

The Village Voice



SOUTH WEST OXFORD TOWNSHIP
Issue 139 Since 2014



APRIL 2026

BIG CHEESE DAYS “WE LEND A HAND”

Screening Sat, May 2, 1-3pm, the Ingersoll museum will host a screening & meet-and-greet for the documentary We Lend a Hand: The Forgotten Story of the Ontario Farmerettes. This 49-minute film honours the 40,000 teenage girls who volunteered between 1941 and 1952 to ensure critical food production during WWII. Through archival images & reenactments, the film captures the memories of these women & their incredible service to the front-lines. Tickets can be purchased through Eventbrite. Be sure to follow us on Facebook for all the latest news and events.

INGERSOLL DISTRICT NATURE CLUB

FINGAL WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA Sat, Apr 18. Please join us at 9am in the Municipal Parking Lot behind the Ingersoll Arena to carpool to this conservation area which has a system of hiking trails geared to all tastes & ability levels. There are 21 km of trails altogether through a variety of habitats so you are sure to find one to interest you. A waterfowl viewing stand allows visitors to observe a 3-acre pond. East of the pond are 9 acres of tall grass prairie encircled by a walking trail. With over 200 species of wildlife identified during breeding & migration seasons, the area is a haven for nature enthusiasts. The members of our Club are always willing to share their knowledge & expertise with anyone joining our group and all of us are still learning. You do not have to be a member to come with us & enjoy nature. All are welcome! The property is co-managed by Elgin Stewardship Council and MNR and is located at 34469 Fingal Line, Fingal. For more information call Ken 519-539-5234 or www.ingersollnatureclub.com.

TOURISM OXFORD

Oxford County is springing to life with fresh experiences to enjoy, together. Farm markets open their doors, golfers hit the fairways, and cyclists & hikers explore scenic country roads and forest trails bursting with new blooms. Enjoy family-friendly adventures and unwind with friends using ready-to-go Your Next Stop trip itineraries. You don't have to go far to escape. Discover trip ideas at TourismOxford.ca and Embrace our Rural Routes!

YARD AND PLANT SALE

Sacred Heart CWL will hold their annual Yard & Plant Sale Sat, May 2, at Henderson Hall. The sale will run from 8am to noon. If you have gently used items to donate to our sale, please bring them to Henderson Hall Fri, May 1, 2-6pm. Proceeds from our sale will benefit many community organizations that rely on donations to help those in need.

ALL DRESSED UP 2026 (formerly Gals & Gowns)

Originated by the OPP & Woodstock Police Services is now hosted by Hi-Way Pentecostal Church in Ingersoll since 2022. If you are graduating from Grade 8 or going to the high school prom or maybe there is an occasion or event that you will need formal or semi-formal attire. Purchasing clothing for these events can be very expensive especially with inflation on the rise. This event is FREE and we have 100's of gently used & new prom dresses, as well as dresses for those special occasions such as a wedding, mother of the bride, bridesmaids or any special event. We welcome you to come & see if there is a dress just for you! We have expanded our selection to include men's suits, dress pants, etc. At present there is a limited supply of men's clothing, but we are hoping soon to have more available. This FREE event will be held at the Ingersoll Services For Seniors Centre, 250 Ingersoll St S, Ingersoll. Fri, Apr 10, 6-9pm & Sat, Apr 11, 9-12pm. We are also looking for donations of gently used or new dresses, shoes, jewellery & men's suits, dress shirts & pants, etc. Donations can be dropped off at Hi-Way Pentecostal Church Ingersoll, 584118 Beachville Rd, Ingersoll or call 519-485-0961, www.hiwaypentecostal.ca.

INGERSOLL ROTARY EASTER EGG HUNT

The Rotary Club of Ingersoll is proud to once again welcome families from across our community to the annual Rotary Easter Egg Hunt Sat, Apr 4, 10am in Victoria Park (beside the community centre). This FREE community event for children ages 2-10 has become a cherished spring tradition, bringing neighbours together year after year for a morning of laughter, excitement & chocolate. The hunt is divided into 3 age groups: 2-4, 5-7, and 8-10 so every child has a chance to participate & enjoy the fun. We encourage families to arrive early & stop by the registration table to receive their ticket. Each child with a ticket will receive a free chocolate bunny at the end of the hunt (while supplies last). Please bring your own basket, as only a limited number will be available to borrow. As with any early spring outdoor event, weather can play a role, so be sure to check our Facebook page (www.facebook.com/IngersollRotary) for updates as the day approaches. The Easter Egg Hunt is just one example of how the Rotary Club of Ingersoll works to strengthen & celebrate our community. From local initiatives to hands-on events, Rotary members are committed to service, connection & giving back to the place we all call home. We are grateful for the generous support of Woodstock Giant Tiger & for the volunteers who help make this event possible each year. We're always looking for community-minded individuals who want to be part of something meaningful right here in Ingersoll.

JC Graphics and the Village Voice acknowledge that we are operating on the traditional territory of the Anishinabewaki, Attiwoonderonk & Mississauga First Nations, and we are grateful for the opportunity to conduct business on this land under the London Township, Treaty 6.



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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 meeting will be April 22, 1-2:30pm at the Thamesford Library, 165 Dundas St, Thamesford. Also offered 6-7:30pm at the Tillsonburg Library, 1 Library Lane, Tillsonburg. The group is free of charge and pre-registration is requested. To register or inquire about an evening group, contact Faye Brekelmans 519-866-3016, faye@compassionategrief-support.ca.

GARAGE AND BAKE SALE

The Daughters of the Nile are having their annual garage & bake sale, April 18, 8-12pm at Ingersoll Pipe Band Hall, 108 Wonham St S. Rain or shine. Come out for treats & find that unknown treasure that you need! Proceeds go to the Canadian Daughters of the Nile Foundation for the benefit of Shriner Hospitals for Children Canada.

BANNER UNITED CHURCH SPRING SERVICE

April 12, 3pm. All welcome. www.bannerunitedchurch.com.

DROP-IN SHUFFLEBOARD

Drop-In shuffleboard at the Auditorium - Ingersoll Memorial Arena Tues & Thur at 12:30pm. Evening program - Thur 6:30pm. Register online using the Pickup Hub app "pickup hub.net". Equipment (cues) is provided. A great way to have



ST. PAUL'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Now that it is "officially" spring, we so look forward to the longer days & warmer temperatures. It's been such a long & challenging winter for so many. Everywhere we turn the news seems so negative - whether it's the war in the Middle East, the ongoing conflict in Ukraine, or day to day costs that continue to skyrocket, hope is hard to find. Yet, as Christians, we can look forward to that season where we believe the sting of death was removed forever – Easter! While we do face many challenges day to day, we can find comfort & hope in knowing of the eternal reward that was realized that first Easter, over two thousand years ago. On Good Friday, we remember Jesus' incredible sacrifice for us, when he suffered & died on the cross. While all hope looked lost that day, EVERYTHING changed on that Easter morning, when the grave could not hold Him back. We invite you to consider sharing in one of our services during this Holy season. Please see the "Worship With Us" page for all our Easter Services. We would love you to join us. It could make ALL the difference as you continue to seek the gift of hope and joy on this road called life.

EZAS 5K-10K FARM RUN

On Sat, May 30, EZAS will be hosting the 5k-10k Farm Run + Lunch + Farm Tour event at Darcroft Farms just outside of Embro. More details can be found at www.embrofair.com regarding how to register for the walk/runs, sponsorship opportunities, and volunteer opportunities! Follow us on Facebook too for recent updates. Hope to see you there!

BEACHVILLE COMMUNITY GARAGE SALE

Sat, May 23, 8am-noon. Spring clean & sell your unwanted treasures.

BROWNSVILLE HOSTS REUSEAPALOOZA!

April 25, 8 am until noon, it's a giant FREE swap meet with tonnes of great goods for you to take home. Bring family & friends to collect things to use, upcycle, reuse & repurpose. Check out the demonstration of rag rug making, the wonderful food for sale by Seniors in Food Crisis, and the work of the Oxford Coalition for Social Justice. We are also looking for teens needing community hours & adults wanting to help out. Contact www.reuseapalooza-ha.ca for more.

FOLDENS / SWEABURG LIONS BREAKFAST

At Foldens Hall, Sun, Apr 26, 9-1pm. Adults \$15, children 5-10 \$5, children under 5 free.

