



Issue 1

The St. Clair Township BEACON

Volume 7



January 2014

Municipal Election 2014 Info

The 2014 Municipal Election will be held on Monday, Oct. 27 and candidates can now register with the St. Clair Township Clerk at the St. Clair Township Civic Centre, 1155 Emily Street in Mooretown. For more information about the upcoming election, see Municipal Notes on page 2.

New LNG unit a step toward cleaner environment

By Bonnie Stevenson

For decades, the environmental impact of gasoline and diesel-fueled vehicles has been the subject of intense discussion in scientific and industrial circles. Petroleum-power is still the go-to fuel for most vehicles, but its importance is slowly diminishing with the advent of innovative new twenty-first century engine technologies and cleaner alternate fuel sources.

One of the alternate fuel options currently proposed for production at Shell Canada's Co-runna plant is LNG (liquefied natural gas). The current projected timeline for completion of a new LNG unit, pending regulatory approval, would see the unit put into service by early 2016.

LNG is being hailed as a cleaner and more cost-effective transportation fuel, and to demonstrate the veracity of this statement, Shell hosted a demonstration of its properties during a public open house at the Lambton College Fire School on LaSalle Line on Dec. 5. The open house also featured a display detailing the specifics of the LNG project with Shell technical staff on hand to answer questions.

The live demonstration, which explained what LNG is and what it is not, was presented by Erik Neandross of the consulting firm, Gladstein, Neandross & Associates. The company specializes in clean transportation and energy and is based in California.

Mr. Neandross told a large group of curious local residents that his company has worked with LNG fuel in all types of vehicles from domestic automobiles up to transport trucks and buses. As an example of the fuel's environmental benefits, he noted that the marine applications of LNG are also being explored. By law, shipping emissions must be cleaned up, but



A safely-contained, clean-burning flame leaps skyward as Erik Neandross demonstrates the beneficial properties of liquefied natural gas as compared to the more familiar petroleum fuel currently in use.

Photo by Bonnie Stevenson

many ships currently run on dirty bunker fuel, posing a dire threat to water and air quality. Studies indicate the ships would run cleaner and use less LNG, creating environmental benefits for the earth and substantial cost benefits for the companies that own them. Interlake Steam Ship Company is currently committed to the conversion of seven of its nine ships; good news for the St. Clair

See *Safety of LNG*, page 9

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

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



Municipal Notes

2014 Municipal election registration

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. January 2014 council meetings are slated for: Monday, Jan. 6 at 6:30 p.m. and Monday, Jan. 20 at approximately 5 p.m. (immediately 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.

Winter parking by-law now in effect

**The Winter overnight parking
by-law is now in effect.**

Motorists are warned that vehicles must NOT be parked on the public streets and roads of St. Clair Township overnight through the Winter. This allows snow plow crews to do their job safely and effectively without having to dodge parked cars.

Residents are also reminded that shoveling snow off of driveways and walkways onto public streets is prohibited by the Ontario Highway Traffic Act. Penalties can be levied on those who ignore the law. Unexpected accumulations of snow on the road can make driving unnecessarily hazardous and lead to traffic mishaps. Pile shoveled snow within the boundaries of your property.

TOWNSHIP INFORMATION ONLINE

For the latest information about St. Clair Township, its departments and associated services, go online to:
www.twp.stclair.on.ca

Monday, Oct. 27, 2014 will be Municipal Election Day in Ontario. Nomination papers may be filled out at the St. Clair Township Civic Centre any time during normal office hours from Thursday, Jan. 2, 2014 to Thursday, Sept. 11, 2014 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Nominations are subject to a \$100 fee for a position as a member of Council or a School Board Trustee, and \$200 for the position of head of Council.

Nomination papers for the following positions may be filed in person with the Clerk of the Township of St. Clair:

Township of St. Clair

Mayor	1
Deputy Mayor	1
Council Members - Ward 1	3
- Ward 2	2

Boards of Education:

English Language - Lambton Kent District School

Central Lambton:1 Trustee

English Language - St. Clair Catholic District

South Lambton / East Kent1 Trustee

Inquiries can be directed to: St. Clair Township Clerks Department
St. Clair Township Civic Centre
1155 Emily Street, Mooretown
519-862-2021

The Operation Christmas Tree (OCT) Poor Boy lunch held on Nov. 21 at the Corunna Legion resulted in hundreds of dollars worth of much-appreciated donations. But perhaps the most precious of these came in the form of a little plastic bag full of coins. The donor, three-year-old Addison, had earned the money helping her Dama (grandmother) Sharon LaPier around the house. Addison, her doting Dama Sharon, and brother, six-month-old Thomas, enjoyed some tasty lunch courtesy of the Legion's Ladies' Auxiliary and then presented the hard-earned coins to OCT Treasurer Gord Dawson.

