

38YEARS JC Graphics has been serving the community

ARE YOU ON THE VOTERS LIST?

A municipal election is coming Oct 22, 2018. Check to see if you are on the voters' list by checking voterlookup.ca, operated by the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC). If assistance is required, contact MPAC 866-296-6722. Checking that you are on the list ensures your ability to exercise your rights in a democratic process.

THAMESFORD GUIDING

We are excited for the spring weather so we can begin taking some of our activities outdoors. March saw the Guides & Pathfinders learning self-defence at Stonetown Karate in St. Mary's and learning about selflove & confidence in a special "Bring-It" workshop with Guest Speaker Carolyn Martyn. The Brownies & Sparks prepared for spring by planting seeds & watching roots grow from stems & other plant parts. Of course, everyone also loved making special Easter crafts.

The Guides then turned their attention to earning their Chemistry badge while making slime, learning about chromatography, experimenting with invisible ink & everyone watched in awe the geyser on the front lawn when the Mentos hit the coke bottle.

The Pathfinders learned about skin care & cosmetics how to properly apply make-up in during a special workshop designed just for them.

April will bring about some Earth Day activities & service projects as well as a sleepover at the Canadian Warplane Heritage Museum where the Guides will learn about flight and WWII fighters & earn their Aeronautics badge.

Girl Guide **cookies have arrived** – the classic chocolate & vanilla ones! You can get yours from your favourite Spark, Brownie, Guide or Pathfinder, or call or text Heather 226-373-1527 to arrange delivery.

We need new leaders for the fall!

Please contact Heather if you are interested in getting involved with a fabulous group of girls.

Thamesford Lawn Bowling Club

TLB is providing a summer league for children & youth with special needs. We need dedicated volunteers who are willing to work both one on one & in groups helping children participate.

Our goals are for the youth to learn new skills, develop friendships & have fun.

Our league will play Wed evening June 13 - Aug 8, 6:30-8:30pm, at the Thamesford Lawn Bowling Club, 225 Dundas St.

Volunteers do not need to commit to assisting every Wednesday evening during the summer.

Contact Cindy, cindymale@rogers.com.

THAMESFORD AREA SWIMMING POOL

We're getting ready for another season at Thamesford Area Swimming Pool! Registration for lessons begins June 1, so be sure to get all the details in your spring edition of the Zorra Now magazine! Did you know we have lessons in the evenings now?

Make sure you're giving your children all the skills they need when in the water - knowing how to swim saves lives! Consider private lessons if you need special one-on-one attention.

We are also always looking for those who are interested in developing their lifesaving skills by joining us for the advance Bronze courses - successful applicants could find themselves working at TASP in the future!

THAMESFORD MEDITATION GROUP meets 1st & 3rd Wed

The Thamesford Meditation Group meets every 1st & 3rd Wed at the Thamesford Public Library, Lion's Den Room 7-8pm (Apr 4 & 18). No experience necessary, no sign up required. Each session costs \$5. Contact stephaniemalo@hotmail.com for more details. Find us on Facebook @Thamesford Meditation Group for the most up to date info.

SPECIAL NEEDS YOUTH LAWN BOWLING

The **Thamesford Lawn Bowling Club** is providing a league for youth ages 7-21 with special needs. Siblings & friends are welcome! We meet each Wed, June 13 - Aug 8, 6:30-8pm. Cost \$50. Registration: Sat, May 12, 10am-12 noon at Thamesford Lawn Bowling Club, 225 Dundas St. Questions? email cindymale@rogers.com.

ZORRA SUMMER DAY CAMP July -Aug 31

The wonderfully successful Zorra Summer Day Camp is back! If you missed your chance to be a part of some great programming for youth in Zorra this summer, be sure to sign up this year!

Located in Thamesford and now open to kids 4-10 years old.

Campers will experience many games, activities & crafts each day.

Available camp weeks are:

July 2-6.....Passport to Summer

July 9-13.....Game On!

July 16-20.....Super Powers, Super You! FULL!