EMBRO LEGION BREAKFAST

First Sunday of the month Oct-May. \$5 kids, \$10 regular, \$15 hungry man meal 9-12:30pm, come on out.

DID YOU KNOW?

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CAREGIVER CORNER

A safe space to share your caregiving journey. First Wed monthly via Zoom, 1:30-2:30pm. Take time for yourself in a compassionate, judgment free environment. Call or email for the link. 519-536-3370, info@caringheartssupportnetwork.com.

THAMESFORD TOWN WIDE YARD SALE

Westminster United Church will be hosting their Annual Yard Sale Sat, May 16, 8-1pm. Please consider donating your gently used stuff. We will be accepting donations of items that are clean & in good, or repairable, condition Tues, May 12, 10-6pm at 115 George St, Thamesford. To make other arrangements for drop of you can contact Mariette 519-533-7515. Besides your regular household goods, we also appreciate the following items: fashion accessories like jewelry, purses; vintage items; books; reusable shopping bags.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

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INGERSOLL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Meets Apr 28, 7:30pm at Ingersoll Seniors Centre, 250 Ingersoll St. S. Topic: Cut Flowers & Flower Farming. Presenter: Janice Harris. Visitors welcome, no charge. Yearly membership: \$10.

PLANT & BAKE SALE Mark your calendar for our May 15 & 16! We will back with the great blight resistant Mtn. Merit, Plum Regal, and Sun Sugar tomato plants featured in years previous to 2025. Check us out for many other fine annuals and perennials too.

ANNUAL HAM & OYSTER SUPPER

Fri, Apr 24, 6pm (doors open at 5:30pm) at Dorchester United Church, 4100 Catherine St. Dorchester. Menu: homemade oyster soup, ham, scalloped potatoes, baked beans, cabbage salad, rolls & dessert. Take out available. Adults \$25, children 6-12 \$10, 5 years & under free. For tickets call Marion Woods 519-461-1136. P.S. Gluten & lactose free choices available.



GOOD FRIDAY CHORAL CONCERT

Apr 3 join the Ingersoll Choral Society on Good Friday evening in a stirring performance of Pepper Choplin's cantata, "Come, Touch the Robe" and other selected works. With orchestral accompaniment. Sacred Heart Church, Ingersoll, 8pm. Free will offering will be received. www.ingersollchoralsociety.ca or visit us on FB.

YOUR VILLAGE VOICE IS PUBLISHED BY: JC GRAPHICS 519-285-3249 linda@jcgraphics.ca ORDER YOUR PRINTING NOW AT: jcgraphics.ca

INGERSOLL LIBRARY

ADULTS - Free Income Tax Clinics Thur 10-1pm. Need help with your taxes? Join us at the Ingersoll Library on Thursdays until Apr 30.

CBC's Canada Reads Watch Party and Discussion Mon-Thur, Apr 13-16, 10-11:30am. Drop in, no registration required.

Film Club Discussion Wed, Apr 29, 5pm. Each month 4 themed films will be available for the club to borrow, watch & discuss.

FAMILY - Easter Party Mon, Apr 6, 10-12pm. Drop by for crafts, activities, and a spin on an Easter egg hunt! Little Hobby Hill Farm will be here 10-12pm with critters to learn about & meet up close! No registration required.

PA Day Worm Petting Zoo Fri, Apr 24, 10-12pm. Celebrate Earth Day & join The Worm Wrangler, Amanda, for some hands-on learning. Amanda will teach us all about worms, soil, vermicompost, and you'll get the chance to hold the Red Wiggler compost worms!

BOWLING LADIES LEAGUE

Weekly games over 200. Week 21: Michelle Kirwin 294, 210, 209, Mel Hance 235, Kim Overton 234, Mary Rooke 202. Week 22: Mel Hance 217. Week 23: Janice Harry 211, Mel Hance 211, Kim Overton 206, Henrietta Mulder 205. Week 24: Barb Freemantle 252, Henrietta Mulder 201.

STOPPING TO SMELL THE FLOWERS:

A Healing and Resource Centre ~ Echoing a Remembrance of your Magnificence Through Short Story Awakenings & Offerings~ **The Light Circle** Tues in April (Apr 7, 14 & 21) 7-8:30pm at the Meditation Hut, 130 Stanley St S, Thamesford. Interact with the Stopping to Smell the Flowers: The Space In Between short stories while connecting with a like-minded group who wish to explore energy around us, emotions & taking inspired action. Sessions are designed to have participants find ways to pivot towards better feeling thoughts & emotions. Be amazed at how discussion themes align with your own life, memories & goals. Each session ends with a Guided Meditation. Cost \$175 includes admission to the Immersion Series Thur, Apr 30, 7-8:30pm – a new offering with sneak peaks & take away tools into concepts from my next book series on how to manifest with the energy that is in us & around us. To find out more & register, message Stephanie Malo on Facebook at "Stopping to Smell the Flowers: Extraordinary Observations of Everyday Life" Instagram @therealstephaniemalo or email stephaniemalo@hotmail.com. www.stoppingtosmelltheflowers.com.

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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.

THEATRE TILLSONBURG

Don't miss this heartwarming comedy by Canadian Playwright Daniel S. Craig where generations collide! Having Hope at Home is a powerful & funny family drama, all delivered in one unforgettable night. Carolyn goes into labour at her grandparents' run-down, drafty farmhouse, just as her estranged parents arrive for dinner. As generations clash & old wounds are opened, this hilarious story explores motherhood, tradition, and the strength of family ties. Directed by Mark "The Original" Smith, and produced by Mark "The Other Smith" and Victoria Coward, the talented cast are ready to entertain audiences by tickling their funny bone & pulling on their heart strings. Supported by a brilliant & skilled behind-the-scenes crew, Theatre Tillsonburg's production of "Having Hope at Home" is humorous, heartwarming, and hopeful. Show dates: May 28, 29, *30, *31 & June 4, 5, 6, *7. Evenings 7:30pm, matinees 2pm. Tickets available at theatretillsonburg.com.

BEACHVILLE LEGION 434852 Zorra Line, Beachville

Gentle Chair Yoga Wed 7-8pm.

Euchre Thur 7pm.

Line Dancing Apr 2 & 9, 7-8pm, \$10.

Rumba & Bachata Dancing Thur, Apr 7 & 9, 8:15-9:15pm. \$10, no partner required.

Friday Night Darts Blind Draw Doubles, 8pm.

Ox On The Run Mobile Library Wed, Apr 1, 15, 29, 4:30-6 pm.

Good Friday Fish & Chips Fri, Apr 3, 5pm, \$17, call to pre-order and avoid disappointment 519-423-6363.

Woodstock Kitten Rescue & Nursery Bingo Fri, Apr 10 & 17. Doors open 6pm.

Oxford County Dart Tournament Sat, Apr 11, Reg'n 9-9:30am. Play begins 10am. \$10 per person/ per event. Doubles followed by singles. All entry fees paid back in prize money. Light lunch available **Thames Valley Bluegrass & Old Time Country Music** Sun, Apr 12, 19, 26, 1-4pm. Open mic (acoustic only) or just enjoy the music.

Pulled Pork & Baked Bean Dinner Fri, Apr 24, 5:30pm. \$15. Please pre-order 519-423-6363.

Karaoke Sat, Apr 25, 7-11pm.

Free Pool. Hall rental for meetings, parties, receptions. Follow us on Facebook or visit our website for additional events.

SWEABURG EUCHRE

Sweaburg & District Lions Club next euchre (progressive) is to be held Sat, Apr 18, at Sweaburg United Church (Dodge Line). Doors open 6:30pm, \$10 per person & light refreshments on hand. Everyone is welcome, come out and have a fun night of euchre.

LAWRENCE STATION:

The Flagship Erie's Final Flight sold out in 2023 & returns in Oct 2026 with a music infused version. The play is about the family, friends & locals whose lives were changed by this local event. www.OnStageLive.ca for information and tickets. www.LenCuthbert.com.

INGERSOLL 50+ ACTIVITY CENTRE

ANNUAL YARD SALE



APR 25th Rain or Shine

250 INGERSOLL ST S
8:00AM - 12:00PM

Furniture **Members Only Pre-Sale: Friday April 24th 3pm - 4pm**
Garden tools **All Attendees must be a member**
Linens
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EZAS UPCOMING WORKSHOPS

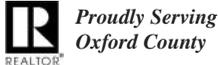
Knitting Circle Apr 18
 Growing Veggies & Herbs Apr 25
 Craft, Tea, & Embroidery May 2
 BBQ Tips & Tricks June 6
 Cupcake Decorating June 13 — and many more!
 Check out www.embrofair.com to register & find more info!

