

The Village Voice

THORNDALE

Issue 209
Since 2008



DECEMBER 2025

THAMES CENTRE COMMUNITY CHOIR

Members wish to thank the community for its support throughout this year. We wish everyone a joyful Christmas & a Happy 2026. If you like to sing in harmony, please join us in the New Year. For more information, contact c_baskerville@hotmail.com.

THAMESFORD CHRISTMAS PARADE

December 21, 6pm! The beloved Calithumpian Christmas Parade will take place Sat, Dec 21, 6pm, following the same route as last year through Thamesford! We're looking forward to seeing the community come together once again to enjoy this festive tradition. The Calithumpian Committee will be organizing & coordinating the parade. Details on float registration & participation will be shared soon. For now, mark your calendars for this wonderful holiday evening! For parade-related inquiries, please contact: sarah@thamesfordcalithumpian.ca.

MERRY CHRISTMAS! MERRY CHRISTMAS!

The Woodstock Choralaires presents a concert of choral music celebrating the season. Sat, Dec 6, 3pm at Knox Presbyterian Church, Woodstock. Lorinda van Wyk, director; Susan Barta, accompanist; Mark Weatherley, guest artist. Tickets: \$30 (free admission to children 12 & under) available at Wilson & Markle Jewellers, Woodstock; ticketscene.ca; Choralire Members 519-456-5270.

A CHRISTMAS FAIR

Join us at St. John's Anglican Church, Thamesford as we present A Christmas Fair. Baking, crafts, etc. Sat, Dec 6, 9-Noon. Wheel chair accessible.

COUNTRY CHRISTMAS

Join us for a "Country Christmas" Dec 7, 3pm at Banner United Church. Everyone welcome. www.bannerunitedchurch.com

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

The inter-Church is excited to announce the 3rd annual Christmas Concert with Ted Cominsky & local musicians, Victoria Thompson, Peter Cox, Bob Breen, and Jim Gonder. This event will be held at Sacred Heart Church, Sat, Dec 6, 7pm. Tickets available at Lesser Brothers Jewelers, Patina's or call 519-857-7458.

INGERSOLL MEDITATION

\$10 donation, Wed 6:30-8pm. No experience necessary. Just come, get comfortable & listen as the meditation guides you into relaxation & ease. Join "Ingersoll Meditation Group" on Facebook to get all the info & address or call 519-485-0629.

AFFECTED BY SOMEONE'S ADDICTION?

Nar-Anon groups are a worldwide fellowship for those affected by someone else's addiction. We offer our help by sharing our experience, strength & hope. Helpline 1-800-477-6291. Please contact your local area or region for specific information regarding group changes. Some group, area, and regional website information can be found at <https://www.nar-anon.org/other-sites>.

ST. GEORGE'S ANGLICAN CHURCH

172 King Street, Thorndale is having their annual Carol Service & Lessons! On Sun, Dec 7, 7pm. Come listen to the Christmas Story unfold. All are welcome!

THORNDALE DINNER THEATRE

Looking for a Christmas gift for that hard to buy for person on your list? Perhaps a night out would fit the bill. Dinner theatre tickets go on sale Dec 6 at the Thorndale Library 10am - noon. On that day only (at the library) if you buy 11 tickets, you will get the 12th free. Tables seat 12 people. Tickets are \$50 each & will be on sale at the Thorndale Hardware as of 2pm Dec 6 (cash or cheque only). They will also be available on line at that time at <https://www.ticketowl.io/thorndalefallfair>. The play is "A Murder of Scarecrows" by Pat Cook. It runs Feb 21, 22 (brunch), 27 & 28, 2026 with a 'play only' performance (no meal) Feb 26 for \$25. For more information call Jackie 519-461-0218.

LEARN TO HAND SEW WORKSHOP

Coming in January 2026 (date TBD) the EZAS is hosting a learn to hand sew workshop. You will be provided with a sewing kit to take home, and will learn the basic stitches, how to hem & sew on a button. Follow EZAS on social media, and join our email list for details at www.embrofair.com.





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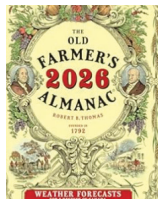
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BLUE CHRISTMAS ~ THERE IS A LIGHT

Join us Dec 17, 7pm at Westminster United Church in Thamesford. The holidays can be difficult times for anyone who has suffered a loss or hurt. Blue Christmas is a service of comfort, it is a way where we can recognize the depth of the season & help process those negative feelings that might be held within and during the holidays. By doing so, we can all celebrate more fully, knowing we have acknowledge those who are no longer with us or what we might have left behind. Jesus told his disciples, when you are weary from travel & grief "let us go into the quiet place, we will find rest & nourishment". Here, in this quiet place, let all who are grieving & all who weary find rest & nourishment for their soul. Often sadness fills our souls for what has happened in our lives: losing a loved one, illness, divorce, job loss, feeling isolated, feeling lost. No matter what kind of experience we have in our life, it will be never be the same. The Blue Christmas service is a place for silence, remembering, grief, sharing memories. Lighting a candle & listening to the silence. You are not alone. Come how you are, the door is open. For more information give me a call 519-532-1805, Gerard Hamoen Pastoral Care Minister, Westminster United Church.

SWEABURG LIONS OLD FASHION CHRISTMAS

Sat, Dec 6, 6:30pm at the Lions Pavilion at the ballpark in Sweaburg. Everyone is welcome to join us. There will be hot drinks, cookies, music, childrens' crafts (a favourite), wagon rides & a bonfire. We would be grateful for any donations of warm clothing or non-perishable foods in support of Operation Sharing. Bundle up & bring the family. Hope to see you there.

HOLIDAY FLORAL CENTREPIECE WORKSHOP

Get in the holiday spirit with this fun floral workshop! Dec 6, 10-11:30am, join us as Maybells & Daisies leads a holiday centerpiece workshop on behalf of the Embro & Zorra Agricultural Society. Tickets are \$60 and include all the materials as well as a gourmet coffee bar. Erin will teach you how to make a beautiful centerpiece that you can take home & will last for all your family gatherings. Tickets can be purchased online at embrofair.com.

