

The Village Voice



SOUTH WEST OXFORD TOWNSHIP
Issue 140 Since 2014



MAY 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.

YARD AND PLANT SALE

Sacred Heart CWL will hold their annual Yard & Plant Sale Sat, May 2, 8am-noon at Henderson Hall. 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.

INGERSOLL MINOR BASEBALL ASSOCIATION

The local Ingersoll Ironbirds U9 REP team were nominated in the Classic Rock 98.1 Hometown Showdown. The team were excited to hear they were finalists in the competition & spent an amazing morning at the London radio station. A cheer went up when they were announced winners & handed the trophy along with an incredible prize pack which included cash, team gear, snacks, gas cards & more. Thanks to the amazing support of parents, coaches, friends, and the Ingersoll community at large for votes & always supporting our local athletes & programs. Extra thanks to the radio station and Classic Rock 98.1 Hometown Showdown for supporting local sports. Youth sports take a huge community effort, from equipment and uniforms to travel and field time. It all adds up so this prize will make a big difference for our players this season.

KC AND THE SUNSHINE GIRLS

At 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.

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, May 12 & 26 start at 1pm. Refreshments provided.

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

TOURISM OXFORD

Craving a cheesy outing? BIG fun is coming to the Cheese Trail on Saturdays in May. Get out & explore during Big Cheese Days when Cheese Trail stops roll out extra special offers like factory tours, new cheeses & treats, plus hands on experiences. There's no 'whey' you want to miss this 'gouda' local event. Get all the ooey gooey details plus cycling routes to explore the trail by bike. www.TourismOxford.ca/Big-Cheese-Days.

INGERSOLL LIBRARY

ADULTS - Ten Healthy Habits of Financial Management Tues, May 5, 5:30pm. Learn with Michael Banham, a retired financial services executive with over 32 years of experience.

Film Club Discussion Wed, May 27, 5pm. Do you love watching & talking about films? If so, join our Film Club! Each month 4 themed films will be available for the club to borrow, watch & discuss.

Superstorms of Ontario Sat, May 30, 11am. Enjoy seeing a wide variety of severe weather including thunderstorms, ice storms, wind storms, snow storms & solar storms all from the beautiful province of Ontario, presented by David T. Chapman!

KIDS - Messy Monday Mon, May 4, 10am. Drop by & explore learning through play! Your little learners will enjoy sensory play & hands-on discovery. Some play materials may be messy! For children ages 5 and under with their caregiver. * Please note the program room capacity is limited and you may be asked to wait & enjoy the library until space opens up in the program.

Tween Time (Ages 9-13) Pebble Art Tues, May 26, 4pm. Hey tweens! Drop by the Ingersoll library program room to make a pebble art picture! The library has various programs for all ages. We kindly ask that the age limits are followed and we appreciate your understanding!

PA Day ages 12 & under. Magnet Fishing Craft. Fri, May 29, 10am. Drop by to make a magnet fishing game! While supplies last and space allows.

THANKS FOR REUSEAPALOOZAHANG!

Many thanks to the volunteers at both recent Reuseapaloozahas, in Brownsville & Innerkip. In addition to having a great time, many found treasures. I have been approached by people about fall editions in other parts of Oxford County. Let's do it! Contact bryasmit@oxford.net.

INGERSOLL GARAGE SALES

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

THISTLE THEATRE – AUDITIONS

Thistle Theatre is looking for singers, of all ages, sizes & genders. Our fall production is “Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat”. 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.

FROM CONVERSATION TO ACTION:

Oxford Community Foundation Celebrates Grants, New Funds, and a Bold Look at Housing. Join us for our Community Impact Celebration Mon, June 1, 4-6pm at the Clubhouse at the Tillsonburg Soccer Club, 275 Quarter Town Line, Tillsonburg. This evening is a celebration of new funds created dedicated to supporting our most vulnerable residents, strengthening community & investing in our youth. We'll also celebrate \$255,000 in grants awarded to 38 local charities supporting arts, culture & heritage, to health & wellness, education, the environment, and social services. And the centrepiece of the evening is a panel discussion we believe is particularly timely for our community: Housing & Homelessness. The panel will feature voices you'll want to hear, including a community organization & builder who didn't just talk about the housing crisis — they did something about it. They built homes for families on the waitlist and, in the process, opened doors for young people looking to build careers in the skilled trades. It's the kind of story that reminds us what's possible when people in this room decide to act. The panel will also include a local expert sharing what's happening right here in Oxford County and what we can accomplish together. This is an open invitation to everyone in our community. We would be honoured to have you join us. Register now at www.oxfordcommunityfoundation.org.

EMBRO ZORRA LAWN BOWLING CLUB

The season begins May 18 with a potluck / BBQ at 5pm followed by the opening jitney. New members are welcome.

OPEN HOUSE EVENTS If you want to give Lawn Bowls a try with no commitment, come out on any Monday evening in June 7-9pm for free instruction and a friendly game. Lawn Bowling offers a mild form of exercise that is fun, but fosters friendships & socialization while providing recreational & competitive play. Club bowls are available to new players & no special clothing is required. Coaching is available. We welcome all to try the fun game of Lawn Bowling at the club located at the Embro West Zorra Community Center! For more information call Ken 519-533-7446.

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.

TARTAN TEA LUNCHEON

Daughters of the Nile Tartan Tea Luncheon & Floral Demonstration May 21, 12:30pm at Ingersoll Pipe Band Hall, 108 Wonham St, S. Floral demonstration by Little Leaf Haven. Tickets \$25. Gluten free available if asked at time of buying ticket. For tickets, please phone Merilee Peter 519-425-2162. Proceeds of this event assist our club to support Shriners Children's Hospital Canada.

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www.jenthomsonrealtor.com



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EVENT SPACE FOR RENT

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

SAVE THE DATE!

Trinity United Church Ingersoll is hosting... Divinely Gluten Free Expo Sun, June 28. This expo will host a wide variety of gluten free vendors, selling a plethora of delicious products. You don't want to miss this event. If you wish to be a gluten free vendor, please email divinelyglutenfreeexpo@gmail.com. More information coming in May's edition of the Village Voice and/or follow us on Facebook.

HOPE BLOOMS, CHORAL SOCIETY

May 8, join the Ingersoll Choral Society as they present “Hope Blooms”, a spring benefit concert in support of the Ingersoll & District Interchurch. Uplifting choral selections to brighten your spring day! St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, 56 Thames St. S, Ingersoll, 7pm. A free will offering will be received for Ingersoll & District Inter-Church. Find us on FB or www.ingersollchoralsociety.ca.