INGERSOLL GARAGE SALES

Save the date for Ingersoll's annual town wide yard sales Sat, June 6!

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AFFECTED BY SOMEONE'S ADDICTION?

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THE WELL

Come to 'the Well' which will never run dry! (Isaiah 58:11) and join in an evening of Worship & Praise to our incredible God! We will gather together Sat, Apr 18, 7-9pm at First Baptist Church, 235 Thames St S, Ingersoll. Please enter through the doors off the parking lot & meet in the downstairs Hall. Refreshments will be served. "With all my heart I will praise You, O Lord my God. I will give glory to Your Name forever" Psalm 86:12.

CELEBRATING 60 YEARS OF SINGING!

The Woodstock Chorales presents "THANK YOU FOR THE MUSIC" Sat, Apr 25, 3pm at Knox Presbyterian Church, Woodstock with Luciano DeCicco, guest artist. Tickets \$30 (free admission to children 12 and under). For tickets contact: Wilson & Mar-kle Jewellers, Woodstock; ticketscene.ca; Choralaire Members; 519-456-5270.

BROWNSVILLE VILLAGE WIDE YARD SALE

Sat, June 6, 8-1pm. Craft and vendor show. Food truck.

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INGERSOLL CREATIVE ARTS CENTRE

Visit the Gallery & Artisan Market Open Mon-Fri 9-4pm & 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 handcrafted gifts in our Artisan Market. Check out our Facebook page to see what events are happening now!

UPCOMING EXHIBITION: ICAC Members' Show Featuring the works of our talented members, this show is a must-see for any art lover. Pottery, rug hooking, quilting, fibre arts, paintings, mixed media & photography there is something here for everyone. The exhibition opens Apr 18, 1pm and the show runs until May 23.

UPCOMING CLASSES: Abstract Magic with Alcohol Inks - Kathleen Jull. Sat, Apr 11, 1-3:30pm.

Improve Your Throwing with Keri Axon. Sat, Apr 18-May 9 (4 sessions), 10-1pm. Some wheel experience required.

Bring On the Flowers! Watercolour with Audrianna DeSouza. Tues, Apr 21, 7-8:30pm.

ICAC Fashion Show Fundraiser Fri, May 8. Doors 6pm, Fashion Show 7pm. Tickets \$50. Support the Arts Centre & stay up on the latest fashions featuring Roberts & Co. Ladies Wear. Tickets available at the Centre or www.creativeartscentre.com.

BROWNSVILLE LIBRARY

The Brownsville Library in partnership with the Brownsville Community Hall & Park Committee will be hosting a Coffee & Connect Drop-in program the 1st Thur of every month. The next Coffee & Connect Drop-in will be Thur, Apr 2, 10am in the Brownsville Community Hall. Community members are welcome to stop by and chat over a free cup of coffee!

Join us at the Brownsville Library Thur mornings 10-11am for our Tales for Tots program! There will be a storytime with songs followed by a craft and play time.

Visit the Brownsville Library every other Wed 4:30-5:30pm for STEAM club! Dabble with tech toys, create STEAM-based crafts, and learn about Science! Apr 7 - Medieval Medicine, Apr 21 - Predatory Plants.



NHL NEWS

Michael Kesslring, is playing #8 on the Buffalo Sabres this NHL season. Since December the Sabres have the best record in the league with: 31 wins, 6 losses & 64 points. Submitted by Ken Minler.

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/>

BEACHVILLE DISTRICT MUSEUM

As we welcome the early days of spring, we invite you to drop into the museum for a tour Tues-Sat 10-4pm, and participate in our upcoming programs, events & activities:

Summer Camp Program For children ages 5-11 from June 29-Aug 28 (excluding statutory holidays). Registration opens Apr 1. Use code EARLYBIRD for 15% off through Apr 15. During our two-week early bird registration period we will only be accepting full week registrations. On Apr 16, we will open up additional slots for each week which will be available for both full week & single day registrations. Register at beachvilledistrictmuseum.com/summercamp2026.

Easter Egg Hunt Sat, Apr 4, 11-1pm. Join the Beachville Parks & Rec. Committee for their annual easter egg hunt on the museum grounds! Different age groups will have different egg-collecting missions.

April Speaker Series Tues, Apr 14, 7pm. Hosted by the Beachville District Historical Society (BDHS), this month's speaker will be Richard Poortinga on the topic of "Amazing Versatile Annuals." Free admission. No registration required. Seating is limited and available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Spring 50/50 Draw (Online) Tickets for the BDHS online 50/50 draw are available at rafflebox.ca/raffle/beachville3 and on the museum's website through Apr 4 with the draw taking place Apr 7. Buying tickets is an easy way to support the museum and BDHS!

Many Hands: Quilted Stories of South-West Oxford & Zorra Extended to Sat, Apr 11. This exhibition brings together beautiful quilted works from the BDM collection that reflect the stories, traditions, & histories of South-West Oxford and Zorra townships. Come explore the textures, colours & stories stitched into every piece as we celebrate the many hands that keep these traditions alive.

2026 Car Show Season Mark your calendars for another fun-filled season of car shows on the museum grounds! Each show will be open to the public 11-3pm, with show cars welcome on the grounds after 9:30am. Join us on the following dates:

Sun, May 24 Sun, June 14 Sun, July 26
Sun, Aug 23 Sun, Sept 27

We encourage all museum supporters, users, and followers to take part in our community survey, which will help shape our new Strategic Plan. The survey includes 3 quick questions and takes about 3 minutes to complete. Access the survey here: <https://forms.gle/Wxqde1AbxLMTfB6c8>. The end of March marked the conclusion of our Education & Public Program Coordinator, Brooklyn Bettiol's, term through Young Canada Works. We extend our thanks to Brooklyn for her excellent work on educational programming, day camps & museum promotions. She has contributed greatly to the museum's work and we wish her much luck in her future endeavours.





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THISTLE THEATRE

Dramarama 2026 Early bird rate ends May 1! The 30th season of Dramarama our summer day camp ages 6-13 (grades 1-8). Session (9 spots remaining!) runs July 20-31 with 2 final performances July 31, 11am & 1pm. A 2-week session at Dramarama is all about developing creativity, self-expression & self-confidence. Workshops in drama, music, dance, arts & crafts, and theatre production take place each morning, with the afternoon spent working together to collectively create one play. Camp runs daily 9-3pm out of the Embro Town Hall, 135 Huron St. For all the information, including payment options, head to www.thistle-theatre.com and click on the Dramarama page. We're looking for volunteers who want the ability to obtain community service hours while also participating in our programming! Apply to be a Leader In Training at Dramarama if you're transitioning to high school this fall or currently in grade 9-12. Email our Artistic Director at dramarama.thistletheatre@gmail.com. These are volunteer, unpaid positions with the ability to obtain community service hours, as well as learn valuable leadership skills along the way. We're always looking for used-in-good condition costumes or props that you'd be willing to part with & donate to our camp, please email dramarama.thistletheatre@gmail.com to arrange for drop off or pick up.

Thank You - Mighty Men of Zorra Thistle Theatre & the production team of Mighty Men of Zorra extend their sincere thanks to everyone who attended the show & to those who worked tirelessly behind the scenes. With a cast of 16 actors, a dedicated crew of 10, and playwright William Butt, this new production brought the proud history of Zorra Township vividly to life. Staging the performance in the Embro Old Town Hall—built just one year before the final Tug of War victory—added a special sense of authenticity & connection to the story. We are also deeply grateful to our sponsors for their support, with special thanks to the Zorra Caledonians.

Auditions – Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat. Thistle Theatre is looking for singers, of all ages, sizes & genders for our fall production. Auditions are June 5 & 7 at the Town Hall in Embro. Please visit our website www.thistletheatre.com to book your audition time. Hope to see you there.

THE EXPLAINERS COME TO BROWNSVILLE

The Engage and Inform Committee of SWOX will be at the Brownsville Community Centre on the morning of April 25 to explain the changes in municipal collection & by the privately funded Circular Materials group. You can radically reduce the cost of waste to yourself, your small business and the community.

