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Port Dover Maple Leaf

Wednesday,
September 14, 2022



Norfolk County Councillor Linda Vandendriessche meets at the closed County Road 45 bridge with farmers (from left) Steve Csercsics, John and Susie Barth.

ANALYSIS.

The story of a closed bridge on rural Norfolk County Road 45

By David Judd

WHY should Norfolk taxpayers and voters care about a bridge many of them probably have never heard of and might never use?

It's all about efficiency of local government, how county council makes decisions and how county staff implement them.

Controversy began more than 3½ years ago and it's not over yet.

On Dec. 3, 2018, the narrow one-lane bridge over Big Creek on County Road 45, southeast of Langton, closed for safety reasons.

Critical parts were found to be damaged.

County council accepted staff's advice not to bother

with repairs estimated at \$100,000.

Plans were almost ready for a modern two-lane concrete bridge to be built in 2019 for a budget of \$1.9 million.

Then things changed.

New Mayor Kristal Chopp challenged council to think outside the box and not build a two-lane bridge as planned.

She suggested installing a one-lane prefabricated bridge. She predicted it would save time and money, plus attract tourists who love to visit scenic bridges.

Such a bold move would send a message that a new council was in charge with fresh thinking.

On Jan. 30, 2019, council came around to Mayor Chopp's suggestion.

In a surprise move, council voted to design and build a one-lane bridge. Only two veteran councillors — Langton Coun. Roger Geysens and Delhi Coun. Mike Columbus — were opposed.

But things have not turned out as Mayor Chopp and the six new councillors had hoped.

Today the Road 45 bridge is still closed.

For 3½ years, farmers have detoured around the bridge, going out of their way between nine and 17 kilometres, depending on which route they choose.

Since 2012, Norfolk has spent \$157,000 on research and designs, \$130,000 for a two-lane bridge and \$27,000 for a one-lane bridge. (Some information for a two-lane bridge also

applies for one lane.)

Between 2019 and early 2022, progress on a one-lane bridge dragged.

There's a school of thought that county staff dragged their feet in hopes that council would change its mind and opt for a two-lane bridge.

Mayor Chopp referred to that possibility in an email to The Maple Leaf.

She expressed confidence that Norfolk's new head of public works will fulfil council's wishes.

Charlottetown Coun. Chris Van Paassen offers a different explanation for the years of little progress.

The COVID-19 pandemic
> See ROAD 45 BRIDGE on 6
> Plus, residents' comments on 7
> And, Mayor's comments on 9

Schuyler brothers purchase Port Dover hotel

BROTHERS Brett Schuyler and Ryan Schuyler have purchased the Brant Hill Inn overlooking the lift bridge and harbour in Port Dover. The John Street hotel closed this summer to allow extensive renovations. The updates will transform the interior and exterior into a new "beach-themed" accommodation called "The Harbourview."

Every room of the 13 unit inn, which first opened in 1991, will become what the new owners describe as "a landing point for travelers and adventure-seekers looking to explore all of the beauty Norfolk County has to offer."

The entrance along Hamilton Plank Road will feature a new outdoor patio running almost the length of the building. It will incorporate nautical themes and completely change the look of the building, the new owners say.

Gardens on the property will be planted with pollinators and native species.

The Harbourview intends to welcome families, backpackers and seasonal workers.

Along with the new outdoor patio, inside there will be a communal cooking area and the possibility for bunk beds to create flexible options. The Harbourview will also feature a catering space for gatherings and corporate events.

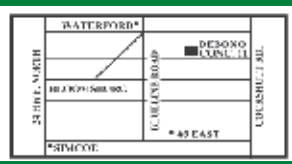
Ryan and Brett are also the owners of Schuyler Farms Ltd., a large and successful family-run agricultural operation just north of Port Dover that focuses on sustainable farming and land conservation, specializing in sour cherries, apples, oil seeds, grass-fed lamb and grains.

> See THE HARBOURVIEW on page 3

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The Harbourview opens

> From page one

“Every season, there is an increasing need to find reliable people during the critical harvest period. The Harbourview will provide tourism accommodation in the busy summers, lodging for our harvest workers in the fall, and a corporate facility through the winter and spring. This will be a win for everyone,” said Brett.

The owners are working in partnership with Long Point Eco-Adventures to manage the new operation.

Chloe McConnell, General Manager of Long Point Eco-Adventures, says the Harbourview is designed for flexibility and is a “space that has a lot of options.”

Chloe says there is “a surge of people” visiting this area. She says many of them now have flexible work schedules with a need for fast wi-fi connections. They are “escaping the concrete jungle” and looking for new types of adventures like those offered at Long Point Eco-Adventures, she says.

During the fall apple harvest when additional farm workers are required, the hotel can be used for their seasonal accommodation needs.

The Schuylers believe bringing a greater number of people to Port Dover throughout the year will help other local businesses and provide a boost to the local economy.

During the period when COVID quarantines were mandatory on the arrival of seasonal farm workers, the Schuylers used the glamping facilities at Long Point Eco-Adventures and developed a strong working relationship.

Long Point Eco-Adventures and the Schuylers say they are both “committed to the continual practice of sustainable travel, as well as promoting the diverse tourism and agriculture industry that has become an integral part of Norfolk’s current and future heritage.”



New owners of The Harbourview are Ryan Schuyler and Brett Schuyler. They are shown with Long Point Eco-Adventures General Manager Chloe McConnell outside the John Street hotel which is currently being renovated. A new sign will be installed before the opening expected in November.

“We are glad to be a part of a unique initiative that respects and promotes the agricultural and business activities that Norfolk enjoys. We are confident this will ensure there are continued opportunities for those businesses and the people working in these industries into the future,” Eco-Adventures

owners Mike McArthur and Dave Pond said.

The Harbourview expects to open its doors to the public in November. Room rates are not set but will follow the local market rates. Information on booking rooms will be available at www.lpfun.ca.

LETTERS & NOTES.

Send letters to news@PortDoverMapleLeaf.com or mail to 351 Main St., Port Dover N0A 1N0

Reader questions why Hastings Dr. arson story was published

Re: “Owner Describes Arson at Hastings Drive Cottage” – Sept. 7, 2022 issue.

THIS newspaper is reporting on a fire that happened over three years ago, where no new facts have come to light during those years. I am wondering...“WHY”? Why not on the anniversary of the fire? Why not when the police have a new clue as to who set this fire? Why was it published one month before our upcoming municipal election? I truly sympathize with Mr. Mercey and the terrible events that unfolded in the early morning of June 26, 2019, and the fact that he suffered both personal and property damage. This hearing that he attended after the fire, by the way, was a hearing for the lawyers for both sides to agree to a future court date and to grant Mr. Mercey legal standing to argue against longtime trailers being allowed to stay on vacant lots. No one but the lawyers for each side spoke before the judge that morning.

I take issue with a newspaper that writes an article without verifying the facts. Mr. Mercey stated that “some owners of vacant lots on Hastings Drive looked for a candidate to oppose Mr. Luke for mayor in the October 2018 municipal election.” Was this conjecture on his behalf, or was he privy to the thought processes of Norfolk voters? It wasn’t just “vacant lot owners” looking for a candidate. It was many other Norfolk residents who obviously were looking for new leadership in our county. When Kristal Chopp declared her intention to run for Mayor, I introduced myself to her and volunteered to organize her campaign. I am a property owner on Hastings Drive so when we started to fund-raise for her campaign, of course I went to my friends – fellow property owners in Hastings Drive – as well as local business owners, farmers, etc. Yes, the contribution from the Hastings property owners (both vacant lot owners AND cottage owners) did amount to \$5,500.00, but this was ONE-THIRD of the total money raised, not one-half, as Mr. Mercey states. We raised a total of \$15,369.58 to be exact, This can be verified by looking into the archived financial reports submitted after the 2018 election. It’s right there on page one!

