



The St. Clair Township BEACON

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Please Remember -
Friday,
Nov. 11

Issue 11

Volume 4

November 2011

Rick Hansen Relay coming to St. Clair Township on Nov. 24!

SEE PAGE 4



Bluewater Community Alerting Network is ready

The much-anticipated emergency notification system is now ready to operate. Fire Chief Roy Dewhirst of the St. Clair Township Fire Department says the Bluewater Community Alerting Network, a cross-border project that also includes St. Clair County, Michigan, will use Alert FM devices to deliver emergency notifications and alerts to the public as well as emergency responders, schools, public officials and cross-border emergency managers. The devices will deliver weather warnings, evacuation and shelter-in-place instructions, Amber Alerts, and homeland security notices. "As St. Clair County contains several neighbouring communities with St. Clair Township, being divided only by the St. Clair River, what affects one community is likely to affect the other,"



Chief Roy Dewhirst, left, and Deputy Chief Steve Bicum with Alert FM package and unit.

Chief Dewhirst said. "Collaboration with keeping our residents safe was a logical step."

The cost of the units is being subsidized to lower the cost to residents. The Alert FM receiver can be purchased \$10 at Corunna Home Hardware on Lyndoch Street, the St. Clair Township Civic Centre at 1155 Emily Street in Mooretown, or the St. Clair Township Emergency Services building at the corner of Lyndoch and Hill Streets in Corunna. Those who have already ordered and paid for their receivers will be notified to pick up their receivers.

The program, which was supposed to take effect in the spring, was delayed while issues with the emergency signal broadcast could be ironed out.

Plans finalized for local Christmas hamper programs

Plans for Operation Christmas Tree and the St. Vincent De Paul hamper program have been finalized and organizers are hoping the community will help make the Christmas season a time when hunger and need take a holiday.

In north St. Clair Township, the Operation Christmas Tree program will kick off on **Thursday, Nov. 17** with a Poor Boy lunch at the Royal Canadian Legion Br. 447 hall in Corunna. Admission will be by free will donation and tax receipts will be issued for donations of \$10 or more. After that event, new unwrapped toys and non-perishable food items can be dropped off at donation collection boxes at the Corunna Canada Post office, the Royal Bank, Southwest Regional Credit Union in Corunna, Corunna Foodland, and the Scotia Bank in Brigden. The OPP Drive-through donation collection will be held on **Saturday, Dec. 10** at the OPP office parking lot on Lyndoch Street. The hampers will

be delivered on **Saturday, Dec. 17**. The location of the collection and storage facility was unavailable at press time.

In south St. Clair Township, the St. Vincent De Paul hamper program will begin with a door-to-door can drive on **Sunday, Nov. 27**. Local Scouts and members of the Sombra youth group will be canvassing along the St. Clair Parkway from Bickford Line south to the Chatham-Kent border and east as far as Highway 40. Residents who want to contribute but will not be home at the time of the collection can call 519-677-5773. Students at Riverview Public School and Sacred Heart School will also be conducting a collection for the program. A cookie walk fundraiser will be held on **Monday, Nov. 19** at the Port Lambton Community Hall. Volunteers will be assembling

See More hamper program info, page 2

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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.



Council Notes

Relief from Clean Harbors emissions still being sought

A delegation of desperate township residents who live in proximity to the Clean Harbors hazardous land-fill facility attended council on Oct. 17 to submit impact statements regarding the severe health issues triggered by emissions from the facility. The residents reported that the emissions and the related incidents of severe illness have increased since they first began in July. Further, they stressed that the severe, flu-like symptoms they are experiencing have, at times, made it impossible to live with any degree of comfort in their own homes.

In response to their questions, Mayor Arnold reviewed the steps that were being taken to find a remedy

to the situation, including the hiring of a law firm that specializes in environmental issues and persistent communication with the Ministry of the Environment. He also spoke of the profound frustration council was experiencing in its efforts to accelerate the MOE's investigation of the recurrent emissions. He emphasized that all possible measures within the purview of the St. Clair Township Council were being exhausted to find a satisfactory resolution to the problem and added that the ultimate power to make the facility resolve the emissions problem rested with the MOE.

