

# Zorranow

COMMUNITY EVENTS & SERVICES MAGAZINE

Winter 2021



# In this issue...

- 3 Local Government Week
- 4 Township Department Information
- 12 Programs and Activities
- 20 Township Community Information
- 22 Thamesford Lions Club
- 24 Thistle Theatre
- 25 Hot Travel Destinations for Teens!

- 26 Oxford 4H Club
- 28 Beachville Museum

## Feature Article... Page 18

### TIC PICKS

**Brand new to the Thamesford Public Library**



## Message from the Mayor

And again, we are in a completely different phase of the Coronavirus pandemic. We have a much higher vaccination rate, and Zorra has an employee vaccination policy requiring all staff and council to be vaccinated.

Please encourage and help those not yet vaccinated to get vaccinated to protect their community. This is our path to a full return to normal.

Your Zorra Council has passed a resolution to begin consultation with relevant First Nations to develop an appropriate land acknowledgement policy for Zorra. By the time you read this I will have begun both formal and informal discussions with residents and representatives of First Nations on what they think of a possible land acknowledgement, and their relationship with Zorra.

Oxford County is currently considering changes to land use policy in the "agricultural reserve". Zorra Council, and you, will have opportunities for input. There are many changes being considered and I encourage you to search the Zorra or Oxford web pages for the draft document. None of this is finalized yet, please watch for your opportunities to get informed and give input over the coming months.

Housing is a major issue that needs to be addressed. We have rapidly gone from "housing is expensive" to "housing is unaffordable" for many people. This is a complex problem that requires all levels of government, and the private sector, to address. In Zorra and Oxford we need to do more with zoning to not only allow, but encourage, and require smaller, higher density, and more variety in, housing. We need to make spaces in our settlement areas for taller buildings to address the housing crisis, and stop sprawl into our farm fields.

Did you know Zorra is considering, but has not yet decided on, a possible new municipal office in Thamesford that could include a gym and childcare? Information is available on the Zorra website, get informed and talk to your Council.

Check in on the website, follow the Township on Facebook or Twitter (and now Instagram too!), phone or email Staff or Council: we want to hear from you.

Join us and add to your community by doing your part!

*Marcus Ryan*

**Township Holiday Closures**

The Township office will be closed on Friday, December 24, 2021 and reopen at 8:00 a.m. on Monday January 3, 2022. In case of an emergency requiring staff, please call 519-485-2490 and leave a message at extension 7226. Messages will be monitored on a daily basis and forwarded to a contact person.

The Thamesford District Recreation Centre and the Embro Zorra Community Centre will close at 3:00 p.m. on December 24, 2021 and will reopen on December 27, 2021. They will also close at 3:00 p.m. on December 31, 2021 and reopen on January 2, 2022

*Happy holidays from the Township of Zorra!*

# Local Government Week

While some refer to municipal government as the third order of government, anyone that has ever served on a council or worked within its administration will say it's the first order of government - it is the order of government closest to the people. Local Government Week was developed to celebrate the key role that Ontario local governments play in helping to define the character, priorities, amenities, and physical make-up of communities. The week is meant to educate students on the importance and operation of municipal government, engaging youth, and creating an interest in community leadership, while putting a face to local government staff and elected officials.

Local Government Week was scheduled for October 18th to October 22nd. Previously, the Township would host their Council meetings at the local schools in Zorra for Local Government Week. However, due to COVID-19 restrictions, Local Government Week went virtual again this year!

The Township switched up the format for the Local Government Week this year. In the past, the Township asked the grade 4/5 classes to present ideas to Council that they thought would make Zorra a better place to live, work, and play. This year the Township set up video calls with the Zorra public schools throughout October for a question-and-answer period with Mayor Ryan and Zorra staff. Mayor Marcus Ryan was joined by Steve Oliver, Director of Public Works, Deanna Kirwin, Fire Chief, Matt Brown, Director of Recreation and Facilities, and Alycia Wettlaufer, Legislative Coordinator/Deputy Clerk on the video calls.



*Students from Mr. O'Dea's Grades 4 & 5 Class at Zorra Highland Park Public School discuss Township matters through an online Zoom meeting*



*Students from the Grade 5 and Grade 5/6 class from Thamesford Public School chatting with the Mayor and Zorra Staff*

Township staff and Mayor Ryan were very impressed with all the questions that the classes came up with. The Grade 5 and Grade 5/6 class from Thamesford

Public School asked insightful questions about the history of Zorra Township, voting eligibility in municipal elections, what buildings the Township has built in Zorra, and who can run for Mayor. The students in the Grade 4/5 class from Zorra Highland Park questioned the Mayor and Township Staff on how many decisions they make a day, how long it takes for a building to be approved and constructed and how fast the fire trucks go (fun fact: top speed is 110 km/hr).

It was clear that the classes put a lot of hard work and effort into preparing for the Local Government Week virtual calls. On behalf of Council and staff, we would like to thank all the students and teachers for participating in the virtual Council meetings for Local Government Week. Thank you for doing your part!!



Municipal government explained! We've created a social media campaign for everyone who lives, works, and plays in Zorra to understand more about municipalities and Zorra's role. Why? Because in countless ways municipal governments touch the day-to-day life of every Zorra resident.

It is especially important to understand how municipal government works in a municipal election year. And with the next municipal election being on **October 24, 2022**, we couldn't think of a better time to launch our DID YOU KNOW – Municipal 101 social media campaign.

We will be posting a "Municipal 101" fact every week on the Township of Zorra's social media pages starting on October 29, 2021 up until the election. Make sure to keep an eye out for the purple and yellow "Did you know" graphic to learn more!

# Public Works Department

## REDUCED LOAD SEASON - February 15 - April 30

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.

## HALF LOAD SEASON RATIONALE

- Minimize long term damage to infrastructure
  - Problems caused when roads are soft often require major repairs
  - Prevent additional damage to culverts and bridges
  - Heavy loads do damage to road sub-base that is difficult to detect
  - Changes in the size of agricultural equipment i.e. large liquid manure trailers
  - Multiple aggregate producers in Township
  - Infrastructure repair costs borne directly or indirectly by residents
- All of the above lead to safety issues during Half Load Season.

## NOTICE TO RESIDENTS...

### 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.

#### Any roads questions should be addressed to

Steve Oliver, Director of Public Works 519-485-2490 ext. 7227 or soliver@zorra.ca

## BATTERY RECYCLING



The Township of Zorra has a free program for the 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 ext. 7221
- Thamesford Community Centre, 85 Middleton Street, Thamesford, ON N0M 2M0 – phone 519-485-2490 ext. 7245
- Embro Zorra Community Centre, 355644 35th Line, Embro, ON N0J 1J0 – phone 519-485-2490 ext. 7251

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

Since the start of this program in September 2012, the Township of Zorra has collected and returned 2,699 lbs of batteries to Raw Materials Company for Recycling.

“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  
Director of Corporate Services/Clerk  
Township of Zorra  
274620 27th Line, P.O. Box 306  
Ingersoll, ON N5C 3K5  
Ph. 519-485-2490 ext. 7228  
Toll Free 1-888-699-3868  
kmartin@zorra.ca www.zorra.ca



# Building and Drainage Department

## SANITARY SEWAGE SYSTEMS

The Township Building Department now oversees the private sanitary sewage system (septic systems) approvals for Zorra. Historically, Southwestern Public Health managed this function, however it has been passed on to the Township to manage. If you have questions or concerns regarding these approvals contact the Building Department.

## DRAINAGE

### Legal Outlets:

With the pressure of too much work and not enough time, there may be a temptation to take shortcuts. We have been hearing about some tile drainage systems being directed to questionable outlets. This is a reminder that the following are NOT legal outlets:

- *Roadside Ditches:* You can only use roadside ditches as an outlet if permission is granted by the road authority. If permission is granted, we recommend that you secure the permission in WRITING.
- *Private Ditches:* Private ditches are private infrastructure and unless permission is given, another property owner has no right to connect a newly installed tile drainage system to a private ditch that flows across a neighbouring property. Similar to using a roadside ditch as an outlet, if permission is given, make sure it is in WRITING. If work needs to be done on the neighbouring property, make sure all parties are clear on cost-sharing and also that all parties are clear on the extent of work and the potential disruption of land.