I am shocked that this newspaper would interview Mr. Mercey and accept his “facts” and numbers, as a true accounting of things, without verifying the information. I question just what the real motive behind the publishing of this article at this time is. Perhaps the fact that we have an election coming up in five weeks is key. Mr. Mercey appears to have a personal bias against Mayor Chopp’s re-election so has stooped to imply that the only reason she got elected four years ago was because her influence could be “bought”. I was Mayor Chopp’s campaign manager, who spent countless hours contributing to her election effort. I am saddened that you have allowed Mr. Mercey to make the accusations that he did in your paper. Mayor Chopp won the 2018 election because the majority of voters wanted change and they felt that she was the right person to do just that. To imply any other reason for her election win is “National Enquirer” style propaganda.

To devote two and a half pages in the same edition of your paper, and two different articles, seems redundant. In my opinion, the ulterior motive of Mr. Judd and the Port Dover Maple Leaf appears in fact, to slander both Mayor Chopp and Mr. Mawhiney (running for Ward 1), five weeks before the upcoming election.

Concerned Norfolk voter,
Mary Weber

Parents urged to make sure their children are vaccinated for polio

DR. Matt Strauss is urging parents to make sure their children are vaccinated against polio.

The recent discovery of polio in London and New York state is of “extraordinary concern,” Haldimand-Norfolk’s Acting Medical Officer of Health told the Board of Health last Tuesday.

Polio infection can cause paralysis or even death, especially among children.

It was common in Canada and the United States until the 1950s when a vaccine was developed.

Health officials had hoped to eradicate polio throughout the world.

By 2019, it survived mainly in Afghanistan and Pakistan.

Now it could be making a comeback.

Dr. Strauss called polio a devastating disease, particularly for children.

Any parents who are hesitant about vaccinating their children should call Dr. Strauss’s office and he will call them back.

It’s very important, Dr. Strauss said.

The health unit is working to update its vaccination rates for polio.

Data across the province has been in disarray because resources were directed against COVID, Dr. Strauss said.

“I will be keeping very close tabs on this file,” he said.

Dr. Strauss said the recent epidemic of monkeypox has peaked and come down in Ontario.

Haldimand-Norfolk has not had a case in a month, he said last Tuesday.

Dr. Strauss said he was pleased and proud of the local community for stepping forward for vaccination against monkeypox.

Meanwhile, the seventh wave of COVID-19 has peaked, come down and concluded, he said.

This week the health unit expected to start immunizing Haldimand-Norfolk’s most vulnerable residents with a new bivalent vaccine, which targets the original COVID virus from 2019

and the omicron variant.

Shots will be available for the general public in about two weeks. Vaccination dates will be posted on the health unit’s website.

COVID deaths continued to mount locally, reaching 86 last Wednesday, up six since Aug. 10.

Twenty-nine persons with COVID had died from other causes, up four in four weeks.

Five people were in hospital with COVID last Wednesday, none of them in intensive care.

The health unit was managing one COVID outbreak on a farm.

On Aug. 10, the unit was managing 10 outbreaks — four on farms, two at long-term-care facilities, three at congregate settings such as shelters and one at a retirement home.

After 2½ years of the pandemic, the majority of Ontarians have caught COVID, Dr. Strauss said on the TVO program The Agenda.

Dr. Strauss said he caught the virus about a month ago.



Port Dover Maple Leaf

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The Queen’s words of great wisdom

IN a time when everyone shares their opinions, The Queen always adhered to the discipline of never revealing hers. However, over her long lifetime and her many public appearances, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth did offer many words of great wisdom. We offer just a small selection of those here.

On courage: “When life seems hard, the courageous do not lie down and accept defeat; instead, they are all the more determined to struggle for a better future.”
On the importance of reflection: “We all need to get the balance right between action and reflection. With so many distractions, it is easy to forget to pause

and take stock.”
On children: “They teach us all a lesson – just as the Christmas story does – that in the birth of a child, there is a new dawn with endless potential.”
On leadership: “I know of no single formula for success, but over the years I have observed
> See THE QUEEN’S WISDOM on 5



Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II
Queen of Canada

Face-to-face with The Queen

WATCHING “The Lion King” in May 2010, my soon-to-be-four-year-old son, Rex, asked, “Does Canada have a king?” I explained who Queen Elizabeth II was, then showed him her image on our currency and in photos online. He declared, “I want the Queen to come to my birthday party!”

Soon after, I heard a Royal Visit to Canada was set for July. Rex said he wanted to see the Queen in person, so my husband and I agreed to try. To prepare, he began shouting “Long live the Queen!” for weeks on end (charming for a few days, yes).

We stayed in Toronto the night before her scheduled appearance, grabbing a bouquet of daisies at a nearby grocery store before bed. We made it to Queen’s Park by 8 am next morning and found it already crawling with security personnel, media, and other spectators.

An RCMP officer asked Rex why he was there. Without missing a beat, he replied, “To see the lady on the money – the one with all the hats!” The man chuckled, then led us across the grass to a particular spot along the fence line. “Wait here,” he winked...

3.5 hours later, Her Majesty walked down the steps of the legislature to rapturous applause and cheers, accompanied by husband Philip, Duke of Edinburgh.

She unveiled a plaque dedicated to Queen Victoria – her great-great-grandmother and co-creator of this Canada – then began one of thousands of “walkabouts” taken amongst her peoples for generations.

The Queen smiled, waved, and chatted with folks as she walked. Once within earshot, Rex stretched out his bouquet and shouted, “Long live the Queen!” in his adorable little voice. Her Majesty heard him, looked directly our way (see the photo snapped at that precise moment), then made a beeline for us.

Within seconds, Rex found himself face-to-face with Queen Elizabeth! After her inviting “Hello,” he defaulted to “Long live the Queen,” said softly this time. “For me?” she asked of the



A photograph taken at the moment Queen Elizabeth heard and spotted Rex shouting “Long live the Queen!” in July 2010.

daisies. He nodded. “Thank you very much. That’s very kind.” And with that, she received the bouquet, smiled at him, then waved her white-gloved hand goodbye.

Later, members of the Canadian Forces fired a 21-gun salute by cannon. Rex held his hands to his ears, eyes bugging out as the ground shook and puffs of smoke filled the air.

The Queen inspected a troop of spiffy soldiers, then stood atop a podium for the playing of “O Canada,” flanked by the governor-general, prime minister, lieutenant-governor, premier, and other dignitaries.

As the military band played a rousing version of our anthem – belted out in chorus by those assembled in the presence of our Queen and other leaders – quiet, patriotic tears rolled down my cheeks. I shall forever count those minutes among the most glorious and thrilling of my life...

□ □ □

After I wrote the story of that day for the Maple Leaf, Rex wanted to send a copy to the Queen, along with a personal letter and photos from the day they met. We researched protocol

for how one does this, then made a special trip to the local post office. Rex excitedly dropped the envelope into the big red box while I played along enthusiastically, expecting nothing in return.

Four months later we set out to retrieve the mail as per our normal after-school routine. Ah, but this was no ordinary day, for inside the mailbox was a manila envelope stamped with “1 Royal Mail,” a red crown, the letters “E II R,” and marked with the return address of Buckingham Palace!

I handed the envelope to Rex. Puzzled at first, he soon began jumping up and down, shouting, “It’s from the Queen! It’s from the Queen!” Two locals busy at their own boxes looked towards him and smiled, likely assuming he was a precocious little boy playing fairytale. Not quite!

We practically skipped home, Rex clutching and waving that envelope like Willy Wonka’s golden ticket. Inside, in a few short paragraphs written on palace letterhead embossed with the red crowned lion & unicorn royal insignia, dated 29th October 2010, the Queen communicated:

“Thank you for your letter, and for the newspaper article you enclosed,” adding how much she and the Duke of Edinburgh had “greatly enjoyed coming to Canada again and were deeply moved by the warm reception received.” She was “pleased to know that Rex has such happy memories of the Royal Visit,” concluding, “Thank you once again very much for writing as you did.”

□ □ □

Now, here we are: Rex has morphed from toddler to young man; our noble Queen is dead; and the peoples of Britain, her realms, and the Commonwealth find ourselves in the throes of a formal mourning period unlike anything we have ever experienced.

While many are indifferent, some feel melancholic, others bereft. Most seem to be reflecting on this historic moment respectfully and with a sense of lament for the remote but familiar ruler who had simply always been there, presiding over billions of Earth’s citizens, steady as she goes, for as long as most humans can remember.