During the meeting, several misconceptions about council's scope of power were heard and answered. Both parties agreed that decisive and swift action must be taken to stop the emissions. With this in mind, a representative from the MOE is slated to attend council at its Monday, Nov. 7 meeting to report on the steps being taken to address this important issue.

In the meantime, as directed by Peter Pickford, legal council for the township, all residents adversely affected by the emissions from Clean Harbor are urged to submit impact statements outlining how the emissions are affecting them. These statements will be used to demonstrate the severe nature of this problem.



Notice of 2012 Capital Budget Deliberation

The St. Clair Township 2012 Capital Budget Deliberation presentation and deliberation meeting will be held on Thursday, Dec. 1, 2012 in the council chambers starting at 5:00 p.m. The budget meeting is open to the public and all ratepayers are welcome to attend.

Charles Quenneville
Director of Finance

Council meeting schedule

Regular meetings of St. Clair Township Council are held on the first and third Mondays of the month. The next meeting is slated for Nov. 7 at 6 p.m. The meeting on the third Monday, Nov. 21, will include a Committee of the Whole meeting at 6 p.m. to be followed by the regular council meeting. Anyone wishing to address council should call the municipal office at 519-867-2021.

More hamper program information

From page 1

the hampers on **Wednesday, Dec. 14** and hampers will be ready for pick-up at St. James Anglican Church on Lambton Line on **Saturday, Dec. 17**.

In 2010, Operation Christmas Tree hampers brightened the holidays for 140 families, while the St. Vincent De Paul hamper program delivered 50 hampers to those in need.



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 and into the fall 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, resi-

dents may notice some discolouration while using taps, flushing toilets, doing laundry, etc. If this occurs, run the cold water tap for a few minutes or until the discolouration disappears. If discolouration 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)

Fall yard waste collection will 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-

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 be collected on 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.stclair.on.ca

Moore Museum gratefully acknowledges community support

Strong community support for the Moore Museum's *Adopt-A-Project* program continued through 2011. The program offers organizations and industries the opportunity to "adopt" and fund a specific project or purchase.

In 2011, the Shaw Foundation provided a grant for the installation of insulation and heating in one area of the Francis E. Shaw Exhibition Hall, as well as an enhancement of the building's façade. The Shell Community Service Fund adopted the purchase of the custom-made front door for the general store. The Moore Community and Recreational Foundation adopted the purchase of materials for the construction of an access ramp to the general store building. Enbridge Gas Distribution Inc. adopted the purchase of a spinning wheel to provide demonstrations of this heritage skill for school groups and events. Ontario Power Generation's Lambton Generating Station adopted improvements to the museum's education programs.

This will allow the purchase of reproduction items to provide additional hands-on learning opportunities. And the CN Railroaders in the community contributed to the development of the model railroad exhibit.

The following donors contributed to the outfitting of the interior of the newly-constructed general store, creating the atmosphere of an early 20th century store:

Optimist Club of Moore; Chemfab Industries Inc. (light fixtures); LANXESS Inc.; Royal Canadian Legion Br. 447, Corunna; Southwest Regional Credit Union Ltd.; Kay's Petals and Plants (antique hardware); Mayflower Rebekah Lodge #324; Lady Martha Rebekah Lodge #245; Leopold Lodge #397, Brigden; St. Clair Study Group; Brigden Women's Institute.

Thank you to all who contribute to the preservation of heritage through the Moore Museum.

French in action!

Grades 1 and 2 students from Sir John Moore Community School recently had a chance to test their French language skills on a field trip to the No Frills store in Corunna. Ms. McLaughlin, their Grade 1/2 French Immersion teacher and Beacon correspondent, says the students learned about

healthy food choices while they practiced what they had learned in class. Each student also received a pumpkin. Ms. McLaughlin expressed thanks to owners Simon and Sherrol for giving the students an enjoyable, educational outing.

