

St. Marys Independent

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Issue #1148

Thursday, March 2, 2023

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Kin Canada celebrates 103rd anniversary in 2023



The week of February 19 - 25th was Kin Canada Week and to celebrate this the Kin flag was flown at the Town Hall during this time. Pictured L to R are Deputy Mayor Fern Pridham, Kinsmen Ron Cummings, Kinsmen President Chris Swarhout, Kinettes Terri Iredale and Sherri Barber and Kinette President Wanda Mossey. (Nancy Bickell photo)

Rae Announces Funding for Rural Public Transportation

Matthew Rae, MPP for Perth-Wellington has announced over \$871K in funding for local public transportation. This funding represents a 7.7 percent increase in year over year funding levels.

"Many people rely on public transportation in our rural communities," said Rae. "I'm glad the Government of Ontario is providing this funding to our local municipalities to continue to

support rural public transportation." "It is great to see a year over year increase in total funding for Perth County, while cutting the gas tax and providing drivers with relief at the pumps," said Rae.

The funding is part of the province's gas tax program which will allocate more than \$379.5 million to 107 municipalities to help them operate and

Continued on page 2

Pyramid Recreation Centre pool temporarily closed due to boiler issue

The Pyramid Recreation Centre pool is temporarily closed due to an ongoing boiler issue.

The issue was discovered last week and is causing consistent drops in the pool's temperature. The water is currently sitting at approximately 72 degrees Fahrenheit - 10 degrees less than its regular temperature of 82 degrees Fahrenheit.

The temperature will continue to drop daily until the boiler is fixed. Repairs are underway, but the timeline is unknown. Once the boiler is repaired, the water could take several days to return to regular temperatures.

All swimming lessons have been paused and aquatics programs and rentals have been cancelled. Affected participants and renters will receive a credit to their ActiveNet account once a re-opening date has been determined. The credit can be used for future registrations or bookings.

Updates about the pool will be shared through the Town website (www.townofstmarys.com/aquatics), its Facebook page (www.facebook.com/stmaryson-tario) and Twitter account (www.twitter.com/town-ofstmarys).

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COMMUNITY —

Rae Announces Funding for Rural Public Transportation

Continued from page 1

improve local transit.

Funding for the gas tax program is determined by the number of litres of gasoline sold in the province during the previous year. Municipalities that support public transit services in their community receive two cents per litre of provincial gas tax revenue collected.

To make up for reduced gas sales due to ongoing recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, this year's gas tax program includes one-time additional funding of \$80 million to help ensure municipalities can continue to support their transit systems.

"Public transit is a key driver of economic growth

in Ontario, helping people get to where they need to go, whether it is to work, school, or run errands," said Caroline Mulrone, Minister of Transportation. "As more people return to public transit, our government is providing municipalities with the funding they need to accommodate growing ridership, while ensuring they can continue to deliver safe and reliable transit service for people in their communities."

Gas tax funding can be used to extend service hours, buy transit vehicles, add routes, improve accessibility, or upgrade local infrastructure.

Municipal transportation services will receive the following funding:

Municipality	2023 Funding
North Perth	\$80,090
Perth East	\$73,121
St. Marys (Perth South)	\$163,485
Stratford	\$484,341
West Perth	\$70,947
Total	\$871,984

Fire Chief urges drivers to pull over when they see a flashing green light

St. Marys firefighters are reminding drivers to pull over and/or yield if they see a vehicle approaching with flashing green lights. The flashing green light indicates that a volunteer firefighter is on their way to an emergency.

In Ontario, motorists are required by law to only pull over and stop for emergency vehicles such as police cruisers, fire trucks, or ambulances.

Drivers are also strongly encouraged to pull over for volunteer firefighters on their way to an emergency, because every second counts.

"Although it isn't law in Ontario for you to pull over and stop for volunteer emergency vehicles, it can mean the difference between life and death in a volunteer being able to get to the scene of an emergency that much quicker." Says St. Marys Fire Chief

Richard "Andy" Anderson. "The green flashing light alerts motorists that a vehicle is on its way to an emergency, this is permitted under the Highway Traffic Act. Please yield to vehicles with flashing green lights within our community."

The green light is a courtesy, as it does not afford volunteer firefighters any sort of special privileges on the road such as being able to go through stop signs, through red lights, or pass vehicles. It is a courtesy that people safely pull over and pull to the right to let our firefighters through so they can get to the emergency as soon as

possible." Anderson said.

Deputy Fire Chief Kevin Edwards stated, "Every second counts when responding to a call and if a motorist pulls over it helps a firefighter get to the station in an efficient and timely manner." He added, "it's great when people understand what they're seeing in regard to the green flashing light, so they can yield the right of way to their firefighters."

Questions about this or any other Fire Department related concerns can be directed to randerson@town.stmarys.on.ca or 519-284-1752.



A local sign reminding motorists to yield to vehicles with flashing green lights.

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COMMUNITY —

Coldest Night of the Year in St. Marys celebrates success



United Way Perth-Huron (UWPH) and the St. Marys Community Committee are proud to announce results from the Coldest Night of the Year (CNOY) event in St. Marys.

"Thanks to our great community, we raised \$47,740 during CNOY and we're very close to our goal of \$49,000. Donations are being accepted until March 31, so there is still time to give if you want to help support vulnerable local people," said Leslie Edney, who along with Pam Zabel helped organize the St. Marys event. "We would also like to say thank you to everyone who volunteered, walked, and donated. It was an amazing night, and we couldn't have done it without everyone's energy and enthusiasm."

In total 155 walkers, including 27 teams, participated in raising this year's total. The top five fundraising teams were T.E.A.M. Together Everyone Achieves More, Icicle Picklers, Better Together, DCVI Salukis and St. Marys Rotary. Top five individual fundraisers were Marco D'Angelo, Pam Zabel, Julie Docker Johnson, Frank Doyle and Shelley Beacham. Donations are accepted at cnoy.org. For updates, pictures, and video,

visit UWPH's St. Marys Coldest Night of the Year Facebook group.

Funds raised during this year's St. Marys CNOY go toward supports for youth experiencing homelessness, counselling for children who have witnessed domestic violence, early intervention counselling for youth, as well as the Nourish Equal Access Food Market and St. Marys Community Outreach Worker. The St. Marys Community Outreach Worker works to support residents in need, particularly those living in and around social housing, understand their challenges and connect people with services. The Nourish Equal Access Food Market runs bi-weekly, and offers fresh, nutritious, locally sourced produce and meats to residents facing food insecurity every day.

UWPH thanks sponsors AllRoads Dodge Chrysler Jeep Ram, E & E McLaughlin Ltd., Famme & Co., Ideal Supply, McDonald's, Meridian Credit Union, Scotiabank, St. Marys Insurance, St. Marys Landscaping and Subway. In-kind donations were provided by Jayne Fuller Photography and Tremblett's Independent Grocer.

Overheard at the Coffee Shop

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March 4th, the only day that is also a sentence.

As usual, tomorrow's weather is pretty much anyone's guess

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

Bravo

We have four Bravos this week.

1) Bravo to the Janitorial staff at St. Marys DCVI. As a winter walker in the school I see first hand the great work they do, always busy doing the job of cleaning the school. A thankless job but very much appreciated.

2) Bravo to the relationship between St. Marys DCVI and the Community Groups who use the school in the evening. From soccer, volleyball, basketball, badminton, pickle ball and others it's just great to see the school utilized to teach young people sports and help older citizens stay healthy, both physically and mentally.

3) Bravo to the new sliding doors at St Marys medical clinic. When you are weak from illness or surgery it is so nice to have confidence in the doors staying open as long as you need.

4) Thank You, Thank You Thank You to a gentleman who cleaned my car off about 9:30 PM Monday night in the parking lot at the SMMH during the snow storm. I am extremely grateful for your help and will always remember your act of kindness .

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

Boo

We have two Boos this week.

1) Boo goes to the noise makers, usually on Saturday nights, who think they can act like idiots because they had too much beer to drink.

2) Boo goes to all those who do not pull over for the volunteer firefighters as they are going to the fire hall. If you see their flashing lights pull over. Some day it may be your house they are going to.



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

Quote of the Week

"Thanks to our great community, we raised \$47,740 during CNOY and we're very close to our goal of \$49,000. Donations are being accepted until March 31, so there is still time to give if you want to help support vulnerable local people.

- Leslie Edney, who along with Pam Zabel helped organize the St. Marys event

St. Marys Independent

36 Water St. St. Marys, ON, PO Box 2310 N4X 1A2
Info@stmarysindependent.com
Phone: 519.284.0041

Publisher

Stewart Grant • stew@granthaven.com

Editor in Chief

Frank Doyle • info@stmarysindependent.com

Graphic Design / Layout

Tyler Carruthers • info@stmarysindependent.com

Sales Representative

Stewart Grant • ads@stmarysindependent.com

Billing Administrator

June Grant • junegrant48@gmail.com

Administrative Assistant

Wendy Lamond • wendylamond74@gmail.com

Contributors

Rob Edney, Nancy Bickell, Mary Smith, Nancy Abra, Lauren Eedy, Spencer Seymour, Sarah Cairns, Paul Knowles



Funded by the Government of Canada
Financé par le gouvernement du Canada



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The St. Marys Independent

THOUGHTS
OF THE WEEK

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When you have a problem, if you tell the truth your problem becomes part of your past, if you lie it becomes a part of your future.

Worry is a rocking chair that will never take you anywhere.

Remember, the saddest thing in life is wasted talent.

Happiness can be found in the darkest of times, if only you remember to turn on the light.

COMMUNITY —

Donations to Fire Departments



To celebrate the 1st Women's Institute established in 1897, Motherwell Women's Institute donated bears, books and blankets to the Granton and St. Marys Fire Departments to be given to children in an accident or fire. Pictured are Helen Shute, Institute member and St. Marys Fire Chief Richard Anderson.

Electricians in the classroom

The Huron-Perth Catholic District School Board has partnered with Conestoga College to provide electrical presentations for elementary students across the district. Licensed Electrician, Mr. Tom Smith, Conestoga College Electrical Instructor, teaches an interactive lesson to elementary students on the basics of electrical wiring, electrical boards and energy circuits.

The board recognizes the leadership of Mr. Mark Flanagan, HPCDSB OYAP Project Leader, for arranging this programming and hands-on learning experience. We are aware that there is an ongoing need in the community for skilled workers in the area of electrical and this is one of the initiatives that our board is undertaking to encourage students to consider pursuing this incredible educational and career path opportunity.

Stonetown Crier



The latest municipal news from the Town of St. Marys

Free Skating

Enjoy a free skate at the Pyramid Recreation Centre, courtesy of local sponsors!

- **March 5, 2:15 - 3:45 PM**
(sponsored by Cascades)
- **March 13, 1:15 - 3:15 PM**
(sponsored by St. Marys Health Care Foundation)
- **March 16, 1:30 - 3:30 PM**
(sponsored by Avon Maitland Teacher's Union)
- **March 17, 2 - 4 PM**
(sponsored by Quadro Communications)

Please pre-register online or at Guest Services upon arrival (pending capacity).

Helmets are required for skaters under 16.

Details: townofstmarys.com/skating or 519-284-2160



International Women's Day

The St. Marys Friendship Centre is once again hosting its popular International Women's Day event in person.

Date/Time: March 8, 2023, 1 - 2:30 PM

Location: St. Marys Friendship Centre

Admission: Free

This year's theme is Embracing Equity.

Speakers will include Jill Simpson, Aging Specialist and Brittany Petrie, the Town's Community Outreach Worker.

Pre-register on ActiveNet or by calling the Friendship Centre.