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.

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! Apr 10 & 17, May 1 & 15 & 29, June 5 & 19

HONOURING THE PAST...

Flying into the Future: A New Season for the Canadian Harvard Aircraft Association. After celebrating an extraordinary milestone last year - its 40th anniversary - the Canadian Harvard Aircraft Association (CHAA) in Tillsonburg is preparing for its 2026 season with pride. Last season was a tribute to 4 decades of dedication from volunteers, pilots, maintainers, donors & aviation enthusiasts who have been keeping history alive in a powerful way: by keeping these Second World War aircraft flying. To keep this momentum going, each winter the aircraft are given a full maintenance overhaul to ensure the fleet of "Yellow Birds" are in top condition for the pending season. This behind-the-scenes work is essential. It's what allows the organization to continue offering the public the rare opportunity to see, hear & experience these legendary aircraft in flight rather than simply behind museum ropes. The Harvard Association will be proud to share this living history at events this summer, both at home at the Tillsonburg Regional Airport, and at air shows & other aviation events. These events offer an opportunity to honour the men & women who trained, served & sacrificed during the Second World War. As this registered charitable organization looks to the future, it is also facing a significant infrastructure challenge. Its main hangar - home to aircraft, restoration projects & artifacts -- needs a significant roof rebuild. At the heart of CHAA's operations, maintaining this hangar it is critical to protecting the aircraft & ensuring the safety of volunteers. The Canadian Harvard Aircraft Association is launching a new fundraising campaign dedicated specifically to the hangar roof restoration. Every contribution, large or small, helps safeguard the future of the organization & the aircraft entrusted to their care. As a new flying season approaches, the Harvard Association invites the community, supporters & aviation enthusiasts to join them at their hangars, air shows or through fundraising efforts. Through collective efforts, these remarkable aircraft can continue to honour, educate and inspire. Visit www.harvards.com for more information.



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KC & THE SUNSHINE GIRLS

KC & the Sunshine Girls are coming to Mt Elgin Community Centre Sun, May 3, 2-4pm. Put on your Boogie Shoes for an afternoon of dance hits of the 70's & 80's. This Tribute Show is being hosted by Mt Elgin United Church. Tickets \$30 and are available by calling Joanne 519-485-1988 or Dawne 519-421-6836.

INGERSOLL SKATING CLUB

The Ingersoll Skating Club was pleased to present their annual Carnival on Sat, Mar 28. Our "Pop Stars" skated to songs & music from a variety of artists which had the audience joining along in their seats. Our skaters always enjoy performing for their friends & family. This showcase is a wonderful way to conclude our skating season. Many thanks to our coaches, board members, volunteers & community business that support our skating club. We look forward to seeing everyone back in Sept. Please watch our website for program updates in Aug. www.ingersollskatingclub.com. Special thanks to our Community Gold Sponsors, Co-operators Funnell Insurance Group, Lions International, Fairbanks - West-end Automotive and our Silver Sponsors, Steve and Cheryl Butterworth, Ingersoll Optometry and Al's Tirecraft.

WESTERN ONTARIO DRAMA LEAGUE 2026

Thistle Theatre is hosting the Western Ontario Drama League Mini-fest 2026 Aug 7 & 8. The play this year is "Jersey" by Brad Fortman. Join us for the weekend & see how very differently theatre groups can interpret this one act play. If you'd like to volunteer for this really fun weekend please contact lyndapillon281@gmail.com. We'd love to have you.

GOLFING ANYONE?

I know, the winter seems to be hanging on far too long, but spring is just around the corner! Your golf swing may need some perfecting from lack of practice over the long winter months. The first Golf Fundraiser package can help get your game back in shape! For \$25 you have the opportunity to win 132 holes of golf, 2 hours on a simulator, and a \$200 gift certificate to get your hands on some awesome Kandy Golf apparel (Canadian) so you can be the envy of the golf crowd this summer! This is the last time this package is being offered, so make sure you get your name on the spinner wheel for your chance to win the package valued at \$965. EMT your \$25 to omulder@rogers.com or email to same address to make other arrangements for payment! No tax receipts are available for this fundraiser, but to receive a tax receipt for donations, go to my GCC website: <https://great-cyclechallenge.ca/Riders/HenriettaOlthoffMulder>. All funds go to Great Cycle Challenge in support of kids fighting cancer at Sick Kids Hospital, Toronto.



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.



FOOD ADDICTS
in recovery anonymous

THORNDALE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Thorndale and Area Horticultural Society held its 30th Anniversary Celebration Mar 11, 2026. We had a very interesting talk from Lisa Finkbeiner on "Tricks to change the Colours of your Hydrangeas", by using pickle juice to enhance the pinks & blues of the flowerlets. Our president, Jen Prgesa, introduced our new banner with updated violet logo, and ran a slide show of past events. This was followed by Lifetime Awards to Dick & Trudi Nieuwland, who started this society 30 years ago, and a Presidents Award to Shirley Hacon, for her participation in all events of the society over the years. A number of members then spoke eloquently about their experiences within the society. A fun Flower Arranging competition then took place between 4 volunteer members, arranged by Dian Chute. Refreshments were served with a delicious Celebration cake with our Society's Logo. Our next meeting is Wed, Apr 8, 7.30pm at Thorndale Community Centre, Room 3. Catherine McGill will present "The Ground gets Lower every Year". Refreshments will be served. Guests are welcome.

NASH BARNETT MEMORIAL CAR SHOW

Save the date! The 5th Annual Nash Barnett Memorial Car & Tractor Show will be held Sun, Sept 20, 10-4pm, at the Embro Zorra Community Centre. We will have a live band, door prizes & more! We look forward to seeing everyone out with their favourite



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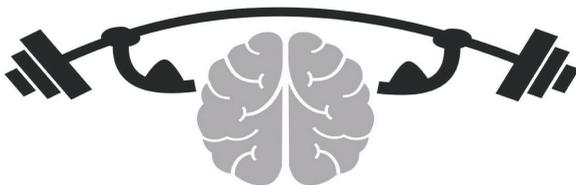
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LOTS TO LEARN ABOUT YOUR BRAIN

By Laura Green

Braemar & Lakeside Women's Institute decided to learn more about our brain's health with Rebekah Lindsay, Public Education Coordinator, Alzheimer Society Southwest Partners, Woodstock Office. Her presentation was titled "Heads up for Healthier Brains" – "What everyone should know about brain health & dementia". Some pointers to maintain or improve your brain health that were discussed were 1. Challenge your brain by keeping your brain active every day, 2. Be socially active, 3. Choose a Healthy Lifestyle and 4. Protect your head. Our meeting at the home of Anya Donaldson on Mar 4 accomplished 3 of the points in her presentation – follow directions & be on time, visit with members that you haven't seen since Christmas meetings and park at the end of the driveway to enjoy a walk on the spring like day. Rebekah Lindsay also discussed the different programs offered by Alzheimer Society for people living with dementia & for their caregivers. The society next fundraising event is Walk for Alzheimer May 30 & 31 with 4 locations within the Southwest Partners region. With spring just around the corner, it means annual meetings in April and new programs to be planned. Lakeside is already planning a theatre trip to the Blyth Festival in July.



2026 TRACTOR SKILL GAMES!

We're excited to announce that sponsorship opportunities for the 2026 Tractor Skill Games are officially open! Sponsors will be recognized with signage at the event, logo in the event brochure & event T-shirts, and recognition on our website & social media platforms as well! We welcome both individual & business donations to help make this incredible community event possible. With a shared goal of raising funds for the Children's Hospital, your support truly makes a difference in the lives of local families. Join us for this year's event happening Sat, Sept 5, near Ingersoll — it's a day you won't want to miss! To become a sponsor or more information, please visit: www.tractorskillgames.ca or email tractorskillgames@hotmail.com. Let's come together again to support a great cause and make 2026 our best year yet!

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.

FITNESS AT INGERSOLL 50+ CENTRE

250 Ingersoll St. S. ~ 519-485-3869 ~ info@ingersollseniors.com. Hours: Mon 8:30-9pm, Wed 8:30-8pm Tues/Thur/Fri 8:30-4:30pm. CLOSED: Apr 3 & 6 (Easter weekend).

FITNESS ROOM Open to all members & equipped with treadmill, elliptical, recumbent bike, spin bike, weights and 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.

