



# The St. Clair Township BEACON

Issue 3

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March 2013



Sarnia-Lambton MP Pat Davidson, front right, officially presented the CIFF grant to St. Clair River Trail Committee members Jane Marsh, left, Dave Cram, and Rose Atkins, and St. Clair Township Mayor Steve Arnold during a brief, snowy ceremony in Brander Park.

*Photo submitted*

## St. Clair River Trail receives funding from CIIF

Funding to pay for work on the south end of the St. Clair River Trail from Brander Park to the Chatham-Kent border was officially presented during a snowy ceremony in Brander Park on Jan. 25.

The \$135,000 grant from the Feddev Ontario Community Infrastructure Improvement Fund (CIIF) was presented by Sarnia-Lambton MP Pat Davidson to Mayor Steve Arnold and trail committee members. The funding is part of the federal government's Economic Action Plan 2012.

"The awarding of the CIIF grant to the St. Clair River Trail committee comes at a perfect time," said St. Clair Trails Committee member Jane Marsh. "It will help us complete an essential section of trail...We are thankful to the Federal government for their support."

The addition of this section of trail will bring its total length to 32.44 kilometres.

## Council hopes to limit municipal tax increase to two per cent

A municipal tax increase of two per cent or less is the goal of St. Clair Council says Mayor Steve Arnold. "All in all, our hope is that we will have less than a two per cent change in the municipal tax impact to the overall taxes of our ratepayers," said Mayor Arnold. "The final tax amounts will depend on both the county and the education components to the final amount of change." He adds the other issue will be municipal insurance, which council has not looked at yet.

Mayor Arnold says he has been fielding many emails and phone calls with regards to the upcoming budget sessions and residents' concerns over assessment changes.

"Realistically, we have seen that there appears to be a need for a small tax increase, but there will probably be an adjustment down in the multiplication factor, minimizing the overall assessment increases," he said. "Council, in the past, has done this. We review the totals from last year, and add in the wage cost of living adjustment, a change in the OMPF transfer from the Province of Ontario, which currently appears to be an additional two per cent."

Mindful that ratepayers are concerned about changes to their tax rates, Mayor Arnold said, "We on council are very sensitive to the changes in the agricultural assessments and

the constant changes in the waterfront assessments, and will look at every way possible to eliminate the need for any increase. We encourage everyone who feels that they have been over-assessed to make sure they challenge MPAC during the time open to appeal. See MPAC, page 2.

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[www.twp.stclair.on.ca](http://www.twp.stclair.on.ca) and clicking on "Beacon".**

Contact The Beacon at:  
[beacon@twp.stclair.on.ca](mailto:beacon@twp.stclair.on.ca)



## Municipal Notes

Property Assessment Notices were sent out by the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC) in the fall of 2012. St. Clair Township property owners who have questions about their assessments (taxation years 2013 - 2016) now have an opportunity to discuss them with an MPAC representative. The meeting is slated for Tuesday, March 5. This meeting will be held in the Council Chambers at the St. Clair Township Civic Centre, 1155 Emily Street in Mooretown, from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. both days.

## MPAC reps to meet property owners

**An appointment is required to meet with the MPAC representative.**

Anyone wishing to schedule a meeting can call MPAC directly at 1-866-296-6722. Property owners must indicate they are calling to set up an appointment and specify the date they want it slated for. On the day of the meeting, property owners must bring their Property Assessment Notice to the appointment.



## Notice of 2013 Budget Meeting

The St. Clair Township 2013 draft budget presentation and deliberation meeting will be held on Thursday, March 7 at 5:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers at the St. Clair Township Civic Centre, 1155 Emily Street in Mooretown. 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 the first and third Mondays of each month. The next meetings are slated for Monday, March 4 at 6:30 p.m. and Monday, March 18 at approximately 4:30 p.m. following the Committee of the Whole meeting which begins at 3 p.m. Anyone wishing to address council should call the municipal office at 519-867-2021 for more information.

## Overnight parking on streets prohibited

Motorists are reminded that overnight parking on all municipal streets is now prohibited until April 1, 2013. This ensures that snow plow crews will be able to clear the roads safely and efficiently. Vehicles left parked on the streets will be ticketed.

## St. Clair Township 2013 Property Tax Due Dates

The last of two 2013 Interim Tax due dates is May 1, 2013.

The Interim Tax notices were mailed out the first week of February, 2013.

Most chartered banks and financial institutions will accept payment of your current taxes on or before the due date (any bank charges will be the responsibility of the ratepayer.)

Tax payments by cheque can be mailed to the return address provided on the tax notice.