EZAS ANNUAL MEETING

All are welcome to join us for a catered meal and the EZAS Annual Meeting Jan 26, 2026. We will review all of the success EZAS had over 2025 and discuss plans for 2026. Tickets \$25 available at www.embrofair.com.

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CHRISTMAS BELLS

Ingersoll Choral Society presents "Christmas Bells" at Ingersoll CRC, 429 King St. W, Ingersoll. Festive music for the whole family, with special guest, the Thamesford Handbell Choir. Dec 13, 2pm & 7pm. Tickets \$25, \$15 kids 12 & under. Bake Sale at each performance. Tickets at Patina's, Ingersoll, Long & McQuade, Woodstock, email ingersollchoralsociety@gmail.com or online at <https://ticketscene.ca/o/ingersollchoralsociety>.

8th ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BAKE SALE

Starts Dec 20 at 7151 Hamilton Rd., Putman. 519-485-0854.

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THORNDALE LIONS CLUB



Peggy Segeren

Santa Claus Parade Dec 12th

To enter a float, email John Ross- lionjohn@bell.net

Merry Christmas & Happy Holidays!

Thorndale Lions Medical Centre
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INGERSOLL SANTA'S VILLAGE

The Ingersoll Cheese & Agricultural Museum Annual Santa's Village runs Sat, Dec 6 & 13, 4-8pm. We've added a special daytime Santa's Village

Dec 6 Balloon Twisting, Crafts, Letters to Santa & Visit With Santa.
Dec 13 Stella Jurgen & Jazz Band, Letters to Santa, Crafts & Visit With Santa and Mrs. Claus.

Dec 20 A Special Day Time Santa's Village, Low Sensory from 12-1pm (sounds off/limited lights), Face Painting, Letters to Santa & Visit With Santa and Mrs. Claus. Be sure to follow us on Facebook for updates and news on Santa's Village!

THAMESFORD TROJANS HOME GAMES

December 5 - 12 - 14 - 19.

All games at Thamesford Area Recreation Centre.

CUCKOO'S NEST 2025-26 CONCERT SEASON

THE BARREL BOYS "Carols from the Barrel" Sun, Dec 14, 7:30pm, Chaucer's Pub. A bluegrass powerhouse featuring rich vocal harmonies, killer picking, and a fun-loving, down-to-earth stage presence. Informed by the deep traditions of bluegrass, country, old-time & Americana, The Boys have crafted their unmistakable sound into a joyful and deeply soulful musical experience.

PUB CAROLING with Paul Grambo & Steve Holowitz. Fri, Dec 19, 7:30pm, Chaucer's Pub. Promises to be a night of fun & joyous singing to get us in the mood for the Christmas season. All singers and non-singers are welcome. Net proceeds after expenses go to the London Food Bank. For Information call 519-319-5847 or email folk@iandavies.com.

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ZORRA HERITAGE GROUP

Identifying Historic "Greats of Zorra" The Beachville District Historical Society's Zorra Heritage group is currently developing the stories of individuals connected to, but not necessarily born in Zorra, who before their death gained recognition for contributions beyond the Township. Currently there are 78 on the group's "Greats of Zorra" list. Additional suggestions are always welcome. The next Zorra Heritage group meets the 1st Wed of the month at 7pm, at Beachville District Museum. Zorra resident or not, you are welcome. A summary of the career of one of the people listed:

Dr. Gordon Murray was born in 1894, one of 6 children. His family lived in Zorra near Harrington, and his early education was in Zorra. He interrupted his medical training in Toronto to join the Canadian Army as an artillery gunner ranked as sergeant major in WWI. He graduated from the University of Toronto in 1921 and had further surgery training in England & New York, before returning to Toronto in 1928. Dr. Murray went on to gain international recognition for his work on heparin, an anticoagulant; surgical correction of congenital heart defects; and research on an artificial kidney. Dr. Murray received the Order of Canada in 1967 and died in Toronto in 1976.

INGERSOLL 50+ CENTRE BUS TRIPS

London Knights Hockey Game Wed, Feb 4. Departs 4:45pm (6:30pm game) Price includes school bus transportation, ticket in the 300 section, driver gratuity.

Irish Kitchen Party Mon, Mar 17. Irish singers, dancers, fiddlers & story-tellers. Bus departs 11am. Price includes motor coach transportation, driver gratuity, buffet lunch & a fabulous show.

THE GREAT PUMPKIN SAYS "THANKS".

Thanks to the many who managed the dozen or so sites to receive & divert massive quantities of pumpkins. Thanks to the 100s who brought pumpkins to those sites. Thanks to the farms which feed the pumpkins to their livestock. Bryan Smith adds his thanks to those of the Great Pumpkin Rescue.

INGERSOLL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

We look forward to a new meeting place! In January 2026 we will be meeting at the Ingersoll Seniors Centre, 250 Ingersoll St. S. At 7:30pm on Jan 27 the topic is: "What's Bugging You". Nancy Abra is presenting the topic of garden bugs & diseases. Friends & visitors are welcome. If interested, annual membership is only \$10.



Get The Village Voice by email!
Send a message to: linda@jcgraphics.ca

LOVE LOCAL NEWS?

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WINTER WONDERLAND BAZAAR

Join us at the Woodingford Winter Wonderland Bazaar Sat, Dec 6, 9-12pm. Please call Jen for information 519-485-7053 x2309.

SANTA CLAUS PARADES

Dec 6 London (Argyle) 11am • Norwich 11am • Embro 6:30pm
Dec 7 Stratford 5pm • Belmont 6pm
Dec 12 Thorndale 7pm Dec 13 Innerkip 6pm
Dec 20 Mt Elgin • Burgessville 7pm
Dec 21 Thamesford 6pm



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WOODSTOCK CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Dec 6 Christmas Bazaar at The Church of The Epiphany, Dundas St. Woodstock 9-2pm. There will be lots for everyone. Homemade cookies, candy, preserves. Baking table with lots of homemade baking & our famous Christmas pudding & shortbread. Our deli table will have shepherds pie, turkey pies, etc. There will also be an Attic Treasures room full of gently used Christmas decorations. Check out the several vendors that will be here to help you with your Christmas shopping. Join us for lunch 11-1pm with our soup & sandwich, tea or coffee & apple crisp or our famous homemade Christmas pudding for only \$12.