REGISTERED PROGRAMS: FUNCTIONAL MOVEMENT Tues 11am. This class addresses the serious issues of aging independently & aging well. Next session to start May 12-June 30.

PILATES Thur 11am. A fantastic form of low-impact exercise, focusing on the core & extending from there to work every part of your body. All levels are welcome, and modifications are always offered. Next session to start May 14-July 2.

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

DROP-IN FITNESS CLASSES \$3/member, \$6/non-member.

CHAIR FITNESS Wed 9am. A seated class for those that may have mobility or balance issues. A gentle yet vigorous workout.

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

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

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

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

STRENGTH & STRETCH Fri 9am. Increasing your strength helps with activities of daily living. Come have fun pumping some weights, followed by flexibility training and relaxation.

TAI CHI Mon 12pm. A gentle exercise practice. Slow movements to help restore balance, both body & mind.

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

TOTAL TONING TIME Wed 5:30pm. Sculpt, sweat & shine! A full-body workout. Options for every fitness level, you'll tone & tighten from head to toe. You'll walk out stronger, more confident, and ready to crush anything that comes your way!

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

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.

WALKING CLUB Wed 9am. A very popular exercise group, enjoy a morning walk at various trails/locations. Call to get exact walking locations (members only).



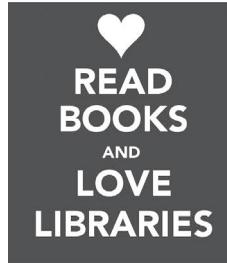
CARING HEARTS SUPPORT NETWORK

April 1, 1:30-2:30pm. Join Nicole Bruder at the "Caregiver Corner" on Zoom, where you will find a safe space to share your caregiving journey. First Wed monthly. Call or email to receive the link, info@caringheartssupportnetwork.com or 519-536-3370.

April 11, 10-12pm. Death & Donuts. Join the Caring Hearts Support Network for a morning guaranteed to spark curiosity & connection around death & dying. Our host "Do Good" is located at 55 Ingersoll Rd, Lower Level, Woodstock. To register please email or call info@caringheartssupportnetwork.com or 519-536-3370.

THAMESFORD LIBRARY

Community Employment Services Your job is out there. A consultant from CES is available to help you find it by preparing a resume, training opportunities & information you need to achieve your goals. CES wants to connect people looking for work with employers who are currently hiring. Call Sam Ritchie 519-539-8161 to book an appointment.



Mahjong Wed 1-3pm, drop in to play, 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.

Adult Crafternoon Tues, Apr 14, 1:30pm. Make a springtime bunny centerpiece using a simple honeycomb technique. Please register.

Writing Group Tues, Apr 21, 2-4pm. Are you a creative writer looking to meet other writers?

Thamesford Library Book Club Wed, Apr 29, 3pm. Stop by to pick up this month's read, *The Defector* by Chris Hadfield.

Adult Crafty Evening Tues, Apr 28, 5:30pm. Craft a rustic decoupage canning jar vase! Please register.

Tales for Tots Wed 10:30-11am. Come in for some fun featuring songs, rhymes, stories & more followed by free play and social time. For ages 0+ with a caregiver. No story time Wed, Apr 29.

STEAM Club Visit the library to play with robots, build with Lego, and complete STEAM-based crafts & activities! Recommended for ages 7-12, but curious children of all ages are welcome!

Apr 7, 5-6pm – Medieval Medicine

Apr 21, 5-6pm – Predatory Plants

PA Day Squish Art Painting Create a beautiful butterfly painting & explore symmetry! Please register.

Calithumpian Book Sale Our annual book sale Sat, May 16. We will start collecting donations for the Book Sale (during open hours) Fri, May 1, please make sure all donations are in good condition (no yellowed pages or musty smells – no large volume sets or textbooks). Visit our program calendar at www.ocl.net to register for programs or give us a call at 519-285-3219.

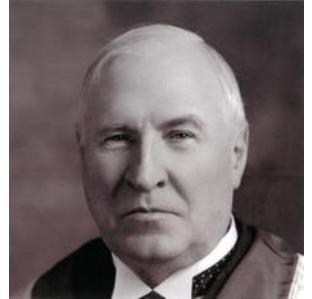
IAN TAMBLYN

Sun, Apr 19, 2pm the Harrington and Area Community Association is thrilled to welcome back singer/songwriter, multi-instrumentalist & story-teller Ian Tamblyn, after a sold-out performance at Harrington Hall in 2019. Having recorded 45 CD's, albums & cassettes in his over 50 year career, he continues to be busy touring Ontario & Quebec, and in the past few years has also written several original musical theatre works. Ian has won numerous awards & nominations including a nomination as English Songwriter of the Year by the Canadian Folk Music Awards and he has been awarded membership as an Officer of the Order of Canada. www.iantamblyn.com. Tickets at: www.exploreharrington.ca or 519-536-0955.

THE GREATS OF ZORRA – HENRY JOHN CODY

Submitted by Lorena Chalkley, Zorra Heritage Committee

Henry John Cody 1868-1951 was the son of Elijah J. Cody & Margaret Louise Torrance. Born in Embro, he was a descendant of the Elijah Cody family that settled around Cody's Corners in the 1820's. Henry's father operated a general store on Huron Street for almost 50 years as well as being the clerk & treasurer for the Village of Embro. After finishing his early schooling in Woodstock, he went to live with his mother's family in Galt where he attended Galt Collegiate. In 1885, he left Galt to study at the University of Toronto. In 1893 he was ordained in St. Paul's Anglican Church on Bloor Street where he would serve for many years. He became a Canon in 1903 and the Archdeacon of York in 1909. Canon Cody's served as minister of education for Ontario in Sir William Hearst's government from May 1918 until October 1919 when the government was defeated. His biggest accomplishment was legislation to compel children to remain in school until age 16. Henry married Florence Louisa Clarke in 1894. One son, Maurice, was born to them in 1897 but due to a canoeing accident he drowned in Northern Ontario. Florence died only a few years later. Henry married a second time to Barbara Blackstock in 1933. In 1932, Dr. Cody became the president of the University of Toronto. Before he retired in 1945, he stepped in to complete the term as Chancellor left vacant by the death of Sir Wm Mulock in 1944. Cody was a clergyman, politician & educator but will be best remembered as a preacher who had the honour to preach to the king & queen in Buckingham Palace. In 1965, the Historic Sites Board dedicated a plaque in Embro Memorial Park in honour of Canon Henry John Cody.



SUMMER EXCHANGES

Our federal government calls on a refocusing of our economic life & friendly relations with European nations, the ones that so value Canadians that they greet teens participating in ISE international exchanges with exuberance. 13 to 17 year-olds can apply for summer exchanges now, and spend 3 weeks in France, Germany, Spain, Switzerland (in 3 of its language communities), Italy and Ireland, then host their exchange partners here for some good times during good weather. www.iseontario.on.ca or bryasmit@oxford.net for more information!

COOKING CONNEXIONS

Cooking Connexions is designed for people living alone in Thamesford & surrounding area. Together we prepare a nutritious home style meal. Everyone participates in the preparation, cooking & clean-up. Each participant pays \$10 and that gives you a lovely sit-down meal to enjoy together & enough food left for another meal to take home. This will be a 3 course meal consisting of soup/salad/appetizer, a main course, followed by a yummy dessert served with coffee & tea. We meet at Westminster United Church at 10:30am and are usually all wrapped up by 2pm. If you would like to participate, please contact Mariette Bardoel 519-533-7515 or mbardoel65@hotmail.com. Your first meal is on us, so come out and see what we are all about. Our next dates are Apr 16, May 7, June 18.