The following methods of Tax and/or Water payments may be utilized:

- ◇ Automatic bank machines
- ◇ Telephone and Internet payments through bank
- ◇ Payment at most financial institutions
- ◇ Post-dated cheques
- ◇ Counter services, cash, cheque or debit
- ◇ Mail to or drop off at: 1155 Emily St., Mooretown, Ontario, N0N 1M0

**Preauthorized payment plans are also available and encouraged.**

St. Clair Township Tax Department  
519-867-2024  
Fax: 519-867-5509

## Lambton County recognized for new Geographic Information System (GIS)

Anyone who has ever been lost while trying to navigate an unknown area will appreciate the fact that Lambton County has received national recognition for its Geographic Information System (GIS), provided by Esri Canada.

GIS is used to allow governments, businesses and educational institutions to make informed decisions about what locations might be suitable to their needs. The website also provides charting based on demographics and municipal zoning, and it uses Google Street View which gives a ground level view any given location.

If you want to find out more about Lambton County's GIS, it can be accessed by going online to [www.lambtongis.ca](http://www.lambtongis.ca) and the site selector web application is accessible at <http://www.lambtongis.ca/siteselector>.

The county's GIS is so good that one of its mapping applications is featured as September's illustration of the month in Esri Canada's 2013 calendar. *Editor's Note: At The Beacon, we remember when calendar pictures featured puppies, kittens, hot cars, and Farrah Fawcett.*

## Residential Recycling & Waste Calendar 2013 now available

The Residential Recycling & Waste Calendar for 2013 has been mailed out to St. Clair Township residences. Those who have not yet received a calendar can obtain one at the St. Clair Township Civic Centre, 1155 Emily Street in Mooretown or go online to: [www.twp.stclair.on.ca](http://www.twp.stclair.on.ca)

## Household hazardous waste disposal dates set

Household hazardous waste items must be disposed of by dropping them off at Clean Harbors Canada Inc. located at 4090 Telfer Road just south of Petrolia Line on the following Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.: March 30; April 27; May 25; June 29; Sept. 28; Oct. 26. These items include: batteries, drain and oven cleaners, pesticides, rat poison, pharmaceuticals, cleaning fluids, pool chemicals, ammonia, bleach, aerosols, gasoline, paints, barbecue starter, solvents, and propane cylinders.

## Mighty Storm Novice Girls win gold at B.A.D. tourney

The Storm Novice Girls hockey team came away from the recent 14th Annual B.A.D. (Belmont, Aylmer, Dorchester) Girls Blazers Tournament in Aylmer with gold medals. The tournament final ended in a 2 -1 shoot-out victory over the London Jets. According to the team Website, Goaltender Brooklyn "Flippers" MacLeod not only stopped the penalty shot during the final, but she also shut the door in overtime and foiled all four attempts on goal.

Just one month ago, the team was poised to win at the Woodstock tournament but suffered a discouraging shoot-out loss in the final. This big win was a tremendous morale booster.



Storm Novice Girls team rule at B.A.D. tournament

## Creative County funding to assist community projects

Lambton County's new Creative County Committee is now accepting funding applications for projects that will improve heritage, arts and cultural vitality in the community.

Robert Tremain, General Manager, Lambton County Cultural Services Division, explains the committee is hoping for creative new ideas that will focus on the things that make Lambton County special. "We're looking for projects that explore Lambton County's identity and celebrate the way we live," he said.

Application forms and funding guidelines are available on the Creative County page of the Lambton County Website: [www.lambtononline.ca](http://www.lambtononline.ca). Funding applications will be received until 4:30 p.m. on March 15. For more information, or to submit a completed form, contact Robert Tremain at [robert.tremain@county-lambton.on.ca](mailto:robert.tremain@county-lambton.on.ca).

## Free tutoring available in Corunna

Free tutoring in reading and math is available in Corunna for children in Grades 1 through 7. A Skill and Drill program is offered at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church on Mondays and Wednesdays from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Registration is ongoing throughout the school year based on availability. This program is sponsored by the Organization for Literacy in Lambton. To register your child, call 519-332-4876.

## Future fire chief introduced



St. Clair Township Fire Chief Roy Dewhirst, left, will be retiring later this year and a recruiting effort has been underway to find a suitable candidate to take over his position. At the Feb. 4 meeting of St. Clair Township Council, Chief Dewhirst introduced Assistant Chief Walter Anderson, who will fill that position. He was formerly with the West Perth (Mitchell area) fire service. *Photo by Bonnie Stevenson*



## Community Contact

### **Brigden Public School anniversary planned**

Brigden Public School students and alumni are invited to participate in the school's 50th anniversary celebration slated for Nov. 23. Complete plans have not been finalized to date, but an open house will be part of the celebration and organizers are now seeking copies of photos and memorabilia relating to the school's past to be used as part of the events being planned. Copies of photos would be best, but if originals are submitted, they should have the contributor's name and contact info noted on the backs so they can be returned. Former students are encouraged to mark Nov. 23 on their calendars and to pass along the information to those who may have moved away from the area so that they can renew old friendships and share school day memories. As information becomes available, it will be published in *The Beacon*.

