



The St. Clair Township **BEACON**

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On Nov. 11



The people have spoken - new council elected

There will be one new but familiar face on St. Clair Township council when the new council is sworn in on Monday, Dec. 6. Jim DeGurse, a former Moore Township councillor who also served one term on the inaugural St. Clair Township council, garnered 1,809 votes to become one of the three candidates elected in Ward I. The other two Ward I seats went to incumbents Jeff Agar (1,744 votes) and Pat Carswell-Alexander (1,410 votes.) Mayor Steve Arnold and Deputy Mayor Peter Gilliland were acclaimed, as were Ward II councillors Steve Miller and Darrell Randell. For the township's school board representatives, voters gave the nod to Judy Krall for the Lambton Kent District School Board and to incumbent Carol Bryden for the St. Clair Catholic District School Board.

In St. Clair Township, there were 11,209 eligible voters and 4,037 mail-in ballots were received, resulting in a 36.02 per cent turnout. Township Clerk John DeMars says he was not surprised at these statistics given the number of acclamations involved.

Further, Mr. DeMars says he has received a lot of positive feedback about the mail-in voting system. He cited comments from a county official who stated he was very impressed with the system and called it, "the most sophisticated system in Lambton County." Mr. DeMars says the system is convenient and works especially well for those who would have difficulty getting to a polling station. "We put the ballot right on their kitchen table," he said. This is the second time the mail-in voting system has been used and St. Clair is the only township in the county to use it.

Your 2010-2014 St. Clair Township Council



Mayor Steve Arnold



Deputy Mayor Peter Gilliland



Jim DeGurse



Pat Alexander-Carswell



Jeff Agar



Darrell Randell



Steve Miller

Letter in defence of Lambton Generating Station sent to Premier McGuinty

A joint letter of support for the continued operation of OPG's Lambton Generating Station, signed by St. Clair Township Mayor Steve Arnold, Lambton County Warden Jim Burns and Samia Mayor Mike Bradley, has been sent to Premier Dalton McGuinty.

The letter urges the provincial government to consider converting the plant to natural gas and, eventually, biofuel as a cost effective option to its closure. The letter points out there is a need for this additional power generation in the wake of the decision not to build a natural gas-fired power generation plant in Oakville. Further, it points out the Lambton station is a good candidate for retention and its continued operation will be of immense benefit to the area.

Mayor Arnold says Lambton G.S. is an important local corporate citizen and the negative effect of its closure would be profound. "The ramification of closure is disastrous to us and to Lambton County as a whole. Approximately 300 employee jobs and those of hundreds of contractors that support the site would be gone," he said, adding, "The station contributes around 17 per cent to our total tax levy." Since the legislation that ordered the plant's closure is now dated, Mayor Arnold hopes the letter will prompt a revisiting of that decision. "It is staggering to think that all parties adopted the off-coal strategy in the last election and no party has committed to revisiting the legislation at this time. Our push is to see the conversion (of Lambton G.S.) become a priority for the province," he said.

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To contact The Beacon

send an e-mail to: beacon@twp.stclair.on.ca
or write 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.



2011 capital budget meeting slated

The 2011 capital budget presentation and deliberation meeting will be held at 9 a.m. on Thursday, Nov. 18 in the council chambers at the St. Clair Township Civic Centre on Emily Street in Mooretown. This meeting is open to the public and all ratepayers are welcome to attend.

Small game hunting licenses now available

Township of St. Clair small game hunting licenses are now available at the following locations: Pic-N-Pay Variety in Sombra; Courtright Variety Store; Corunna Home Hardware; Agris Co-operative Ltd. in Bridgen; St. Clair Civic Centre on Emily Street in Mooretown. The fee is \$5 for residents and \$8 for non-residents. Applicants must apply in person and multiple licenses will not be issued.

John De Mars
Director of Administration
Clerk, Deputy C.A.O.

Council meeting schedule

St. Clair Township council will meet on Monday, Nov. 1 and Monday, Nov. 22. The inaugural meeting and swearing in of the newly-elected council will take place on Monday, Dec. 6. Anyone wishing to address council should call the municipal office at 519-867-2021.

