



The St. Clair Township

BEACON

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St. Clair River ice is for the birds!



The cold weather and the heavy ice pack that has covered the river this season have kept Coast Guard vessels from both sides of the river busy. But in spite of their best efforts, the river ice has presented significant challenges for the Sombra ferry. The birds, on the other hand, are finding the ice a convenient, safe place to relax. Here, the Blue Water Ferry service vessel, *Daldean*, is held prisoner by its frozen nemesis while, for the swans and flocks of migratory waterfowl, it's just another day on the water. This isn't the first time the *Daldean's* regular schedule has been foiled by the ice. **See Heritage Corner, page 4, for a glimpse of a more serious encounter.**

Photo by Bonnie Stevenson

Ontario 211 Services help during emergencies

The County of Lambton recently issued a reminder to all residents that Ontario 211 Services can be accessed to obtain information about local community and social services, and also during times of emergency.

During emergencies, the public is advised through local media, social media and other sources when the 211 has been activated. Incidents that will prompt such action include: drinking water emergencies; major evacuations; emergencies or incidents that require community response (i.e. 2010 Highway 402 snowstorm emergency; when emergency shelters are opened; or when volunteers and/or donations are needed. It is not a public alerting system or news information line.

Mark Wetering, Emergency Management Coordinator for Lambton County, says 211 can take some of the burden off of the 911 system. "One of the goals is to redirect those particular calls away from 911, which should only be used to report an emergency or to request emergency as-

See Ontario 211 Services operate 24/7, page 2

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The **deadline** for submissions to *The Beacon* is the third Monday of each month by 4 p.m.

Email: beacon@twp.stclair.on.ca



Municipal Notes

A recycling facility being proposed for a large section of land along Courtright Line just south of Highway will be the subject of an Ontario Municipal Board (OMB) hearing at the St. Clair Township Civic Centre, 1155 Emily Street in Mooretown, on Thursday, April 9 at 10:30 a.m.

In advance of the hearing, about 35 local residents attended the Feb. 2 meeting of St. Clair Township council to voice their concerns. Mayor Arnold, who spoke about the process attendant to the approval of such a facility and fielded questions for about 45 minutes, says the neighbourhood was well represented.

The proposed project slated for the property, owned by J. W. Seward Inc., involves the operation of a recycling facility that would convert discarded asphalt and cement into gravel. The property was formerly designated as the site of a new Shell refinery. The site would also handle mud generated by the drilling of petroleum wells and from excavation sites. The Seward's note that none of the materials the facility would be handling are hazardous.

However, neighbours take issue with the placement of the facility, which is largely agricultural and residential. There are concerns regarding increased truck traffic, pollution and contamination of farmland, air and water, the devaluation of property, and the protection of valued farm land. In support of their objections, the group, known as the Courtright Line Neighbourhood Advisory Committee, is circulating a petition.

Mayor Arnold reminded them that the land is zoned for operations such as the one the Seward's are proposing, but to date, there has been little heavy industry in the area.

Mr. Seward has agreed to setbacks and berm restrictions recommended by planning consultants, including Barry Uitylgt, the senior planner for the Township of St. Clair.

A subsequent meeting on this issue was held on Feb. 4 in Courtright, where about 45 people had another opportunity to address Mayor Arnold as well as Councillors Jeff Agar and Jim Degurse. Representatives of the Landowner's Association and the Lambton Federation of Agriculture were also on hand.

The Seward's approached council about the recycling facility in 2012, but Council denied the proposal pointing out that there was still adequate space in the township's industrial park for such an operation. It was also noted that there was no desire to further industrialize south St. Clair Township while other more suitable locations remained vacant.

An affidavit developed by Monteith Brown Planning Con-

Recycling facility subject of OMB hearing

sultants on the Seward's behalf can be viewed at the St. Clair Township municipal office at 1155 Emily Street in Mooretown.

Mayor Arnold is not optimistic about council's chances of halting the recycling project, but he says every attempt has been made to protect the residents.

Twinning of water line may not proceed

Mayor Arnold informed council that the project to twin the water distribution line in St. Clair Township may not proceed. After receiving a quote for \$125,000 to design the final 500 metres of water pipe for the project, the Lambton Area Water Supply System (LAWSS) has decided to wait for a more competitive price in the future.

The mayor added that, at the least, he would like to see the engineering fully completed so that the township can use it if LAWSS abandons plans to install the pipe at the current time. The issue of selling water to the north end of Chatham-Kent will have to be addressed.

Council meeting schedule

Regular meetings of St. Clair Township Council are usually held on the first and third Monday of the month. March meetings will be held at the St. Clair Township Civic Centre, 1155 Emily Street in Mooretown on Monday, March 2 at 6:30 p.m. and Monday, March 16 at 5 p.m. following the Committee of the Whole meeting at 3 p.m. Anyone wishing to address council should call the municipal office at 519-867-2021.

