

THE VILLAGE



FOR OUR COMMUNITY
THAMESFORD

Issue 391 | AUGUST 2026

SINCE 1980

LOVE LOCAL NEWS? Get *The Village Voice* by email! Just send a message to linda@jcgraphics.ca

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/>

THAMES CENTRE COMMUNITY CHOIR

The Thames Centre Community Choir is taking a summer break until Sept. Choir members wish to thank the Thorndale & surrounding communities for their support throughout the year. We truly appreciate our audiences & the folks who support our annual plant sale! New singers are welcome to try us out this fall. For more information, please contact Cathy at c_baskerville@hotmail.com.

FRIDGE DOOR LIVE THEATRE

Fridge Door Live Theatre Company presents, Red Comet, a new play by Len Cuthbert, Aug 6-8. Set over the final year of high school, Red Comet is a coming of age comedy-drama about two best friends exploring friendship, ambition, and the fear of change at the edge of adulthood. Tickets & information at www.OnStage-Live.ca

DIABETES EDUCATION PROGRAM

Are you looking for support with your Diabetes? Our Team of Registered Nurses, Registered Dietitians and 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!

JOIN US!

Operation Christmas Child will be at the Harvest Market in Ingersoll Sat, Aug 22. Please stop by to learn what's new for this year, share any concerns, or just to say "hi". We hope to see you there!

THAMESFORD LIONS CLUB

The Thamesford Lions Club has an exciting August ahead, and we hope you'll join us! Thanks to the incredible support of our community, our Catch the Ace progressive lottery jackpot is expected to be well over \$7,000 by Aug 1. Ticket sales have been remarkable, making this weekly fundraiser both exciting for players & impactful for our community. Tickets are just \$5 and are available at JC Graphics, Brunny's Sports Bar & Grill, McFarlan Rowlands Insurance, Shell Gas Station, Village Catering & Deli, Dewy's Auto & Custom Repairs, Highland Family Restaurant (Embryo), and Embro Family Pharmacy. Tickets can also be purchased during Tues pickup times in Thamesford (4-5pm) and Embro (1:30-2:30pm), with the live draw taking place every Tues 8pm at Brunny's Sports Bar & Grill. On Sun, Aug 16, we invite everyone to our FREE Community Swim 2-4pm at the Thamesford Pool. Enjoy an afternoon of swimming, music, and our popular Cannonball Competition with prizes! The Lions will stay for a short time afterward to hand out freebies to all the swimmers. Admission is first come, first served, and we sincerely thank the Township of Zorra for arranging additional lifeguards to help welcome even more families. Then, join us Sat, Aug 22, 11-2pm at South Lions Park as we celebrate the 65th Anniversary of the Thamesford Lions Club! The celebration will feature a free barbecue, face painting, henna art, music & family activities. We'll also be recognizing several remarkable Lions who have dedicated more than 50 years of service to our club and community. Entertainment will be provided by Off the Record, a fantastic local band playing a wide variety of family-friendly favourites sure to keep everyone smiling, singing along & enjoying the afternoon. Bring a lawn chair, relax in the shade, and enjoy an afternoon of community, friendship, and celebration. We look forward to seeing you there!



MOM-TO-MOM TRUNK SALE

Sat, Sept 5, 8-1pm at Trinity United Church, 118 Church St, Ingersoll. Have your kids outgrown their clothes, toys, books, or sports/safety/play equipment? Sell them at our trunk sale! Vendor registration fee \$20. Vendor pre-registration required. Contact church office 519-485-0820. Snacks & Face Painting available during sale. All families are welcome to buy & sell!

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.

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

4-H IS FOR EVERYONE!

Come check out the 4-H program at the Woodstock Fair Aug 21-23. And see the 4-H project display boards at Oxford Fairs like Embro, Woodstock, Tavistock, Drumbo. Judging & Critical Thinking results are Novice Alaina Walker, Leda McKinlay. Rylee Weldrick, Byron Older, Isabel McKinlay; Junior Peyton Markus, Grace McKinaly, Charlotte Doan, Sophia Doan, Renee Walker; Intermediate Faith Abell, Zephyra Layman-Gilbert, Carmyn Doan, Brynn Boan, Owen Pletsch; Senior Bren Zeldrenrijk, Megan Atkinson, Jade Dill, Ella Ward-Boult, Olivia Sim. Oxford Go For The Gold has 8 players advancing to the Region 6 Go For The Gold Aug 5 in Aylmer. Best of Luck to Charlotte Ball, Megan Ball, Nathan Bean, Cohen DaCosta, Jacob Bergsma, Jade Dill, Mackenzie Westwood, Isabel McKinlay! Oxford 4-H Open Dairy Show at Woodstock Fair Aug 22 - register by Aug 10. Oxford Beef 4-H Club Achievement program at Tavistock Fairgrounds Aug 30. Lots of 4-H Ontario activities happening—Summer Virtual Art Show for youth ages 6-21 with entries being accepted to Aug 31 in 5 categories: painting/drawing, photography, craft/sculpture, video & food art. The Provincial Online Judging Competition for youth until Aug 15. Oxford 4-H has a monthly email to keep supporters informed, contact oxfordcounty4h@gmail.com. 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. Contact Shonna Ward, oxfordcounty4h@gmail.com or call/text 519-854-6919 or check out Oxford County 4-H Facebook.



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.



JANIS IS

Retiring

AFTER

52

YEARS

OF DEDICATED SERVICE
AT THE DENTAL OFFICE

Please join us in wishing Janis all the best as she begins this exciting new chapter. Thank you, Janis, for your compassion, commitment, and the countless smiles you've helped create.

 DATE AUGUST 15, 2026	 TIME 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM	 LOCATION BEATY ROOM THAMESFORD LIBRARY 165 DUNDAS STREET THAMESFORD, ON
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Well wishes only

DROP IN

FAMILY FUN DAY

Aug 29, at Brownsville Community Centre, Brownsville. 10-2pm.



LIONS VENDOR AND CAR SHOW

Mount Elgin Community Center, Mount Elgin on Aug 30, 10-3pm.