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CALI WEEKEND TOWN WIDE YARD SALE

Westminster United Church, Thamesford 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 on Tues, May 12, 10-6pm at 115 George St, Thamesford. To make other arrangements for drop off, contact Mariette 519-533-7515. Besides your regular household goods, we also appreciate the following items: fashion accessories like jewelry (even your broken silver & gold jewelry), purses; vintage items; books; reusable shopping bags. There will be breakfast sandwiches & beverages available for purchase. We will be selling books \$5 per bag. Make sure to visit our Heavenly Boutique with loads of jewelry and many, many purses/handbags. Yard sale items will be half price from 12-1pm.

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! May 1 & 15 & 29, June 5 & 19.



STOPPING TO SMELL THE FLOWERS:

A Healing & Resource Centre ~ Echoing a Remembrance of your Magnificence Through Short Story Awakenings and Offerings~ **Guided Meditation** sessions Tuesdays in May (May 5, 12 & 19) 7-8pm at the Meditation Hut, 130 Stanley St S, Thamesford. Chairs are provided. \$135 + free admission to the Immersion Series Thur, May 28, 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.

Commonplace Book Store Sat, May 1, 105 Thames St. S, Ingersoll, 12-4pm. Buy a Stopping to Smell the Flowers book and get it signed by the author! I will also be offering a free Guided Journaling Workshop – just drop in – all journaling tools will be provided. This is a great way to tune into emotions & pivot towards better feeling thoughts & actions. To find out more & register, message Stephanie Malo, author and facilitator: Facebook at “Stopping to Smell the Flowers: Extraordinary Observations of Everyday Life” Instagram @therealstephaniemalo or email stephaniemalo@hotmail.com. www.stoppingtosmelltheflowers.com.

THE CAIRN!

The Zorra Caledonians have carefully considered options for the iconic cairn located at the North Embro Cemetery. The cairn, built in 1939, is dedicated to the 1893 World's Fair Tug of War champion team, and remains a local, national & international symbol of honour & pride in Zorra's impact on the sport. For several years the Caledonians have received financial support from the community for cairn restoration & we are excited to announce that after a careful search into repair options, the work will proceed this spring! Anyone interested in contributing to this work is encouraged to send your donation via e-transfer to events@embrohighlandgames.ca or mail a cheque to Zorra Caledonian Society PO Box 258, Embro, N0J 1J0. Four quotes for the work were sourced and the cost will be \$ 9,000, taxes in! Any support is welcome as we honour the men who put Zorra - a community considered the birthplace of tug-of-war - on the map.

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HEAVENLY BOUTIQUE

May 16, 8-1pm. Come out & shop at the Heavenly Boutique with gently used fashion accessories. Over 200 purses/handbags priced at \$5 & \$10. All jewelry 5 pieces for \$10, choose from hundreds of necklaces, earrings, brooches, watches, bracelets, pendants & rings. We also have designer purses & many wallets, clutches & a selection of fashion scarves. Don't miss this one-day sale at Westminster United Church, 115 George St, Thamesford. All proceed go towards the sponsorship of our Syrian refugee family.



THAMESFORD CALITHUMPIAN PRESENTS

TROPI-CALI WEEKEND

www.ThamesfordCalithumpian.ca

MAY 15-18 2026

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EZAS UPCOMING WORKSHOPS:

- Craft, Tea & Embroidery** May 2, 10-11:30am, Knox United Church
 - BBQ Tips & Tricks** with Lancaster Smokehouse June 6
 - Cupcake Decorating** June 13
 - Wine Painting** July 11
 - Canning Pickled Beets** Aug 15
 - Pie Crust & Filling Making** Oct 3
 - DIY Holiday Craft** Nov 7
- Please register online at www.embrofair.com.

INGERSOLL DISTRICT NATURE CLUB

BIRDING AT HODGES POND Sat, May 16. Please join us 9am in the Ingersoll Municipal Parking lot behind the arena to carpool to Hodges Pond at 504918 Old Stage Rd Woodstock N4S 7V8 or meet us there. Hodges Pond is a former millpond that has been transformed through the hard work of a local project team & volunteers. The ecological enhancement started with removal of the dam in 2016 followed by construction of several wetland cells, in-stream habitat improvements, planting of thousands of trees & installation of several wildlife nest structures. This loop trail provides for an easy walk through prime wetland with ample opportunity to view migrating & resident birds. This project is an ongoing partnership between Ducks Unlimited Canada, Oxford County, Stewardship Oxford, UTRCA and the MNR. The Ingersoll District Nature Club has several extremely knowledgeable birders who would be more than willing to share their expertise with anyone who joins our outing. This is an excellent opportunity for beginners & experts to enjoy the great outdoors and hone their skills! For more information contact Sheila 519-485-2645 or www.ingersollnatureclub.com

LAWSON NATURE RESERVE CLEANUP DAY Sat, June 6, 9am. Community members are welcome to join the Ingersoll District Nature Club for clean-up activities at the Reserve on McBeth Rd, south of Ingersoll, including trail maintenance, garlic mustard extraction & painting. We would especially appreciate help from those who regularly use the trails as the Reserve is maintained solely by volunteers. Please bring gloves, bug spray & wear sturdy boots. Helping hands are always appreciated. For more information call Meg 519-485-4220 or check www.ingersollnatureclub.com.



regularly use the trails as the Reserve is maintained solely by volunteers. Please bring gloves, bug spray & wear sturdy boots. Helping hands are always appreciated. For more information call Meg 519-485-4220 or check www.ingersollnatureclub.com.

OXFORD STEWARDSHIP AWARD WINNER:

Middle Grand Chapter of Freshwater Conservation Canada

Oxford County Warden Marcus Ryan presented the 2025 Oxford Stewardship Award to the Middle Grand Chapter of Freshwater Conservation Canada, honoring their contributions to land improvement & sustainability. The Middle Grand Chapter of Freshwater Conservation Canada, a passionate volunteer group, unites behind a vision to renew & protect the health and biodiversity of cold-water tributaries along the Middle Grand River. Over the past 3 years, the Middle Grand chapter has planted over 2,000 trees along a stretch of Horner's Creek in Oxford County, between 8th and 10th Concession, just outside of Bright. The group pursues a simple goal: healthier water. Cool, flowing water equals healthy water. By planting trees, they create a buffer around the stream, reduce runoff & sediment, and, as the trees mature, provide shade that helps keep water temperatures down. With support from the Oxford Clean Water Program, the group furthered these efforts by organizing a community planting event at a farm property along Horner's Creek last spring, where 250 potted & bareroot trees were added. The chapter collaborated closely with the Grand River Conservation Authority, Enbridge, and local landowners, who provided access to their properties to assist with tree planting and the implementation of this project. Oxford County is honouring this year's Oxford Stewardship Award recipient with a \$500 gift certificate to purchase original artwork commissioned from an Oxford County artist of their choice OR an experience at a local destination featured through Tour Oxford. In addition to this prize, the Middle Grand Chapter has been added to the recognition wall at the Oxford County Administration Building, designed to honour all past and future recipients of the Oxford Stewardship Award. The winner of the Oxford Stewardship Award is chosen by representatives of local stewardship organizations, with Marinda Gras, Soil & Crop Improvement Association, and Cher Sprague, Stewardship Oxford, leading the judging process.

