



THE PETROLIA CONNECTION

Read The Petrolia Connection online at www.town.petrolia.on.ca

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JUNE 2009

Happy
Father's
Day!

June 21



Heritage Award presented to Charlotte's Task Force



The preserved heritage of Charlotte Eleanor Englehart Hospital and its continued service to the community is something Petrolia can be proud of. CEE Hospital continues to thrive thanks to the efforts of the dedicated members of Charlotte's Task Force, who recently received a well-deserved acknowledgement from the Petrolia Heritage Committee. Committee Chair Martin Dillon presented the task force with a certificate, noting the group has worked hard to preserve the hospital's

legacy. He noted that CEE Hospital will celebrate its 100th anniversary in 2011 and that ideas for a suitable celebration are being sought.

On hand for the presentation of the heritage certificate were, from the left: Task Force members Carol Boyd; Mary Pat Gleeson; Roseanne Orcutt; Petrolia Heritage Committee Chair Martin Dillon; Task Force members Norm Sutherland and Leo Dupuis.

Photo by Bonnie Stevenson

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TO CONTACT US

Schools, service clubs or organizations wishing to publicize a non-profit event can do so free of charge by e-mailing:

connection@town.petrolia.on.ca

or by dropping off information at the Town of Petrolia office at Victoria Hall on Greenfield Street.

**The deadline for submissions
is the fourth Monday of each month.**



COUNCIL NOTES

Concerns over cemetery upkeep raised

A delegation from the Hillsdale Cemetery Advocacy Group came before council to express concerns about the cemetery. Spokesperson Kim Bridekirk said the group is concerned with the maintenance of the site and also about the drilling of holes in the monuments to accommodate the Veteran Leaf markers. Further, the group would like council to consider amending the cemetery by-law that allows plastic solar lights.

Ms. Bridekirk said a petition is being circulated in support of group's concerns.

In response, Mayor McCharles said that a student had been hired to augment the upkeep of the cemetery and that any changes to the by-laws must be discussed first.

Truck traffic decreasing

Mrs. Jackie Spearman addressed council recently, noting she had noticed a decline in the amount of heavy truck traffic traveling along Petrolia's main street. Mrs. Spearman and many other Petrolia residents have been alarmed by high number of trucks using the street instead of bypassing the town, posing a safety threat and raising environmental impact concerns. A petition has been circulating regarding this issue.

Mayor McCharles said a letter had been sent to Suncor regarding the trucks' usage of the main street and the Ministry of Transport intended to do spot checks to ensure the trucks were not avoiding the weigh scales.

June is Seniors Month at the Petrolia library

The Petrolia library offers a number of programs for seniors this month. There will be library tours with service for seniors highlighted, plus a free book bag, plus call-ahead service, renewals by phone, and large print material.

Beginners computer lessons will be available on Mondays, 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., June 8,

15, 22 and 29. Seniors' Internet lessons will also be offered on Mondays from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. On Friday, June 19 from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. a seniors' nutrition seminar with Connie Mallette of the Lambton County Community Services will be offered.

And on Tuesday, June 30 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., Laurie McBeth

from the Lambton Room will have photos from Petrolia and Lambton County on display. Come in and see if you can identify the people and places in the photos. Refreshments will be available all afternoon.

COUNCIL MEETINGS

Regular monthly meetings of the Town of Petrolia council are held on the second Monday at 7 p.m. and on the fourth Monday at 4 p.m. Anyone wishing to address council should call the town office at 519-882-2350 to be put on the agenda.

Attention new dog owners

Unlicensed dogs are subject to a fine of \$350 plus victim surcharge of \$75 for a total of \$425. Call the Town of Petrolia office at 519-882-2350 for more information.

The Petrolia Connection is edited by Bonnie Stevenson and published monthly by the Town of Petrolia as a public service to town residents.



CANADA DAY SCHEDULE



Canada Day festivities will take place June 27 through July 1 at various locations throughout Petrolia.

Saturday, June 27: Petrolia's Red and White Car and Motorcycle Poker Run (free), 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Petrolia Lions Hall. Visit local heritage sites, then enjoy the Lions food booth and beer gardens. Trophies will be awarded at 5:30 p.m. Registration form available at www.town.petrolia.on.ca or from 10:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. the day of the event.

