



Zorra NOW

community events and services



Winter 2014



Rural Oxford **Economic Development**

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Message from the Mayor Margaret Lupton



I am pleased to again have the opportunity to share Zorra information with you. In answer to all your questions, I could not use my Township Blog during the election period. Evidently no candidate can use any materials or communication methods originating with the Township

during the campaign period—and that included my blog.

I want to thank everyone again for your kindnesses to me when I appeared at your door during the last three or four months. You were very hospitable. I hope I was able to give you good information about the private landfill proposed for our Township. I welcomed the opportunity to discuss their plans and my concerns with you. Many were very honest about how little you knew and certainly many were very clear how little they thought this proposal would affect them. I hope in the few minutes I had at most doors that I was able to give you good information. I believe this to be probably the most important proposal Zorra has ever faced as a municipality. Please take time to consult our website periodically for updated information.

I am very grateful for your support in the election that followed the campaign. I take your trust very seriously and hope that residents and Council can work together on the issues that lie before us. Successful government

is possible only when strong Councils work together with their residents.

Early in the New Year we are planning to have a special breakfast meeting for all business owners in Zorra Township. It will be an opportunity for them to meet our Rural Economic Development Officer and learn what work she will be undertaking. I hope it will be a good chance for networking and Council will be expecting to hear suggestions for what help would be most useful to you. Details have not been finalized but please watch the Township website for information---or call your Councillor. We are hoping for a good turnout and that those who attend will find it to be a worthwhile event.

Finally, all of your Council, Township staff and employees join me in wishing you much joy and happiness as we enter a very special time of year. I hope this year you and those dear to you share many special moments together and that we all look forward to a happy, healthy and very productive 2015.

Wishing you many blessings of the season,

Margaret Lupton.



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Please be advised that the winter parking restrictions will be enforced starting November 15th and remain in place until March 31, 2015. Parking is not permitted on any road or street from 1:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. 7 days a week during this period. Any vehicle owner found in violation of this by-law could be fined or have their vehicle removed/towed at owners expense. The fine for this violation is set at \$50.

SNOW REMOVAL ONTO ROADWAYS

This is a reminder to all residents that depositing snow from private property onto a public roadway is dangerous and in contravention of the Road Protection By-law 6-95. Pushing or placing any snow or ice or any other obstruction of a roadway is an offence that carries a Provincial Offences Fine of \$105.00.

MOTORIZED VEHICLES

Please note that the Motorized Vehicle By-law 18-90, prohibits motorized vehicles in public parks within Zorra Township and is subject to a Provincial Offences Charge \$105. Motorized vehicles includes but is not limited to recreational all-terrain vehicles (ATV's) and snowmobiles.

Parks prohibiting motorized vehicles are as follows:

Thamesford District Recreation Centre – Entire property, Grace Patterson Park, Thamesford North Park, Bob Fisher Soccer Field, Lions (South) Park, Matheson Park, Community Centre Park, Wallace Park, Memorial Park and Harrington Park.

NOTE: Unless permission is obtained from property owner, ATVs and Snowmobiles are prohibited on private property. All trespassing complaints should be forwarded to the Ontario Provincial Police.

Thank you for your co-operation.

For more information contact Mathew Paul, By-law Enforcement Officer at 519-485-2490 ext. 230

RECREATIONAL VEHICLES (RV's):

If you are an owner of a recreational vehicle (including trailers and boats) and you reside in a Residential Zone, please keep in mind that the Zoning By-law regulates both the size of RV/boat, location, and length of time to which it can be parked in your driveway.

'The owner or occupant of any lot in a Residential Zone may store or park not more than two recreational vehicles that do not exceed 9m (29.5 ft) in total length in the front yard of such lot for a total period of not more than 72 hours in one calendar month.'

You may park your RV at the interior side lot and or rear yard provided that it is more than 1 metre from the lot line.

Public Works

WINTER ROADWAY MAINTENANCE ON TOWNSHIP OF ZORRA ROADS

The winter level of service to be delivered is prescribed in the Minimum Maintenance Standards – Ontario Regulation 239/02 regarding snow and ice control. The Minimum Maintenance Standards are a regulation of the Municipal Act, 2001.

Service will be delivered during the following hours: Monday to Friday - 7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. with additional hours as determined by weather conditions Saturday, Sunday, holidays - as determined by weather conditions.

Aden Corcoran, C.E.T. -Director of Public Works

REDUCED LOAD SEASON

An early reminder to all drivers of heavy trucks and equipment that the reduced load season takes effect for the period of February 15 to April 30 inclusive each year. In accordance with By-law 21-03, signs will be posted on applicable Township roadways.

WHY NOT PAY YOUR TAXES MONTHLY?

Sign up now for the 10 or 12 month Pre-Authorized Payment Plan for 2015.

If you are interested in enrolling in this payment plan for 2015, you can find an authorization form on our website at www.zorra.on.ca or call Kelly Hall at 519-485-2490 ext 222. Applications need to be submitted as soon as possible to ensure enrolment for 2015.

If you are currently enrolled in the pre-authorized payment plan, you do not have to re-apply each year, only if there is a change with the account.

WHY NOT TRY PAYING YOUR TAXES ON-LINE?

Online or telephone banking is available for making monthly, arrears, or regular instalments. All banks accept Zorra as a client and the account number required is your ROLL NUMBER from your tax bill, starting after 3227.

COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY OWNERS ONLY!!!!!!!

VACANCY REBATE PROGRAM

If your commercial or industrial property was vacant for a period of up to three months for 2014 you are eligible for a vacancy rebate. Applications can be found on our website or picked up at the Township Office. The deadline for filing is February 27, 2015

MUNICIPAL PROPERTY ASSESSMENT CORPORATION (MPAC)

MPAC is a not-for-profit corporation funded by all Ontario municipalities. MPAC's role is to accurately value and classify all properties in Ontario in compliance with the Assessment Act and related regulations set by the Government of Ontario.

YOUR PROPERTY. MPAC'S ASSESSMENT. KNOW MORE ABOUT IT.

Learn how & why your property was assessed the way it was with "AboutMyProperty". You can also compare your property assessment with others in your neighbourhood and community, all free of charge. Look for your Role number and Access key on your Property Assessment Notice and visit www.aboutmyproperty.ca

Also filing a Request for Reconsideration (RfR) is a pre-condition to filing an Assessment Review Board (ARB) appeal for properties in the residential, farm or managed forests property class. The deadline to file an RfR is March 31, 2015.

WHEN WILL MY 2015 TAX BILL BE MAILED?

