



THE ST. CLAIR TOWNSHIP **BEACON**



Issue 1

Volume 9

January 2016

THE TOWNSHIP
OF ST. CLAIR

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Bean's eye view of the OCT Poor Boy Lunch



A hearty meal of homemade brown beans and hot dogs were on the menu at the annual Poor Boy Luncheon to benefit Operation Christmas Tree (OCT) in November. The meal - donated, created, and plated by the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 447 Corunna Women's Auxiliary - signaled the kick off of the OCT donation drive to ensure that all residents of north St. Clair Township could enjoy a happy Christmas. A total of 121 families received much-needed deliveries of food, and about 65 families with young children also received age-appropriate toys. Thanks to the donations and contributions made by local industries, businesses, and individuals, OCT Chair Lorne Powell was optimistic that the campaign would succeed in meeting the needs of the less fortunate families and individuals within the OCT coverage area. With the community's strong support, the campaign was a success.

Above: Staffing the bean pot with ladle at the ready, Legion member Charlie Lefebvre inspects his work to ensure every bowl receives its share of warm, comforting goodness.

Photo by Bonnie Stevenson

Got something you want everyone to know?

Non-profit organizations, groups, and charities within St. Clair Township are welcome to submit promotional items, newsworthy photos with information, and other pertinent material for publication in *The St. Clair Township Beacon*. Information from non-profit groups holding events or offering legitimate, verifiable services that benefit the people of St. Clair Township in some significant way will also be considered. The regular deadline for submissions is usually the third Monday of each month by noon. For the February issue, the deadline will be Monday, January 18 by noon.

Email: beacon@twp.stclair.on.ca



Municipal Notes

National fiddle champ recognized



The 2015 Canadian Fiddling Champion, Greg Henry of St. Clair Township, visited the Dec. 7 meeting of council to receive recognition for his impressive achievement.

Mayor Steve Arnold presented Mr. Henry with a certificate of appreciation as well as a crystal award symbolizing the community's pride in his title-winning performance.

"Greg is the first person I know of from the entire township to win the title of Canadian Grand Master Fiddler," said Mayor Arnold. "This is quite an honour for him and it's an honour for all of us to be able to share this with him. He is a great ambassador for this community. It's great that a local young man from Stanley Line could have that much talent and dedication to music. He brings so much joy to his audience when he entertains."

Mr. Henry says he is not seeking a professional career as a performer. He is currently a process worker in Sarnia's Chemical Valley. As members of his family looked on, Mr. Henry quietly thanked council for their recognition.

Photo by Bonnie Stevenson



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: publicworks@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 holds regular meetings at the St. Clair Township Civic Centre, 1155 Emily Street in Mooretown every first and third Monday of the month. Upcoming meetings will be held on Monday, Jan. 4 at 6:30 p.m. and on Monday, Jan. 18 at approximately 5 p.m. following the Committee of the Whole meeting. 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.



Pheasant/Rabbit hunting licenses now available

The Township of St. Clair pheasant/rabbit hunting licenses are now on sale at the following locations: Pic-N-Pay Variety, Sombra; Courtright Variety Store; Corunna Home Hardware; Agris Co-operative Ltd., Bridgen; and the St. Clair Township Civic Centre in Mooretown.

The fee will be \$5 for township residents and \$8 for non-residents. Applicants must apply in person and multiple licenses will not be issued.

Jeff Baranek, RPP
Director of Administration/Clerk
Deputy C.A.O.

ERRATUM

In the December 2015 Beacon (*We Will Remember Them*) page 8, the saluting Corunna Legion member in the top photograph was erroneously identified as Dan Watson. He was actually Legion member Don Musson.



ST CLAIR TOWNSHIP 2016 PROPERTY TAX DUE DATES

The 2016 Interim Tax due dates are
March 2 and May 4, 2016

The Interim Tax Notices will be mailed out
the last week in January 2016.

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 & Internet Payments through Bank
- Payment at most Financial Institutions
- Post dated cheques
- Counter services, cash, cheque or debit
- Mail to, or
- Drop Box at 1155 Emily St. Mooretown Ontario N0N 1M0

~~~~~  
Pre-authorized payment plans are also available and encouraged. Find the form at www.twp.stclair.on.ca

~~~~~  
**St. Clair Township Tax Department**  
**519-867-2024**  
**fax: 519-867-5509**



## Township of St. Clair - Fill-in Crossing Guards needed

The Township of St. Clair requires a fill-in crossing guard to assist school children crossing streets at various locations in Corunna. The work involves one hour in the morning and one hour in the afternoon on school days. The current compensation is \$28.15 per day. This position will be on a "call in" basis and hours will vary widely depending on need.

The Township of St. Clair currently requires fill-in crossing guard(s) to assist school children crossing at the corners of: Lyndoch and Cameron Streets; Hill and Queen Streets; and Hill and Colborne Streets. Application setting out qualifications and experience will be received by the undersigned.

