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The Village Voice

EMBRO

Issue 291
Since 2002

Voice

JULY 2026

FREE GARDENS TOUR

Ingersoll & District Horticultural Society invites you to view, free of charge, several open gardens on July 12, 1-4:30pm. Pick up address information at the downtown gazebo 11-2pm.

MILITARY HERITAGE OPEN HOUSE & FLY DAY

Come fly with us! The Canadian Harvard Aircraft Association (CHAA) is inviting the community to the Tillsonburg Regional Airport Sat, July 17 for a special Military Heritage Open House & Fly Day. It will be a celebration of Canada's aviation legacy & a remembrance to those who served in the Second World War. Visitors looking for an unforgettable experience can purchase a flight in an authentic WWII Harvard aircraft, with advance reservations recommended by emailing crewflights@harvards.com. Visitors can also explore CHAA's hangars, meet the pilots & maintainers who preserve the iconic yellow Harvard trainers, learn about the aircraft's role in preparing thousands of young men for service during the Second World War, and enjoy displays & demonstrations. From the sound of the Harvard's distinctive engine roar to the stories shared by CHAA's dedicated volunteers, the July 17 event offers a rare opportunity to connect with Canada's military aviation heritage in a living, hands-on way. Admission is always free.

EAST MISSOURI UNION CHURCH FUNDRAISER

Car Wash • Bake Sale • Pie Silent Auction • Hot Dogs
Sat July 4, 10-2pm at the Cooper Farm, 197133 Rd 119 - north of Uniondale.

BLESS THE PETS SERVICE

At Knox United Church, in support of the EMBRO DOG PARK, 116 Kincardine St, Embro, Aug 23, 10:30am. We have an exciting announcement for pet lovers in our community: Mission & Outreach at KUC is thrilled to share that we will be making a \$500 donation to the Embro Dog Park. We are excited to be collaborating with the Worship Team to bring the "Bless the Pets Service" to the community Aug 23, 10:30am on the side lawn (rain date Aug 30). Representatives from the Embro Dog Park will join us to share the latest updates about this wonderful new space, which promises to be a place for dogs to run and play, as well as a welcoming spot for people to meet & socialize. Knox United Church, Embro is all about building healthy community! We would love to see you there & encourage you to bring your pets if you wish. Please also bring your lawn chair. Refreshments after the service. If you have any questions or need additional information about the event, please contact Lara Martin-Dow, lmartindow@hotmail.com, 519-536-0394. Your help in sharing our news makes a big difference, and we truly appreciate your ongoing support. Thank you for helping us spread the word. Looking forward to a wonderful event!



87TH EMBRO HIGHLAND GAMES!
JULY 1, 2026

FAMILY FUN WITH A SCOTTISH FLAIR
JOIN US AT ONTARIO'S OLDEST HIGHLAND GAMES!
NEW! International Tug-of-War Competition!

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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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4-H ACTIVITIES FOR EVERYONE!

Go For The Gold (GFTG) is a trivia game based on 4-H projects & general knowledge. This year it will be Wed, July 15 at the Embro Knox United Church being organized by the Brooksdale 4-H Club. It is played with teams of 4 players playing games with short answer, True/False, group question & multiple-choice questions. The top 2 teams will advance to the Region 6 Go For The Gold Aug 5 being hosted by Elgin 4-H. Youth are to pre-register by July 8 to elizabethannbruce@hotmail.com. The Community 4-H Club hosted a Relay My Way June 12 at the Hickson Park. The youth team raised \$16,220 this year, with a total of \$221,870 for the past 20 years. It was a great community event with 2 other teams 'Currah Crew' and 'Benbow/Jancsar Jays' joining. The event raised \$20,938 for the Canadian Cancer Society. There were themed laps—3-legged, bubble, glow-in-the-dark, sparkler. The evening started with opening ceremonies followed by a lap of hope with people from the community being cheered on while walking the track. The luminary lap started at dusk with pipers & drummers and luminary bags being lit with tea lights. Thank you to the pipers & drummers Lois Turvey, Lana Coghill, Nancy Matthews, Jane Muterer, Charlie Thomson, Lisa McPherson, Harold Matthews, Andrw Coghill & Doug Turvey. Thank you to the event sponsors Oxford Agropro, Parion Animal Nutrition, Hickson Motors, Princess Elizabeth Women's Institute, Liquid Feeds Inc, The Garden in Harrington, Kaufmann Service & Supply, Braemar Women's Institute and Farm Credit Canada Club Fund Grant. To support the team for 2027, they are collecting used electronics, returnable bottles/cans & selling rhubarb jam & grape jelly. Contact Shonna for more details wardshonna@hotmail.com or 519-854-6919. Dairy 4-H Club youth will be participating in the EastGen Challenge West July 13-14 and Western Junior Dairy Show July 2-3. Oxford 4-H Dairy Show will be held Aug 22 at Woodstock Fairgrounds. Lots of 4-H Ontario activities happening—Summer Virtual Art Show for youth ages 6-21 with entries being accepted throughout the summer in 5 categories: painting/drawing, photography, craft/sculpture, food art and new for 2026--video. The Provincial Online Judging Competition for youth ages 6-21 is July 15-Aug 15. 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 and communication in a hands-on learning atmosphere. There is always something happening and 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 out Oxford County 4-H Facebook.

TOURISM OXFORD

Play tourist in your own backyard this July and rediscover everything that makes Oxford County worth celebrating. Take a drive through familiar roads & see them with fresh eyes, stopping at local farm stands, vibrant markets, and U-pick fields that showcase the best of the season. It's the perfect way to experience what makes Oxford special and to share it with visiting friends & family. Dive even deeper with a hands-on farm experience at TourismOxford.ca/Experiences. Show off the community you're proud to call home by planning around one of Oxford's summer events. From Canada Day celebrations & classic car cruises to flavour-filled festivals and the iconic Embro Highland Games, there's no shortage of ways to make lasting memories together. See what's coming up at TourismOxford.ca/Events. Hosting guests or planning a staycation? Let us help you make it unforgettable. Reach out at tourism@oxfordcounty.ca or explore ready-made itineraries at TourismOxford.ca to plan your perfect July adventure.

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A VISIT TO TRANSITION ACRES

- an equine rescue farm and more.