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LAKE LISGAR WATERPARK, TILLSONBURG

It's not too late to make a splash this summer at the Lake Lisgar Waterpark! Whether you're racing down the waterslide, swinging off the giant inflatable, or watching little ones enjoy the spray features, there's something for every member of the family to enjoy. Pack a bag, soak up the sunshine, and spend a day making lasting summer memories close to home. Don't forget to enjoy a frozen treat, or hot food from our snack shack while you're here! Looking for an affordable family outing? A family of up to 5 can enjoy a full day at the waterpark for just \$34.70. Planning to visit more than once? It's not too late to save with a season pass! A resident family of four (2 adults and 2 children) would spend about \$243 on 7 daily visits, while season passes for the whole family cost just \$237.20 (plus HST). That means your season passes pay for themselves in as little as 7 visits. If you're planning to come even a couple of times each week for the rest of the summer, a season pass is the best value. The Lake Lisgar Waterpark is open daily 11-6pm until Sept 7, so there's still plenty of time to cool off, have fun, and make the most of your summer. We can't wait to see you at the pool!

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 more information, please visit: embrofair.com/ambassadorprogram or contact Katelyn Sykes 519-535-9253.



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THISTLE THEATRE

Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat We are excited to announce that the Nov 2026 show for Thistle Theatre will be the musical "Joseph & the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat" with lyrics by Tim Rice & music by Andrew Lloyd Webber. The play has been cast & our actors are busy starting to rehearse. The show will run Nov 12-22, at Thistle Theatre, in the Old Embro Town Hall. Watch for tickets going on sale in Sept! For more information follow www.thistle-theatre.com. Interested in helping out - we are always looking for volunteers. You can find more information at <https://thistle-theatre.com/volunteer>.

FARMER OLYMPICS HAVE BEEN REIMAGINED!

You asked for bigger. You asked for better. We listened. Introducing Farmer Olympics 2.0 at the Embro Fall Fair! BRAND NEW relay-style competition, Teams of 4 people, cash prizes & special prizes for the best dressed team. If you think you & your friends have what it takes to outwork, outlast, and outplay the competition, we want to see you on the field this September. You don't have to be a farmer to compete! Gather your team, start planning your outfits, and get ready for one of the most exciting events of the 2026 Embro Fall Fair. Advance registration required at www.embrofair.com.



NASH BARNETT MEMORIAL CAR SHOW

On Sun, Sept 20, we will be holding the 5th Annual Nash Barnett Memorial Car Show at the Embro Fair. It will be held at the Embro Zorra Community Centre parking lot 10-4pm. Our family first decided to host this event as a way to honour our son Nash who passed away at the tender age of 2 years old in 2020. Nash was a typical little farm boy, loving anything with wheels whether it was his red cozy coupe car he rode around everywhere, the diggers and tractors he played with constantly in the sandbox with his brothers, going for rides in daddy's tractor, or a trip for ice cream in his Opa Gerry's classic car. We know he would have loved a car show like this and been smiling ear to ear. Each year, in addition to providing a community event, we feel it is important to give back to those who need it most. By putting a donation jar out at the car show, we were able to collect funds to support the Nash Barnett Memorial Literacy Fund for A.J. Baker School in the first year, VON Sakura House in memory of Frank VanOstaeyen in our 2nd year, London Children's Hospital Paediatric Liver Program in our 3rd year, and Ronald McDonald House Charity SWO in our 4th year. This year, we will put a jar out again, with donations going toward Canadian Wildlife Federation in memory of a family friend, Dominic Cross. A young 14-yr old boy full of life, adventure, and the best sense of humour you would have ever met. Dominic passed suddenly in January 2026 and we would like to honour him and his family (Trevor and Amy, Amanda and Leanne) by contributing donations in his name, towards a cause he cared so deeply about. He was always outside in nature, loved animals, and absolutely loved fishing. All of these causes have been extremely near and dear to our hearts, and we know how meaningful it will be to many other families facing challenges just like we have. Contributions make a big difference, and help to bring positivity and hope to those who need it. Should you or your business wish to make a donation toward the car show, or toward the donation cause (Canadian Wildlife Federation), we will be happy to help make that happen. We will ensure that our sponsors are recognized for their generous contributions by listing them on the Embro Fair website, promoting them on our social media, and with signage at the Fair. The Fair will also be adding a sponsorship wall that will list all donors for Fair goers from our community to see. Please connect with Nicole to organize your donation. If you wish to volunteer and help out - please reach out as well! And of course if you know someone who would like to participate in the car show with their vehicle or have one of your own, please let us know! All classic, racing, custom, modified, exotic, antique or historical vehicles, motorcycles, snowmobiles, antique tractors... anything you think Nash would love & that is special to you -- we would love to see it! Participation as a car show participant - there is no cost, other than a donation to the Canadian Wildlife Federation in memory of Dominic Cross (at the event). Participant registration is not required, but appreciated. For more information, please connect with Nash's mom, Nicole, call or text 519-533-2208, or email nbarnett221@gmail.com. Thank you for your kind consideration and support, Chris, Nicole, Max, Blake, (Nash), and Gwendolyn Barnett.



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COMMUNITY COOKBOOK

Embro & Zorra Agricultural Society is putting together a community cookbook that will be a collection of time-honoured recipes that celebrate homegrown flavours, stores, and people that make this community special. Share one (or a few!) of your favourite recipes by going on the embrofair.com website or connecting with Cassandra Baker (b.cassandra14@gmail.com) to submit yours. If you have a cherished story about your recipe, we would love to include it in the book as well. Interested in donating towards the cookbook fundraiser? Place an ad for a donation of \$50, and submitting the online form on our website. Deadline to submit recipes is Sept 30! Cookbooks will be available for purchase later in the year! We can't wait to see what Zorra Township residents will cook up next!



NHL NEWS

Locally raised defenseman Michael Kesselring has been traded from the Buffalo Sabres to the San Jose Sharks. He signed a 3 year contract extension and will continue to wear #8. Submitted by Ken Minler.



Register Today!

\$10

Saturday, August 15, 2026.
9 am - 3 pm

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HEARTS FOR ETHIOPIA Hosts A Walk in Their Shoes

A Walk in Their Shoes, a fundraiser, invites participants to step into the daily experiences of women & children in Ethiopia, while raising vital funds to support those living in extreme poverty. The event features a family-friendly walk, interactive education, a silent auction, an Ethiopian Merkato, refreshments & opportunities to learn how the money raised will change the lives of women & children in Ethiopia. This meaningful community event is happening Sat, Octo 17 (afternoon) in Woodstock. Visit www.heartsforethiopia.com for more information.

