



The St. Clair Township
BEACON

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**HAPPY
FATHER'S
DAY
JUNE 19**

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Police urge public to be “eyes and ears” after rash of arsons

A recent rash of suspicious fires in St. Clair Township has been identified as arson and the Ontario Provincial Police is asking the public to be its “eyes and ears” in an effort to apprehend the person or persons responsible for these fires.

The most recent blaze took place along the St. Clair Parkway in a barn that was unoccupied at the time, but police say the barn’s owner is known to sleep there when he is working on the property nearby. Township Fire Chief Roy Dewhirst says this fire could have had tragic consequences if someone had been inside the structure when it burned and this holds true for all of the intentionally-set fires that have plagued the township. OPP Cst. Chrystal Jones added, “We want to avoid a life threatening situation.”

But there are still more peripheral consequences attendant to an act of arson. Chief Dewhirst points out that emergency responders from the fire, police and ambulance services risk their lives, not only to fight the actual fire and to search for possible victims, but just getting to the scene. “Emergency responders and even passers-by can be hurt,” he said, citing an incident where two fire trucks were in collision while rushing to a fire scene in a major urban area. This unnecessary threat to life and property makes the crime of arson all the more heinous. OPP Detective Constable Bruce Keefe noted, “Arson is a crime the OPP takes



Lambton OPP Cst. Chrystal Jones and St. Clair Township Fire Chief Roy Dewhirst discuss recent acts of arson in St. Clair Township.

seriously. We are determined to find the person or persons responsible.”

Everyone, especially residents who live in the vicinity of abandoned or unoccupied buildings or structures, are urged to be aware of any strange vehicles or people who may enter the area at any time. Cst. Jones says if you have the slightest suspicion about their purpose for being there, don’t hesitate to report this activity to the Lambton OPP at 1-888-310-1122. Also, an anonymous tip can be called in to Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477 where it may be eligible for a \$2,000 cash reward.

New FM Alert system will provide fast emergency warnings

A new emergency notification system that will eventually cover all of St. Clair Township will be rolled out beginning in June during the Firefighters Field Day in Corunna. The FM Alert system will allow almost instant communication between the public and emergency personnel. When the program is in full swing, every residence will have a small receiver that can be activated via a radio signal and large public buildings such as schools will be outfitted with larger receivers. When activated, these units sound an alarm, exhibit a flashing red light, and display a brief digital message indicating the nature of the emergency.



The township has been divided into eight areas and the system will be instituted in

stages, with the most vulnerable areas in Corunna being the first areas to be activated. This system will replace the telephone call system, which proved to be insufficient to the needs of the township. The FM Alert system will be operated in partnership with Blackburn Radio and St. Clair County, Michigan. St. Clair Township Fire Chief Roy Dewhirst says this is ideal since severe storms usually track through St. Clair County first. This allows for a timely warning to be issued and allows residents to take immediate, appropriate action.

Each residential unit is worth \$30, but the municipality will be subsidizing its purchase by two-thirds. In June, the units will be available at the Emergency Services building at the corner of Lyndoch and Hill Streets in Corunna, at the St. Clair Township Civic Centre in Mooretown, or at the Corunna Home Hardware.

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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.



Municipal Notices

Sewer and hydrant flushing continues

The St. Clair Township Department of Public Works will be flushing all sewer mains and fire hydrants throughout the summer between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

During work on the sewer mains, residents may notice some gurgling noise in drains. If this condition persists after 24 to 48 hours, please notify Public Works at 519-867-2993.

During work on the fire hydrants, residents may notice some discoloration while using taps, flushing toilets, doing laundry, etc. If this occurs, run the cold water tap for a few minutes or until the discoloration disappears. If discoloration continues after 10 to 15 minutes of normal use, please notify Public Works at 519-867-2993.

Brian Van Hyfte
Coordinator of Operations
Water/Wastewater

Yard Waste/Brush Collection 2011

Yard waste will be collected separately from regular waste on a weekly basis in urbanized areas of St. Clair Township. Yard waste in the balance of the township will be collected during regular waste collection.