HAVING HOPE AT HOME

Don't miss this heart-warming & hilarious comedy by Canadian playwright Daniel S. Craig! Having Hope at Home is a powerful & funny family drama! 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, our talented cast & crew are ready to entertain audiences once again! Theatre Tillsonburg's production of "Having Hope at Home" is humorous, heart warming, and a definite "Don't Miss out!" production! Show dates: May 28, 29, *30, *31 & June 4, 5, 6, *7. Evenings 7:30pm, *matinees 2pm. Tickets available at theatreitillsonburg.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 fun & meet new people. Contact: Trevor Martin 519-926-0039.



TRACTOR SKILL GAMES FUNDRAISING

Save the date: Sat, Sept 5, for the Tractor Skill Games Event, fundraising for Children's Hospital. If you wish to participate in the games, volunteer, or your business would like to be a sponsor, please visit our website www.tractorskillgames.ca.

INGERSOLL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

PLANT & BAKE SALE at UNIFOR Hall May 15, 3-7pm; May 16, 7-11:30am. Annuals, perennials, herbs, interesting selections, reasonable prices. Tomatoes: Sun Sugar (cherry), Mtn. Merit, Plum Regal. (blight resistant varieties) R. & T. Poortinga will have these available from home at 50 Witty Ave starting May 4. Donations of plants & baking for the sale much appreciated. Can drop off at UNIFOR Fri pm or at 136 Holcroft Ave. May 14 pm or May 15 am.

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING May 26, 7:30pm at Seniors Centre, 250 Ingersoll Ave. S. Speaker: Nancy Abra. Topic: What's Bugging You(r) Garden? Visitors welcome, no charge.



BEACHVILLE LEGION 434852 Zorra Line, Beachville
Gentle Chair Yoga Wed 7-8pm.

Summer Dart League Wed May 6-Sept 2, 7:30pm. Teams of 3 randomly drawn \$20/person. Call Shelley 519-580-8211 for info.

Branch Euchre Thursdays play begins 7pm.

Line Dancing Thursdays 7-8pm (with exception of May 28) \$10.

West Coast Swing Dancing Thursdays (with exception of May 28) 8:15-9:15pm. \$10, no partner required.

Darts Blind Draw Doubles Fridays, play begins 8pm.

Thames Valley Bluegrass & Old Time Country Pickers Sat, May 2, 9, 23, 30, 1-4pm. Open mic (acoustic only). Come enjoy the music.

Oxford County Feline Wellness & Outreach Bingo Fri, May 8 & 22. Doors open 6pm. Play begins 7pm.

Ox On The Run Mobile Library Wed, May 13 & 27, 4:30-6pm.

General Meeting Elections Wed, May 6, 7pm.

Roast Beef Dinner Fri, May 8, 5:30pm, \$15. Call to pre-order.

Mothers Day Brunch Sun, May 10, 9:30-12:30pm. Adults \$12, under 10 years of age \$5.

Pork Roast Dinner Fri, May 22, 5:30pm. \$15 call to pre-order.

Karaoke with Ken Pyle Sat, May 30, 7-11pm.

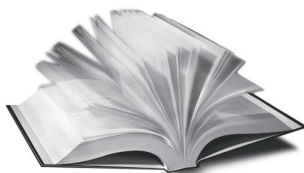
Free pool. Hall rental for meetings, parties, receptions. Follow us on Facebook or visit our website for additional events. 519-423-6363.

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.

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INGERSOLL CREATIVE ARTS CENTRE

Gallery & Artisan Market Open Mon-Fri 9-4pm & Sat 1-4pm. 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!

Current Exhibition: ICAC Members' Show Featuring the works of our talented members, this show is a must-see for any art lover! Join us for a multi-media exhibition of pottery, rug hooking, quilting, fibre arts, paintings, mixed media, photography, and more. The exhibition will be on display until May 23.

Upcoming Exhibition: ICAC Fibre Arts Bunch & Nimble Fingers Exceptional fibre artwork by the talented members of the Creative Arts Centre's fibre arts groups. Running May 30-July 4.

Cookies & Coffee with Rosy's Kitchen. Sat, May 9, 1-3pm.

Wire Wrapped Trees with Pat Palmer. Tues, May 12, 3-5pm.

Ink Joy! Adventures in Alcohol Inks. Sat, May 23, 1-3:30pm.

Play with Watercolour with Leith Channen. Tues, May 26, 3-5pm.

Spring into Watercolour with Leith Channen. Tues, May 26, and/or Wed, May 27, 7-9pm

Events: ICAC Fashion Show Fundraiser May 8, doors open 6pm, show 7pm. Support the Arts Centre and stay up on the latest fashions! Featuring the fashion of Roberts & Co. Ladies Wear. Tickets available at the Centre or at www.creativeartscentre.com.

The "Oh Canada" Silent Auction Fundraiser June 6-26. Opening: Sat, June 6, 1pm. This fundraiser silent auction will feature a wide selection of artwork celebrating what we love about Canada! Pottery, fibre art, rug hooking, quilted items, and more made by the talented members of the Creative Arts Centre.



Township of SOUTH-WEST OXFORD

CIVIC CORNER

Spring Into Community!

May brings longer days, warmer weather, and a burst of energy - perfect for getting outside and helping keep our township beautiful! Join us to clean up streets, parks, and public spaces, or lend a hand as a volunteer. From assisting at community halls and parks to joining local committees, there are many ways to make a meaningful impact. Visit swox.org / Living Here / Volunteer Opportunities for more information.

Spring Community Clean Up at Mount Elgin Hall (333204 Plank Line) May 2nd, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. Free hot dogs provided for volunteers at 11:30 a.m.

Volunteer hours for high school students! Please bring your own rakes; bags and recycling bins will be provided

Large Item Collection

South-West Oxford's annual Large Item Collection takes place June 1-5, 2026! This is your chance to safely dispose of bulky household items that aren't picked up during regular waste collection. For a full list of accepted items and collection details, visit oxfordcounty.ca Services for You / Garbage, Organics and Recycling / Large Item Collection.

Share Your SWOX Moments

We want to see the township through your eyes! Share a photo of anything that captures the sights, spirit, and life of our community this season - parks, streets, wildlife, events, public art, or anything that represents SWOX. Your photo could be featured in the SWOX Talks newsletter! Email your submissions to dfidler@swox.org and help us celebrate the heart of our township.