**Gary DePooter, CET**  
Co-ordinator of Operations  
Phone: 519-867-22125  
Fax: 519-867-3886  
St. Clair Civic Centre,  
1155 Emily Street  
Mooretown, Ont.,  
N0N 1M0

## St. Clair Township champions

2015 was a great year for personal achievement in our community. The gold medal triumphs of high jumper Derek Druin at the Pan Am Games in Toronto and the IAAF World Championships in Beijing, and the winning Canadian Fiddle Championship performance of Greg Henry, have set fine examples of excellence for our community's youth and for everyone who has a dream worth striving for.



## Accessibility Committee seeks members

The Township of St. Clair Accessibility Committee is currently seeking members. The Committee work to ensure that public spaces within the municipality are fully accessible to all residents. To apply, please submit a written request stating your qualifications in care of: Clerk Jeff Baranek, St. Clair Township Civic Centre, 1155 Emily Street, Mooretown, Ont., N0N 1M0, or call 519-867-2021, or email: [jbaranek@twp.stclair.on.ca](mailto:jbaranek@twp.stclair.on.ca). The deadline for submissions is Friday, Nov. 27 by 4 p.m. Preference will be given to those with accessibility issues and committee membership will continue for the duration of the current term of Council.

## Heritage St. Clair receives Creative County project grant

Heritage St. Clair has received a \$2,000 grant from Lambton County's Creative County Fund to help with the cost of a new interpretive plaque. The plaque, which will be installed in the Sombra waterfront park, recognizes the Rebellion of 1837-38, a conflict that saw raiding parties from the U.S. landing in the Port Lambton and Sombra areas. The purpose of the incursions was to oust British rule and turn Canada into a Republic.

This grant was one of four grants awarded during the latest round of Creative County Fund project applications. The remaining three include: \$3,880 to the Plympton-Wyoming Historical Society to enhance its Early Settlers and Post WWII Immigration exhibits; \$3,200 to the Lambton County Oral History Project,

which provides first-person audio and written accounts of everyday life in Lambton County. The results of this project will be featured on the Lambton County CIS cultural mapping site.; and \$19,500 to the South Western International Film Festival which is held in Sarnia. It offers films, screenwriter's workshops, a producer's workshop; and an actor's Master Class by some of Canada's top artists.

Since it began in 2013, the Fund has advanced \$218,705 to various projects throughout Lambton County. For more information about the Creative County Fund, visit [www.lambtononline.ca](http://www.lambtononline.ca) and click on the "Creative County" tab under the "Residents" heading.

## Health seminars return to Rapids Family Health Team clinic

Health seminars have returned to the Rapids Family Health Team at the Shell Health Centre, 233 Cameron Street in Corunna.

Patients can also make one-on-one appointments with a Registered Social Worker, a Registered Dietitian, or a Registered Nurse Educator. To book an appointment, call 519-813-9800 or ask your doctor for a referral.

Seminars offered this winter include:

### Free smoking cessation classes/NRT

Free nicotine replacement therapy (NRT) to help smokers kick the habit will be offered, if indicated, as part of the Rapids Family Health Team smoking cessation education classes slated for **Friday, Jan. 8 at 9 a.m. and Wednesday, Jan. 27 at 2 p.m.** Those who are thinking about quitting or are ready to quit using tobacco are urged to attend these informative classes. The class includes a 1.5 hour quit smoking workshop where the discussion will cover strategies and methods for quitting, ways to overcome barriers to quitting, how to make a quit plan and manage withdrawal symptoms, and how to prevent a relapse. After completing the workshop, participants schedule an individual appointment with a nurse educator to receive further support and information. Nicotine Replacement Therapy, if indicated, can be dispensed after enrollment in the STOP study. *For more information about the STOP study, please visit [www.stopstudy.ca](http://www.stopstudy.ca)*

NRT is only dispensed during individual appointments. Those who are interested in the quit smoking program and wish to reserve a spot in the program can contact the Rapids Family Health Team at the phone number listed below.

### Living With Diabetes

Living With Diabetes is a two-hour session that pro-

vides a general overview of diabetes. The discussion will include some of the most common myths about diabetes, it will explain what "good control" is, and it will cover some of the things you can do to manage diabetes. The session will be held on Friday, Feb. 5 from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

### Healthy Eating and Keeping Active

This two-hour session is for people who have already attended the Living With Diabetes class. The discussion will include the basics of healthy eating, what types of food affect your blood sugar levels, how to read food labels, when and how much to eat, and how to increase your physical activity level. The session is slated for Friday, Feb. 12 from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