I find myself reflecting on the monarchy’s pivotal role in Canada’s historical, political, and cultural DNA: Queen Victoria’s creation of this new nation in 1867; King George V and VI inspiring their peoples during the World Wars to fight for democracy and freedom, cries of “For King and Country!” shouted out in horrific sludge and dangerous skies; and, of course, Queen Elizabeth II looking up at us from bills, coins, and stamps and smiling in official portraits for an astounding seventy years.

Indeed: regarding that famous promise made as Princess Elizabeth in 1947, on her 21st birthday – “That my whole life, whether it be long or short, shall be devoted to your service” – truer words never spoken, Ma’am.

Now, “Good night, sweet prince(ss)...” (Shakespeare’s Hamlet)

And long live the King!

Jason Dale
Port Dover

Statement by Mayor Chopp on the death of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II

NORFOLK County joins the world in paying respects as we learn of the passing of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II. We wish to send our deepest condolences to the Royal family, as well as citizens of Britain, Canada, and the greater Commonwealth who are mourning the loss of Her Majesty.

“The reign of Queen Elizabeth II spans the lifespan of myself, my parents, and most Canadians nationwide,” says Norfolk County Mayor, Kristal Chopp.

“She has stood as the globally recognized symbol of the Commonwealth in each of our lives. Her photo has hung in our institutions and her visits to our nation from coast-to-coast have been celebrated occasions. Many of us do not know or remember a Canada without Queen Elizabeth II as our Sovereign.”

“I wish to express my deepest thanks to Her Majesty for her service to our country – and join the citizens of the Commonwealth in mourning her loss as this chapter of history comes to a close,” said Norfolk County’s mayor.

Norfolk County has lowered its flags to half-mast to honour the longest reigning Monarch of Britain and Sovereign of Canada.





Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II
Queen of Canada

BOBBI ANN BRADY



Queen's Park Report

AS the world mourns the passing of Queen Elizabeth II, we undoubtedly acknowledge the scope of her public service for over 70 years. She is one of the most recognized and famous people on the face of the earth.

My parents travelled to England when I was young and could (hope to) catch glimpses of the Royal Family, including the Queen, outside Buckingham Palace. My family, one could say, became Royal Watchers. Years later, I'd be hired by former MPP Toby Barrett UE who I quickly learned harbored profound respect for Queen Elizabeth II.

Shortly after officially becoming our longest reigning Monarch, Toby penned a newspaper column that began with: "Queen Elizabeth II is the only British Monarch in history properly trained to change a spark plug!" As Toby said at the time, the statement exemplified the character of our Queen.

Elizabeth learned to change

a spark plug at 18 (during the Second World War) after joining the British Army Women's Auxiliary Territorial Service. She served as an army truck mechanic and as an ambulance and army truck driver.

Elizabeth carried an incredible responsibility throughout her life, beginning at a young age. Upon taking the throne in 1952, she witnessed enormous social change. At 25, Elizabeth became Queen, and was officially crowned at her coronation two years later.

During her reign, Queen Elizabeth visited Canada more than any other country – 22 times. She must have had a special place in her heart for our country and its people, as she was known to refer to Canada as home. From the outpouring of sentiments, the feeling was indeed mutual.

On September 8th, the Queen's children travelled to Balmoral, near Aberdeen, after physicians placed her under medical supervision. Later in the day Thursday, news spread that the Queen had passed away peacefully in the afternoon. A sad, solemn day.

Queen Elizabeth II officially made Liz Truss Britain's prime minister two days before her passing. Truss would become the 15th prime minister to meet with the Queen. The meeting

was at Balmoral Castle, in the Scottish countryside, where Boris Johnson first arrived to begin the power transfer. The first prime minister the Queen met with during her reign was Winston Churchill – a leader I often quote.

Last Thursday, Prime Minister Truss described Queen Elizabeth II as the rock on which modern Britain was built and continued by saying that she had "provided us with the stability and strength that we needed." In times of adversity, the Queen has steadied nations with her strength and stoicism – the embodiment of a true leader.

Succession plans have long been in place, and the Queen's son, Charles III, will become King. As an aside, I met Prince Charles and Camilla a few years back at a function in Toronto. It was a cheeky meeting and one I will never forget.

While we all come to grips with the passing of a lady who impacted our lives in ways we did not realize, Britain is preparing to usher in a new era in the nation's fascinating history. Britain, Canada and the Commonwealth will undoubtedly embrace the King and offer him loyalty and devotion, exactly as Her Majesty would have wished.

The Queen's wisdom over many years

> From page 4

that some attributes of leadership are universal and are often about finding ways of encouraging people to combine their efforts, their talents, their insights, their enthusiasm and their inspiration to work together."

On getting older: "Some cultures believe a long life brings wisdom. I'd like to think so. Perhaps, part of that wisdom is to recognize some of life's baffling paradoxes such as the way human beings have a huge propensity for good, and yet a capacity for evil.

On the royal family: "Like all the best families, we have our share of eccentricities, of impetuous and wayward youngsters and of family disagreements."

On grief: "Grief is the price we pay for love."

On Canada following her first visit in 1951: "I am sure that nowhere under the sun



could one find a land more full of hope, of happiness and of fine, loyal, generous-hearted people. They have placed in our hearts a love for their country and its people which will never grow cold and which will always draw us to their shores."

On humanity: "Humanity can only progress if we are all truly ambitious for what is good and honourable. We know the reward is peace on Earth, goodwill toward men, but we cannot win it without determi-

nation and concerted effort."

On criticism: "Criticism is good for people and institutions that are part of public life. No institution — city, Monarchy, whatever — should expect to be free from the scrutiny of those who give it their loyalty and support, not to mention those who don't. We are all part of the same fabric of our national society and that scrutiny, by one part of another, can be just as effective if it is made with a touch of gentleness, good humour and understanding."

On wisdom: "As a daughter, a mother and a grandmother, I often find myself seeking advice, or being asked for it, in all three capacities. No age group has a monopoly of wisdom, and indeed I think the young can sometimes be wiser than us. But the older I get, the more conscious I become of the difficulties young people have to face as they learn to live in the modern world."

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Special thanks to Randy, Steph, Dave, Kyle, Mark, Sawyer, Claire & 124 Awesome Golfers!



COUNTY ROAD 45 BRIDGE ANALYSIS

Road 45 Bridge remains closed

> From page one

slowed environmental assessment for a one-lane bridge, he said in an interview.

In April of this year, a final decision looked to be in sight.

Staff recommended council approve a contract with Sierra Construction to install a prefabricated one-lane bridge for a budget of \$2.3 million.

But Coun. Van Paassen balked.

He said the proposed bridge — at 16 feet wide — would be too narrow for larger farm machinery.

Coun. Van Paassen, himself a farmer, said larger machinery needs at least 18 feet.

So on May 10 council backed away from hiring Sierra and issued a new request for a one-lane bridge at least 18 feet wide.

That’s where things stand now as council waits for companies to submit bids.

Meanwhile, an election approaches, presenting the possibility that a new council will take another look at the whole issue of one versus two lanes.

Farmers are frustrated and inflation keeps pushing up the cost of construction.



County Road 45 bridge is east of Highway 59.

Back in 2019 Mayor Chopp and many new councillors were in a hurry to send a message that they were open to new ideas.

They didn’t foresee how slowly the wheels of government might turn, especially in a pandemic.

Today some councillors want to review the issue.

The bottom line: it might well be 2023 before Road 45 gets a new bridge — whether it’s one or two lanes.