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 2 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. Crossroad Villages Placenames: Campbell's Corners, Choate's Corners, Clark's Corners, Cooks Corners, Ebenezer, Hagle's Corners, Munro's Crossing, New Lawson, Oxford Upon the Thames, Peebles, Pipers Corners, Prouse's Corners, Tyrone, & Wilsons Corners.

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, and 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 from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. 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) and the Flying Furballs dog show at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.!

Looking Ahead: 2026 Municipal Election

The next municipal election will take place 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 are available at the municipal office. Questions? Contact Denny Giles, Clerk at dgiles@swox.org or 519-485-0477 x.7027.

Garbage & Recycling – Friendly Reminder

As a reminder, several changes to garbage, recycling & organics collection took effect earlier this year. Residents are encouraged to review collection schedules & 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 customercareont@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 and Emergency Services



With spring in full swing, May is the perfect time to make sure your home is safe from fire:

- Test smoke alarms and replace batteries
- Clean chimneys and dryer vents
- Keep flammable items away from heat sources
- Always supervise grills, fire pits, and outdoor fires

Open-Air Burning: Recreational fires (campfires) are allowed if kept small, supervised, at least 15 ft from buildings/vegetation, and fully extinguished before leaving. Avoid burning in windy, rainy, foggy conditions, during smog alerts, or burn bans.

Agricultural or other non-recreational burns require a Fire Permit from the Chief Fire Official.

On the Road: Flashing green light? Volunteer firefighter responding - please yield safely. Slow down and move over for emergency vehicles. Stay safe and enjoy the warmer weather! For full rules and burn permit details, visit: swox.org / Living Here / Fire Services.



Coffee and Connect

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

May 2026 South-West Oxford Council & Committee Meetings

All meetings except May 19th are anticipated to take place at the Township of South-West Oxford municipal office.

Meeting Type	Date & Time
Council Meeting	May 5 th , 9:00 AM
Engage and Inform Committee Meeting	May 6 th , 1:00 PM
Environment and Energy Innovation Committee Meeting	May 6 th , 4:30 PM
Council Meeting (Mount Elgin Community Centre)	May 19 th 6:30 PM

BEACHVILLE DISTRICT MUSEUM

We're getting ready for another fun & exciting summer season at the museum! This month, we welcome Keely Shaw to the museum team as Interim Assistant Curator for 2026. Keely will be the newest friendly face you'll see around the museum & brings experience in programming, education & collections research. We're also glad to welcome our grounds keeper Jeff, back for another summer season. Be sure to say hello to Keely and Jeff the next time you're in! Join us this spring for a tour of the museum & grounds Tues-Sat 10-4pm, or for one of our upcoming programs and events. We look forward to seeing you soon!

Upcoming Programs & Events - SUMMER CAMP PROGRAM For children ages 5-11 June 29-Aug 28 (excluding statutory holidays). Additional slots for each week are now available for both full week & single day registrations. Register online now at beachvilledistrict-museum.com/summercamp2026.

OXFORD LOCAL HISTORY DAY Sat, May 9, 10-1pm at the Ingersoll Public Library, 130 Oxford St, Ingersoll. Join us for a day of presentations & exhibits at the library that will help bring the story of Oxford to light & promote the importance of local history to the community. Visitors will experience collections, exhibits & featured stories from archives, museums, heritage groups & individual researchers from around Oxford County.

MAY SPEAKER SERIES Tues, May 12, 7pm in the museum's Program Room. Hosted by the Beachville District Historical Society (BDHS), this month's speaker will be Todd Pearson on the origins of his business, the Kintore Coffee Co., and their current location. Free admission. No registration required. Seating is limited and available on a first-come, first-served basis.

MAY COMMUNITY CAR SHOW We're kicking off our season of Community Car Shows on Sun, May 24, 11-3pm (show cars are welcome on the grounds from 9:30am) at the Beachville District Museum. 584367 Beachville Rd. The Beachville Legion will be preparing a BBQ lunch, ice cream will be available, and local vendors will be onsite. Come by to take it all in, grab a snack, tour the museum, and participate in the 50/50 draw! No pre-registration is required, drivers can register at the main table when they arrive. There is no cost to attend (donations to the Beachville District Museum are welcome).

SOUTH-WEST OXFORD TOWNSHIP FARE Sat, May 23, 10-2pm at the Mount Elgin Community Centre, 333204 Plank Line, Mount Elgin. Join us as we celebrate 51 years of the Township of South-West Oxford at the SWOX Township Fare! Visit the museum's table to take in a display of artifacts related to the history of dairy businesses in SWOX. Afterward, shop local businesses, grab a bite from some fantastic food trucks, and enjoy a great mix of hand-crafted goods, candles, skincare, preserves, honey, cheese, local services, and more!

BOOK SALE

May 30, 1-4pm at Aylmer Evangelical Missionary Church, 600 Talbot St, W (at Rogers Rd). Sponsored by distributor of Living Books & More Anne Schieckoff, hosted by Brenda Eccles-Jardine. Christian books, Bibles, word search books, devotionals, Christian fiction & non-fiction, journals, small gifts and much more for adults & children. Coffee & tea available.



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OXFORD BRANCH ONTARIO ANCESTORS

Mon, May 11, 7pm on Zoom - Researching at the United Church Archives with Christopher Hogendoorn. An in-depth look at the United Church of Canada (UCC) Archives, with a focus on how genealogists can locate, interpret & access church records. Please visit our website at <https://oxford.ogs.on.ca> and click on the link to register. This is a free event and all are welcome to attend.

SWEABURG LIONS FISH FRY

The Sweaburg & District Lions are pleased to present their annual fish fry on Sat, June 13. Dinner served 5-7pm. Take-out pickup 4:30-5pm at Sweaburg Community and Lions Park. Adult \$25, 12 and under \$15, advance sales only. For tickets call Sue 519-456-5926 or ask any Sweaburg Lions member.

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.



THISTLE THEATRE – DRAMARAMA 2026

Thistle Theatre is proud to present the 30th season of DRAMARAMA! Dramarama is our summer day camp for young people ages 6-13 (grades 1-8). 9 spots remaining in our July 20-31 session. Dramarama is all about developing creativity, self-expression, & self-confidence. Workshops in drama, music, dance, arts and crafts, and theatre production take place each morning, with the afternoon spent working together to collectively create one play. The play is then performed for family, friends & community members on the final day of camp. Camp runs daily 9-3pm out of the Embro Town Hall, 135 Huron St. For all the information, 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 and donate to our camp, please email dramarama.thistletheatre@gmail.com to arrange for drop off or pick up.

WHAT DO TEARS MEAN?