Organizers say the school's 25th anniversary celebration had an attendance of over 3,000 people and the dinner sold out very quickly. They are expecting numbers to be much larger for this half-century celebration.

### **Lambton Heritage Museum to host SHINE exhibit**

The Lambton Heritage Museum will host *Shine: Spotlight On Women of Lambton*, from May 12 to Nov. 8 this year. The exhibit pays tribute to women who have played important roles in shaping their communities. Nominations are currently being taken to acknowledge women who deserve recognition for their accomplishments and contributions to their communities and nomination forms are available. The deadline for submissions is March 15. For more information, call 519-243-2600, go online to [www.lclmg.org](http://www.lclmg.org), or email: [heritage.museum@county-lambton.on.ca](mailto:heritage.museum@county-lambton.on.ca).

### **Cinderella Story volunteers sought**

Organizers of *Cinderella Story*, a group that offers formal attire and accessories for girls who cannot otherwise afford to attend their school proms, are looking for volunteers for their fourth annual Dress Boutique slated for Friday, April 12 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. and Saturday, April 13 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. The event will take place at 109 Durand Street in Sarnia. Volunteers must be 19 years of age or older. They will greet the young ladies who attend the boutique and assist them with selecting their dresses. They will also make sure each girl receives the products and services available to them. Those who wish to volunteer can email: [cinderellasarnialambton@live.ca](mailto:cinderellasarnialambton@live.ca)

or call 519-864-1161. Girls who wish to register for the boutique can go online to: [www.cinderellasarnia.org](http://www.cinderellasarnia.org). The first 60 girls who register will each receive a gift bag.

*NOTE: Gently-used formal or semi-formal dresses can be dropped off all year long at the Sarnia Lambton Business Development Corporation, 109 Durand Street in Sarnia. The Cinderella Story Dress Drive will be held in late March, 2013.*

### **Lambton Dragons invite challengers**

The Lambton Dragons Sledge Hockey team invites any hockey team, sports group, or work group to come to the Mooretown Sports Complex on Sunday mornings to enjoy a friendly game with the Dragons. Extra sledges and equipment are available. To participate, call Karen or Jim McNeil at 519-862-4756 or Jackie White at 519-862-4039.

### **Voice your concern over school issues**

Anyone who has concerns or comments about local school issues can contact local school trustee Judy Krall at 519-882-1055 or via email at: [jkrall@ciaccess.com](mailto:jkrall@ciaccess.com).

### **Photo I.D. cards available**

Anyone over age 16 who does not have a valid driver's license can obtain a government-issued photo I.D. card at the Corunna Motor Vehicle License office at 379 Lyndoch Street.

### **Elimination draw at Corunna Legion**

The Royal Canadian Legion Corunna Branch 447 is now selling tickets for its third annual Elimination Draw, with proceeds going to Corunna Legion programs. Tickets are \$20 each and only 250 will be sold. For tickets and more information, call the Legion at 519-862-1240 during hours of operation (see above).

### **Pennies for Pavement program**

Your spare change can help the St. Clair River Trail Committee raise funds for the trail's upkeep and maintenance. Drop off your spare pennies (and other spare jingly coins) at the following locations: Shaykin Bait Variety or the Canada Post office in Port Lambton or the Pic-N-Pay in Sombra Village. Every penny will be matched 2:1 by St. Clair Township Council. Invest your pennies in the good health of your community.

### **Handyman/Handywoman program helps seniors**

Seniors who require help with household maintenance and minor repairs can call the United Way-funded Lambton Seniors Association (LSA) Handyman/Handywoman program. For more information, call the LSA at 519-339-8866 or 1-800-219-4717.

## Agricultural roundtable held to discuss future of agriculture across province

A roundtable discussion was recently held to explore the current and future state of the agriculture industry in both Sarnia-Lambton and across the province of Ontario. The two-hour discussion, hosted by Sarnia-Lambton MPP Bob Bailey and Oxford MPP Ernie Hardeman, who is also the PC Critic of Agriculture, drew participants from industry, business development, commodity, livestock producers, wildlife, and civics groups.

The meeting focused on the many challenging issues faced by farmers and those in the industry hoping to remain viable or to generate new opportunities.

Organizations participating in the discussion included: the National Farmers Union; the Ontario Federation of Agriculture; the Cattlemen's Association; Dairy Farmers; Lambton Plowman's Association; Sheep Producers; the Broiler Chicken

Hatching Association; Horse Breeders; Grain Farmers; the Sarnia-Lambton Business Development Corporation; Rural Lambton Stewardship Network; One Tomato; Sarnia-Lambton Economic Partnership; and the Upland Game Bird Chapter NWTf.