Winter parking by-law in effect

The Winter overnight parking by-law is in effect until April. Motorists are advised that it is against the law to leave vehicles of any kind parked on public streets and roads overnight from 2 a.m. to 6 a.m. This allows snow plow crews to do their jobs without having to avoid parked cars. Property owners are also reminded that it is against the law to shovel snow out into public streets. These snow piles create dangerous obstacles that can contribute to needless automobile collisions.

Ontario 211 Services operates 24/7 for local community and social service information

From page 1

sistance."

The 211 service is answered live every day including holidays. Residents are encouraged to call 211 for services ranging from food banks if they are hungry, mental health support if they are in crisis, or for non-emergency contact information (when calling 911 would not be appropriate). The service is

available in over 150 languages.

Ontario 211 Services is a non-profit agency with six full-time staff governed in Ontario by a Board of Directors. They work in collaboration with seven regional 211 Service providers and a network of data contributors to deliver 211 services to all Ontario residents via the telephone and through online channels.

Detailed information is available at the Ontario 211 Website, www.211ontario.ca



St. Clair Township 2015 Property Tax Due Dates

***The Interim Tax due dates
will be March 4 and May 6, 2015***

The 2015 Interim Tax notices have been mailed out the first week of February, 2015.

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**



OMB hearing slated for St. Clair Civic Centre

An appeal to the Ontario Municipal Board (OMB) regarding a proposed plan to develop a facility to recycle industrial materials on land near Courtright will be heard on Thursday, April 9 at 10:30 a.m. at the St. Clair Civic Centre, 1155 Emily Street in Mooretown. This hearing is open to the public.

Winter driving calls for preparation

Winter is still making itself felt across the county and the *Lambton Safe Roads Committee* warns motorists to drive according to weather conditions. Blowing snow and snow squalls can quickly reduce visibility and can occur at unexpected times. Also, make sure the gas tank is full, your windshield washer fluid is topped up, and your wiper blades are working properly. A winter driving kit is also a good idea. It includes: ice scraper; sand or traction aid; booster cables; warning lights; flashlight and batteries; first aid kit; fire extinguisher; small tool kit; extra clothing/footwear; blanket; non-perishable energy foods; candle/small tin can and matches; gas line anti-freeze. **Before heading out on winter roads, find out what's waiting for you by going online to: www.mto.gov.on.ca/english/traveller/trip or call the 24/7 road conditions line at 511.**

Creative County fund accepting applications

Lambton's Creative County Fund invites organizers of new local cultural heritage, and arts initiatives to apply for funding to cover up to 50 per cent of their project cost.

The fund's 2015 intake is now open with \$75,000 available for partner projects, events, activities, or workshops that will enhance cultural vitality in Lambton County. Program guidelines and the related application form can be found at: www.lambtononline.ca. Click on the *Creative County Fund* tab under the *Residents* heading. The deadline for applications will be 4 p.m. on Thursday, March 5, 2015.

Community partnership fuels success of Bowen's Creek project

The County of Lambton was recently recognized for its forward-thinking decision to retire 170 acres of farm land and, in so doing, add to the scope of the Bowen's Creek Habitat Enhancement Project. The project covers an area of Lambton County-owned land that extends from the St. Clair River to the Bickford Woods in south St. Clair Township. The area of farmland, forest, swamp and old pasture was known as the "1800 block" and had been identified as future industrial land. But after considering all options for the land, the County chose to naturalize it instead.

Since the project began in 1999, a partnership has ensured the project's

success with financial support. This group includes: Lambton County; Ducks Unlimited; the RBC Foundation; the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority; Trees Ontario; the Shell Fueling Change program; Friends of the St. Clair; Enbridge; and the Great Lakes Sustainability Fund.

The property is in a Carolinian Canada site, a rare ecosystem that is similar in its diverse flora and fauna to regions in the southeastern United States. The success of the reestablishment of this stunning wetland and forest habitat is evident as ever-increasing numbers of waterfowl and forest wildlife return to make their homes there.



**ST. CLAIR
TOWNSHIP
Website**

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

www.twp.stclair.on.ca

HERITAGE CORNER

Daldean rescued from impassable river ice



Crossing the St. Clair River aboard one of the ferries that plies the gap between Canada and the U.S. is a pleasant journey for most of the year. But when Old Man Winter turns the water to ice, the cross-border journey often begins to resemble Arctic exploration. Above: Such was the case in the winter of 1958, when the Sombra ferry, *Daldean*, left, became stuck in the ice and was towed to shore by the U.S. Coast Guard vessel, *Kaw*, which was taken out of service in 1980. Downriver *Beacon* correspondent Allan Anderson says this year alone, there have been intervals when up to four vessels were breaking ice off the Sombra/Port Lambton shoreline at the same time.