By Laura Green

Horses were grazing in the paddocks & new puppies were barking at the Transition Acres Rescue farm just outside of Tavistock when members of the Braemar Women's Institute visited the site June 3. Alisha Wilson, Founder of Transition Acres, a non-profit organization which offers one-of-kind equine-assisted wellness & learning experiences for visitors, families & corporate teams introduced us to their newest member – a week-old filly miniature pony who needs a prefect name. In the herd of 16 horses, 13 are non-profit which includes three Ojibwe Spirit Ponies and 3 boarders. You can also find rabbits, chickens & ducks in fenced-in areas. Besides identifying with horses, you can relax with a cup of coffee at the fire pit with a book or take a reflective stroll through the Indigenous Medicine Garden. Visit the website to learn more about experiences offered. Alisha Wilson has received many recognition awards for her programs offered at Transition. Local awards were "Young Entrepreneur of the Year (2025) – Community Futures and Woodstock Chamber of Commerce" "Tourism Oxford Best New Product Award – Recognizing meaningful impact on wellness-based tourism." "Ontario Southwest Signature Experience – Awarded to her signature "Cowgirl Kickback Experience". W.I. members thanked Alisha with her request of a bale of hay which we paid for with Canadian cash. We held our business meeting under the shade trees with a glass of lemonade. Our next meeting will be a tour of the Tillsonburg Station Arts Centre with our twinning branch Jean Brumpton W.I. Aug 5, 1:30pm. For more information contact lauracgreen77@gmail.com.



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INGERSOLL PIPE BAND FUNDRAISER

A corn-hole tournament will be held Sat, July 11 starting at 1pm at the Ingersoll Pipe Band Hall. This competition is for all corn hole players of various skills (beginners or advanced players). Teams are asked to register by July 6 – cost \$25 for a team of two. There will be cash prizes for the winners plus there will be other prizes awarded. Spectators are welcome. Barbecues will be set up to purchase food from 4pm on and there will be a cash bar for refreshments. The Lost Beach Ice Cream Emporium truck will be on site and as part of the day's entertainment, and there will also be roving pipers & drummers providing some excellent summer Celtic vibes! This event will run from 1-8pm at 108 Wonham St S, Ingersoll. Contact by phone or text to register 519-878-4494.



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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.



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LITTLE STREETSIDE LIBRARY

Embro has a free little library in front of Knox United Church on Kincardine St. Close to the splash pad, take a look for both adult summer reading & children's books too. Take, trade, donate. The collection is constantly being updated so check in through the summer months.



HOLY DINER, DORCHESTER

The Holy Diner at Dorchester United Church runs every Thursday until Aug 27, rain or shine. People are welcome to come between 5-7pm to enjoy a BBQ meal.

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Rivest**
Funeral Director

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.

BEACHVILLE DISTRICT MUSEUM

Join us this summer for a tour of the museum & grounds Tues-Sat 10am-4pm, or for one of our upcoming programs and events. We look forward to seeing you soon! With summer programming right around the corner, the museum has welcomed on a summer staff that includes Julianne (Summer Activity Coordinator) and Gillian (Program Coordinator—Education). They were hired through the Young Canada Works and Canada Summer Jobs programs, respectively. Our Education & Public Programs Coordinator, Lily, joins us through March 2027 thanks to funding provided by the Young Canada Works program. This team looks forward to running summer camp through July and Aug, leading Hands-on Heritage programs, and supporting our many upcoming programs and events. The museum is also proud to announce that the Hands-on Heritage Baseball-making program has been named a signature experience by Ontario's Southwest Tourism. This accomplishment was only made possible through the work of our staff & dedicated volunteers, as well as support from Community Futures Oxford and the Tourism Oxford team. Details of the experience can be found at beachvilledistrictmuseum.com/hands-on-heritage.

Upcoming Programs & Events - Summer Camp Program for children ages 5-11 from June 29-Aug 28. Space is still available for single-day and full-week registrations. Register online now at beachvilledistrictmuseum.com/summercamp2026.

July 18 Ingersoll Minor Ball Family Fun Day. 9am in Ingersoll's Victoria Park. Stop by the museum's booth to take in a display that explores the history of baseball in Oxford County and try your hand at stitching a lemon peel style baseball.

July 26 Community Car Show 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).

Aug 14 BDHS Beef BBQ Fundraiser 5-7pm at the Beachville District Museum. Tickets are on sale now for a delicious meal of roast beef, corn on the cob, baked potatoes, baked beans, salads, and homemade pie. Stop by the museum or visit us online to get yours today. Pricing: Adult \$30, youth (6-11) \$10, children under 5 free. This is a rain-or-shine event with a sheltered eating area in the case of rain. Take-out option available; please bring your own take-out container to help us reduce waste.

"ROLLIN' RIVER RAMPAGE" VBS

Embro community "Rollin' River Ramage" Vacation Bible School Aug 10-14, 8:30am - noon. At Knox Presbyterian Church, St. Andrews St, Embro. Children welcome from SK to Grade 5. "Experience the Ride of a Lifetime with God" through games, Bible stories, songs, crafts & discovery. Snacks provided, safe environment, accessible. To register contact Sue monknsu@gmail.com.





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CLUTTER AND CORTISOL

We live in a consumer driven society. Everywhere we turn we are met with sales, new styles, and increasingly convenient ways of acquiring stuff. Overwhelm & increased cortisol happens quickly. Minimizing the clutter in our lives is a tangible way to reduce stress. Research states that reducing the amount of “stuff” you have can decrease stress, depression & fatigue. Organizing almost immediately provides gratification. You go through a cupboard, fill a bag, and immediately see (and hopefully feel) the physical benefits.

To get started:

- When you receive a new item, use that box or bag to fill with things to go. Or think of swaps: buying two new sweaters, then two have to go.
- Set a timer and organize a spot and make a pile to go.
- Pick a theme: kitchen items, clothes, kid's toys.

Getting rid of “clutter” can feel difficult. We hold onto items for many reasons: grief, guilt, security & more. Try passing items along to a specific cause or person. Have compassion & start slow. Once we get started, organizing is just one of the ways our mental health may be reflected in our surroundings. Jaclyn Turpin is a Social Worker at Rural Refresh Counselling. She supports adults experiencing grief and farmers & their families.

EZAS COOKBOOK IS LOOKING FOR RECIPES!

Submit your favourite recipe to be included in our 2026 Community Cookbook. The recipe must be your own, and we hope to hear a cherished story to go along with it. All recipes will be published into a cookbook that will be available for purchase late this fall. Deadline to submit recipes is July 31, no cost to send in your recipe! Interested in advertising in our cookbook? Check out embrofair.com for all the details!

OXFORD COUNTY MUNICIPALITIES

2027 BUDGET SURVEY

How should your tax dollars be spent?



What services matter most to you, and why? Oxford County's municipalities are working together to better understand residents' priorities and preferences.