The discussion was one of several being hosted by MPP Ernie Hardeman and the Ontario PC caucus across Ontario. Information gathered will be used to prepare an agricultural white paper outlining solutions to major issues affecting agriculture.





## HERITAGE CORNER



### Volunteering at local museums is rewarding and fun

The two museums of St. Clair Township preserve the heritage of this community for everyone to access when seeking information ranging from family history to the township's colourful early days. They also provide an enjoyable and educational outing for those who seek to know more about the genesis of their community.

The continued existence and growth of the Moore Museum and the Sombra Museum does not occur spontaneously. It takes place through the dedication of many volunteers who share their talents and interests to help keep the museums running. Their efforts make it possible to keep the museum exhibits and sites expanding and repaired, and to offer heritage- and education-based programs and special activities.

Moore Museum curator Laurie Mason said, "We'd like to thank our volunteers for their contributions over the past year to the important work of preserving our community's history and engaging local residents and tourists in exploring this heritage through lifelong learning opportunities." During 2012, 62 volunteers contributed an impressive 2,100 hours to

the museum. These man-hours were spent on projects such as the completion of construction and the outfitting of the interior of the general store building, the maintenance of the museum's 12 buildings, public programming activities such as events and tours, and assistance with maintaining collections records.

Sombra Museum curator Shelley Lucier agrees that volunteers are the heart of the museum. "Sombra Museum would not be able to offer as many programming and fundraising events as it does without the help of our volunteers," she said. "The museum's accomplishments of the past year, with the building of the new facility and plans for the coming year, specifically detail how volunteer support made it all possible."

New volunteers are always being sought and welcomed at both museums. To find out how you can enjoy the satisfying experience of volunteering at your local museum, call the Moore Museum at 519-867-2020 or Sombra Museum at 519-827-2622.



**Moore Museum volunteer Cindy Benedictus in late 19th Century finery, assists at the annual Victorian Tea event.**

### Port Lambton-born Dr. Maud Menten: physician, scientist, researcher

At the time of Maud Menten's birth in Port Lambton on March 20, 1879, women were scarce in the ranks of practicing physicians and scientists. But Maud, who was described as an energetic, highly-motivated and committed person, achieved remarkable success as a physician, scientist and researcher. Remarkably, she was an accomplished musician, linguist and fine artist as well.

Dr. Menten's family moved from Port Lambton to British Columbia when she was very young, but she returned to Ontario to attend the University of Toronto, where she earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree in 1904 and her Masters Degree in Physiology in 1907. She was appointed a fellow (member of a learned society) at the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research in New York and a year later, she was an intern at the New York Infirmary for Women and Children. She eventually returned to the University of Toronto and became one of the first Canadian women to receive a medical degree. However, her desire to do pursue a career in medical research meant she had to leave Canada again, since women were not allowed to do research here at that time.

In 1912, Dr. Menten moved to Berlin, where she and Dr. Leonor Michaelis of the University of Berlin coauthored a paper on Chemical Kinetics. The paper described the *Michaelis-Menten Equation*, which changed the study of biochemistry. Over the course of her career, Dr. Menten would author or coauthor over 70 research papers on important subjects from salmonella toxins to the chemical composition of cells and tissues in the body. In the coming years, Dr. Menten worked in the United States as a researcher at the Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio, and as a cancer researcher at the Bernard Skin and Cancer Hospi-

tal in St. Louis, Missouri. In 1916, she received her Ph.D. in Biochemistry from the University of Chicago. Her superior credentials and knowledge eventually led to her being hired by the University of Pittsburgh's School of Medicine as an instructor and demonstrator of pathology. She also held a position as head of pathology at the Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh. She became a full professor in 1948 and retired from the University of Pittsburgh in 1950.

For the rest of her career, she returned to cancer research at the University of British Columbia's Medical Research Institute. When ill health ended her career, Miss Maud, as she was known to her friends, returned to Ontario where she died in Leamington in 1960 at the age of 81.

During the decades when Maud Menten worked to make a difference in her chosen field, a woman's lot was often difficult and competing in a man's world no doubt presented many obstacles for her to overcome. But she not only overcame them, she excelled and contributed substantially to research that continues to contribute to the health and recovery of people all over the world. She leaves behind a legacy that is acknowledged wherever she has applied her healing knowledge. A plaque dedicated in her honour graces the grounds of the University of Toronto Medical Science Building. The Maud Menten Investigator Prize gives grant money from \$1,000 to \$30,000 to successful applicants to further their research endeavours. The University of Western Ontario Department of Biochemistry holds the Dr. Maud Menten Lecture Series annually. The ultimate proof of her determined spirit came in 1998, when she was inducted into the Canadian Medical Hall of Fame.