July 23-27.....Create It!

July 30-Aug 5.....Ship to Shore

Aug 7-10.....Camp Wild!

Aug 13-17.....Camp Survivor!

Aug 20-24.....Experiment Extravaganza

Aug 27-31.....Spectacular Summer Send Off!

Before & after care is also available. Consider adding on swimming lessons to the end of your campers day too! Registration has begun. We can't wait to see you at Zorra Summer Day Camp!

Check us out on www.zorra.on.ca for more information!

BEACHVILLE MUSEUM NEW CURATOR

The Board of Directors at Beachville District Museum welcomes **Dr. Stephanie Radu** to the position of full-time curator. Stephanie received her B.A.H. from the University of Guelph & holds a Ph.D. in Art & Visual Culture from the UWO. She is an art historian & focuses her research on house museums. Stephanie serves on the Advisory Board at Banting House NHSC & is affiliated with Museum London. In her new role, she is enthusiastic about sprucing up the museum's displays & making its collection more accessible. Stephanie says, "The Museum has the potential to grow as a site for local gatherings, community storytelling & education." Keep informed about events & activities, through Facebook or on Twitter (@BeachvilleDM). Better yet, plan a trip to the museum & introduce yourself to the new curator. She can't wait to meet the community and hear more about the history of the region.

LEARN TO PLAY THE BAG PIPES!

The Ingersoll Pipe Band invites you to contact them if you are interested in learning how to play the bagpipes or the drums. The pipe band draws members from across Oxford, Elgin, Norfolk & Middlesex Counties. Free instruction is given for either instrument on Thursday nights at the Pipe Band Hall in Ingersoll. Youth ages 10 & up, teens & adults are welcome to contact the band about becoming a learner. Call 519485-0760 for information about lessons & initial costs of equipment.

SECORD TRAILS CARE COMMUNITY

We are always looking for volunteers to help with recreation, clerical, assisting in the dining room & one on one visits with the residents. If you would be interested in volunteering, contact Jeff 519-4853920 and we can discuss the many benefits of volunteering.

ATTENTION LADIES

Embroidery woman's team is looking for soccer players, specifically a goalie. Some soccer experience is a benefit. For information email susannahwopereis@gmail.com or big_sis34@hotmail.com.

WILDWOOD DRAGON BOAT – this summer

The Thames River Paddling Club is recruiting new members. The club runs outrigger canoeing & dragon boat programs for ages 11+. Dragon boat programs include: Youth Recreational May 7-June 9, Youth Competitive Full Season, Adult Intro May 9-June 9, Adult Recreational Full Season. All equipment is provided. Registrations start at \$85. Visit thamesriverpaddlingclub.com or 519-301-2540.

SHAPING THE RURAL OXFORD ECONOMY

This month we're kicking off a program which will give businesses in Rural Oxford the opportunity to give information & feedback into the economic issues in their township. This program is called a Business Retention & Expansion study. Business Retention + Expansion (BR+E) is a structured action-oriented & community-based approach to business & economic development. It promotes job growth by helping communities learn about issues as well as opportunities for local businesses & sets priorities for projects to address these needs. You may recall that in 2011, the townships partnered on a similar project that has produced numerous programs & activities to address the needs that were identified at that time. We are excited to introduce Zorra Township resident, Nancy Orr as the Project Coordinator for the 2018 Business Retention & Expansion (BR+E) study. Nancy will be a tremendous asset to us as we connect with business to determine how we can continue to build strong, vibrant, caring communities where people & business can prosper. Nancy is committed to contributing to our community & supporting the vibrancy of the business sector. She has participated on many boards and committees, & is an active community volunteer. The 2018 BR+E study will focus on the 4 key industry sectors of Rural Oxford including Agriculture, Food Processing, Manufacturing, Construction, and Transportation/Logistics. Businesses in these sectors will be contacted & interviewed as we gather information that can then be aggregated & analyzed.

