



The St. Clair Township

BEACON

Issue 9

Volume 7

September 2014

BRIGDEN FAIR
IS ON THE WAY!
THANKSGIVING
WEEKEND
OCT. 10-13

Pilots gather in north St. Clair Township to show off their scale model aircraft



Bluewater RC Flyers member Al Harse of Corunna, one of the club's original members, fuels up a quarter-size Piper Super Cub in preparation for flight. The plane, one of 15 radio-controlled planes Al owns, is nine feet long and weighs 18 pounds. *Photo by Bonnie Stevenson*

A field full of avid radio-controlled aircraft enthusiasts gathered in a field near Petrolia on Aug. 2 to share their passion at the Bluewater RC Flyers 37th Annual Memorial Scale Rally.

Bluewater RC Flyers President Art Shepherd says there were about 48 planes and 37 pilots showing off their aerial skills, with

about 160 spectators watching the action. The coveted Best In Show award for the day went to club member Paul Kelly of Sarnia for his PT-17 Stearman biplane.

See RC Flyers, page 6

Fate of OPG Lambton G.S. site still under review

By Bonnie Stevenson

The fate of the OPG Lambton Generating Station site is still under review and it may remain that way for quite a while. This was made clear to Mayor Steve Arnold during a recent fact-finding meeting with OPG representatives. Colin Andrews, OPG site manager for southwest operations, said, "We're in asset preservation mode. The site is going to be secured but that is all that has been

decided to date. All we can do is reassure the people we'll continue to keep up the site so it can be brought back to power if needed."

While the review process is in progress, OPG will still be taking an interest in the community and, in return, the company hopes the community will still be supportive. Susan Thurston, senior communications advisor for southwestern

See Lambton OPG site transition, page 4

St. Clair River Trail bicycle courtesy needed

The Beacon has received several emails concerning the lack of consideration being exhibited by some cyclists who use the St. Clair River Trail. There were reports of near-misses - cyclists nearly hitting pedestrians as they approach. Some walkers find it frightening to suddenly be passed by a speeding bicycle and, as a result, may jump into the cyclist's path.

Cyclists who use the trail are there because it offers a safe traffic-free path for them to enjoy, but they must also exercise courtesy when en-

countering pedestrians using the trail. They should make every effort to warn pedestrians of their approach. Deputy Mayor Peter Gilliland, who is a member of the St. Clair Trail Committee, says a bell or simple audible warning given well in advance of an encounter is all that is needed to avoid potential injuries.

Cyclists, skateboarders, and roller-bladers are asked to exercise common sense and courtesy while using the trail.

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To contact *The Beacon*, email: beacon@twp.stclairon.ca



Municipal Notes

Solutions to the problem of high speed service delivery within the Township are being investigated. Mayor Arnold says he met with a COGECO representative and requested an estimate for the installation of fibre optic cable throughout the township. The new cable would result in a one gig transfer speed.

Mayor Arnold says, "He (the representative) is hoping to have a high level cut at pricing within a couple of months. This will include potential

High speed service discussed with COGECO

cost shares and granting possibilities, as well as information as to what other municipalities have done to fund this important infrastructure."

He added that, if the cable installation is accomplished, it will complete parts of the township that are underserved, including Sombra, as well as the entire township.

Once the information has been received, public consultation and input will begin.

AMO conference explains SWIFT project

During the recent Association of Municipalities of Ontario conference, the SWIFT (South Western Integrated Fibre Technology) project, a new high speed Internet project, was explained. The project will ensure that 3.5 million people in 310 communities within southwestern Ontario receive Internet service that will deliver one gig transfer speed. It will

See SWIFT, page 7



St. Clair Township 2014 Property Tax Due Date

The final tax due date will be Oct. 1, 2014

The 2014 final tax notices for non-capped properties were mailed out the last week of June.

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

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

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

- Automatic Bank Machines
- Telephone and Internet payments through bank
- Payment at most financial institutions
- Post-dated cheques
- Counter services, cash, cheque or debit
- Mail the payment to or use the drop box at:
St. Clair Township Civic Centre
1155 Emily Street
Mooretown, Ontario
N0N 1M0

Pre-authorized payment plans
are also available and encouraged.

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

Council meeting schedule

Meetings of St. Clair Township Council are held at the St. Clair Township Civic Centre, 1155 Emily Street in Mooretown on the first and third Mondays of each month. In September, due to the Labour Day Weekend, the first meeting will be held on Tuesday, Sept. 2 at 6:30 p.m. The second will be held on Monday, Sept. 15 at 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.



Sewer Mains Flushing

Attention St. Clair Township residents

Public Works will be flushing sewer mains connected to the St. Clair Township sewer system during the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. beginning May, 2014 and continuing into the fall. During this maintenance procedure, you may notice some gurgling noises in the drains. If conditions persist after 24 to 48 hours of normal use, please notify Public Works at 519-867-2993.

Nova VanderSlagt
Water/Wastewater Specialist



Hydrant Flushing

Attention St. Clair Township residents

Public Works will conduct annual flushing of fire hydrants connected to the St. Clair Township water system from 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. beginning May, 2014 and continuing into the fall. During this maintenance, you may notice some discolouration when using your taps, flushing the toilet, doing laundry, etc. as some sediment may be drawn into your residence. We recommend you run the cold water tap for a few minutes or until the discolouration disappears. If it continues after 10 to 15 minutes of normal use, please notify Public Works at 519-867-2993.

Nova VanderSlagt
Water/Wastewater Specialist

PUBLIC MEETING Hydro One to discuss outages with council

Hydro One has agreed to entertain an open forum at the Sept. 15 meeting of St. Clair Township Council at 5:30 p.m. The company's representatives will make a brief presentation which will be followed by a question period related to recent power outages in the western part of St. Clair Township, as well as other items. **The public is encouraged to attend.**

St. Clair Township Election 2014

In the coming months leading up to the October 27, 2014 municipal election, *The Beacon* will include a candidate statement as each new candidate files nomination papers. Our intention is to help St. Clair Township residents gain a sense of what the prospective candidates stand for and their expectations for their term in office if they are elected.

Candidates registered to date include: Steve Arnold (Mayor); Darrell Randell (Councillor); Peter Gilliland (Deputy Mayor); Steve Miller (Councillor - Ward 2); Tracy Kingston (Councillor - Ward 1); Jeff Agar (Councillor - Ward 1); Carol Bryden (Trustee - St. Clair Catholic District School Board), Pat Carswell-Alexander (Councillor - Ward 1), Pat Brown (Councillor - Ward 1), Greg Agar (Trustee - Lambton Kent District School Board), Jim DeGurse (Councillor - Ward 1).

Candidate Statements

Incumbent councillor Pat Carswell-Alexander, who had decided not to run in the upcoming election, has had a change of heart. She is running for Councillor in Ward 1. Ms. Carswell-Alexander says, "I was planning on retiring so I might look after my father over the next few years. Since his passing and a good night's sleep, I realized how much I enjoy being on

council and how much I would miss it.

I have been assigned to most of the committees that require council representation over the past 17 years. I have learned a lot and have enjoyed every assignment. The next term will be challenging to the new council as many long-time employees have or will be retiring. This gives us a unique opportunity to look at job descriptions and

staff organization to find efficiencies where possible.

I am looking forward to completing the many projects we have already started such as water line looping to ensure all of our ratepayers have a safe and stable source of clean drinking water. We also need to continue to develop our industrial park, bringing new indus-

See More statements, page 4



2014 Municipal election registration

Municipal Election Day in Ontario is set for Monday, Oct. 27, 2014.