Entries for Corunna Santa Claus parade being accepted

The Corunna Santa Claus Parade is slated for Saturday, Nov. 26 at 6 p.m. and entries are now being accepted. Information, entry forms, and donation forms are available on the parade Website at www.CorunnaSantaClausParade.ca. More information can also be obtained by calling Tracy at 519-862-1193, Mary Lou at 519-862-3940, or emailing kayspetals@bellnet.ca.

SUNSHINE AND BLUE SKIES GREET BRIGDEN FAIR 2011

The 161st Brigden Fair took place under sunny, blue skies on Thanksgiving Weekend, attracting over 46,000 visitors and providing them with plenty to see and do.

Photos clockwise from right: 1. The fair kicked off with opening ceremonies on Friday, with dignitaries from all levels of government in attendance. St. Clair Township Mayor/Lambton County Warden Steven Arnold made opening remarks as newly-re-elected MPP Bob Bailey and MP Pat Davidson looked on. 2. A ride in a horse-drawn wagon from Beaver Meadows Farm gave many visitors a pleasant way to see the fair. 3. The Ploughman's Farmyard and Activity Center provided an opportunity for children and adults alike to enjoy learning about life on the farm as well as farm safety. The Dugger twins found the lure of an adult-powered tractor ride irresistible. 4. In the Ploughman's Farmyard building,

one of the displays explained how horses and donkeys, when cross-bred, result in mules. This mare and her baby, a mule, were on hand to demonstrate the point. 5. As always, the tempting aroma of fair food filled the air, attracting many hungry visitors and creating line-ups like this one.

During the fair, \$750 was raised at an auction for St. Joseph's Hospice with articles donated by the Moore Agricultural Society executive and members. In addition, \$160 was raised for the Women's Interval Home by the Alpaca Fibre Co-op of Ontario through a draw for a beautiful scarf woven from alpaca fleece.

Photos by Bonnie Stevenson



HERITAGE CORNER

The fate of a railroad dictated Courtright's future

As you drive along the St. Clair Parkway through Courtright, you will notice a lovely park between the road and the St. Clair River. Today, the park offers a pleasant, grassy place where people can take a pleasant stroll by the river or sit under the shade of one of the park's many mature trees. How different it is now from the days when St. Clair Township was in its infancy - when the sooty black plumes from the steam engines and the steam ships provided the power behind the area's growth and prosperity.

The unspoiled landscape began to change rapidly in the 1870s, when the now-defunct Canadian Southern Railroad began looking for a route through southern Ontario to service railroad traffic between New York and Chicago. One route ran from Niagara Falls through St. Thomas to Amherstburg, then across the Detroit River by ferry. But the company wanted a second route from St. Thomas to Courtright, then across the St. Clair River by ferry. This rail line ran along what is now the Ontario Power Generation transmission tower right of way paralleling Courtright Line.

At the Courtright waterfront, the Canada Southern Railroad built a passenger/freight station and a 1,200 foot dock to service the transfer of railroad cars to a ferry. It was expected that a bridge crossing the river to the U.S. would be built. (See the photo below for a glimpse of what the depot looked like during its operation.) As the railroad business progressed, money became tight and the bridge was never built.

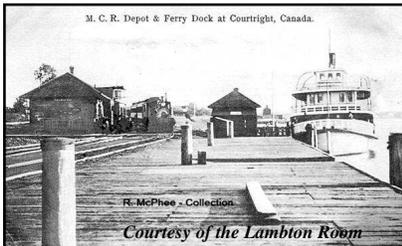
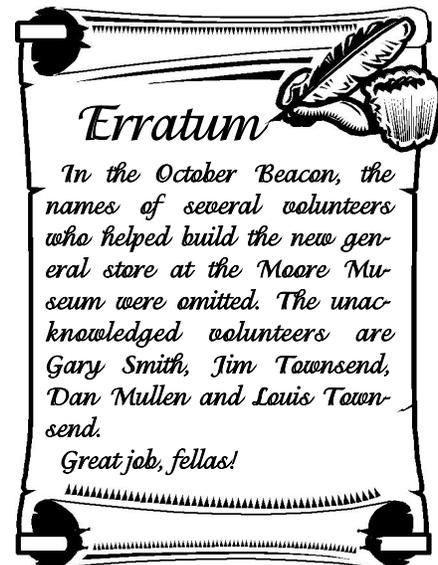
Winter ice on the river was often problematic for the ferries and they were often delayed. The Courtright crossing, like Amherstburg's, never worked out, and the rail line to each is no longer there.