By August, the ROEDC will have a final report identifying key issues & actionable items that will shape the work of the Rural Oxford EDC. Nancy can be reached by email at nancy@roedc.ca

WAKE-UP BREAKFAST CLUB – Saturdays until end of June

Hey, elementary school kids! You are invited to a free breakfast, Saturdays till the end of June. 10am - noon at the **Fusion Youth Centre, Ingersoll**. A healthy breakfast is served at 10am, followed by games, crafts, skits / stories from the bible & a whole lotta fun.

Call Joe or Deborah YFC / Youth Unlimited: 519-485-3016 or joe.c@yfcingersoll.com.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Woodstock's Habitat for Humanity ReStore is now open until 6pm Mon -Fri. Stop in at 1058 Parkinson Rd to save on new & gently used furniture, home decor & building supplies. habitat4home.ca.

You can browse the selection on kijiji at "HFHRestore Woodstock". Sales begin April 2.

TOURISM OXFORD

Look for the new Oxford County Visitors Guide & Oxford County Cheese Trail! Available mid-April at various locations & at Oxford Visitor Centre, 580 Bruin Blvd, Woodstock.

If you can't wait to get your copy, find the digital guide at tourismoxford.ca.

Upcoming events: **the last Maple Weekend at Jakeman's Apr 7-8;**

Dairy Capital Cheese Fest **Apr 28;**

upcoming plays presented by Theatre Woodstock Hilda's Yard Apr 6-14.

Coming soon, Big Cheese Days every Sat in May;

Oxford Studio Tours May 5-6. tourismoxford.ca, 519-539-9800 ext 3355.

BIG BROTHERS RECRUITMENT CAMPAIGN

Big Brothers Big Sisters is teaming up with our Boston Pizza to challenge local men to StepUp & Start Something by becoming a mentor for one of the more than 100 boys & young men in need of a positive influence in their life. Male volunteers are needed for our Game On! Program which focuses on playing sports & building confidence in a group setting, as well as our In-School Mentoring & Big Brother Programs. We offer unique, innovative programs that are flexible & fun for adult volunteers of all ages. Give us a call 519-485-1801, or visit sharethefun.org to learn how you can make a difference in a child's life.

4-H LEGO PROJECT

During this project, all 4-H members got to experience many fun activities. To start off, we learned about pulleys, gears & levers. Even though they can get frustrating, we used Lego kits to build our creations. We made many things including: a fishing pole, a bridge, a crane, cars with motors & windshield wipers. Members had a competition to see who could make the tallest & strongest tower. We visited Jade Engineering in Tillsonburg & had a guest speaker, Zeila's dad to talk with us about professional engineering. We closed the night with another competition to see who could build the strongest structure out of marshmallows & toothpicks. Overall, this was an enjoyable project and a lot of fun. This concluded our Building Blocks & Lego Engineering Project 2018.

Submitted by Sophie Daniel, Press reporter

AVIATION HISTORY LIVES IN TILLSONBURG

Tillsonburg Regional Airport is home to a remarkable organization that keeps an important part of Canada's aviation history alive. The mission of the all-volunteer Canadian Harvard Aircraft Assoc is to restore, maintain & display the Harvard & other training aircraft used in the British Commonwealth Air Training Plan & the RCAF. Where else can you get the opportunity to FLY in one of these vintage aircraft & enjoy what thousands of brave souls experienced during their training to maintain our freedom? The association conducts numerous fly days & other special events. It's always looking for new members - young & old.

Check us out: harvards.com, email info@harvards.com or call 519-842-9922.

CALLING ALL CRAFTERS & ARTISANS! for Sept 1

Vendor registration is now open for the Ingersoll Harvest Festival! Sat, Sept 1, in Centennial Park, Ingersoll. A great event with live music, historical demos, family games & fireworks!

The event runs 10am - 8pm & is outdoors. Registration \$22.50 taxes included. Tables & chairs are available on a first come, first serve basis.

For info about the festival, visit ingersoll.ca or email tourism@ingersoll.ca.

