



Photo: Sarah Fisher

A worker sandblasts the cannon that sits on the front lawn of the Town of Essex municipal building. Since early October, the cannon has received a fresh coat of paint and the wheels have been replaced.

## Cannon reveals new secrets

BY BILL GAY

The renovation of the historic Essex cannon is now almost completed. And with the restoration comes new information.

After the sandblasting was completed in late September, an inscription was uncovered showing that the artillery piece was manufactured in 1905 at Friedkrupp AG (NR 452) in Essen, Germany. Our cannon, which has stood guard since coming to Essex after the First World War, is 101 years old.

In a program initiated by the federal government, captured German ordnance was distributed to towns across the Dominion as memorials to Canada's war effort. Many of them disappeared during the Second World War and were recycled for use in manufacturing, but the Essex cannon survived.

Dr. Richard Barnett of the Essex Rotary who, with the support of the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 201, has led the campaign to restore this most significant part of our past, says the

refurbished wheels have arrived and have been installed.

The sandblasting and painting of the German howitzer was completed courtesy of Mark Damphouse Painting, while the paint, Dupont Imron, was donated by Jason Hicks of Innovative Coating of Oldcastle. Ron Chartier was in charge of transportation. Forest Machine made the washers that fit over the axle to keep the wheels in place.

A dedication of the Essex cannon is being planned.



Photo: Sarah Fisher

**RAISING THE ROOF** – Betty Fields of the Essex Retirees and Mayor Ron McDermott draw the winning raffle tickets at a potluck held Oct. 17. Created by Retirees member Richard Lecours, the stained glass clock was won by Emily Daugherty and the stained glass lamp by Allison Logan, both of Essex. The Retirees sold \$1,582 in tickets as part of an ongoing effort to raise the funds needed to replace the centre's roof.



Re-elect

**KATHERINE GUNNING**

Deputy Mayor

First elected to position of Councillor in 2000 leading the polls. I am the experienced Deputy Mayor who has always represented the residents of the Town of Kingsville at Town Council and County Council with dedication, commitment and enthusiasm.

For questions, concerns or comments please call 519-839-4731 or email [kayway@windsor.igs.net](mailto:kayway@windsor.igs.net)

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