Collection Schedule

- Wednesdays: -Corunna (including the Froomfield area)
-St. Clair Parkway (north of Emily Street in Mooretown)
- Fridays: -Brigden, Courtright, Mooretown, Port Lambton
-Sombra Village, Wilkesport, Chenal Ecarte, Leeland Gardens
-St. Clair Parkway (south of Emily Street in Mooretown)

Spring yard waste will continue until Wednesday, June 22 and Friday, June 24.

During the months of July through September, yard waste will be collected with regular waste subject to the six item limit.

Fall yard waste will begin Wednesday, Oct. 12 and Friday, Oct. 14 and continue until Nov. 16 and Nov. 18.

Yard waste should be placed at the roadside bagged in clear or transparent plastic bags, paper bags, or open containers clearly marked with an "X" on both sides. It must be free of non-compostable material such as plas-

Notice to property owners to destroy weeds

NOTICE is hereby given to all persons in possession of land, in accordance with the Weed Control Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter W.5, Sections 3, 16, and 23, that unless noxious weeds growing on their lands within the municipality of the Township of St. Clair are destroyed by the date of Tuesday, May 31, 2011, and throughout the season, the municipality may enter upon the said lands and have the weeds destroyed, charging the cost against the land, plus an administration charge as set out in the Act. (Minimum charge per parcel \$50.00)

The cooperation of all land owners is earnestly solicited.

Eric Bezanson
Weed Inspector

J. DeMars
Clerk

Council meeting schedule

Regular St. Clair Township council meetings will be held according to the summer schedule as follows: Monday, June 6; Monday, July 4; Tuesday, Aug. 2; Tuesday, Sept. 6. Council meetings preceded by Committee of the Whole meetings will be held as follows: Monday, June 13; Monday, July 18; Monday, Aug. 15; Monday, Sept. 19. Please note that all meetings will begin at 6 p.m. Anyone wishing to address council should call the municipal office at 519-867-2021.

tic, glass, metal or other debris. (A blue box or cardboard box is NOT accepted as an "open container." Containers must not exceed 23 kg/50lb. Yard waste placed in regular garbage bags will **not be collected**.)

Yard waste includes: grass, leaves, garden plants, hedge trimmings and twigs (generally plants with stems smaller than a lead pencil).

Not permitted: kitchen waste, earth, stones, tree stumps, logs, body wood, large brush, and whole shrubs with root ball attached. (See Brush Collection below).

Brush Collection

Small brush bundles (4' maximum length, 1" maximum diameter, cut ends in one direction, neat piles (not tangled), tied and placed the curb) will take place June 17 and Oct. 14.

For more information regarding Yard Waste/Brush collection, call the St. Clair Township Public Works Department at 519-867-2125 or go online to www.twp.st.clair.on.ca

More Around the Township

From page 4

Classic car show in Port Lambton

The Sombra Optimist Club will sponsor a classic car show in Port Lambton's Brander Park on Saturday, **June 18**. Admission is free and food and beverages will be available. All proceeds will be used in support of youth programs in and around the community.

Steak bingo at Corunna Legion

A steak bingo will be held at the Royal Canadian Legion Corunna branch #447 hall on Wednesday, **June 22** at 7 p.m. The cost is \$15 for three cards, and 25 games plus one special game will be played. There will be door prizes and the grand prize of an SS gas barbecue. Everyone is welcome.

Events slated for Sombra Museum

Several enjoyable events are slated for this summer at the Sombra Museum. The annual Lawn Concert will take place on Sunday, **July 3**. Be sure to bring a lawn chair and get comfortable for this evening of toe-tapping music. Next up is the popular Blueberry Social on Sunday, **Aug. 7** from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. And on Saturday, **Sept. 24**, the Sombra Museum will host a fashion show. Watch *Around The Township* each month for more details as they become available.

Indoor walking sessions ended until fall

Indoor walking sessions at the Brigden fairgrounds exhibition hall have ended for the summer but will resume this fall.

