



Issue 8

The St. Clair Township BEACON

Volume 8

August 2015



INSIDE



Municipal Notes
Page 2

Property Tax due dates
Page 3

Yard Waste &
Lawn Watering
Restriction
Page 4

Heritage Corner
Page 5

Mooretown Sports
Complex
Page 7

Community
Contact
Page 9

Provincial Legion
Service Officer -
Re: Veteran's inquiries
Page 10

Around the
Township
Page 11-12

The **DEADLINE** for
submissions to
The Beacon is the
third Monday of each
month by **NOON**.

Email:

beacon@twp.stclair.on.ca

Safety Awareness Day helps keep kids safe



The Optimist Club of Sombra Township held Safety Awareness Day to teach children from the community how to stay safe when they are away from home. A bicycle rodeo to teach bike safety included a challenging obstacle course. Kids also got safety training from the Red Cross, local EMS services, the Ontario Provincial Police, and the Canadian Coast Guard. They rounded out the day with a lunch of hot dogs and pop. One lucky girl and one lucky boy each won a bicycle helmet as the grand prize. **Above: OPP Cst. Chris Doupe congratulates winner Corbin Arnold.**

Photo submitted

OPG retains Lambton G.S.- closes Nanticoke

Although the future of Lambton G.S. remains uncertain, a media release issued recently by Ontario Power Generation indicates the station will be kept operable to facilitate the use of natural gas if additional power generation becomes necessary. Nanticoke G.S. will be closed.

In the release, Jeff Hansen, Vice President of Strategic Operations, said Nanticoke G.S. will be closed safely, securely, and in an environmentally responsible manner. The 30 employees currently staffing the station will be redeployed in accordance with the unions and current collective agreements.

OPG will continue to own both sites. Mr. Hansen says the preservation of Lambton G.S. will be continually reviewed to "ensure the asset meets future strategic needs."

The news has been well-received by St. Clair Township Council. Mayor Steve Arnold says, "I believe it is positive for us, and I'm thankful that all are still working to keep the site a viable facility. Council started in 2003 to ensure the site stays viable and is utilized in a worthwhile manner in the future. This news reaffirms that our concerns and hopes are still being acknowledged and considered during the planning for the future of the Ontario Power Grid."



Municipal Notes

A minor amendment has been made to the recently enacted noise by-law. The amendment extends the allowable time for the operation of outdoor speakers from 10 p.m. to 11 p.m. unless special permission is granted by St. Clair Township Council.

Township residents are reminded to be considerate of others when operating noisy equipment or entertainment equipment. The by-law defines excessive noise as something that is "likely to disturb the inhabitants of the municipality having

Time change made to noise by-law

regard to the time, place, and the intensity and frequency of the said noise."

Those who disregard the new by-law may be subject to a fine "not less than \$100" for a first offence and will be called upon to appear in court if a second offence is reported.

To contact Noise By-law Enforcement Officer Kerry Bedard, call 519-331-6348 or email: kbedard@twp.stclair.on.ca

This change was the result of feedback garnered by council from many local establishments and individuals who are adversely affected by the 10 p.m. noise limit. Council received a 25-page petition signed by those who protested the change. Furthermore, the provincially approved limit for noise reduction is 11 p.m. and council decided the by-law should conform to this widely-accepted limit.

It is hoped all residents of St. Clair Township will enjoy their summer and respect the right of others to enjoy their homes and outdoor spaces without having to tolerate undue noise.



SEWER MAIN FLUSHING St. Clair Township Residents

Public Works is now flushing sewer mains connected to the St. Clair Township sewer system during the hours of **7:30 AM to 4:30 PM** and will continue to do so into the fall. During this maintenance procedure you may notice some gurgling noises in drains.

If conditions persist after 24-48 hours of normal use, please notify *Public Works* @ 519-867-2993.



P. O. Box numbers required by Township

~Attention all Township residents with
P. O. boxes~

If you haven't already done so, please provide the Township office with your P.O. box number so that your bills can be delivered in a timely manner. ***Please note that failure to receive a tax or water bill DOES NOT excuse a ratepayer from responsibility of payment nor relief of liability of penalty for late payment.***

The Water Department can be contacted at 519-867-2993 or by email at: public-works@twp.stclair.on.ca The Tax Department can be contacted at 519-867-2024 or by email at: taxes@twp.stclair.on.ca

Council meeting schedule

St. Clair Township Council will be observing a summer meeting schedule in August. The meeting will be held at the St. Clair Township Civic Centre, 1155 Emily Street in Mooretown on Monday, August 10 at approximately 5 p.m. after the Committee of the Whole meeting at 3 p.m. **September dates** will be Tuesday, Sept. 8 at 6:30 p.m. and Monday, Sept. 21 at 5 p.m. Anyone wishing to address council should call the municipal office at 519-867-2021.

Avoid costly mishaps - Keep SUMP PUMPS in good repair

If your residence is protected from water incursion by a sump pump, please keep that important piece of equipment in good repair. Like any other protective device - smoke detectors and CO detectors, for example - the sump pump can only function well when it is properly maintained. It is also important that the pump be replaced after several years of use to ensure continued dependability.

And if you have a **water-driven backup pump**, be sure to test it once a month. Consult the directions that come with your pump to keep the device functioning well. If you don't have the directions, they can probably be found online using the make and model of the device to search for them.

