

The Village Voice

THORNDALE

Issue 210
Since 2008



JANUARY 2026

OXFORD FEDERATION OF AGRICULTURE

The Oxford County Federation of Agriculture invites members & the community to its Annual General Meeting Thur, Jan 22, at Craigowan Golf Club, Woodstock. The evening will begin at 6pm, offering an opportunity to connect with fellow producers & celebrate the achievements of our agricultural community. This year's highlights include a keynote address by 'Wheat Pete' Peter Johnson, as well as the presentation of 2 prestigious awards: the Agricultural Hall of Fame Award to George Gilvesy and the Family Farm Award to Doanlea Farms, the Doan Family. These honours recognize outstanding contributions to agriculture & the dedication of local farming families. Tickets & additional event details are available at www.oxfordag.ca. Don't miss this chance to celebrate Oxford County's agricultural community—secure your spot today!

SAVE THE DATE! FEBRUARY 7TH

The Ingersoll Choral Society presents "Love Is In the Air: Selections of Love Songs featuring solos & duets by ICS Members & Friends". A matinee performance at 2pm, at the Ingersoll Christian Reformed Church. Follow us on Facebook or www.ingersollchoralsociety.ca for ticket information as it becomes available.

DROP-IN SHUFFLEBOARD

Drop-In shuffleboard at the Auditorium - Ingersoll Memorial Arena Tues & Thur, 12:30pm. New evening program starting Jan 15: Thur 6:30pm. Register online using the Pickup Hub app. "pickup hub.net". Equipment (cues) is provided. A great way to have fun & meet new people. Contact Trevor Martin 519-926-0039.

IN 2026 IT'S YOUR FIX!

Ingersoll Country Music Jamboree meets every other Fri 1-4pm at Masonic Hall, 190 Thames St S, Ingersoll. Join us, walk ins welcome. Qualifications: love 1950-70's country music, perform, listen, dance, enjoy! Jan 16, 30, Feb 13, 27, Mar 6, 20, Apr 10 & 17, May 1 & 15 & 29, June 5 & 19.

FLY AWAY! COME BACK RICHER

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EMBRO LEGION BRANCH #318 128 Huron St, Embro
Brunch is the 1st Sunday each month, Oct-May.
Trivia Night Jan 17.

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.

THAMESFORD TROJANS HOME GAMES

January 9 - 10 - 16 - 23 - 30.

All games at Thamesford Area Recreation Centre.

THAMES CENTRE COMMUNITY CHOIR

We begin 2026 with new music & best wishes to all for the new year. Our members invite those who like to sing to come to our rehearsals on Tues 7pm in Thorndale. For more information, please contact c_baskerville@hotmail.com. Come for the joy of singing & stay for the friends you meet.

COLDEST NIGHT OF THE YEAR WALK

The Coldest Night of the Year is a winterrific, family-friendly fundraising walk in support of United Way Oxford's Ingersoll Light House, a transition house that provides a stable home with on-site wraparound services, and United Way Oxford-funded Ingersoll services. Join us Feb 28, 4-7pm at Henderson Hall in Ingersoll. All funds raised in Ingersoll stay in Ingersoll! Walk with us. Warm hearts. Change lives. Sign up here: <https://cnoy.org/location/ingersoll>.

CURLING DAY IN CANADA - OPEN HOUSE

Sat, Jan 31, 12:30pm at Ingersoll District Curling Club, 36 Chisholm Dr, Ingersoll, ingersollcurlingclub.com.

Jitney play: 1pm & 3:45pm. Four end game, sign up on bulletin board.

Canada's Big Shootout: 2:30-3:30pm.

Sign up on bulletin board.

Bar open: 1pm-?

Kitchen open: 2-6:30pm

Silent Auction: tables open 1pm

Tables close at 5:30pm, 6pm, 6:30pm

Live Auction: 7pm. Bring a friend!

Scotties 1 vs 2 Page Playoff Game on TV: 6:30pm.