Share your 2027 budget priorities by August 31, 2026, at:
www.oxfordcounty.ca/speakup



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

FLOWER PLANTING AT NAMADWAAR

Namadwaar Ontario celebrated Environment Day with a special flower-planting ceremony featuring Mayor Brian Petrie as the guest of honour. Mayor Petrie participated in the planting ceremony & commended the positive impact Namadwaar continues to have on the Ingersoll community. During his visit, he learned about the spiritual, cultural, educational & community-service initiatives conducted by GOD Canada, particularly its efforts to nurture values & character among children & families. Namadwaar Ontario expressed gratitude for the Mayor's presence & support, noting that the event reinforced the importance of environmental stewardship & community engagement.



INGERSOLL MUSEUM

Thursdays at the Museum: Youth Explorers Looking for a summer filled with adventure, creativity & discovery? Join us every Thur 9-4pm for our Youth Explorers Program, designed for children in Grades 2-5! \$40 per day. Each week brings a brand-new theme packed with hands-on activities, games, crafts, outdoor fun, and exciting learning experiences.

July 2 Mad Science Lab Become a junior scientist with crazy experiments & hands-on STEM fun!

July 9 Knights & Dragons Grab your shield & prepare for adventure as we explore the age of knights & dragons through games, challenges, crafts, and royal fun.

July 16 Down on the Farm Enjoy a barnyard-inspired day filled with farm games, animal activities, crafts, & outdoor adventures.

July 23 History Detectives Travel through time solving mysteries, uncovering artifacts & cracking clues in this hands-on history adventure.

July 30 Earth Explorers Discover wonders of nature through scavenger hunts, outdoor games, eco-crafts & earth science activities.

Aug 6 Art Attack Get ready for a creative explosion of painting, crafting, sculpting & masterpiece-making!

Aug 13 Fairytales Campers will enter a magical world of fairytales with enchanted crafts, fantasy games & storybook adventures!

Aug 20 Under the Sea Dive into an ocean-themed day filled with sea creature games, underwater crafts, and splashy summer fun. Choose your favourite theme or join us for them all—every Thursday is a new adventure at the museum! Register online.

Cops & Rodders Cruise Night Get ready to rev your engines & rock the night away at the Cops & Rodders Car Show, hosted by the Ingersoll Cheese and Agricultural Museum! Join us every 2nd Mon May-Sept, 5-8pm! Whether you're a car lover or just looking for a fun night out, we've got something for everyone! Check out classic & custom rides, enjoy live tunes, and treat yourself to delicious eats—all in a vibrant, family-friendly atmosphere.

Curds, Cards, and Calling Spirits Co-hosted by the Ingersoll Cheese Museum and Moonlake Ritual Co., this magical evening blends local history, intuition & creativity inside the historic Sherbrooke Barn. Join us Thur, July 23, 6-8:30pm as we explore the fascinating history of Spiritualism in Oxford County & the mysteries of pendulum divination. Guests will learn about different types of pendulums, enjoy spiritual guidance, and create their very own pendulum to take home. Your evening also includes charcuterie & refreshments in a cozy & enchanting atmosphere. Space is limited, so be sure to grab your tickets early! Tickets will only be sold through Eventbrite <https://CurdsCardsandCallingSpirits.eventbrite.com> \$25 per person.

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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.

GREAT CYCLE CHALLENGE

A brand-new fundraiser is in the works once again! As always, ALL proceeds go toward helping kids fight cancer. And once again, this is the LAST TIME this fundraiser will be offered, as this is my final year participating in the Great Cycle Challenge. It's bittersweet, but all things have an expiry date, and after a 10 year ride with GCC, I feel the time has come to move on to something new. Before I do, I wanted to leave you with one more fun fundraiser packed with some amazing prizes! It's an incredible package valued at \$1,545! Included in this package:

- An Eco Tour from the Tillsonburg Airport
- A fun-filled family day at Clovermead Adventure Farm
- A visit to Makkink's Flower Farm
- An awesome SNAP-ON tool set
- Numerous gift certificates from businesses throughout Tillsonburg & Southwest Oxford County. There may even be a few gift certificates from just outside the area—but not far! Fundraiser runs July 1-31, with the wheel spin taking place shortly thereafter. Names entered on the wheel spinner do not qualify for a tax receipt. If you would like a tax receipt, please make your donation directly through my Great Cycle Challenge page. Simply visit GreatCycleChallenge.ca and search for Henrietta Mulder. Follow the prompts to make your donation, and a tax receipt will be issued directly by SickKids Foundation. No matter which way you choose to support, your donation helps improve the lives of children battling cancer. Can I count on you during this, my final year supporting this incredible cause? "We cannot do all the good the world needs, but the world needs all the good we can do." Thank you for helping me make a difference, one last ride at a time.

EZAS PRIZEBOOKS NOW AVAILABLE!

Pick up your Embro Fair prizebook at: Embro Cheese House, Embro Food Market, Kintore Coffee, Village Deli Thamesford. Find some great homecraft classes to enter your homemade items in, children's crafts & creations, forage crops, and find out all the wonderful activities planned for the 2026 Fall Fair! Can't find a prizebook? Please reach out to embroagsociety@gmail.com.

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/>

SACRED HEART PARISH EUCBRE

We invite everyone to join us for a euchre afternoon. It will be held in Henderson Hall, 133 John St, Ingersoll. Tues, July 7 & 21 start 1pm. Refreshments provided.

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 Rural Roads Health Services: Alexandra Hospital Ingersoll site and 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!

SYNCHRONIZING

Thamesford Lions and the Oxford Coalition for Social Justice are working together to synchronize a metal & electronics recycling day in Thamesford with a ReuseapalooZaha in Embro in spring 2027. Scrap materials at the massive free swap meet in Embro will help the Lions' great work & support for the community. "Both events will divert resources from dumps, and those two are good things too" notes Bryan Smith.

EZAS WORKSHOPS

Wine Glass Painting & Charcuterie Evening! July 11, 5-7pm. Join us for wine glass painting, drinks & charcuterie. \$40.

Canning Pickled Beets Aug 15, 10-11:30am, Embro Zorra Community Centre. \$10. Tickets at Embrofair.com.

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.

INGERSOLL CREATIVE ARTS CENTRE

Visit the Gallery & Artisan Market We are 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: What I Know Thus Far This exhibition features abstract acrylic paintings from Johnnene Maddison. Join us for the opening Sat, July 18, 1pm. The exhibition will be on display from July 18-Aug 22.

