



The St. Clair Township
BEACON

Please support
your local
Christmas
hamper program.

Issue 12

Volume 6

December 2013

We wish you a
Joyous Christmas
and a
Happy New Year
St. Clair Township Council and Staff

Early deadline!

The deadline for submissions to the January, 2014 issue of *The Beacon* will be **Monday, Dec. 9 by 4 p.m.**

This change has been made to allow for Christmas and New Year holiday disruptions to *The Beacon's* normal publication schedule.

Lambton G.S. presents quilt to Moore Museum



A unique commemorative quilt was presented to the Moore Museum by Lambton Generating Station employees and retirees on Oct. 29. The quilt's creators used t-shirt graphics that had been produced to commemorate significant events from the station's history, as well as photographs of the site. The quilt legacy idea began when some talented Lambton Generating Station employees created a quilt to be auctioned off for charity. The quilt was designed to depict the development and activities of the station and its employees as a way of marking the plants imminent closure. Several employees felt that such a quilt would be an appropriate permanent memento of the station's history and importance to the community, so a second quilt was assembled by station employees Rosemary McGee and Debbie Paisley.

On hand for the Lambton Generating Station commemorative quilt presentation were, from left: Moore Museum Advisory Committee Chair Jim Townsend; L.G.S. employee Sylvia Firth; L.G.S. retiree Rosemary McGee; L.G.S. employee Debbie Paisley; and St. Clair Township Mayor Steve Arnold.

Photo submitted

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Contact The Beacon at:
beacon@twp.stclair.on.ca

No matter where you are, read *The Beacon* online at:
www.twp.stclair.on.ca - click on "Beacon"



Municipal Notes

Municipal office holiday hours



St. Clair Township municipal office holiday hours will take effect on Tuesday, Dec. 24 when the office closes at noon. It will reopen on Friday, Dec. 27 with normal hours of operation. The office will close again on Tuesday, Dec. 31 at noon and will reopen again on Thursday, Jan. 2 with normal hours of operation.



Notice of 2014 Capital Budget Meeting

The St. Clair Township 2014 Capital Budget presentation and deliberation meeting will be held on Thursday, Dec. 5, 2013 in the Council Chambers at the St. Clair Township Civic Centre, 1155 Emily Street in Mooretown. The meeting will begin at 5 p.m. and it is open to the public. All ratepayers are welcome to attend.



Sewer main flushing underway

The St. Clair Township Public Works Department continues to flush all sewer mains connected to the township sewer system during the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. During this maintenance procedure, residents may notice some gurgling noise in the drains. If this condition persists after 24 to 48 hours of normal use, please notify Public Works at 519-867-2993.

St. Clair Township Operations



Hydrant flushing underway

St. Clair Township residents should be advised that the Public Works Department will continue the annual flushing of all fire hydrants connected to the St. Clair Township water system during the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. The flushing may cause discoloration when residents use taps, flush toilets, do laundry, etc. as some sediment may be drawn into the residence. It is recommended that the cold water tap be allowed to run for a few minutes or until discoloration disappears. If discoloration continues after 10 to 15 minutes of normal use, please notify Public Works at 519-867-2993.

St. Clair Township Operations

TOWNSHIP INFORMATION AVAILABLE ONLINE

For the latest information about St. Clair Township, its departments and associated services, go online to:

www.twp.stclair.on.ca



Council meeting schedule

Meetings of St. Clair Township Council are held every first and third Monday of the month (unless otherwise stated) at the St. Clair Township Civic Centre, 1155 Emily Street in Mooretown. December meetings are slated for Monday, Dec. 2 at 6:30 p.m. and Monday, Dec. 18 at 5 p.m. (following the Committee of the Whole meeting at 3 p.m.) Anyone wishing to address council should call the municipal office at 519-867-2021 for more information.

County partners will 211 Ontario for emergency info

This area has seen its share of emergency situations, both man-made and natural, and at times like that, information is key to knowing how to respond.

The County of Lambton is now partnering with *211 Ontario*, an agency that will answer telephone calls from residents seeking such information 24 hours a day all year long and in 175 languages. Since 2011, the agency has been providing community and social service information for the county, but emergency management officials say the expanded service may take the burden off the better known emergency sources. "It's hoped that the public will be less inclined to call 911 looking for information, thereby keeping 911 lines open for those calling for assistance or reporting an emergency," said Mark Wetering, Emergency Management Coordinator for Lambton County.

In a media release issued by Lambton County it was noted that 211 is NOT a public notification system or tip line. If an emergency arises, residents will be told by existing emergency sources such as local news media that calling 211 is an additional means of getting official information and instructions. The 211 line may be activated if a large-scale disaster hits the area like it did during the Highway 402 snowstorm emergency, better known as *Snowmagedon*, or following a widespread power outage during extremely hot or cold weather.

For more information about 211 Ontario services and the role of 211 during major local emergencies, go online to: www.lambtononline.ca, or www.211ontario.ca. Inquiries can also be made by calling 519-845-0801 or toll-free at 1-866-324-6912.

Winter parking by-law in effect Dec. 1

The Winter overnight parking by-law takes effect on Dec. 1. Motorists are advised that it is against the law to leave vehicles parked on public streets and roads overnight. This allows snow plow crews to do their job effectively without having to dodge parked cars.

Property owners are also reminded that shoveling snow into the streets is also unlawful. The snow piles create dangerous obstacles that can contribute to automobile collisions.





On behalf of all of us on St. Clair Township Council and of our hard-working municipal Staff, I would like to wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas and a Safe and Prosperous New Year. It seems hardly possible that another year has passed. It's been a busy time with many projects completed, many pressing issues discussed during meetings with Federal and Provincial representatives, and many great events spearheaded by our dedicated community volunteers. We have good reason to be proud of everyone in this municipality who works so hard to make it a great place to work, live and raise a family.