Nomination papers may be filled out at the St. Clair Township Civic Centre any time during normal office hours until 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
519-867-2021

Clerk Jeff Baranek

Notice to property owners - destroy weeds

Notice is hereby given to all persons in possession of land, in accordance with the Weed Control Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter W.5, Section 3, 16, and 23, that unless noxious weeds growing on their lands within the municipality of the Township of St. Clair are destroyed throughout the season, the municipality may enter upon the said lands and have the weeds destroyed, charging the cost against the land, plus an administration charge as set out in the Act. (Minimum charge per parcel is \$50.) The cooperation of all land owners is earnestly solicited.

**ST. CLAIR
TOWNSHIP
ONLINE**

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

More candidate statements for October municipal election

From page 3

try to the municipality, promoting the creation of more local jobs, and increasing tax revenue.

I have given this decision careful consideration and I'm looking forward to continuing on in my current role.

Pat Brown, a candidate for Councillor in Ward 1, says, "As a former St. Clair Township Councillor, I will use my experience and knowledge to make positive improvements for business, industry, and farming, along with keeping our Township a great place to live and raise a family. I believe we can have continued growth in housing and attract industry to build new plants in our area. This will in turn create stable small business opportunities. With the loss of major tax revenue, the maintenance of township infrastructure and services provided by our township needs to continue with controlled taxation levels."

He continued, "With my experience on previous Moore and St. Clair Township Councils, I will serve residents well. I have served on many Township committees and currently serve on the Corunna Community Policing Committee. I sup-

port our minor sports and numerous community groups that all contribute to making our Township a great place to live. I ask residents to exercise their right to vote by using the mail-in ballot that will be used for this election."

Greg Agar, a candidate for Trustee of the Lambton Kent District School Board, says, "Education is so important. The challenges are how to provide the same services with fewer dollars and make it work. My experience as the chief steward of Local 194 Nova Corunna as well as two Federal election runs as the local NDP candidate has provided me with skills I can use to serve on the Lambton Kent District School Board. I am fair, honest, and well-respected in the community, and since I will be retiring from my job soon, I will be able to devote 100 per cent to being a good trustee."

Jim DeGurse's statement was not available at press time but will be published in the October issue of The Beacon.

For an up-to-date list of candidates running in the October 14 municipal election,
go online to: www.twp.stclair.on.ca/candidates



Municipal Voters List available for review

The voters list, as required by the Municipal Elections Act, is available for review in the Clerk's office at the St. Clair Township Civic Centre, 1155 Emily Street in Mooretown. Voters should examine the list to ensure that their names and relevant information are accurately shown. Applications for additions or corrections to, or deletions from the list may be made by an elector by completing and filing

a form obtainable at the Civic Centre during normal office hours up to and including Oct. 27, 2014. No person shall use information obtained from the voters list except for election purposes. Voters are encouraged to make any changes to the voters list prior to election day. Please contact Jeff Baranek with any questions related to the voters list.

Jeff Baranek
Clerk

Lambton OPG site transition more difficult than expected

From page 1

operations, said, "The support of the community is important. It is our licence to operate in the future."

The transition of the facility from operational to a state of preservation has been an arduous task, according to Mr. Andrews. "A large amount of work needed to be done and we didn't realize how difficult it would be."

Mr. Andrews and Ms. Thurston stressed that decisions concerning the Lambton site will ultimately be made by the province. Mayor Arnold said his dealings with the decision-makers have not been fruitful and it now seems the issue is being ignored. "We've had a number of meetings with the Deputy Minister but Lambton seems to have gone off the provincial radar now," he said. "The Minister of Energy and the Premier will not speak to us directly."

However, he added that a deputation from St. Clair Township was to meet with the Deputy Minister of Energy at the AMO (Association of Municipalities of Ontario) meeting on Aug. 18. He expressed hope that the meeting would yield some answers and it did, to a degree. Mayor Arnold was told the final direction of long term plans would not be known until 2018 or 2019, depending on how the economy continues to grow and if the grid needs additional energy from the plant. "If we need additional energy, then Lambton stands a strong chance of retooling," said Mayor Arnold after the meeting. "We also discussed

things that are needed in a retooling and if they could be used in other places, for instance, things like the coal unloading equipment, and that there should be a multistage plan for the removal of unusable assets from the site. They said that they would have that discussion as part of their go-ahead strategy." Mayor Arnold says he was told the township would hear more over the next couple of years.

In the meantime, there have been complaints to council over the unkempt state of the Lambton site this summer. The grounds have been left to grow wild. Mr. Andrews says he is aware of the residents' concerns. "Property maintenance does not meet our expectations and we are putting a plan in place to cut grass more regularly and maintain the property to a better standard," he said. "With the government announcement to close the sites one year earlier, we have been concentrating on preserving the equipment and assets and managing staff...It looks like there will be a need for it in the future. We need to maintain flexibility...The program we're putting in place is to protect the assets long term." Further, he says there have been some inquiries about dock use, the use of the coal storage area, and more. Mr. Andrews said, "We're looking at opportunities to use the site."

OPG representatives will be making a presentation to council during a public forum this fall. At that time, it is hoped answers may be forthcoming.

St. Clair Township Election webpages

To keep St. Clair Township residents supplied with up-to-date election information, two new Webpages have been developed. They can be found under the St. Clair Township Website or accessed at:

General information: http://www.twp.stclair.on.ca/2014_election.htm

Candidate list: <http://www.twp.stclair.on.ca/candidates.htm>



St. Clair Township Yard Waste/Brush Collection



The Township of St. Clair offers a yard waste/brush collection program for defined areas, in order to reduce the amount of compostable material directed to the landfill site.

YARD WASTE is collected separately from regular waste on a weekly basis in urbanized areas of the Township (collections begin at 7 a.m.). Yard waste from the balance of the township is collected with the regular waste collection.

COLLECTION SCHEDULE

Collection will be on Wednesday and Friday, each week, depending on the service area.

Wednesday: * Corunna (Including Froomfield area)

*St. Clair Parkway (north of Emily Street, Mooretown)

Friday: * Brigden, Courtright, Mooretown, Port Lambton

Sombra Village, Wilkesport, Chenal Ecarte Leeland Gardens

*St. Clair Parkway (south of Emily Street in Mooretown)

Through September, yard waste will be collected with the regular waste collection, subject to the six item limit.

The fall yard waste collection will begin Wednesday, Oct. 22 and Friday, Oct. 24 and will continue until Wednesday, Nov. 26 and Friday, Nov. 28.

Please note: Fall yard waste collection dates posted in the Township calendar should be the same as above.

Yard waste includes: grass, leaves, garden plants, hedge trimmings, and twigs, (generally plants with stems smaller than a lead pencil. Kitchen waste, earth, stones, tree stumps, logs, body wood, large brush, and whole shrubs with root ball attached are not permitted. (For Brush collection, see below.)

Yard waste placed at the side of the road for collection must be bagged in clear or transparent plastic bag, paper bags, open containers clearly marked with an "X" on both sides and must be free of all non-compostable material such as plastic, glass, metal, or other debris.

The term "open containers" DOES NOT include: blue boxes or cardboard boxes.

Containers must not exceed 23 kg/50 lb.

Yard waste placed in regular garbage bags will not be collected.

Brush collection:

Small brush bundles will be collected again on Oct. 24 with the following guidelines: 4' max. length, 1" max. diameter, cut ends all in one direction, neat piles (not tangled) and tied and placed at the curb.