Bazaar



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EMBRO LEGION BRANCH #318 128 Huron St, Embro
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Brunch Dec 7.
Trivia Night Jan 17.

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St James Church
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DEC 13
2pm & 7:30pm



HAPPY HOLIDAYS IN A BAG

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Do you have guys (or gals) on your list this holiday season who are hard to buy for? It's commonly heard that guys are hard to buy for and that is why Hearts for Ethiopia is introducing... Happy Holidays in a Bag. All the products in the gift bag are local, delicious, consumable and sure to please even the hardest to buy for guy or gal. Your gift gives 3 times – to the person receiving the gift, to local businesses and to the women & children in Ethiopia who benefit from the projects Hearts for Ethiopia funds. On top of all of that, the organization does the shopping for you – it doesn't get any better than that! Choose which size bag(s) you would like to give. The organization has a \$50 bag & a \$100 bag. To see the products in Happy Holidays in a Bag, for more information and/or to order, visit www.heartsforethiopia.com/happy-holidays. Orders are due Dec 7, 11:59pm. Pick-up of the bags will be Sat, Dec 13 at Maranatha Christian Reformed Church, 735 Frontenac Cres, Woodstock 10:30-3:30pm.

AL-ANON

Friends, families & adult children suffering from the effects of a loved one's drinking find understanding, support & hope at Al-Anon meetings. There are no dues or fees. Call 24 hours 519-434-2613. al-anon.alateen.on.ca, al-anon.org

Tues 7pm St. Pauls Church, 56 Thames St. S, Ingersoll.

SACRED HEART PARISH EUCHRE

We invite everyone to join us for a Euchre afternoon. It will be held in Henderson Hall, 133 John St, Ingersoll. Tues, Dec 9 & 23 start ing at 1pm. Refreshments provided. Contact: Martha 519-320-0785.



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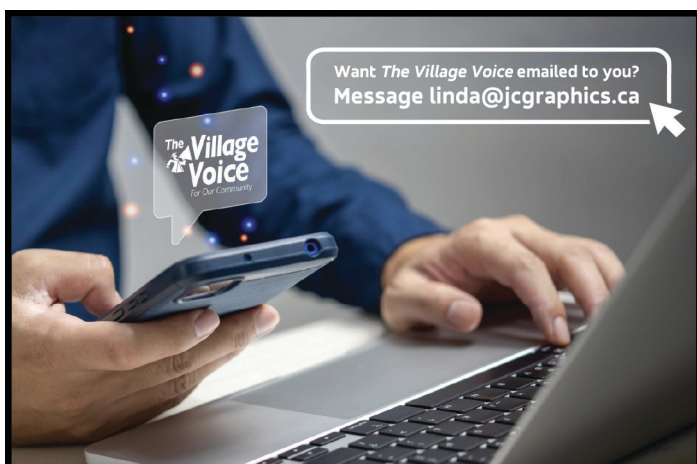
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THE CROONERS AND THE BETTYS

Think velvet, sparkle, sass, and swing... this is Christmas entertainment with style. The Crooners, Rick Kish & Connor Boa, two dashing & talented gentlemen, are coming to Ingersoll again along with the amazing Nevin Campbell Trio! But this time, The Crooners are bringing along special guests, The Bettys, 3 bewitching ladies, who sing in close harmony, dress in delightfully matching attire & move with sultry elegance. They will be adding "the sparkle" to the Crooners' "festive swing"! Together, they deliver a festive fusion of nostalgia, charm, and show-stopping talent that will have audiences laughing, swooning & singing along. 2 shows at the newly opened St. James' Church, 130 Thames St. S, Ingersoll. Dec 13, 2pm & 7:30pm. Tickets are available by calling 519-485-0385 or at Patinas, 112 Thames St. S. Tickets \$45. Don't miss out on this thoroughly entertaining show. Order your tickets without delay!



Thorndale Agricultural Society
Dinner Theatre presents:



A Murder of Scarecrows

A Play by Pat Cook

SHOW DATES

DINNER & SHOW:

FEB 21, 22 (BRUNCH), 27 & 28, 2026

SHOW ONLY: FEB 25, 2026

Dinner & Show \$50 & Show Only Night \$25

Ticket Sales: <https://www.ticketowl.io/thorndalefallfair>
(Online starting Dec 6, 2pm)

BOX OFFICE DATES

PRE-SALE DEC 6, 10AM, THORNDALE LIBRARY
BUY 11 TICKETS, GET 1 FREE TODAY ONLY 10AM-NOON

THORNDALE COMMUNITY CENTRE:
DEC 12 (AFTER PARADE), DEC 15 10-NOON,
DEC 16 5-7PM, DEC 17 6-8PM, DEC 20 10-NOON

THORNDALE HARDWARE
STARTING DEC 6, 2PM (DURING BUSINESS HOURS)

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INFO CALL JACKIE @ 519-461-0218

<https://www.facebook.com/ThorndaleDinnerTheatre>
online ticket purchases attract processing fees

Bits n Clips

THANK YOU ~ HOGG

The family of the late Dorene Hogg wish to express our heartfelt thanks to all who offered kindness and support during our recent loss. A special thank you to neighbours and friends for cards, flowers and donations. Thanks to staff at Oxford Manor and Dr. Roth for their care over the few years mom lived there. To Gerard Hamoen, for his regular visits to her, the care from Alexandra Hospital in her final days and the service from Brock and Visser.

Your support will always be remembered.

Barb Wilkins, Marilyn Fleischer, Bob Hogg and families.

THANK YOU ~ BONIFACE

The family of Ken Boniface wishes to express heartfelt thanks to our extended family & friends for the many expressions of kindness & sympathy shown at the time of Ken's passing. It is in times like these when we most appreciate our deep roots in this close-knit, caring community. We're truly grateful for your steady, heartfelt support.

With sincere appreciation,
we thank each and every one. Ken's Family

NATURE CLUB

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT Sat, Dec 27, 9am at Lawson Nature Reserve. Started in 1900, the Christmas Bird Count is North America's longest running citizen science project. Counts happen in over 2,000 localities throughout the Western Hemisphere. Join the camaraderie, come out to the Reserve & help with the count. We work as a group, so no bird identification experience necessary. Binoculars are a definite asset & some may be provided. For more information contact Peter 519-425-0429.