OXFORD 4-H CLUBS

Oxford 4-H clubs have lots of projects happening now with hands-on learn to do by doing activities. Some 4-H Clubs started in March or starting soon with youth still able to join. For Dairy 4-H Clubs contact Dean dkkarn@xlpornet.com for Ingersoll Kiwanis; Jack jjdanen@netflash.net for North Oxford; T-J tj_hargreaves@yahoo.ca for Bonds. The Oxford Beef 4-H Club 2nd meeting is Apr 17, contact oxford4h-beef@gmail.com. The Community 4-H Club is doing 'Community Engagement' project starting Apr 29, contact Shonna wardshonna@hotmail.com. New 4-H Clubs in Oxford for 2026—'Fishing' starting Apr 9 with full registration; 'Horse' starting Apr 25 contact oxford4hhorseclub@gmail.com; 'Vet' starting Apr 23 contact oxfordvetclub@hotmail.com. Brooksdale 4-H Club doing an "Anything with an Engine" 4-H project starting Apr 25, contact kait.mckay12@gmail.com. Regional Dairy Judging 4-H Club starts Apr 13, contact Kim DeKlein zesklein@execulink.com, Geoff Innes ginnes@xlpornet.ca or Wendy Abell mwabell@outlook.com with other meeting dates Apr 27, May 19, 19, June 1. Brooksdale 4-H Club is currently doing the 'Craft' project making stained glass & pottery; the Mt Elgin 4-H Club is currently doing the 'Maple Syrup' project; Oxford Swine 4-H Club theme this year is biosecurity & bookkeeping. Thamesford 4-H Club is finishing up the 'Breakfast' project; and the Oxford Quilting 4-H Club finished up the 'Sewing Hoodie' project. The 2 Oxford Cloverbud 4-H Clubs are checking out the topics of breadventure & heritage in April. Thank you to the Township of South-West Oxford for the generous donation to support the Oxford 4-H program and youth in our communities! There are lots of opportunities for youth ages 6-21 to become involved with 4-H to 'learn to do by doing' at home & in-person. Are you beyond the age to be involved as a member—become a 4-H volunteer! Volunteers also 'learn to do by doing' by being involved in the 4-H program. Volunteers are not required to be a parent of a youth member. Contact oxfordcounty4h@gmail.com to find out more and how you can become involved with a great youth development program in your community. The 4-H program is a leadership development program for youth ages 6-21 from urban & rural areas learning about health, environment, technology, agriculture, science, food, community & communication in a hands-on learning atmosphere. There is always something happening & to learn 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 the Oxford 4-H page on the 4-H Ontario website at <https://4-hontario.ca/association/oxford-4-h-association/>.



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, Apr 14 & 28, 1pm. Refreshments provided.

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.

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THAMES CENTRE COMMUNITY CHOIR

The Thames Centre Community Choir presents its May Concert Sun, May 24, 2pm at Thorndale United Church, 245 King St, Thorndale. Admission is by donation. Everyone is welcome! Choir members will be selling Dipladenia and Hibiscus flowers as its major annual fund raiser this April. Please contact any choir member or c_baskerville@hotmail.com for more information.

ONTARIO ANCESTORS

Join us Mon, Apr 13, 7pm for a presentation by Elaine Cougler "Own the Room – Writing Your Family Stories & Memoirs". A former high school English teacher, a lifelong performer, singer & speaker who survived all of that to take up writing in a serious way. Descended from Loyalist & Pennsylvania Dutch ancestors, Elaine is one of 13 children & was raised in a post-war Ontario farming community by parents who expected the best from their children & consistently helped them to achieve it. Her historical fiction & her biographical books praise the indomitable spirit of amazing human beings both in our time & through the annals of history. Join Elaine to hear about her journey of writing, publishing, marketing & selling books. Register for free from our home page at www.oxford.ogs.on.ca. You will be sent a link to join the meeting. Everyone is welcome.



COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES

250 Ingersoll St. S. ~ 519-485-3869 ~ css@ingersollseniors.com
ASSISTIVE DEVICE FREE LOAN PROGRAM This FREE program has a wide range of equipment from crutches, canes, commodes, rollators, knee slider boards to wheelchairs. We also welcome donations! DROP OFF & PICK UP Mon-Fri, 9-12pm.

CVTIP INCOME TAX CLINIC Continues until May 1 and provides clients with a modest income & simple return a free option to get your taxes done. No appointment needed. E-filing is done by volunteers. Contact 519-485-2269 if interested or drop off.

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

DINE IN Full meal & dessert 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!

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

FROSTY MEALS \$7.50 entrée, \$2.75 soup or dessert. Free delivery available. These meals meet Canada's Food Guide recommendations & use only the best ingredients. Meals are available for all diet types including gluten free, sodium reduced, lactose free, and modified texture. With a selection of over 30 entrees & 10 soups/desserts give us a try today!

GROCERY BUDDY Our friendly volunteers will pick up groceries for you! Call us with your grocery list & we will arrange a day & time for us to do your shopping! Volunteers are needed as this program grows. Contact 519-485-2269 ext. 106 if interested.

HELP WITH FORMS FREE, by appointment. This program can help people fill out forms: CPP, OAS, GIS & passport forms, etc.

HOME HELP & MAINTENANCE PROGRAM SMALL FEE FOR SERVICE. Tasks such as yard work, companionship & cleaning. Call us for a referral to a police check individual who can help you out! We are looking for people to clean homes & do landscaping. Do you have a truck to help with large deliveries?

MEALS ON WHEELS \$7/day, Mon-Fri, delivered within Ingersoll.

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

TRANSPORTATION for older adults & those with disabilities in Ingersoll & area. We provide rides to and from appointments, errands, etc. We have very reasonable rates & reliable, friendly volunteer drivers. 3-day notice preferred. We are looking for people to drive, please call us to fill out an application today. Drivers are reimbursed for their mileage.

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



EVENT SPACE FOR RENT

Salford Community Centre (capacity: 149). Call to book: 519-425-2657.

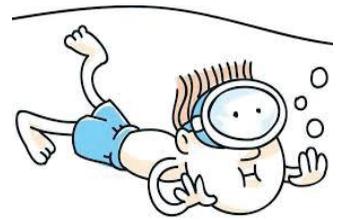
INGERSOLL 50+ CENTRE EVENTS

BUS TRIP Women's Professional Hockey League Sat, Apr 11.

Annual Yard Sale Apr 25, 8-12pm. Donations accepted until Apr 11.

MAKING WAVES IN TILLSONBURG

Water is a big part of life in our community. Whether it's enjoying time at the pool, visiting local lakes in the summer, or simply spending time around water with family & friends. Learning to swim is one of the most valuable life skills a person can have. At the Tillsonburg Community Centre pool, we offer a full range of swimming lessons for all ages & abilities, making it easy for families to find a program that fits their needs. Our lesson programs include Parent & Tot, Preschool, and swimmer levels, allowing participants to start building water confidence from a very young age & progress step-by-step as their skills grow. The best part is you can join at any age, so it's never too late to start! Swimming lessons focus on more than just strokes. Participants learn water safety, confidence & survival skills that can make a real difference around water. Whether it's a toddler getting comfortable splashing in the water with a parent, or a child learning to swim independently for the first time, every level helps build important life-long abilities. To make lessons accessible for busy families, we offer daytime, evening & weekend lesson times throughout our sessions. If you have any questions, contact the aquatics team at aquatics@tillsonburg.ca.



AMAZING VERSATILE ANNUALS

Come to the Beachville District Historical Society speaker series Tues, Apr 14, 7pm at Beachville District Museum as we welcome spring with Master Gardener Richard Poortinga with his topic Amazing Versatile Annuals. Join us for an evening of planting tips from an expert gardener with a question period followed by a light lunch. All are welcome.

VOLUNTEERS WANTED & GRATITUDE GIVEN

The Oxford Coalition for Social Justice has some big projects in the spring & summer months, and knows of some other places people of all ages can engage in meaningful work as volunteers. Contact bryasmit@oxford.net with "volunteer" in the subject line for a rapid response of thanks.

THAMESFORD FRIENDSHIP CLUB

April is here & with it comes Easter and spring daffodils. Friendship Club meets on the 4th Wed, Apr 22. A catered lunch with dessert will be served 12 noon in the Beaty Room at the library. We will have entertainment after the lunch. Please let us know you are coming by April 17— call Helen 519-285-2024 or Shirley 519-285-2938. Come join us & enjoy! Your contribution remains at \$20. Friendship Club invites seniors 55 Plus— new or old from the village and surrounding area.

PROGRAMS AT INGERSOLL 50+ CENTRE

ALZHEIMERS EDUCATION SESSIONS Apr 23, May 28 & June 25, 2pm. No fees but please register by 12pm the day before.

AMERICAN MAH JONGG BEGINNER LESSONS Are you interested in learning how to play? We are offering a 4-week course. This is a registered session as you must be committed to playing on all 4 Tuesdays - Apr 7, 14, 21 & 28. Register soon as we can only accommodate 8 people, which will make 2 tables. \$20.