NA MEETING – Sat evenings

NEW TIME & LOCATION A fellowship of NA meets Saturday evenings 7pm at Trinity United Church, (on the corner King St W & Church St) Ingersoll. Enter at the side door, meeting is downstairs.

NOT FOR FAME - April 22

“Not for fame or reward. Not for place or rank. Not lured by ambition or goaded by necessity, but in simple obedience to duty.” These are part of the wording on the massive monument to First World War hero **Major Edward C. Norsworthy** in the **Ingersoll Rural Cemetery**. The imposing stone cairn surmounted by the lifesize bronze bust was first unveiled to the public in April 1918.

One hundred years later, to the day, there will be a ceremony in the cemetery to re-dedicate & honour the memory of one of Ingersoll's favourite sons. Born in 1879, Edward was the eldest son of local banker & businessman J.C. Norsworthy. Following a commendable academic career at McGill University, Edward went into banking & established himself as a respected member of Montreal society. When war was declared in 1914 he was one of the first to enlist & was soon put in charge of the famed Black Watch Regiment of Canada. In April 1915 he was on the very front line of democracy as the Germans unleashed the first use of poisonous gas. While others fled, the Canadians held the line during what has since become known as the Second Battle of Ypres. Tragically Major Norsworthy & many others paid the supreme sacrifice. In April 1918 his colleagues in Montreal & friends from home saw to the erection of a suitable monument to duty. On Sun, April 22, you are invited to take part in the commemoration to mark the 100th anniversary of this event. Under the auspices of the Ingersoll Museum, and with the assistance of the Ingersoll Pipe Band & the 2 Masonic lodges in Ingersoll, the re-dedication will commence at 2pm. A short parade through the cemetery to the Norsworthy Family plot will be followed by a Masonic service as was conducted 100 years ago. The Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province of Ontario David J. Cameron will be presiding. Masons in their regalia & members of the general public are welcome to attend. "Not For Fame" is presented as part of the ongoing Oxford Remembers Oxford's Own project to stage 100 events & activities to mark the centennial of the Great War. For info, call the museum 519485-5510, & be sure to check out the travelling exhibits on display now.

Dorchester Terrace - NEED A SPEAKER?

Does your community group need a speaker or a meeting location? Dorchester Terrace offers free meeting rooms, refreshments, and if you choose, a speaker on: -The difference between a retirement residence & a nursing home -What to know before moving to a retirement residence -What you should know before touring a retirement residence.

Free speakers are also available to come to your meeting & location.

Call Denise 519-268-1818 or info@dorchesterterrace.sifton.come.

EASTER HUNT

So it's Easter - time for bunnies & eggs and, of course, best of all, chocolate! And for many it stops there. Not a bad place to stop, really, after all, bunnies are cute, eggs are fun to find, and who could say no to chocolate?! Cute, fun & yummy – the holy trinity – who could go wrong? Easter, for many people, though, goes way beyond these (even though many of us still include these as well.) Easter is about resurrection, new life, second chances – a different kind of holy trinity. And, truth be told, this deeper meaning is something that many people are looking for, even though they say they'd rather just stick with the bunnies, eggs & chocolate. Those same people have a couple hundred friends on Facebook that they've never actually spoken to. They wake up wondering what life's all about & what their purpose is, and how to best live this life for themselves, their children & their community. They wonder why they or those they love had to get sick or even die. They wonder why our world has to be so greedy, so mean, so meaningless. They wonder where the love has gone – why the colour has gone