WILDLIFE PHOTO RETROSPECTIVE WITH TERRY PARKER Wed, Jan 14, 7pm. Local Canadian wildlife photographer, Terry Parker, will offer a curated overview of his best career photos. With 30 years of professional experience, his extensive knowledge & travels across Canada guarantees an interesting & informative showcase of our country's natural diversity. This free presentation will be at Ingersoll Public Library. Come out to be awed & uplifted by the beauty of our great country. For more information contact Sheila 519-485-2645. www.ingersollnatureclub.com.

THAMESFORD LIBRARY

Happy Holidays from the staff at the Thamesford Library. We would like to thank the Thamesford community for making 2025 a wonderful year!

Tales for Tots Join us for our last Tales for Tots story time in 2025 Wed, Dec 3, 10:30am.

Storytime with Santa Fri, Dec 5, 5pm. story & photo with Santa.

Mahjong Drop in program Wed 1-3pm, everyone is welcome!

Knits 'N' Knots Fri 10-11:30am, a relaxing time of knitting, crocheting (or other crafty hobby) & casual conversation. This is an adult social drop-in program. Please bring your own supplies.

2025 Holiday Hours

Closed – Wed, Dec 24-Fri, Dec 26

Open – Sat, Dec 27, 9-1pm

Open – Tues, Dec 30, 10-7pm

Closed – Wed, Dec 31-Fri, Dec 2

The branch will re-open Sat, Jan 3 at 9am

Contact the library 519-285-3219 or thamesfordlibrary@ocl.net.

PROGRAMS AT INGERSOLL 50+ CENTRE

MOVIE NIGHTS Wed 6pm. A movie with light snacks & refreshments.

WEDNESDAY DINING & SOCIAL 2nd & 4th Wed of each month for a \$13 dinner & social. Register by 12pm the day before.

SKETCHY SENIORS Tues 1-3:30pm. A drop-in session for creative minds. Bring your project & learn from other like-minded individuals. Painting, sketching, storytelling, origami, there are no limits in this program. Some materials provided.

FARKLE & CRIBBAGE Wed 6pm. Bring your own game OR join in on one from our selection. Chess, checkers, trivia & more available.

TIMELINES AND TALES (HISTORY) Tues 9:30-11:30am. Until Dec 19. Thought-provoking discussions!

CARD & TABLE GAMES See our newsletter for a more detailed schedule. Bridge (Wed, Fri), Bid Euchre (Mon), Pepper (Tues, Thur), Bingo (Wed), Mah Jongg (American on Mon, Chinese on Thur), Mexican Dominoes (Fri), Carpet Bowling (Tues), Billiards (all week), and Darts (Thur).

WOOD CARVING Mon 1pm. Enjoy carving pictures into wood, creating beautiful figurines & more. Carvers provide their own supplies.

WOODSHOP A well-equipped shop for you to create your projects start to finish. A membership and orientation are required prior to using any of the equipment.



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PILATES Thur 11am. Low-impact exercise, focusing on the core and extending from there to work every part of your body.

STROKE RECOVERY, COPD, PARKINSON'S DISEASE FITNESS Tues/Thur 10:30am. Please call for further information: 519-485-3869.

DROP-IN FITNESS CLASSES: PICKLEBALL Mon 9:30am Trinity United Church. Drop-in rate \$5/week.

TAI CHI Mon 12:30pm. Can be done standing or seated.

VON SMART Exercise Mon & Thur 1:30pm. This is a free class.

CIRCUIT TRAINING Mon 4:30pm. A 30-min workout that involves performing a series of exercises that target different muscle groups.

LINE DANCING Beginner Mon 6pm - Improver Mon 7:15pm - Absolute Beginner Wed 10:30am. Contemporary line dances in a fun-filled class. No partner is needed but feel free to bring a friend.

TOTAL BODY WORKOUT Mon 9am, Tues 9am.

CHAIR YOGA Tues 10am, Thur 10am. A mostly seated class, gentle yoga poses are used to strengthen and stretch the body.

WALKING CLUB Wed 9am. Call to get exact walking locations.

CHAIR FITNESS Wed 9am. A gentle yet vigorous workout.

TOTAL TONING TIME Wed 5:30pm. Sculpt, sweat & shine!

YOGA FOR A HEALTHY BACK Wed 6:45pm. Focus on balancing, strength & flexibility in the back & hips.

GENTLE YOGA Thur 9am. Gentle yoga both standing & on the floor.

STRENGTH & STRETCH Fri 9am.

OSTEOFIT Fri 10:30am. Class can be done standing or seated.



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THISTLE THEATRE

The Perils of Persephone Congratulations & Thank You! The Board of Directors would like to congratulate the cast & crew of our 30th Anniversary production on an amazing show. We would like to thank our Director, Sue Garner; Assistant Director, Linda Pilon; Producer, John Turvey; and Assistant Producer, Paul Brekelmans; for their leadership roles. Our cast of Doug Turvey, John Hazeleger, Heather West, Becca Potter, D'Arcy Irvine, Becky Issenman, and Shirang Raval were spectacular, and delivered some wonderful comedic performances. As always, the crew stepped forward with amazing contributions in terms of set design, costumes, props, lighting & sound. A special acknowledgment to our Stage Manager, Joshua Issenman. Over 780 patrons attended the 7 performances, and we would like to thank our patrons for your continued support. Without you, there is no show! Truly – our 30th Anniversary is a celebration of our audience & our community. Are you interested in volunteering & being part of community theatre in Embro? Reach out through www.thistle-theatre.com; we would love to have you join us!



Next show: "The Mighty Men of Zorra" Just in time for Christmas, tickets are now on sale at Thistle-Theatre.com for our next production. This is the 3rd of a series of unique Zorra based plays written by William Butt focusing on the why & how an historic event occurred. This play to be held in the Embro Town Hall between Mar 20-29, 2026, leads towards the story of the 1893 World Champions in tug-o-war; however, there are many other contributing events uniquely dramatized along the way.