Each year, many property owners endure the headaches and expense of cleaning up after a pump has failed to do its job. In the majority of cases, the problem could have been prevented had the pump received the regular inspection and/or maintenance it requires. **Don't assume your sump pump is going to last forever.** If you are unsure how to deal with it, please educate yourself and protect yourself against flooding.

Household Hazardous Waste disposal

The County of Lambton and Clean Harbors Canada hosts Household Hazardous Waste disposal events through the summer at the 40900 Telfer Road site off Petrolia Line. Upcoming events are slated for Saturday, Sept. 26, and Saturday, Oct. 31.



St. Clair Township 2015 Property Tax Due Dates

The final tax due dates
will be **Aug. 5, 2015** and **Oct. 7, 2015**

The 2015 final tax notices for non-capped properties were mailed out the beginning of July, 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 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

Mosquito larviciding now in progress

Lambton Public Health advises that a mosquito larviciding program to control and reduce the incidence of West Nile Virus in Lambton County is now underway.

Catch basins throughout the county have been found to contain mosquito larvae. The St. Clair Region Conservation Authority has been contracted by the County of Lambton to conduct larval surveillance and apply larvicide to municipal catch basins under the Ontario Ministry of Environment larviciding permit. Methoprene in pellet or briquette form will be placed in affected catch basins.

The roof top of vehicles used for larviciding will be equipped with a yellow flashing light, West Nile virus signs, and a *Makes Frequent Stops* caution sign.

Larviciding is just one way mosquito control can be effected. Residents are urged to remove stagnant water on their property to reduce breeding sites.

For more information, call the West Nile virus information line at 519-383-3824, toll-free at 1-800-667-1839, ext. 3824, or go online to: www.lambtonhealth.on.ca

SCRCA scholarships awarded

Three fortunate area students recently received \$1,000 scholarships from the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority's *Conservation Scholarship Program*. The program rewards graduating high school students who are continuing their post-secondary studies in a conservation-related field.

The criteria upon which the awarding of the scholarships are based include the student's academic achievement and his or her demonstrated interest and involvement with the environment.

The scholarships are made possible through trust funds established by the St. Clair Region

Conservation Authority Foundation and its donors. *Below*, SCRCA Chairman Steve Arnold presents scholarships to, from left: Katia Huszka of Florence received the Mary Jo Arnold Conservation Scholarship to help further her Environment and Resource studies at Ursuline College. Dylan Henry of Sarnia will be studying Ecological Restoration at Flemming College. And Kyle Cornelissen of Watford will be in the Applied Science in Agribusiness program at the University of Guelph, Ridgetown Campus.

Photos submitted by SCRCA





TOWNSHIP OF ST. CLAIR

YARD WASTE/BRUSH COLLECTION 2015

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 (collection begins at 7:00 AM). Yard waste from the balance of the Township is collected with the regular waste collection.

COLLECTION SCHEDULE:

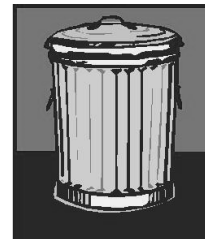
Collection will be on Wednesday or Friday, each week, depending on the service area.

Wednesday: Corunna (including Froomfield area)

- St. Clair Parkway (North of Emily St., Mooretown)

Friday: Brigden, Courtright, Mooretown, Port Lambton

- Sombra Village, Wilkesport, Chenal Ecarte, Leeland Gardens
- St. Clair Parkway (South of Emily St., Mooretown)



Spring yard collection is now over. During the months of July through September yard waste will be collected with the regular waste collection, subject to the 6 item limit.

Fall yard waste collection will begin Wednesday, October 21st and Friday, October 23rd, and will continue until Wednesday, November 25th and Friday, November 27th.

WHAT IS YARD WASTE?

Yard waste includes the following: 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. (Brush Collection see below)

Yard waste placed at the roadside for collection must be bagged in clear or transparent plastic bags, paper bags, or 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. Open containers **DOES NOT INCLUDE**: blue boxes or cardboard boxes.

Containers must not exceed 23kg / 50lb and yard waste placed in regular garbage bags will not be collected.

BRUSH COLLECTION:

The next small brush collection will take place on October 23rd with the following guidelines: 4’ maximum length, 1” maximum diameter, cut ends all in one direction, neat piles (not tangled) and tied & placed at curb.

For further information call: St. Clair Township Public Works 519-867-2125 or visit our web site at:
www.twp.st.clair.on.ca

Lawn watering restrictions continue

Lawn watering restrictions will until Aug. 31. Even numbered houses may water lawns on even numbered days and odd numbered houses may water lawns on odd numbered days.



ST. CLAIR TOWNSHIP
Website

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



HERITAGE CORNER



St. Clair Township summer joy, past and present, could be found in the water

Copy developed by Bonnie Stevenson with files from history buff and Beacon correspondent Allan Anderson

The joy of cool summer swims in the St. Clair River and other lovely swimming holes throughout the former Sombra and Moore Townships figures prominently in the memories of most life-long residents.

Historian Allan Anderson says it was almost an expected rite of spring for young people who lived along or near the St. Clair River in the 40s, 50s, and 60s to take their first plunge of the summer in the river by the May 24 weekend. "It was one of the greatest social aspects of summertime, followed closely by baseball and softball," said Mr. Anderson. "Each of the communities along the river had its own special swimming places. There were no lifeguards and, usually, no parents attending even though kids from eight to 18 might be swimming at any particular spot at the same time. Play, safety, and good behaviour seemed to be naturally organized...a common activity at each site was often diving for pop bottles or playing games."