EZAS FIELD CROPS COMPETITION DEADLINE

The deadline to enter your farm field is approaching: Aug 21, for 3 categories: Standing Soyabeans, Standing Ensilage Corn, and Standing Grain Corn. Please contact Jim & Katherine Grieve 519-475-6163 to enter your field! You can also send an email to kathrinegrieve@gmail.com. Your field will be judged by a crop expert, awarded points & submitted to the EZAS Field Crops Committee to declare the winners. Placings will be available for viewing at the Embro Fair Sept. 19-20! This competition is open to all farmers in Zorra Township and East-Zorra Township (west of Highway #59). All entrants must be members of the EZAS in 2026 (contact ezastreasurer@gmail.com to obtain a membership number for \$5). Prize money will be awarded (1st - \$25, 2nd - \$20, and 3rd - \$15). Grow your crops as normal, no extra work, and maybe some bragging rights & prize money to be won! Give it a whirl -- it's a great way to celebrate agricultural pride, friendly competition, and inspire others.



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INGERSOLL MEDITATION

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

BROWNSVILLE PIG ROAST

Brownsville Firefighters are hosting their annual Pig Roast at the Brownsville Community Park, 292244 Culloden Line, Brownsville, Sat, Aug 15. Tickets available in advance or at the door, \$25 adults, children \$10. Kids 5 and under free.

SPAGHETTI SUPPER

St. John's Anglican Church Spaghetti Supper Sat, Sept 26, 4:30-6:30pm. Adult tickets \$20, children 12 & under \$10. Dinner includes: spaghetti, Caesar salad, bread, dessert & beverage. For tickets call Brenda 519-285-2013, cell: 519-668-9678.

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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ST. MARYS FRIENDSHIP CENTRE

We are undergoing Friendship Centre facility renovations during August. Throughout the closure, Friendship Centre staff will be available in both the Arena Lobby and the Endzone to support customers and programs. Our office: Mon-Fri 8:30-4:30pm.

August Picnic in the Park Thur, Aug 27, 12 noon at Milt Dunnell Field (the Flats). Menu is: egg salad or salmon, side, sweet treat and cold drink. Cost \$12. You must pre-register.

Contact information: 519-284-3272, friends@town.stmarys.on.ca, or stop by & use entrance A, B or D at the Pyramid Recreation Centre, 317 James St South, St. Marys.

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, Aug 4 & 18, 1pm. Refreshments provided.

BANNER CEMETERY DECORATION

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

THORNDALE HORTICULTURE SOCIETY

The Thorndale & Area Horticultural Society's 27th Annual Green Thumb Garden Tour held on June 28, was a huge success. The 2026 Core Green Thumb Garden Tour Committee included: Melanie Lisle-Gilchrist (Chair), Elaine Clays, Marylou Bontje, Barb Krasnicki, Elaine Wein, Dot Deller, and Norma Poel. Guests were able to tour 3 of the community-maintained gardens, and 5 private gardens. Each one unique, interesting, and full of ideas for each of our 74 visitors to explore. We had guests from London, Strathroy, St. Marys, Dorchester, and area. Refreshments were available at Esther & Kevin Spicer's, Matt & Stephanie Adams, Marjorie Bartons, and Ice Cream at Marian Smibert's, which was welcomed on this hot day. The beautiful host gifts were purchased from Practical Art (Steve Pietens), and were garden stakes of a lovely Cardinal. Sincere gratitude & appreciation are extended to our draw sponsors.



Congratulations to all the draw winners! Special shout out to Thorndale Family Restaurant for staying open late that day to feed and refresh our hot & tired volunteers. We appreciate you. Our next general meeting will be held at the Thorndale Community Center, Room 3, Wed, Aug 12, 7.30pm. Connie Jasinskis will be presenting... "Don't let Gardening be a Pain!" Refreshments will be served. Guests are welcome.

JOIN THE FUN THIS WINTER!

INGERSOLL DISTRICT CURLING CLUB

No experience? No problem!

We're looking for new members to join our friendly, fun and social club.

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SEASON: **OCTOBER TO APRIL**

REGISTRATION BEGINS **AUGUST 31!**

ENJOY AN AFTERNOON OF LEARNING

By Laura Green

Braemar Women's Institute and the ACW at Christ Church are co-hosting a ROSE (Reaching Ontario Sharing Education) program Wed, Sept 2, 2pm at Christ Church in Huntingford 595815 Oxford 59. Christ Church is wheelchair accessible. Everyone is invited to hear Jean Aitcheson, a retired Canadian nurse, who is the founder of the Stratford Mission Depot. For over 30 years, she has collected surplus medical supplies & led global medical missions to set up clinics in remote, underserved areas globally. Jean Aitcheson will discuss her journey with the Stratford Mission Depot explain what surplus medical supplies are needed at the Mission Depot. Refreshments will be served & everyone is welcomed for an afternoon of learning & fellowship. For more information contact lauracgreen77@gmail.com or 519-535-3561.

DECORATION DAY HARRINGTON CEMETERIES

The Decoration Day service for the Harrington cemeteries will be held in Knox Presbyterian Church, Harrington on Sun, Aug 16, 11am. Rev Joyce DeGier VanderSpek will conduct the service which will include special music. Lunch provided.

INGERSOLL HARVEST MARKET CAR SHOW

King Hiram 37 presents the Kiwanis Ingersoll Harvest Market Car Show Sat, Aug 22. Set up 8am, show 9:30-2pm. At Centennial Park (the entrance for car show participants is off Canterbury St at Etna St. Classic & newer cars welcome, entrance is by donation, proceeds to Alexandria Hospital, Ingersoll. For more info contact Mike 226-228-0386, kh37@rogers.com.

TOWNLINCE CEMETERY DECORATION DAY

Everyone is welcome Sun, Aug 9, to visit this pleasant setting at 296246 - 29 th Line, Zorra Township, (near corner with Road 88), to place flowers and remember their loved ones. Mutterer Family Pipers will attend to provide their gift of music. Donations towards the continuing care of the cemetery are always appreciated and may be made there, or directed to: Townline Cemetery, c/o David Waud, 6 Norsworthy Lane, Ingersoll ON N5C 4G5.

EZAS WORKSHOPS

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

EMBRO FAIR COUNTRY CONCERT TICKETS

Sat, Sept 13 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. Headliner Chris Clark, and opener Greg Williams & The Dirty Magnolias.



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.

AIR QUALITY

Recently, Bryan Smith returned a dust monitor to Gravel Watch. It had been in use for a significant period of time to measure visible dust & fine particulate matter in the air. Since we live downwind from Sarnia's petrochemical plants, we get lots of airborne pollutants along with local dust from pits & quarries, their truck traffic and track-outs of sand & grit onto local roads. Add to that the smoke from forest fires, and August's air could well be as smoky as mid-July's. No doubt there will be health warnings, telling us to stay inside many days. Not feasible for those with outdoor work, and not sensible when the sources might be found & fixed. One preventative measure would be for the Province of Ontario to abandon its foolish plan to burn organic & biogenic waste, sodden smoke-heavy stuff. (Google ERO 026-0595) Similarly, rather than dump billion after billions of \$ in pipelines from the west, it time now for the economic, environmental, clean and healthy solution - the electrical alternative.