As we look forward to 2014, we hope that the people of St. Clair Township will continue to join us in the process of building a strong community that we and our children can enjoy and be proud of now and in the future.

*Once again, Merry Christmas.
Mayor Steve Arnold*

Wilkesport Community Centre splash pad/sports pad funding repaid in full



A happy Chuck Lauwereys, chair of the Wilkesport Community Centre Board, completes the splash pad fundraising thermometer thanks to a donation from Enbridge Gas Distribution, Inc.

The final installment of the funding borrowed from St. Clair Township to complete the new Wilkesport splash pad and concrete sports pad was presented to council during its Nov. 18 meeting. The Wilkesport Community Centre Board was given five years to repay the \$148,000 loan from the township, but managed to do it in only about 16 months after receiving a generous \$8,000 donation from Enbridge Gas Distribution, Inc. The township contributed the other half of the total project cost.



Presenting the \$73,634.67 final installment of the splash pad funding to Mayor Steve Arnold are, from left: Wilkesport Community Centre representatives Mary Lou Denning (treasurer); Betty Lauwereys (banquet convenor); Chuck Lauwereys (chair of the Wilkesport Community Centre board).



St. Clair Township Holiday Waste Collection Schedule

The Township of St. Clair waste collection schedule will alter over the Christmas/New Year holiday season. The temporary collection schedule will be in effect as follows:

Regular Wednesday garbage collection for Corunna, including the Froomfield area, as well as the St. Clair Parkway north of Emily Street in Mooretown, will move ahead by one day: Wednesday, Dec. 25 collection will move ahead to Thursday, Dec. 26 and Wednesday, Jan. 1 collection will move ahead to Thursday, Jan. 2.

Regular recycling collection will move ahead one day as follows:

Residents whose recycling day falls on Wednesday, Dec. 25 will recycle on Thursday, Dec. 26; Thursday, Dec. 26 collection will be done on Friday, Dec. 27; and Friday, Dec. 27 collection will be done on Saturday, Dec. 28. Over the New Year period, Wednesday, Jan. 1 collection will be done on Thursday, Jan. 2; Jan. 2 collection will be done on Friday, Jan. 3; and Jan. 3 collection will be done on Saturday, Jan. 4.

Please note: The regular 6 item limit will apply to garbage collection during this time.

For further information call:

St. Clair Township Public Works Department at 519-867-2125 or

Visit the Public Works Website at: www.twp.stclair.on.ca

Holiday fun awaits at the Mooretown Sports Complex (MSC)

Lots of fun and healthy activity awaits the whole family this holiday season as the Mooretown Sports Complex announces its holiday schedule.

Tim Horton's sponsors free public skate

Enjoy free public skating over the holidays courtesy of Tim Horton's Café and Bake Shop. These skates are slated for: Monday, Dec. 23 from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.; Friday, Dec. 27 from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.; and Monday, Dec. 30 from 1 p.m. to 2:45 p.m.

Public skates available during holidays

Public skates will be held during the holiday season from 1 p.m. to 2:15 p.m. at a cost of \$2.25 per child, \$3.25 per adult, or \$6.50 per family.

Recreational/Adult swims

Recreational/adults swims are slated for Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from noon to 1 p.m.; and Tuesday and Thursday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Recreational swims

Recreational swims are planned for Friday from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.; and Sunday from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Adult swims

Adults swims are set for Monday through Friday from 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.; and Sunday from 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Fitness centre special

The MSC Fitness Centre four-month special of \$130 will give you access to the fitness centre, swimming pool, sauna, whirlpool, stretch and strengthen classes, and water aerobics classes. Don't miss this great opportunity to greet the summer of 2014 feeling and looking healthy and fit.

Winter swimming lessons

Register now for winter swimming lessons. Lessons begin the week of Jan. 6, 2014.

2014 Juvenile Silver Stick tourney

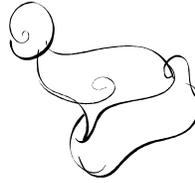
The Mooretown Sports Complex is proud to host the 41st Annual Mooretown Juvenile International Silver Stick Finals on Jan. 9 through 12. **See page 12 for more information.**

Shinny hockey continues

Adult shinny hockey is played every Tuesday morning from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. beginning Tuesday, Oct. 1. The cost is \$5 per person.

Holiday hours of operation

The complex will close Tuesday, Dec. 24 at noon and re-open on Friday, Dec. 27 with normal hours of operation. The complex will close again on Tuesday, Dec. 31 at noon and re-open on Thursday, Jan. 2 with normal hours of operation. For information, go online to: www.twp.stclair.on.ca/brochure.htm For more information or to register for a program listed above, call the Mooretown Sports Complex at 519-867-2651.



The staff of the Mooretown Sports Complex wishes everyone a safe, happy, healthy Christmas season.

MSC thanks Moore Optimist Club for support

The Moore Optimist Club has continued to offer its support to programs being offered by the Mooretown Sports Complex in 2013. This year, a total of 272 St. Clair Township Grade 3 students took part in the Lifesaving Society *Swim To Survive* program, which was made possible thanks to a grant from the Lifesaving Society. However, transportation for the Corunna students was funded by support from the Moore Optimist Club.

This age-appropriate *Swim To Survive* program involves basic swimming skills and important self-rescue and lifesaving skills. Basic swimming ability is a fundamental requirement for the youth of St. Clair Township who live so close to the water.

Thank you to the Moore Optimist Club for its ongoing support for the youth of St. Clair Township.