Blue Box items include: newspaper; fibre or paper products **except** carbon paper; clear or colour glass **except** light bulbs, mirrors, dishes, ceramics, sheet glass, and broken glass; metal and aluminum cans **except** aluminum foil, metal pots, disposable cooking tins, coat hangars, oil filters, sheet metal, and toys; plastics **except** plastic bags, toys, containers with no markings on the bottom, no oil containers (cooking or motor); cardboard or boxboard **except** boxes containing food eg. Pizza box with toppings stuck to lid.

For more information, please contact:

St. Clair Township Public Works at 519-867-2125 or www.twp.stclair.on.ca

RC Flyers club provides place for model enthusiasts to gather

From page 1

Mr. Kelly says the actual airplane was used by the American air force before WWII as a pilot training airplane and is still a favourite at airshows. In Canada, the plane is known as a Kaydet. Mr. Kelly added he has only flown the plane 10 times and entered it in the RC Flyers event on behalf of an ailing friend.

The club, which got its start in a Camlachie farmer's field in 1971, currently has about 38 members, although it has had as many as 60. Each year, club members gather at the field to try out their aircraft and share information. Many of them also attend fun flies and scale rallies held in other zones throughout southwestern Ontario and beyond.

Mr. Shepherd says it's quite easy to get started in radio-controlled aircraft. "A trainer plane and basic radio will cost about \$250 to \$300," he said, adding the radio usually has three or four channels to control key flight functions including throttle, ailerons, elevator and rudder. The more sophisticated aircraft may require up to 14 channels.

Anyone interested in knowing more about the club and radio-controlled aircraft can visit the club's Website at: www.bluewaterflyers.info

Below from top right: The *Best In Show* aircraft, Paul Kelly's PT-17 Stearman, comes in for a landing; Bluewater RC Flyers Club President Art Shepherd reattaches wing strut to his model Cessna 182; a lineup of scale models wait to take to the air.



Photos by
Bonnie Stevenson



This photo submitted by Paul Kelly



SUPPORT OUR TROOPS AT THE *RED FRIDAY RALLY*

Friday, September 12 - 1600 Hr to 1900 Hr (4-7 p.m.)

The Royal Canadian Legion Brigden Branch, 3021 Brigden Road, will host a *Legion Red Friday Rally* to honour and support our Canadian forces veterans and all those still serving at home and around the world, as well as our RCMP.

Be sure to wear red to show our armed forces men and women we support them.

SWIFT Internet project to benefit southwestern Ontario communities including rural areas

From page 2

provide ultra high speed fibre connectivity to farm, business, and residential users. The cost of the first phase of the multiple-phase project is anticipated to be \$240 million, with one GBPS access costing less than \$100 per month per user. It is estimated that all phases of the project will be com-

pleted by 2040.

Mayor Arnold says he has been requesting high speed service for the township for four years and discussions are currently underway with CO-GEICO. This will provide high speed service in the short-term, while the SWIFT project will ensure such service will be available well into the future.

Take ownership of your health with the Rapids Family Health Team

September 2014 Program Schedule

The following sessions are being offered at the Rapids Family Health Team clinic located in the Shell Health Centre, 233 Cameron Street, in Corunna. There is no charge for participation and sessions are open to anyone living in St. Clair Township. Space is limited and to participate, you must register. If the team is unable to accommodate you for the day of your choice, you will be put on a waiting list for future sessions.

For more information, go to www.rapidsfhteam.ca. To register, call 519-813-9800 and speak to the receptionist.

Living with Diabetes

This is a two-hour session that provides a general overview of diabetes. We will discuss some of the most common myths about diabetes, learn what "good control" is, and discuss some of the things you can do to manage diabetes. The session is led by a Diabetes Educator.

This session will be held on Tuesday, Sept. 9 from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Diabetes Healthy Eating and Physical Activity

This is a two-hour session for people who have already attended the *Living with Diabetes* class or who have had past education on the basics of diabetes and want more information on diet. We will discuss 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, led by a Registered Dietitian, will be held on Tuesday, Sept. 16 from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Quit Smoking Workshop

This two-hour session is 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, managing withdrawal symptoms, and how to prevent relapse. Participants are also welcome to schedule individual appointments to receive further support and information from one of our nurse educators.

The session is set for Friday, Oct. 3 from 10 a.m. to Noon.

It's Food and You seminar series

Rapids Family Health Team, Corunna site, is piloting a seminar series. Every three months, a Registered Dietitian will be offering a seminar on a hot topic of nutrition. Relevant information on that topic will be presented, and products and resources appropriate to the topic of discussion will be available. A question-and-answer period will also be offered. Everyone is welcome to attend. We appreciate pre-registration so that we can plan for adequate seating. Please call 519-813-9800 for more information or to register.

The upcoming seminar on Thursday, Sept. 11 from 9:30 a.m. to

11:30 a.m. will be on the topic, *Sugar In Your Foods*.

Healthy Kids Chefs In Training - After School Program

This program will be for children entering Grades 1 through 4. The children will learn about healthy eating and will participate in hands-on cooking activities under the supervision of our Registered Dietitian. Take home activities will be provided daily and each family will receive a booklet containing activities and recipes.

These programs, partnered with the Optimist Club of Moore, will be held at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church in Corunna.

The **After School Program** will run for six weeks beginning Sept. 30 to Nov. 4 from 4 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Adult Cooking Classes

These hands-on adult cooking classes will be facilitated by a Registered Dietitian. They will help you build familiarity with kitchen tools and ingredients that support a balanced diet. **In Corunna**, a class will be held at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church from 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. on Oct. 8. The topic will be *Meatless Monday Meals*.

Classes will also be available at the NOVA Chemicals Teaching Kitchen, 1150 Pontiac Drive, Samia from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. on the following dates: Sept. 8 - Brain Foods; Sept. 22 - FOD MAP (irritable bowel); Oct. 6 - Balance and Bone Health; Oct. 22 - Cooking For One; Nov. 3 - Gut Health: Pre-and Pro-Biotics, and Fermented Food; Nov. 17 - Cooking with Pulses - Bean recipes.

Memory and Aging program

Rapids Family Health Team is pleased to offer an educational program developed by Baycrest, a renowned academic health science centre focused on aging. The program is intended for individuals who are experiencing normal age-related memory changes. Through instructor-led discussions, in-class activities, and evidence-based strategies, participants gain a better understanding of how memory works and tools to better manage their memory function. Topics covered will include:

- ◆ Changes in memory that naturally occur with age.
- ◆ The effect of medical and lifestyle factors on memory.
- ◆ The effect of stress and relaxation on memory.
- ◆ How to minimize age-related changes.
- ◆ Strategies for improving memory functioning.

Sessions will be held on Wednesdays for five weeks beginning on Oct. 8 from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Spots are limited.

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### **Lab open daily during the week**

The lab at the Shell Health Centre at 233 Cameron Street is open on week days from 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. for all residents of St. Clair Township.



## Q105 exhibit launch attracts large crowd - museum volunteers receive thanks

The Q105, the Sarnia-built sub chaser that served in the cold, dangerous Atlantic waters during WWII, is now permanently commemorated at the Sombra Museum Cultural Centre with an exhibition of artifacts from the ship.

The exhibition was formally dedicated on Aug. 7 with an open house. Visitors to the museum don't even have to go inside to get their first glimpse of the exhibit. The new Q105 propeller installation (*see photo bottom left*) now stands outside the building thanks to donations from Pembina and Shell Canada.

Inside, the display includes an interactive representation of the Q105's control console and a scale model of the ship as she was during wartime. During the open house, Sombra Museum Board Chairman David Lee extended thanks to all of the volunteers who helped prepare it and to the many donors who helped fund this important commemoration of the area's marine heritage. Mayor Arnold noted, "This project has so much to do with our collective heritage."