Upcoming Classes: Summer Quilt Mon, July 6, 10-3:30pm & Thur, July 9, 3:30-7pm. Sign up for the Summer Quilt to receive the pattern and join us for one or both days to sew together!

OXFORD CTY BRANCH ONTARIO ANCESTORS

Are you looking to start a summer pastime? Are you interested in your family history? Oxford Branch has an extensive collection of family history and genealogical resources that can help you. Come visit our Resource Centre at 82 Light St, Courthouse Square, Woodstock. We are open Tues-Thur 10-4pm. Volunteers are ready to help you get started or help you research for missing information. You can also connect with us on the web at <https://oxford.ogs.on.ca>. We are dedicated to supporting & promoting genealogical research in Oxford County.

BECOME AN EMBRO & ZORRA AMBASSADOR!

Want to boost your confidence, meet new people, and make a real impact in your community? The Embro & Zorra Agricultural Society Ambassador Program is your chance to grow your leadership skills, try public speaking, and be part of amazing local events. You could even represent our community at the CNE! For info, visit: embrofair.com/ambassadorprogram or call Katelyn 519-535-9253.

RECYCLING HUMOUR

Do the people doing recycling pick-ups have a sense of humour? It would seem so when I see the pyramid of blue bins by my neighbours' house. They are avid recyclers. He's a budding engineer. Do other people continue to needlessly spend their money on bag tags by loading them up with things better put into their recycling or into compost? According to audits, yes, and that is not funny. Bryan Smith encourages people to consult the Circular Materials flyer which spells out what goes where, saving you money, saving the economy from waste costs, and saving our climate and environment from negative impacts.

STRAWBERRY SUPPER

Chalmers United Church Strawberry Supper Sept 16. Two sittings 4:30pm and 6pm and takeout. Adults \$25, children 6-12 \$15, 5 and under free. Get your ticket by Sept 2. Call Judy 519-283-6355 or Louise 519-461-1795.

NASH BARNETT MEMORIAL CAR SHOW

We are pleased to announce that we will be again running the car show in memory of our son Nash for the 5th year! This year it will take place Sun, Sept 20 at the Embro Zorra Community Centre parking lot, 10-4pm. We will have local band "Now What?" playing live music, door prizes to hand out, and show participants & spectators can also take in everything the Embro Fair has to offer including children's activities, food trucks, silent auction & more! Car Show participant fee is by donation at the event to the Canadian Wildlife Federation in memory of 14 year old Dominic Cross who was taken from this world January 2026... We would love to honour our friend's son & do something positive in his memory. We would love to see many cars of any kind attend (antique, vintage, drag, race, show, European, anything!). We also welcome antique tractors, motorcycles, ATVs, or anything that is special to you — please bring it, we would love to see it. Thank you for all your love & support, it truly means the world to our family. If you would like to pre-register, please contact Nicole Barnett 519-533-2208 or nbarnett221@gmail.com. Pre-registration is not necessary, but encouraged. Not sure if you can come yet? Decide that day and just come out! Can't show up for 10, or have to leave early? That's fine — come and leave as you like!



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Get your tickets before they are gone! Only \$10 per ticket! Raffle prize includes: - 4 Tickets to a Blue Jays Game
- 2 Adirondack Chairs - \$50 Mad Mash Brewery Gift Card
- \$250 of Vodka & Gin Coolers - 30 Butcher Barn Burgers
- Cooler Bag - Cheese Board
Must be 19 years or older to participate! Only hardcopy tickets are available & they are limited. Contact any EZAS director, email embroagsociety@gmail.com or call/text Rebecca 519-239-3080.

EMBRO FAIR COUNTRY CONCERT TICKETS

Sat, Sept 1 the Country Music Concert is back at the Embro Fair, under the Pavillion at the Embro Zorra Community Centre. A 19+ Age of Majority Event, 8pm start. Food & drinks provided by Mad Mash Brewery. Tickets available at www.embrofair.com (Early Bird price by July 1 at \$30, or \$35 after that). Features headliner Chris Clark, and opener Greg Williams & The Dirty Magnolias.

ZION HILL 7TH LINE CEMETERY DECORATION

Aug 16. Your donations go to the upkeep of the cemetery. Thank you for your support. Inquiries Call Wayne Murrell 519-461-1795.

THANK YOU – AGRICULTURE SAFETY DAY

On June 16, the Embro & Zorra Agricultural Society was proud to host a Progressive Agriculture Safety Day at Hickson Public School—an important event dedicated to teaching youth how to stay safe on farms & in rural environments. This year we celebrated 10 years of Farm Safety Days. We extend a heartfelt thank you to our dedicated presenters: Thorndale Agricultural Society, Julie McIntosh, Christine Kramer, TD Agricultural Services, Premier Equipment, Kaitlan Van Wely, Laura Good, Eileigh Whetstone, Elizabeth Burrill, Hickson Firefighters, OPP, Jackie King, Hailey Lupton, Mary Walton, Dany Overdevest, Ontario Federation of Agriculture, Janna Baigent, Janeen Overdevest, Oxford County Paramedics, Harry Van Egdom, BASF, and Emily Bertens. We are also incredibly grateful for the generous support of our sponsors: Co-Operators, Ontario Federation of Agriculture, Farm Credit Canada, Trillium Mutual Insurance Company, Heartland Credit Insurance, Wallenstein Feed & Supply, Oxford Agropro, Parion Animal Nutrition, TD Agricultural Services, Embro Family Pharmacy, Huron Tractor, Shoppers Drug Mart – West End Woodstock, Oxford County Dairy Producers, Oxford County Federation of Agriculture, The Country Tool Shed, Produce Express, Egg Farmers of Ontario, Harkness Equipment, Egg Farmers of Canada, Tavistock Veterinarians, McFarlan Rowlands Insurance Brokers Inc., Zorra Township, Stratford Farm Equipment, Premier Equipment, L1fe Outdoors ATV, Kaufman Service & Supply, Kintore Elevator Inc., Sterk Ag Service Ltd., and Sterk Seeds. A special thank you to our organizing team: Elizabeth Burrill, Marian Sterk, Katelyn Sykes, Kaitlan Van Wely, Hannah George, and Hailey Lupton, whose hard work and coordination made this day a success. It truly takes a community to deliver a program like this, and we are proud to work alongside so many individuals and organizations committed to youth safety & agricultural awareness. Thank you for helping make a difference in the lives of our local youth.