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A NEW YEAR-A NEW COMMUNITY CUPBOARD

We asked you, Thamesford, and you responded! Actually, let's step back a bit first... It was about a year ago that we brought community members together to discuss the food security needs in the Thamesford community. It was felt there were at least 35 families that could use some help stocking their cupboards on a regular basis. We also learned there was food going to waste that should find its way to tummies rather than landfill. We even heard that often a small hand up could be the difference between someone staying in our community or having to find other accommodations. We asked you, Thamesford, and you responded. Yes, a food security initiative with an ecological bent was needed in our community – and so the EcoMarket & Café was born. Westminster partnered with Cycles of Life to bring one of their Community Outreach Tables to Thamesford. Various iterations were discussed & pursued, and, in the end, it came back to Westminster Hall with our members & adherents, and many folks from the community at large doing the work. We have done this with food, household items, and personal hygiene items from Harvest Hands, with ongoing support from Cycles of Life, and with donations from our community as well. We asked you, Thamesford, and you responded. We started officially on the first of May and have been going every Thursday since. By mid-November, we had already served 885 families (an average of over 30 families per week) and 2,396 individuals. We average 12 volunteers each Thursday, with a total of well over 1,400 hours of time given. We asked you, Thamesford, and you responded. People have built carts to help bring food in & out. Lineage, specializing in cold storage & food chain logistics, has provided time, a lift, and even turkeys at Thanksgiving. Tim Horton's made us & Cycles of Life the recipients of their Holiday Smile Cookie Campaign. Our Stitch Connexion group has knitted hats, mitts & scarves for our patrons. Gifts went home with folks the week before Christmas. And volunteers ensured we still had a table on Christmas Day and New Year's Day since they were regular Market days anyway. We asked you, Thamesford, and you responded. And then there are the donations from families, friends, & businesses – a Halloween food drive, gifts from birthday parties, bake sales, matching funds & a grant from Gore Mutual Insurance, the food drive at TPS, and Kate Lockhart's annual food drive which, at writing was over 2,000 items and over \$3,500 in donations (and I'm sure it ended much higher than that!) We asked you, Thamesford, and you responded. And now, for the new year, we have a new Community Cupboard to help in the in-between times & to supplement our weekly market. We have a new fridge & freezer in there and we hope to supplement the donations from Harvest Hands & Cycles of Life with staples like milk, cheese, butter & eggs. We asked you, Thamesford, and you responded. But, really, we didn't even ask. We asked in the beginning for your input & you gave that. Since then, you have given your support, time, & donations. You have built the goodwill of this endeavour & made it a remarkable ministry. This is truly neighbours helping neighbours because we all need a hand up sometimes. Thank you, Thamesford – you really know how to respond!

Rev. Mark Marshall, Westminster United Church, 115 George St, Thamesford. makingconnexions.com.

CORN HOLE TOURNAMENT

The Mount Elgin Community Centre will be holding a fun Corn Hole Tournament on Fri, Feb 20. Doors open at 7pm with games to start at 7:30pm. Cost is \$40 per team of two. A light snack will be provided. Cash bar. Contact: Keith Prouse 519-808-6500 or Trevor Martin 519-926-0039 to reserve your spot.





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CREATIVE ARTS CENTRE

Visit the Gallery & Artisan Market We are open Mon-Fri 9-4pm and Sat 1-4pm. We are located at 125 Centennial Lane, Ingersoll (in the heart of Victoria Park). We offer membership, artists' studio times for various mediums, adult & youth classes, as well as hand-crafted gifts in our Artisan Market. Check out our Facebook page to see what events are happening now!

Upcoming Exhibition: Refurbished Art: Bringing New Life to Something Forgotten, Metal Sculptures by Robert Norrie. Jan 10-Feb 21. Join us Sat, Jan 10, 1-4pm for an opening reception.

Upcoming Classes: Applied Techniques in Watercolour with Deb Riopelle. Mon, Jan 19-Feb 23 (6 sessions), 6:30-8pm.

Abstract Magic with Alcohol Inks with Kathleen Jull, Sat, Jan 24, 1-3:30pm.

Improve Your Throwing Plates with Keri Axon. Sat, Jan 31-Feb 21 (3 sessions), 10-1pm.

Upcoming Events: ICAC Art Bingo Bring a friend & join us Jan 31, 1-3pm for a fun fundraising event: Art Bingo! Buy a ticket for \$35/person and play for the chance to win original artwork, plants,

baking, and other unique items all while supporting the Arts Centre! Over the course of 15 rounds, bingo winners will get to select their prizes from a selection of fantastic items. There are a limited number of spots available, so get your ticket today! Tickets available at www.creativeartscentre.com ("Events" "Art Bingo Tickets").