Mooretown Sports Complex offers lots of winter fun and excitement

The Mooretown Sports Complex is the place to be this winter.

Shinny Hockey is back by popular demand. For just \$5, you can grab your skates and a hockey stick, and take to the ice every Tuesday morning from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m.

Registration for the **winter swimming lessons** session is underway, with lessons beginning the week of Jan. 3.

Over the Christmas holidays,

families will enjoy **free public skating**, sponsored by Tim Horton's, on the following dates: Dec. 20 from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.; Dec. 21 from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.; Dec. 27 from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m.; and Dec. 28 from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m.

For children 11 years of age and older, a **Red Cross Babysitting Course** will be held on Friday, Nov. 26 (a PA day) from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The course covers the responsibilities of a babysitter,

safety tips for children of all ages, basic child care skills, and what to do in case of an emergency. The cost for the program, including the manual, is \$40 per child. To register, call the Mooretown Sports Complex at 519-867-2651.

And don't miss some terrific hockey action as the **Juvenile Silverstick Tournament** hits the rink on Jan. 6 through 9. Cheer for the home team and watch some future NHL stars hone their skills.

St. Clair Parkway Golf Course info

As the golf season comes to an end, the folks at the St. Clair Parkway Golf Course are already looking ahead to next year. Information about 2011 membership rates is now available and memberships can be purchased by calling

the Mooretown Sports Complex at 519-867-2651. 2011 bookings for tournaments and leagues will begin on Jan. 1 and can also be arranged by calling the Mooretown Sports Complex.

Open house meetings set to gather input for Lambton Community Health Study

The Lambton Community Health Study, initiated to understand residents' views on potential health issues related to exposure to industrial contaminants, is currently underway. A telephone survey has been used to garner input thus far and now a series of open house meetings will be held to further the study.

These meetings are set for the following dates and locations: **Petrolia**, Lions Hall, 451 Huggard Street, on Tuesday, Nov. 16 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.; **Aamjiwnaang** First Nation Health Centre, Community Room, 1300 Tashmoo Avenue, on Wednesday, Nov. 17 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.; **Corunna**, Royal

Canadian Legion hall, 350 Albert Street; on Wednesday, Nov. 24 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.; **Forest**, Royal Canadian Legion hall, 58 Albert Street, on Thursday, Nov. 25 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.; **Sarnia**, Communications, Energy and Paperworkers Union Local 914 hall, 900 Devine Street, on Tuesday, Nov. 30 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

The study was first proposed in 2007 and a health study board of directors was formed in 2008. When completed, the study results will be used to identify further steps or remedial actions that may be required.



Christmas hamper programs will brighten lives

The lives of many St. Clair Township residents will be brighter this Christmas season thanks to the efforts of Operation Christmas Tree and the St. Vincent De Paul Christmas program. Here's how you can help.

In north St. Clair Township, the Optimist Club of Moore will coordinate a community fundraising and collection effort for Operation Christmas Tree beginning with the **annual Poor Boy Lunch kick-off event** at the Royal Canadian Legion Corunna branch hall on Thursday, Nov. 18 starting at 11:30 a.m. On Monday, Nov. 22, the **distribution/collection centre** at the former Murray Street school will open to accept donations of non-perishable food items and new, unwrapped toys. Area schools will also be collecting items for this effort, and these will be picked up by OPP officers and volunteer firefighters from the St. Clair Township Fire Department Corunna and Brigden stations on Thursday, Dec. 9. Many area churches and community groups will also be collecting items for the program. The **6th annual Corunna OPP drive-thru collection** event will be held on Saturday, Dec. 11 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Lyndoch Street OPP office parking lot. And hampers will be delivered on Saturday, Dec. 18.

In south St. Clair Township, the St. Vincent De Paul hamper program will begin on Saturday, Nov. 20 from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. with a **homemade cookie walk**, sponsored by Carol Dedecker and friends, at the Port Lambton Community Hall. On Sunday, Nov. 28, a **door-to-door community-wide can drive** will take place beginning at 1 p.m. from County Road 33 to Highway 40, and from Bickford Line to Whitebread Line. This effort will be carried out by volunteers from the Sombra Youth Group, Knights of Columbus, Sombra Township Optimists, and St. Vincent De Paul. And on Saturday, Dec. 18, the **Christmas hampers will be handed out** from 9 a.m. to noon at St. James Anglican Church in Port Lambton.