The Q105 was one of eight sub chasers built at the Mac-Craft Ltd. shipyard in Sarnia during WWII. It was based on plans for a Fairmile B type motor launch designed in Great Britain. The Fairmile-class sub chasers were built in smaller shipyards around the world due to the smaller scale of the vessel. The Fairmile class ships were used to protect coastal convoys, port approaches, and coastal waters against submarine incursions. The vessel was most recently used as a cruise vessel on the St. Clair River known to most local residents as the Duc d'Orleans.

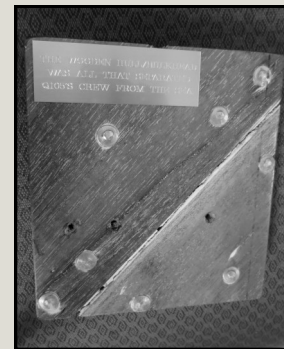
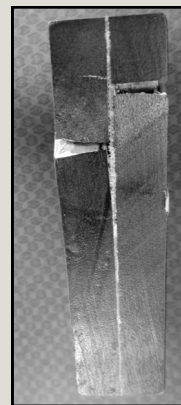
During the event, those who played important roles in the creation of the exhibition were presented with plaques crafted from actual square sections of the Q105's hull (*see photos bottom right*). The sections, consisting of two laminated and riveted plies of opposing diagonal wooden planks, are a chilling reminder of just how little there was between those who sailed aboard the Q105 and the cold, submarine-infested ocean waters below.

Recipients of these plaques included: Shell Canada, Pembina, Huron Alloys, Lamsar, FlowServe, Veolia, George Klompstra (designed and built the control console), Dave and Teresa Findley (built the Q105 scale model), Patti Kingwood, Dean MacDonald and family, descendants of the owners of the Mac-Craft Ltd. Facility.



David Lee, chairman of the Sombra Museum board, speaks about the significance of the new Q105 exhibit and propeller installation on the grounds of the Sombra Museum Cultural Centre.

Photos by Bonnie Stevenson



Hull plaques - cross-section and side view

## Junior Optimist Club kids 'costume event to feature reptile petting zoo

**HEY, KIDS, WHO WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE WHEN YOU GROW UP?** The Lambton County Junior Optimist Club would like to find out. So on Saturday, Sept. 27 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., come to the Courtright Community Centre (Silverdome) dressed up as your favourite person, real or imagined, and bring a stuffed animal. This **Free** event is open to kids of any age. There will be games, activities, and surprises. Hot dogs, chips and drinks will be just \$1 each. And as an added treat, 17-year-old **Luke Habel of Corunna** will be there with his **Griffen and Friends Reptile Petting Zoo**. The zoo includes 17 bearded dragons, geckos, and a seven-year-old iguana. Luke received a \$3,000 grant from the provincial Summer Company Program to operate his business this year, but will be making his visit free of charge. His show is available for hire for parties, camps and other occasions.





## HERITAGE CORNER

# Majestic passenger ship *S. S. Noronic* ended in tragedy

By Ian Mason and Bonnie Stevenson

If you have lived along the St. Clair River for any length of time, you will have heard of the noble beginning and the tragic end of the majestic *S. S. Noronic*.

She was the flagship of the Canada Steamship Lines, Northern Navigation Division, launched from the Western Dry Dock and Shipbuilding Company in Port Arthur, Ontario. But her exquisitely crafted interiors were made with care and pride in Sarnia. From the time she left Point Edward on her maiden voyage in May, 1914, to the horrifying day 35 years later when she was destroyed by fire, she plied the waters of the Great Lakes offering passengers the finest in luxurious surroundings.

This month marks the 65th anniversary of the violent passing of the *S.S. Noronic*. In the early morning of Saturday, Sept. 17, 1949, while docked at Pier 9 in Toronto Harbour, the stately ship caught fire and burned, killing 119 of the 524 passengers on board. The tragedy took the life of Miss Louisa Dusten of Sarnia, who had strong family ties in Sombra where she is buried in the Riverside Cemetery. It also ruined a life.

Capt. William Taylor, commander of the *S.S. Noronic* at the time of its destruction, was a Mooretown resident who began his 47-year sailing career on the St. Clair River. Eleven days after the fire, a Court of Investigation was convened. It lasted five weeks and its findings indicated Capt. Taylor and the company had not taken proper precautions for the safety of



The *S. S. Noronic* steams down the St. Clair River carrying passengers on a thrilling cruise through the Great Lakes.



The once-noble *S. S. Noronic* sits in smouldering ruins at Toronto Harbour's Pier 9 on Saturday, Sept. 17, 1949.

the passengers in the event of tragedy. Only 15 of the 171 crew members were on duty when the fire broke out. Fire drill procedures were practiced only by the crew, but the company held that vacationing passengers should not be bothered by the annoying interruption of emergency drills. The Court's report was damning of Capt. Taylor's lack of emergency preparedness and berated his judgement. Further, it determined he should have an-

anticipated the potential for disaster. Capt. Taylor's certificate was ordered to be suspended for a year, but he never asked to be reinstated even though the Canada Steamship Line scoffed at the findings and offered to retain him on the payroll. He resigned from the company and never sailed again.

Capt. Taylor returned to the area to live, although not in the historic home he owned in Mooretown. His wife, Harriett, continued to live in the house with her sister-in-law, Grace Taylor. He eventually moved into Sarnia where he worked as a desk clerk at McFee's Hotel. He is buried in Bear Creek Cemetery on Moore Line.

The *Noronic* disaster prompted a drastic change in guidelines regarding Canadian passenger ships. Only a few of those ships met with the requirements at that time and instead of retrofitting the ones that didn't comply, they were simply laid up and eventually scrapped. The last surviving Canadian Great Lakes passenger steamship, the *Keewatin*, was retired from passenger service in 1965. American passenger ships didn't last much longer due to equivalent restrictive requirements. The *S.S. South America* was retired from service in 1967.

The *Noronic* was known by her nickname, *Queen of the Lakes*, which demonstrates the affection she inspired in those who saw her go by and who sailed aboard her. But since Sarnia and Point Edward were the home ports of the Northern Navigation Division of the Canada Steamship Line and many local people worked on the ships, it held a special place in the hearts of the people of Lambton County.

A plaque commemorating the *Noronic* disaster can be seen today located near the site of the tragedy just west of the Westin Harbour Castle Hotel on the Toronto waterfront.

### Sombra Museum seeks WWI items

World War I items, memorabilia or stories are being sought for the Sombra Museum's new exhibit to commemorate the 100th anniversary of "the war to end all wars". Call 519-892-3982 for more information.

### Royal Canadian Legion Service Bureau assists veterans and their families

The Royal Canadian Legion Service Bureau's motto, "We Care", means Veterans and their families can find help when it's needed.

The bureau provides free representation with disability claims to Veterans Affairs Canada and with appeals to Veterans Affairs Canada and the Appeals Boards.

The bureau's Last Post Fund program provides

permanent markers for Veterans who have been buried for at least five years and whose grave is unmarked. And the bureau provides assistance to all Veterans and their families in financial need to meet emergency requirements.

For information and/or assistance, call Coruna at 519-862-1240 or Bridgen at 519-864-1395.

Legion membership is NOT required.