Storm Novice Rep shows championship form



The Mooretown Storm Novice Rep showed championship form and won top honours at their home tournament on Nov. 10. They defeated the Wallaceburg Jr. Lakers in the final by a score of 3-1. The team includes: Jackson Joseph, Vincent Krohn, Carter MacLean, Jake MacLean, Luke Doan, Trevor Anderson, Jordan Muir, Bo Doxtator, Casey Schouten, Lleyton Ticknor, Tyler Coene, Casyn Foster, Chase MacDonald, Riley Gray, Carter Foster, and Jaxon Priddle. Coaches include: Jeff MacLean, Tom Foster, Jeremy Doxtator, and Casey Schouten.

Photo submitted

Mooretown Flags Jr. C team provide local Winter hockey excitement

Don't miss a moment of hockey excitement as the Mooretown Flags Jr. C team enters its 2013-2014 season.

The team will play home games at the Mooretown Sports Complex on the following dates: Dec. 7 (Essex) 7:30 p.m.; Dec. 21 (Alvinston) 7:30 p.m.; Dec. 28 (Dresden) 7:30 p.m.; Jan. 4 (Amherstburg) 7:30 p.m.; Jan. 8 (Belle River) 8 p.m.; Jan. 18 (Blenheim) 7:30 p.m.; Jan. 25 (Wallaceburg) 7:30 p.m.; Feb. 1 (Amherstburg) 7:30 p.m.

The team's away schedule is as follows: Dec. 2 at Wheat-

ley, 7:30 p.m.; Dec. 8 at Blenheim, 7:30 p.m.; Dec. 13 at Belle River, 7:30 p.m.; Dec. 15 at Amherstburg, 7:30 p.m.; Dec. 20 at Belle River, 7:30 p.m.; Jan. 11 at Alvinston, 7:30 p.m.; Jan. 15 at Wallaceburg, 7:30 p.m.; Jan. 17 at Dresden, 7:30 p.m.; Jan. 21 at Essex, 7:15 p.m.; Jan. 24 at Alvinston, 7:30 p.m.

The Mooretown Flags are entering their 42nd year in the Great Lakes Jr. C. Hockey League.

For more information about Mooretown Minor Hockey, go online to: www.mooretownminorhockey.com.

Our Community in Action



NOVA's generous donation to the St. Clair Bike Trail was a cause for celebration during the cheque presentation. On hand for the happy event were, from left: St. Clair Township CAO John Rodey; St. Clair Township Councillor Steve Miller and Mayor Steve Arnold; NOVA Regional Manufacturing Director Tom Thompson; Tracy Tiernay, NOVA Human Resources-Communications and Community Relations; and NOVA Director of Human Resources Consulting Rob Thompson.

Photo submitted

NOVA donation will help make cycling safer

Bicycles are gaining popularity as an alternate form of transportation and with the significant increase in bicycle traffic comes an increase in bicycle safety issues.

The St. Clair Bike Trail is being developed to ensure that cyclists have a safe place to ride and NOVA Chemicals has taken notice of the need for such a trail. NOVA recently made a donation of \$75,000 toward the trail's development. Of the donation, NOVA's Regional Manufacturing Director Tom Thompson says, "We are proud to live and work in a community that actively supports improving the bike trails in the area to ensure cyclists have a safe place to ride...We hope our recent donation of \$75,000 towards the St. Clair Bike Trail project will benefit the community and help keep our cyclists safe."

Mayor Steve Arnold expressed gratitude for NOVA's generous, community-minded donation during the recent cheque presentation.

NOVA has also contributed to bicycle paths across Lambton County including Bluewater Trails and Wyoming Trails.

Union Gas donates to conservation and safety program

The St. Clair Region Conservation Authority's (SCRCA) *Spring Water Awareness* program is an important tool for teaching children awareness for the power of water, especially during the annual spring thaw.

A recent \$5,000 donation by Union Gas will support the conservation education staff that visits schools in Lambton County, Middlesex County, and Chatham-Kent to teach students from Kindergarten through Grade 6 about the dangers of being close to the edge of swelling streams, creeks, and rivers during the spring thaw. The program will also tie in to the provincial science curriculum for each grade level, teaching students about the rich aquatic life in local rivers and streams.

David Lamoureux, director of storage and transmission operation for Union Gas, said, "As a company, our focus on safety doesn't end with the workday. We believe in investing in programs that will help make our communities safer 24/7...Based on the success of this project, Union Gas is pleased to continue its support of this valuable and potentially life-saving program."

Mayor Steve Arnold, who is also chair of the SCRCA, acknowledges the importance of the SCRCA program, knowing all too well the impact past tragedies involving children lost to swiftly flowing watercourses have had on the community. "We are very pleased with our partnership with Union Gas," he said. "These funds will be a great help in advancing our efforts to teach school children in the region about the importance of being safe around watercourses, and of the



Getting a feel for how shocking it would be to fall into icy water are, from the left: Chris Young, administration manager, STO, Union Gas Limited; Grade 3 student Kerian; Mayor Steve Arnold, SCRCA Chair; Grade 3 student Owen; Dave Lamoureux, director of storage and transmission operations for Union Gas.

Photo submitted

importance for all of us to continue to strive for healthy watersheds."

Community Contact

Safety Village thanks fundraisers

The Lambton Children's Safety Village Committee would like to extend thanks to the Mooretown Flags and the Sarnia Legionaires hockey teams for holding pail drop fundraisers during recent games. The teams' support and community spirit has provided encouragement and helped further the safety village project. Thanks to events such as these, the children of Lambton County will be provided with the knowledge and skills they need to stay safe in a multitude of risky or dangerous situations.