To facilitate access to the water, Mr. Anderson says people who lived along the river often had "learning docks" they generously allowed the children to use. "It was a right of passage to be able to swim, with parents' permission, at a deep water swimming holed," he added.

In Corunna, the gravel dock at the foot of

Ferry Dock Hill offered deep water for diving and a perfect point of entry for those who fancied a lazy ride down the river in an inner tube. The ride could terminate at any one of several beaches at the west end of the town's streets. The brave ones would swim over to the ferry dock at Stag Island.

Kids from Courtright found an ideal platform for strategic entry into the river at the old customs house at the ferry dock. Adventurous souls would swim to the sand bar opposite St. Clair, Michigan. In the 60s, when the water was especially low, the sand bar was almost like a beach. Today, swimmers use the newer shoreline dock at Courtright Park.

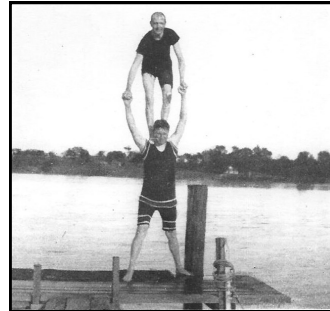
Of course, Sombra's ferry dock, affectionately known as "The Guv", provided an extra special site for local water babies. There were two catwalks leading out along the causeway that set the perfect scene for kids who played games swimming between the two docks. The more daring swimmers would swim out where the ferry lands or make distance swims to Dalgety's boathouse. "The catwalks were removed in the 70s," said Mr. Anderson. "Due to government regulations, there is now no swimming or fishing on the government dock. There is no (public) swimming site at all in Sombra."

Further south, the government dock in Port Lambton, just south of the Canada Customs building, was a local swimming spot. "The government dock was a long walkway stretching to channel bank...there was a nice platform with a roof that covered half of it," said Mr. Anderson. "Adventurous swimmers would climb up onto the roof and perform high diving

tricks. Over time, it deteriorated and was taken down, but a few years ago, the Sombra Optimist Club spearheaded the rebuilding of the dock and today, it is again a popular swimming site."

And let's not forget the small beaches that grace the parks along the river road. They were the place to go for a weekday picnic and they are still an important part of summer for many residents and visitors alike.

Mr. Anderson notes that, although there are still swimming spots in St. Clair Township's riverfront communities, they aren't the focal point they once were. Many homes have private pools or docks, and the thought of letting your eight-year-old go down to the river for an unsupervised swim is enough to give any parent nightmares. "Mooretown Sports Complex offers an outstanding swimming program that many of the children participate in," he said.



Stag Island daredevils try a high dive in their Victorian Era Speedos.

Three great local books now available at the Sombra Museum

Whether you love reading tales of Sombra farm life, reminiscing about life in a one-room schoolhouse, or taking time to remember and appreciate the sacrifices made by hundreds of men from Sombra and Moore Township in the horrific, brutal conditions posed by World War I, the Sombra Museum has just the book for you.

Sombra Farms, Number Two has something of interest to all as it features 14 stories and many photos that illustrate the area's rich agricultural and rural heritage.

Thornhurst School-A Bygone Era by Margaret Devin will be available

beginning Aug. 2. This heartwarming volume describes life at a local one-room schoolhouse that still stands along Highway 40 in Sombra Township.

And in *St. Clair's Allies In Arms: The Men of Sombra and Moore Townships in WWI*, the names of 500 local men, 40 of whom paid the ultimate price for their service, along with local women who served as nurses, are listed. Stories of their struggles, along with background on the Lambton 149, the local recruitment battalion, are included. This volume is now available in paperback form at the Sombra Museum, Moore Museum and the Book Keeper in Samia.

27th Annual Downriver Craft Sale coming to Moore Museum

The 27th Annual Downriver Craft Sale will be at the Moore Museum on Sunday, Sept. 20 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Shoppers flock to this event every year to peruse the wide selection of items on sale. These include jewellery, garden whimsies, homemade preserves, handmade knit and sewn goods, handmade goats' milk soap, pottery, and much more. Admission is \$2 per adult and children under age 13 are admitted free when accompanied by an adult. Craftspeople wishing to sell their creations at this popular event can contact the Moore Museum at 519-867-2020 to request a registration package. A registration form may also be downloaded online at: www.mooremuseum.ca/event/downriver-craft-sale.

VOLUNTEERS are always welcome at the Moore Museum, 519-867-2020, and Sombra Museum, 519-892-3982 (seasonal). A lot of opportunities are available, from helping with major projects to staffing the special events that take place. Call to find out how you can help and make new friends, too.

Everyone is invited to feel the power at Grand Ole Power Days

The Sydenham Antique Club will host its 28th Annual Grand Ole Power Days in Florence the weekend of Sept. 18-20. Minneapolis Moline tractors will be featured but all tractors are welcome. Admission is \$6 per person and children under 12 will be admitted free. Rough camping will be available for the weekend. For more information, call President Tim Charron at 519-692-4029 or Dorothy Graham at 519-692-4179.

Friday at 7:30 p.m., enjoy a pie auction and entertainment by the *Old Time Fiddlers*. On Saturday, start off with the Farmers' breakfast at 8 a.m. followed by activities like threshing, and at noon, the *Parade of Power* and the *Antique Tractor Pull*. Sunday will begin with the Farmers' breakfast at 8 a.m., followed at 9:30 a.m. by a tractor ride through the countryside, a 10 a.m. church service, the *Parade of Power* at noon, and the *Antique Car Parade* at 3 p.m.

