



THE BEACON

of St. Clair Township

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Dinner honours Moore Museum volunteers



Some Moore Museum volunteers sample the delicious appetizers offered at the recent volunteer appreciation dinner in Courtright.

Volunteers and staff from the Moore Museum recently gathered at the Courtright Community Hall to enjoy a great meal and a well-deserved pat on the back.

The museum currently boasts an enthusiastic volunteer roster of about 70 people who have devoted almost 1,100 man-hours over the past year to the care, operation and improvement of the facility.

St. Clair Township updates one-call phone system

St. Clair Township emergency planners are currently updating the community one-call emergency notification telephone system for the Froomfield and Corunna areas.

Some of the phone numbers are available through the Bell Canada telephone network. However, those whose residences are serviced by cell phones, who have unlisted phone num-

bers, or use another phone service provider such as Telus, Rogers, VOIP, etc. are not automatically included in the one-call system.

To ensure that you are included in the system or to validate your information, please contact the St. Clair Township Fire Department administration office at 519-867-2110.

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TO CONTACT US

Individuals, schools or organizations that wish to publicize a non-profit event or suggest feature story subjects or topics can do so free of charge by e-mailing:

beacon@twp.stclair.on.ca

or writing to: The Beacon, c/o St. Clair Civic Centre,
1155 Emily Street, Mooretown, Ont., N0N 1M0.

**The deadline for submissions is the
third Monday of each month.**



Fluoridation plebiscite not supported

Fluoridation vote not supported

The ongoing discussion regarding the ramifications of the Fluoridation Act of 1990 and their current impact on the Lambton Area Water Supply System (LAWSS) was discussed during the August sitting of council.

The act requires that before the fluoridation of a community's water supply can be terminated, a public plebiscite must be held to reveal the will of the public. However, Mayor Steve Arnold, currently a member of the LAWSS governance board, pointed out that such a decision should be made by the board and should be based on the best available science.

LAWSS currently has six member municipalities: St. Clair Township, the City of Sarnia, Point Edward, Plympton-Wyoming, Warwick and part of Lambton Shores. Alvinston uses the water but does not have a seat on the board.

After the discussion, council voted to not support the efforts to conduct a plebiscite vote relative to the water fluoridation issue. It was generally felt that the decision must be made by the governance board after the review of the most up-to-date and well-researched information available.

Local tourism discussed

Local tourism was the subject of a visit to council by John Dickson, interim general manager of Tourism Sarnia Lambton. Mr. Dickson outlined his organization's role in promoting local tourism and efforts that can be made to assist municipalities in promoting their own tourist attractions. During the presentation, Mr. Dickson pointed out there were advertising opportunities available for local festivals and he described his efforts to prepare the 2009 business plan as well as a draft strategic plan. Council inquired about specific efforts that could be used to assist St. Clair Township. One example of such efforts would be the installation of better signage along main roads denoting the location of area attractions such as the township's two museums and the St. Clair Parkway Golf Course.

Envirofresh project gets conditional permit

Council approved a conditional building permit to allow the commencement of some of the work on Phase One of the Envirofresh Produce Inc. development at the Terra International site north of Sombra. Approval was given to activities such as the digging and setting of greenhouse posts, the installation of footings and

foundations for the service building area, and the construction of the entrance and parking lot area. Approval also required the owner to provide security amounting to \$25,000 for the removal of all work completed that does not meet site plan requirements.

Council has authorized the building inspector to enter into the conditional permit agreement and issue the permit with a separate fee for the service building as specified in the building inspector's previous report.

OMB appeal made

Some residents concerned about the recent zoning amendment to property just north of the St. Clair Township Civic Centre recently attended council to discuss OMB appeals which resulted from the amendment approval. The group was informed that one appeal to the OMB was made relative to the zoning amendment and one appeal has been filed with the board relative to the suburban residential zoning. Two of the residents who have attended the previous public meetings were informed by township CAO John Rodey that they could seek to have participant status with the board.

St. Clair Township council holds regular meetings on the first and third Monday of each month at 7 p.m.

Anyone wishing to address council should call the municipal office at 519-867-2021.

The next meetings will be Monday, Sept. 8 and 22.

Learn swimming/lifesaving at the Moore Sports Complex

According to the Lifesaving Society, about 500 Canadians die each year in water-related incidents. Basic swimming ability is a fundamental step in reducing this alarming statistic. Learn to be Watersmart. When in the water, don't go out of arms-reach of your children even for a moment. To protect your neck and, perhaps, your life, don't dive into unknown water without checking for depth and submerged hazards first. Wear a lifejacket. But most importantly, take swimming lessons and be educated about important lifesaving skills.