- *Municipal Drains:* Municipal drains have a defined watershed; the lands within that watershed have paid for the construction and management of that drain and only these lands have the right to connect to the municipal drain. If you are installing tile drainage on a property, it is possible that only a portion of that property has the legal right to connect into that drain. If you are not sure, check with the local drainage superintendent before undertaking the work. If there is a section of land that is outside the limits of the watershed, you must ask for permission to connect those lands to the drain.
- *Wetland or low area:* Sometimes it's tempting to outlet a tile drainage system into a wetland area, particularly if the wetland is located on your client's property. However, before doing so, you should examine the area to determine if the out letting of the tile drainage system could be any impact on other property owners. If there could be, don't do it without first acquiring permission.

If a property owner is unable to secure an outlet, that owner has the right to petition their municipality under the Drainage Act for an outlet. Although it takes longer to get the outlet using the Drainage Act, when it is done, you can have confidence that the tile drainage work you perform will not result in legal action. If you still decide to take shortcuts on legal outlets, remember that the courts consider the tile drainage contractor to be an expert. You may want to check out the liability risk of you and your business.

## CONSTRUCTION DRAINS

- Construction drains are initiated by a petition that is filed by the landowner, county or even the roads of a municipality.
- Council will either accept the petition or it can be rejected.
- If Council accepts the petition then Council will appoint an Engineer to do a study and a report.
- Drainage meetings will be arranged and notifications will be mailed to the landowners within the watershed.
- It is very important that ANY notifications that a landowner receives from the Township is FULLY understood by the landowner. It is essential for all landowners to understand all of the deadlines, appeal dates and all the financial implications of the drainage work.

#### Any building or drainage questions should be addressed to

Mike Hughes  
Chief Building Official/Drainage Superintendent  
519-485-2490 ext. 7224 mhughes@zorra.ca

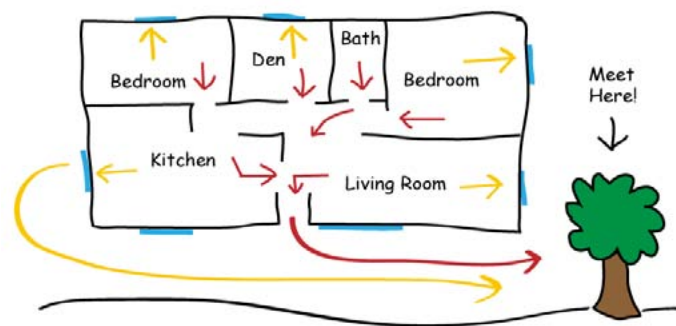


# ZORRA FIRE



## 12 DAYS OF HOLIDAY SAFETY TIPS

- 1 Water Fresh Trees Daily**  
It's time to trim that Christmas tree, and if you're using a real tree, buy a fresh tree and keep the base of the trunk in water at all times. Keep your tree away from any ignition source such as the fireplace, heaters or candles.
- 2 Check All Sets of Lights Before Decorating**  
Before you put those lights on the tree or around the front window check the cords closely. Discard any sets that are frayed or damaged.
- 3 Make Sure you Have Working Smoke Alarms**  
With family and friends spending extra time at your home over the holidays, it's a great time to check your smoke alarms. Replace smoke alarms if they are over 10 years old. Remember that you need working smoke alarms on every storey of your home and outside all sleeping areas. Test your alarms to make sure they will alert you and your family if a fire occurs, giving you the precious seconds you need to safely escape.
- 4 Make Sure you Have Working Carbon Monoxide Alarms**  
Carbon monoxide is an invisible, odourless gas that can quickly kill you. Replace any carbon monoxide alarms over seven years old. Installing carbon monoxide alarms in your home will alert you to the presence of this deadly gas.
- 5 Use Extension Cords Wisely**  
People often use extension cords for that extra set of lights or the dancing Santa in the corner. Extension cords should be used only as a temporary connection. Make sure cords never go under rugs as this can cause damage to the cord and cause a fire.
- 6 Make Sure Everyone Knows How To Get Out Safely If A Fire Occurs**  
Develop and practice a home fire escape plan with all members of the household and make sure someone helps young children, older adults or anyone else that may need assistance to evacuate. Once outside, stay outside and call 911 from a cell phone or neighbours house.



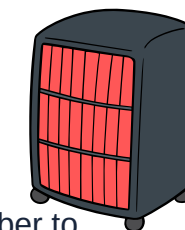
Please contact the Township's Fire Chief/CEMC, Deanna Kirwin at 519-485-2490 ext. 7240 or at [dkirwin@zorra.ca](mailto:dkirwin@zorra.ca) if you have any questions.

# ZORRA FIRE



## 12 DAYS OF HOLIDAY SAFETY TIPS

- 7 Give Space Heaters Space**  
If you are using space heaters to help take the chill off, remember to keep them at least one metre (3 feet) away from anything that can burn such as curtains, upholstery, or holiday decorations.
- 8 When You Go Out, Blow Out!**  
Candles can set the perfect mood for a holiday celebration, but remember to always blow out candles before leaving the room or going to bed. Keep lit candles safely away from children and pets and anything that can burn, such as curtains, upholstery, or holiday decorations. Be candle safe!
- 9 Keep Matches And Lighters Out Of The Sight And Reach Of Children**  
People often keep matches and lighters handy to light holiday candles. But matches and lighters can be deadly in the hands of children. If you smoke, have only one lighter or book of matches and keep them with you at all times.
- 10 Watch What You Heat!**  
The holiday season is one of the busiest times of the year, which means it's easy to get distracted from what we are doing. Cooking fires most commonly occur when cooking is left unattended. Always stay in the kitchen when cooking; especially if using oil or high temperatures. If a pot catches fire, carefully slide a tight-fitting lid over the pot to smother the flames and then turn off the heat.
- 11 Encourage Smokers To Smoke Outside**  
Careless smoking is the leading cause of fatal fires. If you do allow smoking indoors use large, deep ashtrays that can't be knocked over and make sure cigarette butts are properly extinguished
- 12 There's More To Responsible Drinking Than Taking A Cab Home**  
With all the festive cheer this time of year, keep a close eye on anyone attempting to cook or smoke while under the influence of alcohol. Alcohol is all too often a common factor in many fatal fires.



Winter holidays are a time for families and friends to get together. But that also means a greater risk for fire. Following a few simple tips will ensure a happy and fire-safe holiday season.

## Express Your Gratitude This Holiday Season

At times we take for granted the things that most deserve our gratitude. This holiday season please join me in showing gratitude to the firefighters in our community. Zorra Fire & Emergency Services has a full compliment of 62 Volunteer Firefighters that live and/or work within Zorra Township.

These men and women are fully trained and certified to NFPA standards just like those firefighters in full time departments. Different than career firefighters, these members of our community are not assigned a shift, instead they are voluntarily on call to respond to an emergency at anytime.

Currently the Fire Service as a whole is undergoing a great deal of change but our firefighters continue to put their life on the line to save lives and protect property. Firefighters have expectations for not only suppression activities but also prevention and public education. To do so safely, they participate in regular training and follow strict legislation, outlining requirements for training attendance and mandatory activities. Zorra Firefighters are the farmers, mechanics, paramedics, dispatchers, engineers, service technicians, truck drivers, business owners, husbands, wives, brothers, sisters, sons & daughters within our community.

On behalf of myself, Chief Kirwin, and the Township of Zorra - Zorra Firefighters, we are grateful. Thank you for your commitment and bravery, and all that you do to help others and keep our community safe.

**If you see a Firefighter this holiday season be sure to say thank you.**



### Congratulations

**Deputy Chief Hopkins**  
Promotion from Captain-Uniondale Station  
**Deputy Chief Kirwin**  
Promotion from Captain-Embro Station  
**Captain Matheson & Captain Linton**  
Promotions from Firefighters-Uniondale Station



## By-Law Enforcement Department

### WINTER PARKING

Please be advised that the winter parking restrictions will be enforced starting November 15, 2021 and remain in place until March 31, 2022.

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.