Other events will include: tractor games, the children's pet show, frog jumping, the kiddie tractor pull, and pumpkin fest. Other events and features will include: antique working steam-powered displays, rope-making, food booths, silent auction, country music, 50/50 draws, flea market and craft sale (tables available by calling 519-683-2870), and the annual IODE chicken barbecue on Sunday at 5 p.m.



Antique tractors will shake the ground during Power Days.

Outgoing fair ambassador looks to the future

One year in her role as 2014-2015 Brigden Fair Ambassador has given 18-year-old Jory Fulcher a learning experience to last a life-time. She says her role at last year's Brigden Fair opened her eyes to the incredible amount of time and work the annual event requires. "(As ambassador) I had the opportunity to be way more involved behind the scenes and I saw how much effort goes into the fair," she said.



2014-2015
Ambassador
Jory Fulcher

The final major duty of Jory's reign will be as the Brigden Fair representative at the Canadian National Exhibition's Ambassador of the Fair competition in late August. It will be the last of a number of exciting experiences she has had.

She cited her attendance at the Ontario Association of Agricultural Societies annual convention in Toronto as a highlight of her reign. "The convention in February was a great experience," she said, noting that the experience will be helpful when she heads for the CNE in August. "I'm so excited. It's going to be bigger and better this time."

Having graduated from LCCVI, Jory is now looking forward to the study of Human Kinetics at the University of

Windsor this fall. After grad school, her career goal is to become an Occupational Therapist.

This summer, she has been working at the Petrolia Community Centre running the dance program twice a week and she helps out with the toddler play program and other jobs as needed. She will also be active at the fairgrounds. "I'll work with the fair board this summer," she said. "They can always use the help."

Growing up on a crop farm just outside of Brigden, Jory knows that agriculture can be a challenging line of work and she hopes the future will see renewed public interest in critical importance of farming to our modern way of life. "Living on a farm teaches you so many things of value," she said. "Things are starting to change. People need to focus on agriculture."

Jory speaks with affection about the fair board and the people she has met during her year-long reign. "They made me feel so comfortable and were so helpful," she said.

In conversation with her, you're struck by Jory's enthusiasm for the fair and you get a sense of the passion she has for agriculture. It is clear that her future will keep bringing her back to the fair year after year. "You never really leave the family," she said.

Ambassador Committee Chair Brenda Maw believes Jory will be an active presence with the fair for years to come. "She has been a very conscientious ambassador for us and I think she will continue to be involved."

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.

Summertime shines at the Mooretown Sports Complex

Community Service Website

Check out our new Website at:
www.stclairtownshipcommunityservices.ca

We're still perfecting the site, but we're ready to give you the latest information on the wide variety of programs and activities offered at the Mooretown Sports Complex and at our campgrounds.

Summer Day Camp - ages five through 12

Treat your young student to a summer of fun at the Mooretown Sports Complex. Crafts and activities of all kinds will fill their days with laughter and socialization with new friends. The camp runs weekdays from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. until Sept. 4. Early drop-off and late pick-up are available.

Fees are \$27 per day, \$110 per week, or \$861 for the entire summer. Family rates are available.

Summer Sports Camps - (Minimum age seven)

Young sports enthusiasts will enjoy honing their skills at summer sports camp. The day camps run from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily with early drop-off and late pick-up available.

Fees will be \$110 per week per child. **Camps include:** Golf - Aug. 10 - 14. Sports Combo - Aug. 17 - 21. Track and Field - Aug. 4 - 8.

Tim Horton's sponsored free swims

Tim Horton's Café and Bake Shop will sponsor free swims every Friday throughout the summer to Aug. 28 from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. Reminder: Any children unable to comfortably swim two widths of the Mooretown Sports Complex pool, all children under seven years of age, or under 48 inches tall, and non/weak swimmers, must be directly supervised in the water by an adult (maximum two children per adult).

Fitness Centre

The fitness centre features a 10-visit pass for \$45. Call now for information about spin and fitness class times.

Summer swim lessons

One session of swim lessons is still available Aug. 10-21 at a cost of \$48 per child.

Evening group lessons continue once per week through the summer at a cost of \$38.40.

Private lessons are available during any of the four summer sessions or on Monday, Tuesday, or Thursday evenings.

Summer water aerobics/therapy & adult swims

Shallow water aerobics will be held Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m., Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Deep water aerobics are planned for Mondays and Wednesdays from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Adult swims will be offered Monday to Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 9 a.m. and noon to 1 p.m., and on Monday to Thursday from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Arena floor rentals/summer ice

Arena floor rentals can be booked for lacrosse, ball hockey or special events. The cost is \$55 per hour for adult use and \$45 per hour for Minor use. Special event rates are available.

August summer ice rentals: Prime time - Monday to Friday after 5 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday - \$130 per hour. Non prime time - Monday to Friday from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. - \$100 per hour.

St. Clair Township Parks

If you're looking for a lovely spot to hold your wedding, family reunion, or special event, why not book a spot in one of our scenic parks? It's as easy as calling 519-867-2651.

Book your campground site now

Don't wait until all of our great campground sites are booked. There are still openings at our Mooretown, Cathcart, and Branton Cundick parks. Here is the contact information for these three campgrounds: Mooretown - 519-867-2951; Cathcart - 519-892-3342; and Branton Cundick - 519-892-3968. Summer doesn't last very long so book your piece of paradise now.