Moore Skate Club raffles now in progress

Moore Skate Club raffle tickets are now being sold for Saige, the American Girl Doll of the Year 2013. Tickets are \$5 each or \$10 for three and can be purchased by emailing: mscfundraising@gmail.com. A Pandora Bangle Bracelet with three charms is also being raffled off at \$5 each or \$10 for three. The draw will be held Friday, Dec. 20 and proceeds go to the Moore Skate Club.

Weight loss group TOPS Corunna meets weekly

TOPS Corunna 5056 branch is a non-profit weight-loss group that meets every Tuesday at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church on Colborne Street in Corunna. Weigh-in is at 6:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. with a short meeting at 7 p.m. Drop in for a meeting or call 519-862-2185 or 519-862-4119. Everyone is welcome.

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 and the playing season begins on the first weekend of October. The first two weeks of play are free. To participate or for more information, call Karen or Jim McNeil at 519-862-4756.

An Old-Fashioned Christmas can be found at Moore Museum

This popular school program will be presented at the Moore Museum from Nov. 25 to Dec. 19. Teachers and children's group leaders are encouraged to give their kids the fun and wonder that can be found in *An Old-Fashioned Christmas*.

Sombra farm stories are the subject of new book

Sombra Farms, Volume One, is now available for purchase at the Sombra Museum. The book documents 17 family stories about the early days of farming in Sombra Township. To contact the Sombra Museum about this book, call 519-892-3982.

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.

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.

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. From yard work to minor household repair, house cleaning to snow removal, even shopping, a wide variety of services are offered at a reasonable cost. For more information, call the LSA at 519-339-8866 or 1-800-219-4717.

MADD Sarnia/Lambton mounts 2013 Christmas campaign

MADD Sarnia/Lambton's 2013 Red Ribbon campaign began on Nov. 2 with the dedication of 200 white crosses located at the corner of Michigan Avenue and St. Clair Street in Point Edward. The crosses symbolize those who have lost their lives due to impaired driving. The statistics regarding impaired driving are chilling. Every year in Canada, between 1,250 and 1,500 people are killed and more than 63,000 are injured in impairment-related crashes, and it seems there are still many irresponsible motorists who are willing to drink and drive. The Lambton OPP report that, between Jan. 1 and Oct. 1 of this year, 78 impaired driving charges had already been laid within Lambton County.

In an effort to raise funds for public awareness and education programs, MADD Sarnia/Lambton held its fifth annual Voluntary Toll event on Nov. 16. Sixty students, police and MADD members collected the tolls in Corunna, Petrolia, Wyoming and Sarnia, garnering \$12,200.

A new MADD school program being debuted this year is an assembly program featuring a new film called *Smashed*. The film shows students how quickly one person's decision can cause a situation to spin out of control. MADD Canada expects about one million students from Grades 7 through 12 to see the presentation with the hope that it will prompt them to give serious thought to the subject of impaired driving.

This season, when you get behind the wheel of your car, make sure you aren't one of those foolish people who think they can drive safely with alcohol in their system. Each white cross at the intersection of Michigan Avenue and St. Clair Street in Point Edward is a reminder that someone died or caused death while under the same dangerous delusion. For more information, go to: www.madd.ca/sarnialambton

Lambton County Local Food Game online

Lambton County has begun the implementation of its new Integrated Community Sustainability Plan with the production of an online community engagement game, *Lambton Eats Locally*. The game can be found at: https://communityplanit.org/lambton_eats_local/

The game is also available through the County's Website: www.lambtononline.ca - click on "Government" - then click on the "Sustainable Lambton" tab.



HERITAGE CORNER



Great Storm of 1913 still horrifies after 100 years

With files from the Moore Museum

The gales that pummeled the Great Lakes in November, 1913, are now known collectively as the *Great Storm of 1913*. After 100 years, this chilling example of Mother Nature's fury still has the power to horrify. A display commemorating the 100th anniversary of the four-day storm and its destruction is now open at the Moore Museum Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The storm has other names, like the *Witch of November* and the *White Hurricane*, but no matter how fanciful a name you give it, the Great Storm of 1913 was a merciless killer that took 12 steel-hulled freighters to the bottom of the Great Lakes,



Many of the dead washed ashore on the beaches of Lake Huron.

Moore Museum photo archives

most in Lake Huron, with all hands. Of the 253 sailors who are known to have died, only 25 per cent of their bodies were ever recovered. The crew of one ship were discovered lashed to the mast and frozen to death. Inland, numerous other lives were lost. In addition, 31 other cargo ships and barges were disabled.

In the days that followed, it is recorded that farmers would come to the shore each day to recover bodies from the sand and snow.

Reports of the weather that caused the incredible loss of life indicate that, at the height of the storm on Nov. 9, winds gusted to 70 miles per hour with waves cresting at 35 feet, 10 feet higher than a telephone

Moore Museum gratefully acknowledges community support

In 2013, Moore Museum continued its *adopt-a-project* program and these projects have received financial support from many community-minded organizations, industries and individuals. Moore Museum gratefully acknowledges their support.

Continued work on development of model train room: Lambton Creative County Fund; Imperial Oil Foundation; CN Railroaders in the community; Watson TIM-BR Mart; George Chase.

New picnic tables for museum site: Optimist Club of Moore; NOVA Chemicals (Canada) Ltd.

Education program improvements that add to the demonstrations and hands-on activities that provide lifelong learning experiences for visitors: OPG Lambton Generating Station.

Finishing touches and final work on the installation of displays in new general store: Ruby Bailey.