Photo submitted

Tuesday Crew in action at Moore Museum



Projects continue year 'round at Moore Museum. The *Tuesday Crew* have been working on a number of winter projects, including the replacement of panelling with slat wall to increase display space available in the dressmaker's shop and barber shop. Here, Crew member Dave Beer, left, installs framing to hold the panels while Leo Griffiths waits to get in on the action.

Photo submitted



This postcard from the Moore Museum's collection was sent to Archie Gibb at Sykeston in 1912. According to Lambton County Names and Places (Lambton County Council, 1925), Sykeston was a post office located at Lot 7, Con. 10, Moore (southwest corner of intersection of Petrolia Line and Brigden Road). It was named for the Sykes family who settled in the area and it operated from 1880 to 1913.

VOLUNTEERS are always welcome at the Moore Museum, 519-867-2020, and Sombra Museum, 519-892-3982 (seasonal). Call to find out how you can help and make new friends, too.

WWI items still being sought

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

Make good health a priority with Rapids Family Health Team

March 2015 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.

A session will be held Tuesday, March 10 from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

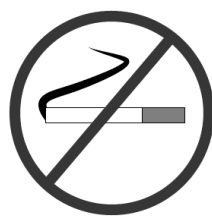
Diabetes Healthy Eating and Physical Activity

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 is led by a Registered Dietitian.

A session will be held on Tuesday, March 17 from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Quit Smoking workshop

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, managing withdrawal symptoms, and how to prevent a relapse. Participants are also welcome to schedule individual appointments to receive further support and information from one of our nurse educators.



mation from one of our nurse educators.

The next session is set for Friday, March 20 from 10 a.m. to noon.

Healthy Weights

Spending on weight loss products was estimated to reach more than \$134 million U.S. in 2014. But of the hundreds of products available on the market, only a handful can produce even modest weight loss. Save money and the frustration of filtering through all of the ads that promise miracles. With the Rapids Family Health Team on your side, you can find the support and knowledge you need to achieve and maintain a healthy weight while warding off diseases such as diabetes and heart disease.

Healthy Weight By Healthy Means is a five-week program designed for anyone who wants to put fad diets behind them and learn about the healthy, reliable way to achieve better health. Each week, a Registered Dietitian discusses a different topic with the group. Each participant will receive a copy of a manual to keep.

The next five-week session starts Thursday, March 19 from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

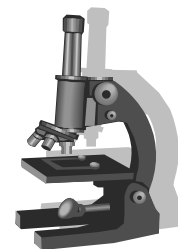
Adult cooking classes

These hands-on classes will be facilitated by a Registered Dietitian. They will help you build familiarity with kitchen tools and ingredients that support a balanced diet. At **St. Andrew's Church, Corunna**, on Wednesday, March 4 from 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m., learn how to please your palate with *Meatless Mondays*. And on Wednesday, April 1 from 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m., attend *Cook It Quick* for great, speedy family meal ideas.

In Sarnia at the NOVA Chemicals Teaching Kitchen, located at 1150 Pontiac Drive, get some great tips about *Cooking For One* on Thursday, March 12 from 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. or Friday, March 13 from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

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.



Local Ontario Early Years locations

The OEYC Sarnia-Lambton is a **free** family drop-in program operated by Sombra Township Child Care Inc. for families with children ages 0 to 6 years of age. This provincially funded 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.

For a complete listing of hours and parent/caregiver workshops, go online to: www.ontarioearlyyears.ca.

Sombra Optimist Club welcomes new Junior Optimist Club



The new Down River Junior Optimist Club, sponsored by the Optimist Club of Sombra Township, had their first meeting in January. Seventeen members between the ages of 10 and 18 were inducted. The club is for area youth who want to make a difference in the community through volunteering. They will participate in various community and service activities throughout the year.

Dennis Harwood, Public Relations officer for the Sombra Optimist Club, says members need a positive attitude, creativity, a passion to make a difference, and a desire to have fun as part of a club. The Junior Optimists meet the third Monday of each month at 6 p.m. at the Port Lambton Community Hall. Anyone who would like more information can contact Optimist President Carla at 519-892-3536 or Optimist Johanne at 519-677-5716.

Photo submitted

St. Clair Township school receives provincial funding for Student Nutrition Program

St. Joseph Catholic School in Corunna is one of three Lambton County schools that will receive funding for a Student Nutrition Program (SNP) thanks to additional provincial funding for the program.

The program addresses the negative effects that can arise when a student is not receiving adequate quality nutrition. Numerous studies have shown that hunger can hinder cognitive development, increase behavioural problems, lead to poor health and low self-esteem, and have a long-lasting effect on a person's future health.

A media release issued by Lambton Public Health noted each school has been provided with a one-time infrastructure grant of \$2,000 for the purchase of start-up equipment such as a refrigerator, stove, cutting boards and knives. However, long-term funding will draw on community support.

"All nutrition programs must fundraise to cover additional food costs," said Leslie Palimaka, Student Nutri-

tion Coordinator, Lambton Public Health. "Schools work with their school community to access additional funds. Locally, the Ontario Student Nutrition Program-Lambton (OSNP-Lambton) raises local dollars to help support gap funding for programs."