Over the years, these important programs have brought happiness and hope to many of the less fortunate families who live in St. Clair Township. The programs' success has been made possible by the unfailingly generous support of the people of this community. The Christmas hampers have nourished the bodies and raised the spirits of those who would otherwise go without. Please help keep the Christmas spirit alive through a donation to Operation Christmas Tree or the St. Vincent De Paul program.



Community Notice Board

Thanks to the great organization efforts of local Enbridge Gas Distribution Inc. employees, over \$20,000 was raised during the 2nd annual St. Clair Township Emergency Services golf fundraiser. Money raised helps support the efforts of emergency service providers within the township.

The Brigden History Book is now available for sale at a cost of \$30 at the following locations: Lambton Financial Credit Union in Brigden; Forever Quilting; Lily Lane Flowers; The Book Keeper in Samia.

The students of Mooretown-Courtright Public School are conducting an e-waste recycling fundraiser. Inkjet cartridges for Cannon, HP and Lexmark printers can be dropped off at the

school or in the school's name at Staples in Samia. Large e-waste items such as computers, telephones, cameras and stereo equipment can be dropped off at the Goodwill donation centre in Samia in the school's name.

Recipes are currently being collected for a new cookbook that will raise money to benefit WaterCan's Clean Water for Schools project in Uganda. Submissions can be emailed to danderso@rivernet.net (please use the word *Cookbook* in the subject line) or fax to 519-864-1161. The deadline for submissions is Nov. 14.

Lambton Elderly Outreach (LEO) is currently seeking volunteer drivers in the Corunna area and volunteers to help at the monthly seniors luncheon in Port Lambton. LEO offers a variety of support services to seniors and those with disabilities. For more information, call LEO at 519-845-1353.

Workshop outlining Circles poverty elimination program offered

A new program, *Circles*, which focuses on reducing the number of children living in poverty in the County of Lambton, is currently being implemented. Participants in the program will work to develop strategies to get out of poverty and find sustainable employment.

To guide the participants through this process, the program will require trained volunteers from this community. For those who would like to find out more about the program, a *Bridges Out Of Poverty* training workshop, led by

Lambton County Social Services personnel, is being offered. This workshop will take place over two evenings, Monday, Nov. 29 and Monday, Dec. 6, from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Parkway Pentecostal Church in Corunna.

For more information regarding the program, or to register for the training workshop, call: Rev. Roushorne at 519-862-3641; Joyce at 519-862-3421; Beth at 519-862-2307; or Liz at 519-336-5465. **The deadline for registration is Nov. 24.**

AROUND THE TOWNSHIP

Cruickshank Centre activities planned

The Cruickshank Centre at Thompson Gardens in Corunna will hold **ongoing group games** as follows: euchre on Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. (\$3); cribbage on Tuesdays at 9:30 a.m.; bridge on Thursdays at 1 p.m. On **Monday, Nov. 8** at 1:30 p.m., enjoy music by the *Blue Water Project* (\$3). On **Friday, Nov. 26**, a bus trip to the Acorn Dinner Theatre in Wallaceburg is planned. The cost is \$70 which will include transportation, dinner and the play. For more information call 519-862-1628.

Diabetes Education Program to open

An open house for the new Diabetes Education Program office will be held at the West Lambton Community Health Centre, 429 Exmouth Street in Sarnia, on Wednesday, Nov. 10 from 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. This event will be of special interest for those who have type 2 diabetes or prediabetes, or who are at risk of developing diabetes. Counselling is free and no referral is needed. Call 519-344-3017, ext. 259 for more information.

Euchre parties in Sombra

A series of euchre parties will be held at the Sombra Community Hall on Fridays at 1 p.m. on the following dates: Nov. 12, 19, 26; Jan. 7, 14, 21, 28; Feb. 4, 11, 18, 25; March 11, 18, 25; April 1, 8, 15, 29. For more information call 519-892-3964.