County Road 45 bridge timeline

- 1970s**

County Road 45 is envisioned to become part of a major east-west route connecting the Nanticoke industrial area to St. Thomas, close to Highways 401 and 402.
- 1992**

A single-lane bailey bridge, 12 feet wide, is installed “temporarily” over Big Creek on County Road 45, southeast of Langton. It replaces an earlier one-lane bridge.
- 2012-2015**

County council budgets \$1.8 million to replace the 1992 bailey bridge with a concrete two-lane bridge.
- 2017**

Environmental assessment review recommends a two-lane bridge; Norfolk starts to design a two-lane bridge.
- Dec. 3, 2018**

The 1992 bridge is closed for safety reasons. Rather than repairing it for \$100,000, county staff recommend replacing the bridge in 2019.
- Dec. 6, 2018**

A report to council recommends seeking tenders to build a two-lane bridge between May and November 2019 at a budget of \$1.9 million.
- Dec. 11, 2018**

New council holds off on construction and asks for a report comparing one- and two-lane bridges.
- Jan. 9, 2019**

Vallee engineers presents a \$12,000-study recommending a two-lane bridge as better value than a one-lane bridge; council votes 5-4 to build a two-lane bridge.
- Jan. 30, 2019**

Council waives its rules to hear from residents with a 27-name petition seeking a one-lane bridge; Mayor Chopp calls on council to make a bold move; council votes 7-2 to design and build a one-lane bridge.
- April 16, 2019**

Council receives a 230-name petition from farmers and truckers seeking a two-lane bridge; council rules prevent two-lane bridge supporters from speaking
- because the decision for a one-lane bridge has been made.
- 2020-2021**

COVID slows environmental assessment of one-lane bridge design.
- April 12, 2022**

Sierra Construction proposes to build a prefabricated 16-foot-wide bridge for \$2.1 million.
- May 10, 2022**

Coun. Chris Van Paassen says 16 feet is too narrow for larger farm equipment; council orders a new design with a new minimum width of 3.7 metres (12.1 feet) plus one-metre shoulder on each side for a total of 5.7 metres or 18.7 feet.
- June 30, 2022**

Norfolk says it has spent \$130,049 studying the two-lane option and \$27,400 studying the one-lane option for a total of \$157,454; some information for a two-lane bridge also applies for one lane.
- Oct. 24, 2022**

Municipal election; the new council that takes office in November could take another look at one- or two-lane options.



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COUNTY ROAD 45 BRIDGE ANALYSIS



The County Road 45 bridge has been closed since December 2018. Cement barriers stop traffic from using the bridge. Critical parts of the bridge were deemed unsafe.

Debate over bridge’s future has two different opinions

By David Judd

BRIDGES are supposed to connect communities. But that’s not happened with the County Road 45 bridge.

A years-long debate over the bridge’s design has divided the community in western Norfolk.

Farmers, truckers and people associated with agriculture generally want Norfolk County to build a two-lane bridge over Big Creek at the bottom of a steep valley on narrow Road 45 south-east of Langton.

Non-farmers who live near the bridge tend to want a one-lane bridge to slow traffic and possibly save on construction costs.

The debate has been nasty on occasion, with some residents not talking to each other.

The existing bridge — one lane, 12 feet wide — was installed temporarily in 1992.

It’s been closed since December 2018 when it was declared unsafe.

Farmers saw it as chance to upgrade to a modern two-lane bridge

Farmers saw this as their chance to upgrade to a modern, two-lane bridge, wide enough for their tractors, sprayers, harvesters and other equipment.

And for a while the county leaned toward building a two-lane bridge as recommended in an environmental assessment.

Plans were nearly set to go for a \$1.9-million project to be built in 2019.

Newly elected Mayor Kristal Chopp urged council to look at installing a prefabricated one-

lane bridge.

A \$12,000-report by Vallee engineers in January 2019 found a two-lane bridge would cost not much more than a one-lane bridge while needing less maintenance and lasting years longer.

Before farmers could toast their victory, council did a sudden about-face and opted to design and build a one-lane bridge.

On Jan. 30, 2019, council bent over backwards to accommodate about a dozen people armed with a 27-name petition calling for a new one-lane bridge.

Council waived its rules and allowed three residents to speak.

Council also waived its rule against discussing an issue after it had been previously decided.

Mayor Kristal Chopp, Charlotteville Coun. Chris Van Paassen and Port Rowan Coun. Tom Masschaele led the charge for a one-lane bridge.

Mayor Chopp called on council to make a bold decision to show it was open to fresh ideas.

Council capped off discussion by voting seven to two to build a one-lane bridge.

On April 16, 2019, council basically ignored a second group of citizens and their 230-name petition calling for a two-lane bridge.

Citing its rules of procedure, council refused to let the second group speak and wouldn’t discuss the bridge.

The group only was allowed to hand their petition to the county clerk and that was it.

Council stuck with its decision to build a one-lane bridge. It did not hear the second group’s opposing point of view.

The Road 45 bridge returned to council in May 2022. Coun-

cil backed away from a plan to build a 16-foot, one-lane bridge because it would be too narrow for some farm machinery.

Council ordered staff to pursue an 18-foot bridge.

The municipal election takes place on Oct. 24, so it’s quite possible the new council for 2022-26 will decide on the bridge’s design.

Farmer Steve Csercsics was among the group of people that council refused to listen to in April 2019.

Mr. Csercsics owns two farms east of the current bridge and one on the west. He grew tobacco for 40 years but stopped when the bridge closed four years ago because it’s too dangerous to take loads of tobacco on a nine-kilometre detour around by the 10th Concession and busy Highway 59.

He now rents his land for corn and beans while he continues to campaign for a two-lane bridge.

Mr. Csercsics has renewed lobbying councillors for a two-lane bridge.

He says it’s a matter of keeping up with the times in an agricultural area.

Farm equipment is getting bigger and it’s dangerous to take it on busy roads like Highways 59 and 24 where traffic tries to pass even in places it shouldn’t.

Farmer John Barth, a neighbour of Mr. Csercsics, must detour 17 kilometres around the existing closed bridge.

Mr. Csercsics has received sympathetic hearings from Ward 2 (Langton) Coun. Linda Vandendriessche and Ward 3 (Delhi) Coun. Mike Columbus.

The delay in replacing the

> See DIFFERENT VIEWS on page 8

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COUNTY ROAD 45 BRIDGE ANALYSIS



Retired teacher Jim Hammond says residents who don't farm and want a one-lane bridge should get their say.

Different views over best width for new County Road 45 bridge

> From page 7

bridge also is frustrating for some folks who want a one-lane bridge.

Jim Hammond, a retired teacher and the main spokesman at the January 2019 meeting at which council opted for a one-lane bridge, is frustrated that not much seems to have happened in three years to get the bridge built.

Others argue a one-lane bridge is safer and costs less money

"It's driving me nuts," Mr. Hammond said during an interview at his home just east of Big Creek.

"It's frustrating," he said, accusing council of dragging its feet on building a one-lane bridge.

"Council has buried it until there's a new council and they will start it again."

Mr. Hammond argues a one-lane bridge would be safer and cost less money.

Two lanes would encourage traffic to go faster, which would result in accidents and deaths.

That might lead the county to spend millions of dollars straightening and widening the road.

"I want them (councillors) to make a decision one way or another but they should be aware a larger bridge will increase speed and increase the death toll unless they make (the road) into a highway," Mr. Hammond said.

He pointed out this part of County Road 45 isn't a direct route to anywhere. He calls it a mountain goat path.

Before the bridge closed in 2018, some of its busiest days were on Friday the 13th when motorcyclists dropped by for a beautiful view of Big Creek.

Mr. Hammond retired after teaching art for 15 years and special need students for 15 years.

His neighbour, retired art teacher Ross Bateman, drew him into the fight for a

new one-lane bridge.

Mr. Bateman formerly chaired Norfolk's heritage advisory committee and had advocated for the county to retain its historic one-lane bridges.

On Jan. 30, 2019, Mr. Hammond and neighbour W.R. Knowles, led about a dozen people in support of installing a new one-lane bridge on County Road 45.

Mr. Hammond and Mr. Knowles came armed with a 27-name petition in favour of installing a one-lane bridge. Mr. Hammond said residents love their "winding, narrow, crazy road."

He said a two-lane bridge would make the valley a "dangerously fast, narrow place where two large vehicles would have great difficulty missing farmers, locals, motorcycles, fishermen and, most of all, each other as they pass through."

Mr. Hammond pointed to what he called flaws in a \$12,000-report by Vallee engineers.

Council immediately reconsidered its previous decision to build a two-lane bridge and voted to request proposals to design and build a single-lane bridge.

For the last three years not much has happened.

There was an environmental assessment and COVID might have slowed things down.