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DOUBLE FALL REUSEPALOOZAHAS

For information about September's 2 wonderful opportunities to trade stuff with your neighbours, trade stories with them and new friends, and to see your excess goods become social good, check out Embro Community Centre as of 8am Sept 12 and the Lions' Ball Park in Sweaburg Sept 26. Your food consumption on Sept 12 will help the Ingersoll Pipe Band continue to travel to play & compete in bagpipe music; Sweaburg United Church's good works will benefit from your need to snack on the 26th. More information and opportunities to volunteer via www.reuseapaloozaha.ca.

BANNER CEMETERY DECORATION

Sun, Aug 23. There will not be a service. Donations will be gratefully received.

Fibre is coming to Embro

Avoid construction delays, sign up to bring fibre to your home, today!

Fill out the form at:
www.quadro.net/fibre-projects



PROGRAMS AT INGERSOLL 50+ CENTRE

Hours: Mon 8:30-9pm, Wed 8:30-9pm Tues/Thur/Fri 8:30-4:30pm
CHRISTMAS IN AUGUST Sat, Aug 22, 8-12pm. Come and find all the Christmas treasures that will set you up for December.

ST. JACOB'S BUS TRIP Shopping at St. Jacob's Market & Live Theatre production of "The Odd Couple". Thur, Aug 13, 9-6pm.

KINGSTON 3 DAY BUS TRIP Sept 22-24. Luxury motorcoach transportation, accommodation, 1000 Islands Dinner Cruise, Kingston City Tour, Guided Tour of Kingston Penitentiary. Reserve by Aug 6 by calling Great Canadian Coaches 519-896-8687 x280.

ALZHEIMERS EDUCATION SESSIONS Dementia Education Sessions – to start again in the fall.

AMERICAN MAH JONGG BEGINNER LESSONS This is a registered session as you must be committed to playing on all 4 Tuesdays. If interested please call. \$20 for the 4-week session.

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

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 about the monthly schedule.

SING FOR JOY Fri, 11:15-12:15pm. Gentle vocal exercises, breathing & posture techniques and sing-along favorites in a relaxed, supportive environment. No experience is needed. Session to start on Fri July 3, Please call & register.

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.

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 will start Fri July 3, please call & register.

WEDNESDAY BRUNCH Join us on Wednesdays (July 8, 15, 22 & 29) 9-11:30am, \$10. Please register by 12pm the day before.

WOOD CARVING Mon 1pm. Enjoy carving pictures into wood, creating beautiful figurines and more. Carvers must provide their own supplies. Membership is required to use the woodshop.

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

THORNDALE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Thorndale Horticultural Society held its Annual Spring Potluck on June 10. As always the variety of food was fabulous, with a few strawberry-inspired desserts - strawberry custard, rhubarb/strawberry tart, and scones with strawberry jam & whipped cream. Our theme for the evening was "All about Strawberries" with a very interesting presentation from Will Heeman, Chief Daymaker at Heemans, the multi-generational family garden center, berry farm, cidery and meadery in Thorndale. Bill & Susan Heeman started Heemans in 1963 and the younger generation has taken over. Will Heeman has been the youngest President of the Ontario Berry Growers Association and was named the Young Retailer of the Year for North America in 2016. The Thorndale Horticultural Society does not have a July meeting. Join us Aug 12 with a presentation from Connie Jasinskas "Don't Let Gardening be a Pain!"

ANNUAL GREEN THUMB GARDEN TOUR Sun, June 28, 11-4pm. Adult passports \$10, children 12 & under free and must be accompanied by an adult. Passports to visit 5 beautiful host gardens will be available at the Cenotaph on day of tour, 198 Thorndale Rd.

THE GREATS OF ZORRA – CHARLES GORDON

Storytelling brings history alive. Zorra Heritage Committee collects and shares stories, as storytelling has always been a vital part of Zorra's sense of itself. Zorra's most acclaimed storyteller, Charles W. Gordon (1860-1937), moved to the Harrington manse at age ten, as his father was appointed Presbyterian minister. Charles eventually earned his own manse in Winnipeg, but only after attending school in Harrington and high school in St. Marys before and after becoming a man of the cloth himself. Charles was chaplain to Canadian soldiers in the "Great War" and offered advice to presidents and prime ministers. He supplemented sermons with novels published under the pen name, "Ralph Connor". They were "fast paced, sentimental melodramas, with stereotyped characters dramatizing the conflict between good & evil in frontier settings presided over by exemplary churchmen". His novels went viral – the first 3 sold over five million copies. His fame & prestige culminated in appointment as Moderator of the Presbyterian Church of Canada from 1922 to 1925, during the period of church unification. Still, he continued to care for the community that nourished him in his youth. He regretted being unable to attend the Harrington Boys and Girls Reunion in 1925 but sent the community a long letter, including, "I have seen many lovely parts of Canada, but for quiet sweet, restful beauty, I know of nothing more exquisite and more satisfying than the view from Pitt's Hill on the one side of the village, or from Sullivan Ross' front door on the other".

THAMESFORD LIONS CLUB

The Thamesford Lions Club is excited to introduce its new executive team for the upcoming year, a dedicated group ready to lead with service & community spirit. Assistant Treasurer Holly Burgess, Marketing & Communications Rebecca Haggerty, President Francine Overeem, Service Chair Derek Collins, Director 1 Jim Keron, Secretary Brian Voigt, and Membership Burton Smith. Tail Twister/Lion Tamer Michelle Evaschuk, Treasurer Dan Dickout, First Vice President Mike Anderson, and Director 2 Norma Wood, Past President Glenn Ross. Looking ahead, there's lots happening in the community. The Thamesford Lions Park Party takes place Sat, Aug 22, (rain date Aug 23) at South Park 11-2/3pm, featuring free hot dogs & chips, face painting, henna, spray art, crafts, music, splash pad fun, playground access, and a family-friendly atmosphere with presentations and a special project unveiling. Summer continues with 2 free community swims at the Thamesford Pool: June 28 (free swim) & Aug 16, 2-4pm, featuring music, freebies & a cannonball contest. And finally, Catch the Ace has officially passed the \$5,000 mark—thank you to everyone supporting and keep those guesses coming!



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FITNESS AT INGERSOLL 50+ CENTRE

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FITNESS ROOM is open to all members & is equipped with a 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.

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

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. Don't let the name fool you! This class is a gentle yet vigorous workout that includes warm-up, cardiovascular component, cool down and balance, resistance training, and wraps up with stretch and relaxation exercises.

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 yoga poses both standing & on the floor. Participants are encouraged to bring their own mat.

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 the courts beside the Sr. Centre. 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 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, focusing on cardio, balance, resistance, and flexibility training.

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. These classes are designed to assist in the maintenance of independence and to assist in the prevention of falls and fall related injuries. 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 bring along 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.

