

CENTERS' CHATTER

Published by the Leamington & District Half-Century
Centre Inc. A great place to make new friends!

January | February

2026

Wow, 2025 has really flown by! I can say we had quite the successful year at our centre, so many events that brought lots of laughter and smiles while raising money to keep our "home" thriving. The Christmas Dinner was exceptional, as I mentioned in the last Chatter newsletter, I was really looking forward to it. I would like to thank everyone who helped out to put on such an amazing evening; from our staff members at the centre, our much appreciated volunteers and the band that graced us with heart warming Christmas Classics. Also to everyone who attended, thank you so much!

With Christmas past, I hope you all enjoyed the Holiday with your families and friends. It is a great time to unwind and get ready for the New Year to come.

Speaking of the New Year we have a lot of activities and fundraisers planned, including the Chilli Cook off on January 17th. Make sure to get your ticket for that or even get in on a little friendly competition. It's an idea way to keep warm during the cool month of January. I can't thank our volunteers enough, because I truly appreciate their helpfulness and their kindness, and I hope they know how much we appreciate their contributions.

Christina, our new janitor is doing an excellent job at keeping the centre sparkling clean and she is so friendly, we appreciate the work she is putting in.

Happy New Year to all, I hope 2026 brings you health and happiness!

Larry Hillman, President



THE LEAMINGTON AND DISTRICT HALF-CENTURY CENTRE

A member of the Older Adult Centres' Association of Ontario

From the Executive Director – Christine Lehn
Happy New Year

I would like to take this time to thank Lorlee for all the work she has done in the kitchen over the past many years. She is always a pleasure to work with. Many of you are familiar with her special treats. I am amazed every time she makes them. Thank you very much. I am still looking for someone to help with lunches on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays every month. Please come see me if you are willing to help out.

Our membership continues to grow. Maybe try a new activity. We have so many great things to do. For example, on Thursday afternoons, we have Darts. The group plays for an hour followed by tea and treats. Occasionally they even let me play. It is so much fun. Saying you could not even hit the dart board is NOT a reason to stay away. You will be surprised how much you improve in a short time and how understanding the group is. The object of darts and all activities is to have FUN. If you can smile and laugh, you will fit in.

The schedule for Petrolia is finalized. There is a poster in this issue with the dates. I have limited tickets so please sign up early. We need to order our lunch when we sign up so the golf course will have it all ready for us.

This year we are celebrating our 60th anniversary. We have events planned for the week of July 6 – 11. Stay tuned for details. Let's fill this year with fun and laughter.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2025-2026

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REGULAR PROGRAMS & EVENTS

RECREATION: Art Group, Band Practice, Bridge (Contract & Duplicate,) Cornhole, Cribbage, Darts, Drum Fit, Euchre, Line Dancing, Pepper, Pool, Shuffleboard, Yoga.

TUESDAY LUNCH PROGRAM

ENTERTAINMENT: Bus Trips, Card Parties, Picnics, Dinner Theatre, Special Programs, Travel.

MEMBERSHIP: \$45.00 per year (April 1st – March 31st)

Ministry of Transportation Senior's Group Classes

NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTION:

Mailed to you: \$15.00 per year for 6 issues

Centre's Chatter is a publication of the Leamington and District Half Century Centre composed by staff with

contributions from Directors, Members and others interested in the issues and concerns of seniors. It is produced 6 times a year. Please contact us if you have comments, contributions, or if you would like to purchase advertising, or be a distributor of our newsletter.

SOCIAL SERVICES:

Blood Pressure Clinics

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Guest Speakers on Senior's Issues

160 Talbot Street East
Leamington, ON N8H 1M2

Phone: 519- 326-2521 Fax: 519-326-2348

E-mail: halfcenturycentre@cogeco.net

Web: www.halfcenturycentre.ca

Office Hours: Monday to Friday 8:30 a.m. To 4:30 p.m.

