

# Independent Shorts

- Staff, youth from the St. Marys Youth Centre and members of the Friends of the Youth Centre will be participating in a "United Way Day of Caring" this afternoon from 3:30 pm to 4:30 pm at the St. Marys Skate Park. Kids will be helping give back to the community by cleaning up the skate park. Little Caesars Pizza will be donating pizza for the kids who participate.
- Due to construction at the St. Marys Public Library, the Friends of the Library has had to cancel its Spring Book Sale. Funds raised in the past are helping to pay for much-needed renovations to the library's second floor, the same space used for the book sales. The Friends have covered roughly half the cost and have committed a further \$20,000 to the purchase of new furniture. Group chair Brian Busby said the book sale will return this October and expects it to be their biggest ever.
- Due to scheduled repainting, the St. Marys tennis courts are closed. The St. Marys Social Tennis Club asks that everyone obey all posted signs so players can get back on the courts as soon as possible. The group is currently looking for input into an online usage survey that can be found on their website at [StMarysTennis.ca](http://StMarysTennis.ca). Click the headinging "Help shape the tennis club!" to fill it out.

# BUSINESS OF THE WEEK

## Forman Electric Ltd.



Our business of the week is Forman Electric Limited, your local heating and air conditioning specialists, located at 185 King Street South in St. Marys and owned by founder Andy Forman.

Forman, a licensed master electrician, and his employees are capable of working on residential, commercial, industrial and agricultural projects. They've been in the HVAC (heating, ventilation and air conditioning) business since 2013.

HVAC technician and staff safety representative Rob Batten said the business, which is a dealership of Air Ease brand products, can work on "oil or gas furnaces, fireplaces, wood stoves, air conditioners, refrigeration, barbecue lines, and hot water heaters."

"We can fix and work on any kind of equipment," he added. "Not just our own models."

From left are HVAC Technician and safety representative Ryan Batten, apprentice refrigeration and HVAC technician Hunter King and owner Andy Forman.

To St. Marys, and surrounding communities including Shakespeare, Stratford, Tavistock and anywhere else within a 40 km radius of their shop, they offer quick, comprehensive customer service. That includes 24-hour on-call service from Forman technicians and their fleet of modern vehicles.

"We get letters back from customers all the time saying we're speedy

at getting stuff fixed for them," Batten said.

Past Forman clients include the Town of St. Marys, including work on the Pyramid Recreation Centre, and Shepherd Gourmet Dairy. They've also supported the community through sponsorship of the Canadian Baseball Hall of Fame, where their name can be seen hung on the outfield fence at King Field.

One service Forman offers clients is a \$250 per year furnace maintenance and insurance package, even on older units. "If it's 10 years old and the venter motor goes on the furnace, it's covered," Batten said. "The homeowner doesn't have to pay for it, because it would be covered under the warranty program."

The provincial government is also currently offering rebates of up to \$650 for homeowners interested in installing high-efficiency furnaces and air conditioners, Forman said. "There are deals where you can get \$250 for a furnace or \$450 for a high SEER air conditioner from the government," he said. "If somebody is thinking about it, they might as well take advantage of that."

Reach the Forman Electric Ltd. office by phone at 519-284-0833, or visit them on the web at [FormanElectric.com](http://FormanElectric.com).



## Tree Tips: The American Beech



unique look to an area due to its, smooth bark, which it retains even after maturing. It is also one of the few trees that will grow with Walnut trees.

*If you have a question, you can email me at [jtsquote@gmail.com](mailto:jtsquote@gmail.com), and I will respond either by email or in a future article. If you would like me to come and assess one of your trees, you can call me at 519.272.5742.*

*Joel Hackett is a Certified Arborist Residing in the St Mary's Area. Spending most of the year running Joel's Tree Service, he also teaches Arboriculture during the winter at Lambton College. Joel Hackett does not assume any liability for any information in this article.*

The American Beech tree (*Fagus grandifolia*) is one of the most majestic trees in the forest. Though it normally grows 50 to 80 feet in height, it has been known to reach heights of 120 feet. The American Beech tree's trunk can easily reach 4 to 5 feet in diameter.

In the past the American Beech was highly valued for its lumber, and was consistently used for railway ties. Now it is still used in many ways, but less so in railway construction. American

Beech wood is used to make furniture, baskets, crates and many other things.

Beech trees are fairly easy to grow, however it is necessary to protect them from wounds and it is important to use proper pruning practices. This due to the fact that American Beech trees heal very slowly and have a different kind of bark than most other trees.

The American Beech tree is found all along the east coast, and easily adapts to most environments. It is a

good choice for landscaping on the condition that the area is large enough to accommodate its growth. The American Beech will ad a

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