### Heritage St. Clair Committee elects executive

The newly-established Heritage St. Clair Committee elected its new executive on Jan. 14. It includes: Chairman Dave Patten den; Vice-Chairman Al Anderson; Secretary Ian Mason; Treasurer Jan Smith; Assistant Treasurer Dave Taylor. Rounding out the committee

are members Paul Smith, Cathie Circuit, Murray McAllister, Don Ricciuto, Don Carpenter, and Dave Cram. Representing St. Clair Township Council on the committee is Councillor Jeff Agar.

# Shape up for spring at the Mooretown Sports Complex

Spring is on its way and the winter coats will be coming off. Are you ready to strut your stuff this summer? Are you in shape to take those pleasant, invigorating walks, runs or bicycle rides along the St. Clair Parkway, or simply play outdoor games with your kids? If not, there's good news. You still have time to get summer-ready at the Mooretown Sports Complex.

## **Spring 2013 swim lesson session**

Registrations are now being accepted for the Spring 2013 swim lesson session. Learn to swim or develop the swimming skills you already have. The session begins the week of April 8.

## **Stretch & Strengthen fitness classes**

Have fun while getting fit at these group fitness classes. Improve your strength and flexibility, and make new friends who share your fitness goals. Classes are Monday and Wednesdays from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. at a cost of \$4.50 per class, \$45 for a 12 visit pass, or \$243 per year for a full fitness membership.

## **Shinny hockey is in full swing**

There's fun and action on the Mooretown Sports Complex rink when the adult shinny hockey players take to the ice. This activity, which is open to people age 18 and over, takes place on Tuesday mornings from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. at a cost of \$5 per person, or Wednesday mornings from 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. at a cost of \$6 per person.

## **Adult swim lessons**

It's never too late to learn to swim or to improve your technique or fitness level. Join the adult swim class for lessons on Thursday mornings from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. The cost is \$5.40 per class or \$53 for 10 weeks. Private lessons are available for \$85 for 10 classes.

## **Shallow and deep water aerobics**

Use the rejuvenating power of water to accomplish a variety of exercises that target posture, muscular endurance, strength, cardiovascular, flexibility, and balance. **Shallow water classes** are slated for Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m., and Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8 p.m. to 9 p.m. **Deep water classes** are held Mondays and Wednesdays from 8 p.m. to 9 p.m. The cost is \$4.50 per class, \$45 for a 12 visit pass, or \$195 per year.

## **Water therapy for arthritis and fibromyalgia**

This program includes cardiovascular training, functional fitness, muscular endurance and strength, balance and flexibility training with the goal of improved mobility. Classes are held Tuesday and Thursday from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. at a cost of \$4.50 per class or \$45 for a 12 visit pass. Join any time.

## **Fitness centre**

Shake that cabin fever with an invigorating workout, swim, sauna, and soak in the hot tub, all for \$4.50 per visit, \$45 for a 12 visit interchangeable pass, or \$243 for a full year. In addition, personal trainer Andy Ysebaert can develop a personal program tailored to your individual needs.

## **March Break day camp**

March Break will be fun for kids ages five through 12 as they swim, skate, do crafts, play games and listen to special visitors. The March Break Day camp runs from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., with early drop-off at 7:30 a.m. and late pick up at 5:30 p.m. available. The program costs \$25 per child per day or \$100 per week. A family plan is also available.

## **March Break activities**

There's no need to be bored this March Break. Fun and fitness are combined when kids enjoy the following activities. The recreational swim will be held every day of March Break from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at a cost of \$2.25 per child, \$3.25 per adult, or \$6.50 per family. Non-swimmers or weak swimmers unable to comfortably swim two widths of the pool, as well as all children under 48 inches tall and children under age seven, must have an adult in the water within arms reach of them at all times. If ice skating is the activity of choice, attend the public skate to be held every day from noon to one p.m. at a cost of \$2.25 per child, \$3.25 per adult, or \$6.50 per family.

## **Coming soon . . . Yoga!**

Improve your flexibility and your general health through the new yoga program, coming soon to the Mooretown Sports Complex. Call the number below to register.

## **Are you organizing arena floor activities?**

Anyone interested in starting a children's, men's or women's ball hockey, inline hockey or lacrosse league should call the Mooretown Sports Complex. Names are now being taken so that league organization can begin. Call the complex at the number listed below for more information and available floor times.

## **Summer ice not available**

The Mooretown Sports Complex **will not** offer summer ice this year.

## **Moore Skate Club carnival**

The Moore Skate Club will host its annual skate carnival on Saturday, April 13 with shows planned for 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Check [www.moorebateclub.ca](http://www.moorebateclub.ca) for more information.