"I'm tired of dragging feet," Mr. Hammond told The Maple Leaf. "What's wrong with doing what we asked?"

Mayor Chopp has given Mr. Hammond a sympathetic hearing.

But he says she reminded him she has only one vote on council.

Council is one-sided toward agriculture, Mr. Hammond said.

"There's got to be a point where citizens who don't farm get their say. We're just hoping (a one-lane bridge) gets done."

> See Mayor's comments and councillors' comments on page 9



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COUNTY ROAD 45 BRIDGE ANALYSIS

Mayor Chopp supports building a new one-lane bridge on Road 45

MAYOR Kristal Chopp stands by her preference to put a new one-lane bridge on County Road 45. She replied by email to questions about the bridge.

Question: You pushed council to decide on a one-lane prefabricated bridge as a possibly cheaper and quicker alternative to a two-lane concrete bridge. Three and half years later, the bridge remains closed and council has not yet signed a contract to build a replacement. What do you think of this situation?

Answer: It wasn't a "possibly cheaper and quicker alternative" — it was a cheaper and quicker alternative and vastly cheaper if done three years ago with the inflation we see now.

One of my biggest issues with the original (Vallee engineering) report is the engineer recommending and designing the bridge made no mention of the overall traffic impact on County Road 45.

With a two-lane Class A concrete structure, that road would now become widely used by transports and others as a short cut. Anyone that has travelled that road would realize that the costs were not going to end with the bridge, that the current width of the road and shoulders

and hills are not conducive to that level of traffic, especially mixed in with farm vehicles. Therefore, one must ask what were the future consequences or costs over and above the cost of the bridge? Vallee did not address that anywhere.

What do I think? I think that council sets policy and direction. We don't run the operations.

Q: Between spring 2019 and spring 2022, progress on a new bridge was slow. What caused this delay?

A: You are absolutely correct. The bridge should have been long done by now. I, like you, would love to know the real reason why. Was there someone on staff that was holding this off to a future council so it could go through another reconsideration? We may never know, but I'm (sure) that our new head of public works will fulfil the wishes of a democratically elected council.

Q: Were the residents who want a two-lane bridge treated fairly when they were not allowed to speak to council in 2019?

A: All residents had every opportunity to voice their concerns, multiple public meetings were held. We heard from residents from both sides — those that preferred the one-lane

bridge and those that preferred a two-lane bridge — and petitions were received from both sides.


Q: Do you still prefer a one-lane bridge?

A: When looking at the finances of the county as a whole, the fact that this bridge has functioned for as long as anyone can remember as a single-lane bridge, and the unaccounted for and never discussed future costs of making necessary safety modifications to County Road 45, I remain steadfast that this was the right decision.

Even Collingwood in recent years replaced a nearly identical single-lane bridge in both width and span. Did I mention Collingwood is one of the stronger performing municipalities financially in the province? Collingwood ... and despite all of our single-lane bridges in Norfolk County, they were all recommended closed or replaced with two-lane Class A concrete structures. Imagine how many bridges might remain open had this been effectively managed in the past. Those dead-end roads (where bridges are closed) do cost money for snow plowing, emergency services, etc.

The fact that the bridge hasn't been built yet by our staff is definitely an

issue, yes. But it is an issue for our CAO to manage and I trust that our new head of public works will move forward with the project before more games can be played next term.



Peter Butler
For Ward 6 Councillor
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Norfolk councillors comment on past and future of Road 45 bridge

COUNCILLORS most involved with the issues of the County Road 45 bridge were asked to comment.

Charlottesville Coun. Chris Van Paassen:

It seems pathetic to use COVID as an excuse but for two years health and safety was the priority for Norfolk County as well as the provincial and federal governments, Coun. Van Paassen said in an interview.

"Things slowed down for all levels of government because the priority became COVID," he said. "A lot of things didn't get done."

Including the Road 45 bridge project.

Environmental assessments slowed during COVID. Coun. Van Paassen points to a project to build a new bridge and do roadwork on the Long Point causeway. The project currently is two years late

and \$2 million over budget.

Coun. Van Paassen said he didn't realize this spring's proposed contract with Sierra Construction would be for a bridge only 16 feet wide.

A bridge must be at least 18 feet wide, he said.

Most large farm equipment folds down to 16 feet. Another two feet is needed to give room to manoeuvre.

Coun. Van Paassen hopes before council's term ends this fall it will have a contract to build a new bridge.

Port Dover Coun. Amy Martin:

She originally voted for a one-lane bridge. Coun. Martin said she was not trying to make a point about a new council having fresh ideas.

She simply thought a one-lane bridge > See COUNCILLORS on page 10



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COUNTY ROAD 45 BRIDGE ANALYSIS

Councillors comment on past and future of Road 45 bridge

> From page 9

seemed a better fit for a rural community.

Later, she became aware of a lot of discussion at Norfolk’s agricultural advisory committee.

“It got to the point that I didn’t support one lane anymore,” Coun. Martin said in an interview.

Coun. Martin said flip-flops on decisions happen because of the way council’s decision process is designed.

Council-in-committee makes tentative decisions. The public reacts and speaks to council, sometimes leading to new decisions.

Council followed its rules when the folks supporting two lanes weren’t allowed to speak, Coun. Martin said.

She added: “It was not fair from a democratic perspective.”

What council will talk about should be advertised so community members have a chance to take part, she said.

Delhi Coun. Mike Columbus:

He continues to push for a two-lane bridge.

“I didn’t get elected on change,” the veteran councillor said in an interview. “I got elected on my record of past performance.”

Coun. Columbus added: “Change is good as long as it’s positive change.”

“Taking a county road like 45 and not moving to the future with two lanes isn’t positive change.”

Residents of western Norfolk are upset, Coun. Columbus said.

They deserve a modern, two-lane bridge, he said.

“A one-lane bridge might be mighty charming but it’s not practical in the year 2022 and going into the future.”

Langton Coun. Linda Vandendriessche:

Her ward includes the Road 45 bridge.

She says 18 feet is not wide enough for farm equipment that keeps getting larger.

Farmers driving big machines like sprayers and combines want to avoid using dangerous highways, she said in an interview.

She says council should seek a compromise but one efficient for farmers.

She said the location of the bridge is a nice little area but it doesn’t belong to just a few people.

“People live here — great. People walk to the creek — great. But we have to service the area and it’s an agricultural area,” she said.

Port Rowan Coun. Tom Masschaele:

All council members want what is best for Norfolk County residents with regard to cost and functionality, he said in an email to The Maple Leaf.

“Generally, council did not have all of the information available to that time (when the decision was made for a one-lane bridge),” Coun. Masschaele wrote.

“I believe everyone anticipated a one-lane bridge that could accommodate most types of farm equipment.

“Some time later it was learned that this was not the case.”

Coun. Masschaele added: “In retrospect, the concerns of the agricultural community may not have been given the attention they deserved.

“A re-examination of the specifications of the bridge and the roadway would be the most prudent course of action.”



The bridge over Big Creek on County Road 45 remains closed to traffic while replacement bridge options are discussed.



Port Dover Clippers Senior Men’s baseball team travelled to Niagara region for the 2022 Ontario Baseball Association’s C Division Championship Tournament. Shown above are, back row, Regan Roney, Mac Mitchell, Simon Storoschuk, Garnet Henrich, Sam Wilson, Jamie Adams, Owen Schwyer, Zach Heipel, Tyler Depaepe, Tyler Broda, Jamie Clarke, Michael Ramey. At front, Andy Wilson, Derek Breese, John Broc Picard, Rhett Roney.

Port Dover Clippers Senior Men’s compete in OBA tournament

LABOUR Day weekend saw the Port Dover Clippers Senior Men’s baseball team travel to the Niagara region to compete in the 2022 Ontario Baseball Association’s C Division Championship Tournament.

The Clippers played their first game on Friday, Sept. 2, in Niagara Falls at Oakes Park. After establishing an early 4-0 lead, the Clippers couldn’t hang on and ended up losing 6-5 to a well-rounded Port Lambton Pirates team.

The team bounced back on Saturday with two wins at Bugar Park in Welland. They opened up the day beating the Midland Mariners 10-7 and followed it up with an extra inning thriller, beating Port Hope Flyers 6-4 in nine innings.