Ms. Palimaka says the average cost to feed a child a healthy snack or meal is about \$1 per day. Ontario's Ministry of Children and Youth Services supports food costs via the Ontario Student Nutrition Program, with schools receiving a base funding of 15 cents per student per day.

Each day in Lambton County, over 7,500 students at 41 schools receive fruits and vegetables, milk or alternatives, whole grain products, or meat or alternatives through nutrition programs.

To find out more about this important program or to make a donation, please call 519-344-2062, toll free at 1-800-387-2882, or go online to: www.lambtonhealth.on.ca

Spring Into Summer at the Mooretown Sports Complex

Yes, it's been cold and snowy outside, and it's been all too easy to take refuge in the cozy comfort of our homes. But spring is at hand and when you come out of hibernation, what kind of bad news is your bathroom scale going to deliver? It's never too early to get fit and healthy with programs offered at the Mooretown Sports Complex.

Spring Into Summer Weight Loss Transformation

Join us for fun workouts, motivation, and information about healthy nutrition/lifestyle choices as we help track your weight loss goals.



Dance the pounds away

Get moving with dance classes! Explore the joy of movement and rhythm with the adult hip hop/Zumba combo class, or treat your children to hip hop or ballet lessons. A six week session is just \$60.

Yoga

Treat your body and your mind to the many benefits of yoga. Escape the stress of the day while you improve flexibility and resilience for just \$30 for a six week course.

March Break Day Camp March 16 to 20

March Break week will be filled with swimming, skating, crafts and games for children ages five to 12 who register for the March Break Day Camp.

The program runs daily from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., with early drop off at 7:30 a.m. and late pick up at 5:30 p.m. available for an extra fee. The program cost is \$27 per child per day or \$110 per week.

March Break activities

There will be a recreational swim each day from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at \$2.25 per child, \$3.25 per adult, and \$6.50 per family.

Public skating will be offered on Sundays from 1 p.m. to 2:15 p.m. and Monday to Friday from noon to 1 p.m. The cost will be \$2.25 per child, \$3.25 per adult, and \$6.50 per family.

Reminder that, during recreational swims, rentals and parties, direct adult supervision within arms reach (maximum two children per adult) must be provided for children under 10 years of age who are unable to comfortably swim two widths of the pool, any children under 48 inches tall, and any children under age seven or special needs.

Spin classes

Join these classes any time at a cost of \$10 per class, \$80 per 10 passes, or \$60 per 10 week session.

Beginner spin classes will be held Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7:15 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Bikes and Bells - Kettlebell/spin combo - is held on Mondays from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. or Friday from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m.

Morning spin classes will be held on Tuesdays or Thursdays from 7:15 a.m. to 8 a.m.

Evening spin classes will be held on Mondays from 7:15 p.m. to 8 p.m. or Wednesday from 5 p.m. to 5:45 p.m.

Muscle Mix classes

Join any time. Build strength, lose weight, look and feel better! Classes are held Mondays or Wednesdays

from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m., Tuesdays or Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. The cost is \$45 per 10 visit pass or included in membership.

Soak away that Winter chill

Come and enjoy our 85 degree swimming pool, soak in the hot tub, and relax in the sauna. It's all included in your Fitness Centre membership at a cost of \$255 per year (Senior rate is \$243 per year). All taxes are included and there are no initiation fees. Monthly, three month, or six month rates are also available.

Spring 2015 swim lesson session

Register now for the Spring swim lesson session. Spring swim lessons begin the week of April 6.

Indoor/Outdoor walking exercise program

The West Lambton CHC sponsors a walking exercise program every Monday and Wednesday morning from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. Join any time.



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

Rejoice, for golf season cometh!



It's almost time to enjoy the beautifully manicured greens and the friendly competition you'll find at St. Clair Parkway Golf Course. Watch for opening day announcements online at: www.stclairparkwaygolf.com

St. Vincent de Paul food bank renamed

The Port Lambton St. Vincent de Paul Society had changed its operating name to Sacred Heart Food Bank. Any donations in the form of a cheque must be made out to the Sacred Heart Food Bank and income tax receipts will now be issued under that name.

Frank Johnston, President
Sacred Heart Food Bank, Port Lambton

Optimist Club of Moore seeks entrants for annual Oratorical Contest

Students age 18 and younger are being sought to participate in the 2015 Optimist Club of Moore Oratorical Contest slated for Tuesday, March 24 at 7 p.m. The contest will be held at the Courtright Community Centre. The first prize will be \$100, second will be \$75, and third will be \$50.

The topic of this year's speech will be "How my optimism will help me press on to the greater achievements of the future." Contestants must speak for four to five minutes. The winner of the contest will proceed to the Regional contest at the Courtright Community Centre on Saturday, April 11 at 10:45 a.m. The top six winners

from that contest will compete for two \$2,500 scholarships at the District finals at the Holiday Inn Select in Windsor on Saturday, April 25.