When you see teens crying at an airport, you know they are having a deeply personal experience. One even said he was aware that it was less his story & more who he'd become that was important, at the end of 9-week exchanges with ISE-Ontario. Moving 39 adolescents through 2 large airports should be a complicated task, but thanks to planning & preparation by ISE, International Student Exchanges, students had been gathered from all over France & Germany, for their return to their homes. Tears? Of course, parting is such sweet sorrow. The prospect of reuniting with family could provoke tears too. For more information about the extraordinary impact that exchanges to any of ISE's 6 European destinations, track down a recent participant in your school, contact bryasmit@oxford.net and/or visit www.iseontario.on.ca.

160th ANNIVERSARY!

Join us at Beachville Baptist Church, The Village Chapel, 8 King St, Beachville, for our 160th Anniversary May 3, 2pm. Rev. Dr. Glenn Malcolm, speaker & special musical guests. We welcome former members & friends to celebrate with us. For information: Eleanor Reeves 519-423-6776 or Sheila Graham 519-421-5460.

Anniversary

SWEABURG EUCHRE

Sweaburg & District Lions Club EUCHRE (progressive) is on Sat, May 23, at Sweaburg United Church. Doors open 6:30pm and the fun begins at 7pm. \$10 per person & light refreshments are served. Everyone is welcome.

OXFORD DIABETES EDUCATION PROGRAM

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 Rural Roads Health Services: Alexandra Hospital Ingersoll site & Tillsonburg District Memorial Hospital site and by phone. SELF REFERRALS ARE WELCOME. Please call 519-485-9611 to book an appointment. Let's work together!

CUCKOO'S NEST FOLK CLUB

Melisande Fri, May 1, 8pm at Metropolitan United Church
Moonfruits Sun, May 31, 7:30pm at German Canadian Club
 2024 Canadian Folk Music Award nominees Moonfruits (Emerging Act & Producers of the Year) craft contemporary folk that addresses our collective humanity with heart, wit, and wonder. Led by partners Alex Millaire and Kaitlin Milroy, Moonfruits pen songs in both French and English, a reflection of their bilingual lived experience in their hometown of Ottawa. Theirs is the music of open-minded dreamers and diligent doers, confronting dehumanizing capitalism and environmental catastrophe with a rousing message of solidarity. "The future of roots music is in good hands" — Heather Kitching, Roots Music Canada. This Stingray Rising Star, SOCAN, and Trille Or award-winning group has toured their transportive live show across Canada, the US and Europe. For Information: 519-319-5847, folk@iandavies.com.

NHL NEWS

The Buffalo Sabres finished the season as Atlantic Division Champs. This is the first time they have reached the playoffs in 15 years. Local Michael Kesslering is #8 on the team. Submitted by Ken Minler.

THAMESFORD LIONS CLUB

The Thamesford Lions Club has been active this spring with a number of successful events & ongoing community service. On Apr 18, we held our annual scrap metal & electronics drop-off at the Thamesford Recreation Centre. We extend sincere thanks to everyone who contributed, with a final total to be shared soon. On Apr 25, we proudly celebrated our 65th Charter Night, an evening that featured music by RJ Conspiracies, a meal from Village Catered Deli, and recognition of several deserving members. In early May, Lions members completed our annual roadside cleanup across Oxford County, helping to keep our community clean & welcoming. Looking ahead, we will be hosting children's races during the May 16-18 Tropi-Cali weekend, participating in the parade, and holding our popular Trout Brunch. Trout Brunch tickets are available through Lion Jack Broadfoot, and full details can be found on our website. Non-perishable food items collected during the parade support local food programs. On June 6, we will be barbecuing at Embro Family Pharmacy 11-2pm in support of the Embro Dog Park. For updates & information, please follow the Embro Dog Park Facebook page or Township channels. On June 20, we invite the community to Lions South Park for our annual car show & barbecue, featuring both a morning breakfast and a lunch BBQ. Finally, mark your calendars for Aug 22 and join us at Lions South Park for our 65th Celebration in the Park. This is a free event, and all are welcome to enjoy music, free hot dogs, and children's activities.



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.

THAMES CENTRE COMMUNITY CHOIR

The Thames Centre Community Choir presents its May Concert Sun, May 24, 2pm at Dorchester United Church, 4100 Catherine St. Admission is by donation. Everyone is welcome! Choir members will be selling Dipladenia and Hibiscus plants as their major annual fund raiser this April and early May. Same great prices & delivery by Mother's Day. Please contact any choir member or c_baskerville@hotmail.com for more information.

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.

BROWNSVILLE VILLAGE WIDE YARD SALE

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

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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.

JERUSALEM ARTICHOKE & SUN CHOKES

.... Are the same thing, produce bright yellow flowers reminiscent of small sunflowers and, are a forgotten vegetable. Not long ago Bryan Smith was given some & offered them up to guests and friends. Most did not know what they were. It was like a replay of the conversations he'd had about kohlrabi and daikon radishes. All good, edible, tasty, vegetables which have fallen from favour. This means that they are often available free or cheaply, and are on the cusp of being the next thing chefs and famous cooks rave about. In times of economic hardship, it is wise to find & try a broad range of foods, often because they are low-cost, and certainly because they are delicious. What other discoveries can you put on your plate while the prices soar at the grocery store?

STICH SUPPER CLUB WANTS YOU!

Bryan Smith leads a couple of the volunteer teams at STICH Supper Club. They serve a meal on Thursdays, but have some tasks which need doing other days of the week, and need your help with them. To sign up, visit www.stichsupperclub.ca and look for the volunteers' link on the right side.

THAMESFORD FRIENDSHIP CLUB

May is the TFC Spring Outing. It will take place Wed, May 27. This is the time we go together on an adventure & eat out – maybe somewhere we have not been before. Please arrive by 9:50am. We start out at 10am from the Thamesford Library Parking lot. We join up in vehicles to drive to the adventure destination. All drivers are voluntary. Then together we go to the restaurant where we dine & pay our own way. Maybe your car mates want to venture on their own after that but we are usually back by 2:30pm. We will need to reserve our spot at the restaurant & know how many vehicles we need. Please let us know you want to join with us by May 20, call Helen 519-285-2024 or Shirley 519-285-2938. If you need assistance let us know. Maybe we can help. The Friendship club invites Seniors 55 Plus - new or old from Thamesford and surrounding areas.

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

Registered Programs: MEDITATION Wed 6:30pm. The benefits of mindful breathing & meditation are clarity, focus, improved immune function, and reduced anxiety. Until May 20.

STROKE RECOVERY, COPD, PARKINSON'S DISEASE FITNESS Tues/Thur 10:30am. Light to moderate intensity exercise with a focus on functional movement.