**For more information, call the Mooretown Sports Complex at 519-867-2651.**

## **Are you prepared for emergencies?**

Do you and your family have a plan to help you survive unassisted for at least 72 hours in case of a natural or man-made disaster? If you haven't got an emergency plan and the supplies you'll require to carry it out, there are resources you can access to help you prepare.

If you have access to the Internet, help is available online at [www.GetPrepared.ca](http://www.GetPrepared.ca) or by calling 1-800-622-6232. In Corunna, guide books and information are available at the St. Clair Emergency Services Building at the corner of Hill and Lyndoch Streets.

***Be prepared. Make a plan you can live with.***

## **Golf days are on the way**

Polish up your clubs, line up your golfing buddies and get ready for golfing season. The opening announcement for the St. Clair Parkway Golf Course will be listed online at: [www.stclairparkwaygolf.ca](http://www.stclairparkwaygolf.ca)



# More Around The Township

## From page 8

dinner is a joint effort of St. Joseph-St. Charles Catholic Parish and All Saints Anglican Church. The cost is \$16 per adult, \$7 per child under eight years old, and admission is by advance tickets only. For tickets, call Jay at 519-862-3741, Nancy at 519-481-0337, Charlotte at 519-344-8823, or Brian at 519-862-1044.

### Easter brunch at Brigden fairgrounds

Enjoy Easter brunch with family and friends at the Brigden fairgrounds exhibition hall on Easter Sunday, March 31. Seating will take place from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. For tickets, call the Brigden fairgrounds office at 519-864-1197.

### Moore Skating Club ice show slated

The 40th Anniversary Moore Skating Club ice show is slated for Saturday, April 13, with two shows planned for 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Tickets will be available at the Mooretown Sports Complex beginning in March on Tuesday and Friday evenings from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.

### Med Outreach fundraisers planned

The Corunna United Church will host two fundraisers in support of the *Med Outreach Program*. Money raised will help support the team of University of Western Ontario medical students, including doctors, nurses and dentists, who travel to Tanzania to provide medical care for suffering people there. The first event is set for Saturday, April 20, when a garage sale will be held at the church on Hill Street. Items for the sale will be gratefully accepted. The second event on Sunday, April 28 will be a ham dinner featuring homemade pies, with a silent auction and entertainment provided by Mr. Pedro Quintina, a gifted pianist who is also the Director of Music at Strathroy United Church. The cost for dinner and entertainment will be \$20 per person, advanced tickets only. Admission for the entertainment only will be \$10 at the door. For tickets, please contact Brenda Lucas at 519-344-8626.

### LEO offers 55 *Alive* driver refresher course

Lambton Elderly Outreach (LEO) will offer the 55 *Alive* driver refresher course beginning in mid-April, with the firm date and location within Lambton County to be announced. The cost will be \$30 per person and will include a workbook. Registration is required and adults 55 and over are encouraged to refresh their driving skills by attending. For more information or to register, call Kyrah at 519-845-1353.



### Bluewater Sharks weekend hockey tournament

The Bluewater Sharks Adult Recreational Weekend Hockey Tournament is slated for April 19-21 at the RBC Centre in Sarnia. The tournament has two recreational men's divisions - men ages 19 and over, and men ages 35 and over - plus a women's 18 and over division. For more information contact Ed Marcy at 519-344-8624 (email [emarcy@sympatico.ca](mailto:emarcy@sympatico.ca)) or Lance Marcy at 519-344-2205 (email [lmarcy@cogeco.ca](mailto:lmarcy@cogeco.ca)). Applications are available online at: [www.bluewatersharkshockey.com](http://www.bluewatersharkshockey.com).

### Parish breakfast in Port Lambton

Sacred Heart Parish in Port Lambton will hold a parish breakfast from 10 a.m. to noon on April 28. The breakfast includes eggs made to order, bacon, ham, sausage, pancakes, toast, juice, coffee or tea. The cost is \$7 per adult, \$3.50 for children ages 12 and under, and free for children under the age of five. This event is sponsored by the Knights of Columbus Father Joseph P. Nelligan Council No. 10873.

### Forever Fit classes offered

Forever Fit classes, sponsored by Lambton Elderly Outreach (LEO),

are held in Sombra and Corunna each week. In Sombra, the classes are held Tuesdays and Thursdays at 10 a.m. at the Sombra Community Hall. In Corunna, classes are held Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 9:30 a.m. at Thompson Gardens, 198 Beckwith Street. These classes will be offered until early May. For more information, call LEO toll-free at 1-800-265-0203.