They will be mailed the 1st week of February, with due dates of February 27 and May 29, 2015. Unfortunately, legislation states that the municipality is only allowed to bill half of the previous year's taxes, therefore an increase/decrease in taxes for ratepayers will not be until the Final 2015 Tax Bill which are processed in August 2015.

Season Greetings and Merry Christmas from the Tax Department and all the best for the New Year.

Kelly Hall, Tax Collector/Deputy Treasurer
519-485-2490 x 222 khall@zorra.on.ca

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Derek Stead, Ingersoll Email: dstead@oxfordmutual.com	(519) 485-0500
Erica Unger Thamesford Email: eunger@oxfordmutual.com	(519) 285-3514
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Township of Zorra Fire Department



Carbon Monoxide Safety

Make sure YOUR household is safe from carbon monoxide poisoning. Ensure all fuel-burning appliances and vents are inspected annually. Find a registered contractor at COsafety.ca. Install and regularly test carbon monoxide alarms. Over 80% of all carbon monoxide deaths and injuries in Ontario occur in homes. Symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning are similar to the flu without the fever.



Beat the Silent Killer Stay safe from carbon monoxide.



Ensure all fuel-burning appliances in your home are inspected annually.

Install and regularly test carbon monoxide alarms.

COsafety.ca
@TSSAOntario

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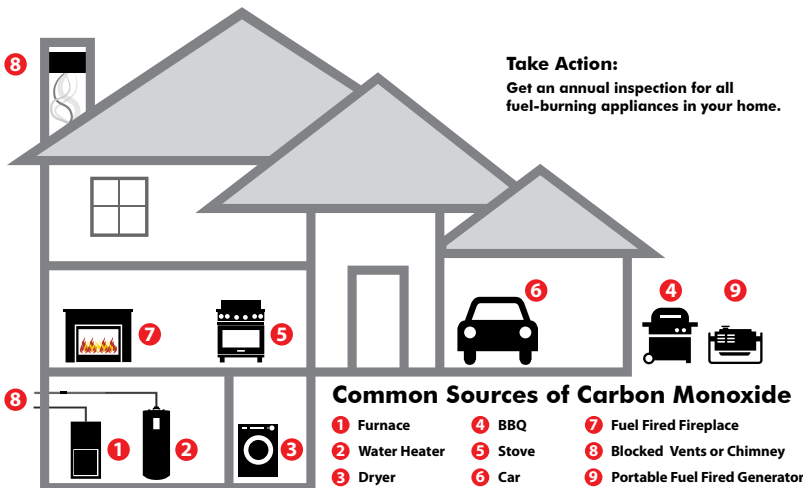
CO Awareness Kickoff

Left to right: Paul Mitchell (Dist. Chief), Jim Manzer (Dist. Chief), Margaret Lupton (Mayor), Ernie Hardeman (MPP), John McFarlan (Fire Chief), Nelly Green (OFM), Bob Ross (Dist. Chief)

BE PREPARED!

An emergency survival kit can help you and your family survive for up to 72 hours when properly prepared. Tailor your kits to your family's need and be sure to maintain your kit by checking its contents regularly and replacing any used or expired items. Ensure your entire family knows where the emergency kit is located.

Beat the Silent Killer Carbon Monoxide Prevention



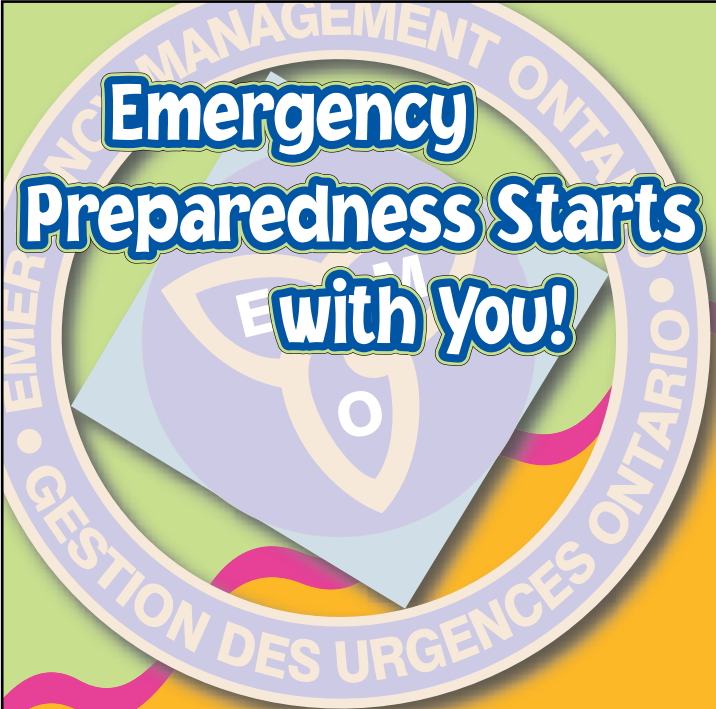
KEEP YOUR TREE FIRE FREE

Keep all candles away from the Christmas tree.

Make sure the base of the tree is immersed in water at all times.



COsafety.ca
@TSSAOntario
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@ontfiremarshal



Emergency Preparedness Starts with You!

Emergency Survival Kit

In the event of an emergency, everyone should be prepared to take care of themselves and their families for up to three days. Make sure that your emergency survival kit has:

- Flashlight and batteries
- Radio and batteries or crank radio
- Spare batteries
- First-aid kit
- Candles and matches/lighter
- Extra car keys and cash
- Important papers (identification)
- Food and bottled water
- Clothing and footwear
- Blankets or sleeping bags
- Toilet paper and other personal items
- Medication
- Whistle (to attract attention, if needed)
- Playing cards, games

Be Prepared! Not Scared!

For more information please visit
Emergency Management Ontario at
www.ontario.ca/emo



MUNICIPAL HOLIDAY CLOSURES

The Municipal Office will be closed at 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday December 24th, 2014 and will re-open Monday January 5th at 8:30 a.m. In case of an emergency requiring Township staff, please call 519-485-2490 and leave a message at extension 226. Messages will be monitored on a daily basis and forwarded to a contact person.

At any time during this holiday season, the Township Public Works Department will provide service if weather conditions warrant snow removal to ensure public safety.

MERRY CHRISTMAS from the Township of Zorra Staff!

Township of Zorra Hunting Regulations

Sunday gun hunting in the Township of Zorra is prohibited. For further information visit the Ministry of Natural Resources website: www.mnr.gov.on.ca

In accordance with Township By-law #43-09, Municipal licenses are not required for hunting rabbit and pheasant in the Township of Zorra.