COMING THIS DECEMBER TO ITOPA

Inspecting Carol by Daniel Sullivan. Get ready for a hilarious, behind-the-scenes holiday comedy! Inspecting Carol follows a struggling theatre company trying to mount their annual production of A Christmas Carol. When a mysterious man shows up asking to audition, the troupe mistakes him for an undercover inspector from the National Endowment for the Arts. Chaos erupts as the cast scrambles to impress—leading to outrageous rehearsals, clashing egos, and a show that goes wildly off the rails. If you love backstage antics, sharp wit & festive mischief, this comedy delivers the perfect dose of holiday cheer! Dec 12, 13, 14*, 18, 19, 20*, 21*. Evening Performances 7:30pm, Matinee Performances(*): 2pm. ITOPA – Ingersoll Theatre of Performing Arts, 88 Thames St S, Ingersoll. Tickets at <https://www.itopa.ca/buy-tickets>.



Seat Sponsorship Want your name permanently displayed in the theatre? Dedicate a seat to yourself or someone who loves the arts. Receive a personalized plaque on a seat & in the theatre lobby. All for just \$150. To sponsor a seat, email: info@itopa.ca.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON LADIES LEAGUE

Weekly games over 200. Week 4: Michelle Kirwin 246. Week 5: Michelle Kirwin 246, Barb Freemantle 213. Week 7: Toni Scaiff 209. Week 8: Bonnie Johnstone 213. Week 9: Henrietta Mulder 207. Week 10: Toni Scaiff 202, 266, 208, Michelle Kirwin 245. Week 11: Michelle Kirwin 229, 221, 248, Toni Scaiff 216. Week 12: Bonnie Johnstone 206.

Christmas Colouring

Happy Holidays from JC Graphics and Your Village Voice



ALZHEIMER SOCIETY SOUTHWEST PARTNERS

Are you concerned about changes in memory? We're here to help. The Alzheimer Society Southwest Partners is the local community agency dedicated to supporting individuals living with dementia and their care partners. We provide a circle of care through our programs and services which include dementia education, counselling and support and therapeutic recreation. With offices in London, St. Thomas and Woodstock, we are truly your partner in dementia care. For more information visit alzswp.ca or call 1-888-495-5855.

THAMESFORD FRIENDSHIP CLUB

Wed, Dec 10 the Thamesford Friendship Club is looking forward to a merry musical afternoon in the Beaty Room of the Thamesford Library. A traditional Christmas dinner will be catered at 12 noon. Followed by an hour of songs & Christmas carols led by the talented Ruth Calder & George Quinn duo. To reserve your spot or if you have any questions contact Helen 519-285-2024 or Shirley 519-285-2938 by Wed, Dec 3. Cost \$20. Thamesford Friendship Club invites anyone who is 55+ in Thamesford & area. Come enjoy the most wonderful time of the year with friends!

DIABETES 101:

Are you at risk of developing diabetes, have recently been told you have Prediabetes or Type 2 Diabetes or simply need a refresher? Join our dietitians for a 2 hour session on how simple changes can set you up for a healthier future! To register for this class call, 519-485-1700, ext 8611

Alexandra Hospital Tues, Dec 9 or Tues, Jan 13, 10-12pm.