### RECREATION VEHICLES

Notice to all RV/boat owners. The Zoning By-law allows front yard driveway storage of RVs and boats from May 1 – October 31. After October 31, front driveway storage of these vehicles shall be removed and stored elsewhere. The vehicles may be stored on your side lot or rear lot provided that they meet the 5ft setback.

### LEAVES AND SNOW:

Did you know that it is a By-law infraction to push your leaves and snow onto the roadway or neighbouring properties? Depositing your leaves on the road or private property is considered dumping and is may result in a significant fine of \$700. Also depositing snow or ice onto public or private property carries a fine of \$200 and up to \$700! If you wish to review the Clean and Clear By-law it can be found on our website at [www.zorra.ca](http://www.zorra.ca)

### 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](http://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.



For more information contact Mathew Paul, By-law Enforcement Officer at 519-485-2490 ext. 7230

## Our Dog Tag Program is being eliminated.

What does this mean for you?

- Your current tag will expire on December 31, 2021.
- You can replace your township tag with a personalized tag that will allow others to contact you quickly if your pet is found.
- Residents are encouraged to purchase a personalized tag by the end of the year. Consider shopping local:
  - WOOF Pet Wellness 519-421-7387
  - Pet Valu Ingersoll 519-425-1544

Questions? Contact us at 519-485-2490.



# Finance Department

The Township is pleased to announce that Diane Larder has been hired as Director of Finance. Diane joins Zorra from the Township of South-West Oxford where she was Director of Finance for from 2012 to 2021 and Deputy Treasurer from 2009 through 2011. Diane brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to Zorra and we are very pleased to have her join our team. Diane can be reached by email at [dlarder@zorra.ca](mailto:dlarder@zorra.ca) or by phone at 519-425-2303.



## Tax Department

### PRE-AUTHORIZED PAYMENT PLAN FOR YOUR TAXES

Sign up now for the quarterly, 10 or 12-month Pre-Authorized Payment Plan for 2022.

If you are interested in enrolling in this payment plan for 2021, you can find an authorization form on our website at [www.zorra.ca](http://www.zorra.ca) or call Kelly at 519-485-2490 ext 7222. Applications need to be submitted as soon as possible to ensure enrolment for 2021.

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.

### ON-LINE OR TELEPHONE BANKING

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. For example, 012-010-13100-0000, you would enter this as 01201013100, if an error occurs, please add the extra four zeros at the end and try again.

### ETRANSFER PAYMENTS

eTransfer is now available, by using [accountsreceivable@zorra.ca](mailto:accountsreceivable@zorra.ca). In the message field, please indicate what you are paying or purchasing from Zorra.

### 2022 AND 2023 PROPERTY ASSESSMENT

Property Taxes for the 2022 and 2023 taxation years will continue to be based on the January 1, 2016 valuation date. Property assessments will remain the same as they were for the 2021 tax year, unless there has been changes to your property.

### WHEN WILL MY 2022 TAX BILL BE MAILED?

Tax bills will be mailed the first week of February, with due dates of February 28 and May 31, 2022. Unfortunately, legislation states that the municipality are 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 2022 Tax Bill which are processed in July 2022.

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 7222  
[khall@zorra.ca](mailto:khall@zorra.ca)

## Zorra Committees

### ZORRA COMMUNITY POLICING COMMITTEE

The Zorra Community Policing Committee (ZCPC) advises Zorra Council on all aspects of the provisions of police related matters in the Township of Zorra and promotes and maintains communication with the public on such matters.

ZCPC meetings are held on a quarterly basis on the third Tuesday of the quarter at 6:00 p.m. at the Township Office.

### ZORRA RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Zorra Recreation Advisory Committee (ZRAC) is the Township of Zorra's longest standing advisory committee.

The purpose of the Zorra Recreation Advisory Committee (ZRAC) is to make recommendations to Council on all aspects relating to the provision of leisure, recreation, parks, trails, arts and culture services in the Township of Zorra whilst adhering to the visions put forward in the Township of Zorra's Strategic Plan and the Recreation, Arts and Culture Master Plan.

ZRAC meetings are held on the fourth Tuesday of the month, excluding the months of July, August, and December when no ZRAC meetings are held. The 2022 ZRAC meeting schedule will be posted on the Township website in December.

### ZORRA MULTI-USE COURTS COMMITTEE

The Zorra Multi-Use Courts Committee advises Council on the potential multi-use courts being constructed in Zorra Township at the Thamesford District Recreation Centre and the Embro-Zorra Community Centre. The committee recently submitted their project proposal to Council in October. You can view the proposal on our Township website!

ZMCC meetings are held on the second Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. in the Beaty Room at the Thamesford library. The next ZMCC meeting is January 27, 2022.

### Committee Information Flash:

You can report speeding and other non-emergency situations to the Ontario Provincial Police by calling 1-888-310-1122 or \*OPP on your cell phone. Add this number to your contacts NOW so you will have quick access when needed! The more information you can provide to the OPP, the better! For example, Make/model of car, licence plate, company name for commercial vehicles, etc.



### ZORRA SPLASH COMMITTEE

The Zorra Splash Committee was formed by Township Council and held their first meeting on May 9, 2019. A core objective of the Committee was to enable the construction of an Embro splash pad by encouraging community support of the project and lead community fundraising efforts. Since their first meeting, the Committee has work tirelessly toward their fundraising goal. Despite setbacks and difficulties caused by the COVID-19 pandemic the ZSC has held regular meetings and public events. They have cooked meals, organized car washes, bottle drives and paint nights. The Committee's effort and strong community support has been rewarded and they have now completed their fundraising goal. As of October 6, 2021, the Committee has raised \$183,234.40 in donations from families, community organizations, local businesses, and grants. Township Council has previously supported \$75,000 in Zorra funds in the 2022 Capital Budget. The current fundraised and Township capital total is \$258,234.40, surpassing the initial \$250,000 project budget. At this time, the Zorra Splash Committee will pause active fundraising efforts. Donations will continue to be accepted until the project costs are finalized. Recreations staff will work with the committee on design criteria and publish a request for proposal in November. Final project costs will then be available for Township Council's approval in December. This will allow the Embro Splash Pad project to begin construction in spring 2022 and open for the hot summer months ahead. A huge congratulations to everyone involved!!!

# PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES

Winter – 2021/2022

## Open Walking Track (FREE!)

The large halls in Zorra are a perfect place to walk! These indoor areas provide protection from the elements in a safe and climate controlled environment. This trial program will run all winter. Come out and get some exercise with us! FREE

Thamesford District Recreation Centre  
Tuesdays & Thursdays 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Embro Zorra Community Centre  
Mondays & Wednesdays 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

## Pickleball

Come out and play the fastest rising sport in North America! A great low-impact activity for players of all ages and abilities. Beginners welcome! \$3.00 per person

Thamesford District Recreation Centre  
Wednesdays: 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.  
Tuesdays & Thursdays: 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

## Carpet Bowling

An indoor variation of Lawn Bowling. Carpet bowling is played on a long 'felt' carpet where players roll balls as close to the target ball as possible. Similar to Bocce, Carpet Bowling is a game of skill that is enjoyed by all! \$3.00 per person.

Thamesford District Recreation Centre  
Wednesdays: 9:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Heartland's agent advisors are now based in Thamesford and ready to serve you from our new Insurance Advisory Centre



**HEARTLAND**  
FARM MUTUAL

INSURANCE ADVISORY CENTRE

Visit or call us today!

682794 Road 68, Thamesford  
1-833-202-4510



## ADVERTISING RATES

	Size	Rate (HST included)
Business Card	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 email: [zorradvertising@rogers.com](mailto:zorradvertising@rogers.com)



Keep up to date on news and events in Zorra Township

[www.zorra.ca](http://www.zorra.ca)



Find us on Facebook!  
Township of Zorra



Follow us on Twitter!  
@ZorraTwp



Follow us on Instagram!  
@ZorraTwp



Mike's Custom Jewellery

25% off all in stock items until December 24<sup>th</sup>

Great News!  
The tradition continues!

Mike would like to welcome his son Alex to the business. We will continue to provide the excellent quality and service you expect from Mike's Custom Jewellery.