Details: 519-284-3272



March Break Camp

Registration is now open for March Break Camp!

This camp is geared toward kids in Grades 3 to 7. It runs 8 AM to 5 PM daily from March 13 to 17.

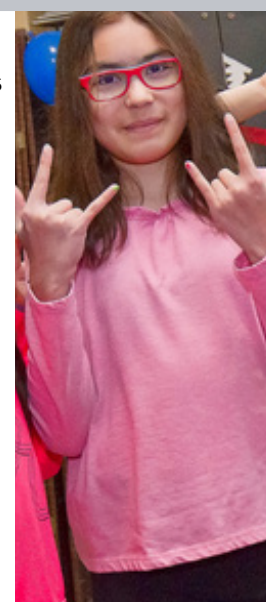
Activities will include:

- Swimming (pending pool re-opening)
- Science experiments
- An escape room
- Osbtacle courses
- And more!

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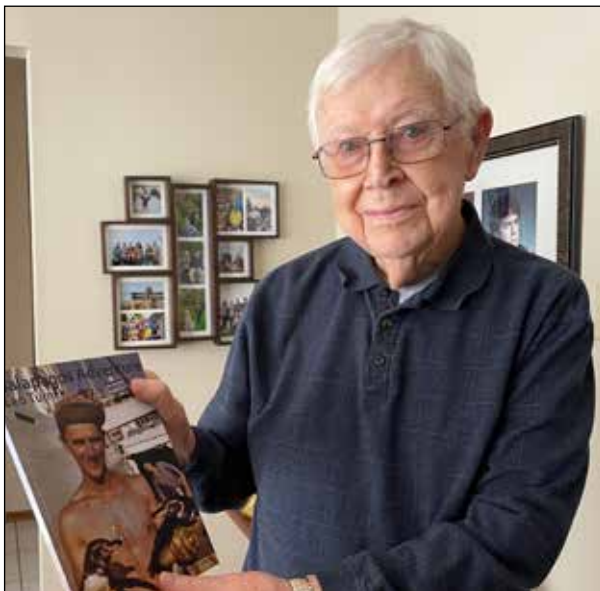
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Senior of the Week



Our senior of the week is Leo Turner who will be celebrating his 86th birthday on Monday March 13. Born in Wyndham Centre, Ontario, Leo has 3 children, 4 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren. Happy Birthday Leo!

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

Weekend Quiz

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- 1) Only one chess piece can only move diagonally - which is it?
- 2) In the Sikh religion what is kesh?
- 3) Frankenstein' is a novel by which writer?
- 4) In mythology, who was banished by his son Jupiter?
- 5) The prefix 'neo' means what?
- 6) Miss Havisham is a character in which Dickens' novel?
- 7) Board game 'Trivial Pursuit' was invented in which country?
- 8) Which Book of the Old Testament tells the story of the birth of Moses?
- 9) What is China's official language?
- 10) What is the ideal storage temperature for all wine?

This week's answers are found on pg. 27

COMMUNITY —

World Storytelling held Sunday, March 19 at Riverwalk Commons

By Nancy Vermont

On the weekend closest to the spring equinox, people around the world will be gathering in their own communities to share stories. In St. Marys we will meet at Riverwalk Commons, 84 Water St. South on Sunday, March 19, from 2 to 4pm. The event will be co-hosted by Patsy Day and Nancy Vermont, and the storytelling theme is "Unexpected encounters with the Natural World".

We are, of course, all part of Nature, and just like meeting people who are different from us, meeting an animal, a tree, a wildflower, a waterfall, an insect, a skyful of stars, or any other part of this breathtaking universe, can be a surprising and immeasurable gift. Our lives are enriched, our connections deepened.

You are invited to come and share a story, or just come to listen. This event is open to all ages, and space is limited to 40 people, so please register early by going to the Riverwalk Commons webpage, rwcommons.com. If you have a sto-

ry to tell, please keep the story within a 5 or 6 minute limit to allow time for all the stories. We ask that you practice and time your story before you come. And remember, oral storytelling is not about reading a story, but telling it. If you have questions, please call Nancy at 519-284-2698.

Admission is by donation, and all donations will go to the St. Marys Imagination Library, a registered international charity started by Dolly Parton, that fosters the love of books and stories in very young children. Currently almost 300 children under 5, who live in St. Marys, receive a free book every month through this program. To learn more or to donate online, please go to stmarysimaginationlibrary.com or visit or call Chantal Lynch at Hyggeligt Fabrics, 144 Queen St., 519-284-1508. What a wonderful gift to families in our community!

We hope to see you at Riverwalk Commons for storytelling on March 19. Remember to register with Melissa Barton on their website!



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COMMUNITY —

TuttCo. Delivers High Quality Dining with My Main Street Funding

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

Having opened in August 2022, TuttCo. has quickly become a popular destination for locals, tourists and group events. At the helm is owner and Executive Chef, Andrew Tutt, who trained at the Stratford Chefs School and has over 30 years of experience at top restaurants in Stratford, Toronto, Calgary and Canmore.

The My Main Street Local Business Accelerator program helped fund Tutt's restaurant, which focusses on delivering high-quality local and sustainably sourced meals. "The funds went a long way in helping us get set up," says Tutt. "This included purchasing some new equipment to get our operation firing on all cylinders,

as well as inventory and opening wages, all of which have been vital to our successful launch. I am very grateful to have a program like this at my disposal."

TuttCo. is located at 159 Queen Street East, and is open Wednesday/ Thursday 11:30-8:30 and Friday/ Saturday 11:30-9. Find TuttCo. online at tuttco.ca!

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



TuttCo. Owner and Executive Chef, Andrew Tutt.

FARM LAND FOR SALE BY TENDER PERTH SOUTH

Property: Lot 21, Concession 10 Blanshard, s/t interest in the Municipality; s/t BLN15975, Municipality of Perth South

Municipal Address: 5126 Line 2, Perth South

Total of 100 acres including 93 workable acres (more or less), systemically tiled with multiple field entrances and 7 acres of bush and buildings.

Buildings include a 3 bedroom, 1 bathroom home with a drilled well, sunroom, propane fireplace, oil furnace, newer deck, kitchen cupboards and flooring. There is a large drive shed 35'x75', a small drive shed 30'x25', a mixed-use bank barn with addition and 2 grain bins. This property is subject to a hydro easement. The farmland is currently rented and sown in winter wheat.



Tenders will be accepted until 12:00 p.m. on March 29, 2023.

Highest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

For tender forms contact:
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COMMUNITY —

Annual Heritage Fair held at PRC



Louise Bell, Agnes Schellenberger and Sheila Greason represented the McConnell Club of St. Marys at the annual Heritage Fair.



At Friday's Heritage Fair, John Huisen displayed his collection of globes which he had reset on a variety of unique stands.



Jacques Cousineau enjoyed showing his St. Marys Lincoln memorabilia to patrons of the 2023 Heritage Fair at the PRC.



A collection of vintage motor oil, anti-freeze and other tins were on display at the annual Heritage Fair.

Votorantim Cimentos  **St Marys Cement**

Community Liaison Committee

The next Community Liaison Committee Meeting is going to be held on **Friday March 3rd at 10am**. Members of the public who wish to observe as the members of the Committee discuss information with respect to St Marys Cement can watch the live meeting online. Please see the Town of St Marys Events Calendar for the link to the online meeting.

Please submit any questions and concerns for the meeting by March 1st to kara.terpstra@vcimentos.com.



**For Hall Rentals
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Sun. Feb. 19 - David Mountain, St. Marys	\$50.00
Mon. Feb. 20 - Jennifer Loeffler, St. Marys	\$50.00
Tues. Feb. 21 - Bob & Janice Baker, Stratford	\$50.00
Wed. Feb. 22 - Ronald McNight, St. Marys	\$50.00
Thur. Feb. 23 - Paul Forrest, Stratford	\$50.00
Fri. Feb. 24 - Adam Skinner, St. Pauls	\$50.00
Sat. Feb. 25 - Brady Simpson, Sebringville	\$200.00

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Saturday April 15 10:30AM Cost: TBA

Saturday April 22 Fish Fry details to follow

MEAT DRAWS EVERY FRIDAY 6PM

COMMUNITY —

Amnesty 'Have a Heart' event at Snapping Turtle



On Sunday, February 26th, a group of 13-14 local residents, including two young children, met at Snapping Turtle Coffee Roasters for a 'Have a Heart' letter writing campaign in support of First Nations children. Letters addressed to Prime Minister Trudeau and Perth-Wellington MP John Nater urged positive action with regards to ensuring that First Nations children receive the same educational services and funding as other Canadians. Pictured above, from left to right, are Darlene Pullen, Elena Dumitru, Ann Slater and Joanne Stryker. (Contributed photo)

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SPORTS —

DCVI volleyball teams win Silver medals at WOSSAA

Junior Girls:



The St. Marys DCVI Junior Girls volleyball team finished their season with a Silver medal at WOSSAA, hosted at the St. Marys high school last Friday. Pictured above in the front row, from left to right, are Eden Sinnett, Adrianna Hollestelle-Black, Marin Chateauvert, Libby McCurdy, and Kiara McGregor. In the back row, from left, are Coach Tanya Thorup, Charlee Pickering, Olive Aarts, Katie Namink, Harvest Elliott, Abby Martin, Rylee Nethercott, Cammie Lobb, Gracy Schlotzhauer, and Coach Jess Chateauvert. (Contributed photo)

A victory in their semi-final match played in an electric atmosphere inside the Small Gym propelled the St. Marys DCVI Junior Girls Volleyball team to the final game during last Friday's WOSSAA Championship.

DCVI hosted the WOSSAA 'A' Volleyball Finals and the Junior Girls played their first game of the day against London Christian High in the semis. It was a great showing for the Junior Girls who played a very complete game and who maintained a high-pressure attack for virtually every moment of the match.

"We did a lot of things well and it's always interesting to play someone you've never faced before," said Head Coach Jess Chateauvert. "We went into it knowing we would be facing a strong team and I was really impressed with how the girls were mentally tough and kept battling. They came out strong with great intensity and got a lead, and for the most part, hung on to it very well."

Chateauvert also praised the team's consistency in their semi-final game.

"It's such a game of momentum and we did a really good job at keeping the momentum in our favour. There was never a long stretch where we let them take control but they realized, in order to do that and keep control of the game as they did, they had to maintain their intensity which they did a very good job of."

In the final game, the Salukis met a powerhouse squad from Woodstock

Collegiate Institute. The first set was a very tough battle that Woodstock ultimately won by a narrow 27-25 score. In the second set, the Junior Girls had a bit of a lull while Woodstock continued their strong play, taking the middle set 25-13.

The Junior Girls proved their resilience in the third set, however, once again making it a very close contest. The Salukis jumped out to an early lead but the more experienced side from Woodstock fought back and eventually edged out DCVI 26-24 in the third.

Strong serving throughout the day by Olive Aarts and Marin Chateauvert coupled with strong net play by Charlee Pickering, Harvest Elliott and Katie Namink were key factors in the team's success. Coach Chateauvert told the Independent that she considers this season an incredibly positive campaign for the hard-working Junior team.

"The team should be very proud of their play all season long as they showed steady improvement. Big wins over more experienced teams from Stratford District and St. Mikes in the Huron-Perth playoffs were major highlights. The gyms were full for the games and the fans helped create an exciting atmosphere that has not been seen since early 2020."

In addition to their Silver medal at WOSSAA, the Junior Girls add a banner to DCVI's collection after they won the Huron-Perth Playoffs earlier this month.