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

St. Clair Parkway Golf Course information

For the latest information about
St. Clair Parkway Golf Course, go online
to: www.stclairparkwaygolf.com
or call: 519-867-2160.



Sports Disabled Lambton offers opportunities to play

Sports Disabled Lambton (SD Lambton) offers individuals with disabilities the opportunity to play sledge hockey, floor hockey, weight lifting, and bocce. Anyone interested in playing can register until August, 2015 and early registration is advised because spaces are limited. Pre-registration and an opportunity to try out a sport will be made available. If you have any questions about SD Lambton programs, registration or the organization, please email Joanne Somlai at jsomlai@cogeco.ca

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.

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.

News items from Lambton County

Free LPH Dental Health Clinic open all summer

A free basic dental care service for children and youth from families without dental insurance/coverage will be offered all summer at the Lambton Public Health's in-house dental clinic.

Eligible children and youth aged 17 years and younger can visit LPH for cleaning (scaling and polishing), fluoride treatments, sealants, and a lesson in proper brushing and flossing. These services can help to prevent early childhood tooth decay and maintain good dental health. The clinic is open Monday to Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Dr. Maria van Harten, LPH Dental Consultant, says these services are more important than you may think. "Early childhood tooth decay is not only an infection that can be painful, but it can affect speech, eating, learning, playing, and sleeping. We know tooth decay can affect growth and development."

For more information, call 519-383-8331 or toll free at 1-800-667-1839. And for details about dental assistance programs such as Healthy Smiles Ontario (HSO) or Children In Need of Treatment (CINOT), go online to: www.lambtonhealth.on.ca

West Nile watch in progress

Lambton Public Health has started its annual Dead Bird Surveillance and on June 12, the first dead crow to test positive for West Nile virus in 2015 was discovered in Sarnia's north end. West Nile virus is spread through the bite of infected mosquitoes.

The majority of people infected with West Nile virus do not become sick and those who do usually experience mild flu-like symptoms such as fever, headache, skin rash, or muscle aches. Less than one per cent of people infected with the virus become seriously ill.

Property owners are urged to keep breeding areas such as stagnant water puddles and eaves troughs drained, and bird bath water changed frequently. To avoid being bitten, wear protective, light-coloured clothing, use repellants containing DEET, avoid areas with high mosquito populations, and take extra precautions between dusk and dawn.

The public is encouraged to report the sighting of all dead birds to Lambton Public Health by calling 519-383-3824, toll free at 1-800-667-1839, ext. 3824, or online at www.lambtonhealth.on.ca. Dead adult crows and blue jays may be considered for testing if they have been dead for less than 24 hours.

Bike helmets: Parents should set example

Lambton Public Health is encouraging parents to set a good example for their children while out riding bicycles. "Bike helmets can reduce the risk of serious injury and death by up to 85 per cent, yet many parents don't wear a bicycle helmet when cycling with their children," says LPH Health Promoter Kelley Elliot. "That is a missed opportunity to influence their children's safety behaviour, or lack thereof." For more information on how parental action or inaction influences child safety behaviour, go online to: www.theywill2.ca or read the SMARTRISK publication *Parental Influence Over Teen Risk-taking Behaviour, a review of the literature* which is available online at: www.parachutecanada.org



Hoopla offers entertainment

A new site called *hoopla* is now available through the Lambton County Library. The site gives library members access to thousands of movies and television shows, as well as music. You can borrow up to seven items each month. Loan periods are three days for movies and seven days for music. The borrowed content can be accessed without limit during the checkout period.

To register for this service, you must have a valid Lambton County Library membership card and a PIN number. Go to your local library branch to register, to renew your membership, or to get a PIN number. The site can be accessed on an Android device running version 4.x of the OS or higher. It is compatible with Apple devices running iOS version 7.1 or higher. On a PC or Mac, Explorer 10, Chrome 39, Firefox 32 and Safari 7 or newer is required.

Beach sampling now in progress

Lambton Public Health is now testing area beaches for signs of high bacterial levels. Beaches that are found to be unsafe will be posted with warning signs.

Beach water quality information is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week by calling the Beach Water Quality Information Line at 519-383-3816, toll-free at 1-800-667-1839, ext. 3816, or visit www.lambtonhealth.on.ca

Educational Gale Courses now available online

Hundreds of free instructor-led courses are now available online to Lambton County Library card holders. Gale Courses offer well-crafted lessons, expert instruction, and interaction with fellow students. The free courses range from health and wellness to creative writing, computer programming, business and management, sales and marketing, and more. Courses run for six weeks with two new lessons released each week. New sessions begin each month. For more information about the catalogue of courses offered, or to enroll in a course, go online to: www.lclibrary.ca and click on "eLibrary".

Text with 9-1-1 made available to local residents

St. Clair Township residents who are deaf, hard of hearing, or speech impaired now have an alternative method of communicating with 9-1-1 operators.

Text with 9-1-1 (T9-1-1) was slated to be available across Lambton County beginning on April 15. Cell phone users whose phones have the capability to send and receive text messages, and are compatible with the T9-1-1 program, must register for the service on their cell phone provider's Website.

In general, text messages sent to the digits 9-1-1 do not reach emergency services. Users registered with the T9-1-1 program can verify their service through their respective cell phone providers.

