FISH CAKES  
MADE IN HOUSE, PERCH FILLET, RICE, CORN, ONION SWEET POTATOES. SERVED WITH A CITRUS AIOLI

**GF** VEGGIE NACHOS  
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COWGIRL (HONEY AND HICKORY)

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**WINGMAN 6**  
ADD SIDE & RANCH DIP TO ANY WING ORDER

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**GF** BASKETS

FRIES 11  
SWEET POTATO FRY 13  
ONION RINGS \* 12  
CHIPS AND SALSA 10  
TATER TOTS \* 12  
POUTINE \* 14  
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COCONUT RICE, BLACK BEANS, TOMATOES, ONIONS, GUACAMOLE, LETTUCE, CHICKEN, JALAPENO RANCH

**GF** OPERA HOUSE  
CHICKEN, APPLE, CUCUMBER, WALNUTS  
CRANBERRY GOAT CHEESE, BASIL DRESSING

**MEXICAN BEEF**  
TOMATO, ONION, TWO CHEESE BLEND, WARM SEASONED BEEF, TORTILLA STRIPS, GARLIC  
CHIPOTLE

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MIXED GREENS, CUCUMBER, TOMATO, ONION, PEPPER, CORN

---

### SALAD DRESSINGS

ITALIAN-BALSAMIC-RANCH-BASIL-BLUE CHEESE-  
CHILI LIME-JALAPENO RANCH- CREAMY AVOCADO

---

### WEEKLY SPECIALS

TUESDAY  
TRADER TUESDAY AND CRISPY FAJITAS

WEDNESDAY  
KAREN WEDNESDAY - WINE AND CHEESE NIGHT

THURSDAY  
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SEASONED GROUND BEEF, RICE, BLACK BEANS, SALSA, SOUR CREAM, FLOUR TORTILLA

**BEEF AND BACON**  
SMOKED BEEF, BACON, CHEESE, SALSA, RICE, BLACK BEANS, HASHBROWNS, SPICY MAYO

**SPICY BUFFALO CHICKEN**  
SPICY GRILLED CHICKEN, RICE, BLACK BEANS, SALSA, BLUE CHEESE CREMA, CORN CHIPS

**LOADED CHICKEN**  
GRILLED CHICKEN, BACON, CHEESE, GUACAMOLE, RICE, BLACK BEANS, SALSA, CORN, ENCHILLADA SAUCE

**VEGGIE**  
SWEET POTATO, BEANS, RICE, ELOTE CORN, SALSA, GREEN ONION, GUACAMOLE

**FRIED PIZZARITO**  
RICE, CHEESE, ITALIAN SAUSAGE, PEPPERONI, PEPPERS TOMATO SAUCE

**CAJUN SHRIMP & SAUSAGE**  
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---

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**CHICKEN FINGERS**  
TOSS IN SAUCE 2  
MADE IN HOUSE FRIED BREADED FINGERS SERVED PLUM SAUCE. ADD ADDITIONAL FINGER 4

**SMOKED BEEF MELT**  
SMOKED PULLED BEEF, THREE CHEESE BLEND, LETTUCE, ONION, MUSTARD, SPICY MAYO, CHEESE CIABATTA BUN

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**CRISPY CHICKEN BURGER**  
BREADED CHICKEN BREAD, PICKLES, LETTUCE, ONION, MAYO

**PERCH BURGER**  
CRISPY PERCH PATTY TOPPED WITH LETTUCE, ONION, CITRUS AIOLI

---

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**KANSAS BBQ**  
SMOKED PORK, ELOTE CORN, CABBAGE SLAW, PICKLES, SMOKEY BOLD BBQ

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BREADED COCONUT SHRIMP, CABBAGE SLAW, CHILI LIME SAUCE, PINEAPPLE SALSA

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**COLUMN —**

# Straight from the Shelves

By Laura McAsh, St. Marys Public Library

The St. Marys Public Library and Gilly's Pubhouse are proud to present Trivia Night! Join us on Monday, November 20th at 7:00pm for a night of friendly competition at Gilly's. Come with a team or meet new friends at the pubhouse. Prizes are up for grabs for the winning team! No registration is required, and trivia is free to play. We hope to see you there!