Purchase of a new display case to showcase and protect antique farm equipment miniatures at a child-friendly height: Moore Community & Recreational Foundation.

Storage room improvements (this area protects artefacts from light and handling while not on display): Optimist Club of Brigden.

The following donors contributed to the 2013 capital project and operating costs, including creating new exhibits, preserving artefacts, maintaining buildings and offering interesting programs:

Chemfab Industries Inc.; LANX-ESS Inc.; Preferred Towing; Bruce and Margaret MacPherson; Eleanor Vargo; Mayflower Rebekah Lodge #324; Earle and Joanne Clysdale; Theresa M.G. Crowell; Lady Martha Rebekah Lodge #245; Leopold Lodge #397; Huron Baptist Church Primetimers; Allan and Carole Nickels; Donald Dawson; Sally Townsend; Geraldine Phair.

Decorated Sombra airman operated general store

The recent observation of Remembrance Day gave us a chance to honour those who served in the defence of their country. One of our local heroes, Flight Lieutenant (F/L) Warren Hargrove of Sombra, not only served with distinction during World War II, he returned home safe and sound to continue serving his community as part of his family's business.



F/L Warren Hargrove is shown here with his father, William, right, and general store partner Charlie Doan.
Photo submitted

F/L Hargrove, born in Sombra in 1912, served as an observer with No. 410 Squadron of the RCAF as part of a two-man crew that participated in many sorties. In October, 1944, he and his crewmate, F/L Benjamin Plumer, were engaged with an enemy fighter near Venlo when their starboard engine was hit and caught fire. F/L Hargrove kept a cool head and successfully fought to extinguish the blaze while F/L Plumer continued the battle.

Their efforts resulted in the destruction of the enemy aircraft and a safe landing at the battle's conclusion. They both received the Distinguished Flying Cross, an award that acknowledged their courage and resourcefulness under fire. The London Gazette noted the award was effective as of Dec. 15, 1944.

The Hargrove family, along with partner Charlie Doan, operated the Red and White General Store in Sombra. Warren eventually became sole proprietor of the business and operated it until he retired in 1984. The building burned in 1992 and the property it had been located on is now the site of the Sombra Museum Cultural Centre and the General Store Park.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year



From the Moore Museum volunteers and staff

Christmas postcard - Pond Hockey - 1911

From the Sombra Museum volunteers and staff

Homecraft quilt winner

The Brigden Fair Homecraft ladies popular annual quilt raffle fundraiser was won by Joyce Corry of Samia. *Thank you to everyone who bought a ticket. Remember, there's always next year.*

Information sessions offered by Rapids Family Health Team

The following information sessions are offered at the Rapids Family Health Team clinic at 233 Cameron Street in Corunna. There is no charge for participation and sessions are open to anyone living in St. Clair Township. However, registration is required and space is limited. If a space is not available in the session you wish to attend, you will be placed on a list to attend a future session. For more information or to register, call 519-813-9800.

For more information on upcoming sessions or to register for any of them, call 519-813-9800 to speak to reception.

Holiday hours of operation

The 233 Cameron Street office will be closed for the holidays starting Monday, Dec. 23 until Wednesday, Jan. 1, 2014. Regular business hours will resume on Thursday, Jan. 2 at 7:30 a.m.



Living with Diabetes

This two-hour session, slated for Tuesday, Dec. 10 from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., will provide a general overview of diabetes. The session will cover some of the most common myths about diabetes, what "good control" is, and some of the things you can do to manage your diabetes. The session is led by a diabetes educator.

Diabetes: Healthy Eating and Physical Activity

This two-hour session will be held on Tuesday, Dec. 17 from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. for people who have already attended our *Living With Diabetes* class or who have had past education on the basics of diabetes and want more information on diet. The session will cover the basics of healthy eating, what types of food affect your blood sugar levels, reading food labels, when and how much to eat, and how to increase your physical activity level. The session is led by a registered dietitian.

Healthy Weights by Healthy Means

This program begins Thursday, Jan. 16, 2014 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. and is comprised of five sessions lasting two hours each. It aims to help you make permanent lifestyle changes. This is not a 'diet' program. Some

topics that will be discussed include: carbohydrates, protein and fats, physical activity and what types and amounts are beneficial, emotional eating strategies, sensible portions and portion control strategies, and more. Group discussions will help you learn from others' experiences. The group will work on weekly action plans and problem solving exercises to help you reach your healthy eating and physical activity goals. Each participant will receive a copy of a manual to keep. The session is led by a registered dietitian.

Healthy Weights Support Group

This support group is for people who have previously attended the Healthy Weights by Healthy Means group program or have received individual nutrition counseling with one of our registered dietitians. The group's next meeting will be held on Wednesday, Dec. 18 from noon to 1 p.m. The Weight Loss Support Group is a drop-in program offering support, problem solving and the opportunity to ask questions and review strategies for achieving and maintaining a healthy weight. Sessions will be facilitated by a registered dietitian but the format will be casual. Participants will determine what is discussed by bringing forth topics of interest. Participants will also have the opportunity to check their weight, if desired. Participants do not need to register to attend; simply show up for the scheduled time and date, and show your health card at reception.

Quit smoking workshop

This workshop is a two-hour session for people who are thinking about quitting or are ready to quit using tobacco. We will discuss strategies and methods for quitting, such as cutting back, using nicotine replacement therapy, and using prescribed medications. We will also work on finding ways to overcome barriers to quitting, how to make a quit plan, manage withdrawal symptoms, and how to prevent a relapse. Participants are also welcome to schedule individual appointments with one of our nurse educators to receive further support and information. The session is set for Friday, Dec. 13 from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

On-site laboratory access

All residents of St. Clair Township have access to the on-site laboratory, which is open Monday to Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Anniversary open house held to celebrate and educate

The recent open house event at the Corunna Chiropractic and Massage office was a mixture of celebration and education for visitors. While enjoying some tasty party food and taking a tour of the facility, visitors were given some handy tips on how to avoid painful injuries while coping with the rigors of Winter weather. It was also an opportunity for visitors to meet the two newest members of the CCM team, Dr. Jillian Drouin, D.C. and Registered Massage Therapist Courtney Thompson.