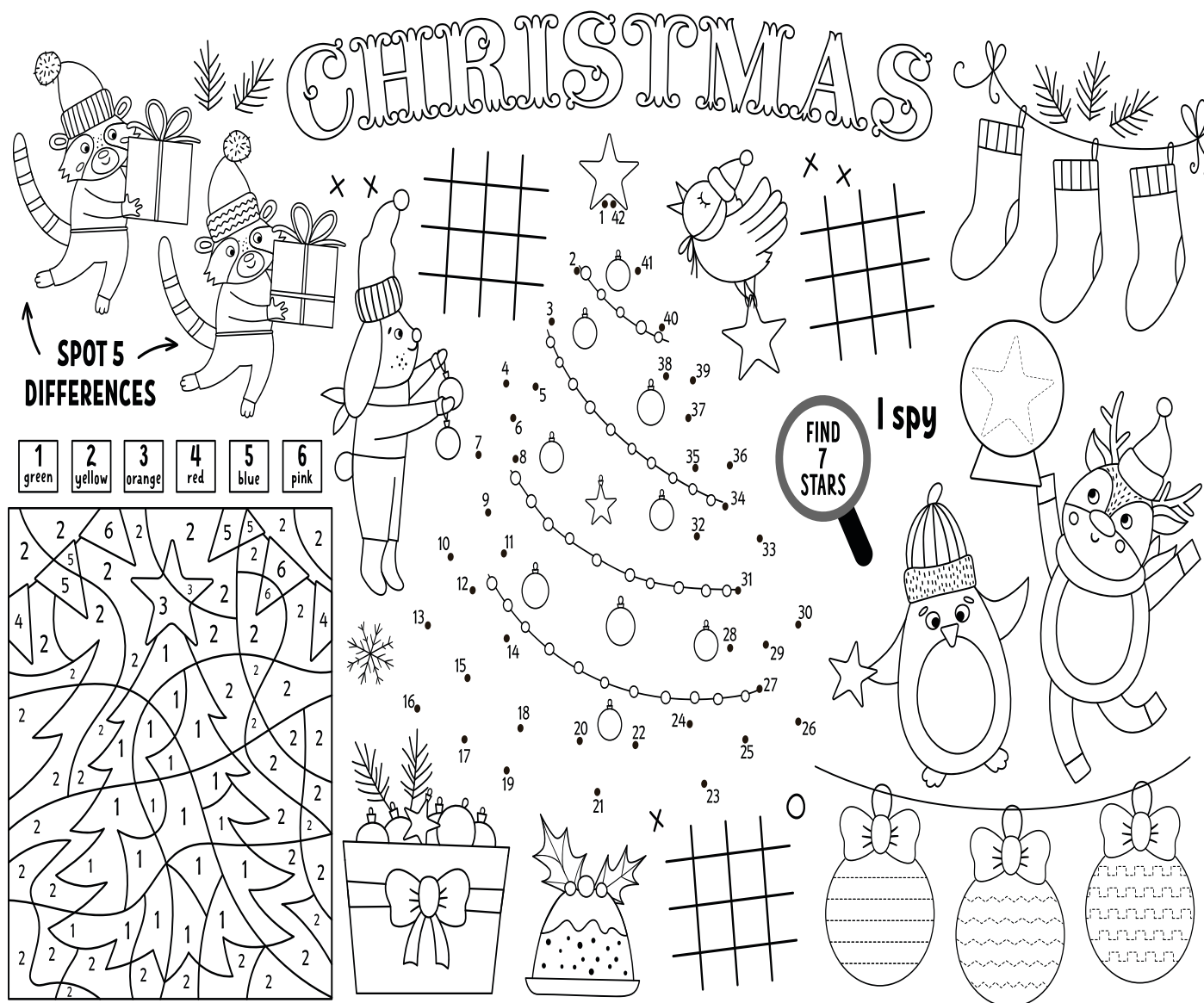
A GIFT TO YOUR WHOLE FAMILY

When a teen signs up for an exchange with ISE, the whole family has an extraordinary experience. Firstly, while doing the application, they focus on the strengths & interests of family members. Secondly, they consider what adding a student from one of ISE's 6 destinations – France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Spain or Switzerland will do to the way they see their own country. Thirdly, they rediscover the local teen who went far away to bring back ideas & experiences and has been changed by them. International exchanges for school-aged students are a way to build understandings of yourselves, your country & our relations with the world. Apply via www.iseontario.on.ca and/or contact bryasmit@oxford.net for more information.

MANY HANDS & FELLOWSHIP=PROJECT FUN!

By Laura Green

Braemar & Lakeside Women's Institute (WI) members were 7 busy bees working in the beehive (basement) at Christ Church Huntingford out of rain & wind storm that was brewing outside on Nov 5. The beehive had 5 stations set up – 3 sewing machines, a cutting table, a pressing table, one person turning the items inside out & sewing the buttons to make jar grippers & pocket prayer squares. By the end of afternoon & just in time for tea, 14 jar grippers & 13 pocket prayer squares were completed. The items were donated to the Home & Heart Community: Cancer Care Bags c/o Holly Bucholtz. For more information about the Cancer Care Bags which are free of charge for Oxford & Brant residents of all ages who are going through cancer treatment, please call/text Holly 226-922-9429 or email hollybucholtz@live.com. All branches in Oxford District would like to send Season Greetings to all.



COLOURING THROUGH GRIEF

Third Wed monthly. One time fee of \$15. Registration is required. Call 519-536-3370. Check out our website www.caringheartssupportnetwork.com.

COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES

250 Ingersoll St. S. ~ 519-485-3869 ~ css@ingersollseniors.com

GROCERY BUDDY Our friendly volunteers will pick up groceries for you! Volunteers are needed as this program grows.

FROSTY MEALS \$7.50/entrée \$2.75/soup/dessert. Free delivery.

MEALS ON WHEELS \$7/day, served at lunch time Mon-Fri.

CURBSIDE MEALS Full meal & dessert Tues, \$10. Pick up 11:45-12:15pm. Free delivery to Ingersoll & Thamesford available.

Dine In: Full meal & dessert on Fri in our Dining Room, \$10. Free delivery to Ingersoll & Thamesford available. For Tues & Fri meals, please call to book your meal by 12pm the day before!

HOME HELP & MAINTENANCE PROGRAM SMALL FEE FOR SERVICE. We are looking for people to clean homes & do landscaping. Do you have a truck to help with large deliveries?

TRANSPORTATION for older adults & those with disabilities in Ingersoll & surrounding areas. We provide rides to & from appointments, errands, etc. Reasonable rates & reliable, friendly volunteer drivers. 3-day notice preferred. We are looking for people to drive. Drivers are reimbursed for their mileage.

ASSISTIVE DEVICE LOAN PROGRAM This FREE program has a wide range of equipment from crutches to wheelchairs. We also take donations! DROP OFF & PICK UP Mon-Fri 9-12pm. We currently have electric wheelchairs & scooters available to lend. We also have 2 monitors that will magnify text, images & objects. Please call ahead to enquire more about these devices.

HELP WITH FORMS FREE, by appointment. Examples include CPP, OAS, GIS. and passport forms, etc. Right now, we are assisting those with simple taxes at no cost.

TELEPHONE REASSURANCE Security checks can make all the difference to an individual alone at home. If you or a loved one would like to talk with a friendly volunteer once a day or once a week.

FOOT CARE CLINIC \$31. Call for appointment. Our trained providers can also come to your home.

VOLUNTEERS We are looking for volunteers to assist with Meals on Wheels delivery on Mon, Wed & Fri 11:30-1pm in Ingersoll. Please call Victoria Adshade 519-485-2269 if you're interested in helping.

FREE YOUTH PROGRAM

Free youth program for ages 12-18. 201 Royal Canadian Air Cadet Squadron: * Participate in survival training exercises * Fly simulators * Learn leadership skills & make lifelong friendships * Join the squadron pipe & drum band. * Earn community service hours * All training & uniforms are free of charge. The squadron meets weekly on Wednesday at the Dorchester Optimist Club, 6:30-9pm. For more info: email: captain.higgins@outlook.com. <http://www.aircadets.ca/201/>

EVERYDAY ORGANIZED

If your goal is to get organized in 2026, one of the best first steps is to take stock of your family's clutter threshold. A clutter threshold is the point at which "stuff" tips from feeling comfortable to feeling overwhelming. Everyone's threshold is different. For some, a stack of papers on the counter is no big deal; for others, it's a source of stress every time they walk past. Understanding these thresholds in your household is key to creating systems that work for everyone. When you recognize how each family member views the space, you begin to see what's important to them. Maybe one person treasures having books within reach, while another needs clear surfaces to feel calm. These differences can explain why one person feels fine in a room that another finds chaotic. Talk as a family about how much is "enough" in shared spaces. Is one shelf of board games plenty, or does everyone want more? Are kitchen counters clear except for a coffee maker, or is it okay to keep small appliances out? The goal isn't perfection, it is agreement. Once you understand everyone's clutter threshold, you can create organizing systems that respect those boundaries. For example:

- Label bins so kids know exactly where their toys belong.
- Agree on a set number of coats or shoes that can live by the door.
- Decide as a family which items stay in shared spaces and which are tucked away. When everyone feels heard, it is easier to keep up with the systems you set. Organizing is not about rigid rules, it is about making your home work for the people who live there. By identifying & honoring each person's clutter threshold, you'll reduce conflict & build a plan your family can stick with. If you're ready to get organized in 2026 but aren't sure where to start, I'd be glad to help you find systems that fit your family's needs. everydayorganized.ca.