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

CHAIR FITNESS *NEW TIME* Wed 10:30-11:30am. A gentle yet vigorous workout that includes warm-up, cardio, cool down & balance, resistance training, and wraps up with stretch & relaxation.

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.

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

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. As of May 4 – back at the courts across from the Sr. Centre. Drop-in rate \$5.

SCULPT & SWEAT Wed 9-10am. Starting May 6. A 1-hour total body workout with a thorough warm up & cool down, 15 minutes of cardio, 20 minutes of strength & abs training using dumbbells and body weight, finishing with a relaxing 15 minutes of flexibility training. We will be doing some exercises on the floor. It is meant for every fitness level where everyone is encouraged to workout at their own pace. Participants need to come at least 15 minutes before the class starts so that they can set up their own equipment which the Centre provides.

STRENGTH & STRETCH Fri 9am. Increasing your strength helps with activities of daily living. Come have fun pumping some weights, followed by flexibility training & relaxation. It is a 75-minute class. Participants need to come at least 15 minutes prior to class starts to set up their own equipment which the Centre provides.

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

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

TOTAL TONING TIME Wed 5:30pm. Get ready to sculpt, sweat, and shine! This full-body workout blends strength moves with a cardio boost to leave you feeling powerful and energized. With options for every fitness level, you'll tone and 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!

VON SMART Exercise Class Mon & Thur 1:30pm. A safe & effective exercise and 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.

WALKING CLUB Wed 9am. Enjoy a morning walk at various trails/locations. Call to get exact walking locations (members only).



Bits n Clips

CELEBRATION OF LIFE FOR GARY ABRAMS

Join us and share Memory or Story.
Wednesday, May 6th 2026, 1-4pm
Elm Hurst Inn, Ingersoll Ontario

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.

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

DINE IN Full meal & dessert on Fri in our dining room, \$10. Free delivery to Ingersoll & Thamesford available. For Tues & Fri meals, please call to book your meal by 12pm the day before!

FOOT CARE CLINIC \$31.

FROSTY MEALS \$7.50/ entrée \$2.75/ soup or dessert.

GROCERY BUDDY Call us with your grocery list and 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. Examples include CPP, OAS, GIS and passport forms, etc.

HOME HELP & MAINTENANCE PROGRAM SMALL FEE FOR SERVICE
A normal part of aging is needing assistance with independent activities of daily living. 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, served at lunchtime Mon-Fri.

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

TRANSPORTATION For older adults & those with disabilities in Ingersoll & surrounding areas. Rides to & from appointments, errands, etc. We have very reasonable rates & reliable, friendly volunteer drivers'. 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 11:30-1pm in Ingersoll. Please call Victoria 519-485-2269 if you're interested in helping.

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 set of wheels. To register, or for more information, please contact Nash's mom and dad - Nicole & Chris 519-533-2208 or email nbarnett221@gmail.com.





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OXFORD 4-H

Oxford 4-H is growing with the 3 new 4-H clubs—Fishing, Horse & Vet along with the other clubs & projects happening with hands-on learn to do by doing activities. Some 4-H Clubs started in April with youth still able to join. For Dairy 4-H Clubs contact Dean dkarn@xipor.net for Ingersoll Kiwanis; Jack jdanen@netflash.net for North Oxford; T-J tj_hargreaves@yahoo.ca for Bonds. The Oxford Beef 4-H Club contact oxford4hbeef@gmail.com; Community 4-H Club is doing 'Community Engagement' project, contact Shonna wardshonna@hotmail.com; Brookdale 4-H Club doing an "Anything with an Engine" 4-H project, contact kait.mckay12@gmail.com; Hickson 4-H Club doing a "Let's Get Ready for the Fair" project, contact Shonna wardshonna@hotmail.com. The two Cloverbud 4-H Clubs in Oxford for 6-8 year olds have youth learning about maple syrup, field crops, alternative livestock, fruits & vegetables, our heritage, butterflies & pollinators, alternative dance & breadventure. Oxford 4-H youth have participated in a few opportunities this year already—Dairy Sense, Future Leaders in Action and soon going to 4-H Canada National Citizenship Congress in Ottawa. Jacob Bergsma was selected to be a 4-H Ontario Ambassador for 2026—Congratulations Jacob! 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 & 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. To learn more contact Shonna Ward oxfordcounty4h@gmail.com, 519-854-6919 or check <https://4-hontario.ca/association/oxford-4-h-association/>.

BROWNSVILLE LIBRARY

Coffee & Connect Brownsville Library in partnership with the Brownsville Community Hall & Park Committee will be hosting a Coffee and Connect Drop-in program the 1st Thur of every month. Join us Thur, May 7, 10am in the Brownsville Community Hall. Stop by and chat over a free cup of coffee!

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

STEAM Club 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! May 6 Superhero Science, May 20 Crafty Codebreaking (final session).

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/>

EZAS FIELD CROP COMPETITION DEADLINE

Calling all farmers in Zorra Township! This is a competition you can enter without even doing anything out of your regular day — the Field Crop Competition. Standing crops will be judged, points given, and winners announced at the Embro Fair. Prize money will be awarded. Several crop classes to be included, with the first deadline to be May 8 for First Cut Hay. Please contact Jim Grieve 519-475-6163 or embroagsociety@gmail.com to enter your field.

NORWICH LAWN BOWLING CLUB

The Norwich Lawn Bowling Club invites you to “Come & try lawn bowling”. It’s the perfect blend of strategy, socializing & friendly competition. We’ll see you at 20 Stover St. South, Norwich for free instruction Thur, May 7, 6:45pm and/or Sat, May 9, 10-2pm. We have the lawn bowls, the “how to”, and refreshments. Regular jitneys are Tues & Thur 6:45pm and first year membership is only \$70! You can find us on Facebook, and our website, norwichlawn-bowling.ca, or you can contact me, Sandra Bertrand 519-535-0542. See you on the greens!

BROWN’S CHICKEN BBQ

Brown’s United Church Drive-thru chicken BBQ is Thur, July 9, 4:30-7pm. Advance tickets only \$30, call Sue 519-868-3335.



See Our Website for Monthly Specials!

194253 19th Line
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N5C 3J6

Tel: 519-425-0428
Fax: 519-425-1714
Cell: 519-630-6649
Email: shane@greatfloors.ca

A FULL PASSENGER CAR - MAY 28

The Ontario Health Coalition has reserved an entire VIA train car from Woodstock to Toronto and back again to do an education session about the savings of costs & lives in fully public hospitals. Not too long ago, retirees in ARM 11 spent a day at Queen’s Park, urging policy makers to extend the quality & duration of life for those needing home care. Now a second opportunity awaits: Join us for education and discussion while travelling into town, at Queen’s Park and on the (rail)road home. Visit www.ontariohealth-coalition.ca for more information. See you Thur, May 28 at the Via rail in Toronto. Your voice must be heard.