Photo by Bonnie Stevenson

Young donor supports Operation Christmas Tree





St. Clair Township 2013 - The Year In Review

By Mayor Steve Arnold

As 2013 closes and we enter into the year leading up to our next municipal election in October, I want to take a moment to reflect on the challenges this municipality has faced, the many improvements that have been made, and some of the objectives that must be met going forward.

It has been a term of trials, with two long-term corporate residents, Lambton Generating Station and Ethyl Corporation, both winding down operations. We have had other long-standing businesses close their doors as well. These are always difficult things for Council to watch, however, we have had additional development as well with both existing businesses and with new facilities.

The latest of these is a new generating plant being built in our community, complementing the two plants that have recently been built. And every effort has been made to ensure that we are making our community ready and willing to receive other developments, both in business and housing, by continuing to improve the hard infrastructure such as roads, water and sewer systems, fire protection, apparatus, and buildings. Improvements have also been made to our waterfront parks and seawalls, community centers, museums, libraries, arenas, pool and golf course, and local communities have been enriched with the in-

stallation of leisure components such as splash pads. In effect, all important assets in this municipality have seen improvements that, in turn, positively affect the quality of life of our citizens.

These improvements could not have occurred without the dedication, partnership, and cooperation of senior levels of government, council, staff, business and industry, and countless community individuals and volunteers.

We, as a Council, have attended meetings with representatives from both senior levels of government to raise their awareness of a number of important concerns and to help achieve funding for many of the projects that have been undertaken here in St. Clair Township. We have had a chance to discuss the water main looping for the municipality, the long term plans for the Lambton Generating Station site, and many other important issues such as the provincial energy rates.

We have also met with and conducted tours for a number of potential investors in an on-going effort to promote growth.

Our goal, which is the goal of any good Council, is to improve our community and to make it a great place to work, play, and raise a family.

On behalf of everyone on Council, thank you for placing your trust in us. We look forward to 2014 and to meeting the challenges it will bring to us all.

Santa makes pre-Christmas visit to Corunna

Despite the frigid weather, Santa made an exciting pre-Christmas appearance in the Moore Optimist Corunna Santa Claus Parade and everyone had a great time. Organizers say everything went smoothly except for problems with a few frozen instruments and fingers. There were 40 entries, including: Santa (of course) aboard a grand float supplied by the Moore Optimist Club, two bands, local dignitaries, Optimist International President Ron Huxley, floats, walking groups, horses and wagons, fire trucks, EMS vehicles and much more.

Judging took place prior to the parade and the winners in each category were: Large commercial, Bluewater Foodland; Small commercial, Under The Emerald Tree Wellness; Community, Boy Scouts and Girl Guides; Best fire truck, Sarnia Street Machines.

The commitment of the Moore Optimist Club members, the Corunna Horticultural Association, the OPP, and area businesses helped to make the parade a resounding success. And, as always, the monetary and in-kind support of local industry and businesses was overwhelming.

From the Optimist Club of Moore, thanks to everyone who helped make this event a success!



Santa paid a pre-Christmas visit to the good boys and girls of Corunna on Nov. 23 to ride in the annual Santa Claus Parade.

Shown clockwise from top right: The St. Clair Storm novice and atom girls' hockey teams braved the icy weather handing out candy canes along the parade route. Meanwhile, before the parade, Santa Claus took time to visit with some of the children who rode the floats. He's shown here chatting with some kids from the Optimist Club float. And Elfie, Santa's hippo wrangler, was on hand for the festivities thanks to a float by Shell Canada's Corunna facility.

Editor's note: The little girl who wanted a hippopotamus for Christmas was thrilled...her parents, not so much...

Photos by Bonnie Stevenson



Energize your Winter at Mooretown Sports Complex (MSC)

The holidays were terrific and now you feel like hibernating for the rest of the Winter. You're worn out from the holiday hustle and bustle but it's nothing a few months lounging in front of the TV won't fix. Right?

If this is the way you're thinking, you're wrong. "Resting" all Winter is a bad idea for your body and your frame of mind. Healthy activity is the very best antidote you can get for those Winter blahs and the Mooretown Sports Complex has a multitude of ways to help you find activities that will keep you healthy and energized until Spring. Here are a few suggestions:

Muscle Mix Fitness classes

Use the New Year to create a new you. Let trainer Diane Tuckey guide you through an invigorating workout during the Muscle Mix Fitness classes. Classes are slated for Mondays and Wednesdays from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m., and day-time classes from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. will begin on Feb. 9. You can join any time. The cost is \$4.50 per class or \$45 for a 12-visit interchangeable pass.