# Mooretown Sports Complex - avoid winter waist expansion!

## Fall Programs

**Swimming lessons:** Register now for private, group, adult, and parent and tot programs. Lessons begin the week of Sept. 22. The fall brochure can be found online at [www.twp.stclair.on.ca/brochure](http://www.twp.stclair.on.ca/brochure)

**Spinning classes:** Certified spinning instructors lead you through a great workout to improve cardiovascular endurance, muscular strength, and power. Classes are Tuesday and Thursday from 7:15 a.m. to 8 a.m., or Friday from 6 a.m. to 6:45 a.m., or Monday from 7:15 p.m. to 8 p.m., or Wednesday from 5 p.m. to 5:45 p.m. **Beginners** can join classes on Tuesday or Thursday from 7:15 p.m. to 8 p.m. For those who want **strength training** with their spin workout, join **Bikes & Bells** classes on Friday from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m., or Monday from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. Kids Spin & Swim is held Friday from 7:15 p.m. to 8 p.m. Classes are \$60 per session, \$80/10 class spin pass, or \$10/drop-in.

**Yoga:** Explore the tranquil and restorative power of yoga with this six-week program to be held Tuesday evenings from 6 p.m. - 7 p.m. beginning Sept. 23. Cost is \$30 for the session.

**Jr./Primary Hip Hop - ages seven to 13:** Join Hana Omar-Craig from HOC Dance Club to learn fun, exciting and popular Hip Hop dance moves. Classes are Thursday from 5:15 p.m. to 6 p.m. beginning Sept. 25. Cost is \$60 for the six-week session.

**Hip Hop - Adult beginner:** The adult class is all about fun! Shed pounds while you learn fun new moves. No experience is required so come and enjoy! Classes are Thursdays from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. beginning Sept. 25. Cost is \$60 for the six-week session.

**Muscle Mix - Fitness Classes:** These group classes use kettlebell training to build lean muscles, improve strength and power in the upper body, core, and lower body, and increase coordination, joint mobility, and overall endurance. Classes are Monday and Wednesday from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. Cost is \$6/class, \$5/class/senior, \$45/10 visit pass, or \$255/year for full fitness centre membership.

**Shallow & Deep Water Aerobics:** Experience the rejuvenating power

of water. Programs include a variety of exercises that target posture, muscular endurance, strength, cardiovascular, flexibility, and balance. Shallow water classes are Monday, Wednesday, Friday from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m., Tuesday and Thursday from 8 p.m. to 9 p.m. Deep water classes are Monday and Wednesday from 8 p.m. to 9 p.m. Cost is \$6/class, \$5/class/senior, \$45/10 visit pass, or \$205/year, \$195/year/senior.

**Water Therapy:** This program includes cardiovascular training, functional fitness, muscular endurance and strength, and balance and flexibility training with a goal of improved mobility. Classes are Tuesday and Thursday from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. Cost is \$6/class, \$5/class/senior, \$45/class/senior or \$45/10 visit pass. Join any time.

**Indoor/Outdoor Walking exercise program:** The West Lambton CHC sponsored walking exercise program is held every Monday and Wednesday morning from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. beginning Sept. 3. Join any time.

**Red Cross Babysitting course:** This course is scheduled for PA Day Friday, Nov. 21 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Includes the responsibilities of the babysitter, safety tips for children of all ages, basic child care skills, and what to do in an emergency. The cost for the program, including manual, is \$45.

**Shinny Hockey is back!** Adult shinny hockey will be held every Tuesday morning from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. beginning Sept. 23. The cost is \$5 per person.

**Public Skate:** Sundays 1 p.m. to 2:15 p.m. begins Sept. 21. Cost is \$2.25/child, \$3.25/adult, \$6.50/family.

**Parents, Tots & Seniors Skate:** Free! Wednesday and Thursday from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. beginning Sept. 10.

**Lifeguard & Swimming Instructor courses:** You can become a lifeguard and swimming instructor! For more information, contact us at 519-867-2651.

**For more information or to register for a program listed above, call the Mooretown Sports Complex at 519-867-2651.**

## Heritage St. Clair commemorates WWI on the *Canadian Great War Project* website

Heritage St. Clair is commemorating the 100th anniversary of WWI by trying to include all of the St. Clair Township residents who served in that conflict on the Canadian Great War Project. This new Website is endeavouring to list all of the over 600,000 Canadians who served in that conflict. The site will include a summary of each soldier's attestation paper (document the soldier signed when he enlisted) information plus information about their service. There will be room for pictures and personal information and anyone who registers will be able to add information about a family member.

Heritage St. Clair members discovered that the Archives Canada Website does not list every Canadian WWI soldier yet, so the Canadian Great War Project is especially significant.

The Canadian Great War Project also links the viewer to the War Graves Commission Website. The St. Clair list has over 35 local men who died either during the war or after the war as a result of injuries sustained during the war.

The heritage group will build on the foundation that was begun by Sombra resident Catherine Bowman over a decade ago. She has been collecting names, pictures and attestation papers of Sombra Township WWI soldiers and has been acknowledged as the real local genesis behind the local initiative. Spokesperson Allan Anderson says he learned a lot about the process of collecting these names from a Chatham resident, Jerry Hind, who he saw featured in a local news story in 2013. "Jerry has been collecting the names of Chatham Kent WWI and WW2 veterans from that community," he said. "I contacted Jerry and met with him to learn more about the ins and outs of his project. He gladly supplied me with a great deal of advice and ideas on

how to proceed." After presenting the idea to Heritage St. Clair, he offered to spearhead the effort. He says committee members Murray McAllister, Catherine Bowman, and Gail Moran brought a great deal of enthusiasm, interest, computer and organization skills to categorizing all of the information, as did Bob Nicol when he joined later on. They've encountered some snags along the way because many men have the same name and their place of residency may be difficult to establish.

Mr. Anderson says *Ancestry.ca* has been a good source of information and each soldier's regimental number is of great importance to gaining further information. To date, 444 local residents who served, along with their information, are listed on the St. Clair Township Website. Heritage St. Clair is hopeful it will be read for interest and to inspire pride in the community's contribution to the WWI effort.

The public is still encouraged to contribute family photos and information to this project. The Sombra Museum, which houses a poignant WWI exhibit, can be contacted at [sombramuseum@hotmail.com](mailto:sombramuseum@hotmail.com) with any information you wish to share.

*The project has not touched on the dedicated, committed efforts of the many women who served as nurses during the war, nor the efforts of all Canadians who contributed to the war effort on the home front. The committee is discussing this component of the project for inclusion in the published version of the collection. For anyone who is interested in finding out more about the local contributions to the war, read: Lambton's Own: The 149th Battalion of the Canadian Expeditionary Force.*

## Township now has three emergency notification methods in service

By Walter Anderson CFO

When it comes to emergency notifications in St. Clair Township, there are three different ways to let residents know that something is happening. The siren system in the Corunna area has been around the longest. When it is activated, it means you should go indoors and tune to a local radio station for instructions. This system is not to be confused with the fire sirens located at each fire station because these are used to help summon the volunteer firefighters.

A few years ago, the township added the *Alert FM* system that works via an FM signal which is sent to receivers located in residences, schools, and business locations, as well as through a dedicated mobile phone app. The *Alert FM* receivers can be purchased for \$10 at the St. Clair Township Fire Department administration office located in the Emergency Services Building at the corner of Lyndoch and Hill Streets in Corunna. These receivers will broadcast weather alerts, chemical and other industrial incidents that require action by you, plus other important information sent by emergency officials.

And now, we also have a system by Everbridge which we call *MyCNN*. This system was purchased by the CAER organization as a way to get important emergency messages out to a

large portion of the population in Sarnia and Lambton County. The *MyCNN* system broadcasts four mandatory alerts - tornado warnings, shelter in place, evacuation, and drinking water warnings. Besides the mandatory broadcasts, the Township of St. Clair is in the process of setting up local messages which you can sign up for if you want information such as road closures and bus cancellations. To sign up for *MyCNN*, go to the Township Website at [www.twp.stclair.on.ca](http://www.twp.stclair.on.ca) and click on the *MyCNN* logo, then follow the instructions. You can set your system up for the regular notifications to come to your home, business, and mobile phones as well as via text and email.