Cruikshank Centre activities planned

The Cruikshank 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. For more information call 519-862-1628.

Brigden's Fun Horse Show

For those who love horses, the Brigden Fun Horse Show is the place to be on Saturday, **July 23** from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

This is a fun day for horse owners to bring their noble steeds to the Brigden Fairgrounds, but spectators are welcome, too. Teams of horses will demonstrate ploughing, discing, logging, etc., demonstrating the way it was done decades ago. There will be no classes, time schedules or pressure - this is all for fun. A Country Jamboree will be held in conjunction with this event, so bring a lawn chair and get comfortable for a few hours of fun. Food will be available on-site.

Corunna Legion to hold 1st Annual Elimination Draw

The Royal Canadian Legion Corunna Branch 447 and Ladies Auxiliary is holding its 1st Annual Elimination Draw with a grand prize of \$1,500. Tickets are \$20 each and only 200 will be sold. Proceeds will go to the Corunna Legion, with 25 per cent of the net proceeds from the draw going to the local firefighters' charity of choice. The draw date is set for Jan. 14, 2012, but weekly draws for \$20 will be held every Saturday beginning July 23, 2011 and ending on Dec. 3 at the meat draw. Also, \$50 prizes will be awarded for tickets 1, 25, 50, 75, 100, 125, 150, and 15 at the grand prize draw. For tickets or more information, call the Legion at 519-862-1240.

2011 St. Clair River Run in July

The 2011 St. Clair River Run, a scenic 10K walk/run along the beautiful St. Clair River, is slated for Saturday, **July 16**. The certified course follows a flat, paved trail along the river through Sombra and Port Lambton. Participants will enjoy chip timing and all runners will get a technical shirt. Registration for the 10K run can be done online at:

http://www.stclairriverrun.com/?page_id=67

Registration for the 5K walk/run can be done online at:

http://www.stclairriverrun.com/?page_id=70

Summer camp at Mooretown Sports Complex

The Mooretown Sports Complex will hold Summer Day Camp for children ages five through 12, and Summer Sports Camp for children ages seven through 14.

For more information about these camps or any of the other programs offered at the Mooretown Sports Complex, call 519-867-2651.

Community Notices

Veterans and their spouses may be eligible for benefits such as disability pensions, hearing loss assistance and housekeeping. The Royal Canadian Legion Corunna Branch can offer help in determining if such benefits are applicable. For more information, contact Corunna Branch 447 Service Officer Gerry Den Hartogh at 519-862-1613.

Want to lose those extra pounds? The TOPS Club meets every Tuesday night at 6:30 p.m. at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church on Colbourne Street in Corunna. For more information, drop in or call 519-862-2185.

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The Brigden History Book is still on sale at The Book Keeper in Sarnia and in Brigden at Lambton Financial Credit Union, Always Quilting, and Lily Lane Flowers.

AROUND THE TOWNSHIP

Corunna Bike Rodeo

The Corunna Bike Rodeo, presented by the Corunna Community Policing Committee and the OPP St. Clair Township satellite office, will be held in the parking lot of the Royal Canadian Legion Corunna Branch 447 hall at 350 Albert Street on Saturday, **June 4**. Entry forms are available at area schools and to participate, approved bike helmets must be worn. The event will include free food, drinks and giveaways for participants while supplies last. In addition, one girl's bike and one boy's bike will be given away, and all participants are eligible. The event begins at 9:30 a.m. with sign-in and bike inspection, and the rodeo will start at 10 a.m. Once the rodeo begins, no other entries will be allowed. This event is sponsored by: Leslie Sutherland Corunna Legion Branch 447; Optimist Club of Moore; Nova Chemicals; Shell Corunna Refinery; and OPG Lambton Generating Station.

Free Child Identification Program (Ch.I.P.) slated

The Moore Masonic Lodge No. 294 will run a free Ch.I.P. program (Child Identification Program) on Saturday, **June 4** at the Royal Canadian Legion Corunna Branch 447 hall from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Parents will receive a kit including: two printed wallet-sized ID cards for the child to carry; one general information sheet with the Child ID Kit details and fingerprints; one CD-ROM containing a digital version of the ID card and information sheet, a still photo of the child, a video file of the child, and a fingerprint file. It will also include a sealed bag with a dental impression (bite) plate or a cheek swab. Parents are urged to take a few minutes to obtain these permanent records for the protection of the ones they love.