Committee Vacancies



Township of Zorra Council is seeking individuals to fill vacancies on the following committees:

- Fence Viewers
- Zorra Recreation Advisory Committee
- Embro Cemetery Board
- Zorra Community Policing Committee

Appointments to the Committees expire on December 31, 2018. If you are interested in applying to serve on one or more of the Committees please contact the below by December 22, 2014.

For further information visit www.zorra.on.ca

Karen Martin, Clerk

kmartin@zorra.on.ca • 519-485-2490 ext. 228

Ontario Sport and Recreation Communities Fund

ZRAC would like remind recreation groups that there is a grant program available that supports a vision of getting and keeping Ontarians active in community sport, recreation and physical activity. Keep an eye out for further information!

Eligibility Requirements for the 2014-2015 were as follows:

Incorporated not-for-profit organizations that can offer high-quality sport, recreation and physical activity programs and have operated and been incorporated for at least one year in Ontario (this includes First Nations, Local Services Boards and municipalities). The deadline was mid-February. www.grants.gov.on.ca



ZORRA COMMUNITY POLICING COMMITTEE

9-1-1 Pocket Dials

With more and more people using mobile devices, police services in Ontario are reporting an increase in unintentional 9-1-1 calls and so-called pocket dials. When unintentionally dialed 9-1-1 calls are made to dispatch centres, they become a public safety issue and can drain on law enforcement resources. To date in 2014 approximately 10% of 9-1-1 calls in Oxford County have been pocket or misdialled calls. Pocket dials happen when a keypad on a mobile device carried in a pocket, purse, backpack, etc. is accidentally pressed. For every unintentional/pocket 9-1-1 call received, an operator must determine whether an emergency exists.

What the public can do to prevent pocket or unintentional 9-1-1 calls:

- Lock keypads by using the keypad feature or put the device in stand-by mode. Keypad locks, some of which can be programmed to activate automatically, prevent a mobile device from responding to keystrokes until the user unlocks the keypad using a short combination of key presses.
- Turn off the 9-1-1 auto-dial feature, if your mobile device has one.
- Refrain from programming a wireless device to speed or automatically dial 9-1-1 and prevent small children from playing with such devices, even if they are inactivated they may still dial 9-1-1.
- Remove battery and SIM card from old phones

If you place an unintentional 9-1-1 call:

The caller should stay on the line. Every 9-1-1 call is taken seriously. Users are urged to let the operator know it was a pocket dial/unintentional call. This will eliminate the need for the emergency operator to call back to determine if there is a legitimate emergency, saving precious seconds and allowing them to move on to the next emergency call.

Let's all do our part in keeping Zorra Township safe.

The holiday season is approaching and there will be NO changes to garbage collection for Zorra residents this year. Please be sure to have your items to the curb by 7am on your collection day.

Garbage and recycling update

For residents of the Township of Zorra

Recycling reminder

Please sort your recycling into two boxes: one for containers and one for fibres. Recycling in clear or blue plastic bags will not be collected unless it is shredded paper.

Extra recycling after the holidays?

Squish down cans, squeeze the air out of plastic bottles, and flatten and bundle cardboard. Additional blue boxes are available at the Zorra Township office for \$4.50 for a 60L container or \$5.50 for an 83L container. Lids are \$1.50.

Holiday collection schedule

Christmas

Garbage and recycling curbside collection for Zorra Township will take place as normally scheduled.

New Years

Garbage and recycling curbside collection for Zorra Township will take place as normally scheduled.

Family Day

Residents that normally receive collection on Mondays should set out material on Saturday, February 14 in lieu of Family Day on February 16.

Winter collection tips

Please use black or green garbage bags when there is snow. White or clear bags are hard to see.

When snow piles up, please shovel a small area for your blue boxes and garbage bag. Drivers aren't able to climb up a snowbank to collect your garbage or recycling.

Worried about the wind?

Make sure your blue box is not overflowing. Try a lid for your blue box, available at the Township Office for \$1.50

Extra waste to dispose of over the holiday season?

Bring your waste to the Oxford County Waste Management Facility at 384060 Salford Road, just East of Salford. Items such as tires, electronics, scrap metal, household hazardous waste, bale wrap, and recyclables can be brought in at no charge, as long as they are not in the same load as chargeable waste. Tipping fees will apply to garbage and construction and demolition material. All fees are cash only.

Learn more about garbage and recycling collection in Zorra Township
Visit oxfordcounty.ca/waste



Oxford County Waste Management Facility
Monday to Friday: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Saturday: 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
519-539-9800 | 1-866-537-7778

Waste Diversion Calendars 2014/2015

Be sure not to throw out the current Waste Diversion Calendar as it provides information through to the end of April 2015. New calendars will be mailed out next spring. Be sure to refer to the calendar regularly for information regarding your pickup days as well as special collection events going on around the county.

Christmas Tree Disposal

For all Township residents, natural Christmas trees can be taken to any Leaf and Yard Waste Depots to be recycled. Please remember to remove all decorations and plastic bags used for transportation.



The Leaf and Yard Waste Depot is located across from the Kintore Public Works Yards at 783036 Road 78.

The Thamesford Lions Club will pick-up natural trees within the Village of Thamesford on Friday, January 2, 2015 or Saturday, January 3, 2015. Trees are to be placed at the curb no later than 9 a.m. on January 2, 2015.

Oxford County Landfill Site

Location:

384060 Salford Road (County Road 46), Salford

Landfill Hours:

Monday to Friday 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Saturday 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Please note that the Oxford County Landfill site is closed on statutory holidays. Tipping Fees will be applied to each load (some exceptions apply).

The Oxford County landfill will be closed on Thursday December 25, 2014, Friday December 26, 2014 and Thursday January 1, 2015. Regular hours will be maintained all other days.

BATTERY RECYCLING



Since the start of this program in September 2012, the Township of Zorra has collected and returned 536lbs. of batteries to Raw Materials Company for Recycling.

The Township of Zorra offers a free program for recycling of household batteries through Raw Materials Company Inc. (RMC). The program is being offered at four locations throughout the Township:

- Township of Zorra Municipal Office, 274620 27th Line, RR 3, Ingersoll, ON N5C 3J6 – phone 519-485-2490
- Thamesford Arena, 85 Middleton Street, Thamesford, ON N0M 2M0 – phone 519-285-2236
- Embro Arena, 355644 35th Line, Embro, ON N0J 1J0 – phone 519-475-6061
- Harrington Hall & Library, 539 Victoria Street, Harrington, ON N0J 1J0 – phone 519-475-6909

Please feel free to drop off your batteries at any of the above locations.