The oratorical competition gives youth a chance to express themselves. It not only encourages and develops good speaking skills, but boosts their self-confidence as well. The deadline for entries is March 19. Entry forms and information are available at: www.mooreoptimist.ca or by emailing: moore.optimist.tracy@gmail.com Information can also be obtained by calling Tracy at 519-862-1193, 519-312-3747, or 519-862- 2333. *Note: Parental or guardian permission is required.*



Optimist Club of Sombra Township inducts new members

The Optimist Club of Sombra Township started the new year with the induction of five new members. Shown here at the induction meeting are: Front - Sombra Optimist President Carla Aarssen; Second row, left - Optimists Cindy Wilson, Anreane Longpre, and Vickie Bouman; Back row - Optimists Lisa Cooper and Stephen Bentley.

Photo submitted

Corunna Community Policing Committee seeks public input

Do you have something constructive to contribute regarding the way the Corunna area is policed?

The Corunna Community Policing Committee (CCPC) is currently seeking input from community residents regarding improvements and issues they would like to see addressed. What safety issues are you concerned about? What areas of the community require better lighting, better signage, or increased police presence? What positive contribution can YOU make to the way law enforcement is carried out in YOUR community?

The public is invited to contact the CCPC with suggestions and concerns. Visit the Website at: www.corunnapolicing.ca or find the CCPC on Facebook.



Community Contact

Mosaic Lambton project promotes literacy

Put your creative thinking caps on and figure out your own way to celebrate Canada's 150th Anniversary in 2017. *Need To Read* presents *Mosaic Lambton Project* is asking Lambtonians what inspires them most about their community. Submit poetry, short stories, art, photographs, music lyrics, video clips, or anything of a creative nature that tells a story. The project is open to all age groups and the creations will be part of a mosaic mounted on a County of Lambton map background. Submissions are now being accepted. For more information, call project coordinator Kathryn Evans at 519-332-4876 or email: MosaicLambton@gmail.com The Mosaic Lambton Project is a joint initiative of the following: the Organization for Literacy in Lambton; the Lambton County Library; the County of Lambton; Sarnia Lambton Workforce Development Board; the St. Clair Catholic District School Board; and the Lambton Kent District School Board.

Paint Ontario art competition begins

Paint Ontario offers some of the area's finest representational artists an opportunity to capture the spirit and beauty of this province. The Lambton Heritage Museum will hold the Paint Ontario Art Competition, Exhibition and Sale, now in its 19th year, from March 14 to April 5. The museum, located on Highway 21 south of Grand Bend, is open daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Each year, the competition attracts well over 300 entries, but only 200 are selected to be exhibited. All work is for sale. For more information, go online to: www.lambtonmuseums.ca

Bluewater Health fundraisers planned

The Bluewater Health Foundation has several fundraisers planned for this year. The P.A.I.R.S. Trivia Night is coming up on May 1 and the Golf Fore Health tournament is June 11. For information about these events and more, go online to: www.bluewaterhealthfoundation.ca.

Bluewater Anglers schedule for 2015

The Bluewater Anglers 2015 schedule of fishing derbies, family events and activities can be found online at: www.bluewateranglers.com.

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.

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.

Attention birdwatchers

The Return of the Swans Festival will be underway from

March 14 to April 5 at the Lambton Heritage Museum on Highway 21 south of Grand Bend. Each year, thousands of graceful tundra swans, as well as geese and various species of ducks, stop to rest and feed in agricultural fields to the east of the museum. For migration updates, go online to: www.returnoftheswans.com

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.

TOPS group meets 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.

Weight loss group TOPS Corunna meets weekly

TOPS Corunna 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 6:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. with a short meeting to follow. Drop in for the meeting or call 519-862-4119. All ages are welcome to attend.

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.

New patients being accepted in Petrolia

The Central Lambton Family Health Team is proud to announce that new patients are now being accepted by Dr. Justin Mall, M.D.; Dr. Nathan Taylor, M.D.; and Dr. Salam Al-Attar, M.D. Patients have access to additional free services of a social worker, a nurse practitioner, a dietitian, and a chiropodist (foot care) and programs that include smoking cessation, injection clinics, travel immunizations, groups, and more. The office is located at 4130 Glenview Road in Petrolia. For more information, please call 519-882-2500.



Even More Around The Township

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Corunna Branch 447 hall the last Saturday of each month beginning at 2 p.m. through May 2015. Everyone is welcome to attend, sit back and enjoy talented local musicians.

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.

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. Start your day with a good cup of coffee and some lively conversation.

Ongoing activities offered at Cruikshank Community Centre

Several ongoing activities take place at the Cruikshank 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.

Forever Fit classes in Sombra

The Lambton Elderly Outreach *Forever Fit* classes are held at the Sombra Community Centre on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. These classes are for anyone age 55 and over.