Water Aerobics and Water Therapy

Enjoy the soothing, restorative power of the water in the indoor pool. **Shallow water aerobics** are held 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 aerobics** are held Mondays and Wednesdays from 8 p.m. to 9 p.m. **Water therapy** (for arthritis, fibromyalgia, and post-rehab) is held on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. Join any time. The cost is \$4.50 per class or \$45 for a 12-visit interchangeable pass.



Fitness centre

A workout at the MSC Fitness Centre will help you shake that cold weather cabin fever! For \$4.50 per visit, \$45 for a 12-visit interchangeable pass, or \$243 for a full year, you can work out, swim, use the sauna, and soak in the hot tub. And if you'd like a program set up just for you, Personal Trainer Diane Tuckey can put you on the road to a optimum fitness.

Healthy Choices

Healthy Choices is a three-week program that begins on Wednesday, Jan. 22. It will focus on nutrition, physical activity, and stress management. The program is being presented in partnership with the West Lambton Community Health Centre.

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.

Shinny hockey continues

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

March Break Day Camp

Give the young students in your family a great place to enjoy March Break. Children ages five through 12 will have fun swimming, skating, doing crafts, playing games and spending time with special visitors. The program runs from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., with early drop off available from 7:30 a.m. and late pickup available until 5:30 p.m. The program costs \$27 per child per day or \$110 per week. A family plan is also available.



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For information, go online to:

[www.twp.stclair.on.ca/brochure.htm](http://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.

## Pet owners warned to "stoop and scoop"

*The Beacon* has received several letters from concerned St. Clair Township residents regarding negligent pet owners who refuse to clean up after their pets. This is a on-going problem that is not only an annoyance, but a public health issue as well.

Pet owners are reminded that they are required by law to remove pet waste from public property. Public spaces such as parks and sidewalks exist for the use and enjoyment of everyone, not just for the inconsiderate few pet owners who use these spaces as private dumping grounds for pet waste.

Negligent pet owners should also be aware that the proliferation of cell phone cameras has made it easy to capture these infractions in progress, making it easier to identify those who insist on breaking the law.

**Please start the new year off on the right paw. Help keep our public spaces clean and welcoming for everyone.**



## 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:** 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:** Jan. 11 at Alvin-

ston, 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](http://www.mooretownminorhockey.com).



# Community Contact

## **Brander Park splash pad donations sought**

The Brander Park Splash Pad Committee is working hard to raise funds for the new splash pad that will provide lots of summer fun for years to come. Over half of the \$200,000 cost has already been raised by the committee and St. Clair Township is matching all contributions. So far, a number of terrific community fundraising events have been held, including: a lemonade stand at Port Lambton Gala Days; a bake sale at Dalrae Orchards on Thanksgiving weekend; and a shopping fundraiser organized by a group of local women, featuring vendors from Lia Sophia, Tupperware, Epicure Selections, Thirty-One, and Jockey; an in-house competition fundraiser hosted by Crossfit Wallaceburg. Donations are still being gratefully accepted by contacting Anne at 519-677-1623 or going online to: <http://www.branderparksplashpad.com/donate.html>

## **MAS Homecraft quilt block competition**

The Moore Agricultural Society Homecraft division is once again sponsoring a Quilt Block Competition. Kits will be available after Jan. 9 at a cost of \$10 each. For contest information or to purchase a kit, call Donna at 519-882-4588 or Marie at 519-864-4016.

## **MAS extends greetings to all**



The Moore Agricultural Society, home of the Bridgen Fair, would like to wish everyone a wonderful and prosperous 2014 and express the hope that everyone made special memories with family and friends during the Christmas season.

**Happy New Year to all!**

## **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 is well underway. The first two weeks of play are free. To participate or for more information, call Karen or Jim McNeil at 519-862-4756.

## **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](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.

## **Pennies for Pavement program**

Spare change is a nuisance that usually ends up in dusty jars or under sofa cushions. But spare change donated to the St. Clair River Trail Committee makes a big difference when it helps fund the trail's upkeep and maintenance. Please 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.

## **Youth Pilgrimage winner announced**

The winner of the Rebekah Districts 22 and 22A, and Oddfellows District 4 Kent *Youth Speak-off* held Nov. 24 is Monica Koshaen of Corunna, who currently attends secondary school in Sarnia. In addition to her trophy, Miss Koshaen will participate in the *United Nations Pilgrimage for Youth* with all expenses paid.

Her trip will take her to the United Nations headquarters in New York City, as well as Toronto, Ottawa, and Washington, D.C. The pilgrimage is sponsored by the Rebekahs and Oddfellows.