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Dave MacKenzie, MP

Member of Parliament

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E-mail: dave.mackenzie.c1a@parl.gc.ca

Tillsonburg Office

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Township of Zorra Memorial Trees



The Township of Zorra Memorial Tree Program was established in 1995 by the Zorra Cemetery Committee and Council in co-operation with the Upper Thames River Conservation Authority (U.T.R.C.A) and various funeral directors in the immediate area. Memorial trees are planted in various public locations throughout the Township. Planting takes place annually in the Spring at a pre-selected and approved site made in consultation with the U.T.R.C.A. A donation may be arranged through the Township of Zorra or one of the participating funeral directors. The name of the deceased will be published in the "Memorial Tree Dedication Record."

The current cost of having a memorial tree planted is \$40.00. (An income tax receipt will be issued by the U.T.R.C.A).

A name plaque may also be purchased to recognize the individual and will be posted on three Memorial Tree signs throughout Zorra Township.

The Rural Oxford Economic Development Corporation

The Township of Zorra has partnered with the Townships of East Zorra-Tavistock, Norwich and South-West Oxford to form an economic development corporation to serve rural Oxford. The Rural Oxford Economic Development Corporation (ROEDC) has been established to direct the overall economic development direction and activities for Rural Oxford. Established throughout 2013-14, the Board has finalized incorporation, engaged an economic development professional to lead the organization, and is now ready to implement strategies to support rural business growth. Watch for more information at www.roedc.ca

The Board of Directors for ROEDC recently announced the appointment of Bernia Wheaton as their economic development officer, effective September 3, 2014. Ms. Wheaton brings more than 16 years of relevant industry experience to her new role.

"We welcome Bernia's experience and leadership to

the Rural Oxford business community," said Mr. Jim Pickard, Chair of the Search Committee. "In her new role as president, she will be responsible for promoting business growth and relocation opportunities throughout the municipalities of rural Oxford, supporting job creation, improving tax assessment, and showcasing rural Oxford as a place to do business."

"Rural Oxford is uniquely positioned in the heart of southern Ontario with exceptional access to skilled labour, excellent transportation routes, an innovative manufacturing community, and a diverse and outstanding agri-food industry. Business leaders are creating jobs and they are delivering results in the midst of Ontario's toughest economic challenges," said Wheaton. "I am excited to be part of the new Rural Oxford Economic Development Corporation, building on Oxford County's great brand and fully exploiting the opportunities in the municipalities of rural Oxford."

As an entrepreneur and owner of a business consulting firm, Ms. Wheaton has experience in introducing economic development to rural communities. Prior to joining the Rural Oxford EDC, Ms. Wheaton served as the inaugural Economic Development Officer at the County of Perth where she received numerous awards and media attention for her innovative approach to rural economic development. Her mandate included providing support to retail, agriculture, and manufacturing sectors, while implementing award winning business retention and expansion strategies that dramatically reduced unemployment rates. Her success in mitigating economic barriers in rural Ontario led to an invitation to speak before the Standing Committee on General Government at the Ontario Legislature in support of Bill 11. The Attracting Investment and Creating Jobs Act of 2012 was subsequently passed to support the continuation and establishment of development funds in order to promote



regional economic development in eastern and southwestern Ontario. On numerous occasions, the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food, and Rural Affairs has showcased Bernia's work in economic development as best practices for rural Ontario.

"We welcome Bernia to our region and I look forward to working together to make great things happen in Oxford County," said Mr. Don McKay, Chair of the Rural Oxford EDC Board. "Bernia's experience is a tremendous asset to us as we launch this economic development corporation. Her results-oriented approach and ability to think strategically will play a pivotal role in extending our track record of job creation, rural innovation, and vibrant

communities, while helping businesses to grow profitability."

"Businesses in Zorra Township will benefit greatly from having in-house expertise available to support expansion and growth opportunities," said Mayor Margaret Lupton, member the Rural Oxford EDC Board. "We have heard the needs and wants of our business community and this new venture will be there to support our businesses."



"I'm looking forward to meeting with business owners and community groups in Zorra Township. If you're needing help with an issue your business is facing, please contact us."

Bernia Wheaton
Economic Development Officer, ROEDC
bernia@roedc.ca 226-228-8283 • www.roedc.ca

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8 TIPS for a safer, healthier home

Clean your hands often

Keeping your hands clean is one of the best ways to stop you and others from getting sick. The right way to wash your hands is to lather for 20 seconds with soap and rinse well. You can also use an alcohol based hand rub with at least 60% alcohol and rub for 15-30 seconds.

Stay home when you're sick

If you work in health care, child care or in food service, it is especially important to stay away from work until you feel better or, if you've had vomiting or diarrhea, until 48 hours after your symptoms stop. Remember to cover your cough, and don't share eating utensils, drinking glasses, towels or other personal items.

Clean and disinfect surfaces often

Disinfecting is different from cleaning: cleaning removes dirt and soil, while disinfecting destroys harmful bacteria. Surfaces may look clean, but some germs can live on surfaces for hours or even days. Disinfect areas where germs could spread easily to others, for instance, in the kitchen (where bacteria from raw food can live on counters and sinks) and in the bathroom. Clean and disinfect the bathroom if someone in the house had a stomach illness, a cold or the flu.

Get immunized

Immunization saves lives. As you grow, you do not outgrow your need for immunization. Make sure you and your children get the shots suggested by your doctor or health care provider. Get your flu shot! The single best way to prevent the flu is to get vaccinated every year. Health care workers who take care of you or your family members should be immunized against the flu. Oxford County Public Health offers free flu shot clinics every fall. We also provide free immunization services to all residents of Oxford County in our offices at 410 Buller Street in Woodstock and other locations across the County.

Avoid contact with wild animals and insects

Wild animals and insects can carry diseases that are harmful to you and your pets, but there are simple precautions you can take:

- Don't leave food around and keep garbage cans sealed.
- Get rid of any standing water on your property.
- Seal entrance holes on the inside or outside of your home.
- Use insect repellent containing DEET and do a routine "tick check" after spending time outdoors.
- Wear light-coloured clothing that covers the skin.
- Don't go near stray dogs and cats.

Be careful with pets

Pets can pass harmful germs and parasites on to people. Babies and children under 5 are more likely to get diseases from animals: always supervise their activities around pets for their health and safety. Remember:

- Dogs and cats MUST be immunized for rabies. It is the law in Ontario.
- Keep your child's sandbox covered when not in use.
- Wash your hands after visiting farms, petting zoos and fairs, and after handling turtles, snakes and other reptiles.