- HOME
- AUTO
- FARM
- COMMERCIAL



Tanya Buck, RIBO

info@hendersonyost.com

519-283-6614

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>.

NATURE CLUB

WILDLIFE PHOTO RETROSPECTIVE with Terry Parker. Wed, Jan 14, 7pm. You are invited to the Ingersoll Public Library for a free presentation by local Canadian wildlife photographer, Terry Parker. He will offer a curated overview of his best career photos. With 30 years of professional experience his extensive knowledge & travels across Canada guarantee an interesting & informative showcase of our great country's natural diversity. Come out and be reminded of what a beautiful country we call home! For more information call Sheila 519-485-2645 or www.ingersollnatureclub.com.

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!

Alexandra Hospital Tues, Jan 13 or Tues, Feb 10, 10-12pm, 2nd floor Education Room



See Our Website for Monthly Specials!

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4-H

4-H is wrapped up for 2025 AND looking forward to an exciting year in 2026! Youth between the ages 6-21 from urban & rural areas can participate in the leadership development 4-H program in Oxford County & beyond. The 4-H program for youth ages 9-21 (born in 2004-2016) covers many different programs involving health, environment, technology, agriculture, science, food, community & communication in a hands-on learning atmosphere. The 4-H Cloverbud program for youth ages 6-8 (born in 2017-2019) is based on a 3 year curriculum where there is something different for each of the years a member can participate in a hands-on learning atmosphere. There are 31 different topics that can be used, such as farm safety, goats, personal fitness, pigs, lakes & oceans, let's make music, beef, tie-dyeing to just name a few. The first meeting of the Oxford Cloverbud 4-H Club-2 is Jan 4 - contact Shonna wardshonna@hotmail.com or 519-854-6919 to become involved. As there is lots of interest for the Cloverbud program, there are limited spots available. All of the 4-H programs are delivered by screened & trained volunteers. Consider becoming a volunteer with the 4-H program with your child, although you do not need to have a child in the 4-H program to be a volunteer. The 4-H Ontario youth participant fee (\$120 for a calendar year) is paid online directly with 4-H Ontario. The Oxford County 4-H Assoc will be subsidizing the provincial youth participant fee by \$25 for Oxford 4-H youth members for 2026 (providing youth are registered in an Oxford 4-H project/club) with the George Thornton Bequest Funds. Oxford 4-H youth members will pay \$95 to join 4-H in 2025. BEFORE registering online, please check to make sure the 4-H project you want is available by contacting the Oxford 4-H Communications Coordinator oxfordcounty4h@gmail.com. New 4-H projects (ages 9-21): Oxford Beef 4-H Club will start up in Mar - contact oxford4hbeef@gmail.com and Oxford Swine 4-H Club & Thamesford 4-H Club contact Christy c_brekelmans@hotmail.com for more information. The Oxford Quilting 4-H Club will be starting in the spring - contact Linda oxfordquilting.4hclub@gmail.com for more information. The Mt Elgin 4-H Club is doing the Christmas in the Country 4-H project currently. Oxford County 4-H Association Annual General Meeting is Jan 28, 7:30pm via zoom. Consider becoming a Director to continue the 4-H program in Oxford County. Oxford County 4-H Assoc would like to thank youth, families, community supporters & sponsors for their dedication to keep the 4-H program in Oxford County strong. Thank you to all 4-H club volunteers for making 4-H available to youth! To know more about the 4-H program, please contact the Oxford 4-H Communications Coordinator, Shonna Ward, by email oxfordcounty4h@gmail.com or call/text 519-854-6919 or check out Oxford County 4-H Facebook.

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 group will meet the 4th Wed of the month 1-2:30pm at the Thamesford Library, 165 Dundas St, Thamesford. The group is free of charge & pre-registration is requested. The next meeting is Wed, Jan 28. To register or inquire about an evening group, contact 519-866-3016 or email faye@compassionategriefsupport.ca.