Forever Fit classes resume in Corunna

The *Forever Fit* classes for anyone 55 or over, sponsored by Lambton Elderly Outreach, have resumed at Thompson Gardens' Cruikshank Centre. Classes are held Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

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.

Courtright United Church chicken dinner

The Courtright United Church will hold a broasted chicken dinner fundraiser on Sunday, April 26. The event will be held at the Courtright Community Hall (Silverdome) with seating from 4 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. The three-piece broasted chicken dinner will cost \$15 per person. For tickets, call Deb at 519-892-3767 or Lynn at 519-331-9798.

CCPC events slated

Dates for two annual events sponsored by the Corunna Community Policing Committee have been announced. The Shred-It fraud prevention document destruction event is slated for Saturday, May 2 and the Bicycle Rodeo will be held on Sat-

urday, June 13. Keep an eye on **The Beacon's** *Around The Township* column for further information or go online to the CCPC Website at: www.corunnapolicing.ca

Moore Museum spring/summer event dates set

Several of the Moore Museum's popular annual events have now been scheduled. The **Victorian Tea** is slated for Sunday, May 17 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Enjoy tea and homemade scones served by Victorian attired servers as you dine in the charming atmosphere of the museum's turn-of-the-twentieth century cottage. Admission is \$7 per adult, \$3 per child, and \$2 per pre-schooler. The museum's **40th Anniversary Open House** will take place on Sunday, June 14 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. To celebrate this auspicious occasion, admission to the museum will be free, with heritage demonstrations and an official program to round out the celebration. Model train enthusiasts will be able to enjoy **Model Train Time** from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. on Sundays, July 12 and Aug. 16. On these dates, visitors will have the opportunity for enhanced viewing of the Lionel model train displays. Volunteers will be on hand to discuss model railroading and all of the layouts will be running. Regular museum admission will apply. And capping off the summer season, the **Downriver Craft Sale** will be held on Sunday, Sept. 20 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. This ever popular annual event will feature about 80 tables of homemade crafts and food booth will be onsite to fuel all of the energetic retail therapy our visitors will be engaging in. New craftspeople are welcome to participate and are invited to call the Moore Museum at 519-867-202 to be added to the mailing list. Admission will be \$2 per adult with children under age 13 admitted free when accompanied by an adult.

Quilters to host *A Feast For The Eye*

Quilters from across Lambton County will be showing off their artistry as the Sarnia Quilters' Guild presents *A Feast For The Eye* at Grace United Church in Sarnia, 990 Cathcart Boulevard, on Friday, May 29 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday, May 30 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The event will feature a Traveling International Hoffman Challenge, Quilts of Valour, Comfort Quilts, Mini Quilts, Sarnia Quilters' Guild Challenge Quilts, and a Charity Placemat Challenge. Children are welcome and will enjoy the Storytelling and Quilt room. Demonstrations will be offered throughout the day and the Sew and Sow Café will be serving lunch from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Admission is \$6 per person and your ticket will make you eligible to win a door prize.

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. Please **double-check** each submission for accuracy before sending.*

Email: beacon@twp.stclair.on.ca

More Around The Township

From page 12

candy for children ages 12 and under. The Moore Junior Optimist Club will be selling hot dogs, chips, and pop for a minimal price as well.

Sombra Museum lecture series set

The popular Sombra Museum monthly lecture series concludes on Tuesday, March 31 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., enjoy a presentation by Sue and Jim Waddington who, over the past 37 years, have located and photographed over 450 places sketched by the painters of Canada's best-known and initially controversial group, the *Group of Seven*. View locations made famous by Canada's art rebels, who rendered many fascinating locations using their intriguing and forward-thinking Expressionist technique. The series will be held in the meeting room at the Sombra Museum Cultural Centre, corner of Smith Street and the St. Clair Parkway. If you do not have a multiple lecture ticket, the cost is \$10 per adult and \$7 per student for the lecture. Tickets and more information are available by calling 519-892-3982 or e-mailing: sombramuseum@hotmail.com. *Don't forget to check out Sombra Museum on Facebook and Twitter.*

Women's Day Out in Courtright

The Courtright United Church will be the scene of the Women's Day Out on Saturday, April 18 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. The theme will be *Movin' With The Spirit* with guest speaker Catherine Maine - Sacred Circle dance teacher and choreographer - stillpoint dancing. Also featured will be the benefits of Yoga and Meditation. Tickets are \$12 per person and healthy refreshments will be served. For more information or for tickets, call Deb at 519-892-3767 or Jill at 519-491-5510.