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OXFORD READS

Announcing the 2026 selection: *How to Survive a Bear Attack* by Claire Cameron. Community-wide book club invites readers to explore a compelling memoir about survival, loss and the natural world. Oxford County Library & Woodstock Public Library are proud to announce that *How to Survive a Bear Attack* by Canadian author Claire Cameron has been selected as the 2026 Oxford Reads title following a community-wide vote. In this award-winning memoir, Cameron examines a fatal bear attack that occurred in Algonquin Park in 1991 while also reflecting on her own experiences with illness, motherhood, fear & survival. Blending investigative journalism, memoir & nature writing, the book explores how people make sense of tragedy & our relationship with the natural world. Residents across Oxford County are invited to borrow a copy of the book & join the community-wide book club. Print, e-book and audiobook copies are available through the Oxford County Library and the Woodstock Public Library, and book club sets can be borrowed through Oxford County Library for group discussions. Now in its 9th year, Oxford Reads continues to connect readers across the County, encouraging dialogue & celebrating Canadian literature. Additional programming will be announced in September, including details for the Oxford Reads Gala this fall. For more information, visit www.oxfordreads.ca.

INGERSOLL LIBRARY

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

Kids - Coral Reef Craft Tues, July 7, 10-12pm. Drop in to make a colourful mini coral reef! Ages 12 & under.

Art in the Park Tues, July 14, 1-3pm. Ingersoll Victoria Park, weather permitting. Join the library for crafts & fun!

Beaded Jellyfish Tues, July 21, 10-12pm. Drop in to make a jellyfish decoration with beaded tentacles! Ages 12 & under.

Music in the Park Tues, July 28, 1-3pm, Ingersoll Victoria Park, weather permitting. An afternoon of music and fun in the park!

Family - Canada Party Thur, July 2, 1-3pm. Celebrate a belated Canada Day! See an authentic (and GIGANTIC) Canadian flag that flew on the Peace Tower!

What is Wastewater Thur, July 9, 1-3pm. Featuring a read aloud of *Ripple's Magical Wastewater Treatment Plant Adventure* written by Nikki Ingram. Don't miss your chance to play "What Not to Flush!" sorting game & speak with our county wastewater specialists!

Family Bingo Thur, July 23, 6pm. Register online at www.ocl.net.

Teen Crafts Wed in July, 2-3:30pm. Drop into the Ingersoll Library's teen area for a new craft each week! No registration required, but space & supplies are limited. Open to teens entering grade 7-12.

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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.

TEENS ON PLANES!

You cannot imagine the pleasure of travelling with teens when they are engaged in reciprocal exchanges with ISE Ontario. Many of you are familiar with their school-year & summer exchanges which match individual students here and in Europe for great experiences together in both places. Less well known, but available to schools & community organizations are their short, two-week, group exchanges they offer to 6 European destinations. Intense & rewarding! For more information visit www.iseontario.ca or contact bryasmit@oxford.net. Just don't tell your teen "Hey, kid, take off".

ERO OR ERROR?

Did you know that Ontario has an Environmental Bill of Rights which entitles you currently to comment on plans that may affect your community or your personal health? It's interesting reading. For instance, search out ERO # 026-0595 which claims to be about renewable energy from waste. Sounds like a good idea, except the document is short enough to be on the back of a napkin, vague enough to be a government-sponsored feel-good ad (paid with tax money), and foolish enough to make you snort with laughter. It proposes taking biological waste (and that's a large possible list) and mixing it with plastics & other junk to burn to create energy. The problem as anyone who has fed wet wood into a backyard or campground fire knows is that wet materials like organic waste, clay-based kitty litter, food scraps, etc. take a lot of work to light, and send off dense clouds of smoke. In industrial incineration, suggests Bryan Smith, those clouds of smoke heading to your family's lungs would contain dioxins & furans from plastics included in the waste. It gets worse: Someone at the Ministry of the Environment thinks that we should burn metal. Please do not try the experiment in burning metals at home. It will fail, for sure. Risks are high. What to do? Look up the ERO 026-0595, find the comment button, and tell them how badly their plan stinks.

HARRINGTON HALL FOR RENT

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

COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES

250 Ingersoll St. S. ~ 519-485-3869 ~ css@ingersollseniors.com
ASSISTIVE DEVICE FREE LOAN PROGRAM FREE crutches, canes, commodes, rollators, knee slider boards to wheelchairs. We welcome donations! **DROP OFF & PICK UP** Mon-Fri, 9-12pm.

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

DINE IN Full meal & dessert Friday in our dining room \$10. Free delivery to Ingersoll & Thamesford. Please book by 12pm day before!

FOOT CARE CLINIC \$31. Call for an appointment.

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

GROCERY BUDDY Call us with your grocery list and we will arrange a day and time for us to do your shopping! Volunteers are needed as this program grows. Contact 519-485-2269 ext 106.

HELP WITH FORMS FREE, by appointment. Examples include CPP, OAS, and GIS. and passport forms, etc.

HOME HELP & MAINTENANCE PROGRAM: SMALL FEE FOR SERVICE

Tasks such as yard work, companionship, and cleaning around the house. Call us for a referral to a police check individual who can help you out! We are looking for people to clean homes & landscape. Do you have a truck to help with large deliveries?

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

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

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

VOLUNTEERS for Meals on Wheels delivery Wed & Thur, 11:30am to 1pm in Ingersoll. Please call Victoria 519-485-2269.

INGERSOLL DISTRICT NATURE CLUB

Despite a rainy weather forecast a group from the Ingersoll & District Nature Club worked hard on maintenance at the Lawson Nature Reserve on McBeath Rd in early June. They accomplished several tasks such as grass-cutting, clearing trails of overhanging branches & removing garbage. We wish to thank them for their hard work & we were happy to welcome some new volunteers from the community. There will be more maintenance to do in the fall and next spring. If you are interested in helping, please call Meg 519-485-4220 and check www.ingersollnatureclub.com.

THISTLE THEATRE - DRAMARAMA 2026

Thistle Theatre is proud to present the 30th season of DRAMARAMA our summer day camp for people ages 6-13. Second Session (a few spots remaining!) runs July 20-July 31. It's 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. The 45 minute(ish) play is then performed for family, friends & community members on the final day of camp. For all the information, including payment options, please head to www.thistle-theatre.com and click on the Dramarama page. The registration fee is \$375 per camper per session. 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. 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.