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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.

INGERSOLL DISTRICT NATURE CLUB

During August our Club members enjoy their own summer outings in nature, but in September we will have organized activities again.

AGM & NATURE WALK Sat, Sept 12, 3pm.
Annual General Meeting & Nature Walk with BBQ at Lawson Nature Reserve. Please come & learn more about the Ingersoll District Nature Club and the Lawson Nature Reserve's importance

to our communities! The Reserve is located on McBeath Rd. south of Ingersoll. Following an informative walk around the Reserve main trail, we will hold a meeting at 4pm to acclaim our executive members, talk about our upcoming 75th anniversary year, planned projects for the Reserve & other items of interest. A BBQ & refreshments will be provided. RSVP if you will be staying for the BBQ. All welcome, members & non-members. Contact Sheila 519-485-2645.



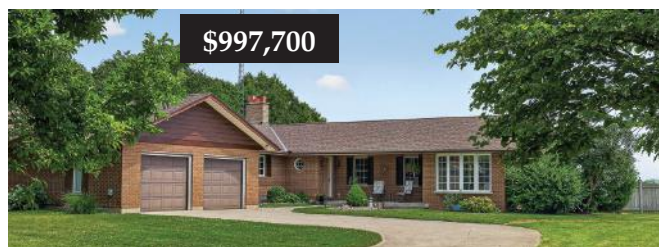
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THORNDALE FAIR - Tractors, Tailgates and Tunes

Sept 25-27. www.thorndalefair.com. There's something for everyone! Animals, musical entertainment, Saturday parade, 4H shows, Sunday Demolition Derby and so much more! Homecraft, Youth Fair (grades 6-12) and School Fair (preschool-grade 5) Competitions! Calling crafters, bakers, quilters, antique collectors, gardeners, amateur artists & photographers of all ages! For all the details check out our website or pick up a book at businesses in Thorndale. Attention School and Youth Fair Exhibitors: Craft Sessions are Sept 21-23, 5-7pm in the Community Centre. For Assist Expo help please reach out to Laura at ljangford@gmail.com.



NORTH EMBRO CEMETERY

The Annual Decoration Day is Aug 22 & 23 to celebrate loved ones and meet friends & neighbours. There is no service. All donations go toward maintenance of the cemetery.

TOURISM OXFORD

Looking for big summer fun without the big price tag? Check out our Affordable Adventures blog series, packed with low-cost ways to explore Oxford County, from family outings & outdoor escapes to local eats & unexpected finds. It's proof that a great getaway doesn't have to come with a hefty price tag. Find these at www.TourismOxford.ca/TripIdeas. While you're building your summer bucket list, be sure to browse TourismOxford.ca/Events for festivals, markets, live music, community celebrations, and more happening across the county all season long. Need help planning your next outing? We're happy to help. Connect with us at tourism@oxfordcounty.ca or visit TourismOxford.ca for even more ideas on how to make this summer your best one yet!

BACK-TO-SCHOOL WHILE CARRYING GRIEF

As summer draws to a close, many families are preparing for the excitement & busyness of a new school year. Shopping for school supplies, meeting new teachers, and settling into routines are familiar milestones. For some families, however, this season also brings the challenge of facing these moments without a loved one who has died. The first day of school can be a powerful reminder of someone's absence. Whether it is a parent, grandparent, sibling, or close friend, grief may surface in unexpected ways. Children may become quieter, more emotional, or have difficulty concentrating, while parents & caregivers may be managing their own grief as they support their children. There is no right or wrong way to grieve. Every person's experience is unique, and emotions may change from day to day. Maintaining familiar routines can provide comfort & stability while creating opportunities to talk about feelings & share memories of the person who died. Simple acts such as looking at photos, telling stories, or lighting a candle can help keep their memory close. Healthy habits—including nutritious meals, regular physical activity, and good sleep routines—also support emotional well-being. If your family is grieving, consider letting your child's teacher or school staff know. Understanding what a student is experiencing helps educators respond with greater compassion and support. Lastly, kindness can make a lasting difference. A thoughtful check-in, a patient conversation, or simply listening may be exactly what a grieving family needs to feel supported, understood, and cared for as they begin the new school year.

Faye Brekelmans, Nurse Psychotherapist, Compassionate Grief Support, faye@compassionategriefsupport.ca, 519-866-3016.

BEACHVILLE LEGION 434852 Zorra Line, Beachville

WED Gentle Chair Yoga 7-8pm

WED Summer Dart League Branch opens 6:40pm, 7:30pm start. Teams of 3 randomly drawn \$20/person. Last date Sept 2.

Winter Hump Day Dart League Sept 9-May 5. Call Shelley McDonald 519-580-8211 or Brandon 226-228-7545 for more info.

THUR Branch Euchre play begins 7pm.

THUR Line Dancing upstairs hall, 7pm, followed by Latin/Swing/Ballroom 8:15pm.

FRI Night Darts Blind Draw Doubles Play begins 8pm.

SAT Thames Valley Bluegrass & Old Time Country Pickers Saturdays in Aug 1-4pm. Open Mic (acoustic only).

Fri, Aug 7 & 14 Oxford County Feline Wellness & Outreach Bingo. Doors open 6pm. Play begins 7pm.

Aug 5 & 14 Ox On The Run Mobile Library 4:30-6pm.

Aug 23 Car Show at Museum Join us at the Beachville District Museum Community Car Show where we will have the BBQ fired up.

Aug 28 Roast Pork Dinner with roast potatoes & all the fixings 5:30pm. Pre-order by Aug 27 519-423-6363.

Aug 29 Karaoke with Ken Pyle Saturday 7-11pm. Free pool.

Sept 19 Annual Steak BBQ & Legion 100th Anniversary Celebration

Interested in Beachville Legion Veterans Banner Availability? Contact Darlene 519-495-6276 or juliandarlene@gmail.com. Free pool. Hall rental for meetings, parties, receptions. Follow us on Facebook or visit our website for additional events.

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Brad Cooper 519-636-2059

GROVE CEMETERY DECORATION DAY

We welcome everyone Sun, Aug 9, to place flowers & remember their loved ones at Grove Cemetery on Ebenezer Road. There will be no memorial service. Donations toward the care of the cemetery are greatly appreciated and if so desired they may be forwarded to Pat Simmons, 13 Raglan St, Ingersoll, N5C 1R1 or Dick Bell, 323795 Mt Elgin Rd, N0J 1N0. Make cheque payable to "Grove Cemetery".