June 27 to 30: Canada Day sales throughout downtown Petrolia.

Wednesday, July 1

8 a.m. to 10 a.m. - fishing derby at

Bridgeview Park (free); 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. - Lions Club Car Show at the Lions Hall; 11 a.m. - flag-raising ceremony at the Royal Canadian Legion Petrolia branch hall; 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. - homemade Canadian kite contest at Bridgeview ball diamond (free); 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. - Canada Clay Critters Contest at OHDCC (free); 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. - pool party at the OHDCC, sponsored by the Town of Petrolia; 5:30 p.m. to 11 p.m. - Party In The Park; 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. - free serving of the 4' x 8' Canada Cake, free concert by *Hello Bella* (bring lawn chairs), free flags for the children, inflatables, and face painting;

and at 10 p.m. - fireworks!

COUNCIL COMMENT

Summer time for fun events and property care

Councillor Helen Havlik is the author of this month's Council Comment. Read the Petrolia Connection each month for insights directly from the council chambers.

June is Seniors' Month and has been so declared in Petrolia. One of the events for seniors this month is the Lambton Seniors Picnic, slated for the Greenwood Park Lions Hall on Wednesday, June 17 from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. This event has been held at the hall for about 10 years. Every year, the Lions Club has provided hamburgers and hot dogs with all the fixins', and there is also entertainment. The cost per senior is \$3. A good time is had by all! Seniors can also enjoy lunch every Thursday at the Oil Heritage District Community Centre *Boomers Club* for \$4, which includes games, a guest speaker and music. Be sure to come out and enjoy this weekly treat.

Petrolia residents can expect to see roads paved, roofs redone, as well as the usual sprucing up of parks and flower beds in bloom thanks to the volunteers of *Petrolia's In Bloom*. We are trying very hard to keep the cemetery looking neat and tidy, but continuous rain in April and the beginning of May hampered the grass cutting. We do respect every grave site but it is difficult to satisfy everyone's particular needs and still maintain around each marker.

It seems there is less truck traffic going through town. Asking corporations to make their trucks take a different route seems to have made a difference. Thank you to those companies that are being considerate.

Petrolia is noted for the pride its citizens take in their property, so it is a shame when a few either non-owners or out-of-town owners do not take the same pride and have to be reminded by the by-law officer. The weeds and grass need cutting, particular on vacant lots. Don't wait to be reminded. This could result in the town doing the work and billing the property owner for it. And be sure to recycle - it's easy to do at the town's waste management site. Other unwanted household items can also be disposed of during the two designated days in the spring and fall.

We look forward to public input about the town's strategic plan. There will be a public meeting on this subject on June 8 at 4 p.m. at the town hall. Be sure to let Petrolia's councillors and staff know your ideas and concerns.

Enjoy the wonderful summer weather and upcoming summer events, including professional summer theatre right here at the Victoria Playhouse Petrolia.

**Celebrate
Summer!
Enjoy the
HARD
OIL
FESTIVAL**
July 9 - 12

Schedule of Activities

Thursday, July 9: sidewalk sales throughout downtown; Wolf Creek Carvings, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the Coffee Lodge parking lot.

Friday, July 10: sidewalk sales continue; Wolf Creek Carvings continue; Art in the Park, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Happy Johnston; Adam the Clown; Sunshine the Clown; Petrolia Idol Contest.

Saturday, July 11: sidewalk sales continue; Art in the Park, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Parade of Beds and Bed Races; street performers; and at the Greenwood Rec-

reation Centre, see *Endless Summer*, the Beach Boys tribute concert and dance, \$12 in advance or \$15 at the door.

Sunday, July 12: 1st Annual Hard Oil Road Race (see page 4); 2nd Annual Mountain Bike Races, 10 a.m. at Bridgeview Park north; *PLUS* the Old Town Picnic, 1 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., featuring the Optimist Rubber Duck Race, clowns, inflatables, food booths, face painting, and a free concert featuring *Borderline* with special guest *G-Tek* - Corey and Ben Setek.

Bring the whole family!

COMING EVENTS

Saturdays until Sept. 5 - Farmer's Market, Greenwood Recreation Centre

June

1-6 - Victoria Hall Arts "Near and Far" photography show continues.

4, 11, 18, 25 - Lions/Optimist meat raffle, Pumphouse Sports Bar.