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

KNITTING & CROCHETING Mon 10am. Enjoy a fun social while either learning how to knit/crochet or maybe you just need a refresher.

OVERTONES CHOIR Sing with our social choir. The Overtones practice at the centre and then travel to local retirement homes once a month. Please call the centre for the monthly schedule.

SEWING DROP-IN Thur 9:30am. Bring your own projects & enjoy a social time while working.

SEWING WORKSHOP 1st Mon of each month 9am. Each month a different project will be chosen & worked on together. Bring your own machine & enjoy a morning of sewing and conversation. Apr 13 will be the morning due to Easter Monday Apr 6.

SING FOR JOY Fri 11:15-12:15pm. This is a registered program for 8 weeks that will blend gentle vocal exercises, breathing & posture techniques & sing-along favorites in a relaxed, supportive environment. No experience is needed – just a love of music. Session to start on Fri, Apr 10-June 5.

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.

TIMELINES & TALES (HISTORY) Tues 9:30-11:30am. Dave, Deward & Brian have an exciting session planned. Join the group to learn about the Ancient World with a look at the Ancient Civilizations of the Nile, Tigris-Euphrates, Indus and Yangtze Rivers, Meso-america, and Andean America. Discuss the “Greats of History” like Constantine, Alexander and Catherine. Delve into the origin and meaning of some well-known myths, legends, and folklore.

UKULELE Fri 10-11am. This class will continue to learn basic chords & strumming techniques while playing along to simple & familiar songs to build confidence and have fun. 8-week registered session starts Fri, Apr 10-June 5.

WEDNESDAY BRUNCH Join us on the 1st, 3rd & 5th Wed (Apr 1, 15 & 29), 9-11:30am, \$10. Please register by 12pm the day before. Apr 1 promises to bring Easter into play with bunnies!

WEDNESDAY DINING & SOCIAL Join us on 2nd & 4th Wed (Apr 8 & 22), 5pm, each month \$13. Register by 12pm the day before.

WOOD CARVING Mon 1pm. Enjoy carving pictures into wood, creating beautiful figurines & more.

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



HEY, CAN I HAVE YOUR PILE OF CARDBOARD?

It sounds like an odd request, especially when followed with “Do you reuse it or recycle it?”. Actually, Bryan Smith will answer “Both” but with a priority on reuse. But when the person asking is thinking about what they will put under the mulch in the garden, that seems like a great deal. Some might ask for your fallen branches & even tree trunks for a bottom layer in container gardens? Want some leaves, clippings & compost for that mix too? Top soil goes last. There are great ways in the spring to create wonderful, sustainable gardens for food, flowers, pollinators & people (to eat from). Give it some thought before you throw good stuff out.

WEST OXFORD INFERNO GIRLS HOCKEY

As we head into the 2026–27 season, we’re excited to be expanding our program—including the launch of brand-new U13 & U15 girls teams. This growth reflects the incredible momentum & rising enthusiasm for girls’ hockey in our region. With that momentum comes the need for increased support. I’d like to invite you to make a meaningful impact by sponsoring our U13/U15 team and helping give these young athletes the best chance to have an outstanding season. We are offering 3 levels of sponsorship:

- Gold – \$1,000 Includes a prominent name/logo on our team banner and on our website under the Gold heading.
- Silver – \$500 Includes a larger name/logo on our team banner and on our website under the Silver heading.
- Bronze – \$250 Includes your name/logo on our team banner and on our website under the Bronze heading.

For more information: coach: Rob Bossence, 519-859-5132, rob@boscos.ca.

TRIVIA NIGHT in INGERSOLL

Are you a Trivia Lover? Do you have friends, families or coworkers that love to play trivia games? The Ingersoll Pipe Band has the best entertainment night in April planned for you. Come on out to the Ingersoll Pipe Band Hall April 11, 7pm and enjoy some amazing trivia rounds created by the trivia gurus Danielle & Ron McMurphy! Teams can be 2 to 6 in size and each member of a team pays \$20. For that you get treats & a chance to win some great prizes, all the while having fun & challenging those grey cells. Call 519-878-4494 or text to register your team. Deadline for registration is Mon, Apr 6. This is a fundraiser for the IPB which is planning a major trip to the Maritimes in 2027 so come on out and support our band.



OXFORD COUNTY DIABETES EDUCATION

Are you looking for support with your Diabetes? Our team of Registered Nurses, Registered Dietitians & a Social Worker is here to support YOUR goals. We can help with medication adjustments, lifestyle & diet changes, stress management, weight reduction strategies & more. Appointments are available at Alexandra Hospital Ingersoll & Tillsonburg District Memorial Hospital and by phone. SELF REFERRALS ARE WELCOME. Please call 519-485-9611 to book an appointment. Let’s work together!



CIVIC CORNER

Spring is in the air!

Spring has arrived in SWOX, bringing longer days, blooming flowers, and fresh energy to our community. It's the perfect time to enjoy our parks, trails, and outdoor spaces and to capture the beauty around you! Share your favourite SWOX moments by submitting a photo to be featured in our SWOX Talks newsletter. Email your photos to dfidler@swox.org and help us celebrate the sights and spirit of our township this season.

Crossroad Villages Project

Do you or someone you know have stories, photos, or memories from SWOX's crossroads villages? These historic, small-scale settlements grew in the 18th and 19th centuries at the intersection of two or more major roads or trails, and we'd love to celebrate their unique local heritage! Reach out to us at dfidler@swox.org or by phone at 519-485-0477 x7025.

ReuseApalooZaha

Get ready for ReuseApalooZaha! Taking place on April 25, 2026, from 8am-12pm at the Brownsville Community Centre Pavilion, this event is a popular way to reduce, reuse, and recycle. It's a great opportunity to meet people in your community, exchange items & support sustainable practices. Bring your gently used items & join your neighbors in making a positive impact! www.reuseapaloozaha.ca

Local Events All in One Place!

We've been working hard to update the Township's community events calendar, making it easier for residents to see what's happening across all villages. Attending local events is a great way to connect, build community & enjoy everything SWOX has to offer. Visit swox.org/Parks Recreation and Culture /Community Calendar.

Celebrating South-West Oxford's 51st Anniversary at the Township Fare!

Join us for the Township Fare on May 23, 10am-2pm at the Mount Elgin Community Centre! Come celebrate the incredible businesses, artisans, bakeries, food vendors, non-profit groups, and service providers that make South-West Oxford's villages thrive. It's a great opportunity to shop local, connect with neighbours, and discover the many talents and services in our community. Bring the whole family as there will be a face painting and balloon artist for the kids (fees apply).

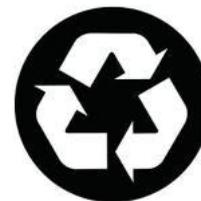
Looking Ahead: 2026 Municipal Election

The next municipal election will take place on Monday, October 26, 2026. This is an opportunity for residents across all villages to help shape the future of South-West Oxford. Nominations open May 1, 2026. Candidate packages, including nominations forms will be available by April 20, 2026. Questions? Contact Denny Giles, Clerk dgiles@swox.org or 519-485-0477 x.7027.

Garbage & Recycling – Friendly Reminder

As a reminder, several changes to garbage, recycling, and organics collection took effect earlier this year. Residents are encouraged to review collection schedules and sorting requirements as routines continue to adjust.

Recycling: Under the Resource Recovery and Circular Economy Act, responsibility for providing recycling services has shifted to producers. For recycling concerns, contact Emterra at customerareont@emterra.ca or 1-888-597-1541.



Garbage & Organics: The Township now co-collects garbage and organics on a 6-day collection cycle. Households have been provided with a green bin and instructions for proper organics set-out.

SWOX Fire & Emergency Services

As warmer weather arrives, it's the perfect time for spring cleaning and a good opportunity to check in on fire safety around your home.

- Test your smoke alarms and replace batteries if needed
- Clean chimneys, dryer vents, and heating vents
- Check electrical cords and unplug appliances not in use
- Remove combustibles stored near furnaces, water heaters, fireplaces, or cooking appliances
- Keep grills and fire pits well away from your home and never leave them unattended

While we're talking about safety, here are a couple of reminders for when you're out on the road:

If you see a flashing green light, it may be a volunteer firefighter responding to an emergency, please yield when safe to do so.

When approaching emergency vehicles stopped on the roadway, remember to slow down and move over to give first responders a safe space to work.