Don't become a statistic! Register for swimming lessons at the Moore Sports Complex now! Call 519-867-2651 for more information or to register or go online to www.twp.stclair.on.ca.

The Beacon is edited by Bonni Stevenson and published monthly by St. Clair Township as a public service to the residents of the municipality.

COMMUNITY POLICING

Police seek information about thefts

The Lambton OPP is requesting public assistance to address a number of unsolved incidences of theft, break-and-enter and mischief that have occurred in the township recently.

These incidents include mischief that occurred at a Fane Street apartment complex in August. Several vehicles had painted surfaces scratched and tires slashed.

At the Corunna Home Hardware, items valued at about \$4,700 were taken during an overnight break-in on Aug. 12/13. Items included a 4400 volt Coleman generator, an 1800 volt Honda gen-

erator, a red Honda roto tiller, and a General Steer post auger and ten-inch bit.

The person or people responsible for incidents of vandalism and mischief, such as the recent defacing of the fire hall at the Moore Museum, are also being sought by police.

The Lambton OPP asks residents to stay alert for any suspicious activity and to report this activity immediately. Using timely reports from concerned citizens, the Lambton OPP can not only apprehend more suspects, but can identify and address growing crime trends in any given area.

Help keep your community safe. When you see suspicious activity or are the victim of criminal activity, call the Lambton OPP and report the incident immediately.

OPP contact numbers

Corunna office: 519-481-0161

Petrolia detachment: 519-882-1011

OPP dispatch: 1-888-310-1122

Emergency: 911

To report information regarding a crime, call **Crime Stoppers: 1-800-222-8477**. All calls are anonymous and no call trace or caller ID is used.

St. Clair River Trail fundraiser promotes trail completion

The St. Clair River Trail Committee hopes all St. Clair Township residents will support the fundraising effort to complete the trail by 2010. To contribute to this worthwhile cause, make cheques payable to *St. Clair River Trail* and drop off at any of the following locations: CIBC, 3461 St. Clair Parkway, Sombra; St. Clair Township Civic Centre,

1155 Emily Street, Mooretown; Lambton Financial Credit Union branches at 2352 Jane Street in Brigden or 4348 St. Clair Parkway in Port Lambton; RBC Royal Bank branches at 348 Lyndoch Street in Corunna or River Drive North in Port Lambton; Southwest Regional Credit Union, 411 Lyndoch Street in Corunna.

Friendship JOOI Club for kids ready to begin new session

The Friendship JOOI Club for children ages eight to 13 will be starting its 2008-2009 meetings on Wednesday, Sept. 10 at 6:30 p.m. A limited number of spaces are available and a fee of \$10 for registration to the International Optimist Club, plus a \$2 per week supplies fee, will be required. High school students who need to complete volunteer hours are also welcome.

The group will elect its new executive on Sept. 17 and will then set to work on plans for a Halloween

party, the Corunna Santa Claus Parade, some youth dances and fundraisers. The kids will also be assembling Christmas packages to distribute to children in hospital and working on the unique "Catch and Release" book program to promote literacy to local youth.

For more information about the exciting community and social activities the club organizes and participates in, call Moore Optimist member Jacque at 519-867-5235.

SPEAK YOUR MIND

We always brag about how we are so pleased and proud to live in this area, but then the weekend idiots strike as they did overnight on August 9 and 10. What kind of pleasure does anyone get out of beating and smashing mailboxes to smithereens?

Most people along the parkway have some sort of decoration on their mailboxes in order to make them distinguishable from their neighbours' so that visitors might find them easily. But

during the recent incident, many of our neighbours' very expensive and attractive mailboxes were damaged beyond repair. It is most annoying to find an attached sign or decoration lying on the ground in the morning, but to find your entire mailbox obliterated is downright maddening, not to mention costly.

If I could address the vandals personally, I'd say, "Listen, you little felons, find something constructive to do with your time!" And I'd like to ask parents,

"Do you know what your children are doing when they are out of your sight through the night? It is hard to believe that some of this damage wasn't caused by a car bumper, so maybe you should check yours to see if it has been in contact with wood or green plastic while your little darling/juvenile delinquent was driving it!"