CAREGIVER CORNER

A safe space to share your caregiving journey. Connect with others who understand the challenges & rewards of caregiving. Share experiences, find support, and take time for yourself in a compassionate, judgment-free environment. Jan-Mar (3 month trial) First Wed of the month, 1:30-2:30pm. Zoom hosted by Nicole Bruder. To register: call or text 519-536-3370, email info@caringheartssupportnetwork.com.



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TOMMY RUSSELL: THE MAN BEHIND THE CAR

On Tues, Jan 13, 7pm the Beachville District Historical Society
welcomes Carol Bossenberry with the story of "Tommy Russell:
The Man Behind the Car". Local inventor of a car in the early
1900s. Join us at the Beachville District Museum for discussion &
lunch to follow. All are welcome.

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.

TOO EARLY FOR REUSEAPALOOZAH?

A fabulous social & environmental event is planned for Apr 25, jointly by the Engage & Inform Committee of South-West Oxford and the Oxford Coalition for Social Justice. Mark your calendar for that Saturday morning in Brownsville. Do you want to volunteer? Do you want a teen to earn volunteer hours. Do you belong to a group which could use the opportunity to spread the word about your good work while diverting valuable resources from landfill? Contact bryasmit@oxford.net to link up with Reuseapaloozaha.

ONTARIO ANCESTORS

Please join us Mon, Jan 12, 7pm on zoom for Sidney Williams 'presentation of "Your Heirlooms and the Next Generation"'. Sidney is a museum professional, curator, and community heritage leader with deep roots in the Beachville District Museum and the Beachville District Historical Society. With a passion for a traditional craft, collections care & public engagement, Sidney strives to make history tangible - whether through artifact accessibility, educational community programming, or hands-on experiences that connect visitors to South-West Oxford & Zorra Townships' stories of making and place. Sidney is the 2025 recipient of the Ontario Historical Society's Dorothy Duncan Award for Leadership in Heritage, recognizing her creativity, leadership, and commitment to ensuring small heritage institutions have a lasting and meaningful impact. To register for this presentation, please visit our home page at <https://oxford.ogs.on.ca>. This is a free event & all are welcome to attend.

HARRINGTON HALL FOR RENT

Planning a function or celebration? Why not hold it at Harrington Hall? Bright, accessible, cheery space. Holds up to 100. Reasonable rates. Contact Nancy 519-536-0955, or nancyskillings10@hotmail.com.

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.

TOURISM OXFORD

Make a resolution of relaxation, here in Oxford. Unwind with hot & cold at a soothing Nordic spa, embark on a nature walk on our trails, or immerse yourself in a creative experience, learning about Oxford and yourself. Start your explorations online at www.TourismOxford.ca.

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HARRINGTON GRAVEL PIT UPDATE

In the August 2025 edition of the Village Voice, we introduced many of you to the distressing & shocking news that an application had been filed with the MNR to open a gravel pit in Harrington. Distressing - due to the noise, dust, truck traffic, environmental damage, groundwater threat, cultural heritage impact & property value impact; and shocking - due to the Province and Oxford County's failure to protect us from the impact of the proposed pit to our properties and to our quality of life. We said we would keep you up to date on the approval process which is underway. But unfortunately, we have very little to report. Objection letters to the pit license application, submitted by "Protect Harrington" before the Nov 9, 2024 deadline, have received no response as of one year later. Objectors are given 60 days by the province to file an objection (in our case, that was Nov 9), while the applicant, with a responsibility to respond to objectors, has no deadline. Here we are, one year later, with no response from the license applicant. Meanwhile, we can at least continue the conversation with members of Zorra Council & municipal staff. We have done so on a number of occasions, and we have genuine sympathy for councillors who are constrained by provincial legislation from speaking their minds or helping us in any way. They fear being sued by the applicant if they express an opinion favourable to Harrington residents. No doubt members of Council have sympathy for us as we're on the verge of experiencing the distressing impact of a gravel pit operating in our community, but the councillors can't say so. You may think this situation is utterly bizarre and can't be true, but we assure you, this is indeed true. Let us return to some of the other shocking aspects of what is going on here. Provincial aggregate extraction policy is quite simply tyrannical. We are not allowed to present an argument saying that there is an abundance of gravel elsewhere, that there's no need to develop a pit in a village where it will disturb the lives of so many people. It's not considered a valid argument by the Province. And again, shockingly, there is no financial compensation required by an operator or provided by the Province for residents living beside a gravel pit. Here is where Oxford County has been asleep to the predations of provincial policy. Unlike many other municipalities, Oxford's Official Plan does not establish a setback between settlement areas & aggregate extraction. In addition to protecting residents, a setback would allow a community to grow. If we're supposedly all about managed growth of our settlement areas, why aren't we protecting the land where that might happen? Fortunately, Oxford is embarking on the creation of a new Official Plan, the first since 1995. Protect Harrington has requested Zorra Council to pass an Interim Control By-Law (ICBL). It's a legal move allowed by the Province, and it would create a breathing space for the study related to aggregate extraction. Our policies need improvement, especially the policy vacuum around communities being allowed a reasonable setback from industrial activities. Protect Harrington Committee, www.protectharrington.ca, 519-475-4766.