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REGULAR CENTRE ACTIVITIES

ART GROUP	WEDNESDAY	9:00 am.
BAND PRACTICE (Musical G's)	WEDNESDAY (call office for location)	10:00 am.
BRIDGE (Duplicate)	MONDAY & FRIDAY	12:30 pm.
BRIDGE (Contract)	WEDNESDAY	1:30 pm.
CORNHOLE	WEDNESDAY	1:30 pm.
CRIBBAGE	THURSDAY	2:00 pm
DARTS	THURSDAY	2:00 pm.
DRUMFIT	MONDAY	1:30 pm
EUCHRE	TUESDAY & FRIDAY	1:30 pm. 7:00 pm
LINE DANCING	MONDAY & THURSDAY	9:00 am. 7:00 pm.
PEPPER	SUNDAY WEDNESDAY	2:00 pm. 7:00 pm.
POOL ROOM	MONDAY - FRIDAY	8:30 am. to 4:15 pm.
QUILTING GROUP	MONDAY	9:00 am.
SHUFFLEBOARD	FRIDAY	1:30 pm.
YOGA	FRIDAY TUESDAY	9:30 am. 1:30 pm.

REGULAR PROGRAMS

DRIVE TEST G1 & G2

Eye/Written & Road Test

4th Tuesday Monthly at 9 am-12 noon and 1pm-4 pm

For road test appointments please call 1-888-570-6110;

do not call the centre.

PARKINSONS EXERCISE & SUPPORT GROUP

Tuesdays 10:30 am.

VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX CLINIC FOR LOW INCOME

TUESDAY LUNCH PROGRAM

Home-cooked meals at a great price. Enjoy our friendly service and comfortable atmosphere.

Lunch is served at 12 noon and cost is \$10 per person. Meals include an entrée, vegetables,

salad, bread roll, dessert, and tea or coffee. A

thank you to Venvi Residence and Rosewood Erie

Glen for each supplying dessert once a month.

Please call the office at 519-326-2521 for the week's menu, and to be added to the list the Thursday

before the luncheon. If you have any comments on

the week's menu or suggestions for an upcoming

menu please contact Christine. We try to make all

meals interesting and enjoyable. Please note the

menu is subject to change. We will not accept any

walk-ins. Space is limited.

Lunch Menu

Jan 6	Salisbury steak	Feb 3	Liver & onions
Jan 13	Soup & Sandwich	Feb 10	Pork Schnitzel
Jan 20	Pork chops	Feb 17	Lasagna
Jan 27	Chicken parmesan	Feb 24	Cabbage Roll Casserole

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 June 30-Jul. 15 \$8199 Dbl
 Atlantic Canada
 Aug. 3-16 \$4199 Dbl

Brian Collins, B.A. Sc., LL.B
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CHILI COOKOFF

SATURDAY, JANUARY 17 AT 5

Several local restaurants, clubs and schools along with the Half Century Centre will all be submitting their chili masterpiece; come on out and see if you agree with the judges. Vote for your favourites!

REGULAR CENTER ACTIVITIES - January

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
				New Year's Day! Closed	Closed	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
		Lunch: Salisbury steak Must sign up by previous Thursday				
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
		Lunch: Soup & Sandwich Must sign up by previous Thursday	Seniors Advisory Committee Event 10 am			Chili Cook Off 5 pm
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
		Lunch: Pork chops Must sign up by previous Thursday				
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
		Lunch: Chicken parmesan Must sign up by previous Thursday				


Regular Weekly Activities

Pepper 2:00	Line Dancing 9:00 Sewing Group 10:00 Bridge 12:30 Drumfit 1:30	Lunch - Noon Euchre 1:30 Yoga 1:30	Art Group 9:00 Bridge 1:30 Pepper 7:00 Cornhole 1:30	Darts 2:00 Cribbage 2:00 Line Dancing 7:00	Yoga 9:30 Bridge 12:45 Euchre 7:00 Shuffleboard 1:30
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REGULAR CENTER ACTIVITIES - February

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
		Lunch: Liver & onions Must sign up by previous Thursday				
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
		Lunch: Pork schnitzel Must sign up by previous Thursday	Seniors Advisory Committee Event 10 am			
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
		Lunch: Lasagna Must sign up by previous Thursday				
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
		Lunch: Cabbage roll casserole Must sign up by previous Thursday				

Regular Weekly Activities

Pepper 2:00	Line Dancing 9:00 Sewing Group 10:00 Bridge 12:30 Drumfit 1:30	Lunch - Noon Euchre 1:30 Yoga 1:30	Art Group 9:00 Bridge 1:30 Pepper 7:00 Cornhole 1:30	Darts 2:00 Cribbage 2:00 Line Dancing 7:00	Yoga 9:30 Bridge 12:45 Euchre 7:00 Shuffleboard 1:30	
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Happy Birthday

