



THE ST. CLAIR TOWNSHIP BEACON

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Issue 5

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To all of the women who touch our lives with love...
Happy Mother's Day!



Federal grant helps township upgrade emergency response technology

Emergency preparedness in St. Clair Township was kicked up a notch recently when a Federal JEPP (Joint Emergency Preparedness Program) grant was received.

The grant, which was used in partnership with the township, allowed a much-needed upgrade to the St. Clair Township Fire Department's emergency communication system. Items obtained through the grant included: a cell phone booster unit to allow cell phone use in the heavily shielded emergency services building; a polycom unit, which allows large-scale conference calls; and an interactive projection system known as a "team board" which allows computer images to be manipulated and created using a special touch-sensitive white board.

According to Fire Chief Roy Dewhirst, the equipment will be used to enhance communication ability which will improve response time during emergency situations. "This is going to greatly improve communications in the event of an emergency," he said.

The Emergency Services Building in Corunna is outfitted to



Fire Chief Roy Dewhirst, left, displays the polycom controller while Deputy Chief Tom Boon demonstrates the team board.

handle both natural and industrial emergency situations, providing a central location where all emergency response personnel can gather to coordinate efficient, timely emergency measures.

St. Clair Township welcomes back OPP Sgt. John Flesher

In January, St. Clair Township welcomed a new Ontario Provincial Police community sergeant. Although Sgt. John Flesher came to the Corunna OPP office from Point Edward, he is no stranger to the area.



Sgt. John Flesher

Sgt. Flesher says he started his career in the OPP Sombra

patrol zone in 1985. "It was the first community policing area in Ontario," he said. His career brought him to Corunna in 1999 after a period of teaching at the police college. He and his family also live in Corunna, and he says it's nice to work so close to home. "It's nice to walk to work and to meet friends and neighbours on a daily basis," he said.

Sgt. Flesher says he's looking forward to establishing a partnership with

all of the community's emergency response providers, adding local police and fire department personnel are already well acquainted.

Effective communication with the community is one of Sgt. Flesher's primary concerns. He says **911 must only be called for immediate emergencies**. To report a non-urgent incident to police, the number to call is 1-888-310-1122.

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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.



Home ownership funding extended

In an informational letter from the County of Lambton, council was informed that the Homeownership Program, funded jointly by the Federal, Provincial and County governments, has been extended. First-time home-buyers may qualify to receive up to 10 per cent in downpayment assistance on the purchase of a new home. Conditions apply and applications must be submitted for consideration. For more information, go online to www.lambtononline.ca/home_ownership or call the Hous-

ing Services Department at 519-344-2062.

Funding obtained for Guthrie Park project

Funding has been obtained through the Federal government's Community Adjustment Fund to begin work on the third and final phase of the Guthrie Park seawall remediation project north of Corunna. Funding for the seawall project is derived from a partnership between the Federal, Provincial and Municipal governments.

The aging steel seawall, which

is heavily corroded and unsafe, is being replaced by armour stone steps. The project's total cost is \$2 million.

Council meeting schedule

St. Clair Township council will be observing the following meeting schedule leading up to the October municipal election. Please note the following dates: Monday, May 17; Monday, June 21; Monday, July 26; Monday, Aug. 23; Tuesday, Sept. 7; and Monday, Sept. 20. Anyone wishing to address council should call the municipal office at 519-867-2021.

2010 municipal election nominations now being accepted

Nominations for the upcoming 2010 municipal election on Oct. 25 are now being accepted until Sept. 10, 2010 at 2 p.m. Nomination papers should be picked up during regular business hours at the St. Clair Township Civic Centre on Emily Street in Mooretown and returned there when completed. For more information, contact the municipal office at 519-

867-2021.

Nomination papers filed to date

Nomination papers filed to date include: for mayor - Steve Arnold; for deputy mayor - Peter Gilliland; for Ward 1 councillor - Jeff Agar; for Ward 2 councillor - Steve Miller, Darrell Randell.

Local teen to host 4th annual cancer fundraiser

For the fourth consecutive year, Corunna teen Ryan Wilson will spearhead his annual golf tournament fundraiser to benefit the fight against cancer. The past three tournaments, held in memory of Ryan's aunt, Tracy Burns, have raised over \$20,000 for the Canadian Cancer Society.

Ryan recently visited a St. Clair

Township Council meeting to present council with a token of appreciation for its past support of his annual effort. He commented, "Support from the community has been great over the years," adding that he has high hopes this year's tournament will be even more successful than the previous ones. For more information, see page 4



Ryan Wilson presents certificate of thanks to Mayor Steve Arnold and council.

Prevent identity theft - shred it!

Take a positive step toward preventing identity theft by bringing unwanted personal documents to the annual Fraud Prevention Community Shred at the St. Clair Township OPP office at the corner of Lyndoch and Hill Streets. The event will be held on Saturday, May 8 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. This free-of-charge event is presented by the Corunna Community Policing Committee and SHRED-IT Document Destruction.