Senior Girls:



The St. Marys DCVI Senior Girls Volleyball team captured the Silver medal at last Friday's WOSSAA 'A' Championship held in St. Marys. Pictured above in the front row, from left to right, are Saelyn Firby, Lila Corby, Lydia Taylor, Ellen Thorup, Eve Greig, and Becky Walsh. In the back row, from left, are Coach Steve Chateauvert, Erin Massie, Reagan Silcox, Neave Goris, Audrey Littlejohn, Gwen Taylor, and Brooklyn Newman. (Contributed photo)

Head Coach Steve Chateauvert said the St. Marys DCVI Senior Girls Volleyball team "left everything on the floor" in the WOSSAA 'A' Championship game. Unfortunately, the Salukis fell a bit short but came away from the tournament with a Silver medal.

"We played really tough defence against a hard-hitting team," Chateauvert told the Independent following the final game. "We played a really good game, we worked really hard, and our effort at getting the ball over was really strong, but we couldn't quite muster the attack we needed to."

Woodstock downed DCVI in four sets with scores of 25-19, 25-14, 19-25, and 25-20. Chateauvert added that the game against Woodstock illustrated the progress and development that the Senior Girls made this season.

"When the season started, the girls and I had high expectations. We ran into that Woodstock team early on this year and didn't do too well against them, so we knew if we played them again, it would be tough. Lo and behold, we play them again in the final and we gave them all we had, which I think shows that this season, overall, has been a really good one. Everyone is a better volleyball player now than they were at the start of the season. They're better, faster, and smarter."

Earlier in the day, the Senior Girls earned their place in the Champion-

ship game by winning a semi-final clash against ES Gabriel Dumont. Chateauvert spoke to the Independent about their semi-final victory and was impressed with how the team started and, after losing momentum, battled back and ultimately won in the semis.

"At the start of the day, we talked about needing to do two things in order to have success; we needed to pass well and serve well. In the first set and the first half of the second set, that was exactly what we did. We fell a bit flat early in the third but clawed our way back and made a game of it in the third. In the fourth set, though, we just got back to basics with good serving and good passing and thankfully we came out on the winning side."

The semi-final began with a dominant first set by DCVI, with everyone firing on all cylinders and taking the first set 25-8. In the first half of the second set, the Salukis picked up right where they left off, creating a big lead. However, the Gabriel Dumont squad managed to turn the tides and make erase a double-digit deficit. The Salukis withstood the surge and narrowly took the second set 28-26, before Gabriel Dumont continued their momentum and took the third set 25-22. However, DCVI's Senior Girls regrouped in the fourth and once again earned a commanding 25-8 final to win the match.

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SPORTS —

DCVI curlers advance to WOSSAA

By St. Marys Independent Staff

One week after winning the Perth County boys curling title in St. Marys, the DCVI team continued their winning ways on Wednesday, February 22nd during the Huron-Perth finals held at the Lind Sportsplex. The Huron-Perth competition included two representatives from each county: St. Marys and Listowel from Perth Country; and Madill (Wingham) and Central Huron (Clinton) from Huron County.

The COVID years have had a significant impact on the sport of curling and made it difficult to grow the game. This year's Huron-Perth competition was the first one held since 2020. Within this reality, the St. Marys squad is considered one of the "experienced" teams because it is comprised of Grade 12 students, some of whom played for the DCVI squad back in Grade 9. The team has also benefitted from excellent coaching over the years from the likes of Ian Morton and Graham Rae.

At Huron-Perth, St. Marys was matched up in the semi-finals against



Pictured above is the Huron-Perth champion boys curling team. From left to right: Matt Luyten (second), Ezra Bender (lead), Jake Grant (skip), Jack Switzer (vice), and Stewart Grant (coach).

F.E. Madill Secondary School, who had finished second in the Huron County qualifier. DCVI scored 4 points in

the opening end against the comparatively inexperienced Wingham squad, and cruised to a 12-4 victory

to advance to the finals. Particularly noteworthy in game 1 was the play of lead Ezra Bender, who coach Stewart Grant credited with a 93% shooting percentage. "The strong play of our front end put us in a great position in nearly every end," said Grant.

The other semi-final match was closely contested between two strong and experienced teams. Clinton scored with the hammer in the final end to advance to the finals over Listowel.

In the finals, Central Huron came out strong, scoring two points in the first. However, the tide would soon turn, and the four-strong attack of Ezra Bender (lead), Matt Luyten (second), Jack Switzer (vice) and Jake Grant (skip) were relentless in their shot making, putting the opposition under pressure in each subsequent end. For a DCVI team who had no real expectations heading into the event, suddenly they were the Huron-Perth champions by virtue of a dominating 10-3 win in the finals.

The team now prepares for WOSSAA which is being held March 7th in Tillsonburg.

Return season for Minor Basketball wraps up for Grade 3s/4s





The Grade Three and Four age group of the St. Marys Minor Basketball program concluded their season last Thursday. The season has been one of fun and unbridled excitement for the young kids playing organized basketball for the first time with this season being the first in several years after the COVID-19 pandemic shuttered the league. (Photo credit: Spencer Seymour)


Boys' Minor Basketball finishes season with win over Mitchell, falls to Stratford



Peyton Wynands moves the ball down the court during a recent St. Marys Minor Basketball game. The Grade Seven and Eight Boys' Minor Basketball team hosted their final two games of the season against Mitchell and Stratford last Saturday. The St. Marys squad was dominant in the first game of the day against Mitchell, playing smothering defensively and controlling the tempo with the ball, resulting in a 33-12 victory. Head Coach Ken French told the Independent that over the course of the season, he's seen the team "really get better at using each other, communicating on the court, making plays together, and playing like a team." The St. Marys team dropped their second game of the day to Stratford by a score of 33-27. (Photo credit: Spencer Seymour)

Good luck to Brady St. Louis and the Nunavut men's curling team at the upcoming Tim Hortons Brier (March 3-12, London, ON)



SPORTS —

Lincs clinch third, face Strathroy in first round of playoffs

By Spencer Seymour

The GOJHL's regular season is over and the playoff brackets are set, with the third-place St. Marys Lincolns having home-ice advantage on the sixth-ranked Strathroy Rockets. The Lincolns finished their season with 34 wins and 71 points, while Strathroy finished with 22 victories and 53 points.

The other first-round match-ups include the top-seeded Leamington Flyers battling the eighth-place Sarnia Legionnaires, the second-ranked London Nationals facing the seventh-seeded St. Thomas Stars, and the fourth-place LaSalle Vipers taking on the fifth-ranked and defending Western Conference Champion Chatham Maroons.

Flyers fend off comeback, beat Lincs 4-3

The Lincolns' 15-game home winning streak was snapped last Friday night by the visiting Leamington Flyers who staved off a third-period surge by St. Marys to escape with a 4-3 victory.

Despite the loss, Matteo Lalama was very good in between the pipes. Under two minutes into the game, Josh Tidgwell was assessed a game misconduct for a check from behind. Later in the game, Rourke McEwan was injured, giving the Lincolns just four defencemen for a large part of the contest.

Head Coach Jeff Bradley said he wasn't too unhappy with how his team played, especially in the third period, given how short on defenders they were, but felt the team's puck management wasn't quite clicking the way it normally is.

"In the first two periods, with how

hard and fast Leamington comes at you, we were taking a little too long to make decisions with the puck. I thought we were outstanding in the third period, our special teams were really good, but the late five-on-three penalty kill stopped our momentum."

"Without the puck, I thought we were very good, but with the puck, we couldn't generate enough opportunities for ourselves. Being so thin on the blueline due to the injuries really hurt us but considering what we had, our guys did a great job. Our guys didn't give up at any point. They got up by two goals three times and we kept clawing back and getting it back to a one-goal deficit."

A giveaway in the first minute of the game led to Griffin Grundner snapping a 17-game goal drought just 56 seconds in. In the second period, Connor MacPherson scored what went on to be the first of his hat-trick.

Two of the team's leaders turned in what the coach called "very gutsy" efforts, with Nathan Small logging a ton of ice time with a severely depleted blueline, as well as Ethan Lamoureux getting the Lincolns' offence going.

"Nathan had been sick for two days and hadn't practiced this week, but was probably our best player. He had to play probably close to 30 minutes and he gave us a really gutsy performance. Our captain played exactly the way you want your captain to play. Ethan led by example and just never stopped pushing."

In the third, the Lincs' offence finally found its footing and they dominated the play for much of the final 20 minutes. Luca Spagnolo found the back of the net to get off of an eight-game stretch without a goal, while Lamoureux buried two in the third. However,

the high-powered Flyers had an answer every time and managed to squeak out a 4-3 victory.

Lincs excellent in 6-3 victory over Vipers

The strong play of the third period against Leamington was continued and even ratcheted up a notch or two 48 hours later when the Lincolns travelled to LaSalle and earned a dominant 6-3 victory over the Vipers. With the win, the Lincolns avoided losing two in a row, something they haven't done since October 2nd and 7th.

Bradley was ecstatic with his team's performance and their incredible stretch of not losing consecutive games, calling the game an "awesome" way to end the regular season.

"The last three games, I've been really impressed with our team and how we've handled the adversity we've faced due to injuries. They have confidence in themselves and we have confidence in them. We've got a bunch of gamers here who are programmed to win. They are a hungry group. When we lose, we try to address the reasons we lost and every time we challenge this group, they respond really well."

The Lincolns had the jump on LaSalle right from the start with Spagnolo scoring just one minute and four

seconds into the game, banking the puck off of goaltender Ian Michelone from a tight angle and into the net. Seven minutes and 50 seconds later, Tidgwell netted his second goal as a Lincoln from the point assisted by Owen Voortman and Matt Prendergast. The assist gave Voortman points in four straight games. The Lincolns continued to dominate the Vipers, leading to Jaden Lee burying his 16th of the year with 41 seconds left in the period to take a 3-0 lead into the first intermission.

Spagnolo's second of the game came

Continued on page 13

St. Marys Lincolns 2022-23 Player Statistics (through regular season)

PLAYER	POS	GP	G	A	PTS
Ethan Lamoureux	F	49	20	40	60
Jacob Chantler	F	49	20	32	52
Chase MacQueen-Spence	F	44	17	32	49
Michael Elliston	F	48	29	19	48
Nathan Small	D	49	11	36	47
Jaden Lee	F	43	16	26	42
Adam Barkley	D	47	11	30	41
Luca Spagnolo	F	45	17	23	40
Owen Voortman	F	45	10	19	29
Austin Keleher	F	41	9	10	19
Adrian Stubberfield	F	46	9	6	15
Josh Cornfield	D	26	2	11	13
Jacob Montes	D	45	1	11	12
Cole Schnittker	F	40	5	6	11
Grayden Strohack	D	45	3	8	11
Eric Smith	F	37	5	4	9
Owen Bruder	F	34	5	3	8
Matthew Prendergast	F	41	1	7	8
Rourke McEwan	D	37	2	5	7
Josh Tidgwell	D	16	2	4	6
Owen Brown (x)	D	23	2	3	5
Jimmy Schiedel	F	29	1	4	5
Kyle Morey (x)	F	3	0	3	3
Ryan Hodkinson (AP)	F	3	1	0	1
Matteo Lalama	G	33	0	1	1

2022-23 FINAL GOJHL STANDINGS Western Conference

	GP	W	L	OTL	SOL	PTS
Leamington Flyers	50	35	11	4	0	74
London Nationals	50	34	11	4	1	73
St. Marys Lincolns	50	34	13	3	0	71
LaSalle Vipers	50	33	15	1	1	68
Chatham Maroons	50	25	21	2	2	54
Strathroy Rockets	50	22	19	8	1	53
St. Thomas Stars	50	21	23	4	2	48
Sarnia Legionnaires	50	11	32	6	1	29
Komoka Kings	50	11	36	2	1	25



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WEEKDAYS 9-4
WEEKENDS 10-5

DELMARFOODS
FOOD FACTORY OUTLET

SPORTS —

Smale leaves strong legacy behind as head of Lincolns

By Spencer Seymour

Last week, it was announced that Greg Smale had resigned from his position as General Manager and Director of Hockey Operations of the St. Marys Lincolns.