ALL THINGS NATIVITY

Dorchester United Church, 4100 Catherine St, is currently planning their 2nd Annual display of All Things Nativity. We will be showcasing the Nativity in a variety of forms from rug hooking to ceramic to wood & more. The showing will be held Sun, Dec 7, 11-3pm. The cost of admission is a donation to the Dorchester Food Bank.

GRIEF SUPPORT FOR MAID RELATED LOSS

This monthly in-person grief support group for loss related to Medical Assistance in Dying (MAiD) offers a compassionate, safe space to explore this unique loss. The next group meeting is Wed, Dec 17, 6-7pm at the Tillsonburg Library, 2 Library Lane. The group is free of charge & pre-registration is requested. To register or inquire about an evening group, contact Faye Brekelmans 519-866-3016 or email faye@compassionategriefsupport.ca.

FOOD ADDICTS ANONYMOUS

The only requirement to membership in FA is a desire to stop eating addictively. No dues, no fees, no weigh-ins. No in person meetings, visit <http://www.foodaddicts.org> for zoom. For information, call Gayle 226-927-4025.

CLASSIFIED ADS



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Facebook!

Cell: 519-535-4989
Office@jmcclimited.com

Jeremy Munro
Embryo, Ontario

PROSTATE CANCER SUPPORT GROUP

We meet in person & via Zoom 7-8:30pm on the 1st Wed of the month except July & Aug at 140 Pine Valley Blvd, London. Everyone is welcome! Contact: Carl 519-852-4277, carlkelly39@gmail.com; John 519-365-1599, johnolivei@gmail.com. Visit our Facebook page at: London Prostate Support Group and www.pcsupportgroup.ca.

TOURISM OXFORD

Unwrap a joyful adventure in Oxford at family-run shops with festive finds. Book a gathering at a cozy restaurant or bring the celebration home with handcrafted chocolate, cheese, baked goods, & local brews. Gift an experience to keep the memories going well into the new year & find holiday events, sparkling lights, and more merry fun at www.tourismoxford.ca/holidays.

GOD – GLOBAL ORGANIZATION FOR DIVINITY NAMADWAAR ONTARIO

We are delighted to share that our Inauguration celebrations were a grand success, with over 200 participants joining us in the esteemed presence of Oxford MP Mr Arpan Khanna and Ingersoll Mayor Mr Brian Petrie.

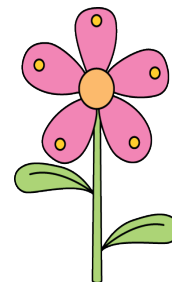


EMBRO PARADE and SANTA MEET & GREET

It's almost that time of year. Mark your calendars for the Embro Santa Parade Dec 6 starting at 6pm. The parade will start at the corner of 35th Line & Commissioners and end at Matheson Park. Following the parade, the community is invited back to Knox United Church for free hot chocolate & a bake sale put on by Knox United Church. Is your business or organization planning to enter a float? It is free to register online at embrofair.com. The community is invited to vote for their favourite float and the winner will receive Embro Fair passes.

THORNDALE HORTICULTURE SOCIETY

November has been a busy month. There was the clean up & getting the planters ready for the holiday season. We had our yearly AGM where we welcomed new board members & said goodbye to others. We are lucky to have a dedicated Board of Directors, they work behind the scenes, but are trying to make the right decisions for our organization. Our last speaker Paul Knowles had a different philosophy about gardening and made you think about your own garden experience. Our next meeting Dec 10 will be the last meeting of the year with a potluck dinner and the speaker is Brenda Symns of the London Garden Club and she will show us some Seasonal Arrangements using Natural Materials. As usual the meeting will be in room 3 at the Thorndale Community Centre but it will start at 6:30pm. Please bring your favourite dish, your own cutlery and plate & cup. And of course family & friends are always welcome. And it is never too late to become a member. Price is the same \$15 and \$10 for a 2nd person of the same household. Follow us on Facebook or get in touch with us at thorndalehort@gmail.com. There will be no meeting in January.



4-H ASSOCIATION AWARDS NIGHT

The Oxford County 4-H Assoc Awards Night was held Nov 21 at the Embro Zorra Community Centre, with Emcees Grace McKinlay & Megan Ball with the North Oxford Dairy & Oxford Swine 4-H Clubs organizing the special event for the 4-H youth & volunteers to be recognized for their achievements. Photographer for the event was Amy Danen. 4-H volunteers in Oxford received acknowledgment of their involvement in the 4-H program. 1st year volunteers—Rebecca Barnes, Cheryl Olthaar, Beth Sparling, Amber Warboys & Amanda Witmer; 5 years—Kirstin Dill & Sarah McIntosh; 10 years—Elizabeth Bruce & Kathryn Doan. There were 3 Oxford 4-H volunteers recognized for their long-time involvement with the 4-H program. 30 years—Karen Witmer, 35 years—Marian Sterk and 40 years—Geoff Innes. The 4-H Ontario Outstanding New Volunteer Award went to Kirsten Dill for Region 6. The Oxford Cloverbud 4-H Club returning members were presented their year plate & the 28 new Cloverbuds received a certificate. The 1st year 4-H youth participants stood up & were welcomed & congratulated. The 4-H Ontario Award of Achievement was presented to Levi Dill, Lexi Dill & Mathew McLeod. It is presented to youth who have completed 24 projects & 5 years in the 4-H program. The Rotary Club of Tavistock Outstanding 4-H Youth Awards were presented to Annabelle McLeod & Henry McCoy (Novice), Charlotte Ball & Chris Brekelmans (Jr) and Grace Piper & Henry Brekelmans (Intermediate). The Your Neighbourhood Credit Union Outstanding Overall Senior 4-H Youth Award was presented to Lauren Ball. Oxford County Plowmen's Assoc Outstanding Sr Agricultural 4-H Youth Award was presented to Jade Dill. Marian Sterk presented the Embro Fair 4-H High Points Award to Rayelle Grieve. The Terry Richardson Award was presented to Keenan Grieve. Keenan was absent as he is studying at Lakeland College, Alberta. The Oxford County Jr Farmers 4-H Scholarship was presented to Nathan Bean. Nathan Bean was absent as he is studying at University of Ottawa. The Oxford County 4-H Association Judging Awards were presented to Renee Walker (Novice), Jasmine Steen (Jr), Carmyn Doan (Intermediate) and Flynn Reinhart (Sr & Overall). The Youth Leader Award was presented to Megan Ball, Julia Brekelmans & Grace Piper. The Oxford County 4-H Project awards were presented to Amy Danen for 36 projects completed. Julia Brekelmans completed 42 projects. Megan Ball, Julia Brekelmans & Grace Piper each completed 48 projects. Megan Ball, Jacob Bergsma & Julia Brekelmans completed 54 projects. Lauren Ball & Lexi Dill completed 60 projects; Lexi Dill completed 66 projects and Connor Tree completed 90 projects. Jade Dill completed 150 & 156 projects. The Project of the Year award was presented to the Trash to Treasure 4-H project by the Hickson 4-H Club. The Oxford County 4-H Youth Graduating Award & the Longstanding Graduating Youth Award was presented to Amy Danen, Keaton Jones, Flynn Reinhart, Erin Shrigley & Jackson Sim. Grace Piper made a presentation of her experience at 4-H opportunities, Youth Adventure Camp & Impact Conference, she attended in 2025. Greetings from Township of Zorra Mayor Marcus Ryan, MPP Ernie Hardeman & 4-H Ontario Executive Director Christine Oldfield were given. Auctioneer Greg Kuepfer did a live auction of items donated by the Oxford 4-H Clubs throughout the evening. The Oxford County 4-H Assoc Annual meeting is Jan 28. Oxford 4-H would like to thank their 2025 sponsors: George Thornton Bequest Fund, Oxford Agropro Ltd, Ayr Farmers Mutual, Township of South-West Oxford, Township of Zorra, Corteva Agriscience, Oxford County Plowmen's Assoc, Your Neighbourhood Credit Union, Oxford County Jr Farmers Association, Ontario Mutuals, Rotary Club of Tavistock, Bernice Dickout & Family & Richardson Family.