Theft of property punishable

The Lambton OPP has issued a warning to those who steal outdoor items such as outdoor furniture or ornaments from private property. These thefts are not harmless pranks - like any other kind of theft, they are criminal offences that can result in charges of theft, mischief or possession of stolen property, and punishment is assigned commensurate with the crime.

Mooretown Sports Complex offers programs for everyone

Red Cross babysitting course

The Red Cross babysitting course will be presented Friday, May 7 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The minimum age to attend this course is 11 years old and the cost is \$40 per person.

Women's health evening

A free women's health workshop, sponsored by St. Clair Township and the West Lambton Community Health Centre, will be held at the Moore Sports Complex on Thursday, May 13 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Speakers will include Dr. Van-

dana Bhargava, Dr. Beth Hodgins, and dietitian Erin Robinson.

Red Cross Water Safety and Lifesaving

The Red Cross Water Safety and Lifesaving Society Instructor Course will be held on June 4, 5, 6, 11, 12, and 13 (Fridays from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., Saturdays and Sundays from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.)

For more information or to register for any programs offered at the Mooretown Sports Complex, please call 519-867-2651.

More from Around the Township

From page 4

Canadian Cancer Society in memory of his aunt. For more information, call Ryan at 519-862-2778.

Car show and soapbox races set

The 6th annual Sombra Township Optimists Car Show and home-built soapbox races are slated for Saturday, June 19 from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. at Brander Park in Port Lambton. Spectators will be admitted free of charge and a licensed refreshment tent, food, entertainment and lots of family fun will be featured. Soapbox registration will be at 9 a.m. and participants will have an opportunity to practice at 10 a.m. Those who wish to enter a classic or late-model car (stock, modified, or special interest) can pre-register at a cost of \$15 or register at the gate for \$20 in Canadian or U.S. funds. Each additional car will be entered at half price. Registration includes a free mounted picture of the vehicle and a dash plaque. For more information about the car show or the soapbox races, call Vic at 519-677-5912 or e-mail oleary1976@hotmail.com or fasteddy@kent.net.

Heritage Festival at Moore Museum

The Moore Museum will host the Heritage Festival on Sunday, June 27 from 1:30 p.m. to 4 p.m. The afternoon will include heritage demonstrations and activities. There will be something of interest for every member of the family. Admission is \$5 per adult, \$4 per senior, \$3 per student, \$2 per child and free for preschool children.

Prepare for St. Clair River Run

The St. Clair River Run 10K race and 5K walk/run is planned for Saturday, July 17. In preparation for this event, the *Learn To Run* program will be offered from May through July in Port Lambton and will be taught by experienced runners and certified personal trainers. The program will be available to inexperienced runners or those who would like to start running. The 11-week program will begin at the Sombra Athletic Field on Tuesday, May 4 at 6 p.m. Optional practice runs will take place on Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. at Brander Park in Port Lambton and on Saturdays at 8 a.m. at Cathcart Park north of the Village of Som-

bra. Registration is limited to 25 participants over 18 years of age. Register at www.StClairRiverRun.ca.

Captain Kidd Days on the way

The annual Captain Kidd Days is on the way to Corunna on Friday, July 30 and Saturday, July 31. The event features a parade and lots of family fun at the Corunna Athletic Park on Hill Street.

Beaver Meadow School reunion planned

Former students are invited to attend the Beaver Meadow School (#24 Sombra, #18 Dawn) reunion planned for Saturday, July 31 at Zion Free Methodist Church, 2951 Bentpath Line in south St. Clair Township. The school operated from 1896 to 1964 in the former Sombra Township. A commemorative marker will be unveiled at 3 p.m. and dinner will be at 5 p.m. Those attending are asked to bring a main course dish and a dessert to share. For more information or to RSVP call Gord at 519-862-1344, Brian at 519-864-1916, or Velma at 519-683-4180. Donations will be accepted to cover the costs of the reunion and the historic marker.

IODE flower orders ready soon

Those who ordered geraniums and hanging baskets from the IODE will be able to pick up their orders, with the order slip as proof of purchase, at either DeGroot's Nursery or Windover Nursery. *Reminder: Mark your calendar to remember the annual IODE fall fashion show on Oct. 27.*

Brigden Legion hosts euchre

The Royal Canadian Legion Brigden Branch 635 holds open euchre at 1 p.m. on the last Monday of each month for a \$3 admission that includes lunch. This event is open to the public.

Corunna Legion hosts morning coffee

The Corunna branch of the Royal Canadian Legion on Albert Street hosts a morning coffee club from Monday to Saturday beginning at 9 a.m. The cost is \$1 per cup and the coffee club is open to anyone who wants to get their day off to a pleasant start. Those who attend are asked to remove hats and caps out of respect for the veteran attendees.