The Detroit/Windsor area was rapidly expanding as a manufacturing area. Railroads built to service the area crossed the Detroit River by ferry until a tunnel was eventually built under the river. The rail line between Courtright and St. Thomas remained in operation until the early 1960s. Imagine being able to catch the train in Courtright and take it to Petrolia or Alvinston, or even ride it all the way to New York City.

The next time you take a drive

through Courtright, remember as you look at the lovely park by the side of the river that, had conditions worked out, you could have been looking out at a busy railroad terminal and a bridge across the St. Clair River.

-This snapshot of St. Clair Township's past has been presented by the St. Clair Township Heritage Committee - Discovery Phase.



History buffs who enjoy learning about Lambton County's fascinating past can find a wealth of information in Wyoming at the *Lambton Room*. The facility houses thousands of historical documents and vintage photos such as this one, which shows Courtright as it was many decades ago, when trains and ships helped build the young county.

Rick Hansen Relay slated for St. Clair Township on Nov. 24

The Rick Hansen Relay will pass through St. Clair Township on Nov. 24. It will arrive that morning from Wallaceburg on Buckingham Road, then travel along Lambton Line to Port Lambton. From there, it will follow the St. Clair Parkway north toward Sarnia. Along the way, local medal bearers, selected from Port Lambton, Sombra, Courtright and Corunna, will be among those who keep the relay going along the route. At noon, a ceremony will take place at the new Sombra Museum building on Smith Street in Sombra village, and another will be held at the Corunna clock tower on Lyndoch Street in the afternoon. Along the route, some extraordinary modes of transportation will be featured.

This relay commemorates the 25th anniversary of Rick Hansen's Man In Motion tour. It will retrace the Canadian segment of the original tour with 7,000 participants from across Canada taking part. For more information on the relay, go online to www.rickhansenrelay.com.

Donation supports Equimania display

The Equimania display, a horse-related traveling activity center from the University of Guelph, was a big hit at this year's Bridgen Fair. Many community industries, service groups and businesses helped bring the display to the fair, including: Enbridge; the Shell Canada Limited Community Service Fund; Ontario Power Generation; Lanxess; the Optimist Club of Moore; OPSEU Local 123; Area 1 Quarter Horse Promotional Association; Dover Sanitation; Lambton Cattlemen's Association; Bluewater Power; Keddc; Mid-Western Horsemen's Society; St. Clair Township Fire Department Bridgen station; Southwest Credit Union; and Waterville TG. Fair President Michelle Evanitski noted strong community supported allowed thousands of children to enjoy lots of hands-on opportunities to learn more about horses during the four days of the fair.

The *Equimania* display was located in the Ploughman's Farmyard and Activity Center building.



During the fair, Percy Metcalf from the Shell Canada Limited Community Service Fund dropped by the *Equimania* display to present a donation to Bridgen Fair President Michelle Evanitski, left, and Ploughman's Farmyard Chair Kathy Myers, with Taylor Myers, Bridgen Fair Ambassador first runner-up, in attendance. *Photo submitted*



Fire department benefits from Safe Community Program

The St. Clair Township Fire Department recently received a donation of \$7,500 from the Enbridge Safe Community Program. The money was raised during a charity golf tournament sponsored by Enbridge Pipelines Inc. and held at the St. Clair Parkway Golf Course. To date, Enbridge has donated over \$18,000 to the township's fire department. The Enbridge Safe Community Program, now in its third year, provides financial support to firefighters, police and other first responders, allowing them to acquire new safety equipment, obtain professional training, or deliver educational programs. The funds will be used to purchase back-up generators for three of the township's fire stations that are used as emergency evacuation centres. The need for equipment such as this was clearly demonstrated during the monster snow storm that hit St. Clair Township in December of 2010 when local fire stations provided shelter for many stranded motorists and residents who were without power.