6th Alzheimer writing contest underway

The 6th Annual Alzheimer Society Sarnia-Lambton Writing Contest is underway. The purpose of the event is to raise awareness about Alzheimer's and raise money for the Sarnia-Lambton chapter. This year's challenge is to write a letter to your past or future self, write to a loved one, a pet, a stranger, a caregiver, anyone you wish. The contest is open to all ages and cash prizes will be awarded. A \$20 entry fee applies for entrants age 18 and older. The deadline for contest entries is April 30, 2015. Contest rules can be found on the chapter's Website at: www.alzheimer.ca/sarnialambton. For more information, call Shannon at 519-332-4444. The contest is sponsored by: Rotary Club of Sarnia, Fairwinds Lodge, Haines Printing, Music for Young Children, Organization for Literacy in Lambton, Need to Read Festival, the Book Keeper, the County of Lambton, Margaret Bird, and Mark Braun Technical Recruitment Services.

Corunna Soccer plans indoor skill sessions

The 2015 season of Indoor Skill training is being held at St. Joseph's School in Corunna on Thursday evenings until March 26 (except if school is cancelled or is not scheduled). Ages 6 through 9 will play from 6:15 p.m. to 7 p.m. and ages 10 through 12 will play from 7 p.m. to 7:45 p.m. Registration will cost \$40 and can be done on the first night of the session. Registrations can also be submitted by mail to: P.O.Box 1409, Corunna, Ont. at any time or on Feb. 5 at skills.

Sharks Recreational hockey tournament set

The 2015 Bluewater Sharks Adult Men & Women's Rec-

reational Hockey Tournament is set for April 10 through 12 at the RBC Centre in Sarnia. There will be a three-game guarantee. All divisions - the Women's 18 & Over, the Men's 19 & Over, and the Men's 35 & Over - will start on Friday evening. The deadline to enter will be March 10, 2015. The cost will be \$775 Can. or Am. Funds for the adult tournament weekend. Applications are available at: www.bluewatersharkshockey.com. For information contact: Ed Marcy, 519-344-8624, or Lance Marcy, 519-344-2205 or email: emarcy@sympatico.ca or lmarcy@cogeco.ca

Cinderella Story prom boutique set

The 6th annual Cinderella Story Prom Dress Boutique will take place at the Sarnia Lambton Business Development Corp., 109 Durand Street in Sarnia on Friday, April 10 from 5:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. and Saturday, April 11 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. This event helps outfit secondary school girls with prom dresses and accessories. Since the first boutique was held in 2010, Cinderella Story of Sarnia-Lambton has helped to send over 250 deserving young ladies to prom. Without this program, most of the girls would not have been able to attend this milestone event. To register for the boutique, go online to: www.cinderellasarnia.org. For more information, email: info@cinderellasarnia.org. This year's sponsors include: Melissa Snider and Bill Dennis Jr. of Exit Realty; Lisa Waller Designs; FOX-FM; Sarnia Lambton Business Development Corp.; and The Work Place Group.

Beef supper slated for Knox Moore Presbyterian

The congregation of Knox Moore Presbyterian Church will hold their annual roast beef supper on Wednesday, April 29. Tickets are \$15 per person. *More information as it becomes available.*

Indoor walking and fitness in Mooretown

Free indoor walking and fitness sessions are held at the Mooretown Sports Complex in Mooretown every Monday and Wednesday morning from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. Please bring indoor walking shoes. For more information or to register please call 519-344-3017, ext. 237. The program is sponsored by the Moore Agricultural Society, West Lambton Community Health Centre, and Ontario's Community Health Centres.

Cooking Buddies program in Corunna

The **Cooking Buddies** program for children ages six through 11 is being held at All Saints Anglican Church, 178 Hill Street, on the last Thursday of every month to April, 2015 from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Space is limited so register at 519-344-3017. The program is held in joint partnership with West Lambton Community Health Centre, All Saints Anglican Church, and Lambton Health Unit.

Indoor walking and fitness in Brigden

Free indoor walking and fitness sessions are held at the Brigden Fairgrounds exhibition hall in Brigden every Tuesday and Thursday morning from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Please bring indoor walking shoes. For more information or to register please call 519-344-3017, ext. 237. The program is sponsored by the Moore Agricultural Society, West Lambton Community Health Centre, and Ontario's Community Health Centres.

Corunna Legion hosts open jam sessions

Open jam sessions will be held at the Royal Canadian Legion

Around The Township

Cribbage tourney in Corunna

The Royal Canadian Legion Corunna Branch 447 will host the Hank Stothers Cribbage Tournament on Sunday, Mar. 1. Registration will be held from noon to 12:45 with play beginning at 1 p.m. The cost is \$10 per person and all monies will be returned. Food will be available. Preregistration can be done at the bar or by calling 519-862-1240.

LEO Diner's Club in Port Lambton

The Lambton Elderly Outreach Diner's Club is held at the Port Lambton Community Centre on the first Thursday of every month. The next luncheon will be held on Thursday, March 5. To register, please call LEO at 1-800-265-0203.

Wilkesport United to host beef stew supper

A beef stew supper will be held at the Wilkesport United Church on Thursday, March 5 from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. or until sold out. The cost is a donation at the door and everyone is welcome. For more information, call 519-892-3974.