Tuesday and Thursday 9:00am - 7:00pm  
For your service by appointment only

Family owned and operated  
**519-425-0670**

Serving Zorra Township and area for over 28 years • Over 40 years experience • Quality and service guaranteed

All work is done on the premises

# Recreation Department

## WINTER SKATING CALENDAR 2021-2022

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Embroid Zorra Community Centre	Shinny (1:00-2:00pm) Public Skating (2:00-3:00pm)		Adult Skate (9:30-10:30am) Parent & Tot (10:30-11:30am)	Adult Shinny (10:00-11:30am)	Shinny (4:30-5:30pm)		
Thamesford Recreation Centre	Public Skating (2:00-3:00pm)	Adult Shinny (10:00-11:30am)	Shinny (5:00-6:00pm)		Adult Skate (9:30-10:30am) Parent & Tot (10:30-11:30am)		Shinny (3:30-4:30pm)

### Program Descriptions

#### Public Skating

Get on the ice with your friends and family! There's no better way to spend your afternoon!  
(\$3.00/person or \$8.00/family)

#### Shinny

Non-competitive 'pick-up' hockey for all ages and abilities. Required equipment: skates, helmet, stick and hockey gloves. (\$3.00/person or \$8.00/family)

#### Parent & Tot Skate

A time to bring your pre-school children out for a quiet skate. Strollers permitted & skate aides are available.  
(\$3.00/person, pre-school age free)

#### Adult Skate

Enjoy a skate around the rink during this adult-only drop in program. (\$3.00/person or \$8.00/family)

Additional Public Skating is always scheduled from 2:00pm-3:00pm during school holidays and PD Days! Check out our FREE sponsored skate schedule!

TOWNSHIP OF ZORRA  
**MARCH BREAK CAMP!**  
March 14 - 18, 2022  
Full Day Camp for kids age 4 - 11 years  
**LOCATED IN EMBRO & THAMESFORD!**  
Games - SKATING  
Crafts - SPECIAL GUESTS  
REGISTRATION OPENS IN JANUARY!  
www.zorra.ca

# Free Public Skating

The following dates have been generously sponsored by local businesses to provide free public skating in your community!

2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	Embroid Zorra Community Centre	Thamesford District Recreation Centre
Sunday, December 5	The Mortgage Centre Hometown Financial and Your Oxford Connection Real Estate Team	Thamesford Lawn Bowling Legacy Fund at Oxford Community Foundation
Sunday, December 19	Langlois Eco Homes	
Monday, December 20	Alison Porter Finally Home Team – Century 21	Henderson Yost Insurance
Tuesday, December 21	Westminster Mutual Insurance	Westminster Mutual Insurance
Wednesday, December 22	<i>Sponsorship still available! Contact us to book!</i>	Alison Porter Finally Home Team – Century 21
Thursday, December 23	Edpro Energy Group	Suncoast Nails by Brandi Zvonkin
Friday, December 24	Happy Hills	Coopers Custom Exteriors
Monday, December 27	McFarlan Rowlands Insurance	Zorra Fire & Emergency Services
Tuesday, December 28	<i>Sponsorship still available! Contact us to book!</i>	Community Connexions at Westminster United Church
Wednesday, December 29	<i>Sponsorship still available! Contact us to book!</i>	Thamesford Family Dental
Thursday, December 30	<i>Sponsorship still available! Contact us to book!</i>	Thamesford Inclusion Community
Friday, December 31	<i>Sponsorship still available! Contact us to book!</i>	McFarlan Rowlands Insurance
Sunday, January 2	Zorra Fire & Emergency Services	
Sunday, January 16	Langlois Eco Homes	Thamesford Lawn Bowling Legacy Fund at Oxford Community Foundation
Sunday, February 13	Langlois Eco Homes	
Sunday, March 20	Langlois Eco Homes	

In addition to the above schedule, join us for **FREE SKATING EVERY SUNDAY** at Thamesford District Recreation Centre!

Thank you to the Thamesford Lawn Bowling Legacy Fund at Oxford Community Foundation for providing this opportunity in our Community!





# TOWNSHIP CONTACTS

## Council



**Mayor** Marcus Ryan  
237175 23rd Line, RR 2  
St. Marys, ON N4X 1C5  
Email: mryan@zorra.ca  
Cell: 519-301-1634



**Ward 1 Councillor**  
Ron Forbes  
642960 Road 64, RR 3  
Ingersoll, ON N5C 3J6  
Email: rforbes@zorra.ca  
Cell: 519-709-4527



**Ward 2 Councillor**  
Katie Davies  
168 George Street  
Thamesford, ON NOM 2M0  
Email: kdavies@zorra.ca  
Tel: 226-268-4495



**Ward 3 Councillor**  
Paul Mitchell  
963229 Road 96, RR 2  
St. Marys, ON N4X 1C5  
Email: pmitchell@zorra.ca  
Tel: 519-349-2271



**Ward 4 Councillor**  
Steve MacDonald  
455703 45th Line, RR 5  
Embros, ON NOJ 1J0  
Email: smacdonald@zorra.ca  
Cell: 519-475-4219

## Upcoming Council Meetings

All meetings held at the Township Office – Council Chambers

\*Council meetings are held the first WEDNESDAY of the month at 9:00 a.m. and the third WEDNESDAY of the month at 6:00 p.m.

**December 1st at 9:00 a.m.**  
**December 15th at 6:00 p.m.**

## Employees

### Building/Drainage Department

*Chief Building Official/*  
*Drainage Superintendent* - Mike Hughes  
Phone: 519-485-2490 Ext. 7224  
Email: mhughes@zorra.ca

### Corporate Services

*Chief Administrative Officer* - Don MacLeod  
Phone: 519-485-2490 Ext. 7226  
Email: dmacleod@zorra.ca

*Director of Corporate Services/Clerk*  
Karen Martin  
Phone: 519-485-2490 ext. 7228  
Email: kmartin@zorra.ca

*Planner* - Spencer McDonald  
Phone: 519-485-2490 ext. 3205  
Email: jsmcdonald@oxfordcounty.ca

*By-law Enforcement Officer* - Mathew Paul  
Phone: 519-485-2490 ext. 7230  
Email: mpaul@zorra.ca

*Records Management Coordinator/*  
*Executive Assistant* - Lisa Teeple  
Phone: 519-485-2490 Ext. 7231  
Email: lteeple@zorra.ca

*Legislative Coordinator/Deputy Clerk*  
Alycia Wettlaufer  
Email: awettlaufer@zorra.ca  
Phone: 519-485-2490 ext. 7250

### Finance Department

*Director of Finance* - Diane Larder  
Phone: 519-485-2490 Ext. 7225  
Email: dlarder@zorra.ca

*Tax Collector/Deputy Treasurer* - Kelly Hall  
Phone: 519-485-2490 Ext. 7222  
Email: khall@zorra.ca

*Financial Services Clerk* - Jenna Belleau  
Phone: 519-485-2490 Ext. 7221  
Email: jbelleau@zorra.ca

Follow the  
Township of Zorra  
on Facebook  
and Twitter and  
Instagram



### Public Works Department

*Director of Public Works* - Steve Oliver  
Phone: 519-485-2490 Ext. 7227  
Email: soliver@zorra.ca

*Foreman – Embro Works Yard* -  
Scott Simmons  
Phone: 519-485-2490 Ext. 7265  
Email: ssimmons@zorra.ca

*Foreman – Kintore Works Yard* - Derek Collins  
Phone: 519-485-2490 Ext. 7260  
Email: dcollins@zorra.ca

### Protective Services

*Fire Chief/CEMC* - Deanna Kirwin  
Phone: 519-485-2490 ext. 7240  
Email: dkirwin@zorra.ca

*Embro District Chief* - Matthew Cockle  
Phone: 519-494-3534  
Email: embrofire@zorra.ca

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

*Uniondale District Chief* - John Renkema  
Phone: 519-520-6502  
Email: uniondalefire@zorra.ca

### Recreation Department

*Director of Recreation and Facilities*  
Matt Brown  
Phone: 519-485-2490 Ext. 7243  
Email: mbrown@zorra.ca