Handle and prepare food safely

There are four simple steps to avoiding foodborne illness that you can practice every day:

- CLEAN: Clean hands and surfaces often
- SEPARATE: Don't cross-contaminate one food with another
- COOK: Cook foods to proper temperatures
- CHILL: Refrigerate foods promptly

Use antibiotics appropriately

Antibiotics don't work against viruses such as colds or the flu. If used incorrectly, they can make bacteria resistant to treatment, making it harder to get rid of illnesses. When in doubt, check with your health care provider, and always follow label instructions carefully.

My Zorra



Within Zorra Township are individuals who graciously give of their time and efforts to make their community the best it can be. They do so quietly and, quite often, without recognition. If you know one of these special individuals within your community and would like to see them recognized for what they do, we'd love to help you by featuring them in MY ZORRA in the next edition of Zorra Now.

Simply forward, your name, your community, the individual's name, the reason(s) why, and a picture of the individual to admin@zorra.on.ca prior to **April 1, 2015**. Be sure to mark the subject as MY ZORRA!

AJ BAKER HAS BEEN SAVED!



Written by Marcus Ryan

On October 14th, after almost two years of work by the AJ Baker community, the TVDSB debated and voted on the North-West Oxford Elementary ARC. Senior Administration again recommended closing AJ Baker PS. The ARC (including members from the AJ Baker community and all other schools in the ARC) recommended keeping AJ Baker open and closing none of the schools. The Trustees not only agreed to keep AJ Baker open, it was a unanimous decision! And, when the vote was concluded, one of the Trustees went as far as to make a motion as a result of this decision "That the Chair write to the Ministry on behalf of the Board to express the complex concerns related to capital and ongoing funding for community schools that have been identified in the accommodation review process." This motion was also unanimously passed.

AJ Baker is remaining open for education: spread the word, families can enrol their children with confidence!

Our community has so many people to be thankful to: our Zorra Council, MPP Ernie Hardeman, TVDSB Trustees, the Thamesford PS and Zorra Highland Park PS communities, but mostly our own community! So many of us did so much to make this happen. It was hard work but it CAN be done: you CAN make a difference. The Save AJ Baker group has not stopped attending Board meetings, we are still working to ensure that now that AJ Baker's long term future is intact, that a bricks and mortar replacement for the portapac is in store!



Oxford County Public Health & Emergency Services

410 Buller Street Woodstock, ON N4S 4N2

519-539-9800 | 1-800-755-0394

www.oxfordcounty.ca/health

www.facebook.com/oxfordcountypublichealth

ELECTION 2014

The Township of Zorra would like to thank all those electors who cast their vote for the 2014 Municipal Election on October 27, 2014. The final voter turnout was 48.45%!

The voter turnout broken down by ward is below:

Ward 1	724 of 1528	47.38%
Ward 2	688 of 1546	44.50%
Ward 3	818 of 1730	47.28%
Ward 4	840 of 1532	54.83%

Total 3,070/6,336 eligible electors voted (48.45%).

The final election results were as follows:

Margaret Lupton – 1774 votes

Gordon MacKay – 1283 votes

All Councillor positions were acclaimed.

Thank-you to outgoing Zorra Councillors Jim Verwer (5 terms on Council) and Gordon MacKay (2 terms on Council).

Congratulations to the 2014-2018 Township Council

Mayor Margaret Lupton

Ward 1 Councillor Ron Forbes

Ward 2 Councillor Marie Keasey

Ward 3 Councillor Marcus Ryan

Ward 4 Councillor Doug Matheson

The Vote by Mail process is extremely user-friendly and accessible for all electors. Furthermore, it is 100% confidential as the declaration form is immediately removed from the secrecy ballot and they are both placed in separate containers.



**Marcus Ryan,
Ward 3 Councillor**

Marcus was born in Oshawa and raised in Maple Grove (Municipality of Clarington). He attended Maple Grove East and West Public Schools, Courtice Secondary School, and then

Queen's University in Kingston where he graduated with a degree in Mechanical Engineering. He has been married to his wife Theresa for 20 years and they are raising two children (Charlie and Fiona who attend A.J. Baker P.S. in Kintore).

Marcus moved to Stratford to start work in the automotive industry in 1995 and worked at Manchester Plastics (which became Collins & Aikman Plastics), Dura Automotive, and Stackpole, working in a variety of positions from Facilities Engineer, to Product Engineer, to Engineering Supervisor. During this time Theresa found their current home outside Uniondale (formerly Wildwood).

In 2005 He became a stay at home Dad and in 2012 started a small engineering business from home.

Marcus has been active in the community volunteering at A.J. Baker P.S., coaching with Kintore Optimists Soccer, but mainly through the community's successful efforts to Save AJ Baker.

Marcus's interests include kayaking, wildlife, environmental issues, Formula 1, and politics.

Marcus looks forward to serving the Township of Zorra.



**Douglas Matheson,
Ward 4 Councillor**

For those who don't know me, I am proud to have lived in Zorra Township all my life. I attended Bennington School before going to Highland Park Public School and then went to St. Marys District Collegiate.

I was a 4H member and later a leader of Bennington Calf Club. I served on Embro Fair Board, first as a Junior Director delegated by the Bennington Junior Farmer Club. I went on to become President of both these local organizations.

I have operated a dairy farm on the 31st Line all my career, milking 50 cows in a tie stall barn. I also served as a member of the Oxford Dairy Producer Committee for six years and Chair for one. This group promotes milk and the milk industry within Oxford County and also provides input to the provincial board via our local board member. I represented the Oxford Dairy Producer Committee on the Oxford Agricultural Advisory Committee for six years, providing input on agricultural matters to County Council as needed.

My wife Karen and I have been married for 30 years. In our spare time, we enjoy travelling, walking in this beautiful Ward and spending time with friends and family. I am also an avid curler, and you will find me at the St. Marys Curling Club on most Thursday evenings during the winter. Karen operates her own business, 31st Line Strategic Communications, providing brand, advertising and public relations services for local businesses as well as to large North American agricultural clients.

I am very pleased to represent our Ward on Township Council and I look forward to talking to you about what Council could do to make Zorra Township a better place to live and to make a living. Please contact me any time at 519-475-6051 or dmatheson@zorra.on.ca

Thamesford Events

Thamesford Santa Claus Parade

December 21, 2014 at 6:00 p.m.