### Seniors luncheons offered in Corunna and Port Lambton

Lambton Elderly Outreach (LEO) is sponsoring an on-going series of seniors lunches in Corunna and Port Lambton throughout the winter. In Corunna, the lunches are held the third Wednesday of each month at the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 447 hall, with doors open at 11:30 a.m. In Port Lambton, the lunches are held at the Community Hall on Stoddard Street with doors open at 11:30 a.m. Both events feature a speaker or entertainer. These lunches will be held until June. For more information, call LEO toll-free at 1-800-265-0203.

### Indoor walking and fitness in Brigden

Let it snow outside and still enjoy your walking and fitness routine by going to the Brigden fairgrounds exhibition hall every Tuesday and Thursday morning from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Indoor shoes are required for this activity. For more information or to register for the program, call 519-344-3017, ext. 237. This program is sponsored by the West Lambton Health Centre, the Moore Agricultural Society, and Ontario's Community Health Centres.

### Corunna coffee club meets at Thompson Gardens

The Corunna Coffee Club meets at Thompson Gardens Monday to Saturday at 9 a.m. The club is open to everyone.

### Mark your calendar...

### Corunna Arts and Crafts sale

The annual St. Clair Arts and Crafts show is slated for the Corunna Athletic Park on Hill Street on Sunday, May 26 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The Moore Flags Community Group is organizing this fundraiser to help support local sports organizations. **Interested vendors** are now being registered. Get more information or reserve your spot today by calling Bob Barnes at 519-867-2136 or emailing: [barnesrd@sympatico.ca](mailto:barnesrd@sympatico.ca). Craft vendor forms and further information are also available at [www.stclairartsandcrafts.com](http://www.stclairartsandcrafts.com).

### Think Spring at Moore Museum

Think Spring by marking your calendar now so you won't miss the Moore Museum's annual Victorian Tea on Sunday, May 19 from 1:30 p.m. to 4 p.m. Enjoy time with family and friends over scrumptious home-baked scones, tea, coffee and juice, in the charming Victorian cottage located on the museum site in Mooretown. And while you're there, enjoy touring the other 12 historic and exhibit buildings on the site. Admission is \$6.50 per adult, \$2.50 per child and \$1.50 per preschooler. And later this year, look for news of the grand opening of the general store and the Lionel model train exhibit, as well as the always popular Downriver Craft Sale on Sunday, Sept. 15.

### Brigden Public School 50th Anniversary Celebration

2013 marks the 50th anniversary of the Brigden Public School and a celebration is planned for Nov. 23. See **Community Contact**, page 6, for more information.

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If you have a non-profit or charity event or activity coming up in St. Clair Township, or if the event will benefit the residents of the township, promote it free of charge in *The Beacon*. The deadline for submissions is the third Monday of every month by 4 p.m.

Email: [beacon@twp.stclair.on.ca](mailto:beacon@twp.stclair.on.ca)

# Around The Township

## World Day of Prayer in Mooretown

The host for this year's local ecumenical World Day of Prayer on Friday, March 1 is St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, 94 St. James Street in Mooretown. The theme of worship is "I was a stranger and you welcomed me." Refreshments follow the service.

## Corunna Minor Baseball registration dates

The Corunna Minor Baseball organization will hold registration on the following dates: Saturday, March 2, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Corunna firehall; Wednesday, March 20, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Corunna firehall; Saturday, March 23, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Mooretown Sports Complex.

## Luncheon/card parties continue

The Mayflower Rebekah Lodge will host a series of luncheon and card parties at Thompson Gardens, 198 Beckwith Street in Corunna at noon on the following Mondays: March 4; March 25; April 22; and May 27. Everyone is welcome.

## Stew supper planned in Wilkesport

The Wilkesport United Church Women (U.C.W.) will host a stew supper at the church on Thursday, March 7 from 4:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. Everyone is welcome and admission is by free will donation. Proceeds will help support U.C.W. projects.

## Euchre parties planned for Sombra

A series of euchre parties are planned for the Sombra Community Centre on Fridays at 1 p.m. on the following dates: March 8, 15 and 22; April 5, 12, 19 and 26. All are welcome.

## Farmers & Friends Big Buck day in Brigden

The Farmers and Friends Big Buck day will be held at the Brigden fairgrounds exhibition hall on Saturday, March 9 with doors open at 10 a.m. and closed at 4 p.m. Admission is \$5 per person and tickets are available for the dinner and auction. For more information, call Tracey at 519-864-1156.

## Kids Craft Classes in Port Lambton

The Sombra Township Optimist Club is sponsoring a free Kids Crafts Class for children ages five through 11. The classes are slated for the Port Lambton Community Hall, Stoddard Street in Port Lambton, on Saturdays, March 9, and April 13 from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. To register, call Louise at 519-892-3459 or email: [lekreek@gmail.com](mailto:lekreek@gmail.com).