*Recreation and Facilities Supervisor*  
Jason McEachnie  
Phone: 519-485-2490 Ext. 7244  
Email: jmceachnie@zorra.ca

*Recreation and Facilities Program Coordinator*  
Stephanie Starchuck  
Phone: 519-485-2490 Ext. 7223  
Email: sstarchuck@zorra.ca

### Facility Booking

Phone: 519-485-2490 Option 4, then 1  
Email: booking@zorra.ca

### Recreation Facilities

Thamesford District Recreation Centre  
Phone: 519-485-2490 Ext. 7245  
Email: tdrcc@zorra.ca

Embro Zorra Community Centre  
Phone: 519-485-2490 Ext. 7251

Thamesford Area Swimming Pool  
Phone: 519-485-2490 Ext. 7285

# COMMUNITY CONTACT LISTING

## Minor Sports

*Embro:*  
Embro Minor Hockey Assoc. 519-475-6515  
Zorra Skating Club 519-281-1402  
Suzanne McRoberts 519-469-9782  
www.zorraskatingclub.ca

Embro Minor Ball Association 519-475-4012  
Embro Minor Soccer Association  
Tim and Katrina DeWit 519-475-0460  
Kintore Minor Soccer  
Kate Henderson 519-320-8660

*Thamesford:*  
Thamesford Minor Hockey Assoc. 519-285-3796  
Thamesford Skating Club 519-285-5556  
Thamesford Jr. PJHL Hockey Club 519-285-3618  
Thamesford Minor Baseball Jay Bruinsma  
jaybruinsma@gmail.com 519-572-3802  
Thamesford Minor Soccer 519-670-7002  
Thamesford NBC 519-639-4507  
Thamesford Rec. Men's Slow Pitch 226-926-9016  
West Oxford Girls Hockey Assoc. 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 & Zorra Agricultural Society  
Nicole Barndt 519-533-2208  
Embro Highland Games/  
Zorra Caledonian Society 519-475-4451  
Thamesford Lion's Club  
Jim Keron, President 519-639-1910  
Thamesford Scouts  
Jackie Van Daele 519-283-6159  
Kintore Optimist Club 519-283-6321  
Harrington & Area Community Association  
Philip Kerr 519-475-0484  
Harrington Grist Mill Restoration Project  
Tim Van de Kemp 519-475-4376  
Oxford County 4-H oxford4-h@xplornet.com

## Other

Alzheimers Society 519-421-2466  
1-877-594-2368  
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

Calithumpian Committee - Rebecca Garrod 519-535-9198  
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  
Helen Brenneman 519-535-4728

Embro Library 519-475-4172  
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  
MacKenzie, Dave MP 519-421-7608  
North Embro Cemetery  
Darwin Cooper 519-475-4385  
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  
South West Community Care Access Centre 519-539-1284  
info-woodstock@sw.ccac-ont.ca

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 - Box Office 519-475-4201  
infothistletheatre@gmail.com

Tiny Paws Dog Rescue - Linda Collier www.tpdr.ca  
VON Oxford 519-539-1231  
VON Sakura House 519-537-8515  
Welcome Wagon 519-485-2990  
Wienerfest - 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

Truth Community Church  
154978 15th Line (Banner Rd.)  
Thamesford, Ontario  
519-285-2112  
www.truthcommunitychurch.ca

Westminster United Church  
115 George Street  
Thamesford, Ontario  
519-285-3212  
www.makingconnections.com

East Nissouri Union Church  
519-349-2333

# TIC PICKS


## Brand new to the Thamesford Public Library, TIC PICKS:

A curated selection of books that welcome readers of all ages to read a great book and learn something along the way.

In a community that is growing and changing, the Thamesford Inclusion Community - TIC - has made it their mission to ensure that everyone living in Thamesford feels included and valued. The Thamesford Inclusion Community was started by a group of residents who wanted to help shape a more welcoming community in response to some concerns that were being raised around the topics of diversity and inclusion. Grounded by a Mission Statement, a set of Values and a Code of Conduct, TIC created a Facebook Group inviting all those who are interested to join the conversation knowing that different ideas, perspectives and backgrounds create a stronger, thriving community.

The most recent TIC community based initiative - TIC PICKS - is a partnership with Thamesford Library. Storytelling is a powerful tool that allows for us to catch a glimpse into a life that is different from our own in some way, but ultimately shows us that shared human experiences makes us better. TIC PICKS is a featured collection of books for readers of all ages that touch on the themes of Diversity & Inclusion. TIC PICKS will be featured 4 times a year, raising awareness to themes that are prevalent and timely to the events that are happening in the world around us. The books that are chosen are approachable, educational and entertaining, encouraging people to read and gain a stronger understanding of themselves and others. Fostering connections through reading is one of many steps that people can take to opening themselves up to others and different experiences.







## PHONE THREAT

Be extremely cautious if...

- 1 **Caller says they are The CANADA REVENUE AGENCY, organizations would:**  
Never request payment by prepaid credit or gift cards.  
Never threatens with court charges, jail or deportation.
- 2 **Caller claims to be TECH SUPPORT company:**  
Never agree to unsolicited PC or technical support.
- 3 **Caller claims to be a BANK INSPECTOR asking you to help catch a criminal:**  
Never withdraw money from your account to assist in an undercover operation.
- 4 **Caller claims to be your GRANDCHILD in trouble and needs money sent immediately:**  
Never send money before verifying details with police or CAFC.

**NOT SURE? HANG UP!**

**1-888-495-8501**  
CANADIAN ANTI-FRAUD CENTRE  
Monday - Friday: 9am-4:45pm  
[www.antifraudcentre.ca](http://www.antifraudcentre.ca)





## DOOR THREAT

Be extremely cautious if...

- 1 **UNKNOWN person at your door: DO NOT open it...**  
Talk through it!
- 2 **If approached in YOUR YARD: DO NOT invite them in!**
- 3 **Suspicious SALESPERSON tries to rush you to buy something: REFUSE!**
- 4 **Salesperson suggests they are WORKING IN YOUR AREA: DO NOT believe them...**  
Get Estimates!

**FRAUD: RECOGNIZE. REJECT. REPORT.**



**COMMUNITY SAFETY SERVICES**  
ONTARIO PROVINCIAL POLICE

**YOU ARE IN CHARGE, TAKE CONTROL.**

**1-888-310-1122**  
ONTARIO PROVINCIAL POLICE  
24-Hours / 7 Days a Week Reporting Service  
[www.opp.ca](http://www.opp.ca)

There are no changes to the curbside collection schedule in Zorra over the holidays.

## 2021-22 HOLIDAY COLLECTION

### GARBAGE AND RECYCLING

**DON'T LET YOUR HOLIDAYS GO TO WASTE**  
Follow these simple steps for quick and simple recycling this holiday season:

- 1 Break down, flatten and bundle all cardboard boxes, no larger than 75cm x 75cm x 20cm.
- 2 Wrapping paper can be recycled, with the exception of foil-based wrapping paper. Please remove all ribbons and bows.
- 3 Place your garbage and recycling where it's easy to find – not behind a snowbank or parked car.
- 4 For the safety of our collection crews, do not place garbage and recycling on top of snowbanks. Shovel out a separate area if necessary.

**DOWNLOAD THE WASTELINE APP**  
Receive text, email, phone or Twitter pick-up reminders.



519-539-9800 | 1-800-755-0394 | [info@wasteline.ca](mailto:info@wasteline.ca)  
[wasteline.ca](http://wasteline.ca)



*Growing stronger together*

## DISCOVER YOUR OXFORD COUNTY LIBRARY



### HOME DELIVERY SERVICES

We can help you stay connected to the library! Our home delivery service is free for Oxford County residents who have difficulty visiting the library due to short or long-term: mobility issues, illness or disability. With the help of volunteers, we deliver to homebound residents in their own homes and those in long-term care facilities. Available at participating branches.

### CRAFT & CONNECT KITS

Craft and Connect kits are available for pick up at any OCL branch each month. These kits include fun children's crafts or other activities that can be completed at home.

### ELECTRONIC MAGAZINES

Did you know? You can find 3000+ eMagazines on Overdrive, including The Economist, The New Yorker, HGTV Magazine, National Geographic, and so many more! Magazines can be downloaded on your smartphone or tablet directly using the Libby app. Magazines are always available and are not included in your 10 title borrowing limit.