**Youth Pilgrimage winner Monica Koshaen of Corunna, centre, right, and D.D. Pres. Of Dist. 22A Sis. Florence Hall, left, and D.D. Pres. of Dist. 22 Sis. Nancy Shepley.**

*Photo submitted*

## **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/](https://communityplanit.org/lambton_eats_local/)

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

## Annual 4-H Club Awards Night honours 54 Lambton County members

A roster of 54 4-H members from across Lambton County received awards during the annual 4-H Awards banquet at the Brigden Fairgrounds exhibition hall on Nov. 14. The Brigden Fair sponsors the Lambton 4-H Maple Syrup, West Lambton Weedkillers, Brigden 4-H Sheep, Brigden 4-H Beef, and South Lambton 4-H Horse Clubs.

Sponsors from Lambton Financial, Scotiabank, Oil Springs Optimist Club, and John Stephens presented awards for outstanding accomplishments.

Organizers thanked local businesses and individuals for their purchases at the Monday Livestock Auction. The proceeds from their purchases go toward youth programs, and the meat was donated to the Sarnia-Lambton Women's Interval Home, the boys' and girls' homes, local food banks, Wallaceburg Salvation Army, Community Independent Living homes in Brigden and Petrolia, and St. Francis home in Petrolia and Wallaceburg.

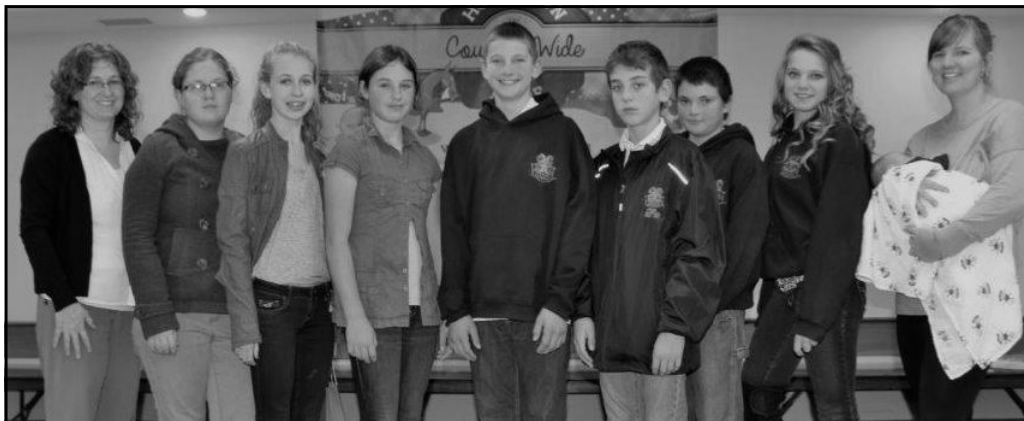
Honourees from the 4-H Club Awards night are shown by club below and on page 7.

*Photos submitted*



**Brigden 4-H Beef Club:** Back row, left - Leader Clarence Coke, Grant Langstaff (intermediate champion showman), Mark Langstaff, Clint Ostrander (reserve champion heifer), Clayton Shaw, Leader Debbie Coke. Front row, left - Madison Robbins (reserve champion showman and champion heifer), Cameron Shaw (most improved), Cole Robbins (champion steer, champion showman, and top member), Mark Anderson. Absent: Leader Megan Coke, Casey Bruton, and Carolyn Langstaff.

**Brigden 4-H Sheep Club:** Front row, left - Makayla Callaghan, Rory Petit (champion market lamb), Cleo Code, Jocelyn Polster, Cassie Phillips. Second row, left - Taylor Callaghan (champion showman and champion lamb), Jocelyn Stewart (reserve champion showman), Cameron Ostrander, Mitchel Callaghan, Cole Freer. Back row, left: Leader Diane Pettit, Amber McLachlan, Leader Terry Callaghan, Brody Callaghan, Jamie Callaghan (reserve champion ewe lamb), Leader Bobbie Callaghan, Leader Tammy McAuslan, Nadine Smith, Leader Teresa Callaghan.



**Lambton Maple Syrup Club:** Left - Leader Nancy Bourgeois, Gwen Bourgeois, Eve Pettit, Elliot Smith (vice president), Travis Nicholson (press reporter), Cameron Shaw, Lydia Smith (president), Ashley Armstrong and son, Clayton. Absent: Tony Goodwin, Melissa Huxted, Jonah Van Klaven, Leader Randa Gillanty.



**Left: South Lambton Horse Club:** Left - Amber McLachlan (president), Alicia Wilkins, Sherry Burnly (press reporter), Nadine Smith. Absent: Leaders Krystal Johnston, Randa Gillatly, Leslee Zavits, and members Kayla Donkers, Emily Hyatt, and Jayde Hoskin.