Left: Brian Black, General Manager of Enbridge Eastern Region, presents a cheque for \$7,500 to St. Clair Township Fire Department Chief Roy Dewhirst. *Photo submitted*

Free tutoring program available for students Grades 1 through 7

The Organization for Literacy in Lambton offers free tutoring in the Corunna area for students in Grades 1 through 7. Children who are struggling with reading and math can get the help they need to get the most out of the material they learn in school. They also discover that learning can be fun.

The *Skill and Drill* program is now offered on Mondays and Wednesdays at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Registration is ongoing throughout the school year based on availability. For more information or to register your child for this important program, call the Organization for Literacy in Lambton at 519-332-4876.



More AROUND THE TOWNSHIP

From page 8

St. Stephen's hosts Christmas Bazaar

St. Stephen's Anglican Church, 70 Milton Street in Courtright, will be the scene of a Christmas Bazaar on **Saturday, Nov. 19** from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. The event will include baked goods, a white elephant table, preserves, and knitting and crafts. Also, enjoy refreshments and goodies at the tea room for just \$4.

IODE Christmas Home Tour fundraiser

Members of the Cathcart Chapter IODE of Corunna will once again be helping with the Sarnia-Lambton IODE Christmas Home Tour on **Saturday, Nov. 19** and **Sunday, Nov. 20**. Tickets will be available from any IODE member or by calling Marilyn at 519-542-4751 or Carleen at 519-864-4320.

Corunna Legion to host NASCAR event

The Royal Canadian Legion Corunna branch will host the NASCAR Homestead Race afternoon on **Saturday, Nov. 20** beginning at noon. The event will include a draw for a 50-inch Panasonic Plasma TV at 4 p.m. Doors open at noon. Tickets are \$5 each and are available at the Legion hall bar.

Free diabetes conversation maps class series set

The Mooretown Sports Complex will be the site of a free diabetes conversation maps class series, which will take place over a three-week period. The series will be presented on **Mondays, Nov. 21 and 28, and Dec. 5** from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. For information or to register, call the West Lambton Community Health Centre at 519-344-3017, ext. 259.

Candy Cane Christmas bazaar in Corunna

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, 437 Colborne Street in Corunna, will host a *Candy Cane Christmas* bazaar on **Saturday, Nov. 26** from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. The event will include crafts, turkey and beef pies, baked goods, a cookie walk, preserved items, silent auction, Christmas items and a Buck-a-Block quilt, plus much more. Lunch will be available for \$5 and everyone is welcome. The church is a barrier-free facility.

Jam sessions planned for the Corunna Legion

A series of jam sessions is planned for the Royal Canadian Legion Corunna Branch 447 hall at Albert and Beckwith Streets this

winter. The sessions will be held Saturdays at 3 p.m. on the following dates: **Nov. 26; Dec. 17; Jan 28, 2012; Feb. 25; March 31; April 28; and May 26**. Everyone is welcome to come out and play, sing or just listen to some great local talent. More information can be found on the branch's Website at www.corunna.ca/legion.

Indoor walking sessions offered

Indoor walking sessions are now offered on **Tuesdays and Thursdays** from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. at the Brigden fairgrounds exhibition hall. Attendees are asked to bring indoor shoes for walking. For more information or to register for this free program, call 519-344-3017, ext. 237. This program is sponsored by the Moore Agricultural Society and the West Lambton Community Health Centre.

Cooking Buddies program offered

Cooking Buddies children's cooking classes are offered in two locations within St. Clair Township. They can be found in Port Lambton at Sacred Heart Church, 466 John Street, and in Corunna at Sir John Moore Community School, 274 St. Clair Boulevard. The program runs from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. on the last **Thursday of each month**. Children ages six through 11 are invited to enjoy learning to cook, including measuring ingredients, reading a recipe, understanding nutritional information and enjoying the food. Limited spaces are available. To register for this free program, call 519-344-3017, ext. 237. This program is sponsored by the West Lambton Community Health Centre in partnership with the County of Lambton Peer Nutrition program.