Informational sessions offered during the open house included *Lift Light, Shovel Right*, a detailed set of instructions for safely wielding a snow shovel. Recommendations include: During a lengthy snowstorm, don't wait until the snow has piled up. First, warm up before starting by simply stretching or walking in place. Then, shovel walkways and driveways frequently, moving small amounts of snow. Use a lightweight pusher-type shovel. Spray the blade with Teflon so the snow won't stick and push the snow to the side rather than throw it. And if you have to lift the snow, bend your knees to let your leg and arm muscles do the work while keeping your back straight. All of the sessions offered were OCA (Ontario Chiropractic Assoc.) approved.

Right: During an informational interlude, Jillian Drouin, left, and Courtney Thompson correct the shoveling technique of visitor Francis Lepine.



“..at the going down of the sun and in the morning, We will remember Them.”

Every year, Royal Canadian Legions across Canada help us to remember that our country and our freedom have not come to us without sacrifice. On Nov. 11, a large crowd joined Legion members and members of St. Clair Township’s police department and fire department at the Corunna clock tower cenotaph to pay tribute once again. The assembly braved the raw chill of the rainy autumn day to listen as Legion Padre Paul Woolley led a prayer for peace and to say a silent personal prayer of thanks for those who served and those who continue to serve in Canada’s name all over the world.



Row upon row of wreaths honouring those who served and those who died stand waiting to be placed beside the Corunna clock tower cenotaph. They were later taken to the Corunna Legion cenotaph on Albert Street.



Dismal weather couldn’t discourage attendance as hundreds turned out to pay their respects at the Nov. 11 Remembrance Day services. Above: Mayor Steve Arnold places a wreath in the name of St. Clair Township. Left: OPP officers and members of the St. Clair Township Fire Department stand in solemn support of their Legion comrades while wreaths honouring the fallen are placed.

Photos by Bonnie Stevenson

Veterans from many fields continue to serve through Royal Canadian Legion

The Royal Canadian Legion Corunna Branch #447 recently presented Years of Service Award pins to these dedicated members:

Ordinary (Members with military service): 65 years - Frank Kneeshaw; 45 years - H. Bruton; 40 years - R. Harrigton, R. McCullough; 25 years - D. Campbell; 20 years - S. Gryzelak, D.G. Heath; 15 years - K. Alderson.

Associate (Members who are related to those with military service: 40 years - W. Finley, T. Gowdey, F. Harrison, D. Johnson, J. Johnson, C. Phibbs, Jr.; 35 years - S. Whitehead; 30 years - T.R. Harrison; C. Lefebvre, C. Skerritt, J. Sparks; 25 years - M. Dearing, E. Finley, G. Lefebvre, L. McCorquodale,

B. McNair, E. Mitchell, R. Ott, G. Stewart; 15 years - D. Clendenning, P. Clendenning, A. Courchesne, W. Langis, Julie Levan; 10 years - M. McCulloch; 5 years - L. Brown.

Affiliate (Members who have no military affiliation but believe in the causes of the RCL): 10 years - K. Hunter, G. Maki; 5 years - J. Robertson.

Ladies Auxiliary Service: 60 years - Delores Kneeshaw; 30 years - Clara Skerritt, Betty Finley; 10 years - Shelly Morningstar; 5 years - Peggy Murphy.

Congratulations to all of the 2013 Honours and Awards Recipients.

Optimist Club Appreciation Night honours community members for their support



The Optimist Club of Moore recently held its annual Appreciation Dinner to honour community members who have supported the club's youth programs and activities over the past year. Shown here with their appreciation certificates are, front row from left: Paul Aubin, Allison Kingston, Eryn Kennedy, Jayce Abrams, Tracy Kingston, Michelle Abrams, Earle Clysdale, Bryce Adams, Darragh Ginn, Dr. Beth Hodgins, and Don Smith. Rear row left of Optimist banner: St. Clair Township Councillor Jim DeGurse, OPP Inspector Scott Janssens. Rear row right of banner: Diane Fletcher, Brendan Deery, and St. Clair Township Mayor Steve Arnold. The club has been providing programs for youth in the Corunna, Courtright and Mooretown area for the past 47 years. *Photo submitted*

Meritorious service medal awarded

The St. Clair Masonic Lodge #425 in Sombra honoured one of its own on Oct. 15. Bro. Jim Sullivan, right, who has been a Mason for 45 years, received the highest Masonic award - the William Mercer Wilson Medal for Meritorious Service. On hand for the award ceremony was Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada in Ontario, M. W. Bro. Donald A. Campbell of Toronto. The Lodge was filled with family and friends who helped celebrate the occasion with cake and ice cream at the conclusion of the meeting. *Photo submitted*

Programs offered at Brigden Ontario Early Years location

The Brigden United Church Ontario Early Years program will offer two helpful programs in January, 2014. The first, **Connecting With Your Baby**, is slated for Friday, Jan. 10. During an informal discussion, learn about the importance of creating a strong attachment with your baby and ways to promote it. A public health nurse will partner with a Children's Mental Health professional from St. Clair Child and Youth Services for this program. On Friday, Jan. 24, **Siblings Without Rivalry** (for all ages) will be presented by a public health nurse, who will discuss ways to help siblings build their healthy relationships, deal with conflict and handle hostile feelings toward each other. **Pre-registration is required by calling 519-892-3151. Limited childcare will be available.**

Local Ontario Early Years Satellite Sarnia-Lambton locations

The OEYC Sarnia-Lambton is a **free** family drop-in program operated by Sombra Township Child Care Inc. It is part of the Ontario government's commitment to families with children ages 0 to 6 years of age. This program provides a learning environment in which parents and children can interact and learn from each other.