out of what should be a beautiful life. We all do. Enter the followers of Jesus in second - temple Jerusalem. We see disciples who had pinned their hopes on a man who was now crucified. They wonder about their lives; they grieve for their friend; they feel sick & ashamed. They wonder where the love has gone – why the colour has gone out of what should be a beautiful life. And then they find it. First a woman who was simply taking spices to do what is ritually expected of friends of the deceased. Instead, she finds an empty tomb & recognizes resurrection when the man (Jesus) she's been talking to calls her by her name. After telling his disciples, two run to the tomb to prove to themselves that there is new life. Together, they all realize they've been given a second chance – to believe, to love, to have faith. Easter is not about the church. The church should be about Easter. Easter is a reawakening of that which we thought was long gone – love, faith & community. Out of the darkness of the tomb burst all the colours of the rainbow & life is beautiful again. So, if you've been wondering about the meaning of life, if you've had hard times, if you've felt alone / afraid / abused / addicted / anxious / etc., or even (especially) if you feel like you want faith, but just can't believe it, come be in community that is looking for answers to the same questions – we won't have all the answers, but we'll enjoy the journey in the asking. And we'll have some chocolate eggs, too! Happy Easter!

Rev. Mark Marshall, Westminster United Church, Thamesford - definitely not your average, old church! makingconnexions.com.

FOOD ADDICTS ANONYMOUS

The only requirement to membership in FA is a desire to stop eating addictively. There are no dues or fees. We are self supporting through our own contributions. There is a solution to healthy, happy weight loss! Mon Delhi 6:30pm, St. Alban's Anglican Church Tues London 9:30am, Church of the Ascension Tues London 6:30pm, Village Green Community Church Wed Ingersoll 6:30pm, First Baptist Church Wed London 7pm, The Church of Jesus Christ Latter Day Saints Thur London 7pm, The Church of Jesus Christ Latter Day Saints Sat Woodstock 10am, The Rock Community Church Call Patrick 519-485-4146 or Gayle 519-532-4254.

ST MARYS FRIENDSHIP CENTRE – April happening

Ice Culture in Hensall, Wed, Apr 11. They make amazing ice sculptures for all kinds of events! Depart the Friendship Centre at 9:30am. \$25 for transportation, does not include lunch or admission.

Day trip to Ripley's Aquarium Tues, Apr 17. An amazing place to visit in Toronto! Buffet lunch before at Tuckers Marketplace. 9:15am-6pm.

Living well with Mental Health(Fri, Apr 6, 13, 20 & May 4). Education to help you live well & improve your mental health. Information on: emotional management, exercise, diet, tools & resources. Cost \$15.

Yoga (18+) Improve your range of motion, posture, balance, learn to be more mindful as you practice yoga. Thur, May 3-June 28, 7-8pm. Friendship Centre, 519-284-3272, 317 James St S, St Marys.

THORNDALE ACOUSTIC SOCIETY

Join us every Tuesday at the United Church in Thorndale. Bring your acoustic guitars, banjos, harmonicas, fiddles & bass to this jam. Everyone welcome. Cost is \$3, 7-10pm. For info, call Mildred 519-461-0452.

CAMP FOR KIDS

Our Camp for Kids campaign is open! We are looking for sponsors so Oxford County kids can attend camp this summer.

If you'd like more information, contact Denise, **Children's Aid Society**, Oxford, 800-2507010 ext. 327, dtew@casoxford.on.ca.

WATER, WATER, EVERYWHERE... And not a drop to drink? Surrounded by oceans, the Cape Province of South Africa is experiencing severe drought. But you can't drink seawater. Southwestern Ontario is similarly surrounded by the Great Lakes & many rivers. How much of that is drinkable depends on knowing what pollutants are in it. All of Oxford uses well water, but should we ever need to use water from rivers & streams, we will indeed wish we hadn't allowed chemicals into them. Bryan Smith does not plan to drink bottled water either. It comes from the same places as municipal water, costs much much more & according to reports all contains micro-plastics.

ANIMAL, VEGETABLE... NO MINERALS

People remain surprised that meat & bone can go into green cone composters, yet buy bone meal when planting in spring. Of course, kitchen scraps & plate scrapings can go into a composter, but many don't realize that paper serviettes or towels used to be plants too (trees). They will compost. Don't expect plastics to break down though. Like metals, they belong in the recycling bin. Bryan Smith sometimes finds the odd bit of metal cutlery in his compost where he also turns Lunch Bunch or Supper Club compost into rich soil. Wash them well before reuse is his advice.