**Below: West Lambton Week Killer Club:** Front row, left - Grant Langstaff, Travis Nicholson, Ryan Nicholson, Rory Pettit, Cameron Shaw, Clayton Shaw. Back row, left: Mark Langstaff, Leader Ralph Eyre, Colin Eyre, Leader Chad Anderson, Cole Robbins, Kaitlynn Anderson. Absent: Daniel Anderson, Casey Bruton. Grant and Mark Langstaff won the County's Forage Master Competition through the Ontario Soil Crop Improvement Association.

## S-L United Way over 90% of 2013 goal

The United Way of Sarnia-Lambton had pushed past the 90 per cent level of its 2013 campaign goal of \$1.8 million as of mid-December. The campaign ran until the end of 2013 and hopes were high that the goal would be met.

Recent donors include NOVA Chemicals, whose retirees, employees and corporate match program contributed over \$275,000, and LANXESS, whose retirees, employees and corporate contributions resulted in a donation of \$117,000.

The annual campaign raises funds to help support 22 funded agencies that provide over 35 programs and services in Sarnia and Lambton County.



## Workplace Group launches local Talent Management System

The WorkPlace Group has launched a local Talent Management System, [www.theworkplaceconnects.ca](http://www.theworkplaceconnects.ca). This free site is the first of its kind in Sarnia-Lambton, offering support for both job seekers and employers. The site offers free online access to local employment opportunities and employment workshops.



Job seekers can access tools such as Job Alert emails for industry/location-specific jobs. Candidates can also post their resumes online in order to apply for opportunities. Employers can post jobs online and access a pool of candidates for every type of job opening, even seasonal.

The WorkPlace Group recently attained national accreditation under Imagine Canada's national Standards Program. The program is a Canada-wide set of shared standards for charities and non-profits which is designed to demonstrate their compliance

with five fundamental areas: board governance; financial accountability and transparency; fundraising; staff management; and volunteer involvement. These standards help organizations mitigate risk by ensuring that staff and volunteers understand and meet their legal, financial and fiduciary responsibilities.

Executive Director Noeleen Tyczynski says it is important to have public confidence in the program being offered. "Our goal in this entire process was to increase our organizational transparency and capacity, and to strengthen public confidence in The WorkPlace Group," she said.

The WorkPlace Group of Sarnia-Lambton is in its 37th year of service, providing free employment services for job seeker and employer alike. For more information, contact the WorkPlace Group, go online to [TMS.employer@theworkplacegroup.ca](mailto:TMS.employer@theworkplacegroup.ca).





## HERITAGE CORNER



### S. S. No. 7 Moore School alumni remain “true to their school”

The Beach Boys had a hit with the song *Be True To Your School* in the 1960s, but those words are as inspirational now as they have ever been. Just ask the alumni of S. S. No. 7 Moore School.

On a wet and windy Nov. 22, 2013, 50 years after the old S.S. No. 7 school bell rang out for the last time, a crowd of 200 gathered on the one-acre site where the school once stood to honour its heritage and to dedicate a commemorative stone marking the place where they had their first encounters with formal education.

The school began as a one room cabin-type building built in 1858 on Rokeby Line on property now owned by Clean Harbors. The school, which served the former 8th Line community, was replaced with a conventional, white frame building in 1873 and remained in use until 1963. It was closed, as many other small country schools were, when school buses came into use to carry students to larger schools in urban areas.

Peter Gilliland, a member of the S.S. No. 7 Moore School Memorial Stone Committee, says, “Some residents and former students were compelled to make some indication of this school in a significant way. They decided a stone monument honouring the pioneers, teachers, and students of the old S.S. No. 7 should be erected. Clean Harbors, the current owner of the property, was agreeable and generously funded this effort.” He applauded the work of the organizing committee, in particular Marilyn Shaw, who worked tirelessly behind-the-scenes.

Four decades worth of classmates gathered at the Brigden fire hall after the dedication to socialize and share memories of softball, spelling bees, music festivals, Christmas concerts, and many more cherished school activities. A letter from Miss Dorothy Johnson, who came to teach at the school in the 1950s in spite of the fact that she’d had no formal training, was read to the group. She was only 20 when she began, but she writes that she was so successful and so moved by her experience that she



Some of the S.S. No. 7 Moore Memorial Stone Committee were on hand for the dedication of the stone. They included, from left: John Morrison, Elizabeth Brown, Joyce Wiles, Peter Gilliland, Eugene Graham, and Marilyn Shaw.