Best Start Hub - Riverview Central School
3926 St. Clair Parkway, Port Lambton - 519-892-3151

Hours of Operation

Monday, Tuesday, & Thursday: 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Best Start Hub - St. Joseph's School, Corunna
535 Birchbank Drive, Corunna - 519-862-5071, ext. 224

Hours of Operation

Monday: 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Wednesday: 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. & 1 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Friday: 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Brigden United Church

2420 Jane Street, Brigden - 519-892-3151 (*see item above right*)

Hours of Operation

Friday: 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. (*closed Dec. 27 and Jan. 3*)

All OEYC programs are free of charge. For a complete listing of hours and parent/caregiver workshops, go online to: www.ontarioearlyyears.ca.

More Around The Township

From page 12

miss a minute of exciting hockey action. You may be watching a future Gretzky in action.

Robbie Burns Dinner and Entertainment planned

In honour of that sensitive Scotsman who gifted the world with the beauty of his poetry and his spirit, the congregation of the Corunna United Church will host the annual Robbie Burns Dinner and Entertainment evening on Friday, Jan. 17. Along with a scrumptious meal, entertainment will be provided by Bob Finlay. Tickets are \$25 per person and are available by calling Ken at 519-344-8626.

Sombra Museum offers lecture series

The Sombra Museum's popular winter lecture series is underway on the last Tuesday of the month at the Sombra Museum Cultural Centre meeting room, 3476 St. Clair Parkway in Sombra. The series continues in 2014 beginning with the *Sydenham Field Naturalists* on Jan. 28 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. These dedicated people aim to preserve and enjoy the natural heritage of the Chatham-Kent and Lambton County areas. They will be speaking about their work. *Arctic Safari* with Don and Kris Lee on Feb. 25 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. will give the audience insights into Canada's far North. While many people travel South, the Lee's addition to the lands of the Arctic Circle have lured them North six times. Discover icebergs, fjords, wildlife, Inuit cultures, and life aboard Adventure Canada's *MV Clipper Adventurer*. And on March 25 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., enjoy the Antique and Classic Boat Society's presentation of *Pleasure Boat Builders of the Wallaceburg Area*. Admission is \$10 per lecture, three lectures for \$25 or \$50 for all of the lectures. Student admission is \$7 per lecture, \$16 for three, or \$35 for all of the lectures. For more tickets and information, call 519-892-3982. The Sombra Museum can be found at: [facebook.com/SombraMuseum](https://www.facebook.com/SombraMuseum)

and twitter.com/SombraMuseum.

moore.optimist.tracy@gmail.com for more information.

Legion jam sessions resume in Corunna

The Royal Canadian Legion Corunna Branch 447 will host a series of musical jam sessions on the last Saturday of each month through May, 2014. All jams will start at 3 p.m. and everyone is welcome to come, play along, or listen to some great local entertainment. There is no cover charge and food is available.

Indoor walking offered in Mooretown and Brigden

Indoor walking and fitness classes will resume again in Mooretown and Brigden. Classes in Mooretown are held every Wednesday and Friday morning from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. at the Mooretown Sports Complex. Classes in Brigden are held every Tuesday and Thursday morning from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. at the Brigden Fairgrounds exhibition hall. These classes are FREE and participants are asked to bring indoor walking shoes. For information and to register, please call 519-344-3017, ext. 237. This program is sponsored by the West Lambton Community Health Centre, the Moore Agricultural Society, and Ontario's Community Health Centres.

Courtright Friendship Club plays cards

The Courtright Friendship Club plays euchre every Wednesday afternoon at 1 p.m. and Pepper every Friday evening at 7:30 p.m. at the hall located at 1533 Fourth Street in Courtright. Everyone is welcome to attend and try out their card skills.

Cribbage played at Corunna United Church

Cribbage is now being played every Tuesday from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at Corunna United Church on Hill Street. Come out, test your skills, and enjoy a morning of fun.

Messy Church Tuesdays at Brigden United

Messy Church is being held on the last Tuesday of each month through June, 2014 from 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at Brigden United Church. Come and join congregation members for a fun and messy evening of worship, crafts and supper. Children must be accompanied by an adult or grandparents.

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.

Local businesses recognized for ongoing support



Good businesspeople deserve to be recognized and, with this in mind, the volunteer firefighters of the St. Clair Township Fire Department's Courtright station presented a token of appreciation in the form of a plaque to Cindy and Darryl Lefaive of Courtright Variety. District Deputy Fire Chief Les Fournie, left, also presented a plaque to Joe Anderson of Watsons Tim-Br Mart (absent from photo). The plaques symbolized the firefighters' appreciation for the businesses' ongoing support of the fire association. *Photo submitted*

Get in touch with *The Beacon*

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 usually the third Monday of every month by 4 p.m., but in order to maintain our holiday publication schedule, the deadline for the January issue will be Monday, Dec. 9.

Email: beacon@twp.stclair.on.ca

Around The Township

Have fun at Fowl Bingo in Sombra

The Sombra Fowl Bingo will be held at the Sombra Community Centre on Monday, Dec. 2 at 7 p.m. for a \$2 per person admission. The event is sponsored by the Sombra St. John's CWL and everyone is welcome.