6 - Petrolia "Check Out Your Trails Day," Petrolia trails.

9 - 27 - Victoria Hall Arts "A Second Look."

12-15 - Lambton Central Rodeo, Greenwood Park. For more information, go online to www.lambtoncentralrodeo.com.

13 - Optimist/Fair Board BX93 dance, Greenwood Recreation Centre.

16 - Lions meat bingo, Lions Hall.

17 - Lambton Seniors Picnic, Lions Hall, 10:30 am-2:30 pm

19 - P & D Skating Club Golf Classic, Heritage Heights Golf and Curling Club.

21 - Lions Father's Day Breakfast, Lions Hall.

21 - Petrolia Discovery 24th Annual Car show, Petrolia Discovery.

21 - St. Philip's C.W.L. Strawberry Social, St. Philip's Parish Hall.

26 - Petrolia Town Golf Tournament, Heritage Heights Golf and Curling Club.

27 - 30 - Canada Day Celebrations begin, Bridgeview Park/town.

30 - Victoria Hall Arts Open Show.

July

9 - 12 - Hard Oil Festival, all through Petrolia.

OIL HERITAGE DISTRICT COMMUNITY CENTRE BULLETIN BOARD

Boomers Plus activities

The *Boomers+* group meets every Thursday for music, games, fitness, a light lunch and a guest speaker, all for just \$4. Call the OHDCC at 519-882-2232 for details or just drop in. The June schedule is as follows:

June 11 - The guest speaker will be master gardener Mary Moulden.

June 18 - The guest speakers will be Helen Havlik and Arlene Patterson of the Sarnia Lambton Health Coalition.

***June 25 - It's party time!** Good food, good friends and great music will be found in the OHDCC gymnasium.

***For this event, please call the OHDCC by June 22 to confirm your attendance.**

National Lifeguard Service**Courses offered**

Get a summer job as a lifeguard! Take the National Lifeguard Service course the weekend of June 26. The course is \$165. Call the OHDCC for more information.

Junior Lifeguard Club

Youngsters who aspire to become a lifeguard can find out what it's like by attending the Junior Lifeguard Club on Mondays from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. The cost is \$55.

Teen Swim Basics & Strokes

Teens who want to learn to swim with their peers can attend this course on Wednesdays from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. The cost is \$50.

Youth camp offered

From June 29 to August 28, the OHDCC will offer summer youth camp. Don't let your kids miss one minute of fun! Contact the centre for the schedule and prices.

Hours of operation

The OHDCC will be operating on summer hours. For more information about hours of operation or the great programs and activities offered at your OHDCC, call 519-882-2232.

**INAUGURAL
PETROLIA
HARD OIL
ROAD RACE
SET FOR
SUNDAY,
JULY 12**

Be part of history! Plan to participate in the inaugural Petrolia Hard Oil Road Race on Sunday, July 12. Adults can do a 5 km, 10 km, Walk or Fun Walk, and children seven and under can do the L'il Oil Slick, a 40-yard dash.

The event starts and finishes in Victoria Park and there will be prizes for the top finishers, plus refreshments and awards. Registration is \$30 for the 5 km and Fun Walk (\$35 after June 12; \$45 for the 10 km (\$50 after

June 12;) and a donation of food for the Petrolia food bank for children participating in the L'il Oil Slick. Register at the Oil Heritage District Community Centre (OHDCC) or at the centre's Website. Race kits can be picked up at the OHDCC on Saturday, June 11 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. T-shirts will be available for all 5 km and 10 km entrants if registered by June 26. Limited L'il Oil Slick t-shirts are available.

Victoria Playhouse Petrolia will rock your summer!

The Victoria Playhouse Petrolia is a busy place these days as the 2009 summer professional theatre season graces the stage with first-class entertainment.

The first production of the season was **Mending Fences** by Norm Foster, but the season's just getting underway. Upcoming productions include: **Sexy Laundry** by Michele Riml, June 9 through 27; **I'll Be Back Before Midnight** by Peter Colley, June 30 through July 18; **Harvest** by Ken Cameron, July 21 through August 8; the world premiere of **Clooney Tunes** by Dean Regan, August 11 through 29; and the season topper, **Hank Williams "Live" 1952** presented by singer/actor Joe Matheson, September 1 through 5.