Sunday morning the local team played at McMillian Park in Thorold against tournament hosts, Thorold Anchors. Thorold’s team got an early lead which proved too much, even for the good hitting Port Dover team.

The Clippers came up short losing 8-5, which concluded their run at this year’s OBA Championships.

During the weekend, catcher John Broc Picard was proud of the team’s run saying, “it speaks a lot to our team’s chemistry that we could persevere so well and push through. A lot of guys stepped up in the right moments here and clutched up and that’s been huge.”

This annual tournament occurs across all age groups throughout Ontario on the September long weekend.

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“There’s no quit on this team” says Sailors’ captain

By Jan Dean

MORE than 100 fans were in the stands at Port Dover Arena on Sunday afternoon to see Port Dover Junior C Sailors play the Norwich Merchants. The Sailors 6-4 loss to the Merchants in their final pre-season game probably wasn’t ideal.

But it was the Sailors first game with their entire team and working out problems and establishing working lines was more important than the score.

The first period saw Norwich’s Austin Forsyth score the first goal of the game at 4:24 with assists from Joel Storoschuck and Graham Sutcliffe.

Just over a minute later the Sailors took their first penalty – the first of 10 infractions that would cost them 28 minutes in penalties.

There was no question the game was rough. The Merchants had a total of nine infractions for 34 minutes in the penalty box.

The Sailors scored first in the second period at 1:45 thanks to Keegan Damota assisted by Derrick DaSilva and Zach Nault.

The rest of the period belonged to the Merchants who scored three more times.

Norwich scored the first two goals in the third period as well. At 1:49 Joel Verspeeten scored unassisted. Less than two minutes later came the Merchants final goal from Austin Forsyth.

After that goal, the Sailors suddenly started playing serious hockey. At 9:04 in the third period returning Sailor Zach Nault scored with assists from Nick D’Agostino and Keegan Damota.

At 10:21 returning Sailors Captain Ben Mason scored with assists from Derrick DaSilva and Jack Dean-Groves. At 16:20 in the period Ben Mason scored again, with assists from Derrick DaSilva and Nick D’Agostino.

The third period felt choppy and a bit long. Every whistle required time to sort out penalties.



Battling in front of the net was a constant at both ends of the ice in Sailors’ Sunday game.

Despite that, the Sailors stayed focused and until the last second of the game attempted to score again. Those efforts brought the score to Sailors 4 vs Merchants 6.

“This was the first time we all played together as a unit,” says Coach Mike Walker. “We didn’t play real hockey until the third period.”

Sailors Captain Ben Mason

who scored twice in the third period predicted a good season ahead.

“After our lines gel we want to build on last year,” said Ben. “There’s no quit on this team.”

He said Coach Walker demands a lot from players. Meeting those standards and buying into the Sailors’ systems will make the team successful.

When he’s not on the ice, Ben is at Conestoga working towards a Powerline Technician diploma.

The Sailors will have their metal tested as soon as the new season begins. On Wednesday, Sept. 14 they travel to Glanbrook to take on the Rangers at 7:30 p.m.

Next Sunday, Sept. 18 the Sailors will be back in the shipyard at 2 p.m. to host the Dundas Blues.

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BASIC CREMATION SERVICE - \$2259.29 INCLUDING TAX

Includes professional services, documentation, transportation, facilities, cremation container, coroners fee, registration fee, cremation fee and tax.

OBITUARIES

Dorothy Dobb

DOBB, Dorothy – Passed away peacefully on Sunday, September 4th, 2022 at the Norfolk General Hospital. Mrs. Dorothy Dobb of Simcoe in her 95th year. Beloved wife of the late Leonard Dobb (2011). Loving mother of Lesley Villeneuve, Alan Dobb (Linda), Andrew Dobb and the late Angela Whiteman. Cherished grandmother to 5 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren. Dorothy will be sadly missed by many relatives, friends and her family in England.

At Dorothy's request cremation has taken place. Arrangements are entrusted to the Ferris Funeral Home, 214 Norfolk St. S., Simcoe (519-426-1314). If so desired, donations may be made to a charity of one's choice. On-line condolences may be made at www.ferrisfuneral.com

Pat Grant

GRANT, Patricia Isabel "Pat" March 3, 1936 – September 8, 2022 Suddenly entered into rest at the Prince Edward County Memorial Hospital, Picton, Ontario, on Thursday, September 8, 2022, Pat Grant of Picton, formerly of Port Dover, died at the age of 86. She was the daughter of the late William and Isabel Lord (nee Thomson) and loving wife of Murray. Patricia was the cherished step-mother of Susan Grant (Steven Thorpe) of Wellington. She is predeceased by her sister Gladys Shortreed (surviving Gerald) of Fergus and she will be fondly remembered by her many nieces and nephews. Pat will be sadly missed by her best friend, Jan Arnou of Port Dover.

Pat was retired as the Director of Nursing at Norfolk General Hospital, a graduate of Toronto Western Hospital, 1958, she earned a B.Sc. in Nursing in 1959, and her Master's in Nursing Administration from University of Western Ontario in 1975. She was a life member of the Lioness Club of Port Dover and she was an avid Dog Lover.

Mrs. Grant rested at the Rushnell Funeral Home – Picton Chapel, 33 Main Street (613-476-2450). In keeping with Patricia's wishes, cremation has taken place. Inurnment at Port Dover Cemetery at a later date. If desired, donations to Loyalist Humane Society (<https://www.loyalsthumane-society.com/>) or Prince Edward County Memorial Hospital Foundation – Back the Build (<https://backthebuild.ca/>) would be appreciated by the family. Online condolences and to share memories of Pat, please visit: www.rushnellfamilyservices.com

NOTICE

Port Dover Maple Leaf

HOW TO REACH US

For more information about placing any ad in the newspaper or for help writing an ad for this page, call or email us at any time.

Telephone 519-583-0112
ads@PortDoverMapleLeaf.com

In Person or by mail
351 Main Street, Port Dover N0A 1N0

You can also reach us through Facebook.com/PortDoverMapleLeaf or at www.PortDoverMapleLeaf.com

For news stories, send information to news@PortDoverMapleLeaf.com



FAMILY NOTICES

CELEBRATION OF LIFE

Please come join family & friends for the Celebration of Life of
Jan Reid
Jan. 12, 1926 - June 20, 2022
Former owner of Campus Corner
On Saturday, Sept. 17, 2022
2-4 p.m.
At Port Dover Scout Hut (Kinsmen Park)
Hwy. 6, Port Dover

HAPPY 90th

Open House
to celebrate
Julius Katona's 90th Birthday
Sunday, Sept. 18
from 1 to 3 pm
at Port Dover Kismen/Scout Hall
95 Hwy 6, Port Dover

JOIN OUR FAMILY IN A
CELEBRATION OF LIFE
HONOURING
ALLAN FETH

Sunday, September 18, 2022
1-3 pm
Delhi District German Home
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A Great Man and a Life Well Lived

NOTICE

Activities for members ages 50+.

Explore your creativity, learn something new, and stay physically active.

Port Dover Lions Community Centre,
801 St. George Street,

Monday to Friday, every week.

For program details, updates, and membership registration information visit portdoverseniors.ca.

Savouring the last of summer

By Lee Garrett
Port Dover Friends of the Library

THE crowds have left, the kids are all back to school, and the leaves are starting to turn. Yes, September has arrived.

But wait, it's not fall yet!

September is a glorious month! It is almost a season all on its own. It is the "in-between" time of the last of summers' rays and the beginning of falls' explosion of colour. It is a time to sit back for a bit and savour these last days of summer, before jumping into all the fall and dare I say winter activities to come.

What's Happening this month

Tuesdays from 3 – 5: Guitar Club – Basic to Advanced Skills
Join fellow guitar enthusiasts as you enjoy good music and learn new songs.

Wednesday, Sept 14 from 1 – 4 pm: Drop in Tech Help.
Stop in and our friendly Tech Guru will assist you.

Fridays: 10:30 – 11 Preschool Story Time.

A lively and interactive gathering filled with stories, songs, rhymes, movement, and social time for kids 0-6 years.