THAMES VALLEY DANCE CLUB WANTS YOU!

Looking for something fun to do? Square Dancing allows you to laugh, keep fit (easy as walking), feel good, enjoy a great social activity, meet new friends & relieve stress. At Thames Valley Dance Club, we dance Monday nights 7-9pm at Ingersoll Pipe Band Hall, 108 Wonham St. S, Ingersoll. No experience required, professional caller / instructor, casual attire. The first night is free, and after that the cost is \$8 per person each Mon, paid monthly at the start of the month. For information, contact Julie 519-535-3314. Visit FB Thames Valley.

TOWNLINCE CEMETERY DECORATION DAY

Everyone is welcome, on Sun, Aug 9, to visit this pleasant setting at 296246 - 29 th Line, Zorra Township, (near corner with Road 88), to place flowers and remember their loved ones. Muterer Family Pipers will attend to provide their gift of music. Donations towards the continuing care of the cemetery are always appreciated and may be made there, or directed to: Townline Cemetery, c/o David Waud, 6 Norsworthy Lane, Ingersoll ON N5C 4G5.

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EZAS BLUE JAYS RAFFLE FUNDRAISER

Get your raffle tickets before they are gone - only \$10 per ticket! The winning ticket will receive: 4 tickets to a Toronto Blue Jays home game (Sept 15), 2 Adirondack chairs, \$50 Mad Mash Brewery & Restaurant Gift Card, \$250 value vodka & gin coolers, 30 Butcher Barn burgers, a cooler bag, and a cheese board! Must be 19+ to purchase raffle tickets. The winning ticket will be drawn on Aug 2 by the Embro & Zorra Agricultural Society. We would like to thank those who donated, supported, and the organizers who pulled this fundraiser together. Only hard-copy tickets are available, limited quantity. Please connect with a EZAS Director to purchase or email embroagsociety@gmail.com. Good luck to all raffle



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COMMUNITY CELEBRATION

IN THE PARK

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Saturday August 22, 2026

LIVE MUSIC BY:

OFF THE RECORD

12:00-2:00

South Lions Park

Thamesford

224 Seldon St.

11AM-2PM

Everyone welcome!

Gather your family and friends, and
don't forget to bring your lawn chairs!

Meet and Greet 11:00-11:30 AM

Ceremony starts at 11:30 AM

Entertainment/BBQ 12:00-2:00 PM

Event Highlights

- Recognition of Our 50+ Members
- Community Singing of "O Canada!"
 - (Led by Ashley Cliffe)
- Complimentary BBQ Lunch
- Henna Art
 - By: Mehndi_art
- Children's Lions Craft
 - By: Genuinely Gilleno
- Activities for families
- Splash Pad and Playground On-Site
- Shaded Seating Among the Trees

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FITNESS AT INGERSOLL 50+ CENTRE

250 Ingersoll St. S. ~ 519-485-3869 ~ info@ingersollseniors.com
Hours: Mon-Fri 8:30-4pm CLOSED: Aug 3, Sept 7.

FITNESS ROOM Open to all members & 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. \$1/use.

ESSENRICS with Lori Aug 19, 2pm. A fun, full body stretching & movement class that increases your range of motion & strengthens your muscles as it unlocks your body's potential for every stage of life. Fun, low impact class. Come and try a 30-minute demonstration. Please call & register.

ZUMBA GOLD with Kelly Aug 19, 11am. A modified, low-impact version of standard Zumba. Designed for active 50+ adults, beginners, or those recovering from injuries, it focuses on improving balance, range of motion, and posture while eliminating jumping or high-impact movements. Come and try a 30-minute demonstration. Please call & register.

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. A gentle yet vigorous workout that includes warmup, cardiovascular component, cool down and balance, resistance training, and wraps up with stretch and relaxation.

CHAIR YOGA *NOTE CHANGE IN TIME FOR MONTH OF AUGUST - Tues 10:15am, Thur 10:15am. 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 with osteoporosis. Also suitable for those with osteoarthritis. 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.

SCULPT & SWEAT Wed 9am. One hour total body workout. Total body workout experience that will burn calories, shape & tone your entire body. Increase core strength and bone health. Focus is given to functional movement and activities of daily living. Set to music to motivate – this class will get your heart pumping while engaging the major muscle groups of the body.

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 On break until fall.

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

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.

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



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THORNDALE LIONS ACTIVE LIVING CENTRE

Visit www.thamescentre.on.ca/seniorcentre, call 519-268-7334 ext. 730 or email dbarons@thamescentre.on.ca for more information about upcoming programs, events, and bus trips.

MON Chair yoga 9am, gentle yoga 10am, watercolour painting workshop 1-3pm, pickleball 1pm.

TUES pole walking 9am. Come in & cool off and enjoy an ice cream or ice tea or lemonade with munchies at 2pm.

WED strength & tone 8:45am, men/women's Coffee Hour 10am, pickleball 1pm.

THUR quilting 1pm, kurling & shuffleboard 1-3pm.

FRI word puzzles 10am, bocce ball, travelogue 2pm, pickleball 1pm, poker 1pm. All programs except pickleball are offered for members & non-members. If you are interested in playing pickleball during Active Living Centre times, please contact us to get a Senior Centre membership.

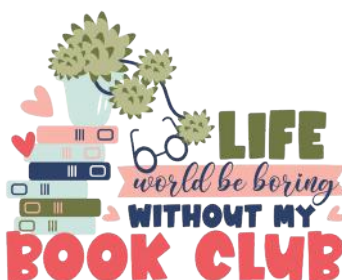
MOVIE AFTERNOON at Thorndale Lions Community Centre Aug 19, 2pm. Movie Overview: Fried Green Tomatoes is a 1991 American comedy-drama film directed by Jon Avnet and based on Fannie Flagg's 1987 novel. The film tells the story of a middle-aged housewife who, unhappy with her life, befriends an elderly lady in a nursing home and is enthralled by the tales she tells of people she used to know. Stars: Kathy Bates & Mary Stuart Masterson. Contact Dayna at dbarons@thamescentre.on.ca to register today.

SUMMER COWBOY BOOTS Are you the creative type? Sign up for "Summer Cowboy Boots" painting Wed, Aug 5, 12:30pm. Register at 519-268-7334 ext. 730, dbarons@thamescentre.on.ca.

THORNDALE BOOK CLUB will start up again in the fall.

THAMES CENTRE COMMUNITY CHOIR welcomes singers from teens to seniors to sing Tues 7pm at Thorndale Lions Community Centre. There are no auditions, just a love of singing in the community, contact Cathy 519-461-1679.