A "DOUBLE" SPECIAL FOR MAPLEWOOD

PUBLIC SCHOOL REUNION

By Laura Green

"Boom-Chicka-Boom" "Boom-Chicka-Boom" Boom-Chicka-Rac-a-Chicka" "Ric Rac Ree" "Who are we?" "We're from MAPLEWOOD" "Can't you see!" This was the school chant that S.S. #11 West Zorra Public School would chant each year at the end of the parade at Embro Fair. It was chanted to close the afternoon reunion held June 13 at the St. Andrew's United Church, Brooksdale. School Section (S.S.) #11 Maplewood was built in the hamlet of Maplewood on Road 96/Maplewood side road on the lot beside the general store. The last owners of the store were Carl & Anna Wettlaufer. Teachers were thankful that the store had a telephone to use for emergencies since the school didn't have one installed. It was a special reunion for the last 2 classes held at the country school before all the 11 one-room schools in West Zorra closed. The Class of 64-65 had 31 students from Grades 1-6 and the Class of 65-66 had 29 students. Grade 7 & 8 students were bussed to Zorra Highland Park School (ZHPS) which opened in 1959 for senior students from the 11 small "red schoolhouses". It was also a special reunion of these 2 years, for it was the first two years that Carol Clark began her teaching career. Clark was a fresh graduate from Stratford Teachers College who lived in Harrington, so the Maplewood community had new families to her to learn their names. She remembers the School Board chairman Newton Bean delivering her contract to her parent's home for her to sign. Newton was a dairy farmer in the Maplewood area. Today his grandson Travis Bean now owns the school lot and the school house was taken down by previous owners years ago. 1966-67, her first-year teaching at ZHPS, now Mrs. Turvey (married Dennis July 9, 1966) she taught Grade 1 with three sets of twins in her class. She always looked forward to seeing her students from Maplewood School in the hallways or when on yard duty & making sure that they adjusted to the "big" school. With the help of Lois Miller Horne and Kevin Steinacker, teacher Carol was able to track down all the students except Tom Wilson but she hasn't given up yet. Twenty-six people came including 15 classmates. Where are the students living today -one student lives in Ireland and Carol visited with him at his mother's funeral last month. Another one lives in North Carolina, a couple in Alberta, one in North Bay and the rest in Southwestern Ontario. Carol said "It is amazing what you find out about kids you taught when you started your career 62 years ago". Lois Horne created a memorial table for the 8 students of Maplewood classes (1964-65 & 1965-66) that have passed away. She framed their school picture with their obituary. Carol Turvey rang the school bell to start the program with a roll call; the students had to introduced themselves & give a brief report about their careers & family life after they graduated from grade 8. The students who answered the roll call were Margaret Steinacker Baker, Marie Steinacker Corcoran, Bruce Bean, Greg Black, Leslie Rutherford Emonds, Elisabeth Feryn, Susan Feryn-Perkin, Susan Bean Garner, Faye Lupton Glausser, Lois Miller Horne Dick Lupton, Rick Nafziger, George Rutherford, Ken Steinacker & Kevin Steinacker. They continued getting re-acquainted over the past 6 decades while enjoying the celebration cake that had their edible school pictures on the icing & a glass of punch. Like any family or class reunion there was "Guess the number of candies in the jar and prizes from local business for the furthest travelled, etc. Life is too short as the years pass, so these students of Maplewood P.S. want to continue to meet again. The building is gone but the school spirit is alive!



Civic Corner

Civic Corner appears monthly in the Village Voice and will keep Township residents informed about upcoming meetings, notices, announcements & other important information. Please feel free to contact us with any comments or suggestions. The Township thanks JC Graphics for providing this valuable community service.

UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETINGS:

Wed. July 15, 9:30 a.m. Township Office *only one meeting this month

Thurs. August 13, 9:30 a.m. Township Office *special day

Wed. September 16, 9:30 a.m. Township Office *only one meeting this month

Check the Township website for agendas at www.zorra.ca. All Council meetings are streamed live on our YouTube channel @zorratownship3193. If you would like to speak to an item on a Council agenda, please contact the Clerk at 519-425-2305 or clerk@zorra.ca.

Municipal Election – Are you on the Voter's List?

The next municipal and school board elections are October 26, 2026. If you are a resident, owner, or tenant of property in Ontario, a Canadian citizen, and 18 years of age, you can vote! Zorra Township residents can find out whether they are on the list to vote for the upcoming municipal and school board elections at www.registertovoteon.ca. This is an online service used to collect and confirm info that will be used in the preparation of the final Voters Lists across Ontario. You can also add names to your property address.

Are you thinking of running for the 2026 Municipal Election?

Nominations are now open and will be accepted until Friday, August 21 at 2:00 p.m. The Township of Zorra Candidate Package contains all the information you need to get started. Packages are available at the Township municipal office or on the Township website. Please contact the office to book an appointment to file your nomination papers.

By-law Department

All property owners should be aware of our Clearing Refuse from Land By-law 16-2018. Property owners are responsible to maintain grass and weeds under 8". This includes vacant lots as well.

Recreation Department

Registration for our Summer Day Camp is open! Children ages 4 to 11 can join us for a full-day camp for 10 weeks of summer! We look forward to swimming, outside play and tons of fun! Register for the full week for \$179 or \$44.75/per single day. Camp operates from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. with additional before and after care available. The pool season is in full swing at the Thamesford Pool. Check out our community calendar for the schedules for Public Swimming, AquaFit, Lane Swims, and more! Swimming Lesson Registration is still available for some sessions. Visit us at www.zorra.ca for more info. NEW Yoga in the Park with Pauline classes have been scheduled on July 14 & August 18 & 19, register on pickuphub.net, we hope to see you there!

Tax Department

2026 Final Property Tax bills were mailed out the last week of June and e-bill notifications have been sent. 2026 Final Bill instalment dates are August 31 and October 30. Zorra offers three different payment plans; 10 months, 12 months and four instalments. Payment plans ensure that your payments are always on time, and they eliminate the need to remember due dates. To avoid delays due to mail strikes or lost mail, sign up for our electronic property tax notices. By doing so you will receive your tax bills and arrears notices by email rather than by regular mail. Please visit our website at zorra.ca to complete the required forms. For tax inquiries please contact Melissa De Luca at 519-425-2304 or mdeluca@zorra.ca

Township of Zorra

163 Brock Street, PO Box 189, Thamesford, ON N0M 2M0
519-485-2490 or Toll Free 1-888-699-3868

Office Hours are 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (excluding statutory holidays)

Worship With Us

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Rev. Susan Cole, rev.susan.cole@gmail.com
FB: knoxembro.ca knoxembro.ca
Worship: 10:30am Children's program dates & times vary.
Check Facebook posts or call. We are accessible!