### LIBRARY PROGRAMS

For the latest news on library programs, check our Programs & Events calendar on the OCL website. We offer weekly online programs, including storytimes, tech talks, trivia events, and more.

### NEED A LIBRARY CARD?

Send an email with your name, address (including postal code), phone number, and birth date to [myaccount@ocl.net](mailto:myaccount@ocl.net).

For up-to-date library information and hours call your local branch or visit [ocl.net](http://ocl.net)




*connect. discover. share. become.*



# Thamesford Lions Club

## Thamesford Lions Community Events

### "Catch The Ace" Progressive Raffle

Weekly Prize Draws

8PM Tuesday evenings at Brunny's Sports Bar & Grill

Tickets can be purchased in Thamesford from:

Dewy's Auto • Village Catering & Deli

JC Graphics • Mc Farlan Rowlands Insurance • Shell Gas Station

Tickets can be purchased in Embro from: Highland Restaurant

Contact: Lion Tony 519-285-3618

### Become-A-Lion Orientation Day Event

Saturday, Jan 22, 2022

Time TBD - Thamesford Library

(Beaty Room)

Contact: Lion Rebecca Email: beckiehag@gmail.com

### Family Day Event

Monday, Feb 21, 2022

Time TBD - Thamesford Recreation Centre

Contact: Lion Barb Email: barbcorrin@gmail.com

Look For The Latest On Thamesford Lions Club Events on the "Thamesford Lions" Facebook page!



**North Blenheim Mutual**  
INSURANCE COMPANY • SINCE 1861

People Centered. Community Driven.

FARM | HOME | COMMERCIAL | AUTO



**Greg Brenneman, Agent**

Serving Thamesford  
& surrounding areas

H 519.285.3563

TF 1.800.665.6888

gbrenneman@northblenheim.com

[www.northblenheim.ca](http://www.northblenheim.ca)



**HAPPY HILLS RESORT**

R.R. #3 Embro, Ontario N0J 1J0  
Bus: (519) 475-4471  
Fax: (519) 475-4155  
thebakers@happyhills.com  
www.happyhills.com

Elaine & John Baker

**Highland Park Mobile Homes**

Travel Trailers ~ Park Models ~ Sun Rooms



## Pro Fleet Woodstock

Authorized dealer of Thermalblade



It's that time of the year again. Defend your visibility!  
Stay safe with Thermalblade.



Automatic Heated Wiper Blades provide added safety by eliminating ice and snow build up on your wiper squeegee. Applications include passenger vehicles, fleets and first responders.

Call Bill for more information  
519-421-7904 • [billwilson@profleetcare.com](mailto:billwilson@profleetcare.com)

## An annual spray keeps rust away!



ASK ABOUT  
OUR SEASONAL  
PACKAGES!



FRANCHISES ALSO AVAILABLE

Protect your investment now  
Contact Bill Wilson at 519-421-7904

- Mobile rust control
- Service at your yard
- Increase equipment and vehicle life
- Reduce equipment and employee downtime
- Reduce operating and repair costs

[www.profleetcare.com](http://www.profleetcare.com)

## Harrington Hall



### For Rent

**Planning a function or celebration?  
Bright, accessible, cheerful space.  
Holds up to 100, Reasonable rates!  
For more information or to book:  
Call Nancy Skillings at 519-536-0955 or  
nancyskillings10@hotmail.com**



162 Dundas St., Thamesford  
519-679-5440 • 1-888-734-8888  
www.mcfarlanrowlands.com

# Hot Travel Destinations for Teens!

ISE Ontario is relaunching their reciprocal exchanges during the summer and the school year for students between 13 and 17 at time of application. Where to? Spain is warm in winter and muy calor in summer. Madrid, Spain's capital is a vast city made of village-sized neighbourhoods, each with its own character. France remains the world's top tourist destination, while Germany's cars have international appeal. Cool Switzerland rivals the north of Italy for diversity and dolce vita.

In all of its exchanges, ISE matches teens based on their interests – sports, music,

games, films – and their personalities, so that they can enjoy each other's company here and there. Applications for Summer exchanges are due in March or before. Applications for next school year, in April. Don't miss this extraordinary opportunity to experience life, culture, language, community and likeable friends.

Check out this video - <https://iseontario.on.ca/exchange-programs/>

Questions? Parents or teens should contact ISE Ontario at [info@iseontario.on.ca](mailto:info@iseontario.on.ca) or [bryansmith@iseontario.on.ca](mailto:bryansmith@iseontario.on.ca) or visit [www.iseontario.on.ca](http://www.iseontario.on.ca)

Bon voyage!



## 2022 Embro Dinner Theatre

Embro & Zorra Agricultural Society Presents

### "Splitville"

by Linda Lloyd-McKenzie

Directed by Norm Northmore • Produced by Sara Stephenson & Kim Jakeman

#### Cast

Jessica O'Connor, Kathy Dodd, Becky Isenman, Elaine Northmore, Doug Turvey, Nancy Matthews, John Hazeleger

#### Box Office

Opens Saturday Dec. 11th, 2021 at 8am  
in the Embro Community Centre Lobby

After box office, Tickets will be available at Workshop Supply  
(100 Commissioners St Embro, 519-475-4947)

Dinner Catered by Janice's Fine Country Catering

Brunch Catered by Oxford 4H

#### Show dates:

Saturday Feb. 26th (Dinner & Show) - \$50  
Sunday Feb. 27st (Brunch & Show) - \$50  
Thursday Mar. 3rd  
(Cocktail Hour with Cash Bar & Show) - \$25  
Friday Mar. 4th (Dinner & Show) - \$50  
Saturday Mar. 5th (Dinner & Show) - \$50

[www.embrofair.com](http://www.embrofair.com)



### We would love to hear from YOU!!!

If you have a story, pictures or ANYTHING that you would like to share about your community please contact Karen Martin at [kmartin@zorra.ca](mailto:kmartin@zorra.ca) or 519-485-2490 ext. 7228 to have it appear in an upcoming Zorra Now Edition.



# Oxford 4-H Club

4-H had many learn to do by doing opportunities this year. Youth were able to engage in various 4-H projects in Oxford and across the province through the virtual clubs that were available. Youth were also able to participate in the in-person projects available in Oxford.

Beef, dairy and fancy feather 4-H projects started their clubs with virtual meetings and then moved to in-person meetings. They each had an Achievement program to showcase what they had learned with their respective animals. In late October, Jack McKinlay's pullet (a female chicken less than a year old) was shown at the Ontario Poultry Breeders Show. This is a chicken that he hatched this year from his 4-H chickens he was given last year. He has Black Rose Comb Bantams. His pullet won her variety and won out of all the rose comb clean leg. His chicken was awarded Champion for the Junior division (Jack's age group).

The Community 4-H Club continued for the 15th year to participate in the Relay for Life, done virtually in June. The club met over zoom with the meeting theme of 'What's your plan' covering the topics of financial matters, food, health, community and careers. They were able to have a bank consultant presenter, step-by-step cooking of fettuccine alfredo & cheesecake, guest panel of young adults to talk about careers, played Kahoot games, guest panel of community organizations to learn about volunteering. Through the fundraising efforts of the club, \$10,286 was raised for 2021 with a 15-year total of \$152,684 to help support those battling Cancer and find a cure. The Community 4-H Club fundraise throughout the year—currently have grape jelly & rhubarb jam for sale, both made with Oxford County fruit. They also collect pop cans, returnable bottles & cans and

used electronics. For more information contact Shonna at wardshonna@hotmail.com or 519-854-6919.

Brooksdale 4-H Club did a project on pollinators this summer. Youth learned about different kinds of pollinators. The youth and club volunteers planted & cared for gardens in Harrington and Embro as part of the project. Each member made a word search or crossword as part of their achievement program.

Mt Elgin 4-H Club youth learned about caring for canine this fall. During the summer months, 'My Plate and the Planet' project was done. Youth learned about world hunger, food waste, food loss, local family fruit & vegetable farms and grew vegetables in their own gardens to make a salad.