**This Week's Recommendation**

Who was Coriolanus Snow before becoming the infamous President of Panem who was bested by the Mockingjay? He was a son of a house fallen from grace; an 18-year-old man determined to make his mark on the world. His shot at glory arrives in the form of an opportunity to be a mentor in the 10th annual Hunger Games. The only hitch is that he is assigned to the female tribute of District 12, the least revered of the Districts. Despite this setback, he is determined to come out on top, but that's before he meets his tribute, Lucy Gray Baird. Dive back into the world of the Hunger Games with Suzanne Collins' "The Ballad of Songbirds and Snakes", a

prequel novel set 64 years before the best-selling trilogy. This novel is available as an eBook, an eAudiobook, and in hard copy.

**Up This Week**

- Friday, Nov. 17th: Open 10:30am-5:00pm
- Saturday, Nov. 18th: Dungeons and Dragons (10:30am)
- Monday, Nov. 20th: Trivia Night^ (7:00pm)
- Tuesday, Nov. 21st: Euchre\* (1:00pm-3:00pm), Writing Club\* - Ages 10-17 (6:00pm-7:00pm), Writing Club\* - Ages 18+ (7:00pm-8:00pm)
- Wednesday, Nov. 22nd: 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. 23rd: Euchre\* (6:00pm-8:00pm), Scrabble (6:00pm-8:00pm)

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



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# Meet Thames Centre Fire Chief

By Nancy Abra

In July, Nick Dorken joined the Municipal administration as the Director of Fire and Emergency Services which includes overseeing the fire stations in Dorchester and in the community of Thorndale. Chief Dorken brings with him 18 years of fire service experience and a compelling passion in leadership in the fire service field. He is a dedicated family man, father of four and lives in Innerkip.

Besides his experience, Chief Dorken has a strong education background with a firefighting certificate from Conestoga College, a diploma in 'Emergency Management' and a master's degree in 'public safety' from Wilfred Laurier University. He is currently working on his 'Fire Service Executive Management' certificate program through Humber College, which he has almost completed.

Chief Dorken recently moved his office to the Thorndale Fire Station. "I have made my home base here in Thorndale to have a better connection to the north

end of our municipality and get to know the residents and businesses in this community. I have always wanted to be a firefighter" Chief Dorken added. "My brother is currently a firefighter, and our grandfather was a firefighter in Woodstock years ago".

The firefighters of Thames Centre are professionally trained dedicated volunteers who protect lives and the property in the municipality. Chief Dorken commented that he was very pleased with the Thames Centre Strategic Survey results as residents scored fire service performance high. "I want to maintain and continue to grow our performance in Thames Centre," he remarked. "I have great expectations for the future of Thames Centre fire department. The unity of our fire department is very important to me as we strengthen and support each other. In this cooperation we will team up and back each other on fire calls, but also in resources, education, training and procedures as well as in both mental and physical health awareness. This will make our Thames Centre fire depart-

ment more efficient as we work together as a whole supporting each other to minimize the physical miles between the two stations."

Chief Dorken plans on future community engagement initiatives like 'Coffee with the Chief' days where anyone from the community is welcome to come have coffee with him and perhaps other fire service members who join him. "This will improve community interaction and provide a friendly setting for fire safety education as well as a heightened awareness of our incredible Thames Centre Fire Department. I am also developing some social media platforms to have better communication with the public and enhance our fire service education awareness. So, keep an eye out for coffee dates and locations on our social media platforms."

Special note ~ There will be a volunteer firefighter recruitment open house at Thorndale Fire Station on Thursday, November 23rd at 7pm.



Thames Centre Fire Chief Nick Dorken stands next to a Thames Centre Fire Department fire engine.

Bring your old coats, boots, and outer wear to win a **Date Night!** Lunch bar, being served by the UCW of Thorndale

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# Community gathers to Remember

By Nancy Abra

"Sometimes I wonder if the men listed on our cenotaph could see our world today, would they wonder if their sacrifice was worth it. Are they disappointed that our world seems to have forgotten the lessons of the past century? Or would they be resigned to the fact that as long as people exist, disputes, arguments and fighting is inevitable?" Jodi McGuffin stated in her opening remarks before she revealed her research on Willam Murrell and Taylor H Mossip, two of the men listed on Thorndale's cenotaph.