JANUARY

Andre Lalonde	1	Chris Lehn	18
Dorothy Poisson	1	Monique Sadler	18
Jan Roth	1	Henry Hildebrandt	20
Dave Derbyshire	2	Randy Chase	21
Carmen Unsworth	2	Martha Klassen	22
Sheila Bailey	3	Denis Gauvin	24
Cathie Ribble	4	Gary Honey	26
Barry Power	5	Jane Hyatt	27
Louise Gagne	6	Anne Reimer	30
Kate Gibson	7	Barbara Whittle	30
Ken Martiniuk	7	Erna Tiessen	30
Don Gage	10	Rowe Deans	31
Mario Floreno	11	Linda Walsh	31
Floyd Harris	11		
Lorraine McAdam	11		
Robert Springthorpe	16		
Cheryle Dunford	18		

FEBRUARY

Patty Hopper	1
Diane Semeniuk	1
Allan Munson	2
Carol Gow	3
Cathy Hrynyk	9
Helen Slavik	12
Mac Stanley	13
Bill Mayville	16
Vickie Haley	17
Ida Smith	19
Dana Hedge	20
Kathy Bretzlaff	20
Chris Cooper	22
Warren Dunford	23
Donna Colenutt	24
Ron Metz	24
Isabelle Webster	24
Sophia Linner	25
Natasha Gurney	27

Welcome New Members

Tom Hughes
 Marian Hughes
 Louis Gagne
 Anne Barnier
 Suzana Majcen
 Mary Krueger
 Allen Lumley
 Ben Neufeld
 Neil Quiring
 Jake Martens
 Crystal Daigle

Kathleen Finaldi
 Robert Impeus
 Michele Koop
 Kathy Marcotte

The Leamington and District Half-Century Centre welcomes these people who have joined since our last publication. So, let's extend a big welcome to each of them and introduce yourself to them; remember how you felt when you were a new member of the Centre.

We welcome you, our new members, and encourage you to take part in as many of the activities as possible. We would also encourage you to get involved as a "volunteer." This is the quickest way to get to know us. Our volunteers are the reason why the Centre is so successful. We could not function without the people who give so generously of their time and energy to the Centre.



 In Remembrance
 Roy Trowell



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DATE

FEBRUARY 11TH

TIME

START FROM 10 - 11 AM

LOCATION

**HALF CENTURY CENTRE
160 TALBOT ST E, LEAMINGTON**

DATE

JANUARY 14TH

TIME

START FROM 10

LOCATION

**HALF CENTURY CENTRE
160 TALBOT ST E, LEAMINGTON**

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MAY 20TH

I DO! I DO!

This charming, beloved musical follows one couple through fifty years of marriage – the laughter, the tears, and the perfectly imperfect moments in between. From newlywed bliss to the golden years, *I Do! I Do!* features heartfelt humour and memorable songs.

IF YOU LOVED WINGFIELD...
JUNE 25TH

Ed's GARAGE

From the writer of the popular *Wingfield* series comes a high-octane comedy about fixing more than just engines. In a dusty back-street garage, two misfit mechanics and a surprise visitor collide in a wild tune-up of ambition, betrayal and redemption. When your post is your toughest repair job, it's time to buckle up.

SUN, SURF, AND SUMMER LOVE

GOOD VIBRATIONS

JULY
23RD

FEEL-GOOD HITS OF THE 60's & 70's

Let the beach party begin! Ride the wave with The Beach Boys, The Mamas & The Papas, The Turtles, Jan & Dean, and more for a feel-good celebration of surf, sunshine and classic hits like *Surfin' U.S.A.*, *California Dreamin'*, *I Get Around*, and *Happy Together*. Pure harmony, nostalgia, and endless good vibrations!



PETROLIA PLAYHOUSE 2026

ALL YOU NEED IS LOVE
SEPTEMBER 24TH

Music of THE BEATLES

With the success of *All About ABBA* we step back again into the golden age of pop, as we celebrate the unforgettable Beatles catalogue and their songs that changed the world! From the early days of *She Loves You* and *I Want to Hold Your Hand* to the revolutionary sounds of *Sgt. Pepper*, *Abbey Road*, and *Let It Be*, this show is bound to be another VPP knockout!



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Half Century Centre

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