There were youth who learned to do needlepoint on plastic canvas. There were two groups, 11 in-person and 10 virtually. Some of the youths virtually were local 4-H members away at college & university (Sudbury, Niagara, Toronto & Guelph)—this is a great way to keep local members engaged in 4-H and with their friends while away from home. The youth learned various stitches—bargello, tent, scotch block, brick, gobelin & overcast, with each making a sampler of each stitch. Each member made a free choice item for their achievement project.

Oxford 4-H youth participated in various regional and provincial events this year. 4-H Ontario had a provincial judging competition with Nicole Danen placing 2nd overall in the Senior division. There was a Virtual Art Show,



*Left to right: Keith Matheson, Jack McKinlay, and Rachel McKinlay*

where a few Oxford 4-H youth participated in the painting/drawing category. The Oxford team one Go For The Gold (GFTG) advanced from the Region 6 GFTG to the Provincial Go For The Gold Competition Nov 6th (results not available at time of article written).

Oxford 4-H Awards 'GREEN CARPET EVENT', organized by the Brooksdale and Oxford Beef 4-H Clubs, was November 19th at the Embro & Zorra Community Centre. Congratulations to the recipients of the Norman Dickout Judging Awards, Janet Wilson Memorial Awards, Your Neighbourhood Credit Union Overall Senior Award, Oxford County Agricultural Senior Award, Terry Richardson Award, Oxford County Junior Farmer 4-H Scholarship, Gay Lea Award of Achievement, Oxford 30, 36, 42, 48, 60, 66, 72, 78 & 84 Project Awards, Project of the Year Award, Graduating Member Award, New Volunteer Award and the 25 & 30 Year Volunteer Recognition.

The 4-H Ontario youth participant fee is paid online directly with 4-H Ontario. The Oxford County 4-H Association will be subsidizing the provincial youth participant fee by \$15.00 for Oxford 4-H youth members for 2022 with the George Thornton Bequest Funds. Oxford 4-H youth members will pay \$80 to join 4-H in 2022. Oxford County 4-H Association would like to thank youth, families, community supporters and sponsors for their dedication to keep the 4-H program in Oxford County strong. To know more about the 4-H program, please contact the acting Oxford 4-H Communications Coordinator, Shonna Ward, by email oxfordcounty4h@gmail.com or call/text 519-854-6919 or check out Oxford County 4-H Facebook.



## Fall Events and Projects Lead Towards a Festive Holiday Season at Beachville District Museum

Through the fall season, the museum has cautiously returned to our new sense of “normal operations”. We had a busy summer with a fully-registered camp program, and it felt as though guests were returning with an interest in touring the exhibits and conducting research. That was something to celebrate. A strong summer staff, hired through Young Canada Works and Canada Summer Jobs programs, ensured that the transition back to offering these services was possible.

As restrictions were slowly lifted, we were able to welcome the Ingersoll 50+ Activity Centre’s Country Cruise registrants to explore our grounds. This event had been postponed, but thanks to the commitment of the organizers, was finally held on September 28th. The day was sunny, and we had about 85 people to the site in shifts. Thanks to everyone who visited the museum as a stop along their cruise itinerary.

If you missed the Country Cruise and are looking to explore your local history while taking in some fresh air, you can find details about the museum grounds compiled in a brochure on our website: [www.beachvilledistrictmuseum.com](http://www.beachvilledistrictmuseum.com). On the homepage, access the PDF copy and take it along for a self-guided tour of the site’s outdoor attractions.

The Township of South-West Oxford’s Engage and Inform Committee held an Arbour Day event at the museum on September 25th. We saw many residents of the area stop in to purchase new recycle bins, composters and rain barrels. The committee also gave out free, white spruce seedlings to all attendees. We were happy to be a part of this event, and encourage greener practices in waste disposal.

Over the past few months, museum staff has been trying to catch up on offers of donations. We recently took in artifacts from families in Embro and Beachville that relate to Beachville’s quarries

and the “Knights of the Maccabees” fraternal organization. Our staff has been researching a collection of receipts from local businesses such as Clarkson Bros., J.K. Martin Blacksmithing & General Repairs, Fred. W. Karn Hardware and John Hacker’s store. We have also been rehousing a number of prize ribbons from the Tillsonburg Fair, Norwich Fair, and Perth County International Ploughing Match that were won by the late John Hargreaves.

We are excited to be moving forward with a few renovation projects, thanks to the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program. These renovation projects will improve the historic building’s structural integrity and will make it easier to monitor the museum environment for the long-term health of the artifacts we house.

As we approach the holiday season, we are looking ahead to the second annual “Light Up the Museum” event, which will be held on Friday, December 3rd at 6:00pm on the museum grounds. Come bundled up for this event and bring your family and friends to enjoy a festive snack or warm beverage. We will be lighting the main building and grounds for the holiday season with a flick of a switch at 6:30pm. There will be Christmas music and opportunities to tour the museum as it is decked out in its holiday best.

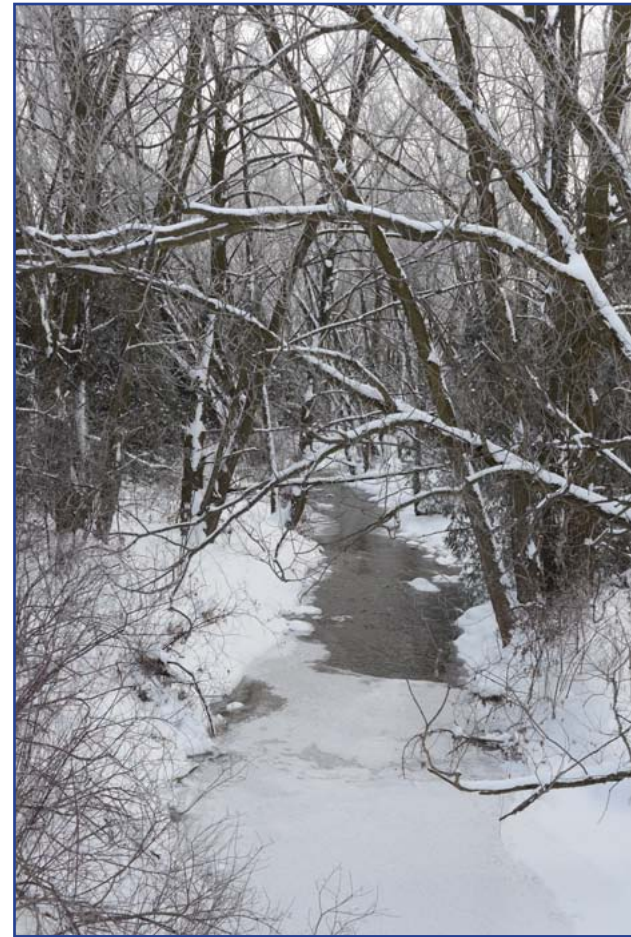


# Hansford *complete* Tree Removal Service

**Trimming • Chipping  
Stump Removal • Firewood**

RR#2, Ingersoll, Ontario N5C 3J5

**P: 519-485-6481  
C: 519-852-4099**



**TOUR OXFORD**

## SHOP local SHOP Oxford

Scan to discover the magic of shopping local in Oxford County

Rural Oxford Economic Development | Community Futures Oxford

# TIRECRAFT

www.tirecraft.com

Like us on Facebook

**Firestone** Visit us for our complete line of Firestone farm tires.

**Owned and operated by:  
Al's Tire Service**

R.R.#1  
593771 Hwy #59 South  
Burgessville, Ontario N0J 1C0

**P: 519-424-9865  
TF: 800-265-9294  
F: 519-424-2338**

## Local Talent at the Zorra Municipal Office

Are you a local artist or vendor operating in Zorra Township? Do you have items to display in our office? We have space in our lobby to display your items! Contact Lisa 519-485-2490 ext 7231 or lteeple@zorra.ca for more information! Drop by our office and see what we have to offer! #ShopLocal

## HOME OR OFFICE STANDBY GENERATORS!

# FORMAN ELECTRIC LTD.

### Putting you in control of Mother Nature

## Confidence & Comfort During a Power Outage

**6 YEARS PARTS AND LABOUR WARRANTY**

**LIFETIME WARRANTY ON HEAT EXCHANGER**

Commercial/Residential • Heating & Cooling • Standby Generator Systems

**24 Hour Emergency Service 519-284-0833 St. Marys, ON**

BRIGGS & STRATON | AIR EASE | KERR Smart Energy



# Tree Planting around Zorra!

Trees help to clean the air and fight against global climate change, they also impact aesthetic, social, economic and health benefits.