FUNG LOY KOK TAOIST TAI CHI®

Discover the benefits of a Taoist Tai Chi® arts introductory program to be held in Woodstock! Join us for a demonstration, ask questions, and learn more about our practice. Tues, Jan 6, 10:30-12 noon at St. David's United Church, Kirk Hall, 190 Springbank Ave, Woodstock and Wed, Jan 7, 7-8:30pm Church of the Epiphany, Basement Hall, 560 Dundas St, Woodstock. Visitors are welcomed anytime. For details, email Woodstock@taoist.org or visit www.taoist.org/Woodstock or call 1-888-824-2441.





THORNDALE LIONS CLUB



Winter Community Breakfast
Sun, Jan 25

Valentine's Day Bingo & 50/50
Mon, Feb 2

All the best to you in 2026

Thorndale Lions Medical Centre
Dr. Chapeskie & Dr. Lam
519-461-0776

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.

BOB HAYWARD AMONG ZORRA'S GREATS

The Beachville District Historical Society's Zorra Heritage group is currently developing the stories of individuals born and/or connected to 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 meeting of Zorra Heritage is the 1st Wed of the month 7pm, at the Beachville Museum. Zorra resident or not, you are welcome.

Bob Hayward became a Canadian hero & international celebrity by driving Supertest Petroleum's unlimited class hydroplane Miss Supertest III to the pinnacle of powerboat racing. While working on the family farm south of Embro, his remarkable mechanical talent made him a legend on the drag strip, a reputation that earned him a spot on the Supertest racing team as a mechanic. Within a year they put him behind the wheel, and he made history. He brought the international Harmsworth trophy to Canada in 1959, 1960 and 1961, soundly defeating the best the U.S. had. He became a national icon larger than powerboat racing, igniting Canadian pride at a time when the country had economic troubles & deep concerns about American influence over Canada's affairs. He died in a crash Sept 10, 1961 while driving a sister boat, Miss Supertest II, in the Silver Cup Regatta on the Detroit River. He was just 33 years old.



5 VILLAGE VOICES

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FITNESS ROOM Open to all members & equipped with a treadmill, elliptical, recumbent bike, spin bike, weights & more. If you want to work out independently, this is the place to do it! A fitness orientation is needed before the first use. \$1/use.

FUNCTIONAL MOVEMENT Tues 11am This class addresses the serious issues of aging independently & well. Following closely to the guidelines of the "longevity scale", the class will address the pillars that help to ensure healthy aging such as grip strength, sit to stand ability, balance, posture, range of movement. Each class will include movements to increase performance and will build on abilities from the previous week. This class is low to no impact.

PILATES Thur 11am. A fantastic form of low-impact exercise, focusing on the core & extending to work every part of your body. Simultaneously stretching & strengthening, Pilates is taught as a choreographed flow. At the end of this 45-minute class, you will feel limber, flexible & energized. All levels are welcome, and modifications are always offered.

STROKE RECOVERY, COPD, PARKINSON'S DISEASE FITNESS Tues/Thur 10:30am. A small group exercise program for light to moderate intensity exercise with a focus on functional movement. Please call for further information: 519-485-3869.

PICKLEBALL Mon 9:30am Trinity United Church. Come out & try your hand at this popular sport. (Drop-in rate \$5/week)

TAI CHI Mon 12:30pm. A gentle exercise practice incorporating graceful, slow movements to help restore balance, both body and mind. Can be done standing or seated.