## Sunday Breakfasts at St. Joseph's Parish

St. Joseph's Parish Centre on Lyndoch Street in Corunna continues to host its popular Sunday breakfasts. The breakfasts are open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the following dates: March 10; April 7; and May 5. The breakfasts feature pancakes, sausage, bacon, ham, eggs, home fries, rolls, orange juice, coffee and tea at a cost of \$7 per adult, \$3 for children ages six through 12, and free for children under six. Take-out orders are available from 8:30 a.m. Call 519-862-1213, ext. 28.

## Jam sessions continue at Corunna Legion

A series of open jam sessions is currently being held at the Royal Canadian Legion Corunna Branch 447 hall at the intersection of Albert and Beckwith Streets. The sessions are slated for the last Saturday of each month beginning at 3 p.m. on the following dates: March 30; April 27; and May 25. Everyone is invited to attend and join in with an instrument or their voice, or just sit and listen to the great tunes. Food is available during these events. For timely information from the Corunna Legion, go online to: [www.corunna.ca/legion/](http://www.corunna.ca/legion/).

## Shamrock Country Jamboree in Brigden

You don't have to be Irish to enjoy the Shamrock Country Jamboree slated for the Brigden fairgrounds exhibition hall on Sunday, March 10 begin-

ning at 1 p.m. Musicians are always welcome to bring an instrument or vocalize during the jamboree. Admission to the jamboree is \$2 per person and a cash bar is available. A ham and scalloped potato meal is offered at 5 p.m. but there are limited tickets for the dinner. They are sold at the door, so come early to be sure there will be one left for you. For more information, call the fair office at 519-864-1197 or go online to [www.brigdenfair.ca](http://www.brigdenfair.ca).

## St. Patrick's Day party in Port Lambton

Party to the rockin' sounds of *84 Special* at the St. Patrick's Day party planned for the Port Lambton Community Hall on Saturday, March 16 at 8 p.m. Admission is \$5 per person at the door and proceeds will benefit the Port Lambton Athletic Association.



## Lady Martha Rebekah Lodge to host events

Lady Martha Rebekah Lodge of Brigden will host a St. Patrick's Day hot luncheon on Tuesday, March 19 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Brigden Optimist Hall on Main Street. The cost is \$10 per person and everyone is welcome. And on Tuesday, April 2, the lodge will host a noon luncheon and card party beginning at noon in the Brigden Optimist Hall.

## Optimist Oratorical Contest planned

The annual Moore Optimist Oratorical Contest is slated for Thursday, March 21 at 7 p.m. at the Courtright Community Hall. The contest is open to students under the age of 18 who haven't yet graduated high school. There is no minimum age. The topic of this year's contest is *Why My Voice Is Important*. The winner of the club contest will receive \$100 and will go on to the regional contest in Courtright on April 6. The top six winners there will progress to the district contest in Point Edward on April 27, where the winner will receive a \$2,500 scholarship. Entry forms are available by calling Tracy Kingston at 519-862-1193 or 519-312-3747 or by going online to: [www.mooreop.com](http://www.mooreop.com). The deadline for entry submissions is March 15.

## Ham bingo at Corunna Legion

The Royal Canadian Legion Corunna Branch 447 will host a ham bingo on Wednesday, March 20 starting at 7 p.m. The evening will feature door prizes. The cost will be three cards for \$15 and there will be 25 games plus one special game with three prizes. The grand prize will be 650 Lambton Mall Bucks. Food and refreshments will be available. For more information, call the Legion at 519-867-1240.

## Homecraft MAS beef dinner set

The Moore Agricultural Society's annual Homecraft beef dinner will be held on Sunday, March 24 from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. The cost is \$15 per adult, \$6 per child aged six through 10, and free for children aged five and under. Tickets are available in advance only through a Homecraft member, MAS director, or at the Brigden fairgrounds office at 519-864-1197.

## Sombra Museum to hold final winter lecture

The winter lecture series at the Sombra Museum will wrap up on Tuesday, March 26 with guest speaker Jim Clary presenting *The Storm of 1913*. Hear the story of a devastating storm that sent many ships to the bottom of the Great Lakes and took many lives. The cost is \$10 per adult or \$7 per student. This lecture will be presented in the Sombra Museum Cultural Centre meeting room, 3476 St. Clair Parkway in Sombra village. To purchase tickets or obtain more information, call 519-892-3982 or email: [sombra-museum@hotmail.com](mailto:sombra-museum@hotmail.com). You can also access Facebook at: [facebook.com/SombraMuseum](https://www.facebook.com/SombraMuseum).

## Pickrel dinner set for Corunna

A pickrel dinner is slated for Good Friday, March 29 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the St. Joseph Parish Centre on Lyndoch Street in Corunna. This