Coffee & Connect

Join us the first Thursday of every month for coffee and connect at the Brownsville Library, 292240 Culloden Line.



April 2026 South-West Oxford Council & Committee Meetings

All meetings are anticipated to take place at the Township of South-West Oxford municipal office.

Meeting Type	Date & Time
Engage and Inform Committee Meeting	April 1 st , 1:00 PM
Environment and Energy Innovation Committee Meeting	April 1 st , 4:30 PM
Council Meeting	April 7 th , 9:00 AM
Council Meeting	April 21 st , 6:30 PM

Worship With Us

Mt. Elgin United Church 519-425-2091

Pastor Lori Minler. 324105 Mt Elgin Rd W, Mt Elgin

Burgessville United Church St W, Norwich 10:30am

Reynolds Creek United Church Putnam Services 10am

The Ark New Beginnings Assembly TheArknba.com

Salford Comnty Center, 383908 Salford Rd SUN 10:30am

Beachville Baptist Church

Pastor Ellie Muir 519-533-3694

SUN 10:30am

Livingway Church 519-423-9191

434809 Zorra Line, Beachville, Home Bible studies offered

SUN 3pm Worship Service WED 7pm Bible Study

Oxford Church 184 Oxford St - www.oxfordchurch.ca

Pastor Meine Veldman 519-602-7386 meine73@yahoo.com

Banner United Church www.bannerunitedchurch.com

602800 Road 60 at Line 15, Zorra Twp.

Apr 12 Spring service, 3pm. All welcome.

Free Reformed Church of Oxford County

284793 Pleasant Valley Rd, Pastor D. Kranendonk, oxfordfrc.com

Crossroads Bible Church 519-900-6281

184 Oxford St Ingersoll, crossroadsingersoll.ca

FB: [crossroadsingersoll](https://www.facebook.com/crossroadsingersoll) & IG: [ingersollcrossroadschurch](https://www.instagram.com/ingersollcrossroadschurch)

Services at 8:45am & 11:15am

Hi-Way Pentecostal Church 519-485-0961

584118 Beachville Rd, Ingersoll hiwaypentecostal.ca

SUN 10am Livestream www.facebook.com/hiwayingersoll

Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church

519-485-1802 131 Thames St. N, Ingersoll N5C 3C9

Website - nocfop.dol.ca or email shingersoll@dol.ca

Weekday Masses – Tues & Thur 11:30am

Sunday Masses – 10:15am and 6pm

Good Friday 11am - Stations of the Cross

3pm Solemn Celebration of the Lord's Passion

Easter Sunday - Mass 9am & 11am

Please note there will be no Sunday night Mass.

Southwest Oxford United Churches

Emergency Contact: Rev. David Van Patter 519-402-0147

vanpatter007@gmail.com

West Oxford 354395 Church Line 9:30am

Sweaburg 474425 Dodge Line 9:30am

Foldens 374097 Folden's Line 11am

Combined Service at Foldens - Mar 29, 9:30am

Good Friday Service at Sweaburg Fri, Apr 3, 9:30am

Huron Park Baptist Church 199 Berwick St, Wdstck

519-421-4722, office@huronparkchurch.org

10:30am Sunday Service Mid-week programs Tues & Thur

July 6-10 Basketball Power Camp 9-12:30pm. Ages 5-14.

Please call 519-421-4722 for more information.

Free Reformed Church of Oxford County

284793 Pleasant Valley Rd, Pastor D. Kranendonk, oxfordfrc.com

GOD – Namadwaar Ontario

Global Organization for Divinity, 239 Ossian Terrace, Ingersoll

www.godivinity.ca, canada.godivinity@gmail.com, 548-328-1043

Mon-Fri 9:30-11am, 5:30-7pm

Sat 9:30-8pm

Sun 9:30-7pm

APRIL

april

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
			1 • Prostate Cancer support • Caregiver Corner 	2 • Line Dancing, Beachville Legion • Coffee & Connect, Brownsville Library	3 • Choral concert • Fish & Chips, Beachville Legion 	4 • Ingersoll Egg Hunt • Egg Hunt, Beachville Museum
5 	6 • Family Easter Party, Ingersoll library • VON Exercise, Ingersoll 50+ • Mahjong, Thamesford Library	7 • Shuffleboard, Ing. • Light Circle • Rumba & Bachata, Beachville Legion • STEAM Club, Thamesford Library • SWOX Council	8 • Meditation, Ingersoll • Chair Yoga, Beachville Legion • Thorndale Horticulture meeting	9 • Line Dancing, Beachville Legion • Tales for Tots, Brownsville Library	10 • All Dressed Up • Bingo, Beachville Legion • Jamboree, Ingersoll • Knits & Knots, Thamesford Library	11 • All Dressed Up • Darts Tourney, Beachville Legion • Abstract Magic, ICAC • Quilted Stories, Beachville Museum • Trivial Night
12 • Banner United Church Service • Bluegrass, Beachville Legion	13 • Canada Reads, Ingersoll library • Total Body Workout, Ingersoll 50+ • Ontario Ancestors • Knitting, Ing 50+	14 • Speaker Series, Beachville Museum • Functional Movement, Ing 50+ • Adult Crafternoon, Thamesford Library • Sacred Heart Euchre	15 • Canada Reads, Ingersoll library • Air Cadets • Total Toning, Ing 50+ • Tales for Tots, Thamesford Library	16 • Shuffleboard, Ing. • Euchre, Beachville Legion • Cooking Connexions	17 • Darts, Beachville Legion • Jamboree, Ingersoll • Strength & Stretch, Ing 50+ • Ukelele, Ing 50+	18 • Nature Hike, Fingal • Daughters of the Nile, Garage Sale • Euchre, Sweaburg • Knitting, Embro • ICAC Exhibit opening
19 • Bluegrass, Beachville Legion • Ian Tamblyn, Harrington	20 • Tai Chi, Ing 50+ • Line Dancing, Ingersoll 50+	21 • SWOX Council • STEAM Club, Brownsville Library • Writing Group, Thamesford Library VILLAGE VOICE DEADLINE	22 • MAiD Grief Support • Chair Fitness, Ingersoll 50+ • Thamesford Friendship Club	23 • Pilates, Ing 50+ • Sewing, Ing 50+	24 • Han & Oyster dinner • Work Petting Zoo, Ingersoll library • Pulled Pork dinner, Beachville Legion	25 • Reuseapaloozaha • Karaoke, Beachville Legion • Ing 50+ Yard Sale • Growing Veggies, Embro • Choralaires concert
26 • Bluegrass, Beachville Legion	27 • Pickleball, Ing 50+	28 • Ingersoll Horticulture • Chair Yoga, Ing 50+ • Adult Crafty class, Thamesford Library • Sacred Heart Euchre • Al-Anon, Ingersoll	29 • Film Discussion Ingersoll library • Air Cadets • Walking Club, Ingersoll 50+ • Book Club, Thamesford Library	30 • Gentle Yoga, Ing 50+	MAY 1 • Osteofit, Ing 50+ • Singing, Ing 50+	2 • We Lend a Hand • Sacred Heart Yard Sale

Community Contacts

Telehealth Ontario 866-797-0000
Poison Info Centre..... 800-268-9017
Women's Emerg. Centre 519-539-4811
Kids Help Phone..... 800-668-6868
Information Oxford211
 Arena 519-485-5023
 Big Brothers Big Sisters..... 519-485-1801
 Creative Arts Centre 519-485-4691

Crime Stoppers..... 800-222-8477
 Fusion Youth Centre 519-485-4386
 Girl Guides..... 877-323-4545 Ext 6401
 Health Care Connect 888-579-6707
 Hockey, Minor..... 519-485-5858
 Horticultural Society..... 519-485-3649
 Ingersoll & District Inter-Church..... 519-933-7730
 Kiwanis Club..... 519-319-3937
 Library..... 519-485-2505
 Lions Club..... 519-536-3528

Museum, Cheese & Agri..... 519-485-5510
 Performing Arts (ITOPA)..... 519-485-3070
 Rotary Club..... 519-485-0750
 Seniors Services..... 519-485-3869
 Skating Club 519-485-1039
 Social Assistance Support Line 888-999-1142
 Trillium Drug Program..... 800-575-5386
 Victoria Park Comm Centre..... 519-425-1181
 Village Voice 519-285-3249
 VON..... 519-539-1231

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