Meat raffles at Brigden Legion

The Royal Canadian Legion Brigden Branch #635 hosts meat raffles on Saturdays at 4 p.m. Call the branch for more information.

Elimination Draw tickets are sold out!

Tickets for the 1st Annual Elimination Draw, presented by the Royal Canadian Legion Corunna Branch 447 and Ladies Auxiliary, are sold out. The draw date is set for Jan. 14, 2012.

Play sledge hockey with Lambton Dragons

The Lambton Dragons play sledge hockey at the Mooretown Sports Complex and maybe you can, too. Just call Karen at 519-862-4756 for more information.



Community Notices

In keeping with the theme, *Horse Power-Pulling Together*, Brigden Fair officials are looking for horse-related photos from Moore Agricultural Society members or exhibitors past and present. The photos will be used in a display entitled, *Hoofprints Thru History*. Photos can be emailed to michelle.evynitski@brigdenfair.ca or dropped off at the Brigden Fair office. For more information, call 519-864-1197.

A new book by author Cliff Roy, entitled *The Baby Point Settlement: The Making of Sombra Township*, is now on sale at the Sombra Museum for \$20 each. Proceeds from the sale of the book will go towards the funding of the new Sombra Museum

building currently under construction at the south corner of Smith Street and the St. Clair Parkway across from the current museum. The book is also on sale at the *Shake and Bait* in Port Lambton.

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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.

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At the Brigden Fair, the winner of the Homecraft Division handmade quilt was Loretta Bresolin of Corunna.

AROUND THE TOWNSHIP

Cruikshank Centre offers winter fun

The Cruikshank Centre at Thompson Gardens in Corunna is offering a series of informative and enjoyable events and activities this winter. *On **Tuesdays, Nov. 1, 15, 22, 29** at 1:30 p.m. enjoy Fun Bingo. A minimal fee is charged to participate. *Euchre parties will be held **Tuesdays, Nov. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29** at 7:30 p.m. The cost is \$3 per person with light refreshment included. The **Nov. 29** euchre event will be a special charity event with proceeds benefiting the Samia Women's Interval Home. *On **Wednesday, Nov. 2**, a community flu shot clinic will be held from 2 p.m. to 7 p.m. *A variety of popular games are played on a regular basis, including: cribbage on **Tuesdays** at 9:30 a.m.; bridge on **Thursdays** at 1 p.m.; and Scrabble on **Fridays** at 1:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome and no fees apply. *On **Wednesday, Nov. 9**, enjoy the Tan Jay Fashion Show at 1:30 p.m. The cost is \$5 per person which includes the show plus light refreshments. Tickets are available at the Cruikshank Centre administration office in Thompson Gardens. *On **Monday, Nov. 21** at 1:30 p.m. enjoy Country Fun with music by Joan Spalding and Doug Springstead. The cost is \$5 per person with tickets available at the door. Light refreshments will be included. *An afternoon at the theatre will be offered on **Saturday, Dec. 10**. This bus trip will include a matinee performance of the *Nightingales Christmas Concert* at the Imperial Theatre followed by dinner at Waggs Restaurant. The cost is \$55 per person and the registration deadline is Thursday, Nov. 10. Please call 519-862-1628 for additional information. *And on **Monday, Dec. 12**, visit *Katie's Unique Boutique* at the Cruikshank Centre to shop for a wide selection of purses and fashion jewellery. For more information about the Cruikshank Centre, visit its Website at cruikshankcentre.com.

Alzheimer Society of Sarnia-Lambton to hold open house

The Alzheimer Society of Sarnia-Lambton will celebrate its 25th anniversary on **Friday, Nov. 4** with an open house at 420 East Street North in Sarnia. An official ceremony will take place at 1:30 p.m. and everyone is welcome. Please RSVP to 519-332-4444.