SENIORS LEARNING IN RETIREMENT LONDON

Are you a retiree who would like to keep your brain active, make some new friends, expand your intellectual horizons, and just have some fun with your peers while doing so? Then you belong in SLR London! Since 1994, our non-profit organization has been dedicated to facilitating life-long learning for retirees in London & surrounding area. Our focus is on peer-to-peer learning, which means that each member participates actively in their own learning, as well as that of their fellow members. Study, discussion, activity and interest groups meet Sept through June, and social events happen year-round. In-person & online courses are offered. We invite everyone to join us at Siloam United Church, 1240 Fanshawe Park Rd E, London, for our Program Preview and Social on May 29, 1:30-3pm (doors open at 1pm) to see a preview of our upcoming fall courses & socialize with our members. Entertainment & refreshments provided. You can also visit our website at www.slr-london.com to see our current spring semester offerings. Email slrlondonontario@gmail.com or call 519-438-3525 for more details.

CHILDREN’S WATER FESTIVAL IS COMING!

After an extraordinary year in 2025, the Children’s Water Festival returns in 2026 at nearby Fanshawe Park Conservation Area. For the most fun imaginable, sign up to volunteer any day of the week of May 25-29, or to help with the Family Night on May 28. The Oxford Coalition for Social Justice is committed to solidarity in developing new activities, bringing older ones up to date, and making complex ideas clear for all age groups. Connect via <https://www.childrenswaterfestival.ca>, fill out the volunteer’s form & get ready to get wet.

BROWNSVILLE ANNUAL SCHOOL REUNION

The Brownsville Annual School Reunion will be held Wed, June 10, 10-3pm at the Brownsville Community Centre. There will be a Potluck lunch, so please bring your favourite dish. All former students & spouses are welcome to attend. If you have any historical information or pictures please bring them with you. If you have any questions please contact [Patty rpmeertens@gmail.com](mailto:Patty.rpmeertens@gmail.com).

BEACHVILLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

On Tues, May 12, 7pm the Beachville District Historical Society welcomes Todd Pearson, owner of Kintore Coffee Company in Embro. He will share the story & history of the Kintore Coffee Company. Join us at the Beachville District Museum for his story followed by a light lunch & of course a cup of Kintore Coffee.

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>.

EZAS 5K-10K FARM

Join us for the 2nd Annual EZAS Farm 5k/10k Sat, May 30. We will start the morning off enjoying a beautiful walk/run down Oxford County country roads. After, the race guests are welcome to tour Darcroft Farms to enjoy pulled pork on a bun for lunch. There will be activities for kids & agriculture industry representatives on site teaching about other local farming practices. Note: May 31 rain date.

9am Participants welcomed at Darcroft Farms to complete registration & obtain race number. You must be registered by 10:45am, so please arrive early.

10am Tiny Trotters 250m. Little racers ages 2-6 years old are invited to dress as their favorite farm animal & race. Prizes for all participants.

11am EZAS Farm 5k/10k begins. Upon arrival back to Darcroft Farms, participants can rest and/or receive a guided tour of the dairy farm. Followed by Pulled Pork Lunch. Registration includes your race, guided farm tour & hot lunch.

Not interested in racing? For those not wanting to race, or wanting to attend to support a racer, you can purchase a ticket for just the farm tour & lunch. So bring your cheer squad to encourage you on across the finish line and join you for the farm tour & lunch.

Registration Fees: Adults \$40 - Youth (13-18 yrs) \$30 - Ages 12-4 yrs \$10. Farm Tour and Lunch Ticket, ages 4+ (does not include the race) \$10. Ages 4 & under can participate in the race, tours and enjoy lunch for free. There will be kids activities at the farm for your littles to enjoy.



PROGRAMS AT INGERSOLL 50+ CENTRE

Hours: Mon 8:30-9pm, Wed 8:30-8pm Tues/Thur/Fri 8:30-4:30pm

ALZHEIMERS EDUCATION SESSIONS Dementia Education – May 28 & June 25, 2pm. No fees, register by 12pm the day before.

AMERICAN MAH JONGG BEGINNER LESSONS May – TBD. Are you interested in learning how to play? This is a registered session as such you must be committed to playing on all 4 weeks. If you are interested in lessons please contact Kristy.

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 Mon, Chinese Thur), Mexican Dominoes (Fri), & 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 Come on out & sing with our social choir. The Overtones practice at the centre and then travel to local retirement homes to since once a month.

SEWING DROP-IN Thurs 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 and worked on together. Bring your own machine and enjoy a morning of sewing and conversation.

SING FOR JOY Fri 11:15-12:15pm. Blends gentle vocal exercises, breathing & posture techniques and sing-along favorites in a relaxed, supportive environment. No experience is needed.

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. 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, Mesoamerica, and Andean America. Discuss the “Greats of History” like Constantine, Alexander and Catherine. Delve into the origin and meaning of some of the most well-known myths & 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.

WEDNESDAY BRUNCH Join us on the 1st & 3rd Wed (May 6 & 20) 9-11:30am, \$10. Register by 12pm the day before.

WEDNESDAY DINING & SOCIAL Join us on the 2nd & 4th Wed (May 13 & 27), 5pm, \$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.



Oxford Manor
RETIREMENT RESIDENCE
276 Oxford Street • Ingersoll, ON N5C 2W1

\$95/Day*

FOR MORE INFORMATION
519-485-0350

Short Term Stay Availability

- Up to 30 days in length
- Just for vacation
- Recovery from illness
- Variety of accommodations

*Rates subject to change without notice. Based on single occupancy.

Our Short Term Stays Include:

- Three meals daily
- Furnished suites
- Housekeeping
- 24/7 Response system
- Healthcare monitoring
- Social calendar



**RAFFLES
FOOD TRUCKS
+ MORE!**

MAY 16
19+ All Request
Island Vibes
Video Dance
Party

MAY 17
**KIDS
FUN FAIR**

MAY 17
Fireworks
Display

**Want to be
in the Parade?**



REGISTER HERE

THAMESFORD CALITHUMPIAN PRESENTS

**TROPI-CALI
WEEKEND**

MAY 15-18, 2026

MAY 15
Tropi-Cali
Beer Tent

MAY 18
Calithumpian
Parade

MAY 15
Moana
Watch Party

MAY 18
Lei'd Back
Beer Tent

Don't miss these Calithumpian events!