Saturday, Sept 18 from 12- 3 pm: "Trucks to Touch"

Do you have someone in your family who is mesmerized by trucks? Then this is for you! Hal-dimand and Norfolk Counties are celebrating the "Week of the Child and Youth" with a fun activity for kids of all ages. Come on out to the Jarvis Park and Community Centre and get up close and explore a variety of heavy equipment, tractors and cars.

Did You Know ... about the free online resource where you can access millions of rights-cleared images on one site? The Britannica Image Quest will make finding images for school projects, newsletters, painting images etc. so much easier and it's available through the Library. Did I mention it's free? Find it at www.ncpl.ca and click in "online resources."

Culture Days Art Auction is Back! October 2nd to 16th.

Culture Days Art Auction celebrates Culture Days, highlights local artists/artisans and supports NCPL's Library Lifeline! Last year there was a wide variety of wonderful items to bid on. More info on this year's auction on the NCPL website.

The Friends of the Library have also been making plans for some exciting events for later this fall... but more about those next month.

In the meantime, may your September be filled with crisp mornings, good books, and a hot cup of tea to savour.
Till next time.

Norfolk seeks public engagement regarding 2023 budget

NORFOLK County is seeking public input for the 2023 budget.

The budget is the financial plan that directs the flow of funds to programs and services in the municipality. Careful budget planning and control ensure that funds are used as effectively as possible to meet the needs of the community both now and in the future.

"We know that our residents have lots of great feedback to provide," said Chris Everets, Acting Manager, Strategic Financial Planning & Reporting.

"Both staff and Council utilize this information to make well-informed decisions on how best to meet community needs."

There are several ways the public can be involved with the budget process. Norfolk County residents are encouraged to engage with staff via EngageNorfolk.ca, the County's public engagement tool. The webpage includes a survey, a section where the public can submit their ideas to staff, key dates and more.

The survey closes Sept. 30 – all feedback will be included in a Budget Engagement Update report to Norfolk's Budget Committee on Nov. 17. This report will provide Council with an update on the budget process, and include the feedback and themes of the 2023 budget engagement campaign.

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SUPPORT GROUP

BREAST CANCER SUPPORT Group in Port Dover. For information, phone Susan at 289-456-7754 or email smbond44@gmail.com

CHURCH NOTES

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*Church
Services*

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United Churches**

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Sunday Services in August

Woodhouse Service 9:30 a.m.

Grace Service 11:00 a.m.

Except Sunday, Aug. 14th:

Woodhouse Decoration Service 9:30 a.m.,
No service at Grace

Rev. Sheena Marini available
for Pastoral Care- 519-428-6770

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Office Phone: 519-426-0887

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at 9 a.m.**

www.CatholicFamilyParishesNorfolk.dol.ca/

St. Paul's Anglican
PORT DOVER

Worship Sundays at 10 a.m.

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on Facebook and YouTube

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/StPaulsDover>
YouTube: <https://youtube.com/channel/UClyZdpzg5h1rtIDVjGlmjNw>

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SATURDAY MARKET

SILVER LAKE Market. Every Saturday from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at St. Patrick St., Port Dover. Seasonal fruits and vegetables, honey, nuts, meats, fish, baked goods, cheese, preserves, kettle corn, craft beer, micro greens, prepared meals, etc. "Meet you at the Market."

NOTICE

Port Dover & Area Lifeline Foodbank

Foodbank is open to clients Tuesday from 9am-11:45am

Pantry Items Currently In Need:

- Canned Fruits
- Canned Vegetables
- Canned Pasta
- Applesauce
- Kleenex Tissues
- Antiperspirant

Pantry Items Fully Stocked (thank you!):

- Dry Pasta
- Cereal

We urge you to consider us as an option if you are struggling to make ends meet – YOUR community has prepared us to be able to be of support.

Please do not hesitate to contact us.

Phone: 519-909-2845

Email: portdoverfoodbank@gmail.com

Address: 215 Market Street East, Port Dover

Electronic donations can be made - www.canadahelps.org

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PUZZLES • Answers on page 14

Sudoku

	4	2			8			
				9	7		1	
		6	4				7	8
	3	1		8	9			7
	9			4				8
	7		6	2		9	3	
1		7			4	8		
		3		9	7			
			3			2	4	

EVENTS

FUN DARTS every Thursday night at 7:00 p.m. Port Dover Legion, Market St. East. All welcome.

MEAT ROLLS every Saturday from 3:00 to 5:30 p.m. All welcome. Port Dover Legion, Market St. E.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON matinees from 2 to 6 p.m. September 18th entertainment is Chill Baby. Port Dover Legion, Market St. E. All welcome.

FUN EUCHRE - Port Dover Ladies Auxiliary Branch 158 are holding Fun Euchre every Wednesday at 1 p.m. \$2 to play. All welcome.

TREASURE TROVE 2nd Annual on Sat., Sept. 24 from 9 am to 12 noon. St. Paul's Church building and on the lawn, St. George Street, Port Dover. Good clean clothing, linens, books, toys, small kitchen appliances, shoes, Christmas items, etc. Donations accepted from the community – Community Hall Drop Off on Monday 12th; Wednesday 14th; Friday 16th from 9 am to 12 noon. Church Drop Off on Monday 19th; Wednesday 21st; Friday 23rd from 9 am to 12 noon. Please note: No Furniture Accepted. For more information, call Val at 519-583-1068.

DRAW WINNERS

SILVER LAKE MARKET weekly basket winner for September 10 was Karen Edwards of Port Dover. The Market is Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. St. Patrick St., Port Dover.

COMMUNITY LIVING Access congratulates week #36 winner Claudette Taylor of Simcoe - drawn Sept. 9 - Cash Calendar winner of \$100. Complete winners at www.communitylivingaccess.ca Community Living Access supports people with disabilities.

YARD SALE

YARD SALE

Saturday, September 17

8 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Rain Date - Sunday, September 18

12 LESLIE AVE

YARD SALE

Saturday, September 17

8 a.m.

Rain or shine

33 PROSPECT ST

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Away to the Races

- ACROSS
- 1 Exhibition
 - 5 Post grad degree
 - 8 Crush
 - 12 Fairy tale beginning
 - 13 Yes to Yvette
 - 14 Stare lasciviously
 - 15 Toronto raceway
 - 17 Gator's cousin
 - 18 Balcony
 - 19 Ontario raceway
 - 21 Amphibian
 - 24 Swiss river
 - 25 Suffer defeat
 - 28 Dormouse
 - 30 Social and capital ender
 - 33 Tolkien tree creature
 - 34 Bambis
 - 35 Macaws
 - 36 Biblical affirmative
 - 37 Ms Piggy pronouncement
 - 38 Cocaine, slangily
 - 39 Damage
 - 41 Harmony
 - 43 Per _____
 - 46 CFL team
 - 50 Elderly
 - 51 Vancouver raceway
 - 54 Brood of pheasants
 - 55 Praiseful poem
 - 56 Separate
 - 57 Digits
 - 58 Bowyer's raw material
 - 59 Very in Verdun

DOWN

- 1 Chickens and ducks
- 2 Endangered buffalo
- 3 Symbol
- 4 Edit your daybook
- 5 Taro dish

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11
12					13				14			
15					16				17			
18							19	20				
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43	44				45			46		47	48	49
50					51	52	53					
54					55				56			
57					58				59			

- 6 Atli, for one
- 7 Day to Didius Julianus
- 8 Java
- 9 Rural
- 10 Reduce speed
- 11 Mild expletive
- 16 Prefix for chemistry and physics
- 20 Rows
- 22 Kyrgyzstan mountains
- 23 Word after Assiniboia and Flamboro
- 25 Von Braun tutor Willy
- 26 Sole
- 27 Calgary event
- 29 Extremely black
- 31 Marquee acronym
- 32 Moby's mouth
- 34 _____ Erie Racetrack
- 38 Handwriting
- 40 Adjutants
- 42 Portman to pals
- 43 Jargon
- 44 Exchange premium
- 45 Nautical greeting
- 47 Snarl
- 48 Fairy tale villain
- 49 Big fast freighters
- 52 Fruity beverage
- 53 Stitch



Black ribbon now around Royal Oak tree in Port Dover

IN commemoration of the passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, my family has tied a black ribbon around the Royal Oak Tree in the old Watertower Park at the corner of Main Street and St. Andrew Street.