In just the first season of his term as the team's General Manager, Greg Smale guided the St. Marys Lincolns to a 30-win season and a third-place finish. Af-

ter the COVID-19 pandemic caused the cancellation of the 2020-21 campaign, Smale continued to prove himself as an incredibly savvy team constructor.

Last season, Smale's team advanced to the second round of the Sutherland Cup Playoffs. This year, the team has already secured another 30-plus win season and will have home-ice advantage in the postseason.

With Smale at the helm, the Lincolns developed a reputation as being an elite scouting and player development franchise, with many players who went otherwise overlooked becoming key contributors to several successful Lincolns' teams. He also helped the team become a play for high-end talent to flock to in search of post-season success.

The work Smale has put in at the helm of the Lincolns has helped the reputation of the Lincolns improve dramatically since his taking over, with the long-battered franchise now once again widely recognized as a premier destination in junior hockey. In the team's announcement on their website, the Lincolns said that Smale's efforts "has set up the franchise for future success that we will always be thankful for."

Pat Powers brings championship pedigree to Lincolns

By Spencer Seymour

The St. Marys Lincolns announced on Monday that Pat Powers had been tabbed to be the team's new General Manager.

Powers, 47, joins the Lincolns with a long track record of success in hockey, including as the guiding force behind the London Nationals' reign of dominance atop the GOJHL's Western Conference from 2015 to 2021. While with

the Nationals, Powers, who held the Head Coach role in 2015-16 before expanding his duties to also include the GM position for five years after that, led London to three Western Conference Championships, two regular season titles, three Sutherland Cup finals, and one Sutherland Cup Championship.

Powers talked to the Independent about his decision to take on the GM role with the Lincolns.

"There were a lot of reasons for me wanting to come to St. Marys, one of which being my past experiences working with Jeff Bradley and Mike Herman," said Powers. "They have both raved about the hockey climate in St. Marys and the culture that everyone with the franchise has developed. Obviously, there's a good product on the ice and the community support is amazing. There just seems to be a good feeling with this organization."

From 2008 to 2012, Powers was an Assistant Coach at the University of Western and was part of an OUA Queen's Cup Championship run in 2008-09. In the 2012-13 season, Powers took over as Head Coach at Western and guided the team to being OUA Regular Season Champions.

Since 2021, Powers has served as an amateur scout for the OHL's Kingston Frontenacs.

Lincs clinch third, face Strathroy in first round of playoffs

Continued from page 12

at 6:01 of the second period, extending the Lincolns' lead to 4-0 and chasing Michelone from the Vipers' net. Lamoureux fed the puck to Spagnolo in the slot who tucked it through the five-hole on Michelone. With an earlier assist on Spagnolo's first goal, Lamoureux's second point of the night gave him 140 career points.

The goalie swap change LaSalle a bit of a spark and they managed to capitalize on a powerplay opportunity just under four minutes later with a shot by Carson Woodall in the high slot

just barely trickling through Lalama.

In the third, the Lincolns' strong play continued with Lamoureux leading the charge, potting his 20th of the season with a tight-angle shot that snuck over the shoulder of LaSalle goalie Tre Altman. Less than three minutes later, Michael Elliston snapped home a powerplay marker to make it a five-goal Lincolns' lead.

The Vipers managed to find two goals 31 seconds apart within the last minute-and-a-half but the Lincolns held on for the 6-3 win and, in beating the Vipers, the Lincolns locked up third

place in the conference, while LaSalle finished fourth.

First-Round Playoff Schedule

The Lincolns and Rockets begin their first-round series this Friday night at the PRC and will conclude no later than March 13th. The home games will be broadcast on both HockeyTV and St. Marys Radio. The road games will also be available at stmarysradio.com and 30 minutes before every playoff game, the 2023 Lincolns Season Special will air on St. Marys Radio.

Game One – Rockets @ Lincolns at 7:30 p.m. at Pyramid Recreation Centre

Game Two – Lincolns @ Rockets at 7:30 p.m. at West Middlesex Memorial Arena

Game Three – Rockets @ Lincolns at 7:30 p.m. at Pyramid Recreation Centre

Game Four – Lincolns @ Rockets at 7:30 p.m. at West Middlesex Memorial Arena

Game Five* – Rockets @ Lincolns at 7:30 p.m. at Pyramid Recreation Centre

Game Six* – Lincolns @ Rockets at 7:30 p.m. at West Middlesex Memorial Arena

Game Seven* – Rockets @ Lincolns at 7:30 p.m. at Pyramid Recreation Centre

*If necessary

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SPORTS —

Junior boys bring nordic ski medals back to DCVI

By Spencer Seymour

A team silver medal and an individual bronze medal was the haul for the St. Marys DCVI Junior boys Nordic Ski team at last week's OFSAA Nordic Ski Championship in Lakefield last Thursday and Friday.

Nate Schiedel raced to a third-place finish in the Junior boys division to earn a bronze medal. Meanwhile, the Junior boys earned the silver medal as a team thanks to Hayden Brintnell, Griffin McGregor, Trevor Richardson, and Adam Turner all finishing in the top 20.

The next day, the Junior boys participated in the team relays and turned in an incredible effort, narrowly finish-

ing second behind the Nepean squad. The Salukis came in just 0.4 seconds behind the Nepean team.

Lydia Taylor contributed to what was a great conclusion to an "exciting and memorable" season according to Head Coach Annette Wrigley with her best OFSAA result to date, placing fifth individually. Avery Jones made her OFSAA debut and clinched the 10th spot overall. Consistently strong skiing from fellow Senior girls Anna Ropp, Jill Sterkenburg, and Charlotte Clinton helped them all finish in the top 40, which put the team on the podium with a sixth-place team finish on day one as well as a sixth-place finish in the sprint relay.



The Junior boys Nordic Ski team from St. Marys DCVI captured the silver medal at last week's OFSAA Championship. Pictured, from left to right, are the team's members Griffin McGregor, Trevor Richardson, Adam Turner, Nate Schiedel, and Hayden Brintnell. (Photo credit: Mark Dewan)

St. Marys bowlers participate in Youth Bowl Ontario



Alexis Fares and Rory Brockman who represented St. Mary's Bowling Lanes will be heading to the Provincials after capturing silver in the YBO High-Low Doubles Seniors competition on Sunday, February 26th at Towne Bowl in Kitchener. Rory posted the high single of the day with a score of 274. Chris Collins was the coach. The St. Marys Bowling Lanes Junior team of Madelyn Keller and Isabella Fluttert, guided by coaches Helen Brockman and Adam Keller, placed fourth. The Bantam YBO High-Low Doubles competition was held at New Hamburg Lanes and Bridget Stevens and Tony Fluttert, accompanied by Troy Stevens, finished in fourth. (Contributed photos)



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July.3	Aug.9

FIRST ORDER DEADLINE IS MARCH.6th

COMMUNITY —

Eight graduating Lincolns honoured before final home game



The eight St. Marys Lincolns playing their final year of junior hockey were honoured prior to last Friday's game against the Leamington Flyers. Members of each player's family came onto the ice and presented each graduating player with a framed jersey. The players who are playing their final year of junior hockey with the Lincolns include Adrian Stubberfield, Josh Tidgwell, Jacob Chantler, Ethan Lamoureux, Cole Schnittker, Nathan Small, Michael Elliston, and Matteo Lalama. (Photo credit: Mike Chennette/McGinny Photography)

FARM LAND FOR SALE BY TENDER PERTH SOUTH

Property: Part Lot 22, Concession 10 Blanshard; Part Lot 23, Concession 10 Blanshard as in R383527; s/t BLN15976, Municipality of Perth South

Municipal Address: Line 2, Perth South, no Municipal 911 number is assigned. The property is beside 5126 Line 2, Perth South.

Total of 76 acres including 56 workable acres (more or less) and 20 acres of bush and an old gravel pit sown in hay, systemically tiled. This property contains no buildings and is subject to a hydro easement.



Tenders will be accepted until 12:00 p.m. on April 5, 2023.

Highest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

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Perth South Recognizes the Global Humanitarian Efforts of Jean Aitcheson

At the February 21, 2023 Council meeting Perth South resident Jean Aitcheson was recognized for her global humanitarian efforts.

Through the creation of the Stratford Mission Depot in 1995 followed by years of unwavering commitment Jean and her team of dedicated volunteers and donors have been working tirelessly to provide medical supplies and equipment to some of the poorest regions in the world.

The Stratford Mission Depot collects and sorts medical equipment, assistive devices, and other medical supplies no longer needed in Canada and distributes them internationally. These efforts ensure that these items are recycled which reduces landfill waste while at the same time assisting people in various countries who are in desperate need of medical supplies and equipment.

Mayor Jim Aitcheson and CAO/Treasurer Rebecca Clothier presented Jean with a Certificate of Recognition. The certificate is a symbol of Council's appreciation for Jean's dedication



and commitment to the work of the Stratford Mission Depot. Congratulations on this well-deserved recognition Jean!

Additional questions about this media release can be directed to Rebecca Clothier, Chief Administrative Officer/Treasurer by email: rclothier@perthsouth.ca



Kirkton Woodham Pool Lifeguards & Swim Instructors

The Township of Perth South is hiring aquatic positions for Summer 2023! The Township of Perth South is operating the Kirkton Woodham Outdoor Swimming Pool from late June until the end of August. As a lifeguard or swim instructor, you will be part of a team, meet new people, earn money, challenge yourself and have fun!

Qualifications:

- Current Standard First Aid with CPR C
- Current National Lifeguard
- Current Swim Instructor Certification is considered an asset

All qualifications need to be current as of June 2023. Please submit a copy of your qualifications with your application. If you have not yet taken the course but intend to prior to the deadline date, please include these details in your application.

Head Lifeguard Hourly Range/Wage: \$16.09 - \$19.46

Lifeguard & Swim Instructor Hourly Range/Wage: \$18.18 - \$21.29

A detailed job description is available www.perthsouth.ca. Please submit your resume and cover letter, preferably by email, to:

Rebecca Clothier, CAO / Treasurer
Township of Perth South
3191 Rd 122, St. Pauls, ON N0K 1V0
Email: rclothier@perthsouth.ca

While we appreciate all applications received, only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

Personal information collected in response to this advertisement is collected under the authority of the Municipal Act, 2001 to determine eligibility for employment with the Township of Perth South. Please direct inquiries to the CAO/Treasurer at 519-271-0619 x 227.

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HISTORY —

HISTORIC ST. MARYS: Toward Accessibility

By Mary Smith

On a sunny morning in early October 2005, a small group gathered on the north side of the St. Marys Museum for the ceremonial sod-turning to start construction on the new accessibility addition. Representatives from each of the three local schools, Central, Holy Name of Mary and St. Marys DCVI, worked together to put the shovel in the ground. Classes from these schools were all regular visitors and all would benefit from the upgrades to their community museum and archives.

But before actual construction could begin, staff and volunteers had several days of intense activity within the Museum. The kitchen area had to be completely emptied because the original floor in that area would be removed and replaced by a new floor at the same grade as the rest of the building. The opening occupied by a window in the north wall of the kitchen would be enlarged to become the passageway between the old part of the building and the new addition. Temporary storage space had to be found for contents of the kitchen. The area under renovation had to be sealed off from the rest of the Museum. That portion could stay open for visitors, especially for genealogy researchers who don't like to postpone their work. Since the washrooms and staff kitchen were in the kitchen wing, they too were dismantled. Staff and visitors alike were without these conveniences for months until the floor had been rebuilt and it was possible to install new fixtures, re-plumb and re-wire the area.