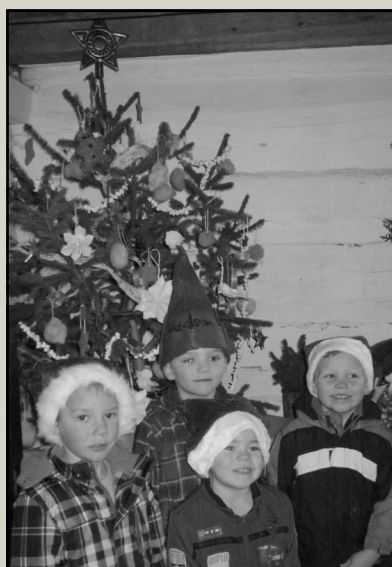
*Photo submitted*

changed her career path from business administration to teaching. Today, at the age of 82, she says she still has fond memories of S.S. No. 7 Moore. The event also featured a movie taken by former student Leslie Sheppard at the school’s closing 50 years ago, plus old school photos. The old school bell and one of the school seats added a poignant touch to the event.

“It is our belief that whatever we are or have become in life, we are just a little better for having attended a one-room country school,” said Mr. Gilliland.

***What greater or better gift can we offer the republic than to teach and instruct our youth?***

***-Cicero***



### Old-Fashioned Christmas

When the students of St. Joseph School in Corunna attended the *Old-Fashioned Christmas* program at the Moore Museum, they discovered how the pioneers of St. Clair Township celebrated Christmas. Left: Some of the students from Mrs. Abate’s Kindergarten class enjoyed the log cabin with its tree decked out in homemade decorations. Right: For Kaisley and Allison, doing a cardboard gingerbread craft allowed them to experience how children of the past used what was available to make festive decorations for their homes.

*Photos submitted*





## Information sessions offered by Rapids Family Health Team

The following sessions are being offered at the Rapids Family Health Team clinic located at 233 Cameron Street in Corunna. There is no charge for participation and sessions are open to anyone residing in St. Clair Township. To participate, you must register with the clinic, and remember that space is limited. If the program and date you have chosen is filled, you will be put on a waiting list for future sessions.

**For more information go online to [www.rapidsfhteam.ca](http://www.rapidsfhteam.ca) and to register, call 519-813-9800 to speak to reception.**

### Living with Diabetes

This two-hour session, slated for Monday, Jan 6 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. and Tuesday, Jan. 7 from 9 a.m. to 11 a.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

An afternoon and an evening presentation of this two-hour session will take place Monday, Jan. 13 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. and from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. It is 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 five-session program, which begins Thursday, Jan. 16 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., will 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.

### Boosting Balance and Bone Health

*Boosting Balance and Bone Health* is a four-week program designed to gradually improve physical balance and strength with the goal of

avoiding falls and maintaining independence. It will also educate individuals on how to keep bones healthy. The group exercise and education program will be run by a registered occupational therapist. One hour is designated for group exercise and one hour is designated for education on bone health. Education sessions include: an overview of bone health; dietary and medication practices to maintain strong bones; and home safety tips. Individuals who are able to safely take part in a supervised exercise program are invited to register. Sessions will be held on Wednesdays beginning February 5 from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. and running for four weeks. Spots are limited in this program so participants are urged to register by Wednesday, Jan. 29.

### 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 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. The next session is slated for Wednesday, Jan. 29 from noon to 1 p.m.

### 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, Jan. 24 from 10 a.m. to noon.



### 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.**

## Safety of LNG emphasised during open house demonstration

### From page 1

River and all of the Great Lakes.

With the cost of fuel figuring heavily in the bottom line of all transportation-based companies, Mr. Neandross says the savings with LNG would be substantial. Referring to transport trucks currently using LNG, he said, "LNG is half the cost of diesel," he said. "The economics are compelling." Train engines are also being tested using LNG. CN Railway already has a pilot project underway using two engines fueled by LNG.

Some residents who attended the demonstration expressed concerns that the product would present a danger to the area. However, according to Mr. Neandross, the LNG unit at the Shell site will pose no threat to water or air quality in the event of a spill. The spill would leave only a bit of water ice which would soon evaporate into methane gas, a colourless, non-toxic, odourless and lighter-than-air. It would rise and leave no harmful residue in the water and no harmful fumes in the air. Within the unit, many

methane detectors will be distributed and will alarm should a leak occur since an accumulation of gas would lead to asphyxiation for anyone working in the area. To calm concerns about the combustible properties of LNG, Mr. Neandross explained the material can only ignite within a very narrow range of concentrations - from 5 per cent to 15 per cent. If the concentration is too lean, less than 5 per cent, or too rich, over 15 per cent, it cannot support combustion. He demonstrated this by dropping a lit cigarette into a container of LNG. And in the event of a fire, he added one option would be to just let the flame exhaust the supply of LNG.

The safety of LNG is something Mr. Neandross has had a lot of experience with. He said the product is kept in "robust containers" much like "a huge, double-walled thermos bottle."