VON SMART EXERCISE Mon & Thur 1:30pm The VON SMART® Exercise Program is a safe & effective exercise & fall prevention program designed specifically for older adults or for those individuals with mobility issues and/or chronic conditions that could benefit from exercise. These classes are designed to assist in the maintenance of independence & to assist in the prevention of falls and fall related injuries. This is a free class.

CIRCUIT TRAINING Mon 4:30pm. Performing a series of exercises that target different muscle groups with a little rest in between.

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

TOTAL BODY WORKOUT Mon 9am / Tues 9am. An energetic, fully standing class set to fun music.

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. A very popular exercise group at the Centre, enjoy a morning walk at various trails/locations. Call to get exact walking locations (members only).

CHAIR FITNESS Wed 9am. A seated class for those that may have mobility or balance issues. Don't let the name fool you! A gentle yet vigorous workout that includes cardio component, cool down & balance, resistance, and wraps up with stretch & relaxation.

TOTAL TONING TIME Wed 5:30pm. With options for every fitness level, you'll tone & tighten from head to toe while pushing yourself in all the right ways. You'll walk out stronger, more confident, and ready to crush anything that comes your way!

YOGA FOR A HEALTHY BACK Wed 6:45pm. Focuses on balancing strength & flexibility in the back & hips to create greater balance & ease in the body. Appropriate for all levels.

GENTLE YOGA Thur 9am.

STRENGTH & STRETCH Fri 9am. Come have fun pumping some weights, followed by flexibility training and relaxation.

OSTEOFIT Fri 10:30am. A gentler total body workout designed for those who are concerned or have been diagnosed with osteoporosis. The class can be done standing or seated.

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BUS TRIPS WITH INGERSOLL 50+ CENTRE

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

Women's Professional Hockey League Sat, Apr 11. Bus departs 11am, returns appx 6pm (game at 2pm). Price includes: game ticket Section 115, motor coach transport.

THORNDALE DINNER THEATER

The Thorndale Agricultural Society proudly presents its 20th Annual Dinner Theater this February! This year's production is A Murder of Scarecrows, a mystery-comedy by Pat Cook, brought to life by a cast of 11 local performers & supported by a dedicated community crew. Enjoy a full dinner-and-theatre experience on select evenings, or join us for a show-only mid-week performance. The show opens Feb 21 and runs through Feb 28. Tickets are available at Thorndale Hardware during regular business hours or online at: www.ticketowl.io/thorndalefallfair. Prices start at \$25 for show-only night and \$50 for dinner-theatre. All meals are prepared by local community groups, with proceeds supporting local programming. Looking forward to you joining us for a great evening of food, fun & entertainment at the Thorndale Community Centre, located at 265 Upper Queen St, Thorndale. For further information or support to purchase, contact Jackie at 519-461-0218 or matthew@m1ittleaccounting.ca. Tickets are going fast! Closing night nearly sold out already!



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THAMESFORD FRIENDSHIP CLUB

Welcome to 2026! A new year means a fresh start & a clean slate to fill with new inspiration & new goals. Hopefully you can continue to do what you enjoy while continuing sharing time with your family & your friends. The Friendship Club provides such a time on the 4th Wednesday each month in the Beaty Room with food & refreshments, followed by music or a presentation you may find interesting. As you know the weather can be unpredictable! Our Dec 10 Christmas meal event had to be canceled. The Beaty room was closed, the schools closed & the buses canceled. The snow continued to fall & our meal was already being prepared. A decision was made by your committee to cancel & stay with the original policy of safety first for our seniors – no school buses no event. But we will meet again. Our next event meeting will be Wed, Jan 28, 1pm. The games are on. We will not have a lunch. Let us know you are coming or just drop in. Come for the tea or have coffee with desserts and snack and what nots. Come & bring your favorite game, cards, dominoes, crokinole, etc. There will be rock painting, maybe a craft. There will be music & laughter. See you in 2026.