*B. Watson
Mooretown*

Mailbox vandals causing blight on the parkway

AROUND THE TOWNSHIP

Horticultural society meets

The Brigden and District Horticultural Society will hold an open meeting and flower show on Wednesday, Sept. 10 at 7:30 p.m. at the Brigden fire hall. Everyone is invited to attend. For more information call Rae at 519-864-1676 or Rose at 519-864-4095. *Please note: The society's annual dinner meeting is slated for Tuesday, Nov. 12. More details will follow as plans are finalized.*

Hypnotist headlines fundraiser

The Jeff West Experience, an evening of hypnosis, comedy and music, is coming to the Brigden fairgrounds exhibition hall on Friday, Sept. 12 at 7:30 p.m. Advance tickets for this Physician's Recruitment Taskforce fundraiser are \$15 for adults and \$10 for seniors and children. Call 519-336-4083 for more information.

Rally Day service set

The Corunna United Church will present a Rally Day service on Sunday, Sept. 14 at 10:30 a.m. Music and song will be presented by Doug Leavens on keyboard and Glen Brander guitar. Everyone is welcome to attend this inspiring event.

Downriver craft show coming

The annual Downriver Craft Sale is slated for the Moore Museum grounds on Sunday, Sept. 14 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The entry fee is \$1 and about 50 exhibitors are expected to participate. Outside vendor space is still available and can be reserved by calling 519-867-2020. Don't miss the opportunity to get a start on your Christmas shopping and enjoy a light bite while you're there.

Breast cancer walk planned

The annual *Taking Steps Against Breast Cancer* walk will be held on Sunday, Sept. 21 at the Moore Sports Complex on Emily Street in Mooretown. Registration begins at 1 p.m. with the walk to be held at 2 p.m. Lunch and entertainment will follow the walk. Registration forms can be obtained at many local businesses or online at www.cancer.ca.

Ready to quit smoking?

Are you ready to enjoy better health and all of the other

benefits that can be yours if you quit smoking? Then you may be eligible to participate in a treatment study using nicotine replacement therapy. **STOP on the Road** treatment study sessions will be held on Tuesday, Sept. 23 in Mooretown and Wednesday, Sept. 24 in Sarnia. For more information and to see if you qualify, call the Lambton County Community Health Services Department at 519-344-2062, ext. 2350 or 1-800-387-2882. The medication is free of charge and all information is confidential, but participants must pre-register.

Event features Celtic music

An evening of Irish, Scottish and Folk music will take place at St. Stephen's Anglican Church in Courtright on Saturday, Sept. 27 at 7 p.m. The performers will include Christine Storey on fiddle and vocals, Ed Nicol on guitar, mandolin, bouzouki and vocals, and Scott Henderson on border pipes. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$7.50 for youth 15 years of age and under and can be obtained by calling Don at 519-862-4287 or Jan at 519-867-3381.

VON volunteers needed

The Victorian Order of Nurses is currently seeking volunteers to offer support and companionship to end-of-life clients. Training for this important task will begin on Wednesday, September 24. For more information, please call the VON office at 519-542-2310 and ask for Trina in Volunteers Services. The VON Website can be accessed at www.von.ca.

Youth horticulture meetings

The youth division (ages six to 16) of the Brigden Horticultural Society meets Saturdays at the Brigden library from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Registration is \$6 per year. For more information call Jacquie at 519-864-4654 or Kathi at 519-864-1323.

Knights of Columbus breakfasts

The much-anticipated Knights of Columbus breakfasts at the St. Joseph's Parish Centre in Corunna are fast approaching.

Here is the 2008/09 schedule: Sundays, Oct. 5, Nov. 9, Dec. 7, Jan. 11, Feb. 8, March 1, March 29, and May 3 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

St. Clair Township Girl Guides seek new leaders and members

Since 1910, Girl Guides of Canada has been offering innovative, fun and inclusive activities that put girls first. New leaders and members are currently being sought to enjoy the benefits of guiding. Groups in Corunna and Port Lambton are inviting girls between the ages of five and 17+ and women interested in becoming leaders to attend an information and registration night. In the Corunna area, this will be held at St. Andrews Presbyterian Church, corner of Fane and Colborne Streets, on Thursday, Sept. 11 from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. For

information about the Port Lambton meeting, call 1-800-565-8111.

A registration day will also be held at the Guide/Scout Centre at 1121 Wellington Street in Sarnia on Saturday, Sept. 13 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. for anyone who cannot attend the St. Clair Township meetings. No previous guiding experience is required and training opportunities will be provided. Guiding groups include: Sparks (ages 5-6); Brownies (7-8); Guides (9-12); Pathfinders (12-15) and senior branches (15-17+.)