

THIS WEEK'S COMMUNITY PROFILE:
ECFA President Julien Papineau
 See AGRICULTURE Page 7

SEARCH AND RESCUE
ATV club seeks partnership with police
 See COMMUNITY Page 10

BOXERS DESCEND ON COLCHESTER
Kronk gym announces \$1 million facility
 See BUSINESS Page 15

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Wednesday, October 4, 2006



Ballots set, list of municipal candidates final

BY SARAH FISHER

Candidates for municipal elections in Ontario had until Sept. 29 to file nomination papers in their respective towns.

Essex

In Essex, Deputy Mayor Percy Dufour filed only minutes before the clerk's office closed at 5 p.m. Dufour's filing means there will be four candidates for Ward 3, including Paul Innes, the former mayor and councillor in Colchester South, and Daniel Inverarity, a realtor with Deerbrook Realty Inc. Ron Rogers, who also filed Sept. 29, is a former councillor for Colchester South. Julie Battagin had filed nomination papers but has since dropped out of the race.

"I decided to withdraw my nomination for Ward 3 councillor due to personal reasons," Battagin said Sept. 27. "I will continue though to support and help Larry Snively as mayor and Paul Innes as councillor for Ward 3 with their campaigns."

Snively filed his intention to seek the mayor's position on Jan. 30. Incumbent Ron McDermott is seeking re-election.

The list of candidates for Ward 1 in Essex at 5 p.m. Sept. 29 showed six candidates. Councillor Randy Voakes filed Sept. 25. He and Councillor Morley Bowman will seek re-election against Bill Arps, John Garinger, Nick Spidalieri and Robbie Shepley.

Councillor Richard Meloche is running again for his position on council in Ward 2. Randy McCloskey, a supply-based technician in the quality systems department at Windsor's Ford Motor Company and Jamie Shepley, owner of Impressive Flooring in Essex, will also seek the councillor's spot.

Peter Timmins is acclaimed in Ward 4.

Tecumseh

As of deadline time in Tecumseh Mayor Gary McNamara will campaign against Ray Graveline. Deputy Mayor Tom Burton has opposition from Norm Jobin, a recent filing in the past week. In Ward 1, incumbents Marcel 'Pat' Blais and Rita Ossington are seeking re-election against newcomer Doreen Ouellette. Guy Dorion in Ward 2, Joe Bachetti in Ward 3 and Joie Jobin in Wards 4 are acclaimed.

Lakeshore

In Lakeshore Tom Bain, the current deputy mayor, will campaign for mayor against three other candidates — Len Janisse, "Panny" Nick Panasiuk and David Tremblay. Lakeshore Mayor Bob Croft announced months ago he would not seek re-election.

Melinda Strba filed for deputy mayor along with Bob Sylvester, who initially filed nomination papers seeking re-election for Ward 1. Ward 1 had four candidates on the list as of 5 p.m. Sept. 29 — Don "Scotty" Campbell, Bob Davidovich, Beverly George and Francis Kenette. Leo Anastos and Al Fazio have filed for Ward 2. Seven people filed nomination papers for Ward 3 — Annette Drouillard, Steven Johnson, Mike McKinnon, Charles McLean, "Scooter" Marty O'Hara, "Spanky" Derek Iwanicki and Eric Strople.

The competition for Ward 4 in Lakeshore will be between current Ward 2 Councillor Karen Fallon, Raymond Lalonde and Robert Sylvestre. Victoria Beaulieu, noted on the list of current councillors as representing Ward 3, and Dan Diemer will be the candidates for Ward 5. Paddy Byrne, Christopher Carpenter and Vic Vogler are candidates for Ward 6.

Kingsville

There were changes in the listing of candidates in Kingsville in the past week.

Mayor Nelson Santos will run against Pat O'Neil, while Deputy Mayor Katherine Gunning will seek re-election against Brian Sanger.

SEE BALLOTS SET, PAGE 2



PICKING A PUMPKIN — Five-year-old Julianne Tiessen, left, and her sister Rachelle, 3, pose with their newly picked pumpkins at McLeod Farms in Cottam Oct. 1. Essex County's largest pumpkin patch opened for business last weekend, which offers acres of 'pick your own' pumpkins. The farm also features a corn maze and free hay rides on weekends. Gourds, Indian corn, Autumn wings and white and orange pumpkins are all available for sale at the farm.

Volunteers at core of Apple Festival success, Community Living says

BY DANIEL SCHWAB

RUTHVEN — When Community Living Essex County contacted the small group of Ruthven Odd Fellows with an idea to hold an apple festival for their organization 27 years ago they were looking to raise \$1,300 to buy a bus.

The vehicle would transport people with special needs around the communi-

ty — to employment opportunities, volunteer jobs or just to run daily errands. At the time, Odd Fellows member Ron Hicks remembers Community Living's idea seemed like a bit of a long shot.

"We bit the bullet and said we'd get it for them," Hicks recalls.

Built on the strength of its volunteers, the first Ruthven Apple Festival

drew about 1,000 people, and exceeded the cost of the bus by raising about \$6,200.

Twenty-six years later, the tradition continues. Hicks has been a member of the Odd Fellows, a social organization that supports various charitable causes throughout Canada, the U.K. and the U.S., for 55 years.

SEE VOLUNTEERS, PAGE 3



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