Shortly, the *Alert FM* and *MyCNN* will be linked so the mandatory notifications that come through *MyCNN* will also come through the *Alert FM* receiver, as well as to the St. Clair Township Fire and Emergency Management social meeting sites on Twitter and Facebook.

Anyone with questions regarding emergency notifications in St. Clair Township can contact Emergency Services at 519-481-0111.

*Walter Anderson is the Lambton County Fire Coordinator and Director of Emergency Services for the St. Clair Township Fire Department.*

## Brigden Fair Parade entries being accepted now

Yes, it's time again to put your creative thinking cap on and come up with a fabulous float or captivating costume for the annual Brigden Fair Parade. This year's theme is "Country Scenes and Children's Dreams."

In addition to the regular parade categories, the parade committee has come up with two new float classes: Best Decorated Youth float and Best Theme float. There is also a new division for horses.

Division A Classes include: Best Decorated Commercial Float; Best Decorated Float by a group or organization; Best Decorated youth group float (4-H, school, scouts, etc.); Best Decorated family float; Best 2014 Theme float; Best Decorated vehicle; Best Decorated pet.

Division B Classes include: Clowns - Toddlers to 6 years; Juniors ages 7 to 10; Senior ages 11 to 17; Adults 18 years and over at time of fair.

Division C Classes include: Antique Vehicles; Commercial Vendor Vehicles.

Division D Classes include: Horses - Best Team and Driver; Best Mounted Rider; Best Group or Club entry.

The committee and board of directors reserve the right to make final decisions on all problems that might arise.

Pre-registration is important for successful lineup organization and all it costs is \$5, the regular Moore Agricultural Society exhibitor fee. All entries must be received by Friday, Sept. 26 at the Brigden Fair office, 2976 Brigden Road, Brigden, Ontario,



**A float carrying past Brigden Fair Ambassadors graced the 2013 Brigden Fair parade. Will yours be as good?**

NON 1B0. Late entries will be subject to a fee of \$10 after Sept. 26. Prize monies will be paid to a maximum of 10 entries in each category.

## Corunna LCBO exceeds its United Way goal by 377 per cent!

The staff of the Corunna LCBO branch reports that donations made by their customers to the in-store 2014 United Way of Sarnia-Lambton campaign has exceeded the goal of \$575 by

377 per cent! They have raised an impressive \$2,169 and would like to thank their customers for their generosity and for supporting their community through the work of the United Way.

**No matter where you are, read The Beacon online at:  
[www.twp.stclair.on.ca](http://www.twp.stclair.on.ca) - click on "Beacon"**

## Corunna teen recounts memories of her “trip of a lifetime”

Corunna teen Monica Ventura Khoshaie recently returned from the Pilgrimage For Youth 2014 sponsored by the Odd Fellows and Rebekah Lodges. This is her column detailing the learning experiences she enjoyed while on this remarkable journey.

I am calling this “the trip of a lifetime.” My journey started with many participants converging on Humber College in Toronto. I was assigned to Bus 4 with 47 young delegates from around the world and two leaders. My roommate for the trip was from Switzerland. We stopped in Ottawa to tour our nation’s capital on the fourth of July.

From there, we travelled to Manhattan, New York. Our hotel, where we stayed for a whole week, was in the middle of Times Square. Here is where my favourite part of the trip happened. Not only were we in the city of wonder, but we also heard amazing speeches from the United Nations – representatives reflecting on the importance of planet preservation and the Millennium Development goals for 2015.

This year, our topic for the speech competition was to focus on tools we can use to eradicate poverty. I absorbed so much from the trip to the UN. It opened my eyes to the different needs and perspectives of each representative of the United Nations as well as the other young delegates on this educational

adventure. Education, collaboration, determination, and empathy are the keys to achieving the eight Millennium Development Goals. As a member of the newer generation, I can say that we must realize that everything seems impossible to us until it has been accomplished. This shortcoming can be hindering our vision of the future and how we may improve it.

We then travelled to Philadelphia to enjoy touring Independence Hall and seeing the Liberty Bell before continuing on to Washington, D.C. I was thrilled to see the Smithsonian, the White House, Arlington National Cemetery, and the Roosevelt Memorial. Both cities were rich in historical sites.

But everything good must come to an end and, on July 15, I had to say good-bye to my new-found family on Bus 4. Everyone cried.

Thank you to all of the local Lodges that made this unbelievable trip possible for me. The Odd Fellows and Rebekahs are remarkable individuals and I cannot thank them enough for all of their hard work on my behalf.

I strongly recommend that students age 16 – 17 consider becoming a delegate for the Pilgrimage For Youth 2015. Anyone who has questions about this incredible experience can contact me at: [ekhosmoni@gmail.com](mailto:ekhosmoni@gmail.com)



Monica in New York City  
(Empire State building in background)

## Sombra teen receives award from Ontario’s Lt. Governor

A local teen recently received a tremendous honour from Lieutenant Governor David C. Onley. Lindsay Myers, 18, daughter of Kathy and Bill Myers, was presented with the Lieutenant Governor’s Community Volunteer Award for Students.

It was presented to her in recognition of exemplary volunteer activity and community contributions. Lindsay has been a volunteer for the Moore Agricultural Society for the past 6 years, joining the rest of her family with their avid involvement events like the Brigden Fair and other MAS events. She also volunteers with the Tri-County Horse Club, helping wherever she is needed, and also helps out at the vacation Bible school at the

United Church in Port Lambton.

Lindsay says she loves to sing, sometimes with her family, sometimes solo at venues such as the MAS jamborees, and sometimes with friends. “I mostly jam with my friends and have a good time.” While going to school, Lindsay has also been working at Fiddick’s Nursing Home for the past two years on the evening shift. She says she enjoys her job working with the residents.

Lindsay is a graduate of Wallaceburg District Secondary School and will be attending the nursing program at St. Clair College this fall. She has her hopes set on specializing after she graduates. “I’d love to specialize in oncology,” she said.



Lindsay Myers with the Lt. Governor’s Award

### Local florist makes someone smile



In the spirit of making the world a better place by doing random acts of kindness, some local florists took part in Teleflora’s Make Someone Smile Week by delivering cheerful bouquets to local hospitals, retirement homes, veterans and LCDS seniors. Above, Tracy Kingston, right, of Kay’s Petals and Plants, and daughter, Allison, deliver one of the arrangements to a resident at the LCDS Brigden group home.

Photo submitted



# Community Contact

## ***Brigden Fair Prize Book 2014 now available***

The Brigden Fair Prize Book for 2014 is now available online at [www.brigdenfair.ca](http://www.brigdenfair.ca). For more information, please call the fair office at 519-864-1197.

## ***Lambton County Junior Optimist Club seeks new members***

New members ages 10 through 18 are being sought for the Lambton County Junior Optimist Club. Members volunteer in the community and fundraise to put on their own programs and to donate to other youth programs. The club develops great ideas and will hold events in the coming months. All hours spent volunteering can be used toward members' volunteer hours at school. The club meets the first Monday of every month at 6 p.m. at the Courtright Community Centre. For more information, call Mary Lou at 519-862-3950.