A large gathering of approximately 200 of all ages came together for the 'Service of Remembrance' at the Thorndale cenotaph last Saturday morning. The remembrance service was led by Les Youngson of Thorndale. Representatives of community organizations and churches

placed wreaths as sentinels of the 201 Dorchester Royal Canadian Air Cadet Squadron, Flight Corporal Langford and Corporal England stood in silence guarding the cenotaph.

Trumpeter Ted Bestard played the 'Last Post', signifying the calling home of the spirits of the Fallen to rest, followed by two minutes of silence. The Lament was played by bagpiper Flight Sergeant Benjamin Dixon of the Air Cadet Squadron, which symbolizes the sounds of spouses and children crying over the dead. The Rouse was then played by trumpeter Bestard to signal the end of the period of silence. Ted Bestard has been the trumpeter at the Thorndale Remembrance Service since 1970.

There are seventeen men listed on the cenotaph but who are they? Since 2016, Jodi McGuffin has shared her research on these

men, giving an in-depth look at two of the men named on the cenotaph each year. Their stories are poignant reminders on how young these men were, and the sacrifice they gave for our freedom.

This Remembrance Service was planned by a committee of area residents including Chris Tipping, Rose Duffin, Ray Chowen and Ted Bestard, assisted by Thames Centre Director of Community Service, Steve McDonald under the guidance of the DonnyBrook Legion Branch 513. Special thanks to the 201 Dorchester Royal Canadian Air Cadet Squadron who attended and took part in the service.

"They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old. At the going down of the sun and in the morning, we will remember them."

COLUMN —

# HOSTING UKRAINE: A Child's Heart

By VJ Knutson

The thing I remember about Halloween, as a parent, was how to manage all the candy the children collected. Let them eat it all at once and get sick, or dole it out over time? New to this North American custom, I notice that Ukrainian moms were asking the same question. One parent decided to direct her children to a more noble cause.

Nataly posted on Facebook, encouraging Ukrainians to send their excess candy back to Ukraine. The response was good, and she was able to send a shipment through the volunteer agency she supports out of Toronto. But her family's efforts didn't stop there. Vasylisha and Demian decided to ask the kids at school.

I got a call from Little Falls Public School last Friday. The community had responded to the call for leftover Halloween candy, and they had 6 boxes that needed to be picked up. The 6 boxes actually turned out to be a bit more, filling my trunk and back seat.

"What will you do with all this candy?" I asked Vasylisha, as she helped me fill the car.

Turned out that Vasylisha continues to be in touch with her former teacher



in Ukraine, and she suggested that the candy would be a welcome gift for children in the local orphanage. So, Vasylisha with the help of her siblings, filled little gift bags full of candy, and attached a Christmas card to each one. Nataly is sending the packages directly to the Children's Home.

Oh, a child's heart. How much they can teach us.

I had the opportunity to catch up with a friend in Ukraine this week. She decided to stay in Ukraine to help where she can as her husband is in the mili-

tary. She confessed that it gets harder and harder to stay there.

"A lot of people have been killed," she said. "So many people without arms and legs in the hospitals."

I shared this conversation with Lesia, and she said her husband reports the same. Worse, is the shortage of pain medication and bandages to treat the wounded. A man from their village has no supplies once he leaves hospital. Lesia is planning a trip to London to gather medical supplies and send what is needed via the Ukrainian

Community Centre. I offered to write about the shortage here, and see if we can help. Bandages, tourniquets, slings, and Tylenol are all in demand.

As Winter approaches, Ukrainians are heading into their second season of trying to survive the cold. History tells us that power plants and other utilities are the first to be hit. There appears to be no end in sight.

To close, I'd like to share this poem, penned by our seven-year-old granddaughter, August, on the topic of peace:

**What Does Peace Feel Like?**

By August

Peace smells like fresh apple pie that just came out of the oven.

Peace looks like a shooting star flying across the sky.

Peace sounds like the trees blowing in the wind.

Peace tastes like strawberry ice cream.

Peace feels like a big warm hug from my mom.

Till next time.