Euchre parties set for Sombra Community Hall

A series of euchre parties is planned for the Sombra Community Hall at 1 p.m. on the following **Fridays: Nov. 4, 11, 18 and 25**. The cost is \$2 per event and a light lunch is included. Proceeds will benefit the up-keep of the hall. For more information call Glen or Marie Scott at 519-892-3964.

Ham and roast beef dinner planned

A ham and roast beef dinner, sponsored by the Wilkesport United Church and Wilkesport Community Centre, will be held on **Friday, Nov. 4** at 6:30 p.m. at the Wilkesport Community Centre. Entertainment will be supplied by the *Trinity Band*. The cost is \$15 per adult and \$7 for children ages six through 12.

Dancing Under The Stars Gala planned

The St. Joseph's Hospice *Dancing Under The Stars 6th Annual Gala* is set for **Saturday, Nov. 5** in the atrium at DeGroot's Nursery on London Line. For tickets, contact the St. Joseph's Hospice at 519-337-0537.

Locally Lambton Dinner benefits United Way

The Locally Lambton Dinner will be held on **Wednesday, Nov. 9** beginning at 5:30 p.m. to benefit the United Way of Sarnia-Lambton. The buffet dinner will be held at the Dante Club in Sarnia and will include entertainment, auctions and a cash bar. Tickets are \$45 per person or \$85 per couple and only 300 tickets will be sold. Call 519-336-5452, ext. 0 for tickets.

Remembrance Day service slated

The Royal Canadian Legion Brigden Branch #635 will hold a Remembrance Day service at the Brigden cenotaph beginning at 10:45 a.m. on **Friday, Nov. 11**. A church service is planned for the Brigden Baptist Church on **Sunday, Nov. 6**.

Beef dinner at Courtright United Church

The congregation of Courtright United Church will host a beef dinner on **Sunday, Nov. 6**, with two settings at 4:30 p.m. and 6 p.m. Tickets are \$14 per adult, \$5 per child ages five through 12, and free for children under age five. Take-out will be available for \$14 per meal. For tickets, call Ken at 519-867-2109 or Gary at 519-867-5316.

Victorian mourning exhibit in Sombra

Over the years, funeral practices have changed radically. The Sombra Museum will give visitors a glimpse of the way loved ones were mourned during the Victorian Era on **Saturday, Nov. 12** from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. The museum building on Smith Street in Sombra, an authentic Victorian era structure known as the Bury House, will be set up as it would be if its occupants had lost a loved one. This educational experience will reveal the mourning practices that would be observed in the 19th century. For more information, call the museum at 519-892-3982 or email sombramuseum@hotmail.com.

Free diabetes and eye health presentation

A free diabetes and eye health presentation will take place on **Monday, Nov. 14** at 6:30 p.m. at the West Lambton Community Health Centre, 429 Exmouth Street in Sarnia. For more information or to register, call 519-344-3017, ext. 259.

Rebekah Lodge hosts luncheons

The Mayflower Rebekah Lodge #324 will host a series of luncheons at Thompson Gardens in Corunna at noon on the following **Mondays: Nov. 14; Jan. 9, 2012; Feb. 13; March 12; April 9; April 30; May 29; Sept. 24**. Everyone is welcome.

Operation Christmas Tree kick-off luncheon

Enjoy a hearty meal while you make Christmas brighter for the less fortunate residents of north St. Clair Township. The annual Operation Christmas Tree food and toy drive will kick-off at the Royal Canadian Legion Corunna Branch 447 hall with the annual Poor Boy Lunch on **Thursday, Nov. 17** from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. This event is sponsored by the Branch 447 Ladies Auxiliary. Donations of canned and non-perishable food will be accepted in addition to admission by free will donation.

Kids' game night at Courtright United Church

A free kids' game night will be held **Friday, Nov. 18** from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Courtright United Church. It will feature board games, energizers, crafts, snacks and a treasure hunt. For more information, call 519-867-2113.

See More, page 7