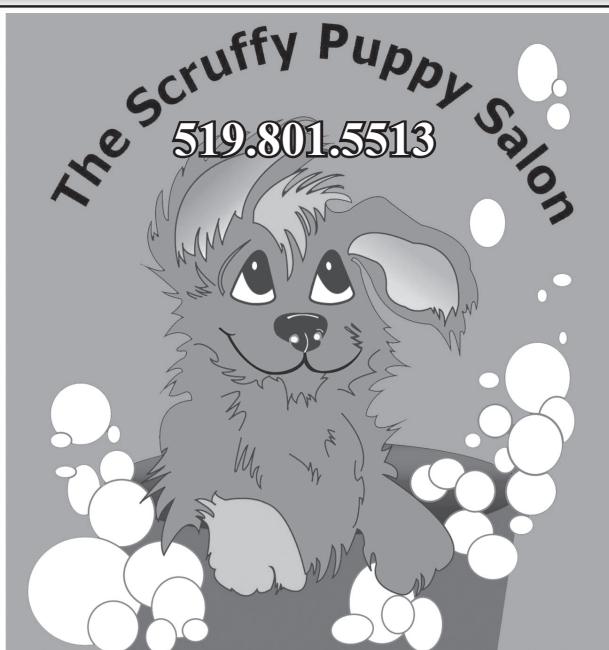


Independent Shorts

- Lincolns Ladies Night – Rustic Sign Making on Tuesday, Feb 7th at the PRC; cost is \$75, contact Carol Hertel at hertelhome@rogers.com to sign up.
- Join the Perth County Ontario Provincial Police (OPP), St Marys Fire Department and Perth County Paramedic Services in support of "The Push for Change" with Victim Services of Bruce Grey Perth. On May 1, Joe Roberts, a former street youth turned successful entrepreneur, began pushing a shopping cart 9,000 km across Canada as part of a national awareness campaign to help end youth homelessness: The Push for Change. Please join us on Saturday February 18, 2017, between noon and 4:00 pm to participate in an "Educational Awareness Sleepout Challenge". Free hotdogs and refreshments will be provided. There will also be a free family skate between 2:00 p.m. and 3:00 pm. and then stay and watch some exciting hockey action between members of the Perth County OPP and their rivals, the St Marys Fire Department. (Guns and Hoses) Admission for this event will be by donation directed to The Push for Change Foundation. This will all be happening at the St Marys Pyramid Community Centre located at 317 James Street South in St Marys.



519.801.5513

Stephanie Horner

Professional Dog Groomer

4870 Line 4, R.R. #6 St. Marys, Ontario N4X 1C8

Facebook.com/thescruffypuppysalon

Riannas Family Restaurant

Wednesday All you can eat spaghetti
Thursday Kids under 12 eat free for dinner
Friday All you can eat fish & chips

Saturday

Burger night

Sunday

Breakfast

We now have Chicken Pot Pies for take-out

Eat fresh, Eat Good

519-284-2400

7 am – 7 pm Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday
 7 am – 2 pm Monday, Tuesday, Sunday

Business of the Week

Grant Haven Management Inc.

By Stewart Grant

Though we've done roughly 125 Business of the Week articles in the Independent thus far, until this week we had not yet featured my own company, Grant Haven Management Inc.

Grant Haven Management Inc. purchased the St. Marys Independent Newspaper in the summer of 2014 however the company was formed ten years earlier and has been involved in many things beyond newspapers.

My wife Laurie and I incorporated Grant Haven Management Inc. in 2004 when we returned to St. Marys from a four-year stint working in Bermuda. My experience as a Chartered Accountant had led us to beautiful Bermuda, and during our time there I worked for Marsh Management Services handling the accounting and management for offshore insurance companies known as "captives". By 2004, Laurie and I wanted to move back

to our hometown of St. Marys to start a family, so we started up our own company whose primary function would be to manage captive insurance companies. Twelve years later, the majority of our revenue comes from the insurance accounting field, as I work with clients in the United States, Bermuda, Cayman Islands, and Anguilla.

Determining the name of a new company is often a difficult decision but in my case I knew I wanted to incorporate the "Grant Haven" name into the title. Grant Haven Farms was started by my grandparents Earl and Margaret Grant and continued on by my parents Murray and June Grant. In 1992, Grant Haven Farms was awarded the Master Breeder Shield by Holstein Canada, recognizing the results of two generations of excellence. Although I wasn't much of a farmer myself, I was very proud of what my parents and grandparents had accomplished and

I wanted my company's name to honor their efforts.

Although insurance accounting is what I spend the vast majority of my time on, over the years Grant Haven Management has owned different businesses to keep things interesting, most notably the St. Marys Independent Newspaper which we have owned since June 2014. I have really enjoyed being involved with the Independent and helping to shape the look and feel of the paper over the past 2.5 years. It seems that each week with the newspaper brings new things to learn and new experiences to have, and the creativity of the industry brings a welcome contrast versus the relatively structured environment of the accounting world.

On the subject of accounting, each March and April Grant Haven Management offers income tax preparation services, and that has been another great way for us to meet people in and around St. Marys. My mom June built her career as a bookkeeper in the St. Marys area and currently works with me in the tax return business, plus she also handles the administration and billing for the St. Marys Independent. One of the great pleasures of having this business is to work each day with family. Plus, there's always something new to talk about.

In 2016 Grant Haven sold off two businesses to local entrepreneurs who would make these operations stronger and allow them to provide better service to the community. Laurie and I owned Bob Smib-

ert's Fitness Studio in St. Marys for just over a year, keeping the successful studio going after founders Bob and Nina moved back to BC. Owning the fitness studio was a unique and rewarding experience, but when the time was right we were delighted to pass the torch to Dave & Sylvie Lucas who have really taken the business (renamed Bob's Fitness Studio) to the next level.

Meanwhile, Evolution Web Management was a business that I started from scratch in 2012. Back then, there were so many local businesses that didn't have websites and therefore our team was able to help them set up a presence online and expand their reach. Evolution has continued to evolve for the better, as it is now operated by computer specialist PJ Gorton, a young man from St. Marys who is also known for his Stone-town TV and GoTo-Geeks businesses.

So that's Grant Haven Management in a nutshell. We specialize in accounting, tax returns, and the St. Marys Independent Newspaper. Whether you are dealing with myself or our amazing staff at the Independent that includes June, Frank, Tyler and Stephanie, our goal is to provide excellent service and add value to the community. If you want to get in touch with me, I can best be reached at 519-868-1290 or stew@granthaven.com, or the Independent can be best reached at 519-284-0041, info@st-marysindependent.com or directly visiting us at 36 Water Street South.



Book your pet's
Spa Date

The Groomer

255 Wellington St, S, St. Marys

519-284-0036