At the conclusion of the demonstration, he told his audience that the key to understanding LNG is education. "Education is foremost to let people understand what it will and will not do."

# Vandals warned of criminal penalties they face

Recent acts of graffiti vandalism in the Corunna Athletic Park have elicited strong reactions and calls for community action from members of the community.

The Lambton OPP is well aware of this destructive and unsightly problem. OPP Cst. Chrystal Jones says penalties for such actions are covered under the Criminal Code of Canada and can be considerable.

"Vandalism and graffiti are considered Mischief under the Criminal Code of Canada," she said. "The penalty for anyone who commits mischief could, among other possible penalties, include a term of imprisonment."

She noted that people who commit mischief don't think about how it affects their community. "There is always a cost to cleaning up the graffiti or replacing items that are damaged. In many cases, tax dollars that could be used for schools, roads, parks, and other community improvements are used for graffiti clean-up and damage repair."

This burden placed on the taxpayer is something most vandals do not consider while engaged in this criminal activity. Ironically, their family, their friends, or even the vandals themselves, may ultimately end up paying for the damage they've done through the tax dollars that must be used to clean up the mess.

Rick Clemens, Coordinator of Facilities and Parks for St. Clair Township, says the recent increase in vandalism has presented considerable cost to residents. "Over the last few months, Corunna Athletic Park has been the target of several occurrences involving spray painting of buildings, destroying the public washrooms, locks and doors, and burning of garbage cans. All of these occurrences cost taxpayer dollars."

Mr. Clemens says that, in one incident, spray paint was removed from the property only to have it repainted less than a week later.

"Each time the graffiti is removed, it costs the taxpayer over \$1,000," he said. "Each time the washrooms have been vandalized, it has cost the taxpayer over \$900. Each time the garbage cans are set on fire, it costs the taxpayers over \$1,000 for the fire department to make the call, and it puts the volunteer firefighters and property in jeopardy."

The option of simply leaving the graffiti in place is not a viable option the township will consider, for obvious reasons. Mr. Clemens notes the nature of the damage is not something the community

should be subjected to. "We cannot allow the graffiti to remain on the concrete, splash pads, or buildings as it is too vulgar and obscene for most people to have to look at with their young children," he said. He added that, sooner or later, the vandals responsible for the damage will be caught and, based on the extent of the malicious and wilful damage they have caused, they will be prosecuted to the full extent of the law.

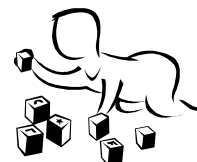
Cst. Jones points out that vandalism, when left unrepaired, sends a negative signal to visitors and to the rest of the community. "Graffiti sends the signal that nobody cares about the community and it attracts other forms of crime to the neighbourhood. This also leads to community members not feeling safe in their neighbourhoods," she said.

Cst. Jones urges residents to report crimes as they happen whenever possible. "Call police right away so we can investigate. Calling several hours later decreases our chances of catching the person(s) responsible."

**Anyone with information about this vandalism or any other incidents should contact Lambton OPP at 1-888-310-1122. Those who wish to remain anonymous can call Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477. Crime Stoppers tips leading to a conviction can be eligible for a cash reward.**

## 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 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](http://www.ontarioearlyyears.ca).

## More Around The Township

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ed at no cost. This event, celebrating Family Day, is sponsored by the Optimist Club of Moore. To register, call Mary Lou at 519-862-3950 before Feb. 13. Student volunteers are welcome.

### Indoor walking offered in Mooretown and Brigden

Indoor walking and fitness classes are held in Mooretown 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.

### Looking at the months ahead...

### Bluewater Sharks Adult Recreational Hockey Tournament slated

A women's and men's recreational non-competitive hockey tournament sponsored by the Bluewater Sharks is slated for the weekend of April 25 through 27 at the RBC Centre in Sarnia. The 4th Annual Women's 18 & Over tourney, the 3rd Annual Men's 19 & Over tourney, and the 2nd Annual Men's 35 & Over tourney all begin Friday evening. The cost is \$775 for the weekend. For more information, call Ed at 519-344-8624 ([emarcy@sympatico.ca](mailto:emarcy@sympatico.ca)) or Lance at 519-344-2205 ([lmarcy@cogeco.ca](mailto:lmarcy@cogeco.ca)). Applications are available at: [www.bluewatersharkshockey.com](http://www.bluewatersharkshockey.com).

## 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 the third Monday of every month by 4 p.m.*

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

## Masonic Lodge donates to St. Vincent DePaul Christmas hamper program



On Nov. 16, St. Clair Masonic Lodge #425 held its annual Children's Christmas charity event. Proceeds from the event, which included \$315 plus numerous toys, were subsequently donated to St. Vincent De Paul to help fund its annual Christmas hamper program. The program ensures that the less fortunate families from the Sombra and Port Lambton area have what they need to make their Christmas season bright. Left: Adrian Kloet, center, of St. Clair Lodge #425 delivers a cheque and the new toys to St. Vincent De Paul representatives George Moran and Frank Johnston.