Environmental needs are becoming increasingly important across our globe and every tree helps!!

Throughout the Township of Zorra there are various tree planting programs available for residents. Available programs are as follows:



## Township of Zorra Memorial Tree Program

Memorial Trees can be purchased, in memory of loved ones, at the Township Office for \$40.00 through the Upper Thames River Conservation Authority (UTRCA). Individuals may also have their loved ones name added to a memorial tree sign when they purchase a tree for an additional fee. Signs are located at Grace Patterson Park in Thamesford, Embro Conservation Area and Harrington Conservation Area. The trees are planted in various locations throughout Zorra on Township or UTRCA property at a pre-determined location. Approximately 162 trees, usually 6'-8' sugar maples, have been planted throughout the Township since the start of this program in 1995. Fill out the Memorial Tree Request Form on the Zorra website [www.zorra.ca](http://www.zorra.ca) or contact the Township Office.

## Township of Zorra Memorial Tree Forest

In 2015, Zorra Township partnered with Brock and Visser Funeral Home – Thamesford Chapel and UTRCA to have trees planted in memory of those individuals whose funeral arrangements have been conducted through Brock and Visser Funeral Home. The Memorial Tree Forest is located on the 43rd Line, North of Road 68 on land owned by UTRCA. The trees are purchased by Brock and Visser Funeral Home. The trees that are being planted are native species, 6'-8' in size. Since 2015, 350 trees have been planted in the forest. Contact Brock and Visser for more details at 519-285-2427.

## Township of Zorra Replacement Tree Program

Currently when the Township of Zorra Public Works staff take down a tree along a road side or near private property, they offer the land owner two trees to replace the one that was removed. The two trees are for planting on their private property. In 2021, 250 6'-8' sugar maple trees were planted through this program. Fill out the Tree Replacement Form on the Zorra website [www.zorra.ca](http://www.zorra.ca) or contact the Township Office.

## UTRCA Private Lands Program

Landowners who reside in the Upper Thames River watershed and own a minimum of 2.5 acres of property are eligible to participate in the UTRCA's Tree Planting on Private Lands program. The program offers large stock trees and seedlings. For further details visit the UTRCA website at [www.thamesriver.on.ca](http://www.thamesriver.on.ca).



The Upper Thames River Conservation Authority has trees & grants available. Landowners who reside in the Upper Thames River watershed and own a minimum of 1 hectare (2.5 acres) are eligible to participate in the UTRCA's Tree Planting on Private Lands program.

## The program offers:

- Large stock trees (coniferous and deciduous)
- Seedlings (coniferous and deciduous species, as well as wildlife shrubs)

Trees purchased through this program may be planted by the landowner or through the UTRCA's full planting service.

**For pricing and availability please contact:**

UPPER THAMES RIVER  
CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

John Enright, UTRCA Forester  
(519) 451-2800 ext. 243 or  
[enrightj@thamesriver.on.ca](mailto:enrightj@thamesriver.on.ca)

# Environmental Farm Grants

London • Middlesex • Stratford • Oxford • St. Marys • Perth  
www.cleanwaterprogram.ca

## 2022 Grant Program

Eligible Projects *	Grant Rate	Maximum Grant
Milkhouse Washwater Disposal	50%	\$2,000
Clean Water Diversion	50%	\$3,000
Livestock Access Restriction to Watercourses <small>*50% of the cost of an installed fence or 100% of the cost of materials for a self-installed fence</small>	50% or 100%	\$5,000
Nutrient Management Plans	50%	\$500
Wellhead Protection	50%	\$500
Decommissioning Unused Wells	50%	\$500
Fertilizer, Chemical and Fuel Storage or Handling	50%	\$500
Septic Systems	50%	\$4,000
Erosion Control Structures	50%	\$3,000
Fragile Land Retirement	50%	\$2,000
<b>Oxford County</b> -Woodlands Conservation/Enhancement <small>** Oxford County Woodlands - Grant Rate 50% (general woodlands) or 70% (woodlands identified as significant in the Oxford Natural Heritage Study)</small>	50% or 70%	\$2,000
<b>Oxford County</b> -Wetlands Conservation/Enhancement <small>** Oxford County Wetlands - Grant Rate 50% (locally significant or unevaluated wetlands) or 70% (Provincially Significant Wetlands or wetland features associated with significant terrestrial features identified in the Oxford Natural Heritage Study)</small>	50% or 70%**	\$3,000

Visit [www.cleanwaterprogram.ca](http://www.cleanwaterprogram.ca)  
Contact your local Municipality or Conservation Authority:

#### County of Middlesex:

Ausable Bayfield CA 519-235-2610  
St. Clair Region CA 519-245-3710  
Upper Thames River CA 519-451-2800 ext. 251

#### County of Oxford:

Grand River CA 519-621-2761  
Long Point Region CA 519-842-4242  
Upper Thames River CA 519-451-2800 ext. 251

#### County of Perth:

Ausable Bayfield CA 519-235-2610  
Grand River CA 519-621-2761  
Maitland Valley CA 519-335-3557  
Upper Thames River CA 519-451-2800 ext. 251



Funding Partners: COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX • COUNTY OF OXFORD • CITY OF LONDON • CITY OF STRATFORD • TOWN OF ST. MARYS  
\* Grants vary across the different municipalities

## wipes, tissues, gloves & masks belong in the trash



### ! Protect your waste collector

Personal hygiene products, including face masks, tissues and cleaning wipes, go in the garbage, not your blue box.

If anyone in your household is sick, place items they have used into the garbage, not your blue box.

Otherwise, place your plastic, cans, glass, cardboard and paper packaging material in your blue box to be recycled. Visit [www.wasteline.ca](http://www.wasteline.ca) for a full list of accepted materials.

#### DOWNLOAD THE WASTELINE APP

Get text, email, phone or Twitter reminders.  
[info@wasteline.ca](mailto:info@wasteline.ca)

**wasteline**  
working towards zero waste

**OxfordCounty**  
Growing stronger together

Shop Local  
Order Online

**JC Graphics.ca**

The Village Voice  
FOR OUR COMMUNITY

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK

**JC Graphics Thamesford**

*Brock & Visser*  
**FUNERAL HOME**  
Thamesford Chapel Ltd.

"Every life is worth remembering,  
every family deserves our very best"

#### Bill Friesen

Please feel free to contact us 24 hours a day.

177 Dundas St. W., P. O. Box 152 THAMESFORD, ON N0M 2M0  
Phone: (519) 285-2427 Fax: (519) 295-0103



**FLEMING HOME  
COMFORT**

**HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING**

Sales Service Installation

**519-617-4205**

[www.fleminghomecomfort.com](http://www.fleminghomecomfort.com)

# **AAROC**

## **AGGREGATES & RECYCLING**

603150 RD. 60  
INGERSOLL

### **WE SELL**

- ✓ **SAND & GRAVEL**
- ✓ **BLENDED TOPSOILS**
- ✓ **CRUSHED STONE**
- ✓ **LANDSCAPE STONE**

### **WE RECYCLE**

- ♻️ **CONCRETE / ASPHALT**
- ♻️ **BRUSH / WOOD**
- ♻️ **DRYWALL**
- ♻️ **SHINGLES**

**DELIVERY AVAILABLE**

**519-659-9110**  
**www.aaroc.com**



684288 Hwy 2 West  
P.O. Box 1648  
Woodstock N4S 0A9  
519-423-6264

Farm Equipment

Lawn & Garden Equipment

Sales, Service & Parts

Repairs to all makes  
& models



Authorized Dealer for:

**CASE IH**  
AGRICULTURE

**KRONE**

**KONGSKILDE**

**Cub Cadet**

**HARDI**

**GRASS HOPPER**

**STIHL**