By the end of the month, the contractors had prepared the site and demolition of the kitchen interior was underway. Also, excavation began on the basement for the addition. It would become the archives vault. When the floor in the kitchen wing was raised, the basement underneath got a higher ceiling, creating space for artifact storage. Therefore, when the foundation walls of the addition had been completed, concrete flooring was poured in both the new vault area and in the upgraded basement area below the kitchen wing.

Meanwhile, the newly created group – the Friends of the St. Marys Museum – began to work on fundraising. A brochure was designed and distributed to groups and individuals who had used the Museum's services in the past. Grants were applied for and



local activities were planned to raise both funds and community awareness. Instead of the annual Christmas Open House, impossible in 2005 to hold at the Museum, a vacant store downtown donated its space during the Downtown Merchants' "No Tax" shopping event in early December. In partnership with the St. Marys Historical Society, the Museum held a Christmas cookie baking contest with Mrs. Santa Claus as one of the judges. Other activities included a demonstration of old-fashioned toys and Christmas crafts for children. Of course, this was also an opportunity to promote and explain the upgrade project taking place at the Museum.

Through December, framing for the addition was underway and the walls began to take shape. Unfortunately, there was a delay with the specialized roof system ordered from British Columbia and the addition was not closed in before winter. The roof was finally installed in February and covered with a temporary weather-proof membrane. Vertical cedar siding was added, with limestone at the base to blend in with the original building. The limestone was delivered to the site from the St. Marys Cement Company in large slabs. An extremely unhappy group of masons spent a week in nasty February weather cutting the slabs into smaller pieces to fit in place on the walls. In March, windows and doors were installed. Work began on interior drywall along with painting, wiring and ductwork.

Also in March, the Museum received

the good news that its application for a grant from the AgriSpirit program had been successful. This grant and a number of generous donations, particularly from the Rotary Club of St. Marys, the St. Marys Lions Club and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, were encouraging. In April, the roof was insulated and the zinc roofing was installed. Zinc was chosen for its long life as a roofing material. An unexpected consequence would be the lovely sound of rain hitting the metal roof during summer rainstorms. The flooring and shelving arrived and, by the end of April – what staff had been waiting for – new sinks and toilets were installed in the new, accessible washrooms.

In May, Museum staff and volunteers finally had access to the entire building. Then the hard work began. The reference materials were relocated from the old part of the building into the new public research area and arranged on shelves. Microfilm readers, tables, desks and chairs were set up, ready for staff and visitors. Even more challenging was the relocation of artifacts to new storage areas and recreating displays in the exhibit galleries. The Friends of the Museum organized a successful opening and dedication ceremony on Friday, June 2, 2006 – almost eight months since the ceremonial sod-turning the previous October. The first phase of the accessibility project was complete. But although the ground floor of the Museum was barrier-free, the second floor rooms, including the children's activity area in the loft, could still

only be reached by climbing stairs.

A successful application was made to the Trillium Foundation for a grant to assist with the installation of an elevator – actually a key-operated accessibility lift. In September, Town Council agreed that this project, Phase Two towards accessibility, could proceed. Installing an elevator for a heritage building without disrupting its exterior appearance was a challenge. Museum volunteers, Glen Millson and Burton Ready, came up with the suggestion that the old back staircase to the loft above the kitchen could be removed and the space used for an elevator shaft. The loft over the kitchen wing seemed to have been an afterthought. This second floor area in the kitchen wing was added sometime after the original house had been completed. There was not – and never had been – a passageway between the loft and the second floor of the main part of the building. To create an opening for the elevator door onto the upper floor it was necessary for the contractors to cut through the old house's thick stone wall.

Although all the artifacts had been covered with sheets or moved to other areas, and although plastic barriers had been installed in all doorways, dust from this procedure escaped into almost every part of the museum. And the amount of dust produced by breaking up old stone and 19th century plaster was incredible. It took weeks to clean out every nook and cranny. However, the lift was installed, with stops in the basement, the main floor, the children's area and the second floor exhibit rooms. A special evening of celebration was held at the end of March 2007 with Glen Millson and Burton Ready taking the first ceremonial ride on the elevator.

These two major capital projects laid the groundwork for further interior renovations in subsequent years to improve storage and exhibit areas in the St. Marys Museum. Recently, a paved walkway was installed from the parking lot leading to the doorway of the Museum barn. The treasures in the barn, including the fine collection of Maxwell farm implements and the Baker electric car, are now accessible to all visitors. Although it would be best to visit the Barn when the weather gets warmer, the Museum and the research areas welcome visitors year-round. For information, telephone 519-284-3556 or email museum@town.stmarys.on.ca.

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COMMUNITY —

Modern Irish Authors to add to your reading list this month



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You're in luck! Irish authors have an impressive history in literature, and while most readers are likely familiar with Sally Rooney, Roddy Doyle, Tana French, Emma Donoghue, and Marian Keyes, we'd like to turn your attention to some recently published Irish authors and their bestselling books worthy of adding to your reading list this month.

Louise Kennedy, Trespasses (Penguin Publishing Group, 2022)

Cushla lives a quiet life with her

mother in a small town near Belfast. By day she teaches at a parochial school; at night she fills in at her family's pub. There she meets Michael Agnew, a barrister who's made a name for himself defending IRA members. Against her better judgment – Michael is not only Protestant, but also older and married – Cushla lets herself get drawn in by him and his sophisticated world, and an affair ignites. Then the father of a student is savagely beaten, setting in motion a chain reaction that

will threaten everything and everyone Cushla most wants to protect.

Claire Keegan, Foster (Grove, 2022)

The nameless narrator of Foster - a compact novella a quarter of the size of most modern books - is a little girl whose parents, penniless Catholic farmers already overwhelmed by too many children and the father's unlikable habits, farm her out to distant relatives she's never met when her mother is expecting a new arrival. When her father drives her after Mass one summer Sunday "deep into Wexford towards the coast where my mother's people came from," she has no idea what to expect. Be prepared to open your heart and mind with this tiny title.

John Boyle, All the Broken Places (Doubleday Canada, 2022)

All the Broken Places is a sequel to Boyne's 2006 book *The Boy in Striped*

Pyjamas and follows the now 91-year-old older sister of Bruno from that book, Gretel. Gretel has lived in London for decades, never speaking of her childhood in Nazi-occupied Germany as the daughter of a concentration camp commandant. Her life is upended when a new family moves in next door whose circumstances force her to confront her own past.

Maggie O'Farrell, The Marriage Portrait (Knopf Canada, 2022)

The Marriage Portrait tells the somewhat true story of Lucrezia di Cosimo de' Medici, who at 15 was forced by her parents to marry the older Alfonso II d'Este, Duke of Ferrara, after her sister, his fiancé, dies on the eve of their wedding. Having barely left girlhood behind, Lucrezia must now make her way in a troubled court whose customs are opaque and where her arrival is not universally welcomed.

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COLUMN —

WHAT'S FOR DINNER: Light & Comforting Spring Dishes



By Lauren Eedy

March has arrived and Spring is just around the corner so how about an easy to prepare hearty vegetarian stew with warm flavours that can be left in a crock pot all day so you can simply whip together a new take on a fruit crisp for dessert? I think so!

This African sweet potato stew is something my father-

in-law makes often which we all love. I have omitted the scotch bonnet but feel free to add some extra heat to your liking. I love adding chopped peanuts as a garnish and sometimes some plain Greek yogurt to cool it off.

The dessert selected features one of my favourite fruits: pineapple. It's a refreshing change to your typical apple or pear crisp, comes together quickly and is a perfect way to use up canned pineapple. I suggest serving with vanilla ice cream or homemade vanilla whipped cream.

African Peanut Sweet Potato Stew

Prep: 20m

Cook Time: 6hours Serves: 8

1 can diced tomatoes, undrained

1 c fresh cilantro leaves

½ c chunky peanut butter

3 garlic cloves, halved

2 tsp ground cumin

1 tsp salt

½ tsp ground cinnamon

¼ tsp smoked paprika

3 lbs sweet potatoes (about 6 medium, peeled and cut into 1" pieces)

1 can garbanzo beans or chickpeas, rinsed and drained

1 c water

8 c chopped fresh kale

Chopped peanuts and cilantro leaves for optional garnish

Method:

-Place first 8 ingredients in a food processor; process until puréed. Transfer to a 5-qt slow cooker; stir in sweet potatoes, beans and water.

-Cook, covered, on low for 6-8 hours or until potatoes are tender, adding kale during the last 30m. If desired, top each serving with chopped peanuts and additional cilantro.

Pineapple Crisp

Prep: 15m Cook Time: 40m Serves: 12 Yield: 1 9x9" crisp

2 cans crushed pineapple, drained

1 c all-purpose flour

1 c brown sugar

1 tsp baking powder

½ tsp salt

1 egg

½ c butter, melted

1 tsp ground cinnamon

Method:

-Preheat oven to 350°.

-Spread well drained pineapples into a 9x9" square baking pan.

-Mix flour, sugar, baking powder, salt and egg in a medium bowl until well combined and crumbly. Spoon mixture evenly over pineapple. Pour melted butter over mixture then sprinkle with cinnamon.

-Bake in the preheated oven until top is slightly browned and filling is bubbly, about 40-45 minutes. Serve hot or cold with vanilla ice cream.

Straight from the Shelves

By Laura McAsh, St. Marys Public Library

With March just around the corner, it's time to get amped for March Break!

Join us in the Library on Tuesday the 14th at 6:30pm for a Stuffy Sleepover! Feel free to get snuggly in your pjs while you watch the movie "Lyle, Lyle, Crocodile", then leave your stuffy friend behind for the night to sleepover. Stuffyies can be picked up on the 15th - you never know what they might get up to

after a whole night in the Library! Parent/guardian supervision is required.

On Thursday the 16th at 1:00pm, join us at the Library for a Nintendo Party! Eat popcorn, play on the computers, make a button, and play for a prize at the prize drop, then stick around and watch "Detective Pikachu" (starting at 2:00pm). Feel free to dress up as your favourite Nintendo character. Parent/guardian supervision is required.

In addition to our in-house fun, we have a take-home activity kit available (while supplies last) starting on Monday the 13th. We also have a special Nintendo Reading Challenge running on Beanstack from the 10th to the 17th. Log your reading for a chance to win a \$30 Indigo gift card! The winner will be announced on Facebook at 10:00am on the 18th.

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

Monday, Mar. 6th: Open 10:30am-8:00pm

Tuesday, Mar. 7: Open 10:30am-8:00pm

Wednesday, Mar. 8: Play and Read (9:30-10:30am), Mahjong! (2:00pm-4:00pm)

Thursday, Mar. 9th: Open 10:30am-8:00pm

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St. George's continuing tradition in Thorndale



Pictured, from left to right Maralyn Young, Heather Ivins (centre) and in the foreground, the Reverend, Quenton Little.

By Nancy Abra

The Shrove Tuesday pancake and sausage supper has been Thorndale's St. George's Anglican Church long-standing tradition. The parishioners have held this supper for the community for over five decades, interrupted and paused only by the pandemic.

Instead of having a sit-down pancake supper in the church, the organizing committee decided to put in place the same format as last year, with a 'drive-thru' pick up. This went well, and organizers were pleased that they sold almost 200 suppers which translates to over 750 pancakes and

560 sausages cooked up and served.