This Oak tree was grown in the early 1990s by our sister Cindy Evans, from an acorn collected from the original Oak tree that was given to our community by King George VI and Queen Elizabeth in 1939. That seedling came from an Oak tree in Windsor Castle Park. Stories are in the Maple Leaf archives.

The original tree in our Park died and Cindy's two-year-old tree was planted in the park by Chris Swarts of Norfolk's Parks and Recreation Department.

Please add your flower or note, if you wish.

Dianne Evans Telfer
Port Dover

NGH loosens visitor rules

NORFOLK General Hospital is easing some of its visitor restrictions.

This means visitation will now be allowed daily. There will also be no restrictions on the total number of visitors in a day; however, patients can only have one person at their bedside at a time.

Visiting hours are daily from 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Sound Off

Call 519-583-0112
evenings 6 pm - 6 am
news@portdover-mapleleaf.com

The money grab for parking is almost over for this year. All us folks that pay hundreds of dollars in taxes each year will be able to park in our town again.

Can anyone please let me know why our children expect their parents to be care providers or babysitters whenever they want? It puts me on a guilt trip every time I have plans and can't assist. Doesn't mean I don't love them but sometimes their expectations are overwhelming, Don't people understand this before they have children?

As I email this, I am watching the Queen's funeral cortege from Balmoral Castle to Holyroodhouse in Edinburgh. I have called the Norfolk County Town Hall and asked if there was going to be a Book of Condolences in the county for us to sign. I was informed "We don't do that kind of thing." I believe that to be in extremely poor taste as this county also did nothing to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee a few months ago.

I'm talking about those politicians who are elected and then forget who they stand for. In our case, I am going to be bold and say that I think our federal elected Member of Parliament has never been really interested in this riding. She is only using it as a stepping stone for her own interests.

I just wanted to say thank you to the Port Dover and Woodhouse Horticultural Society for the spectacular job they do around town. The gardens enhance the beauty of Port Dover so much and I really appreciate the work that they do.

The Hastings Drive stories in last week's newspaper were like reading a gripping novel you can't put down. This is why we need local journalists covering local stories. I keep up to date but didn't know the extent of the Hastings Drive issue. You're not going to find something like that scrolling on Facebook or even read it in more regional papers like The Spec which I also subscribe to and read daily.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN.
-- Kilroy

Those long weekend summer concerts were just fantastic. I went to all three and had fun at all three. Thank you to the organizers, musicians and volunteers. Music is such an important part of a community and it was just fantastic to get together in the summer and listen to great music in the community.

I remember, quite a few years ago now, having Mrs Walker as my kindergarten teacher in Simcoe. She was an extremely nice and welcoming teacher. I'm glad to read in this week's paper that she's doing well and found new artistic endeavors.

With the number of people regularly complaining about Leslyn Lewis I'm starting to wonder who voted for her. She won with almost 50% of the votes so a lot of people in both Hal-dimand and Norfolk counties must have voted for her. I'm not suggesting she won illegally but just that perhaps people voted without doing their homework and are now surprised that she "parachuted" in with her

own agenda.

Bobbi Ann Brady said we need to reclaim our power from elites and special interests that have hijacked the political process. But politics is a distraction. Money is power. If we really want to reclaim our power then we need to take control of the creation of money as a medium of exchange.

I love what the volunteers do around town to keep our parks and gardens so beautiful every summer. I also really liked it when large baskets of flowers hung from the poles along our Main Street and miss that these haven't been on the street. These may seem like small things but they can sure add to the attraction of the community.

Those letters in the paper remind us that teams are always better than individuals on their own. For sure, it's a good lesson. But if you play hockey or baseball or really any team sport it's something you learn pretty quickly. I guess transferring that knowledge to business or life in general isn't always easy.

My husband and I have been glued to the television watching the coverage of Queen Elizabeth and, despite our earlier hesitation, we've now quickly come to accept Queen Consort Camilla as a partner who will support the new King. We now believe we were wrong about her before.

If someone ever tried to deliberately burn my house down, I'd move. The place would be up for sale the next day. Call me a coward, I guess. I have great respect for Mr Richard Mercey for staying but it is something I could not do.

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4	7	2	9	1	3	6	8	5
6	1	5	7	9	8	3	2	4
3	6	8	4	5	2	7	9	1
5	3	9	1	2	6	4	7	8
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2	7	4	9	8	5	1	3	6
8	2	7	5	3	4	6	1	9
4	9	1	2	9	8	5	3	6
9	5	3	8	6	1	2	4	7

S	E	R	T		W	E	A		S	E	O	T
T	H	V	D		E	D	O		E	D	I	N
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H	S	A	M			D	H	P		R	A	I

Sudoku

Away to the Races

FOOD.



Best Deviled Eggs are easy to make.

Deviled eggs are an easy side dish

A man was selling apples. A lady asked, “How much do these apples cost?” He replied, “An apple costs \$1 and an apple seed costs \$2.” Confused, the lady asked, “Why are the seeds so expensive?” He replied, “Apple seeds are actually known to make you so much smarter.” Skeptical, the lady purchased two seeds.

As she walked away, chewing them, she realized that she could have just bought an apple and eaten those seeds. Hurrying back to the man, she said, “Don’t you realize that people could just buy an apple and eat those seeds instead of buying seeds separately?” The man smiled, and said, “See? I told you that you’ll become smarter!”

Now that September is here and “summer mode” has pretty much come to an end, life seems to have a busier pace.

Fall yard clean up has started, evening meetings are being attended, packing school lunches are back in our routines and summer wear is slowly being replaced as we dig out those sweaters needed for cool autumn nights.

Getting into a new routine take time but this past week seemed to fly by faster than a toupee in a hurricane!

With so much going on this week, I took it easy in the kitchen and boiled up some eggs since they’re easy to grab for a quick healthy snack or pack in a school lunch. To kick it up a notch, I decided to make some deviled eggs. They are always a hit in my family and make an easy (I love easy) side dish as well.

BEST DEVILED EGGS
Makes: 24 deviled eggs
Ingredients:
12 large eggs (hard boiled)
1/4 cup mayo
1 tbsp butter, soft
2 tsps yellow mustard
2 tsps Dijon mustard
2 tsps sweet pickle juice, or gherkin
1 tsp sugar
1/8 tsp salt
1/8 tsp pepper
dash Tabasco sauce
paprika for sprinkling
pickle pieces optional for garnish

Directions:
Prepare hard-boiled eggs using your favourite method. Once cooked, place eggs in a bowl of cold water and ice for at least 5 minutes.
Peel eggs gently, starting at the bottom of the shell (for easier peeling) so the whites remain intact then slice in half lengthwise.

Carefully remove yolks and place in medium bowl, place the whites on a serving platter.

With a fork, mash yolks into a fine crumble.
Add remaining ingredients to yolks, mix well until smooth.

Use a spoon or piping bag to fill eggs. If you don’t have a piping bag, place yolk mixture into a sandwich bag and snip off the corner. Squeeze the mixture into the whites. Sprinkle with paprika.

If desired, top with a small slice of sweet pickle, or pickled onion as seen in pictures.

Deviled Eggs should always be stored in the refrigerator in an airtight container and should be eaten within one or two days.

How To Hard Boil Eggs:
Place eggs in a large saucepan and cover with water.
Cook on stovetop over high heat until water begins to boil.
Boil one minute, cover with lid, and remove from heat. Allow to sit for 17 minutes then drain and transfer to an ice bath. Store boiled eggs in the refrigerator in an airtight container with their shell on. Hard boiled eggs will keep about 7 days.

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Crooked Stovepipe Folk Orchestra entertained a large crowd of about a hundred at a free outdoor concert in Riverfront Park on Wednesday, Sept. 7. The concert was presented by Port Dover Harbour Museum. “We’re very grateful that Ian and the Crooked Stovepipe Orchestra came out tonight for the museum. We had a great audience and it was a perfect night, we couldn’t have asked for a better night,” said museum curator Katie Graham.



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