## ***Let's Talk Food Lambton winners***

Lambton Public Health thanks everyone who participated in the Let's Talk Food Lambton survey and focus groups to share what food means to them. Over 1,900 residents responded to the online survey and five focus groups were held across the county. Everyone who participated was entered into a draw to win one of five \$100 grocery gift cards for a food retailer in Lambton. The winners were: Janice Brennan, Denise Douwes, Melanie Maidman, Gord Kennedy, and Betty Beale. The information gathered will be included in a community food assessment report to be released this fall. For more information about the community food assessment, call Lambton Public Health at 519-344-2062, ext. 2107, toll free at 1-800-387-2882, or visit [www.LetsTalkFoodLambton.ca](http://www.LetsTalkFoodLambton.ca)

## ***Discuss concerns over school issues with trustee***

Your child's school experience is crucial to his or her future. 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).

## ***Pennies for Pavement program***

To help support the St. Clair River Trail, just drop off your spare change 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.

## ***Study of The Bible underway in Sombra***

The congregation of St. Clair Community Church invites anyone who doesn't already regularly attend church to join them for *The Story*, an on-going study of The Bible. The 31-week series consists of two study services per month. Sunday services are held at the Sombra Community Centre beginning at 10 a.m. For more information and a schedule of *The Story*, go online to: [www.stclaircc.ca](http://www.stclaircc.ca).

## ***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 519-862-4119. All ages are welcome to attend.

## ***TOPS group meets Thursdays in Port Lambton***

The Port Lambton TOPS weight loss group meets every Thursday night at the Port Lambton Community Hall. Weigh-in is from 5:30 p.m. to 6 p.m., with the meeting and fellowship held from 6 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. This support group is a good way to help you meet your resolution to get healthy and achieve your weight goals. For more information, call Margaret Ann at 519-677-5665 or just come out on Thursday nights. Everyone is welcome.

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

The Brander Park Splash Pad Committee is still seeking donations for the project with contributions being matched by St. Clair Township. Donations are being gratefully accepted by contacting Anne at 519-677-1623 or going online to: <http://www.branderparksplashpad.com/donate.html>

## ***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.

# West Nile virus found in Corunna mosquito trap

The West Nile virus has been found in a Corunna mosquito trap. Lambton Public Health reports this is the first positive finding of 2014 in Lambton County. To date, there are no positive human cases of the virus and no dead birds that have tested positive. In all of Ontario, only two traps have tested positive and one probable human case reported.

Weekly samples are collected throughout the county and dead bird reporting is ongoing.

The virus is spread via mosquito bites and the majority of people who become infected do not become sick. Those who do usually experience mild flu-like symptoms such as fever, headache, skin rash, or achy

muscles.

Lambton Public Health advises reducing your risk of getting bitten by avoiding high mosquito populations, especially from dusk to dawn, wearing protective, light-coloured clothing, and using repellants containing DEET, being sure to follow the directions on the repellent's label.

Property owners should keep property free of standing water, change bird bath water frequently, and keep eaves clear.

For more information about West Nile virus or to report sightings of all dead birds, go online to: [www.lambtonhealth.on.ca](http://www.lambtonhealth.on.ca) or call 519-383-3824 (toll free at 1-800-667-1839, ext. 3824).



## Gifts and treats galore at 26th Annual Downriver Craft Sale

The Moore Museum's 26th annual Downriver Craft Sale, slated for Sunday, Sept. 21 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., looks like it's going to be the biggest one yet. Museum Curator Laurie Mason says all 30 indoor tables sold out within two weeks of registration and outdoor space bookings are exceeding last year's registrations.

As in past years, the sale will feature a wide array of items, from traditional favourites to unusual new items, including seasonal décor, garden art, homemade soap, jewelry, knitted goods, wood working and painted wood items, fudge, sewing, pickles-on-a-stick, potato print shirts, baking, handmade cards, leather work, wreaths, walking sticks, and gourmet preserves.



The museum will also offer a food booth so shoppers can refuel with a great lunch before they continue their shopping. Admission will be \$2 per adult and children under age 13 will be admitted free when accompanied by an adult.

The Moore Museum is located at the corner of Moore Line and Emily Street in Mooretown.

**Don't miss it!**

**Left: Shoppers take in the wide range of items being offered.**

## Corunna Wildcat soccer season to include kids as young as seven

The 2015 Corunna Wildcat soccer season is getting underway as early as the second week of September and running as long as the weather will allow. The play days being considered are Monday or Thursday, but have still to be set.

Wildcat spokesperson Rosanne David Soccer says "Our intent is to build on our two existing district teams. We are looking to have a team approach of leaders to assist with skill-building and conditioning training for both boys and girls. If we want to be competitive within our league, it is important that our kids participate in these skill sessions."

Players must register but there is no additional cost for the sessions unless they have to be moved indoors. A parent meeting is planned for the Queen Street entrance to the Corunna Athletic Park on Sept. 11 at 7 p.m., the first night of skills training, to clarify the expectations and concerns of both par-

ties.

This year, the group will also try to develop U9 district teams for boys and girls to represent Corunna Wildcats soccer for the 2015 season. Children turning eight or nine in 2015 are invited to contact the club via the Website. This age group will also be doing skills development on the same night and time as the older players.

The club will also be hosting soccer skills for youngsters as young as seven who are interested in developing them. These sessions will be held on the same night as regular training at 6:15 p.m. to 7 p.m.

For more information about the club and updates for nights and times of play, go online to: [www.corunnawildcats.com](http://www.corunnawildcats.com)



## Local Ontario Early Years 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

### **Hours of Operation**

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

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

From page 16

### Optimist Pumpkinfest set for Corunna

The annual Pumpkinfest will be held at the Courtright Community Centre (Silverdome) on Sunday, Oct. 26 from noon to 3 p.m. The event, sponsored by the Moore Optimist Club and the Lambton County Junior Optimist Club, will include face painting, games, and pumpkin bowling and carving. Kids up to age 13 can bring their own clothing to create their own scarecrow and are encouraged to dress up in their Halloween costumes. Food will be available for purchase including hamburgers for \$2, and hot dogs, chips, juice, and water for \$1 so come for lunch. Donations to the Corunna food banks would also be appreciated. For more information, call Mary Lou at 519-862-3950.

### Comedy hypnotist coming to Corunna Legion

Comedy hypnotist Maxwell will keep you in stitches with his *Magically Hip* show on Saturday, Nov. 15 at the Royal Canadian Legion Corunna Branch 447. The cost will be \$20 per person (\$18 for members) by ticket only, and doors open at 8 p.m. For tickets, contact the Legion hall at 519-862-1240.

### Secret Santa event planned

The Moore Optimist Club and the Lambton County Junior Optimist Club will hold their Secret Santa Craft and Game Day on Saturday, Nov. 22 for ages five through 13 at the Courtright Community Centre (Silverdome). Donations to the Corunna food banks will be appreciated and snacks will be provided. For more information call Mary Lou at 519-862-3950.

### 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.

### County library hosts cat video festival

If you love to take videos of your cat, Lambton County Library wants you to send them in. Until Sept. 20, the library will be accepting submissions for the first *Cat Video Film Festival* in this area.

Videos of funny cats, scaredy cats, cranky cats, sleepy cats, slinking cats, sneaky cats, jellicle cats and all other kinds of fabulous felines will be welcome. A showing of the best juried videos will be held at the Sarnia Library Theatre on Thursday, Sept. 25 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. The event will be hosted by K106 radio host Heather Manners. There will even be a red carpet from 6:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. followed by video viewing from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. and awards to be presented at 8 p.m. To obtain a registration form, including the rules for submissions, visit [www.lclibrary.ca](http://www.lclibrary.ca)

"This is a great opportunity to express your creativity and show everyone whose feline is the cat's meow," said Greer Macdonell-Hurst, Children's Services Coordinator for the Lambton County Library.