The proceeds of St. George's pancake supper will go towards the parts and repairs to their carillon. This special musical harmonically tuned bell instrument was installed in the church's bell tower almost thirty years ago in memory of parishioners who had passed away. Except for being rung by hand on Sunday morning, it has been silent during the pandemic waiting to be fixed. With these funds, the carillon will be repaired and once again mechanically chime daily at noon and 6 p.m. and on Sunday mornings to continue this musical tradition in the village of Thorndale.

Thorndale Library

Are you taking part in Middlesex County Library's 2023 Reading Challenge? The challenge for March is to read a book popular on BookTok. For inspiration, check out NoveList's For Fans of BookTok list. NoveList is free to use with your MCL library card—just go to bit.ly/MCLnovelist and log in with your card number and PIN.

We have some great programs planned for March break! We'll celebrate Pi Day with a pizza pi(e) party; host an Intro to First Aid course; get crafty at a "make your own t-shirt/bag logo" program (you bring the shirt/bag, we'll provide the rest); and have fun at an interactive movie night!

Our regular programs will run throughout the month too, so make sure to pop by! Storytime is Tuesdays, at 10:30am. Afterschool Hangout is every Wednesday, at 4:00pm. Tech Fridays are the place to be for one-on-one tech help (cancelled March 17). On March 18, we'll get creative at Lego Party! And we'll make birthday cards at Card Making Night on March 30. Please contact the library for March's BeTween the Bookends date.

For more details about our programs, or to register, visit library.middlesex.ca/events, phone 519-461-1150, or drop by. For open hours visit our website: library.middlesex.ca.

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International Women's Day is March 8th

By Nancy Abra

International Women's Day is on March 8th. It is a day to celebrate the social, economic, cultural, and political achievements of women.

The beginnings of International Women's Day can be traced back to the early 1900's of industrial labour movements in North America and Europe. Women were becoming more vocal, campaigning for change in working conditions, better pay and voting rights. Decades later in 1975, the United Nations designated that year as International Women's Year. Then in 1977 the UN General Assembly adopted a resolution proclaiming a day for Women's Rights to be observed. Many countries now throughout the world officially recognize March 8th as 'Women's Day'. <https://women-gender-equality.canada.ca/en>.

Throughout Canada's history, there have been many women trailblazers, from activists during the early years of women's suffrage in equality and getting the vote to today's continuing advocacy of equal rights for everyone. The 'Famous Five' – Emily Murphy, Nellie McClung, Louise McKinney, Irene Parlby and Henrietta Muir Edwards were an influential group that was instrumental in getting the vote for women in 1918 in Canada. But it wasn't until 1960 that all women, including indigenous people, got the privilege to vote in federal elections.

The 'Famous Five' also knew women were restricted in property rights and had limited access to higher education and prominent careers in medicine, law, and in the government. Women were not considered as a 'person', therefore not allowed to be part of the Senate where laws

are executed. The 'Famous Five' petitioned the high levels of government, and on October 18, 1929, the Privy Council judgement stated that 'yes, women were persons' and could be Senators in Canada.

As of January 31, 2023, there are 47 women in the Canadian Senate which is approximately 45% of the Senate. (<https://sencanada.ca/en/senators/>) In the Ontario Legislature, the percentage of women that are MPPs is 31%. (<https://www.ola.org/en>) Whereas in our local municipality of Thames Centre that percentage is higher, with four women (80%) elected to council last October.

Kelly Elliott of Thorndale who held two elected positions in Thames Centre for eight years including four years on Middlesex County Council said, "We need to support more women to run in politics. It is not easy by any means, but the change you can make is so impactful, especially at the local level."

Elliott stated, "It is young women who are more likely to act for social change, particularly at the local government level and really be an advocate for those voices who are often missed in terms of representation. More and more young female leaders across Ontario are trailblazing for social change."

The Canadian government's theme for International Women's Day 2023 is 'Every Woman Counts'. It's a reminder that all women have a place in every aspect of Canadian society, including in economic, social, and democratic spheres. <https://women-gender-equality.canada.ca/en>

On March 8th, let's celebrate all women and remind today's youth and girls that their dream can be reached.

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COLUMN —

LENTEN REFLECTIONS: Seeing with New Eyes



By Rev. Nancy Adams

The gospel as Jesus preaches it and lives it is a radical a vision of a changed humanity: something so very risky and revolutionary that it could change the world if it really took hold. Paradoxically, that road-less-taken is also a path of joy, hope, peace and life.... not a life without struggle or discomfort,

but a life in tune with the God who stopped at nothing to love and bless the world; who came to make the rough places smooth not by concealing the truth, but by revealing it. If ever we needed a word of truth and hope in our conflicted world, this would be the time.

But how and where to start? Something tells me that it all begins with perception - changing the way we see and understand people and events - perhaps being willing to take a step back and breathe for a minute before reaching a conclusion. Look again - sometimes God has a surprise in store....

Several years ago I worked for a few months at a retreat centre in Scotland, and over coffee and dessert one evening one of the guests asked those of us at the table if anyone had ever had what they would call a vision, a divine message or unexpected inspiration of some kind. And then she told us about a moment of divine insight she experienced while riding a bus through inner-city Glasgow, through one of the poorest, most desperate, and consistently dangerous areas of the city. The bus had stopped and three very scruffy, heavily tattooed, obnoxiously loud young people boarded and sat directly

opposite her. Immediately, she said, she felt herself tighten up as she felt fear and revulsion washing over her, and, immediately concerned for her own safety, she looked down to avoid making eye contact. But as the bus moved along she eventually glanced over their way (with no small amount of trepidation), and suddenly, she said, they changed before her eyes. Their aloof and angry faces suddenly became peaceful; an aura of calmness settled around them; and their whole being began to glow with an unearthly light and beauty - and she said she knew in that split second, and knew with absolute clar-

ity, that she was seeing them the way God sees them: as whole, perfect, and beloved. And in that split second, she said, she was changed.

A balanced, mature faith calls us beyond the temptation to simply be nice and expect that God will be happy with that. What we're called to do, in fact, is to check our perceptions: to stop at nothing to recognize the Holy present among us,

to be a force for change, understanding and compassion, and to embody God's love in our personal relationships, in the Church and in the world, as boldly and as creatively as we possibly can. How do we choose to 'see' our neighbour?

"The Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart." (1 Samuel 16:7b)

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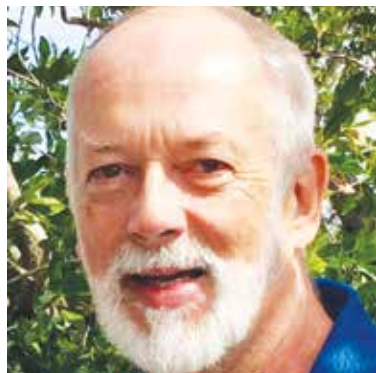
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COLUMN —

OH, THE PLACES WE'LL GO: When good service makes all the difference



By Paul Knowles

I am a huge fan of good service and a bit of a curmudgeon when service is poor. But receiving especially good service at a destination adds enormously to my level of enjoyment.

During the past few months, I have been very well treated in several provinces and several countries. But a few of those moments stand out. Apparently insignificant incidents have made all the difference between having a good time and having an outstanding experience.

Like in Mexico. I wrote recently about the Sensira Resort in the Riviera Maya. But I didn't tell you about a moment that was the icing on the cake.

We, a small group of travel communicators, were dining in Sensira's gourmet restaurant, Galerie Des Sens. The meal was amazing and the dessert was wildly imaginative. Chef John Bertrand had created a dish that evoked a child playing in the snow. I can't tell you the specific recipe but it included white,

herbed sorbet, shaved and frozen coconut, and playing on top of this "mountain of snow", the lego-like figure of a child made from peanut butter and chocolate.

It was delicious fun.

As we finished, I said to our server, "My partner back home loves peanut butter and chocolate. Would you have an extra one of those figures that I could take home to her?"

"Absolutely," said our server and she disappeared for quite a while.

After I lingered for at least 10 minutes, she reappeared, bearing a ramekin containing two of the figures. The ramekin was warm.

John Bertrand had made these special little figures precisely to order for the dinner and then took the time to make two more for me to take home.

That is over-the-top service.

Last June, wandering around Yarmouth, Nova Scotia, I stumbled upon the Sweeney Museum, a creatively constructed marine museum including artifacts from the fishing industry. They've even built some replica buildings and a boat inside this museum.

I asked the woman at the desk - her name was Julie - if I could have a quick look inside the museum, even though it was to close in 15 minutes. "Sure," she said. "There's nobody else here, so

why don't I give you the full tour?" And she did. Terrific service.

We travelled around Ireland by coach last fall. Our driver, Anthony McCann, was superb. One day, we discovered that there was to be a concert in Galway that evening, although it was not on our itinerary. One of our group members had found it and most of us decided we would like to go too.

Anthony volunteered to work unpaid overtime so we wouldn't have to taxi to the concert. He arranged our tickets. He drove us there and back in the coach. And we got to enjoy the superb Trad on the Prom concert. Unpaid overtime service - pretty impressive.

A more local trip involved our annual golfing-friends' coach tour to Niagara Wine Country, where the small, friendly wineries offer the epitome of great service. I visited Ridge Road Winery twice last year, and each time was treated like a king. A king who, of course, bought a case or two of wine. But the folks at Ridge Road, like many of its wine-making neighbours on the Niagara Peninsula, know all there is to know about creating happy, satisfied customers.

To return to Nova Scotia for a moment, while there in the spring, I dined with some others at La Cuisine Robicheau Restaurant, where Nadine Robicheau serves up amazing dishes including



Exhibits at the Sweeney Museum in Yarmouth, Nova Scotia.

Lobster Lasagna and Rappie Pie. When some of us could not quite decide what to order, everything appeared on the table. "Sample it all!" was her answer to our indecision. Very special service.

But to be completely truthful, superb service doesn't guarantee a happy ending. Once upon a time, I was invited to visit the beautiful Abaco Club on Winding Bay, in the Bahamas.

The day of arrival, our small group of journalists was greeted with rum punches. Then there was a pre-dinner drink. Then, wine with dinner.

That was all very tasty of course. But after dinner, our hosts asked if we would like to join them for a nightcap.

All the other, smarter writers declined. It had been a long day already. But, of course, I said "sure" and off we went to the elegant bar.

At that time - I am older and

wiser, now - my cocktail of choice was a Rusty Nail, half Scotch and half Drambuie. Potent stuff. Best enjoyed in small doses with plenty of ice.


I asked the bartender for a rusty nail. She was unaware of this concoction but was dedicated to good service so she asked me to describe it. I did: "Half Scotch, half Drambuie".

When she brought the drink, it was a full, tall glass of booze - about a quadruple rusty nail, at least.

"There's no way I can drink this," I thought.

Turns out I was wrong. I could drink it. But I should have been right and gone with my first instincts. Good service usually ends well... but not always.

Paul Knowles is an author and travel writer. To contact Paul about travel, his books, or speaking engagements, email pknowles@golden.net.




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FEBRUARY 2023 HIGHLIGHTS

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 X C H Z G S T C X A V P C A Q W W L Y U
 A O F N I T H O A F S S T O I O T Y S C
 H L A G D T L F O X H M X N B U L A O M
 X D M R R A A W G G N O T R R I S D E A
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 U N D P A T S B P S E D P Q L S L I S A
 Z I A O D U M O S A N F G W T W L T G V
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 Q E O B U H J C W C C J I P R I S M W G
 Q R K X H E R I T A G E F A I R Q G S T
 V R U X Z T Q O G G X M V D V N S F I S

Word List

- Spy balloons
- Valentines Day
- Chiefs Super Bowl
- Family Day
- Turkey earthquake
- Grandparent scams
- Ohio train derail
- Winter sports
- Pat Powers
- Heritage Fair
- Coldest Night

Sudoku

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

Solutions on page 27

Have you been affected by someone else's drinking?