What programs would you like to have at the Thorndale Lions Community Centre? If you have any suggestions call Dayna 519-268-7334 ext. 730 or email dbarons@thamescentre.on.ca.



PROGRAMS AT INGERSOLL 50+ CENTRE

Hours: Mon to Fri 8:30am-4pm from now until Sept 8.

FOOD FUNDRAISER Every Mon, Tues & Thur during Aug, 11-1pm. \$2 for a pretzel with proceeds going to The Food Project and \$2 for a hot dog with proceeds to Ingersoll 50+ Activity Centre.

CHRISTMAS IN AUGUST Sat, Aug 22, 8-12pm. Accepting donations until Aug 7 and always looking for more volunteers. Come & 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 Thur, Aug 13, 9-6pm. "The Odd Couple".

KINGSTON Sept 22-24. Luxury motorcoach transportation, 2 nights accommodation, 1000 Islands Dinner Cruise, Kingston City Tour, Guided Tour of Kingston Penitentiary. Reserve your seat by Aug 6.

FISH FRY Fri, Aug 28, 5-8pm. Pickerel Battered & Fried by Mt. Elgin Firefighters, Fries by PB Fries with coleslaw & dessert. Cash bar. Everyone is welcome! Register by Aug 25, 519-485-3869.

AMERICAN MAH JONGG BEGINNER LESSONS This is a registered session as you must be committed to playing on all 4 Tuesdays.

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

OVERTONES CHOIR Come on out & sing with our social choir. The Overtones practice at the centre once a month and travel to local retirement homes once a week.

SING FOR JOY Taking a summer break and will return in the fall.

SKETCHY SENIORS Tues 1-3:30pm. A drop-in for creative minds. Bring your project & learn from others. Painting, sketching, storytelling, origami, there are no limits in this program.

WEDNESDAY BRUNCH Every Wednesday in Aug, 9-11:30am, \$10. Please register by 12pm the day before. Come and join us!

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. Membership and orientation are required prior to using any of the equipment. \$3/day.

STRAWBERRY SUPPER

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



ZION HILL 7TH LINE CEMETERY DECORATION

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



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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.

FREE GOODS TO TAKE HOME

Reuseapaloozaha means good goods do good. Embro on Sept 12 is the place to find sporting equipment, books, tools, gardening supplies, toys, clothing, bikes, kitchen wares... and a lot of fun. Take them freely. Similarly, in Swetaburg's ball park, on Sept 26, the event runs from 8am until noon. Looking to volunteer? We'd love it. www.reuseapaloozaha.ca. Good fun!



DIY HANDMADE HOLIDAY GIFT WORKSHOP

Nov, 7, 9am. A holiday favourite DIY Day for girlfriends, mothers & daughters, or anyone! Learn how to make something elegant, beautiful & festive for the upcoming holiday season at several of the craft stations and go home with a basket full of your own creations! Refreshments & homemade snacks included in the registration fee. This will take place at the Embro & Zorra Community Centre. Visit www.embrofair.com to register for just \$60!



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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. Hope to see you through the summer!



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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.

HALLOWEEN

Is it too soon to think about Oct 31? Not when you plan to salvage used clothing for a spooky display of scarecrows, guys & ghouls using things you can find cheaply at charity retail stores or free at reuseapalooza. Same sources for some good costumes. It's not too early in August either to think about what food you will put on your walkway, steps or porch. It does seem odd to stack food outdoors. Would you decorate with canned fish or dried herbs? Why then with so many squash & pumpkins unless you brilliantly plan to make them serve you for autumn & winter meals too. A porch pumpkin can become baking, soup, or sides. Time to check food in your freezer or cans that you need to eat your way through before the harvest overwhelms you in its bounty. Will the price of chocolate continue to rise and sugar with it? What could you give children at the door as an alternative? Maybe not a carved turnip, the origin of jack o'lanterns but it may be a small toy or something else edible? Bryan Smith has a gimmick that draws children & teens annually up a long hill to his house. Surely you can be more inventive!

EZAS - PIE CRUST AND FILLING WORKSHOP

Sat, Oct 3, 10am. Back by popular demand – but with more! Join us at the Embro Legion and learn how to make the best pie crust (from scratch) & a delicious pie filling. Just in time for your Thanksgiving celebration - you will be ready to impress your guests with your new pie-making skills. All materials are included & tickets are just \$10. Suitable for ages 14 yrs and older. Ages 10-14 yrs must be accompanied by an adult. Visit www.embrofair.com to register for just \$10!





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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.




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EZAS - CANNING PICKLED BEETS WORKSHOP

Aug 15, 10am. Learn how to perfect the art of canning pickled beets & preserve those yummy vegetables year after year! This class is perfect for beginners or those more experienced, and will take place at the Embrow & Zorra Community Centre. All materials are included. Visit www.embrofair.com to register for just \$10!





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**NEW PRICE
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Basement has room for future BR, 3 pc bath Rough-in, family room and storage & in-law suite potential

76 Sloan Dr., Thamesford



\$839,900

1+3 BR, 2.5 bath bungalow. 11ft foyer and living room. Heated in-ground pool.

SOLD

270 Boyd Blvd, Thamesford



\$864,900

4 BR, 3 bath 4 lvl side split. Updated quartz counters and back splash. Open concept kitchen with wrought iron look thru to lower family room with fireplace. 4th level finished- great for a gym or kids rec room.

143 George St, Thamesford



\$545,000

4+1 BR 1.5 storey home. 0.3 acre corner lot with double detached garage. Country eat-in kitchen, covered side porch. Front sitting room and living room with built-in china cupboard. Steel roof.

232 Brock St., Thamesford



NEW PRICE \$799,900

3+2 BR, 4 bath 1 1/2 storey home. Main flr primary bedroom with ensuite, hardwood floors T/O main flr plus crown moulding on top 2 flrs. Basement walk up, double garage with drive through backyard access.

195989 19th Line Zorra



NEW PRICE \$889,900

1768 sq ft bungalow, 3+2 BR, 2.5 bath on 1.5 acres with a heated in-ground pool. Main flr spacious updated kitchen, lg living room with built-ins, main floor laundry plus 2 pc bath with mudroom access to the pool area. Gas bbq hook up, steel gazebo, pergola. Bsmnt fully finished with family rm, 2 BRs, 4 pc bath & eat-in kitchen.

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COME HELP US AT THE EMBRO FALL FAIR!