The T9-1-1 program is offered to all Lambton County residents courtesy of the County of Lambton and Sarnia Police Services. For more information about T9-1-1, go online to: www.textwith911.ca

Free nicotine replacement therapy offered

Smokers who want to kick the habit can now access a free nicotine replacement therapy program being offered by Lambton Public Health. For more information, call Lambton's Tobacco Hotline at 519-383-3810 or toll-free 1-800-667-1839, ext. 3810.

Community Contact

Brigden Fair 2015 Harvest The Gold tickets on sale now

Show your support for the Brigden Fair by picking up your *Harvest The Gold* 50/50 tickets from any Brigden Fair Director, Fundraising Committee member, or at the Fair office. Tickets are \$5 each or 3 for \$10 and proceeds will go to the Agricultural/Educational features of the fair. Only 2,500 tickets will be sold and to claim your prize, you must be 18 years of age or over.

Get 'em before they're gone!

Please support local food banks

We empathize with those in need around the globe, but we often forget about those who live in need in our own community. The Sacred Heart Food Bank in Port Lambton, Operation Christmas Tree in Corunna, and several other local food banks, all struggle to help these families get by. We can help with donations of food and financial support. If you eat well every day and have a decent roof over your head, please consider those who do not and help if you can.

Support for trail upkeep encouraged

Funds raised through the *Pennies for Pavement* program continue to help keep the St. Clair River Trail well-maintained and ready to accommodate those who enjoy the healthful benefits of walking, cycling, and in-line skating along the scenic St. Clair River. You can support the program simply by dropping 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.

And don't forget that bricks, benches, and blocks can still be ordered to commemorate a special occasion or to provide a lasting memorial to departed loved ones. To place an order, contact Laura at 519-862-2442 (north end of trail) or Janis at 519-892-3223 (south end of trail). You can also visit the trail Website at: stclairrivertrail.com

Brigden Fair offers volunteer opportunities for students

Students who will need volunteer hours to obtain their diplomas in the coming school year can find what they need by working at the Brigden fairgrounds. Volunteer opportunities are available in Brigden all year long, so call the Brigden Fairgrounds Fair Office at 519-864-1197 for more information.

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 fund-raise 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.

Mosaic Lambton Project will honour Canada's 150th birthday in 2017

The Lambton Mosaic Project (LMP) is now underway in Lambton County. A six-member Need To Read committee, established through Organization For Literacy In Lambton, has developed this as a Confederation project to honour Canada's upcoming 150th anniversary on July 1, 2017.

All residents of the 14 communities within Lambton County (11 Municipalities and 3 First Nations Communities) will be encouraged to participate in this project. The objective will be to create a mosaic map of Lambton County.

The map will show all of the Municipalities and Communities. It will display creations of artistic and literary contributions showing what people love best about their local communities in a creative form that is most comfortable for them; drawings, paintings, photos, poems, crafts, and short stories will be

among the creations will be included.

It is hoped that the project will inspire and motivate people to better integrate, communicate, and promote cultural arts, literary arts, and education. The mosaic will offer contributors exposure for their completed works, which will be showcased on a special Website.

An unveiling event will be held in 2017 to display the Lambton Mosaic Project, recognizing the community partners and contributors, while at the same time, honouring the 150th anniversary of Confederation.

The Organization For Literacy In Lambton has been awarded a 2014 grant from the Lambton County Creative Fund (LCCF) to get the project underway and will be seeking further funding from future LCCF intakes, along with requests for funding from its community partners, to sustain the entire project through to completion. This project is sponsored by: Organization For Literacy In Lambton, the Creative County Fund, Samia-Lambton Workforce Development Board, Rotary Club of Samia, Tourism Samia-Lambton, Margaret Bird.

Contributors must use their talents to demonstrate what inspires them most about their community. The project is open to all age groups and submissions to the project will be accepted until March 31, 2016. For more information, go online to: www.Lambtonmosaic.com

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.

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.

Sombra Optimists thank the community for car show's success

The Optimist Club of Sombra Township would like to thank the numerous sponsors, car owners, Soapbox Derby drivers, and spectators for another successful car show.

The newly renovated Brander Park was the scene of the club's 11th annual show. Club President Carla Aarssen, says the community's support fueled the event's success. "A successful event such as our car show just doesn't happen by chance," she said. "It takes community-minded sponsors who supported our club with their donations, the 170 classic and late-model vehicle enthusiasts who came out to display their 'toys', all the kids who participated in the Soapbox Derby, and the numerous spectators who attended as well. We would also like to thank St. Clair Township Council and Staff for their continuing support in getting Brander Park ready for our event."

With this year's car show over, planning for the 12th annual car show on June 18, 2016 is already underway and it's sure to be bigger and better than ever.

Take the road to better health with the Rapids Family Health Team

August 2015 Schedule

Monthly health and wellness sessions normally slated for the Rapids Family Health Team clinic located in the Shell Health Centre, 233 Cameron Street, in Corunna are still temporarily disrupted, but the recently renovated building reopened on July 13 at 7:30 a.m. The renovations were possible thanks to a generous donation from Pembina. For information, call 519-813-9800 or go online to: www.rapidsfhteam.ca

Watch the Beacon for schedule information when regular sessions begin again.

Lab open weekdays

The lab at the Shell Health Centre, 233 Cameron Street in Corunna is now open Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. for all residents of St. Clair Township.

Legion Service Officer to hear Veterans' Inquiries in Corunna

Attention Veterans and/or their spouses ~

Ms. Kim Dolan, Royal Canadian Legion Ontario Command Service Officer, will be at Legion Branch #447 in Corunna the week of August 10-14, 2015. To speak to Ms. Dolan about your current VAC claims or are interested in finding out if you qualify for any other assistance (ie. House cleaning, grass cutting, medical problems) please make an appointment by calling Branch 447 at 519-862-1240 or Branch Officer Gerry Den Hartogh at 519-862-1613.