(Reach me at english.knutson@gmail.com)

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Solutions on page 31



COLUMN —

# WHAT'S FOR DINNER: Vietnamese Cravings



**By Lauren Eedy**

A perfect appetizer or party food, Vietnamese fried spring rolls are a favourite in our home and easier to make than you'd think. Most ingredients here can be found in the Asian section of your grocer. I love the recipes from Marion Grasby which you can easily find on her website: [www.marionskitchen.com](http://www.marionskitchen.com). These rolls are accompanied by a Nuoc Cham dipping sauce which is very versatile for other recipes too. I have also included a banana fritter recipe which is also a very popular Vietnamese dessert. You can't feel too guilty having this sweet treat as it has fruit!

**Vietnamese Fried Spring Rolls**

Prep: 10m Cook: 25m + chilling Serves: 20

20x22cm diameter dried rice paper wrappers

1 tbsp sugar

Vegetable oil for deep frying

Lettuce leaves to serve

Mint leaves to serve

**Pork & Prawn Filling:**

80g (2.8oz) dried glass noodles (vermicelli)

200g (7oz) peeled, deveined and finely chopped prawns

250g (9oz) pork mince

3 shallots, finely chopped

1 egg

1 ½ tbsp fish sauce

1 tsp sugar

1 tsp ground white pepper

1 tsp sea salt

**Nuoc Cham Dipping Sauce:**

3 tbsp fish sauce

2 tbsp white vinegar

3 tbsp sugar

2 tbsp lime juice

1 long red chilli, finely chopped

2 garlic cloves, finely chopped

**Method:**

- For the Nuoc Cham, whisk together the ingredients and set aside to serve.

- To make the filling, soak the glass noodles in boiling water for about 2m or until just softened. Drain well and rinse with cold water to stop the cooking process. Drain well and place on a clean tea towel. Twist the tea towel around the noodles to extract as much water as possible. Place

in a large bowl. Use scissors to cut the noodles into short lengths.

- To the noodles, add the prawns, pork mince, shallots, egg, fish sauce, sugar, white pepper, and salt. Mix until well combined.

- Place a clean towel on your countertop.

- In a large bowl, whisk together 4 cups of warm water with 1 tbsp of sugar.

- Dip rice paper into sugar water and submerge it for only a few seconds before putting it on the tea towel. Place 2 heaped tablespoons of filling onto the bottom half of the wrapper. Shape the filling into a cylinder shape. Fold the bottom of the wrapper over the filling and squeeze to expel any air. Fold in sides and roll into a cylinder shape. Place on a tray lined with parchment paper and repeat until the filling is used.\*

- Place the tray of spring rolls into the fridge, uncovered, for 30m.

\*The key to preventing an explosion while frying is to ensure the rice noodles and wrapper have very little moisture before cooking. This goes as well for squeezing the air out of filling while rolling.

- Fill a deep saucepan or wok to about 2/3 capacity with vegeta-

ble oil. Heat over high heat. Once the oil is hot (325°F or when a wooden chopstick dipped into the oil forms small bubbles) cook spring rolls until golden and blistered. Move them around constantly to prevent sticking. Drain on parchment paper.

- If you are serving a crowd, you may wish to cut the rolls into smaller portions once cooked and serve bite sized with the Nuoc Cham dipping sauce. Wrap the rolls in lettuce leaves and you'll find these irresistible.

**Banana Fritters**

Prep: 10m + chilling Cook: 20m Serves: 4

4 ripe bananas, peeled and cut into bite-sized

pieces

1 c cornstarch

Vegetable oil for deep frying

Icing sugar, to serve

Vanilla ice cream, to serve (optional)

**Batter:**

250g (8.8oz) all purpose flour, place in freezer for 15m before using

1 ½ tsp baking powder

1 egg

325mL (11oz) cold soda water

**Method:**

- Fill a deep saucepan or wok to about 1/3 capacity with vegetable oil. Heat oil to 325°F.

- Make batter just before you're ready to cook so it is cold when it hits the hot oil. Com-

bine the plain flour and baking powder in a large bowl. Add the egg and soda water and whisk until smooth.

- Place the cornstarch in a large tray or shallow bowl. Dip each piece of banana into the cornstarch, then the batter and carefully slide into the hot oil. Repeat with another 3-4 pieces (don't overcrowd your pan). Cook fritters, turning ever so often until golden brown and crispy. Drain on paper towel and repeat with remaining pieces of banana.

- To serve, dust with icing sugar and serve with ice cream if using. You could also drizzle some warm honey or maple syrup.