It takes lots of hands to set up, run, and clean up the Fall Fair. We would love to have you join us & lend a hand! Reach out to Rebecca 519-239-3080 to sign up or learn more. A great way to earn those high-school volunteer hours, or be a part of your community and meet new people too!

Indoor set up – Thur, Sept 17, 4-8pm

Decorating – Fri, Sept 18, 10-12pm

Outdoor Set up – Sat, Sept 19, 9-1pm

Fair Activities – Sun, Sept 20, 10-4pm

Clean up – Mon, Sept 21, 9-12pm.



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HARRINGTON BRIDGE DAY

A walk around the Harrington Pond can be a wonderful experience combining nature, heritage, community with gentle exercise. However, over the past several years, being unable to cross the creek feeding into the pond, one has had to follow a partial horse-shoe pattern that is awkward & detracts from the total experience. No longer. We can walk in circles again! Join us Sat, Aug 8, 10-2pm, for Harrington Bridge Day to celebrate the completion of the bridge across the creek that completes the trail around the Harrington Pond. Harrington & Area Community Association (HACA) has worked in partnership with the Upper Thames River Conservation Authority to build this bridge & wants to invite people from all walks (pun intended) to join in gentle festivities for its official opening. Ceremonies will unfold on the bridge at 11am including live music featuring Harrington's own special musical personalities. Also, playing a significant role will be our future community leaders – that is, children, both local and Coyote Nature School participants who have been learning much about the conservation area. Tours of the historic Harrington Grist Mill will be provided at 10am and 12:30pm. Outside the mill, local collector John Hiuser will display "carved cork" bridges. The Harrington Library (branch of Oxford County Library), located just a few dozen metres east of the bridge, will host a free juggling & magic show with Doug the Great at 1pm. Our local floral farm, The Garden in Harrington, will have a booth. Food and refreshments will be available. And, of course, you will be welcome to walk the trail. Contact: Michael Kukhta, michael.kukhta@gmail.com or 905-599-2151.

Harrington Bridge Day

Celebrate the Official Opening of the New Bridge to complete the trail around the Mill Pond at the Harrington Conservation Area.
Organized by the Harrington and Area Community Association



Image generated iteratively with AI and Michael Kukhta

Saturday, August 8, 2026
10 am-2 pm

Itinerary:

10:00 start
- Grist Mill tour

11:00 Ceremony at the Bridge (south end of Mill Pond)
- Music
- Brief Remarks
- Ribbon cutting
- Float your Boat to the Bridge (watch from the water)

12:30 Grist Mill tour
1:00 Magic Show at the Library/Hall
2:00 end

During the event:
- Food Truck/BBQ at the Mill
- Carved Historical Bridges Display
- Garden at Harrington (Flowers)

EZAS - ENTER YOUR CREATIONS

...at the Embro Fall Fair! Do you or your kids have something you made that you are super proud of? We want to see it! Share your skills with the community, and come celebrate the amazing talents of Embro and Zorra. Visit www.embrofair.com to check out the fair-book for all of the classes for both adults and children.

TRACTOR SKILL GAMES EVENT

We welcome you to join us Sat, Sept 5 (Labour Day Sat) to the Tractor Skill Games event - this is our 5th annual event & each year proceeds go toward Children's Health Foundation, to purchase specific hospital equipment needed desperately by paediatric patients in the London Children's Hospital. This is a family friendly event -- with many children's activities in the Kids' Zone: face-painting, pony rides by Transitions Equine, inflatable bouncy house, inflatable 40-foot obstacle course, wheelbarrow races, sand mountain, corn kernel pit, colouring station lawn games (Plinko, Connect 4, Jenga, etc.), Can Jam, Dunk Tank, and more! Several agricultural & community vendors on site - check out their booths! What is there to eat? Many food vendors on site including JTK Meat Shoppe, Stubbe's Ice Cream Sundaes and Luxury Coffee, Josien's Fine Food & Charcuterie, Oma's Country Oven, and Tilly's Carnival Favourites (cotton candy, popcorn, lemonade, and snow cones). Live Auction with Auctioneer Jared Pettman will take place around lunch time with many great prizes including power tools, kids' farm toys, spa passes & more! A Children's Health Foundation Ambassador Family will speak on their experience and how Children's Hospital changed their life. What happens at this event? We provide 10 tractors (from local farm dealers) in a safely controlled space, 10 competitors compete against each. The games are fun but require some skill - ie. backing up a wagon with a pin on it to pop as many balloons as possible; or lifting up a giant basketball with the tractor bucket & passing it through a giant hoop, etc. All in fun & anyone can participate! Competitors will be judged & awarded points, and compete for the top 3! Top three winners receive a custom welded trophy (and of course bragging rights). Cost to participate is \$30 via e-transfer to tractorskillgames@hotmail.com. Sat, Sept 5. Gates open 10:30am, games 11am-6pm. Admission adults \$15, children 5-12 \$5, and under age 5 is FREE. Cash only, no ATM on site. Our Board of Directors chose to donate towards the Children's Health Foundation, because every child deserves to grow up healthy, strong & happy. Over the past 4 events, we have raised a total of \$69,500. Follow us on Facebook, Instagram, TikTok and watch www.tractorskillgames.ca for updates! Listen for us on our campaign between Aug 17-Sept 4 on Country 104 Radio! We hope to see you out!

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Email: shane@greatfloors.ca

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

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

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

FROSTY MEALS \$7.50/ entrée \$2.75/ soup or dessert. Free delivery available. These meals meet Canada's Food Guide recommendations and use only the best ingredients.

GROCERY BUDDY Our friendly volunteers will pick up groceries for you! 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 if interested.

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

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

MEALS ON WHEELS \$7/day, are served at lunchtime Mon-Fri.

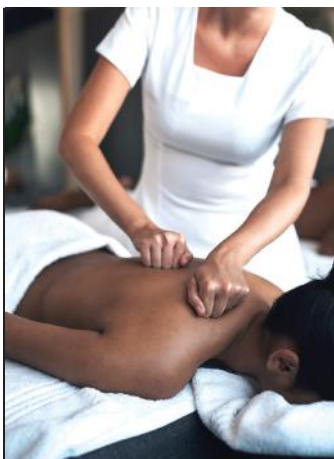
TELEPHONE REASSURANCE Security checks can make all the difference to an individual alone at home. Call if you or a loved one would like to talk with a friendly volunteer once a day or weekly.

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

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

EZAS - EMBRO FAIR BABY SHOW

It's that time of year again! The Embro Fair is looking for babies born between March 19, 2025-September 19, 2026 to enter in the Embro Fair Baby Show Sun, Sept 20, 11:30am at the Embro Community Centre. There will be prizes! To enter your baby please text Denise Lupton 226-973-4262 or dluyen93@gmail.com.