Al-Anon Family Groups can help YOU! Monday, Friday & Saturday. Call for time and place.

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The **Riddle Kid**
 OF THE WEEK

What breed of dogs to scientists have?



Labs!

Marleigh Lush (1)

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

TONS OF FUN FOR KIDS EVERY WEEK!

PET OF THE WEEK

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



Our Pet of the Week is Bear, a 4 month old Catahoula Leopard/Lab cross. He is great company for his owner, Marianne Coddington and loves to visit the goats and chickens in the barn. His favourite time is his daily visit to Tim Hortons for his timbit treat.



St. Marys Veterinary Clinic is pleased to be the sponsor of the

PET OF THE WEEK

Untreated dental disease can spread to your pets vital organs.

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500 Water Street South St. Marys
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COLUMN —

HOSTING UKRAINE: One Year Later

By VJ Knutson

February 24th marked one year of war. I asked our locals to share some thoughts: before, after, and going forward.

"...before War started, you believe COVID is the worst thing you ever experienced. After, you think those were the golden days.

Before deciding on CUAET visas, you scroll news constantly, hoping to read: 'This is over. You can come back home and live your habitual life.' – your President.

But there is no miracle, just survival. No time to sell your property, cars, and business; you leave everything and try to begin life from scratch in Canada. And it works as a painkiller for Ukrainians. You are so busy trying to settle, and because of the time difference, there is no chance to be frustrated by terrible news." (Alona O.)

"I couldn't believe it was happening. It was a bad dream.

I didn't like to watch or read news, so when the morning of February 24th sounded an explosion at the airport, I was very frightened.

That morning, I saw many people taking suitcases and driving away in their cars – traffic jams forming, and lines appearing suddenly everywhere. I went out to the store and saw Ukrainian tanks and realized that life had drastically changed. I talked with my husband and relatives about what to do.

For another month, I stayed in Ukraine, and volunteered with Good Samaritan, helping those fleeing from the hot spots where homes were destroyed.

I could tell you about the ordeal I had to go through, but I'll tell you that the thing that kept me going was my faith! I believe in God, and I ful-



Hundreds gathered to make Molotov cocktails. (Photo credit Viktoriia K)

ly trust Him. I thank God for giving our family the opportunity to come to Canada and to meet kind people here. Life is much easier for us thanks to volunteers and generous people who meet our needs.

I pray for peace for Ukraine and I also pray for those who have opened their hearts and helped.

My husband and I have over 20 relatives living in Ukraine. One of my cousins is fighting at the front. One of our relatives was taken prisoner and

we do not know anything about him for 2 months.

It remains only to believe in the best and pray to show our trust in God as the only One who can protect and help." (Vira S.)

"Just a month before war, Kostia and I rented a beautiful house near Kyiv: our dream. All month we invited our friends and enjoyed life. We talked about news, and about all the scary things like the Russian army concentrated near Ukrainian borders, but could not imagine that they would actually take our lives from us.

Later, I heard how in Russian media, they were told that we have no right to live better than them. I truly believed that in 21st century, war would not happen... but the 24th of February we woke to the sound of explosions. Still, I thought that they were threats and that's all. I was sure the world would not allow it or, at least, come to our aid. Day after day, we hoped for an end, but after two months, we had doubts.

A year has passed, and it still feels like a scary dream. I remember my whole body shaking those first days. I remember tanks and our guys sitting on them, going in front of us when we were running from Bucha.

Now, I know that war is pure evil and there is no justification." (Viktoriia K.)

THE WEEK AHEAD

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

St. Marys Library events – See Page 18

Thorndale Library events – See Page 19

Friday, March 3

- St. Marys Cement community liaison committee meeting – 10 am, Public can view online See the Town of St. Marys events calendar for the link

- Royal Canadian Legion hot dog lunch at Noon

- A.N.A.F. meat draw – 6 pm

- St. Marys Lincolns vs Strathroy Rockets at the PRC – 7:30 pm

Saturday, March 4

Royal Canadian Legion meat draw – 5 pm

- St. Marys Lincolns vs Strathroy Rockets at the West Middlesex Memorial Centre – 7:30 pm

Monday, March 6

- Last day to register for Camp PRC, go to townofstmarys.com/activenet

- St. Marys Lincolns vs Strathroy Rockets at the PRC – 7:30 pm

Tuesday, March 7

- St. Marys Lincolns vs Strathroy Rockets at the West Middlesex Memorial Centre – 7:30 pm

Wednesday, March 8

- International Women's Day



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OBITUARY

Kittmer



It is with profound sadness that we announce the death of Jane Kittmer, age 51, of Lakeside. Jane passed away unexpectedly at Victoria Hospital in London on Sunday, February 19, 2023, with family at her side, after a brave and determined battle against cancer.

Beloved wife, and partner of 30-years, of Jeff Stewart and adoring mother of Finn and Nolan Stewart. Daughter of Robert and Verlyn (nee Ash) Kittmer of Lakeside, and sister and best friend of Peggy Kittmer (Pat McHugh) of St. Marys. World's best aunt of Molly and Oliver McHugh and reunited with her late niece and nephew, Libby and William McHugh (2005). Cherished daughter-in-law of Betty Anne Mustard (Dave) and Martha Stewart and the late Richard Mustard and Peter Stewart. Sister-in-law of Jeremy Stewart (Meghan), Joel Stewart (Mandy), Trevor Mustard (Roisin), and Angela Broadley (Jim) and the late Aaron Stewart (2022)

Jane attended Wildwood and A. J. Baker elementary schools, St. Marys D.C.V.I high school, and the University of Guelph, graduating with a BSc degree in earth sciences. Jane took great joy in her boys attending A. J. Baker elementary and was always very involved with the school and an advocate in keeping the school open when it was under threat of closing.

Jane was a 20-year employee of The City of London working in the environmental services department at city hall as a quiet crusader to divert waste from landfills and spread the word on the importance of recycling. Jane understood the value of reducing her carbon footprint long before it became a talking point of political strategy.

As an advocate for the environment Jane enjoyed being outdoors whenever possible, whether it was camping (preferably near a beach), entertaining friends and family in the back yard pool, hiking the trails of the Upper Thames, tending to her flower and vegetable gardens, or her cherished time watching her boys play sports. No matter the venue there was always lots of family, fun, love and laughter.

A private family visitation took place on Tuesday February 21st followed by cremation. A public celebration of Jane's life will take place at the St. Marys Pyramid Recreation Center (St. Marys Arena), 317 James Street, South, St. Marys on Saturday, March 4, 2023 starting at 2 pm with words of remembrance at 4 pm.

As expressions of sympathy, the family prefers donations of blood by anyone who is able. As an option, memorial donations may be made to the St. Marys Health Care Foundation or the Canadian Cancer Society through the W. G. Young Funeral Home, 430 Huron Street, Stratford. 519.271.7411 www.wgyoung-funeralhome.com

OBITUARY

Paton



Ronald Lewis Paton passed away on his ninetieth birthday at St. Marys Memorial Hospital on Feb. 20, 2023. Loving husband of Joy (Burch), recently celebrating their 67th wedding anniversary. Wonderful father of Cindy Gregory, Deb Marier (Mark, deceased), and Karen Manners (David). Grandfather of Michael, Jordan, Melanie (Mike), Mitchell and great-grandfather of Ellie, Joslyn, Ella, Maverick, Alaya, and Bodhi. Brother of Pauline Morrison (Ray, deceased), Lyle Paton (Jan) and loved by many nieces and nephews. Born in McGillivray Twp., he spent most of his years farming in Anderson. Ronald was a devoted Christian man, enjoyed vintage cars; eventually owning his all-time favourite car a 1957 Chev, participating in many car shows over the years. He enjoyed curling, bowling, lawn bowling, hockey and loved watching sports of all kinds. Cremation has taken place with burial in St. Marys Cemetery at a later date. Memorial donations may be made to Parkwood Hospital through the St. Josephs Healthcare Foundation or The War Amps. Online condolences at www.hodgesfuneralhome.ca.

DAD

We'll always remember that special smile, that caring heart, that warm embrace, you always gave us.

You being there for Mom and us through good and bad times, no matter what.

We'll always remember you Dad because there'll never be another one to replace you in our hearts, and the love we will always have for you.

DAD

We'll always remember that special smile, that caring heart, that warm embrace, you always gave us.

You being there for Mom and us through good and bad times, no matter what.

We'll always remember you Dad because there'll never be another one to replace you in our hearts, and the love we will always have for you.

OBITUARY

Annis



Kenneth Ernest Annis passed away suddenly at Stratford General Hospital on Feb. 22, 2023 at the age of 75.

Husband of Phyllis (Watkins), married 46 years. Brother of Joan Brodhagen (George), Calvin Annis (Jane), Audrey Ische (Russell, deceased) and brother-in-law Raymond Watkins (Josephine), Jean Upton (Ted, deceased), Rosemary Ainsworth (Don, deceased), Sylvia Abel (Clive, both deceased), Charles Watkins (Maisie, both deceased). Also remembered by nieces and nephews.

A private family burial service was held at St. Marys Cemetery. Memorial donations may be made to the St. Marys Healthcare Foundation. Online condolences at www.hodgesfuneralhome.ca.

OBITUARY

O'Hearn



Carolynne Lorraine O'Hearn, passed away peacefully on February 20, 2023 at her residence in Kingsway Lodge. She is survived by her husband of 53 years Jim O'Hearn, Her son Troy (Sonya) and their daughters Kaitlyn (Dylan) and Kendra of Cochrane Alberta Her son Shawn (Laurie) and their children Julien, Amelia, Maithias,

and Jasmine of Fulshear Texas. Survived by brother Jack Pickett, sisters Florence Piefer and Pat Cornelius. Also survived by brothers-in-law Keith Cornelius and Don Piefer, sisters-in-law Doreen Pickett, Deanna Hart, Donna Stacey, Mary O'Hearn, Beverley Graff, Margaret Thomson, Anne Marie and Ann O'Hearn.

Predeceased by parents Claude and Isabel Pickett, brother Lester Pickett, sisters Daisy Pickett, Margaret Soderberg, Betty Peterson, brothers-in-law Gerald, Michael and Joseph O'Hearn, Vince Hart, Keith Stacey, Stan Peterson, Laurence Graff, Ron Thomson, Roy Soderberg and Fred Chivers, sisters-in law Iris and Betty Pickett. Carolynne is also survived by many nieces, nephews and cousins who loved her dearly and her special gifts of paintings, drawings, and homemade knitting/crocheting.

Born and raised in Shaunavon Saskatchewan, Carolynne was the youngest child of eight. She learned to play the piano as a youth and carried on her love of music all her life playing piano and organ for church services, teaching children to play piano, and playing to entertain family. She was also very much an artist and enjoyed drawing and painting flowers, wildlife, and imagery from the Bible. Carolynne was a school teacher, Sunday school teacher, and baby sitter for many youngsters over the years because she genuinely loved children.

Carolynne met the love of her life Jim in Canmore Alberta. In 1969, they were married at St. John's church in Calgary Alberta. After the birth of their first son Troy they moved to northern Manitoba for about a year and a half. After they moved back to Canmore, Carolynne gave birth to their second son and they continued to raise their two boys in the mountains. Carolynne was very fond of having friends over for coffee and enjoyed going out to visit her many friends and family in Canmore and beyond.