Smoke-Free Ontario Act now extends to *outdoor* events

While you are enjoying the many outdoor events and activities you see here in *The Beacon*, don't forget that changes to Ontario's Smoke-Free Act, which took effect in January of this year, eliminate smoking in many outdoor spaces including: all patios associated with restaurants and/or bars; within 20 metres of all municipally owned/operated sports fields, including spectator areas; and within 20 metres of playgrounds.

Seasonal fairs and festivals will

also provide a smoke-free outdoor experience that protects staff, volunteers, vendors, and guests, especially children, from second-hand smoke.

For those who are planning outdoor events, Lambton Public Health (LPH) is available to provide guidance that will ensure compliance with the extended act. Signage and information are available at no

cost. LPH will loan smoke-free event signage to organizers to use during their events.



For more information about smoke-free events or smoke-free event signage, call Lambton's Tobacco Hotline at 519-383-3810, toll-free at 1-800-667-1839 - ext. 3810, or go online to:

www.lambtonhealth.on.ca

Mooretown Flags 2015-2016 tryout schedule set

The Mooretown Flags are getting ready to rock the rink with another great season of hockey. The team will hold tryouts on the following dates: Tuesday, Aug. 25, fitness testing, Mooretown Sports Complex (MSC), 6 p.m.; Wednesday, Aug. 26, MSC rink 2, 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.; 7:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.; Thursday, Aug. 27, MSC rink 2, 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. Tryouts continue at the MSC, rink 1, on Monday Aug. 31 from 8 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. and on Tuesday, Sept. 1 from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Exhibition games will be played as follows: the Flags will play the Mt. Bridges Bulldogs on Friday, Aug. 28 at 7:30 p.m., and again at the MSC, rink 1, on Saturday, Aug. 29 at 7:30 p.m. On Thursday, Sept. 3, the Flags will take on the Dresden Kings at the MSC, rink 1, at 7:30 p.m. and again on Friday, Sept. 4 at 7:30 p.m.

Watch the Beacon for the Flags new season schedule!

More Around The Township

From page 12

event will be held rain or shine, and a large tent will be onsite. BYOB and your own lawn chair. Picnic tables are available but fill up quickly. Rough camping (non-electric) will be available onsite. Please reserve your site in advance via email. All proceeds will go to the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation. Over the past 11 years, this event has raised a total of \$21,188 for this worthy cause.

Baseball Provincials to be held in Courtright

The Corunna Giants Senior Baseball Team will host the Baseball Provincials at the Courtright ball diamond on Sept. 4 through 6th. *Bat 'er up!*

Moore Skate Club registration

The Moore Skate Club will hold registration for the 2015/2016 season for all skating programs including power skating on Saturday, Sept. 12 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Mooretown Sports Complex.

Trap shooting and sporting clays weekly shoots

The Lambton Sportsman's Club will hold trap shooting (clay targets) on Wednesday evenings at 6 p.m. and sporting clays (a different type of clay target sport) on Sundays at 1 p.m. sharp. These activities are open to the public and ladies are welcome. For more information, call Caron Ball at 519-862-2641 or 519-381-1199. The club is located on the southeast corner of Hwy. 40 and Bickford Line in beautiful St. Clair Township.

Kids Discover! Dinosaur and Fossils

The *Age Of The Reptiles* display is now on at the Lambton Heritage Museum, Hwy. 21 south of Grand Bend. Families can explore subjects like fossil classification and the process of fossilization through a variety of specimens, charts and written materials. This exhibit is on until Oct. 12. The museum is open daily 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday, and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, Sunday, and holidays. Admission is \$5 per adult, \$4 per student/senior, \$3 per child, and \$15 per family (two adults & two+ children under 18).

Lambton At War display at Heritage Museum

This exhibit, now on at the Lambton Heritage Museum until Nov. 11, explores the contributions of the men, women and children of Lambton County to various war efforts. For information about this and other programs/exhibits at the museum, go online to: www.lambtonmuseums.ca

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 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.

Recovery support group meets weekly

Recovery International, a self-help group for those who struggle with mental health issues, meets on Wednesdays at 7 p.m. at St. Luke's United Church in Samia. Issues that are covered include phobias, depression, anxiety, sleeplessness, and several others. For more information, contact Rita at 519-867-2932.

Mark your calendar with these great dates...

Grand Dessert Gala in Corunna

Be sure to mark the evening of Wednesday, Oct. 7 on your calendar. You won't want to miss the popular annual Grand Dessert Gala at the Royal Canadian Legion Corunna Branch 447 hall. The evening will feature scrumptious desserts, fellowship, and entertainment with proceeds raised going to the fight against Breast Cancer. Each table hostess invites friends to enjoy the evening, which includes a silent auction, a quilt raffle, and door prizes. For more information, call Patty at 519-862-5084, Juanita at 519-491-5911, or Val at 519-862-1935.

Annual Fall Harvest Dinner

The Brigden United Church will host the annual Fall Harvest Dinner on Sunday, Oct. 25. *Watch The Beacon for details or call BUC at 519-864-1741.*

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

Email: beacon@twp.stclair.on.ca

Corunna Soccer Club extends thanks

The Corunna Soccer Club would like to thank all of the volunteers that helped make this year's 2015 season a success. The club would also like to thank St. Clair Township and staff for keeping the soccer fields in good shape.