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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:

Thur, Aug 13, 9:30am Township Office *special day, one meeting

Wed, Sept 16, 9:30am 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 @zorratownship5193. 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 & school board elections are October 26, 2026. If you are a resident, owner, or tenant of property in Zorra, a Canadian citizen, and 18 years of age, you can vote! Zorra Township residents can find out whether they're 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.

Battery Recycling

For safety reasons, we are no longer collecting household batteries at our facilities. There are many options for safe disposal of your batteries, including the Waste Management Facility in Salford and the City of Woodstock EnviroDepot. Visit Recycleyourbatteries.ca to find more drop-off locations.

Building Department

Please be advised that every pool including inground, onground & above ground pools require a building Permit. If you have recently installed a pool without a permit, it is not too late to apply at cloudpermit.com. Failure to obtain a permit may result in fines, water drained from pool & or an Order to Comply.

Recreation Department

Children ages 4-11 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 8:30-4:30pm. 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 August 18 & 19, register on pickuphub.net, we hope to see you there!

Tax Department

2026 Final Property Tax bills were mailed out & e-bill notifications have been sent. 2026 Final Bill instalment dates are Aug 31 & Oct 30. For tax inquiries contact Melissa De Luca 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-pm (excluding statutory holidays)

Worship With Us

St. John's Anglican Church

519-285-3218, 220 Dundas St, Father Quenton: 226-237-4298
SUN Service 10am

Westminster United Church 519-285-3212

115 George St, Rev. Mark Marshall makingconnexions.com

Truth Community Church 519-285-2112

154978 15th Line, Thamesford, truthcommunitychurch.ca
Pastor Steve Twinem, tccthamesford@gmail.com

Chalmers United Church Kintore, kintorechurch.com

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

SUN Services 10:30am.

Closed Aug 2. Services resume Aug 9.

Kintore Knitting & More Mon 9:30-11am. Back Aug 9.

Sept 2 deadline to get your tickets for Strawberry Supper on Sept 16. Call Judy 519-283-6355 or Louise 519-461-1795.

East Nissouri Union Church 519-709-0282

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

First Baptist Church Rev Trevor Whittingham

235 Thames St S, Ingersoll, fbcingersoll.com, 519-485-3046

SUN 10:30am Worship Service

Aug 15 VBS - One Day with Zacchaeus, \$10, 9-3pm

Sept 5 Men's Breakfast 8am

Crossroads Bible Church 519-900-6281

184 Oxford St Ingersoll, crossroadsingersoll.ca

FB: crossroadsingersoll & IG: ingersollcrossroadchurch

Services at 8:45am & 11:15am

Banner United Church www.bannerunitedchurch.com

602800 Road 60 at Line 15, Zorra Twp.

Hi-Way Pentecostal Church 519-485-0961

584118 Beachville Rd, Ingersoll hiwaypentecostal.ca

SUN 10am Livestream www.facebook.com/hiwayingersoll

Reynolds Creek United Church 519-425-1174

7180 Hamilton Rd, Putnam

SUN 10am service avonputnampc.uc@execulink.com

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

Free Reformed Church of Oxford County

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

Southwest Oxford United Churches

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

vanpatter007@gmail.com

West Oxford 354395 Church Line 9:30am

Foldens 374097 Folden's Line 9:30am

Sweaburg 474425 Dodge Line 11am

The Ark New Beginnings Assembly

Salford Commty Center, 383908 Salford Rd, TheArknba.com

SUN 10:30am

Huron Park Baptist Church 199 Berwick St, Wdstck

519-421-4722, office@huronparkchurch.org

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

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

JOURNEY
OF
Faith

AUGUST

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
		JULY 28 • Sketchy Seniors, Ingersoll 50+	29 • Air Cadets, Dorchester • Meditation, Ingersoll • Summer Darts, Beachville Legion	30 • Holy Diner BBQ, Dorchester 5-7pm • Gentle Yoga, Ingersoll 50+	31 • Osteofit, Ing 50+ • Bocce Ball, Thorndale Seniors	1 • Bluegrass Music, Beachville Legion
2	3 	4 • Euchre, Sacred Heart 1pm • Stroke Recovery, Ing 50+	5 • Meditation, Ingersoll • Chair Yoga, Beachville Legion • Chair Fitness, Ingersoll 50+	6 • Holy Diner BBQ, Dorchester 5-7pm • Coffee & Connect, Brownsville Library	7 • Fridge Door Live Theatre • Charity Bingo, Beachville Legion	8 • Fridge Door Live Theatre • Harrington Bridge Day, 10-2pm
9 • Decoration Day -Townline Cemetery -Grove Cemetery	10 • Pickleball, Ing 50+ • Watercolour wkshp, Thorndale Seniors	11 • Chair Yoga, Ing 50+ • Al-Anon, Ingersoll	12 • Sculpt & Sweat, Ingersoll 50+ • Coffee Hour, Thorndale Seniors	13 • Holy Diner BBQ, Dorchester 5-7pm • Euchre, Beachville Legion • Zorra Council	14 • Strength & Stretch, Ingersoll 50+ • Poker, Thorndale Seniors	15 • Pig Roast, Brownsville • Pickled Beet Workshop, Embro • Janis' Retirement
16	17 • Total Body Workout, Ingersoll 50+	18 • Euchre, Sacred Heart 1pm • Pole Walking, Thorndale Seniors • Park Yoga, Thmsfd	19 • Air Cadets, Dorchester • Essentrics, Ing 50+ • Zumba Gold, Ing 50+ • Movie aftn., Thorndale Seniors • Park Yoga, Thmsfd	20 • Holy Diner BBQ, Dorchester 5-7pm • Line Dancing, Beachville Legion	21 • Chair Yoga, Ing 50+ • Woodstock Fair VILLAGE VOICE DEADLINE	22 • Lions 65th Celebration in South Park, 11-2pm • Car Show, Ingersoll • Christmas in Aug, Ingersoll 50+, 8-2pm
23 30 • Car Show, Mt Elgin	24 • VON Exercise, Ingersoll 50+ 31	25 • Al-Anon, Ingersoll	26 • Meditation, Ingersoll • Walking Club, Ingersoll 50+	27 • Holy Diner BBQ, Dorchester 5-7pm • Park Picnic, St Marys	28 • Fish Fry, Ing 50+ • Roast Pork dinner, Beachville Legion	29 • Family Fun Day, Brownsville 10-2pm • Karaoke, Beachville Legion

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