Riverside Cemetery board meeting slated

The Riverside Cemetery Board annual meeting is slated for Thursday, March 5 at 1 p.m. at the Riverview Restaurant in Sombra. For information, call Dennis at 519-892-3316.

World Day Of Prayer at Knox Moore Presbyterian

The annual *World Day of Prayer* service will be held at Knox Moore Presbyterian Church, 1354 Rokeby Line on Friday, March 6 at 1 p.m. The service, written by the women of the Bahamas, relates stories of their culture and heritage. Everyone is invited to attend. Come and join Christians in more than 170 countries round the world and in 2,000 communities across Canada as they gather to pray and act in solidarity with the people of the Bahamas. A time of food and fellowship will follow the service.

Sombra Optimist Chili Cook-off set

The Optimist Club of Sombra Township will hold its annual Chili Cook-off at the Port Lambton Community Hall on Saturday, March 7. There is **no cost** to enter a pot of your best chili. Contestants need to be at the hall at 3 p.m. to get ready for judging at 4 p.m. Doors open to the public at 5 p.m. and they will be able to sample these culinary masterpieces for a donation of \$8 per person or \$15 per couple. Prizes will be awarded for first and second place winners, and the public will choose the *People's Choice* winner. Proceeds will go towards the numerous youth programs sponsored by the Sombra Optimists. To pre-register or for further information, please contact Optimist Johanne Leach at 519-677-5716 or email jleach@bell.net

Shamrock Country Jamboree in Brigden

Get your Irish on and come out to the Shamrock Country Jamboree at the Brigden Fairgrounds exhibition Hall on Sunday, March 8 at 1 p.m. Enjoy the music and dance, or just tap your toes. If you sing or play, bring your instrument and join the band. At 5 p.m., a ham and scalloped potato dinner will be served. Tickets for the meal are limited and will be sold at the door so come early. For more information go to www.brigdenfair.ca or call the fair office at 519-864-1197.

Mayflower Rebekah Lodge to host dinners

The Mayflower Rebekah Lodge will serve a series of dinners at the Cruickshank Centre (Thompson Gardens) in Corunna at 5:30 p.m. on the following Thursdays: March 12, April 9, May 7. The

dinners replace the lodge's previous lunch and card party events. The cost will be \$12 per person. *(Please note that these dates have been changed from the original notice.)*

Euchre played at Sombra Community Hall

Euchre will be played at the Sombra Community Hall on Fridays at 1 p.m. on the following days: March 13, 20, 27; April 10, 17, 24.

Free family movie night in Courtright

The Lambton County Jr. Optimist Club will host a free family movie night at the Courtright Community Hall on Saturday, March 21 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Popcorn and juice will be available. You can wear your PJs and bring your blanket and pillow if you want to. For more information, call Davida at 519-862-2700.

Parenting sessions offered

Lambton Public Health is offering free parenting sessions throughout Lambton County this season. In Sombra at the Sombra Township OEYC satellite site and Best Start Hub (Riverview Central School, 3926 St. Clair Parkway, Port Lambton) the topic will be *Building Resilience in Young Children*. The session is set for Tuesdays, March 24 and 31 from 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. To register call 519-892-3151. Space is limited and many sessions offer free childcare for children up to age 6. For more information about times and dates, call 519-383-8331, ext. 3568, toll-free at 1-800-667-1839, or go online to www.lambtonhealth.on.ca and click on *Classes and clinics*.

Quarter Auction planned in Port Lambton

The Optimist Club of Sombra Township will host a Quarter Auction at the Port Lambton Community Hall on Wednesday, March 25, with doors open at 6 p.m. and the auction starting at 7 p.m. The auction is a fundraiser in support of the club's local youth initiatives. Ten local vendors will attend the auction to display their products and they will donate four items each to be auctioned off. Players pay an entrance fee of \$5 to receive a numbered paddle to be used during the bidding process. Quarters are used to bid on an auction item. The number of quarters, one to four per round, will be determined before each round of bidding starts, so bring lots of quarters to this event. For more information, vendors or players can call Optimist Johanne Leach at 519-677-5716 or email jleach@bell.net

Annual MAS beef dinner slated

The annual Homecraft beef dinner, hosted by the Moore Agricultural Society (MAS-Home of the Brigden Fair) Board of Directors and Homecraft Division, will be held on Sunday, March 29 with seating between 4:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. The event will take place in the Brigden Fairgrounds exhibition hall. Tickets are priced at \$15 per adult, \$6 per child ages six through 10, and free for children ages five and under. Admission is by advanced tickets only. Tickets are available from any Homecraft division member, MAS Director, or at the Brigden Fair office at 519-864-1197.

Easter In The Park in Corunna

There will be lots of family fun afoot when the Optimist Club of Moore hosts *Easter In The Park* at the Corunna Athletic Park (CAP) on Hill Street on Sunday, March 29 beginning at 1 p.m. sharp. The event will include an Easter egg find with prizes and