Thamesford Arena



Public Skating:

Every Sunday (ends March 22)
2:00 to 3:00pm
Except Holidays

Parent/Tot Skate:

Every Tuesday (ends March 24) 9:30 to 10:30am

Adult/Senior Skate:

Every Tuesday (ends March 24) 10:30 to 11:30am

December 2014

Lions Community Carol Sing

Sunday, December 7 - 7:00 p.m.

Free Public Skating Sponsored by Tim Hortons

December 21, 2014 2:00 to 3:00 p.m.

December 23, 2014 2:00 to 3:00 p.m.

December 28, 2014 2:00 to 3:00 p.m.

December 30, 2014 2:00 to 3:00 p.m.

January 2015

Free Public Skating Sponsored by Tim Hortons

January 4, 2015 2:00 to 3:00 p.m.

PA Day Public Skate

January 16, 2015

Higgins Old Shifters Tournament

January 22-25, 2015 (Dance on January 24)

February 2015

Thamesford Minor Hockey – Las Vegas Night

February 9

Lions Family Day Event

February 16, 2015

Free skating 2:00 to 4:00pm

Food and Silent Auction in the Hall at 5:00pm

March 2015

Thamesford Skating Club Carnival

March 29

Ice Ends March 29, 2015

(depending on the Thamesford Trojans Playoff Schedule)

April 2015

Lions Ham Hassel

Embro Events

Embro Zorra Community Centre

Public Skating:

Every Sunday (ends March 15)
Except Holidays

2:00 to 3:00pm

Parent/Tot Skate:

Every Wednesday (ends March 25)

10:00 to 11:00am

Adult Skate:

Every Wednesday (ends March 25)

11:00 to 12:00pm

Pick-Up Hockey

Every Saturday

9:30 to 11:00 p.m.

Contact Dave 226-228-3769

December 2013

Public Skating Sponsored by Tim Hortons

December 22, 2014 2:00-4:00p.m.

December 28, 2014 2:00-3:00p.m.

December 29, 2014 2:00-4:00p.m.

December 30, 2014 2:00-4:00p.m.

December 31, 2014 2:00-3:00p.m.

March 2015

Skating Carnival

March 15

Ice Ends April 12, 2015

Special thanks to Tim Hortons for sponsoring our Christmas Public Skating.

HOLIDAY HOURS

The Thamesford District Recreation Centre will close at 12:00 p.m. on December 24, 2014 and will open on December 27, 2014. It will also close at 12:00 p.m. on December 31, 2014 and will open on January 2, 2015.

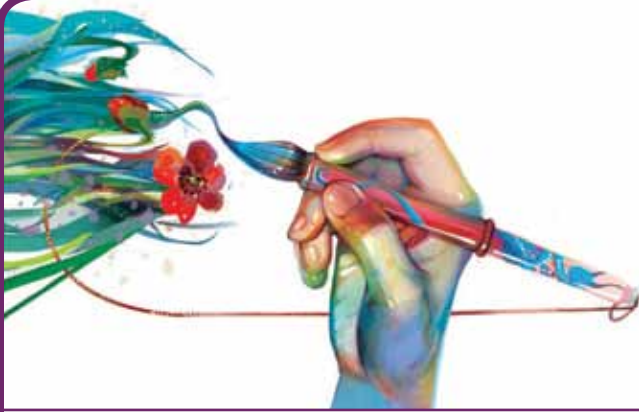
The Embro West Zorra Community Centre will close at 12:00 p.m. on December 24, 2014 and will open on December 27, 2014. It will also close at 4:00 p.m. on December 31, 2014 and will open on January 2, 2015.

ZORRA GIRLS FUZION HOCKEY!

Come and see what all the fun is about!!!

Visit: www.zgha.ca





Zorra Elementary School Students show Creative, Artistic Abilities

Throughout the month of October Grades 4,5,6 and 7/8 students at our three elementary schools in Zorra had the opportunity to participate in a media literacy contest offered by the Heroes of Zorra committee. The objective was to encourage the young people to learn more about our Military Heroes while also enhancing their literacy skills. The results were overwhelming and it is hoped that in the near future permission will be received from the individual parents and the student's work could be uploaded onto the Heroes of Zorra web site under the 'Youth' section.

A Sub-committee was created in August and consisted of Lorraine Miletic, Scott Naisbit, Dorothy McKay, Cassie McCorquodale (all teachers) and Roy Youngs and Shirley McCall Hanlon. Four, grade specific tasks were developed in a user-friendly format for the teachers to share with their students. Each activity connected to specific curricular learning expectations. This could not have been accomplished without the guidance of the teachers who willingly volunteered to support this initiative.

Here are your individual winners by grade and school:

Grade 4 - (Newspaper article)

AJ Baker P.S. - winner is Claire Rutledge
Thamesford P.S. - winner is Amelia Bremner
1 Honourable Mention to Alison Gates from AJ Baker
Grand Champion for Grade 4 is Claire Rutledge from AJ Baker

Grade 5 - (Collage)

winner is Jessica Hatch from AJ Baker
Grand Champion Grade 5 is Jessica Hatch

Grade 6 - (Pamphlet)

Zorra Highland Park PS - winner is Owen Fraser
AJ Baker P.S. - winner is Kurtis Angell
1 Honourable Mention to Caleb Whetstone from ZHPPS
Grand Champion for Grade 6 is Owen Fraser from ZHPPS

Grade 7/8 - (VIDEO)

AJ Baker P.S. - winner is Eva Hatch
AJ Baker P.S. - 1 Honourable Mention to Jonny Kimani
and Maguire Morning
Grand Champion for Grades 7/8 is Eva Hatch

Each of the winners received \$15 and a Heroes of Zorra medal. Those receiving Honourable Mention were given a HOZ medal. Finally, the "Grand Champion" for each grade was recognized by the teacher of that class receiving \$50 to put towards the purchase of supplies/equipment to enhance their literacy programming.

If you have an opportunity to congratulate these local students, please do so. They have put a lot of thought and effort into their entries and we would like to congratulate each and every one who entered. It is evident that you have enhanced your knowledge of our "Heroes Of Zorra".

Shirley McCall Hanlon, Chair, *Heroes Of Zorra committee*



FLU SEASON

**FLU VACCINES ARE HERE. PLEASE CALL
OUR OFFICE FOR YOUR VACCINE!**

**Dr. P Diavolitsis Office
519-285-3770**

**Thamesford Medical Clinic, 141 Dundas St
W, Thamesford ON
No appointment necessary**



Zorra Addressing

In order to ensure that you are properly sending and receiving mail in the Township of Zorra please follow the below addressing layout as provided by Canada Post:

NAME: Mr. R. Smith
 911 # and ROAD NAME: 231100 23rd Line
 RURAL ROUTE: RR2
 VILLAGE and PROVINCE and POSTAL CODE: THAMESFORD, ONTARIO N0J 1J0

Canada Post noted that mail items are often missing the 911 #, please ensure that you include this in your addressing.