Corunna Rebekah Lodge hosts luncheons

The Mayflower Rebekah Lodge of Corunna will host a series of monthly luncheon/card parties at the Cruickshank Centre, Thompson Gardens, 198 Beckwith Street in Corunna at noon on the following Mondays: Dec. 2; Jan 13, 2014; Feb. 10; March 10; April 7; May 12; Sept. 8, 2014. Ticket cost is now \$12 per person to dine in or take out.

Turkey raffle to benefit OCT

The Corunna fire station of the St. Clair Fire Department will host its annual turkey raffle on Friday, Dec. 6 from 6 p.m. to 1 a.m. All proceeds from this event will be used in support of the Operation Christmas Tree Christmas hamper program.

All Saints Christmas Bazaar & Bake Sale

The congregation of All Saints Anglican Church in Corunna, corner of Lyndoch and Hill Streets, will host a Christmas Bazaar and Bake Sale on Saturday, Dec. 7 from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. The event will feature baked goods, frozen pies, books, treasures, knitting and more, and tea, coffee and dessert will be available for \$3. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Breakfast with Santa at Corunna United

Corunna United Church will host *Breakfast With Santa* on Saturday, Dec. 7 from 10 a.m. to noon. All kids accompanied by an adult are invited to attend at a cost of \$5 per adult and \$3 per child. The cost will include a photo with Santa. For tickets, call Sharon at 519-862-1957.

St. Joseph's Parish breakfasts continue

St. Joseph's Parish Centre on Lyndoch Street in Corunna will continue the popular Sunday breakfasts and meat raffles on the following Sundays: Dec. 8; Jan. 12, 2014; Feb. 9; March 9; April 6; and May 4. For more information call 519-862-1213, ext. 28. Diners can enjoy pancakes, sausages, bacon, ham, eggs, home fries, rolls, orange juice, coffee and tea. The cost is \$7 per adult and \$3 per child ages six to 12. Children under the age of six eat free. Take-out orders are available from 8:30 a.m. The breakfasts are sponsored by the Knights of Columbus.

Christmas Ceilidh in Corunna

Enjoy a lively evening of seasonal music by local musicians and dancing by members of the Sarnia School of Irish Dance at a Christmas Ceilidh set for St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, 437 Colborne Street in Corunna, on Sunday, Dec. 8. The ceilidh begins at 7 p.m. and tickets are \$10 per person, available in advance by calling the church at 519-862-3641 or at the door. Everyone is welcome to attend and let the festivities kindle the Christmas spirit. (*Ceilidh* is an Old Irish Gaelic word that is pronounced "keil" and means "visiting" and "companion" - Canadian Oxford dictionary.)

Turkey bingo in Port Lambton

The Sombra Township Optimist Club will host a turkey bingo on Wednesday, Dec. 11 at 7 p.m. at the Port Lambton Community Hall. Come out and support the good work of the Optimists.

Operation Christmas Tree OPP drive-thru

The annual OPP drive-thru donation event to benefit the *Operation Christmas Tree* Christmas hamper program will be held on Saturday, Dec. 14 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Emergency Services Building at the corner of Lyndoch and Hill Streets in Corunna. Donations of non-perishable food items, unwrapped new toys, and cash will be gratefully accepted, and Santa Claus will be there to greet the generous donors and their children.

Cantata slated for Corunna United Church

The *Night Of The Father's Love* cantata, performed by the Corunna United Church Choir, is slated for the Corunna United Church on Hill Street on Sunday, Dec. 15 at 7 p.m. Refreshments will follow the performance and everyone is welcome.

Santa to visit Courtright for parade

Santa Claus will be making a pre-Christmas appearance in Courtright on Sunday, Dec. 15, hosted by the volunteer firefighters from the St. Clair Township Fire Department's Courtright station. A parade will begin from the station at 11 a.m. and children will be picked up along the parade route to be transported back to the station to see Santa and enjoy a light lunch.



Cooking Outside The Box class in Corunna

Cooking Outside The Box, a FREE hands-on cooking class that uses fruits and vegetables from the *Garden Fresh Box*, will be offered at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, 437 Colborne Street in Corunna, on Thursday, Dec. 19 from 10 a.m. to noon. Child care is provided and the class includes food samples, recipes and a door prize. Classes show how to clean, cook and store a featured item, and a Lambton Public Health dietitian will demonstrate and assist with cooking. A public health nurse is also available to weight babies or toddlers and to answer questions about child development and parenting concerns. To register for this free class, call 519-862-3641. For more information about the *Garden Fresh Box* program, call 519-344-2062, ext. 211. This is a community program offered by St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church.

New Year's Day Levee in Corunna

The general public is invited to enjoy an afternoon of friendship at the New Year's Day Levee slated for the Royal Canadian Legion, Corunna, Branch 447 hall at Beckwith and Albert Street. Start the New Year off right on Jan. 1, 2014 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Snacks and refreshments will be provided. Legion members would like to show their thanks to the community for its support of their events and programs, and welcome in the New Year among friends.

Moore Museum exhibit recalls Storm of 1913

The vicious Storm of 1913 is recalled in a photo exhibit now on display at the Moore Museum. 2013 marks the 100th anniversary of this unprecedented tragedy. Hours of operation through the fall are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. from Monday to Friday.

2014 Silver Stick tourney in Mooretown

The 41st Annual Mooretown Juvenile International Silver Stick Tournament will be held at the Mooretown Sports Complex the weekend of Jan. 9 through 12. Admission will be \$5 per adult, \$3 per student or senior, and \$14 per weekend pass. Don't