*Life is
Better
with
Friends*

BEACHVILLE DISTRICT MUSEUM

Beachville District Museum wishes to extend an extra special thanks to all of this year's Light Up The Museum sponsors. Our glowing light displays were installed on the museum grounds in November by a dedicated group of volunteers, but they didn't flicker on until the big event December 5. The museum was outfitted in festive lights thanks to our "Shine Bright" sponsors, The Royal Canadian Legion - Branch 495 – Beachville and Carmeuse North America, as well as our "Twinkle" sponsors, All Celebrations, the Beachville Volunteer Firefighters Association, Crybaby Tattoo, Funnell Insurance Group, Langlois Eco Homes, and Michael Peters IA Private Wealth. During Light Up The Museum, our guests made s'mores over the campfire, listened to Christmas carols, decorated cookies, sipped on cider & hot chocolate and even visited with Santa in the gazebo. The event was a wonderful way to finish off our 2025 calendar of events. Through the middle of December, we were celebrating our Assistant Curator, Sidney Williams, who was selected as the winner of the Dorothy Duncan Leadership in Heritage Award by the Ontario Historical Society. The award recognizes an individual or organization that has shown exceptional leadership in public history education or programming in Ontario. We were thrilled that, Sidney, who is such a deserving candidate, was recognized in this way and wish to congratulate all the OHS award recipients from 2025!

As we look ahead to the 2026 season, we want to invite everyone out for the January Speaker Series, which is hosted by the Beachville District Historical Society on Tues, Jan 13, 7pm in the museum's Program Room. Families with young ones aged 5-11 will want to keep their eyes on museum's webpage as registration for our January P.A. day camp will open up early in the new year. Our museum will also be holding an online 50/50 sweetheart draw in advance of Valentine's Day. Buying tickets through our QR codes on our website is an easy way to support the museum and prepare for a fun date night with your loved one. Lastly, we want to encourage our museum supporters, users, followers to take part in a community survey that will help inform our new Strategic Plan. If you're cozied away at home this January, simply access the survey at <https://forms.gle/Wxqde1AbxLMTfB6c8>. It takes about 3 minutes to complete and consists of only 3 quick questions. Your time in completing the survey is truly appreciated.



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 info visit alzswp.ca or call 1-888-495-5855.

PROGRAMS AT INGERSOLL 50+ CENTRE

Hours: Mon 8:30-9pm, Wed 8:30-8pm Tues/Thur/Fri 8:30-4:30pm
MOVIE NIGHTS Wed 6pm. Join us for a movie with light snacks and refreshments. \$3/M and \$5/M.

WEDNESDAY DINING & SOCIAL Join us the 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. \$2/M \$4/NM.

FARKLE & CRIBBAGE Wed 6pm. Who doesn't love a good board game session? Bring your own game or join in on one of ours. Chess, checkers, trivia & more are available. \$2/M and \$4/NM.

TIMELINES & TALES (HISTORY) Tues 9:30-11:30am. Dave, Deward, & Brian have an exciting session planned for the winter. Learn about the Ancient World with a look at the Ancient Civilizations of the Nile, Tigris-Euphrates, Indus & Yangtze Rivers, Mesoamerica, and Andean America. Discuss the "Greats of History" like Constantine, Alexander & Catherine. Delve into the origin & meaning of some myths, legends & folklore. \$5/M and \$7/NM.

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 must provide their own supplies. Membership is required to use the woodshop.

WOODSHOP We have a well-equipped shop for you to create your projects from start to finish. A membership and orientation are required prior to using any of the equipment. \$3/day.



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"THE MIGHTY MEN OF ZORRA"

Tickets are now on sale at Thistle-Theatre.com for our next production called "The Mighty Men of Zorra". 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 Mar 20-29, 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. Don't delay - get your tickets now!