And several shows will keep the VPP stage rockin' this fall, beginning with **Hotel California**, a band acknowledged as North America's finest *Eagles* tribute band, on Friday, Sept. 25 and Saturday, Sept. 26. Every concert presents an exciting showcase of The Eagles' mega-hits like "Take It Easy" and "Heartache Tonight," plus new releases,

including solo works by band members Don Henley, Glen Frey, and Joe Walsh.

On Friday, Oct. 23 and Saturday, Oct. 24, don't miss **The Wilkinsons**. This award-winning country music family from Belleville, Ontario rocked the country music scene in 2000 by winning four Canadian Country Music Association awards. Since then, this talented group has continued to please audiences wherever they perform.

And on Friday, Nov. 20 and Saturday, Nov. 21, **The Day The Music Died** will take to the VPP stage to pay tribute to Buddy Holly, the Big Bopper (J.P. Richardson,) and Richie Valens.

Tickets are now on sale at the VPP box office at 411 Greenfield Street in Petrolia. For tickets or more information, visit the box office during regular office hours or call 519-882-1221. You can also go online to www.victoriaplayhousepetrolia.com or e-mail info@victoriaplayhousepetrolia.com.



The Town of Petrolia invites you to
CELEBRATE SUMMER
in the "Greatest Town on Earth"!

Canada Day Festivities

June 27 - July 1

SATURDAY, JUNE 27

Petrolia's Red & White Car and Motorcycle Poker Run (Free)
11am - 4:30pm Petrolia Lions Hall

Visit key locations as part of Local Canadian Heritage.
Upon return, enjoy the Lions Food Booth and Beer Gardens.
Trophies awarded at 5:30pm.

Registration form available on the Town of Petrolia website at
www.town.petrolia.on.ca or from 10:30am - 11am the day of the event.

JUNE 27 - 30

Canada Day Sales Throughout Downtown
Shop Downtown Petrolia and \$ave!

WEDNESDAY, JULY 1

8 - 10am	Fishing Derby - Bridgeview Park (Free)
9am - 4pm	Lions Club Car Show - Lions Hall
11am	Flag Raising Ceremony - Petrolia Legion
1 - 3pm	Homemade Canadian Kite Contest - Bridgeview Ball Diamond (Free)
1 - 4pm	Canada Clay Critters Contest - OHDCC (Free)
1-5pm	Pool Party - Community Centre (Sponsored by The Town of Petrolia)
5:30 - 11pm	Party In The Park
6 - 7:30pm	Free Serving of our 4' x 8' Canada Cake
7 - 11pm	Free Concert "Hello Bella" (Bring your lawnchairs) Free Flags For The Kids Inflatables, Face Painting
10pm	Fireworks

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, CANADA!

The Town of Petrolia invites you to
CELEBRATE SUMMER
in the "Greatest Town on Earth"!



Hard Oil Festival

July 9, 10, 11, 12

Thursday, July 9

Sidewalk Sales throughout downtown
Wolf Creek Carvings **NEW!** 9am - 4:30 pm
(Coffee Lodge Parking Lot)

*Chainsaw
Carver*

Friday, July 10

Sidewalk Sales
Wolf Creek Carvings 9am - 4:30pm (Coffee Lodge Parking Lot)
Art in the Park in Victoria Park 10am to 8pm
Happy Johnston
Adam the Magician
Sunshine the Clown

*Petrolia
Idol Contest*

Saturday, July 11

Sidewalk Sales continue
Art in the Park 10am to 8pm
Parade of Beds and Bed Races
Street Performers
"Endless Summer" Beach Boys Tribute Concert & Dance
at Arena \$12 Advance, \$15 at the Door

Sunday, July 12

1st Annual Hard Oil Road Race
10km starts at 8:30am, 5km starts at 8:45am (Victoria Park)
L'il Oil Slick Kids' Race 10am (Victoria Park)
2nd Annual Mountain Bike Races 10am (Bridgeview North)

Generously
Sponsored in part by



The OLD TOWN PICNIC - Sunday, July 12

Optimist Rubber Duck Race

Clowns

Inflatables

Food Booths

Face Painting

Art Vendors

FREE Concert "Borderline" with Special Guest "G-Tek" - Corey and Ben Setek

1pm - 5:30pm

VPP Hard Oil Variety Show - 7pm