Corunna Legion to host events

The Royal Canadian Legion Corunna Branch 447 has some terrific events coming up. On **Saturday, Nov. 13**, the Alf Hughes Memorial dart tournament (the 50th annual dart tournament) will be held at the Legion hall, with doors opening at 10 a.m. The cost is \$8 per event with all money paid out. Registration closes 15 minutes before each event. And on **Sunday, Nov. 21**, the Legion hall will be the scene of a draw for a 50-inch Panasonic plasma HDTV. Tickets are on sale now at the Legion hall on Albert Street. For more information about any of these events, call the Legion hall at 519-862-1240.

Christmas tea and bake sale

A Christmas tea and bake sale is scheduled for Christ Anglican Church in Corunna on Saturday, Nov. 17 from 10 a.m. to noon. Admission is \$2 and includes tea, coffee and dessert. Lots of tasty goodies, as well as gently used books, will be for sale. Everyone is welcome.

Christmas bazaar in Courtright

St. Stephen's Anglican Church, 70 Milton Street in Courtright, will host a Christmas bazaar on Saturday, Nov. 20 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. The event will include gift items, baked goods, preserves, knitting, a tea room and white elephant sale.

IODE Home Tour slated

The Hon. Bryan L. Cathcart Chapter IODE will participate in the Sarnia/Lambton IODE Christmas Home Tour on Nov. 20 and 21. Five homes will be featured, with one decorated by Kay's Petals and Plants of Corunna. For tickets call 519-862-3172 or 519-864-4320, or go to Kay's on Lyndoch Street.

Rebekah Lodge luncheons planned

Mayflower Rebekah Lodge luncheon and card party afternoons continue Mondays at Thompson Gardens, 198 Beckwith Street in Corunna. Upcoming luncheons are set for: Nov. 22; Dec. 13; Jan. 24, 2011; Feb. 28; March 28; and April 11, all beginning at noon. The cost is \$10 per person per luncheon.

Candy Cane Christmas bazaar set

The 3rd annual Candy Cane Christmas bazaar will be held at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, 437 Colborne Street in Corunna, on Saturday, Nov. 27 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Included will be crafts, baked goods, a cookie walk, silent auction, jewellery, Christmas items and much more. Everyone is welcome. The church is barrier free.

Corunna Santa Claus parade soon

Santa will arrive in Corunna on Saturday, Nov. 27 at 6 p.m. with the annual Santa Claus Parade. This year, the parade will proceed into Corunna from the south along the St. Clair Parkway/Lyndoch Street and will terminate on Beckwith Street. After the parade, Santa will greet everyone at the Corunna clock tower park, where refreshments will be served.

Brigden author to hold book reading

Brigden author Brendan Kelly will present a reading from his new novel, *In My Father's Time*, on Tuesday, Nov. 30 from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Brigden branch of the Lambton County Library. The novel, set in southwestern Ontario, tells the intriguing story of a thoroughbred race horse, a teenage boy, and a less-than-perfect family.

Citrus fruit fundraiser

The Corunna United Church is holding its annual citrus fruit sale. Orders for fresh grapefruit, oranges and tangerines must be placed by Dec. 1 with orders delivered Dec. 16 to 19. To order, call 519-862-3813 or 519-344-8626.

LEO seniors' luncheons in Corunna

Lambton Elderly Outreach (LEO) hosts a seniors' luncheon every third Wednesday of the month at the Royal Canadian Legion Corunna Branch 447 hall. The cost is \$8 per person for a delicious hot meal and the opportunity to hear a guest speaker or to enjoy lively entertainment. For more information or to register, call LEO at 1-800-265-0203.

Operation Christmas Child

Parkway Pentecostal Church in Corunna will be operating Operation Christmas Child, a non-profit organization aimed at reaching children around the world with gifts and the message of Christ. For more information, please call Colleen at 519-867-3394.

Corunna Legion hosts morning coffee

The Royal Canadian Legion Corunna branch hosts a morning coffee club from Monday to Saturday at 9 a.m. The cost is \$1 per cup and everyone is welcome. Those who attend are asked to remove hats and caps out of respect for the veteran attendees.