Worship With Us

St George's On-The-Wye Anglican Church

172 King St., Thorndale. Look for us on Facebook!

Join us at 11 am!

Rev. Quenton Little, quenton_little@outlook.com, 226-237-4298

South Nissouri Presbyterian Church

Service 10am

17358 Oliver Rd at Heritage, Thorndale

Contact: Doug Hill 519-461-0906

Thorndale United Church Pastor Pam Wilcox

245 King Street www.tzuc.ca 519-609-6132

Dec 1 Registration for Kids Christmas Camp

Dec 6 Kids Christmas Camp Email lighthouse@tzuc.ca for details

Advent Bible Study - Dec 2, 9 & 16, 7-9pm

Dec 7 White Gift Sunday

Dec 9 Thorndale UCW Christmas Meeting

Dec 14 Coffee Hour 10am & Foodbank Sunday

Dec 24 Christmas Eve Service 8pm

Dec 28 Joint Service at Thorndale

Truth Community Church 519-285-2112

154978 15th Line, Thamesford, truthcommunitychurch.ca

Pastor Steve Twinem, tccthamesford@gmail.com

Truth Community Church 519-285-2112

154978 15th Line, Thamesford, truthcommunitychurch.ca

Pastor Steve Twinem, tccthamesford@gmail.com

Chalmers United Church Kintore, kintorechurch.com

Rev. Pirie Mitchell 519-639-0978, pirieminister@gmail.com

Sunday Services 11am. Changing to 10:30 am starting 2026.

We are accessible!

Mon Kintore Knitting & More 9:30-11am. Everyone welcome.

Dec 7 Advent 2

Dec 9 Over 50's Potluck Lunch 12:30pm.

Followed by Mystery Speaker.

Dec 14 Advent 3

Dec 21 Advent 4

Dec 24 Christmas Eve service 7pm

Dec 28 closed

Jan 4, 2026 Service starts at 10:30am

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

East Nissouri Union Church 519-709-0282

Corner of Rd 96 & Line 15, Uniondale Pastor Gail Kavelman

Banner United Church www.bannerunitedchurch.com

602800 Road 60 at Line 15, Zorra Twp.

Dec 7 Country Christmas" 3pm

DECEMBER

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
Fresh Cut Fraser Fir Trees available Dec 1 at Little Creek Tree Farm, Thorndale	1 Tai Chi, Ing 50+	2 - Total Body Workout, Ingersoll 50+ - Al-Anon, Ingersoll 7pm	3 - Ingersoll Meditation - Air Cadets, Dorchester - Zorra Heritage Group - Prostate Cancer Support Group	4 Pilates, Ing 50+	5 - Osteofit, Ing 50+ - Story time with Santa, Thamesford Library	6 - Choralaires concert - inter-Church concert - Embro Parade - Xmas Floral Workshop
7 - Embro Legion Brunch - Holiday in a Bag order deadline - Country Xmas, Banner - All Things Nativity	8 Wood Carving, Ing 50+	9 - Diabetes 101, Ingersoll - Sketchy Srs, Ing 50+	10 - Air Cadets, Dorchester - Walking Club, Ing 50+ - Movie Night, Ing 50+ - Thamesford Friendship	11 Gentle Yoga, Ing 50+	12 - Thorndale Parade - Inspecting Carol, ITOPA	13 - Choral Society concert - Crooners concert - Inspecting Carol, ITOPA
14 Inspecting Carol, ITOPA	15 VON Exercise, Ing 50+ VILLAGE VOICE DEADLINE	16 History Talk, Ing 50+	17 - Ingersoll Meditation - MAiD Support - Blue Xmas, Thamesford - Chair Fitness, Ing 50+	18 Inspecting Carol, ITOPA	19 - Strength & Stretch, Ingersoll 50+ - Inspecting Carol, ITOPA	20 - Putnam Xmas Bake sale begins - Santa's Village, Ingersoll (low sensory) - Inspecting Carol, ITOPA
21 Thamesford Parade	22 Circuit Training, Ing 50+	23 - Chair Yoga, Ing 50+ - Al-Anon, Ingersoll 7pm	24 Line Dancing, Ing 50+	25 	26	27 Annual Bird Count, Lawson Reserve
28	29	30	31 	1	2	3

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