The fun film event kicks off Ontario's Culture Days set for Sept. 26, 27 and 28.

***Come on, St. Clair Township, put down the cat, pick up a camera, and show the rest of Lambton County how fabulous our felines are!***



### Ongoing activities offered at Cruickshank Community Centre

Several ongoing activities take place at the Cruickshank Community Centre each week. These include: Euchre on Tuesdays at 7 p.m. costing \$3 per session which includes light refreshments; Scrabble on Fridays at 1:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome to join the fun playing the game or games of their choice. In addition, the monthly Book Club sponsored by the Corunna library meets the first Monday of each month.

### 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 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.



## Connect with your community in 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)**

### Upcoming Mooretown Flags games

The Mooretown Flags are currently in training for the upcoming 2014/2015 season. **September training dates** include: Sept. 2 at Mooretown Sports Complex (MSC) rink #1 from 8 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.; Sept. 3 will be an exhibition game at Wallaceburg at 7:30 p.m.; Sept. 4 at MSC rink #1 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.; Sept. 5 will be an exhibition game at Dresden at 7:30 p.m.; and Sept. 6 will be an exhibition game vs. Wallaceburg at MSC rink #1 at 7:30 p.m.

The Flags's **regular season home schedule** begins Saturday, Sept. 13 at 7:30 p.m. against Wallaceburg; then Saturday, Sept. 20 at 7:30 p.m. against Dresden; Saturday, Sept. 27 against Blenheim; Wednesday, Oct. 1 at 8 p.m. against Lakeshore; Saturday, Oct. 4 against Essex, and Saturday, Oct. 18 against Alvinston. See **October Beacon** for more dates.



# Around The Township

## Moore Skating Club registration

The Moore Skating Club will hold registration for Power and Figure skating on Saturday, Sept. 6 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Mooretown Sports Complex.

## Shape up your brain with *Memory Mentors*

Those of us who feel our brain is getting a bit lazy will be glad to hear about a new free program being offered at Corunna United Church, 198 Hill Street. *Memory Mentors* presents information and brain exercises that will keep your brain in shape. The program will be held on Thursday, Sept. 11 from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. It will include a free lunch and door prizes. To register, please call 519-862-3813. The program is sponsored by the Alzheimer Society of Ontario and VHA Home Health Care.

## End Of Summer Bash in Courtright

The second annual *End Of Summer Bash* will be held at the Courtright Community Centre (Silverdome) on Saturday, Sept. 13 from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. The event, hosted by the Courtright volunteer firefighters, will include food, drinks, a raffle, and live music by two local bands: *The Crop Tourists* and *The Down River Band*. All proceeds will go towards a new Courtright Fire Station van. Tickets are \$5 each and free rides home will be available. Tickets can be purchased from any Courtright Volunteer Firefighter, but donations will also be gratefully accepted.

## Archery 3-D shoots

The Lambton Sportsman's Club at 521 Bickford Line at Highway 40, Sombra, will be holding a Archery 3-D Shoots starting at 8 a.m. to noon on September 20. The cost to participate is \$5 for members and \$10 for non-members. Admission for ages 15 and under is free with a paid adult guardian. Lunch will be available for \$5. For more information, call 519-867-3940 or 519-344-7009. (Regular archery evenings are held on Tuesdays from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.)

*Errata: In the August issue of the Beacon, the second archery 3-D shoot was listed as Aug. 20. I apologize for any confusion this error might have caused. - Editor*

## 26th Annual Downriver Craft Sale at Moore Museum

The date for the 26th Annual Downriver Craft Sale at the Moore Museum is set for Sunday, Sept. 21 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is \$2 per adult and free for children under 13 accompanied by an adult. **See page 14 for more info.**

## Riverview Central School 50th anniversary

Riverview Central School will celebrate the 50th anniversary of its contribution to the education of children in the Port Lambton and Sombra area with an open house on Saturday, Sept. 27 from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Former students are invited to attend and are urged to notify any other former students they know who have moved elsewhere about the event. Anyone who has photos, yearbooks, or other notable artifacts and who would like to have them scanned for display can contact Greer at 519-677-1222 or email: [greer.macdonnell@gmail.com](mailto:greer.macdonnell@gmail.com). The committee has also set up a Facebook page to keep everyone informed about anniversary plans at: [facebook.com/Riverview50Anniversary](https://www.facebook.com/Riverview50Anniversary).

## Race To Erase helps local charity

The 9th Annual Race To Erase event is planned for Saturday, Sept. 27 starting at the Royal Canadian Legion Samia branch hall on Front Street. Debbie Anderson of Brigden and her team, the *Fairy Godmothers*, are entered in this year's event and all donations to the team will be going to the Cinderella Story of Samia-Lambton. This group gathers donated formal wear and makes

it available to girls in secondary school who would otherwise be unable to afford to attend the school prom. For more information about this event, go online to: [www.racetoberase.com](http://www.racetoberase.com). Donations to the group can be made at a secure online page, <https://donate.racetoberase.com/donate/donateform/event/1000/token/48xrv49h/share>

## Annual Fall Bridge Luncheon set

The annual Fall Bridge Luncheon is set for Corunna United Church on Wednesday, Oct. 1 at noon. The cost will be \$50 per table and a table can be reserved by calling Sylvia at 519-862-1040 or Gillian at 519-862-3172 by Sept. 24.

## Messy Church Tuesdays at Brigden United

*Messy Church* is being held on the last Tuesday of each month through to June, 2015 (except December) 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.

## Guides, Sparks, Brownies volunteers needed

Volunteering with Girl Guides is a rewarding, hands-on way to help girls and young women discover the best in themselves. Share your skills, talents, and yourself to help these girls achieve greatness. When you volunteer as a member, you experience personal and professional development opportunities to advance youth engagement, leadership, international travel and post-secondary scholarships. The Sparks, Brownies and Guide unit in Corunna needs adult volunteers. To volunteer or get more information, call 1-800-565-8111 or Irene Biscaro, Community Guider, at 519-867-5467, or go online to: [girlguides.ca](http://girlguides.ca). *Girl Greatness Starts Here.*

## 50th anniversary open house at Riverview Central School

The year 2014 marks the 50th anniversary of Riverview Central School. This occasion will be celebrated during an open house at the school on Saturday, Sept. 27 from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

## Sombra Museum lecture series set

The Sombra Museum Cultural Centre will host the first lecture of the season on Tuesday, Sept. 30 at 7 p.m. The subject will be Marine City, Michigan, Sombra's sister town across the river. The history of the town is sure to keep attendees glued to their seats. Tickets are \$10 each, three for \$25, or six for \$50 and may be purchased in advance or at the door. Student pricing is available. For inquiries or to reserve tickets, call 519-892-3982, or email [sombra-museum@hotmail.com](mailto:sombra-museum@hotmail.com). Watch for details of the next lecture featuring Captain Lillian Khuka. All proceeds raised go to the Sombra Museum.

## Seniors' fall prevention program offered

*Seniors On The Move*, a free fall prevention program will be held on Thursday, Oct. 2 from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Corunna United Church, 198 Hill Street. The event will include a social Q & A with door prizes and a free lunch. To register, call 519-862-3813.

## BRIGDEN FAIR information online

For information about Brigden Fair 2014, go online to [www.brigdenfair.ca](http://www.brigdenfair.ca) or check out the Fair's Facebook page. And don't forget to watch the October issue of the *St. Clair Township Beacon* for updates on the attractions and happenings set for this year's fair.