Updates on the club's fall skills program as well as registration dates can be found online at: www.corunnasoccer.com

Please note that 2016 registration has begun. Registration forms can be mailed now.

Around The Township

Brigden Fair Ambassador Contest set

Come out and root for your favourite contestant at the Brigden Fair Ambassador Contest, slated for Sunday, Aug. 9 at 2 p.m. The Brigden Fairgrounds exhibition hall will be alive with excitement as contestants vie for this rewarding and personal growth-enhancing title. Everyone is welcome to attend this time-honoured event.

Hockey Moms to hold indoor yard sale

The Mooretown Hockey Moms will host an indoor yard sale at the Mooretown Sports Complex on Sunday, Aug. 9 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. The event will feature: used hockey equipment/skates; loonie barbecue with hotdogs and drinks; fundraisers; backpacks/logos necklaces/mini sticks; Hockey Moms calendar/cookbooks; tickets for an all-inclusive trip for two to Cuba. Donations will be accepted on Aug. 8 at 1589 3rd Street, Courtright (across from the Community Centre) or on Aug. 9 from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. at the Mooretown Arena. Anyone interested in selling their equipment can reserve a table for \$20. Contact Laurie Pepper at 519-384-4812 or go online to: hockeymoms@mooretownminorhockey.com

Brander Park Splash Pad Grand Opening

Come one, come all to the Grand Opening celebration of the Port Lambton/Brander Park Splash Pad on Saturday, Aug. 15. There will be a free barbecue and fun for the whole family. Don't miss it!

Brigden United annual garage/yard sale

The congregation of the Brigden United Church will host their annual Garage and Yard Sale on Friday, Aug. 14 and Saturday, Aug. 15. Find all kinds of treasures and look through the village for even more bargains. For further information or for donation pickup, call 519-864-1747.

Summer Country Jamboree

Celebrate summer with the breezy, swingin' tunes and fancy footwork that always keeps spirits high at the Summer Country Jamboree on Saturday, Aug. 15 beginning at 1 p.m. The Brigden Fair exhibition hall is the place to be where, for a \$2 admission, you can enjoy an afternoon of music and fun. Doors open at noon. And for those who enjoy a good feed after they've worked up an appetite on the dance floor (or just tapping their foot vigorously), a ham and scalloped potato supper will begin at 5 p.m. Tickets for the meal will be sold at the door, so come early. A cash bar will be offered. Musicians are encouraged to bring their instruments, singers are encouraged to tune up those vocal chords, and if you are inclined just to sit and listen, that's great, too. For more information, call the fair office at 519-864-1197 or go online to: www.brigdenfair.ca *And don't forget to pick up your Brigden Fair 2015 Harvest The Gold 50/50 tickets for just \$5. They're on sale now with proceeds going to the Agricultural/Education features of the fair. (See Community Contact, page 9)*

Downriver Craft Sale and Train Time coming to Moore Museum

Model train enthusiasts will be able to enjoy **Model Train Time** from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday, 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 sea-

son, 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.

Brigden Day Camp offered

Children from Grades SK to 7 are invited to participate in a Day Camp slated for Aug. 17 to 21 in Brigden. The five-day camp will feature sports, science, adventure, cooking, and arts & crafts. The cost will be \$50 and participants are asked to bring a bag lunch. For more information, please call Susan at 519-882-1575 or email: rsbedggood@bell.net

Lambton Sportsman's Club archery activities

The Lambton Sportsman's Club will hold **3-D archery shoots** on Aug. 18 and Sept. 19. Registration opens at 8 a.m. Cost is \$10 for non-members and \$5 for members. Children age 15 and younger are admitted free with a paid adult guardian. Lunch is available. Please wear suitable outdoor footwear and insect repellent is recommended. For more information, call Len at 519-344-7009 or Elsie at 519-867-3940.

Weekly Tuesday evening archery will continue until Sept. 19 subject to weather conditions. These are open to the public and first timers can try archery at no cost. There is no cost to club members, \$5 for non-members over age 15, and free for children under 15 who are accompanied by a paid adult guardian. For more information, call Len at 519-344-7009 or Elsie at 519-867-3940.

Blueberry Social/Music On The Porch set for Sombra Museum

The Sombra Museum will host a double treat this summer with its annual Blueberry Social and Music On The Porch events slated for the same afternoon, Sunday, Aug. 2 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is by donation at the door. The event will feature an art show by Velda Beggs and the unveiling of a new exhibit, *All Dolled Up: Downtown*. (See page 7 for more information.) All kinds of scrumptious blueberry desserts and beverages will be available to enjoy and a book, *Thornhurst School* by Margaret Devin and printed by the Sombra Historical Society, will be on sale. The school, which can still be seen standing at the corner of French Line and Highway 40, was a one-room brick school house known as S.S. #15 Sombra. The building is 126 years old.

Cook for the Cure pig roast planned

The 12th annual Cook for the Cure pig roast will be held on Saturday, Aug. 22 at the home of Bev and Guy Dion, 1256 Lambton Line (north of Wallaceburg on the Sydenham River). Doors open at 2 p.m. with dinner to be served at about 6 p.m. Tickets are \$15 per person or two for \$25, and \$5 each for children ages three through 11. Only 250 tickets will be available and advanced purchase is preferred. They can be reserved by emailing: cbcfpigroast@hotmail.com or call/text 519-784-2220. The