Knox Presbyterian Church Embro
115 St. Andrews St, PO Box 159, Embro Tel 519-475-4816
You're welcome to come worship with us at 10:30am.
Church is totally accessible. Sunday School every week!
Everyone welcome!

St. Andrew's United Church Brooksdale
Rev. Janet Uren 519-636-1201
1st Sunday worship service of each month at 11am
with all other Sundays 9:30am

Browns United Church 136548 13th Line, RR#4, St. Marys
Rev. Pam Wilcox 519-320-9458 Chairlift available.
Everyone welcome to 9:30am Sunday Services

Knox Presbyterian Church Harrington
In the Village of Harrington on Rd 96.
Rev Joyce DeGier VanderSpek, 519-533-8122.
www.facebook.com/KnoxChurchHarrington
SUN 10am

Chalmers United Church Kintore, kintorechurch.com
Rev. Pirie Mitchell 519-639-0978, pirieminister@gmail.com
SUN Services 10:30am.
MON Kintore Knitting & More 9:30-11am. Everyone welcomed.
Summer Break June 28-Aug 2
Kintore Knitting and More back in August. Sept 2 deadline for
Strawberry Supper tickets Sept 16 tickets. Call Judy 519-283-6355

East Nissouri Union Church 519-709-0282
Corner of Rd 96 & Line 15, Uniondale Pastor Gail Kavelman

Free Reformed Church of Oxford County
284793 Pleasant Valley Rd, Pastor D. Kranendonk, oxfordfrc.com

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.

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

FRIDGE DOOR LIVE THEATRE

Fridge Door Live Theatre Company returns with a music infused version of Lawrence Station: The Flagship Erie's Final Flight, a play that explores the lives forever changed by the tragic final flight of the Flagship Erie that occurred Oct 30, 1941 in a local Ontario farmer's field. On stage, Oct 29-Nov 1. Tickets and Information at www.OnStageLive.ca. www.LenCuthbert.com.

STOPPING TO SMELL THE FLOWERS: A Healing and Resource Centre ~ Echoing a Remembrance of your Magnificence Through Short Story Awakenings and Offerings

Meditation in the Garden! Tues, July 7, 14, 21, 7-8pm. A beautiful time of year to meditate outside with the birds & plants - this guided meditation series will help you slow down & notice the moments. \$135. All programs take place at the Meditation Hut, 130 Stanley St S, Thamesford. Check out my short story series of books & other mindfulness merch at www.stoppingtosmelltheflowers.com. To find out more or to register, reach out to Stephanie Malo, author and facilitator at stephaniemalo@hotmail.com; Facebook: "Stopping to Smell the Flowers: Extraordinary Observations of Everyday Life" Instagram @therealstephaniemalo.

BEACHVILLE LEGION 434852 Zorra Line, Beachville

Gentle Chair Yoga Wed 7-8pm.

Summer Dart League Wed 7:30pm. Teams of 3 randomly drawn \$20. Call Shelley McDonald 519-580-8211 for more info.

Euchre Thur 7pm.

Darts Blind Draw Doubles Fri 8pm.

Thames Valley Bluegrass & Old Time Country Pickers Sat, July 4, 11, 18, 25, 1-4pm. Open mic (acoustic only). Come enjoy the music.

Oxford County Feline Wellness & Outreach Bingo Fri, July 3 & 10. Doors open 6pm. Play begins 7pm.

Ox On The Run Mobile Library Wed, July 8 & 22, 4:30-6pm.

BBQ Burger, Ballpark Hot dog, Baked Bean & Salad Dinner \$15 Fri, July 10, 5:30pm. Call to pre-order 519-423-6363.

Chicken Parm & Pasta Dinner \$15. Fri, July 24, 5:30pm. Call to order & avoid disappointment 519-423-6363.

Karaoke with Ken Pyle Sat, July 25, 7-11pm.


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



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.

JULY

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
28 • Thamesford Lions Free Swim 2-4pm • Gardens Tour, Thorndale	29 	30 	JULY 1 • Canada Day celebration, Victoria Pk, Ingersoll 4-10pm • Embro Highland Games 	2 • Holy Diner BBQ, Dorchester 5-7pm • Youth Explorers, Ingersoll Museum • Canada Day belated party, Ing Library	3 • Sing for Joy, Ing 50+ • Bingo, Beachville Legion	4 • East Nissouri Church Car Wash, Bake Sale, etc. • Bluegrass Music, Beachville Legion
5 	6 • Quilting class, ICAC • Tai Chi, Ing 50+	7 • Al-Anon, Ingersoll • Euchre, Sacred Heart, Ingersoll 1pm • Chair Yoga, Ing 50+	8 • Meditation, Ingersoll • Air Cadets, Dorchester • Chair Yoga, Beachville Legion	9 • Quilting class, ICAC • Brown's BBQ • Sip n Shop, Brunny's • Youth Explorers, Ingersoll Museum	10 • Ukelele, Ing 50+ • Burger dinner, Beachville Legion	11 • Corn Hole Tourney • Glass Painting Workshop, Embro
12 • Gardens Tour, Ingersoll	13 • Cops & Rodders, Ingersoll Museum	14 • Sketchy Srs, Ing 50+ • Art in the Park, Ingersoll Vic. Pk.	15 • 4-H Go For the Gold • Brunch, Ing 50+ • Teen Crafts Ingersoll Library • Zorra Council	16 • Holy Diner BBQ, Dorchester 5-7pm	17 • Harvards Military Fly Day, Tillsonburg	18 • Exhibit Opening, ICAC • Minor Ball Family Fun Day, Ingersoll
19 	20 • Wood Carving, Ingersoll 50+	21 • Al-Anon, Ingersoll • Euchre, Sacred Heart, Ingersoll 1pm	22 • Meditation, Ingersoll • Air Cadets, Dorchester • Dart League, Beachville Legion	23 • Youth Explorers, Ingersoll Museum • Spiritualism in Oxford Ingersoll Museum • Family Bingo, Ingersoll Library	24 • Chicken Parm dinner, Beachville Legion	25 • Karaoke with Kyle, Beachville Legion
VILLAGE VOICE DEADLINE						
26 • Car Show, Beachville Museum	27 • Pickleball, Ing 50+	28 • Music in the Park, Ing. Victoria Park	29 • Flim Club, Ing Library	30 • Holy Diner BBQ, Dorchester 5-7pm • Youth Explorers, Ingersoll Museum • Gentle Yoga, Ing 50+	31 	AUGUST 1
JC GRAPHICS CLOSED FOR HOLIDAYS THIS WEEK						

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