*Photo submitted*



# Around The Township

## Euchre parties slated for Sombra

A series of euchre parties are slated for the Sombra Community Hall at 1 p.m. on the following Fridays: Jan. 3, 10, 17, 24, 31; Feb. 7, 14, 21, 28; March 14, 21, 28; April 4, 11, and 25.

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

## HOOPS basketball league open to students

Students in Grades 3 to 8 with a passion for basketball can now register for HOOPS Basketball house leagues. The next round of leagues will run from Jan. 7 through 31 and no experience is necessary. Grade 3/4 boys, Grade 3/4 and Grade 7/8 girls leagues are held at St. Matthew School in Samia on Tuesdays and Fridays at 5:15 p.m. and 6 p.m. Grade 5/6 girls, Grade 5/6 boys and Grade 7/8 boys leagues play at Holy Trinity School in Samia on Tuesday and St. Pat's on Fridays at 5:15 p.m., 6 p.m., and 6:45 p.m. respectively. Registration is required at a fee of \$50, which includes t-shirt. Registration and contact information is available online at [www.hoopsallstar.ca](http://www.hoopsallstar.ca) or call 519-383-7492. *HOOPS began in 1995 to provide equal play instructional and competitive leagues for elite, non-elite, and beginning players of elementary school age. All coaches are age 18 and over, and both coaches and officials have undergone current background checks. They are not volunteers and are paid for their work.*

## Jamborees set for Brigden

Jamborees will once again keep things lively at the Brigden Fairgrounds exhibition hall this Winter. The *Winter Wonderland Country Jamboree* is set for Sunday, Jan. 12, with doors opening at noon and music starting at 1 p.m. Dinner will follow at 5 p.m. Tickets (including dinner) are \$10 per person and a cash bar will be available. The *Valentine's Country Jamboree* will feature an afternoon of music, dancing and dinner on Sunday, Feb. 9 with doors open at noon, music at 1 p.m. and dinner at 5 p.m. Tickets are \$10 per person and a cash bar will be available. All musicians are welcome to participate in these jamborees. For more information, call the Brigden Fair office at 519-864-1197.



## MAS Annual General Meeting set

The Moore Agricultural Society Annual General Meeting is set for Monday, Jan. 13 beginning with a pot luck dinner at 6:30 p.m. The meeting will follow.

## 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.

## Italian Night at Courtright United

The congregation of Courtright United Church will host the Mission DR Fundraiser *Italian Night* on Sunday, Jan. 19 with 4:30 p.m. and 6 p.m. seatings. The event will include lasagna, Caesar salad, and an ice cream bar. Take-out orders will be available for 4 p.m. pick-up. Tickets are \$15 per person and are available by calling 519-882-4236.

## Chocolate Bar Bingo in Courtright

Kids will love the Chocolate Bar Bingo being held at the Courtright Community Hall (Silverdome) on Saturday, Jan. 25 from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. The currency of admission and play will be regular sized chocolate bars! Admission and one bingo card will cost one chocolate bar, and each additional card will cost another chocolate bar. Parents are asked to accompany their younger children because the games will be using number cards. To register for this sweet event, call Mary Lou at 519-862-3950. Registration must be done by Jan. 23. This event is sponsored by the Optimist Club of Moore. Student volunteers are welcome.

## 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://facebook.com/SombraMuseum) and [twitter.com/SombraMuseum](https://twitter.com/SombraMuseum).



[moore.optimist.tracy@gmail.com](mailto: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 1 p.m.** beginning in January, 2014, and everyone is welcome to come, play along, or listen to some great local entertainment. There is no cover charge and food is available. At the January and February Jam Sessions, enjoy the amateur singing contest. Contestants must register at the Corunna Branch 447 Legion hall one week ahead of the event and, if the singer wishes to have musical accompaniment, it should be requested at the time of registration. The contest finale will be held at the May Jam Session, where the three finalists from the January and February contests will sing for the championship. To date, the contest has drawn a large crowd, but there's always room to come out, sit back, and enjoy the music and singers.

## Family Fun Day in Courtright

Family Fun Day will be held at Airey Lanes in Courtright on Monday, Feb. 17 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Enjoy free 10 pin bowling at 11 a.m., noon, and 1 p.m. A limited number of people can play during each time slot, so please register early. Hamburgers, hot dogs, and chips will be provided at the Courtright Community Hall at a cost of \$1 each, and beverages, tea and coffee will be provided.