# - Word Search -

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## Word List

- Kinsmen Parade
- Santa Claus
- Floats
- Bands
- Winterlights
- Sponsor
- Donate
- Magical
- Tradition
- Craft show
- Shopping
- Merchants open house
- Wagon rides
- Carolers
- Downtown
- Festive fun

## THE WEEK AHEAD

**SPONSORED BY:** **McDonald's St. Marys**  
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**PRC & Friendship Centre events - See the Stonetown Crier on Page 5**  
**St. Marys Public Library events - See Page 22**

**Friday, November 17**  
 - Stonetown Arts art show & sale at Riverwalk Commons and The Studio - 10 am to 5 pm  
 - Royal Canadian Legion hot dog/sausage lunch at Noon  
 - "To St. Marys with Love" community dinner at the PRC - Doors open 5 pm  
 Tickets are free and are available at the Library, Friendship Centre and Sunset Diner  
 - Celebration of Life for Sandy Janet Williams at the Legion - 6 to 8 pm  
 - A.N.A.F. meat draw - 6 pm  
 - Kinsmen Santa Claus Parade - leaves the PRC at 7 pm  
 - Lighting of the WinterLights display following the parade

**Saturday, November 18**  
 - St. Marys United Church Bake & Craft Sale - 8 am to Noon  
 - St. Marys Craft Show at the PRC - 9 am to 3 pm  
 - Christmas Boutique market at the Thorndale Community Centre - 9 am to 3 pm  
 - Stonetown Arts art show & sale at Riverwalk Commons and The Studio - 10 am to 5 pm

**Sunday, November 19**  
 - A.N.A.F. Men's Dart league - 12:45  
 - Marion McCarter 80th birthday open house at Exeter United Church - 1 to 3 pm  
 - Royal Canadian Legion meat draw - 5 pm  
 - St. Marys Lincolns vs Strathroy Rockets at West Middlesex Memorial Centre - 7:30 pm

**Sunday, November 19**  
 - Stratford Perth Humane Society Brunch at the St. Marys Golf Club - 10 am to 2 pm  
 - Stonetown Arts art show & sale at Riverwalk Commons and The Studio - Noon to 4 pm  
 - A.N.A.F. general meeting - 12:45 pm  
 - St. Marys Lincolns vs St. Thomas Stars at Joe Thornton Community Centre - 7:30 pm

**Monday, November 20**  
 - Community Dinner at the St. Marys United Church - 5 pm, Sponsored by Town Council  
 - Huron Perth Healthcare Alliance Community Connection at the PRC - 7 pm

**Thursday, November 23**  
 - Sergio's Fundraiser dinner for Young & Lincoln Richards at St. Marys United Church - 5 to 6:30 pm. Call 519-284-3016 for tickets  
 - St. Marys Lincolns vs Sarnia Legionnaires at Pat Stapleton Arena - 7:10 pm



The **Riddle Kid** OF THE WEEK

Why can't humans hear a dog whistle?



Because dogs can't whistle.

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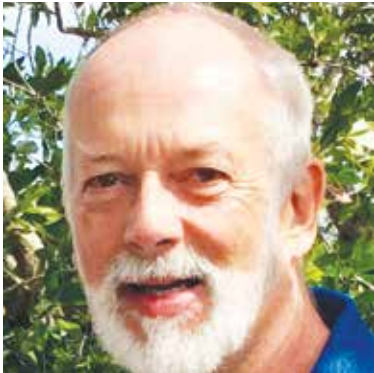


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 Fall can be a beautiful, fresh time to walk your pet!

- Here are some tips to help keep you and your furry friend safe
- \*Steer clear of leaf piles that may contain ticks
  - \*Make sure that you and your pet wear reflective clothing after dusk so that you are clearly visible
  - \*Do not allow your pet to eat wild mushrooms or any other compost
  - \*Beware of slippery walkways

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## COLUMN —

**OH, THE PLACES WE'LL GO:** Grenada, home to authentic, local and delicious cuisine

**By Paul Knowles**

“Authentic” is a word that is probably much overused when it comes to describing travel destinations. But in the case of the island of Grenada in the eastern Caribbean, it is nonetheless the truth.

I first visited Grenada 17 years ago; this month gave me my first opportunity to return. I remembered Grenada as an unspoiled, welcoming, laid-back, “authentic” place to visit. I am pleased to report it still is.