Smoking to be Prohibited on Patios, Sports Fields and Playgrounds

Ontario is taking action to protect children and youth from the harmful effects of smoking. Starting January 1, 2015, it will be illegal to:

- Smoke on bar and restaurant patios
- Smoke on playgrounds and public sports fields and surfaces
- Sell tobacco on university and college campuses

Signs will be going up throughout the Township of Zorra implementing these changes.

ADVERTISING RATES



	Size	Rate (HST included)
Business Card *NEW	3.5 x 2.25 inches	\$96.05
¼ Page	3.5 x 4.75 inches	\$169.50
½ Page Vertical	3.5 x 9.5 inches	\$282.50
½ Page Horizontal	3.5 x 4.75 inches	\$282.50
Full Page	6.875 x 9.5 inches	\$536.75

For further information and to book your space please contact Jill Miles-Redman at the Township Office at 519-485-2490 ext. 231 or jmiles-redman@zorra.on.ca.

Council



Mayor

Margaret Lupton
417129 41st Line, R.R. 2
Embros, ON N0J 1J0
Tel: (519) 475-4443
Email: mlupton@zorra.on.ca



Ward 2 Councillor

Marie Keasey
114 Stanley Street South
Thamesford, ON N0M 2M0
Tel: (519) 285-2542
Email: mkeasey@zorra.on.ca



Ward 4 Councillor

Doug Matheson
316342 31st Line, R.R.3
Embros, ON N0J 1J0
Tel: (519) 475-6051
Email: dmatheson@zorra.on.ca



Ward 1 Councillor

Ron Forbes
642960 Road 64, R.R. 3
Ingersoll, ON N5C 3J6
Tel: (519) 709-4527
Email: rforbes@zorra.on.ca



Ward 3 Councillor

Marcus Ryan
237175 23rd Line, R.R.2
St. Marys, ON N4X 1C5
Tel: (519) 301-1634
Email: mryan@zorra.on.ca

Upcoming Council Meetings:

See township Website for future dates at www.zorra.on.ca



Follow the Township of Zorra on **TWITTER @ZorraTownship**



Follow us on **FACEBOOK @ Township of Zorra**

Employees

Building/Drainage Department

Chief Building Official

Drainage Superintendent - Michael Hughes
Phone: 519-485-2490 Ext. 224
Email: mhughes@zorra.on.ca

C.A.O./Clerk's Department

Chief Administrative Officer - Don MacLeod
Phone: 519-485-2490 Ext. 226
Email: dmacleod@zorra.on.ca

Clerk - Karen Martin (Graham)
Phone: 519-485-2490 ext. 228
Email: kmartin@zorra.on.ca

Planner - Jennifer Huff
Phone: 519-485-2490 ext. 237
Email: jhuff@oxfordcounty.ca

By-law Enforcement Officer - Mathew Paul
Phone: 519-485-2490 ext. 230
Email: mpaul@zorra.on.ca

Administrative Assistant - Lisa Teeple
Phone: 519-485-2490 Ext. 221
Email: lteeple@zorra.on.ca

Finance Department

Director of Finance - Maureen Simmons
Phone: 519-485-2490 Ext. 225
Email: msimmons@zorra.on.ca

Tax Collector/Deputy Treasurer - Kelly Hall
Phone: 519-485-2490 Ext. 222
Email: khall@zorra.on.ca

Administrative Assistant - Jill Miles-Redman
Phone: 519-485-2490 Ext. 231
Email: jmiles-redman@zorra.on.ca

Public Works Department

Director of Public Works - Aden Corcoran
Phone: 519-485-2490 Ext. 227
Email: acorcoran@zorra.on.ca

Foreman - Embros Works Yard - Steve Oliver
Phone: 519-475-4088
Email: embroshop@zorra.on.ca

Foreman - Kintore Works Yard - Ross Ball
Phone: 519-283-6335
Email: kintoreshop@zorra.on.ca

Protective Services

Fire Chief/CEMC - John McFarlan
Phone: 519-485-2490 ext. 240
Email: jmcfarlan@zorra.on.ca

Embros District Chief - Bob Ross
Phone: 519-617-2740
Email: embrofire@zorra.on.ca

Thamesford District Chief - Jim Manzer
Phone: 519-617-2540
Email: thamesfordfire@zorra.on.ca

Uniondale District Chief - Paul Mitchell
Phone: 519-617-5357
Email: uniondalefire@zorra.on.ca

Recreation Department

Recreation and Facilities Manager - Doug Mills (Acting)
Phone: 519-285-2236

Thamesford District Recreation Centre
Phone: 519-285-2236
Email: tdrc@zorra.on.ca

Embros Zorra Community Centre
Phone: 519-475-6061
Email: ezcc@zorra.on.ca

Thamesford Area Swimming Pool
Phone: 519-285-3063

Minor Sports

Embro:
 Embro Minor Hockey Assoc. 519-475-6515
 Zorra Skating Club 519-475-4646
 Embro Minor Ball Association 519-475-4012
 Embro Minor Soccer Association
 Tim and Katrina DeWit 519-475-0460
 Kintore Minor Soccer 519-349-2120

Thamesford:

Thamesford Minor Hockey Assoc. 519-285-3796
 Thamesford Skating Club 519-285-5556
 Thamesford Jr. "D" Hockey Club 519-285-3107
 Thamesford Minor Baseball 519-285-5567
 Thamesford Minor Soccer 519-285-5408
 Thamesford NBC 519-639-4507
 Thamesford Rec. Men's Slow Pitch 519-268-2232
 Zorra Girls Hockey 519-852-4509

Schools (Elementary)

Embro
 Zorra Highland Public School 519-475-4121

Kintore
 A.J. Baker Public School 519-283-1098

Thamesford
 Thamesford Public School 519-285-2043

Roch Carrier French Immersion 519-537-7321
John Knox Christian School 519-539-1492

School Boards

Thames Valley District School Board 519-452-2000
 1-888-224-3354
 London District Catholic School Board 519-663-2088

Service Clubs & Community Groups

Embro Fair Board 519-475-4437
 Thamesford Taking Action Group 519-285-3919
 Thamesford Lion's Club
 Jack Broadfoot, President 519-285-2729
 Thamesford Scouts
 Jackie Van Daele 519-283-6159
 Kintore Optimist Club 519-283-6321
 Harrington & Area Community Association
 Doug Diplock 519-475-0060