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COMING TO THEATRE TILLSONBURG

Hilda's Yard by Norm Foster. A hilarious comedy set in the nostalgic 1950's. Hilda's Yard follows the story of Hilda (Judy Cormier) and Sam Fluck (Mark Smith), who are celebrating their recent shift to empty nesters. The Fluck's have a fairly relaxing day planned, with Hilda intending to hang some laundry & Sam wanting to buy a new console television. Chaos ensues when their children, Gary (Brent VanHoo- ren) and Janey (Nikki Wiltac), re- turn looking for some parental help with their problems. Things become even more chaotic when their son invites his girlfriend, Bobbi Jakes (Rachel Hanson), and the local thug, Beverly Woyto- wich (Brandon Buckle), then comes looking to collect a gambling debt from Gary. As with any Norm Foster comedy while the situa- tion is side splitting fun, the connections we find ourselves making is where the real humour takes place. The show runs Feb 19-22 and Feb 26-Mar 1. First Saturday and both Sundays are matinees at 2pm and the other shows are evening at 7:30pm. Tickets \$28 each and can be purchased at <https://app.arts-people.com/index.php?ticketing=ttill>. Come dressed in your best 1950's attire, join us for our opening night Sock Hop Gala after the play Feb 19. Its worth the drive to Tillsonburg for a night of comedy & fun. You can also DINE like its 1959 show your ticket at our sponsor The Copper Mug Pub and get 50% off your meal show nights 5-8pm.



FREE YOUTH PROGRAM

Free youth program for ages 12-18. 201 Royal Canadian Air Cadet Squadron: * Participate in survival training exercises * Fly simu- lators * 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/>

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 informa- tion, call Gayle 226-927-4025.

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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

Banner United Church www.bannerunitedchurch.com

602800 Road 60 at Line 15, Zorra Twp.

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

SUN Services 10:30am.

MON Kintore Knitting ^ More 9:30-11am. Everyone welcomed.

Jan 4 Service starts at 10:30am.

Jan 20 Over 50's Potluck Lunch 12:30pm.

Mystery Speaker to follow.

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JANUARY

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
		TUESDAYS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drop-In Shuffleboard, Ingersoll Arena • Al-Anon, Ingersoll 7pm • Sketchy Srs, Ing 50+ 	WEDNESDAYS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ingersoll Meditation • Air Cadets, Dorchester • Movie Night, Ing 50+ • Farkle & Cribbage, Ingersoll 50+ 	1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drop-In Shuffleboard, Ingersoll Arena 	2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strength & Stretch, Ingersoll 50+ 	3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bluegrass & Country Jam, Beachville Legion
4	5 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Messy Monday, Ingersoll library • Wood Carving, Ing 50+ 	6 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Euchre, Sacred Heart • Taoist Tai Chi Open House, Woodstock • History Discussion, Ingersoll 50+ 	7 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Taoist Tai Chi Open House, Woodstock • Caregiver Corner • Zorra Heritage group • Prostate Cancer support 	8 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • East Coast Swing & Waltz, Beachville Legion • Pilates, Ingersoll 50+ 	9 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Osteofit, Ing 50+ 	10 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exhibit Opening, ICAC
11	12 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ontario Ancestors • Pickleball, Ingersoll 50+ 	13 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diabetes 101 • Tommy Russell: The Man Behind the Car • Speaker Series, Beachville Museum 	14 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wildlife Photographer, Ingersoll library • Chair Yoga, 7-8pm Beachville Legion 	15 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drop-In Shuffleboard, Ingersoll Arena • VON Smart Exercise, Ingersoll 50+ 	16 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Country Jamboree Ingersoll 1pm 	17 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bluegrass & Country Jam, Beachville Legion
18	19 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Watercolour class, ICAC • Tai Chi, Ingersoll 50+ 	20 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Euchre, Sacred Heart • Thames Centre Choir • Functional Movement, Ingersoll 50+ 	21 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shake, Rattle & Read, Ingersoll library 	22 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Line Dancing, 7-8pm Beachville Legion • Oxford Federation of Agriculture AGM 	23 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ingersoll night at London Knights game 	24 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Abstract Magic, ICAC • Bluegrass & Country Jam, Beachville Legion
25 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lions Community Breakfast 	26 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tech Talk, What is AI?, Ingersoll library • Circuit Training, Ingersoll 50+ 	27 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nail It!, Ingersoll library • Ingersoll Horticulture • Thames Centre Choir • Chair Yoga, Ing 50+ 	28 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shake, Rattle & Read, Ingersoll library • Film Club, Ing library • 4-H AGM • Grief Support for MAiD 	29 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drop-In Shuffleboard, Ingersoll Arena 	30 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Country Jamboree 1pm 	31 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Curling Day in Canada • Throwing class, ICAC • Art Bingo, ICAC

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