And one of the strongest symbols of that authenticity is the food on offer in Grenadian eateries, from higher end to beach-front diners. Whatever you order in Grenada, you will not be disappointed.

But you will have to be a bit adventurous! If you want to enjoy the very best in Grenadian cuisine, you may have to take a chance on ordering food you have never eaten before.

Take oil down, for example. Perhaps not the most appetizing name, but oil down contains (among other ingredients) breadfruit, salted meat, chicken, dumplings, callaloo and other vegeta-

bles stewed in coconut milk, herbs, and spices and is both delicious and the official, national dish of Grenada. It's allegedly named “oil down” because some of the oil from the coconut milk settles in the bottom of the single pot.

On my first night in Grenada, our group dined at Dodgy Dock which hosts a gigantic buffet of local food every Wednesday. The place was packed, and the food was amazing. I had curried crab and dumplings and I'm pretty sure I worked off the calories from the crab in the effort to crack them and get to the meat. When I asked for something to assist in cracking the crab, the manager kindly told me they didn't have any such thing “because the locals eat them this way”. They were worth the effort.

Some other options that evening included boneless backed stuff snapper, spiny lobster, seared tuna, chicken, goat curry, conch (which they called lambie), roti and more... a lot more. And we dined to the sounds of a great local, live band.

The adventure continued with every meal during my six-day stay. At the Belmont Estate, lunch started with green banana soup while our tour included samples (many samples!) of some of the finest chocolate ever, made right at the historic estate.

At Sails Restaurant and Bar in St. George's (the capital city of Grenada), my “light lunch” was a seafood platter that included lobster, octopus (done perfectly), shrimp and scallops. Everything but the shrimp was caught lo-

cally. The meal also included grilled sweet corn and potatoes. It was entirely tasty.

Grenada is known as the spice island. That was even its official tourism tag line until a few years ago and every meal is perfectly seasoned, using the incredible array of local spices. Nutmeg was a key crop until the trees were flattened by Hurricane Ivan in 2004; today, it is still grown in smaller quantities. I tasted a nutmeg and tamarind dipping sauce and immediately purchased a bottle to bring home. It was so good I opted for that ahead of a bottle of Grenadian rum.

But speaking of rum... we toured the Rivers rum factory where they make rum following a centuries-old method. It even includes using an ancient, over-shot water wheel to drive the machinery that processes the sugar cane – the key raw material used in making the rum.

Rivers is a very popular brand in Grenada even though they only make two kinds of white rum – one 69% alcohol (the stuff you buy in the LCBO is more likely 40%), and one at 75% (which you cannot export from Grenada because it is a fire hazard!)

Of course, we tasted both, sampling it neat, and then mixing it with the local lemon-lime soda called Ting. Not surprisingly, it became more pleasant with each tasting! Of which there were several.

Following the principal of “when in Grenada”, I largely abandoned my typical beverage – wine – and enjoyed instead a variety of rum con-



**A small part of the incredible array of local food at the Dodgy Dock Wednesday night food market event. (All photos by Paul Knowles)**

coctions – rum punch, mojitos, and a visually stunning, multi-coloured drink dubbed “Rastaman Vibration”.

Our group took a 20-minute flight to the island of Carriacou, politically part of Grenada, where we had lunch at a wonderful beach-front restaurant called “Paradise Beach Club” owned by Allison Caton, who was born on the island, spent many years working in New York City but who could not wait to come back home where she opened her wonderful restaurant in 2019. That's where I had the Rastaman drink –

pineapple juice, orange juice, grenadine and... oh yeah... rum, lots of rum. It's also where I opted for a pizza for lunch but pizza, Grenada style. It was a lobster pizza and utterly delicious.

Every meal in Grenada was unique and terrific. The breakfast spread at the Bay House where I stayed, always included local juice like guava; local fruits (star

fruit, mango, passion fruit, watermelon); and wonderful pastries, most laden with chocolate. Lunch and dinner menus featured a great variety of seafood during my stay. In addition to meals mentioned earlier, I enjoyed seared tuna, coconut shrimp, mahi mahi, scallops and a lot more.

My last taste in Grenada was dessert at the waterfront Sand Bar restaurant – chocolate cake with nutmeg ice cream, all from local ingredients. A perfect ending to a perfect visit.