Sombra Museum fundraiser evening

The Sombra Museum will host an evening of dinner, entertainment and dancing at the Wilkesport Community Centre on Saturday, **June 4**. The theme, *Tales of Two Rivers*, will include a cocktail hour at 5 p.m., a dinner featuring roast beef and herbed chicken at 6 p.m., a special program at 7:30 p.m., and dancing and entertainment beginning at 8:30 p.m. Champion fiddler Greg Henry and special guest musicians will provide the music and a cash bar will be available. Tickets are \$50 per person, which will be eligible for a \$30 tax receipt. For tickets, call the museum at 519-892-3982.

Demolition Derby in Brigden

The popular Brigden Fair's Spring Demolition Derby rumbles into the Brigden fairgrounds on Sunday, **June 5**. For rules, regulations and entry forms, go online to www.brigdenfair.ca. Gate admission is \$10 per person.

Beef dinner at Community of Christ Church

The congregation of Community of Christ Church at the corner of Brigden Road and LaSalle Line will host a roast beef dinner on Saturday, **June 11** from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30

p.m. The cost is \$12 per adult and \$6 per child under age 10. For tickets, call 519-862-1714.

Wilkesport Jamboree and Campout

The 6th annual Wilkesport Jamboree and Campout is slated for the Wilkesport Community Centre from **June 12 to 19**. The event is open to the public and will include: camping facilities, a dance, a yard and bake sale, a breakfast at the fire hall on Saturday and at the park gazebo on Sunday (both from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m.), a Saturday parade of tractors and cars from Wilkesport to Brigden beginning at 10 a.m. with lunch to follow at the Brigden Restaurant, and a Sunday morning church service. For more information call Bernie at 519-892-3689 or Chuck at 519-864-4221.

Strawberry Social/roast beef dinner planned

The Sacred Heart Parish Centre will be the scene of a Strawberry Social and roast beef dinner on Sunday, **June 12** from 4:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. Tickets are \$12.50 per adult and \$6.50 for children ages six through 12. Children under five years old are free. For tickets call Joe at 519-677-4468.

Cruikshank Centre to host events

The Cruikshank Centre at Thompson Gardens in Corunna will host a series of events including: the *Bluewater Project Band* performing old time favourites on Monday, **June 13** at 1:30 p.m. at a cost of \$5 per person; Father's Day barbecue with entertainment by the *Seaway Sounds Sweet Adelines* on Thursday, **June 16** at 5:30 p.m. with tickets (\$8 per person) available at the Thompson Gardens administration office *until June 14*; *Country Fun* with Joan Spalding performing country music favourites on Monday, **June 20** at 1:30 p.m. at a cost of \$5 per person.

Community Fair Day in Corunna

The Parkway Church at 551 Murray Drive in Corunna will host Community Fair Day on Saturday, **June 18** from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. There will be inflatables, rides, and prizes for children 10 and under, plus hot dogs and pop. The fair will be fun for the whole family.

Joel Hookey Memorial Golf Tournament

The Joel Hookey Memorial Golf Tournament is slated for the St. Clair Parkway Golf Course on Saturday, **June 18**. Proceeds will go to the St. Joseph's Hospice of Sarnia-Lambton and to support local children's participation in athletics. For more information, go online to:

hookeymemorialgolf@gmail.com.

Minor Hockey registration in progress

Mooretown Minor Hockey registration is now underway at www.mooretownminorhockey.com. Fees to **June 30** will be: Instructional - \$175; Tyke - Midget - \$525; Juvenile - \$275. There will be a \$5 non-refundable membership and \$100 volunteer fee per family. VISA and Mastercard will be accepted. For families unable to afford this, please contact the YMCA in Sarnia to apply for the Jump Start program.

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