Carolynne spent many mornings and afternoons visiting her elderly friends at their home, in the lodge, or at the hospital taking them home baked goods and a handmade scarf or headband. Carolynne was a devout Christian and attended/volunteered at the United Church in Canmore throughout her time in Canmore. Even after Carolynne was unable to volunteer outside her home, she continued to do what she could by playing the organ for mass at the lodge, painting book marks, copying scripture from the Bible, and knitting headbands for the needy. Through her endless hours of visits and community service all while dealing with her own health issues, she taught us about compassion, kindness and gratitude.

Carolynne has left a legacy of good memories with everyone she touched through her music, art, teachings, and kindness. Carolynne's family thanks the staff at Kingsway Lodge in St. Marys Ontario for their loving care of Carolynne over the last several years she lived there. Cremation will take place. Service announcements at a later date. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to CMHA Huron Perth Addiction and Mental Health Services, St. Marys Healthcare Foundation, Kingsway Life-care or to your favorite child sponsorship charity. Online condolences at www.hodgesfuneralhome.ca.



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OBITUARY

Noble



Dorothy Amelia Noble (Dunnington) passed away peacefully in her 87th year at Wildwood Nursing Home in St. Marys, surrounded by her family. Dorothy is survived by James, her husband of 67 years, whom she met on the army base in Cornwallis, Nova Scotia. She leaves behind her children Doug (Theresa), Darlene (Jamie) and David. Grandchildren Jenn (Kyle), Mike (Erin), Amy (Scott), Jason (Kim), Danny and Justin, and 11 great grandchildren. She is also survived by her brother Harold, sisters-in-law Barb and Patsy Dunnington, Helen and Vic Noble, Norm Noble and Phares Himburg.

Dorothy was predeceased by her Mom and Dad Beatrice and George Dunnington, sister Jessie, brothers Art, George, Harry and her twin Donny. Mother- and father-in-law Margaret and Vic Noble, sisters-in-law Mary Joan, Nancy, Joan, Ruth, Mary and brothers-in-law Ralph, Allan and Lefty. Mom had many titles: wife, mother, mother-in-law, sister, sister-in-law, aunt, grandma, GG and friend.

She spent a great deal of time with her children and grandchildren playing cards or chatting. Mom loved to play bingo and travel back to her beloved Nova Scotia. "When you closed your eyes and soared to the Heavens I could hear the faint flutter of your wings as you left." A special thank you to the amazing staff at Wildwood Nursing Home. Your kind words and compassion in Mom's last days were amazing.

A celebration of Dorothy's life will take place at a later date. Donations may be made to the Alzheimer Society or to the charity of one's choice. Online condolences at www.hodgesfuneralhome.ca.

OBITUARY

Webb



Doris Katherine Amelia Webb passed away at St. Marys Memorial Hospital on February 25, 2023 at the age of 94. Daughter of late Laurie Parkin and Katherine (nee Rigglesford). Wife of the late Donald Frederick Webb (2008). Mother of Lynda Strathdee (Glenn, deceased), Elizabeth Ann Finnie (David), Rosemary Reid (John, deceased), David Webb (Judy) and Steven Webb (Karen). Grandmother of 15, step-grandmother of three and great-grandmother of 26. Sister of Joyce Fletcher, Jack Parkin (Yvette), Clifford Parkin (Ann), Eleanor Parkin (Noel Robert, deceased) Lois Sweeney (William, deceased). Predeceased by five brothers, one sister, nine sisters-in-law, ten brothers-in-law, one son: Charles (1981) and one grandson: Michael (2006). Doris was an Elder at the St. Marys Presbyterian church from Feb 1981, Lifelong member of WMS, member of the Friendship Auxiliary and volunteered with her dog Luke at Wildwood Care Centre. Cremation has taken place. A Memorial Service will be held at the Andrew L. Hodges Funeral Home, 47 Wellington St. S. St. Marys, on March 10, 2023 at 2 pm. Interment following in St. Marys Cemetery. Memorial donations may be made to the St. Marys Presbyterian Church. Online condolences at www.hodgesfuneralhome.ca

OBITUARY

Mullenix



Paul Ross Mullenix, age 83 of St. Marys, passed away peacefully at University Hospital London Ontario on February 21, 2023. Loving father of James (Kerry), Lois Favacho and Steve (Loretta). Grandfather (Papa) of Stefanie Puiras (Luke), Nicholas Favacho, Andrew, Matthew, Hannah, and Esther and great grandfather of Odin and Lilja Puiras. Brother of Cecil (Ruth). Brother-in-law of Helen Lucas (Charles) and Frank Bean. Predeceased by the love of his life for 61 years, Shirley (January 2021) and his parents Roscoe and Anna Mullenix. Lovingly remembered by many nieces, nephews and friends. Paul owned Mitchell Nursery and Thames Nursery.

He was the first to propagate azaleas and rhododendrons in Canada and started the Canadian Rhododendron Society through Vineland Experimental Farms. He was the chief horticultural expert and troubleshooter for Wetsel Seeds USA. He was a Christian, beloved Father, Grand- and Great-Grand parent.

Visitation will be held at the Andrew L. Hodges Funeral Home (47 Wellington St. S., St. Marys) on Tuesday, February 28 from 2 - 4 p.m. and 6 - 8 p.m. The funeral service will be held at the funeral home on Wednesday, March 1 at 11 a.m. Internment to follow at Avondale Cemetery in Stratford. As expressions of sympathy, memorial donations may be made to Samaritan's Purse. Online condolences at www.hodgesfuneralhome.ca.

OBITUARY

Somers



Somers, JD (Jim)
January 3, 1946 - February 24, 2023

Jim passed away suddenly at the Collingwood General & Marine Hospital on Friday, February 24, 2023. He will be missed by his wife of 50 years, Kathryn (nee Brown) and his sons, Scott and Bill. He was predeceased by his parents Ella and Allan Somers, as well as his brothers Richard, Paul and David Somers, all of St Marys, Ontario. Jim will be missed by his sister-in-law Jo Askin and nieces and nephews Lee-Anne (Paul) Lihou; Bob (Karen) Stead; David, Bryce and John McKinnon and Dawn McKinnon (Fred Belanger). Jim was a '69 OAC grad and attained his PhD at the University of Guelph. For most of his working life Jim conducted research and later focused on developing standards for environmental testing. Before retirement he worked for the Standards Council of Canada and represented our country on an international OECD working group. He retired to Wasaga Beach in 2010 to pursue his passion for fishing in Georgian Bay. In lieu of flowers, contributions to the MS Society of Canada or the Collingwood General & Marine Hospital would be appreciated. Private Cremation arrangements. To sign Jim's Book of Memories or to leave a message of condolence for his family please visit www.carruthers-davidson.com

LOOKING BACK



By AMY CUBBERLEY

The man with a Mackinaw coat

25 years ago (1998)

The Arthur Meighen School team won the Optimist Challenge held at the Legion recently. Members of the winning team were Jordan Kapp, Andy Kannegiesser, Krystle Shore-Crosthwaite, Lindsay Kannegiesser and Dennis Albers.

Dr. Thomas A. Brzustowski, President of the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada, recently announced the winners of four prizes for the most outstanding doctoral research completed in Canada last year. A former St. Marys resident and DCVI graduate, Shawn Marshall, was one of the four honourees.

The topic of smoking on the grounds of DCVI made it to town council for another session. This time, it came in the form of a new bylaw aimed at entering into an agreement with the Avon Maitland Board of Education for the purpose of leasing a portion of the school property for student smokers. The ultimate goal, said Council, was not to condone smoking in any way, but to give students a safe space if they insist in indulging in this dangerous habit.

50 years ago (1973)

Mrs. John O'Rourke who celebrated her 103rd birthday on February 19 received two lovely plaques, one from Prime Minister Pierre E. Trudeau, and one from Hon. Wm. Davis.

Eldon Alderson, vice principal of St. Marys Collegiate, has been chosen from eighteen applications for the post of Principal, to be vacated by Principal J.B. Creech on his retirement at the end of July. Alderson has been on the Collegiate teaching staff for the past eleven years.

An Elgin Street resident is not happy as a result of a snow-mobiler striking and badly injuring the family pup over the weekend. As the lady remarked, "The least they could have done was brought the pup into the house, rather than leaving it to crawl home by itself."

75 years ago (1948)

Piece by piece, Police Chief S. H. Cook of St. Marys is gathering more information about the tall man dressed in a felt hat, a mackinaw coat and dark pants, and white handkerchief tied across his face, who attempted to hold up Milton Bolton, storekeeper, corner of Church and Park Streets.

A new 8-cylinder gray Pontiac has been recently added to the ambulance equipment of the L.A. Ball firm.

Councillor J.J. McLaughlin has been attending the Good Roads Convention in Toronto three days this week.

Two fine drakes from the flock of wild ducks which have wintered on the river near Victoria Bridge, are still at large despite the efforts of several young lads who have been catching the ducklings for Lt. Col. G.D.L. Rice.

100 years ago (1923)

Kipling was right: "The female of the species is more deadly than the male." This was the case as a thrilling battle between the London and St. Marys lady hockey teams took place on Saturday night.

Thursday evening last was a night to be remembered by residents of the district, when about one hundred and fifty friends and neighbours of Mr. and Mrs. Milton Siskins gathered at their home on the 10th concession to give them a hearty send off on leaving to take up residence in London.

Taxation for provincial purposes in Ontario remains the same for another year. Hon. Peter Smith, provincial treasurer, delivering his fourth budget speech in the Legislature on Thursday last, proposed no new forms of taxation and no changes in the present forms. Mr. Smith spoke for nearly three hours.

Approximately 30 St. Marys residents have recently installed radio sets. These citizens have the pleasure each night of listening to the greatest artists on the American continent.

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- 1) Bishop
- 2) Uncut hair
- 3) Mary Shelley
- 4) Saturn
- 5) New
- 6) Great Expectations
- 7) Canada
- 8) Exodus
- 9) Mandarin
- 10) 55°F (12.7°C)

SUDOKU ANSWERS

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

HELP WANTED



HAPPY VALLEY FAMILY HEALTH TEAM

The Happy Valley Family Health Team is a dynamic team of professionals including 11 Family Physicians, Dietitian, Pharmacist, Mental Health Workers, Addictions Counsellor, Nurses, Nurse Practitioners and administrative support.

We currently have an opening for:
FULL-TIME REGISTERED PRACTICAL NURSE
14 MONTH CONTRACT

This position requires the ability to multi-task in a fast paced environment and excellent communication skills.

Please forward resume by March 15th, 2023 to:

Happy Valley Family Health Team

Attention: Kimberly Lang, Executive Director

268 Maiden Lane

P.O. Box 1120

St. Marys, ON

N4X 1B7

Fax: (519) 284-4471

stmmc@stmmc.ca

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

Thank you to all applicants who apply.

Only applicants selected for an interview will be contacted.

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

THANK YOU

Vossen

Whether you kept us in your thoughts and prayers, sent flowers, brought food, shared a memory with us, donated to the St. Marys Junior Golf Program in memory of Pete or helped in some other way we thank you. Please know that the love, support and kindness of friends and family has brought us great comfort and will always be remembered.

The family would also like to thank Dr. Hepburn, Dr. Thomas, Dr. Ernst, Dr. Ahmad, Community Care and the doctors and nursing staff in St. Marys and London. Thanks to Andrew Hodges for getting us thus far in our journey.

Barb, Stepheny, Devin and family.



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Application deadline for all positions:
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Start date for all jobs will be late April/early May.



All cover letters and resumes can be emailed to baseball@baseballhalloffame.ca or dropped off at 386 Church St. S. in St. Marys

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