There is a lot more to enjoy on this authentic island but if you only experienced the cuisine, it would still be a trip of a lifetime.

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

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**OBITUARY**

*Dunseith*

In Loving Memory of

**William John Dunseith**

March 20, 1944 - November 5, 2023



It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of William John Dunseith, who departed this world peacefully on Sunday, November 5, 2023, surrounded by his cherished granddaughter, Danyka Dunseith, and the best healthcare, after a life well-lived.

William, born on March 20, 1944, was a loving and devoted family man who leaves behind a legacy of love, laughter, and lasting memories. He is survived by his beloved family members, including his granddaughter Danyka Dunseith, the daughter of his daughter Heather Dunseith. He is also survived by his sister Margaret Spearin (Terry), brother Rick Dunseith (Mary), brother Doug Dunseith (Sue), and his caregiver, Bonnie Dunseith. William's presence will be deeply missed by his nephew and nieces.

William was predeceased by his parents, William John Dunseith and Irene Bernice Dunseith (Ellis), who surely welcomed him with open arms in the afterlife.

A man of many passions and talents, William was known for his love of golf and his remarkable eye for machinery and building. He could craft and create almost anything he set his mind to, leaving a trail of beautifully constructed projects in his wake. His hands were skilled, and his determination unwavering.

One of William's greatest joys was his love for race cars. He was a true enthusiast, often spending countless hours building and fine-tuning vehicles. His need for speed led him to participate in numerous southern races, where he displayed both his prowess and his unbridled passion for the sport. His dedication to the racing world was a testament to his adventurous spirit and relentless pursuit of his interests.

After a successful career at Domtar in St. Mary's, ON, William shifted his focus to nurturing his lifelong passions; including helping his granddaughter at the farm. This allowed him to embrace the things he loved most, bringing happiness to himself and those around him.

William's presence lit up the lives of everyone he encountered, and his memory will continue to shine brightly in our hearts. He was a devoted family man, a master craftsman, a racing enthusiast, and a man who lived life to the fullest. His laughter, wisdom, and love will be immensely missed but will live on in the hearts of those who had the privilege of knowing him.

In honoring the memory of William John Dunseith, let us celebrate a life well-lived and continue to find inspiration in his passions, his unyielding determination, and the love he shared with all of us.

Rest in peace, William. You will always be loved, never forgotten.

Cherished family, friends, and our incredible support network,

We want to express our heartfelt gratitude for your unwavering support during this challenging time. A special shout-out to Caressant Care Retirement and W.G. Young Funeral Home for their exceptional care and assistance. A huge thank you to our close family and friends for being our pillars of strength. We also appreciate St. Mary's Army & Navy and St. Mary's Cheese Shoppe for their swift and thoughtful contributions. Your kindness has made a world of difference.

With gratitude,  
Dunseith Family

**OBITUARY**

*McGregor*



Retired OPP Cpl. Robert (Bob) McGregor, 87, passed away November 6, 2023 at Kingsway Lodge, St. Marys, with family at his side. Born in Cumberland, Ontario, son of the late Gary and Helen McGregor. Survived by his loving wife Georgina, daughters Dawn McGregor, Bonnie McArthur (Lee), Nancy Clark (Mark), Terry Hymers (Anthony); step-daughters Sheila Standen (Bob), Marg Jordan (Ernie), Mary Ridley, Sherri Hull; step-son Tom Hunking, son-in-law Gary Milani, brother Gord McGregor (Gilda), and 27 grandchildren, 33 great-grandchildren and several nieces and nephews. Pre-deceased by daughter Kim Milani, son Rob Roy McGregor and step-son Ron Hunking, sister Flo Peel (Milt), brother James and Joan McGregor. Bob was an OPP officer for 30 years serving at Lindsay, Matheson, Sebringville and Campbellford. He was a longtime member of the St. Marys Lions Club and St. James Masonic Lodge #73 F&AM. Services took place on November 15, 2023 at the ST. MARYS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, which included a Masonic Service and Memorial Service with Rev. Marc Fraser officiating. The Funeral Service was livestreamed through the St. Marys Presbyterian Church Facebook page, which can be viewed at [www.facebook.com/stmaryspresbyterianchurch](http://www.facebook.com/stmaryspresbyterianchurch). Interment in St. Marys Cemetery. Memorial donations may be made to the St. James Masonic Lodge #73, St. Marys Lions Club or the St. Marys Presbyterian Church. Online condolences at [www.hodgesfuneralhome.ca](http://www.hodgesfuneralhome.ca).