See the Full Weekend Lineup:
www.ThamesfordCalithumpian.ca



Follow Us For Updates!
@ThamesfordCalithumpian

UTRCA CONTRIBUTES TO 30X30

The Upper Thames River Conservation Authority (UTRCA), in collaboration with Ontario Nature, is proud to announce the contribution of 855.76 hectares of natural areas & provincially significant swamp land towards Canada's target of protecting & conserving 30% of our lands & waters by 2030, known commonly as the 30x30 target. The partnership with Ontario Nature facilitated an assessment of UTRCA lands, determining that 16 properties will be registered under the Protected Areas designation in the Canadian Protected and Conserved Areas Database. This marks a significant step towards halting & reversing biodiversity loss in the Upper Thames River watershed. Notable areas include Harrington Conservation Area (CA), Dorchester CA, and Embro CA. Each of these areas consist of mixed woodland and coniferous plantations centred around a small dam and pond. "Protecting these lands through long-term conservation measures supports habitat for species at risk, reduces the impacts of flood events, and provides recreational opportunities" said Brandon Williamson, Land Management Coordinator, UTRCA. The full list of properties includes: W.L Dickson Arboretum, Beachville Tract, Cade Tract, Dorchester CA, Dorchester Mill Pond, Downey Tract, Embro CA, Fish Creek CA, Gads Hill North and South, Golspie Swamp, Harrington CA, Ivey Tract, Kintore Swamp, Lowthian Flats, Shakespeare CA, and Westminster (Dingman). This initiative has helped us further reach our vision of partnering to protect and promote a healthy environment and resilient communities.

BEACHVILLE COMMUNITY GARAGE SALE

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

ANDREW'S LEGACY & DRAGONBOAT CHALLENGE

Join us for a day full of paddling, games, CPR & AED demonstrations, 50/50 draw, food, music & some friendly competitions! Sat, May 23 at Wildwood Conservation Area, St. Marys. The TRPC & Andrew's Legacy have teamed up to provide a great team building activity & challenge for all, from novice to competitive! Great for businesses, schools & other groups of 8-24 to try something new. Everything you need to participate is available, for more information visit <https://www.thamesriverpaddlingclub.com/wdbc>. There are still spaces available on the Legacy boat for anyone who wants to try their hand at paddling. Bring out the whole family to cheer on your favorite team. Enjoy the park, BBQ lunch, yard games, silent auction & 50/50 draw. Stop by the Andrew's Legacy tent to try your hand at CPR and get one of our new legacy ducks. To make a donation to the silent auction table contact andrewslegacy11@gmail.com or visit our website: To make a PLEDGE to a participant or team visit: www.Andrewslegacyforever.ca. All pledge proceeds go towards placing automated external defibrillators (AED) in public spaces.

EMBRO LEGION BREAKFAST

First Sunday of the month Oct-May. \$5 kids, \$10 regular, \$15 hungry man meal 9-12:30pm, come on out. Support your local Legion and enjoy a family style meal with your neighbors.

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 different theatre groups can interpret this play. Contact lyndapillon281@gmail.com.

Worship With Us

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

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 Commy 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.

Free Reformed Church of Oxford County

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

Crossroads Bible Church 519-900-6281

184 Oxford St Ingersoll, crossroadsingersoll.ca
FB: crossroadsingersoll & IG: 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

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

May 31 Combined Service at West Oxford, 9:30am.

Guest speakers recounting 24 years of South African experiences and relationships. All are welcome.

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, oxfordfrcc.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

5 VILLAGE VOICES

•Thamesford •Embroy
•Ingersoll •Thorndale
•South West Oxford Township

MAY

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
Big Cheese Days Every Saturday in May! TourismOxford.ca/ Big-Cheese-Days					1 • Jamboree • Stopping to... at Commonplace Books • Osteofit, Ing 50+ • Ukulele, Ing 50+	2 • "We Lend a Hand" • Sacred Heart Yard & Plant Sale • Bluegrass music, Beachville Legion
3 • KC & Sunshine Girls • Embro Legion Breakfast	4 • Messy Mon., library • Line Dancing, Ingersoll 50+	5 • Financial Mgmt, library • Stopping to... meditation • Sketchy Srs, Ing 50+	6 • Summer Dart League begins, Beachville Legion • Meditation • Sculpt & Sweat, Ingersoll 50+ • Abrams Celebration	7 • Line Dancing, Beachville Legion • Brownsville Coffee & Connect • Norwich Lawn Bowling free lessons	8 • Hope Blooms, choral concert • Beef Dinner, Beachville Legion • Bingo, Bchvll Legion • Fashion Show, ICAC	9 • Bluegrass music, Beachville Legion • Cookies class, ICAC • Oxford Local History Day • Norwich Lawn Bowling free lessons
10 • Brunch at Beachville Legion • Mother's Day Brunch, Ing 50+	11 • Ontario Ancestors • Pickleball, Ing 50+ • Total Body Workout, Ingersoll 50+	12 • Sacred Heart Euchre • Wire Wrapped Trees, ICAC • Speaker series, Beachville Museum	13 • Chair Yoga, Beachville Legion • Ox on the Run at Beachville Legion • Thorndale Horticulture • Air Cadets, Drchstr	14 • W Coast Swing Dancing, Beachville Legion • Sewing Drop In, Ingersoll 50+	15 THAMESFORD CALITHUMPIAN WEEKEND • Jamboree • Plant Sale, Unifor	16 • Heavenly Boutique, Thamesford • Nature Club Birding • Plant Sale, Unifor
17	18 • Embro Lawn Bowling season begins • Knitting, Ing 50+	19 • Al-Anon • Chair Yoga, Ing 50+ • Drop-in Shuffleboard	20 • Meditation • Total Toning, Ing 50+ • Air Cadets, Drchstr • Brunch, Ing 50+	21 • Tartan Tea Luncheon • Chair Yoga, Ing 50+ • Drop-in Shuffleboard	22 • Bingo, Bchvll Legion • Strength & Stretch, Ingersoll 50+	23 • Bluegrass music, Beachville Legion • South West Oxford Township Fare • Euchre, Sweaburg • Dragonboat event • Bchville Yard Sales
24 • Car Show, Beachville Museum • Choir concert 31 • Cuckoo's concert	25 • Tai Chi, Ing 50+ • Kids Water Festival	26 • Sacred Heart Euchre • Tween Time, library • Horticultural Society • Watercolour class, ICAC	27 • Film Club, library • Ox on the Run at Beachville Legion • Thmsfd Friendship	28 • Having Hope at Home, Theatre Tillsbg • Euchre, Beachville Legion • Gentle Yoga, Ingersoll 50+	29 • PA Day fun, library • Jamboree • Seniors Learning in Retirement	30 • Super Storms, library • Karaoke with Ken, Beachville Legion • Book Sale, Aylmer • 5km Farm Run

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 Oxford 211
 Arena 519-485-5023
 Big Brothers Big Sisters..... 519-485-1801

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
 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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