Other

Alzheimers Society 519-421-2466
 Beachville District Museum 519-423-6497
 Big Brothers Big Sisters of
 Ingersoll, Tillsonburg & Area 519-485-1801
 or 519-842-9000
ingtburg@bigbrothersbigisters.ca
www.sharethefun.org
 Brooksdale Women's Institute 519-475-4502
 Caledonian Society 519-475-6765
 Calithumpian Committee - Andrea Wright 519-285-5129

Canadian Blood Services 888-236-6283
 Canadian Cancer Society 888-939-3333
 Canadian Red Cross 519-539-0265
 Children's Aid Society, Oxford County 519-539-6176
 Crime Stoppers 800-222-TIPS
 Cuckoos Nest Folk Music 519-473-2099
 Embro West Zorra History Book 519-475-4443
 Embro Library 519-475-4172
 Embro Area Business Association
 Karon Cowan email: embrobiz@gmail.com
 Embro & Zorra Agricultural Society
 Carol Hanlon 519-485-0668
 Fanshawe Pioneer Village 519-457-1296
 Girl Guides - Thamesford 519-285-1126
 Harrington Public Library 519-475-6909
 Hardeman, Ernie, MPP. 519-537-5222
 Horticultural Society (Ingersoll) 519-485-1808
 Ingersoll Choral Society 519-285-2825
 Ingersoll Creative Arts Centre 519-485-4691
 Ingersoll Services for Seniors 519-485-3869
 Ingersoll Theatre of Performing Arts 519-485-3070
 Lawn Bowling Embro 519-475-4729
 Thamesford 519-285-2936
 MacKenzie, Dave MP 519-485-5225
 Ontario Early Years Programs 800-539-9800
 OPP 800-265-7191
 Oxford County Jr. Farmers 519-469-3281
 Oxford County Federation of Agriculture 519-852-8856
 Oxford District Women's Institute 519-475-4502
 Thamesford Block Parents 519-285-1126
 Thamesford Business Association 519-285-3249
 Thamesford Public Library 519-285-3219
 Thamesford Snowmobile Club
 Harold Hacon (trails) 519-461-0855
 David Blight (President) 519-432-2729
 Thistle Theatre - Chris Cockle 519-475-4201
 Tiny Paws - Linda Collier www.tpdrc.ca
 Township of Zorra 519-485-2490
 T'TAG - Contact: Keith Cosby 519-285-5126
 Scouts - Thamesford 519-285-5835
 Welcome Wagon 519-485-2990
 Wienerfest/Dog Rescue - Linda Collier 519-285-5123
 Women's Canadian Club 519-471-8924

Places of Worship

St. Andrew's United Church
 924044 Road 92, Brooksdale, Ontario
 519-475-6011

Chalmers United Church
 842993 Road 84, Kintore, Ontario
 519-283-6376

Crossroads Alliance Church
 194552 19th Line, R.R. 3
 Ingersoll, Ontario
 519-485-4440

Knox Presbyterian Church
 115 St. Andrews Street
 Embro, Ontario
 519-475-4816

Knox Presbyterian Church
 963727 Road 96, Harrington, Ontario
 519-475-4011

Knox United Church
 116 Kincardine Street, Embro, Ontario
 519-475-4060

Maple Grove Christian Retreat
 194936 19th Line
 Thamesford, Ontario
 519-285-3334

St. John's Anglican Church
 220 Dundas Street
 Thamesford, Ontario
 519-285-3218

Westminster United Church
 115 George Street
 Thamesford, Ontario
 519-285-3212

East Missouri Union Church
 519-349-2333

"Zorra Now" Magazine is published quarterly by the Township of Zorra. Circulation is 4000 and is delivered to the residents and businesses of Zorra Township. If you have any questions or comments or would like to advertise in the magazine, please contact:

Karen Martin, Clerk, Township of Zorra
 274620 27th Line, P.O. Box 306
 Ingersoll, ON N5C 3K5
 Ph. (519) 485-2490 ext. 228
 Toll Free 1-888-699-3868
kmartin@zorra.on.ca www.zorra.on.ca



Embryo Dinner Theatre

Embryo & Zorra Agricultural Society Presents:

“Kitchen Witches”

by Caroline Smith, a Samuel French Production.



This is a play about a local television cooking show with 2 women bickering on live TV about cooking and life.

Dinner Theatre Dates:

Saturday, February 28, 2015 Dinner & Play
Sunday, March 1, 2015 Brunch & Play
Thursday, March 5, 2015 Cocktails & Play
Friday, March 6, 2015 Dinner & Play
Saturday, March 7, 2015 Dinner & Play

New this year is the Thursday night show only “Wine and Cheese FAPPP”
There will be a bar now open before and after the show with finger food being served after the show. Come and party with the cast in a traditional Embryo FAPPP (Friday, or in this case Thursday, after Play Performance Party)!

Ticket prices are \$40 for dinner and show, \$30 for Sunday brunch and show, and \$20 for Thursday night.

Box Office will be Saturday December 13th at the Embryo Community Centre. Box office opens at 8:00 am to 11:00am. For more information contact Doug Turvey at 519-475-4937 or Mary Ellen Garner at 519-475-4437



Give the gift of community this season

As we approach the Festive Season, our thoughts are on the rush of shopping for the perfect gift, the preparation for that special festive meal, the gathering of family, and the feeling of a job well done. It is our hope that family will gather year after year and celebrate this special time of the year.

At some point, things will change, houses will be sold, and traditions become a thing of the past.

Wouldn't it be great if the giving moments could last forever? They can.

By creating an endowment through the Oxford County Community Foundation, your name will be attached to annual giving to local charities, scholarships, environmental and/or cultural and historical projects that are near and dear to your

heart. Your Endowment is established to meet your giving traditions and the capital you invest remains in perpetuity as the base of that endowment. The investment income from your endowment is given in your name to projects that mean so much to you. You can even build your Endowment with the transfer of shares, stocks and bonds.

Best of all, you receive a 100% charitable tax receipt for the face value of the financial instrument you donate!

For more information about endowments and tailoring one to fit your expectations, please contact Keith Hudson, Executive Director for the Oxford Community Foundation at 519-539-7447 or email at info@oxfordcommunityfoundation.org

AAROC

AGGREGATES & RECYCLING

603150 RD. 60
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WE RECYCLE

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- ♻️ DRYWALL
- ♻️ SHINGLES

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