**CELEBRATION**

*Marion McCarter is turning 80*



You are invited to attend a birthday open house on Saturday, November 18 from 1:00p.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Exeter United Church 42 James St. Best wishes only. Love from your family.

**Have you been affected by someone else's drinking?**

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**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.

**ANNOUNCEMENT**

*The Worte Twins Are 80*

Born November 18, 1943



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**Please forward resume by November 20th 2023 to:**

Happy Valley Family Health Team

Attention: Kimberly Lang, Executive Director

268 Maiden Lane

P.O. Box 1120

St. Marys, ON

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stmmc@stmmc.ca

*Thank you to all applicants who apply.*

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

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

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# LOOKING BACK



BY AMY CUBBERLEY

## Beds are burning

25 years ago (1998)

The OPP's five-year policing contract with the town runs out soon and the Police Services Board is currently considering two separate bids for a new contract. Aside from the OPP, only Stratford Police have submitted a proposal.

Two unknown persons recently attended the St. Marys Golf and Country Club and took two electric golf carts for a joy ride around the golf course. One of the carts was damaged when the suspects drove it into a stone wall. Anyone with information is to call Crime Stoppers.

On Tuesday afternoon Uniondale firefighters were called to a fire in the bush just south of Mark and Barb Seaton's place near Lakeside. About 30 acres of fallen leaves and grass on the ground was burned and the dry conditions made it challenging for the firefighters to get it under control.

50 years ago (1973)

An unusual sight in this area was the appearance of some twenty white swans on Crystal Lake in Lakeside last Thursday.

The Stonetown Friendship Club has named a committee of K.C. Seale, Clifton Brown and Len Love to arrange for a gala opening of the Club's quarters at Cadzow Park, hopefully early in the new year. Renovations to the building are moving along with numerous items of furnishing now on hand.

Two mattress fires within 24 hours at the Westover Community on Thomas Street kept firefighters busy last Saturday.

75 years ago (1948)

After one of the driest seasons in many years, the water wheel at Great Star Flour Mill is turning again, following the recent heavy rains which have filled the streams.

A local dentist who found his drill stilled by the morning power shut-off, thought he would seize the lull period to get himself a needed haircut, forgetting that the buzzing barber shears would also be silent.

The decision to make regular power shut-offs of domestic and commercial consumers was made at a meeting of the Public Utilities Commission on Saturday night. Power will now be shut off from 9-10 a.m. each morning, and possibly from 3-4 p.m. each afternoon if the morning period was not enough to keep under the community's quota.

100 years ago (1923)

Noses are red, noses are blue. The cold causes some the others, homebrew.

Twenty-three Perth students are attending the Western University in London.

Mrs. C. Cayley, West Ward, suffered a slight paralytic stroke at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Eli Grose, on Sunday morning. She is now recovering as well as can be expected for one of her age.

Miss Margaret Dale of St. Marys, who is proving herself to be a remarkably clever student, has carried off first prize in the County of Perth Carter Scholarship for \$100.

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## QUIZ ANSWERS

- |                     |                |
|---------------------|----------------|
| 1) Danny DeVito     | 6) 7           |
| 2) 92               | 7) Bangkok     |
| 3) Cedar wood       | 8) Gertrude    |
| 4) 4                | 9) The Trachea |
| 5) Red, White, Blue | 10) Jon Pardi  |

## SUDOKU ANSWERS

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

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on Thursday Nov. 23rd**

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## Community Liaison Committee

The next Community Liaison Committee Meeting will be held on Friday, December 8th at 10am at the St. Marys Municipal Operations Center. Members of the public who wish to observe are welcome to attend.

Residents who wish to speak in front of the Committee may submit a detailed request in writing at least 3 days prior to the meeting in writing to the Committee. The request will be considered by the Committee and approved prior to the meeting. Please submit all requests, questions, and concerns for the meeting to [kara.terpstra@vcimentos.com](mailto:kara.terpstra@vcimentos.com) by December 6th, 2023.



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