AROUND THE TOWNSHIP

Newfoundland travel log to be presented

The Corunna United Church will host a Newfoundland Travel Log and Jigs Dinner on Friday, May 7. The travel log features the sights and experiences of a group of congregation members who visited Newfoundland, along with some good ol' down East entertainment. Dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m. with a social time at 6 p.m. Tickets are \$20 per person and can be purchased by calling Sylvia at 519-862-1040 or Nina at 519-862-2379.

Mother's Day brunch set

The Moore Agricultural Society will host its annual Mother's Day brunch on Sunday, May 9 from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Brigden Fairgrounds exhibition hall. Adult admission is \$7 per person, children five to 10 are \$3.50, and children under five are free. For more information, contact the fair office at 519-864-1197 or go online to www.brigdenfair.ca.

Horticultural society to host events

The Brigden and District Horticultural Society will host two events this month. On Tuesday, May 11 at 7:30 p.m., the spring flower show will be held at the Brigden fire hall with guest speaker Lynn Bidner talking about Plant Therapy. And on Saturday, May 22, the annual Perennial Sale And More event will be held from 8 a.m. to noon in the park at the corner of Courtright Line and Brigden Road. Proceeds from this event will be used to beautify the park and local flower beds. **Attention students:** *Volunteer hour credits can be earned by volunteering to weed local public gardens. For more information, call Barb at 519-864-4963, Rae at 519-864-1676, or Rose at 519-864-4095.*

Rebekah Lodge #324 luncheons

The Mayflower Rebekah Lodge #324 will hold its final luncheon of the season at Thompson Gardens, 198 Beckwith St. in Corunna at noon on May 17. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Victorian Tea at Moore Museum

The annual Victorian Tea will be held at the Moore Museum on Sunday, May 23 from 1:30 p.m. to 4 p.m. This delectable event will feature warm homemade scones and tea or coffee served by Victorian Era-costumed wait staff in the charming atmosphere of the museum's turn-of-the-20th-century cottage. Admission is \$6 per adult, \$2.50 per child, and \$1.50 for preschool children.

Pirates golf tourney planned

The Port Lambton Athletic Association will host its Pirates Golf Tournament at the St. Clair Parkway Golf Course on Saturday, May 29 at 1 p.m. The fee is \$85 per person and will include green fees, cart rental, dinner and door prizes. Individual registrations are welcome - teams

will be assigned. Sponsor a hole for just \$100. All proceeds will go to the Vandamme Park Project. For more information call Kevin at 519-330-1583.

Jam session at Corunna Legion

The Royal Canadian Legion Corunna branch will host a jam session on Saturday, May 29 at 3 p.m. Everyone is welcome to come and play, sing, or just listen to some great music. Paul's famous Coney dogs will also be available.

Bicycle rodeo in Corunna

The Corunna Community Policing Committee and the St. Clair Township OPP office will host the Children's Bike Rodeo on Saturday, May 29 at 10 a.m. at the OPP Corunna office located at Lyndoch and Hill Streets. Approved bike helmets must be worn by participants and prizes, including a bicycle from the Corunna Home Hardware, will be awarded to top cyclists in each of five divisions. Children from preschool to Grade 8 are invited to participate and entry forms, which must be signed by a parent or guardian, are available at area schools. This event is sponsored by the Optimist Club of Moore, Ontario Power Generation's Lambton Generating Station, and the Shell Canada Corunna refinery.

Arts & Crafts 2000 show

The annual Arts & Crafts 2000 show is scheduled for Sunday, May 30 at the Corunna Athletic Park on Hill Street.

Scramble golf tourney planned

The Mooretown Flags will host the 12th annual Scramble Golf Tournament at the St. Clair Parkway Golf Course on Saturday, June 5 at noon. The cost is \$85 for non-club members and \$55 for members. It will include golf, a steak dinner and a Flags gift. Individuals or foursomes are welcome. Sponsor a hole for \$100. For more information, call Doug at 519-862-2173 or Ken at 519-862-5365.

Demolition derby ready to rumble!

The Moore Agricultural Society presents the ever-popular Demolition Derby on Sunday, June 6. For more information about rules and regulations, call the fair office at 519-864-1197 or go online to www.brigdenfair.ca.

Firefighters' Field Day

The Corunna Volunteer Firefighters Association will host its annual Firefighters Field Day on Friday, June 11 and Saturday, June 12.

Golf tourney to benefit Cancer Society

The fourth annual Ryan Wilson Golf Tournament to benefit the Canadian Cancer Society will be held at the St. Clair Parkway Golf Course on Saturday, June 12. The cost is \$320 per foursome or \$80 per person. Hole sponsorships will cost \$100 and event sponsorships will cost \$200. Over the past three years, Ryan has raised over \$20,000 for the