### Diabetes Prevention

This is a 1.5 hour group session for those who: have been told they are at risk of getting diabetes; want to learn about ways to prevent diabetes; or want to learn about diabetes. The session is taught by a Registered Nurse and a Registered Dietitian who will discuss what diabetes is, risk factors for getting it, and how to decrease blood sugar levels through lifestyle changes. The session is slated for Friday, February 26 from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

### Laboratory services offered

Laboratory services at the clinic are available Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

For information, to register for one of the above programs, or to book an individual appointment, call 519-813-9800 or go online to: [www.rapidsfhteam.ca](http://www.rapidsfhteam.ca)

## Operation Christmas Tree OPP Drive-through donation a big success

As the Christmas season descended upon St. Clair Township, it brought with it a surge in Christmas spirit. The annual OPP drive-through donation event in Corunna, which benefits Operation Christmas Tree (OCT) garnered hundreds of non-perishable food items and new unwrapped toys, as well as cash, to brighten the holidays for the community's less fortunate residents. OCT Chair Gord Dawson said a total of 121 families received food hampers with about 65 of them also receiving age appropriate toys.

**Right:** Recently-elected MP Marilyn Gladu visited



Photo by Bonnie Stevenson

Santa and his helpers from the Optimist Club of Moore and the Corunna Community Policing Committee to see where the Christmas magic happened. In the collection/hamper assembly room, she was greeted by helpers Don Smith, left, John Mills, Gord Dawson, and Peter Grunte.

*Thank you to everyone who helped to make the OPP drive-through a success again this year!*



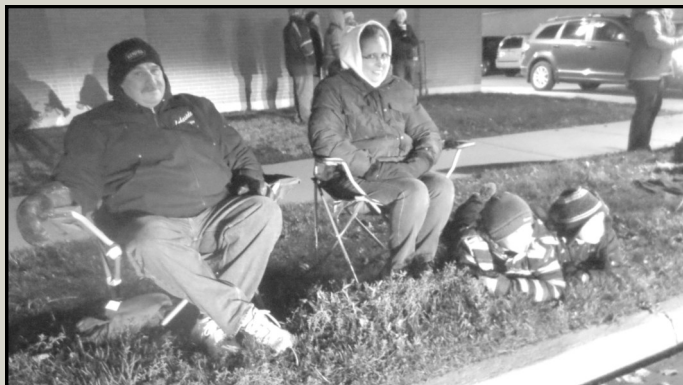
## St. Nick makes another grand entrance

He's the man with the big white beard and the jolly disposition, and he recently visited St. Clair Township to find out who was naughty and who was nice.

Santa Claus arrived in Corunna on Nov. 28 amidst a flurry of coloured lights and the delighted shouts of hundreds of enthusiastic fans who lined the parade route to see him.

This year's trophy winners for the best entries in four classes were: Large commercial - Shell; Small commercial - Co-Operators Insurance; Community - Ladies Flags Hockey Team; and Best Fire Truck - Sarnia Street Machines. This was the 10th year that the Optimist Club of Moore has organized the parade, which featured a record 41 entries.

Top right: Brigden residents Robert and Wendy brought sons Thomas and Brandon to catch a glimpse of the jolly old elf along with some great floats and whimsical entries. Middle right: One of the brightly lit floats Below: The SCITS band entertained with some seasonal favourites at the Corun-



## S-L United Way goal exceeded

The Sarnia-Lambton United Way 2015 fundraising campaign has exceeded its goal of \$1,950,000. The goal was reached in early December and 2015 Volunteer Campaign Chair Richard Kelch noted there were still some companies and individuals that hadn't finished their campaigns or made their pledges yet. In 2015, United Way funding provided support for 35 programs and services offered by 22 local agencies.

## Lambton Public Health offers free parenting programs

Lambton Public Health will offer free parenting programs in January. In **Brigden**, *Parenting Talk* (applies to children of all ages) will be offered on Friday, Jan. 8 from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the Brigden OEYC site and Best Start Hub, Brigden United Church, 2420 Jane Street. Parenting can be rewarding, but it can also be stressful and difficult. Discuss topics and share ideas with a public health nurse and other parents about these important issues. To register, please call 519-892-3151.

In Corunna, *Children See, Children Learn* (applies to children ages 1-6) will be offered on Monday, Jan. 11 from 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the Corunna Best Start Child and Family Centre, St. Joseph Catholic School, 535 Birchbank Drive in Corunna. Discuss real-life situations with a public health nurse and learn about positive parenting. To register, call 519-892-3151. For more information about these and other parenting programs being offered, call 519-383-83311, ext. 3568 or go online to: [www.lambtonhealth.on.ca](http://www.lambtonhealth.on.ca) and click on **Classes and Clinics**.

## Stay active at the Mooretown Sports Complex

The Winter brochure for the Mooretown Sports Complex can be found online at: [www.stclairtownshipcommunityservices.ca](http://www.stclairtownshipcommunityservices.ca) If you missed registration, don't worry because openings are still available. Call now at 519-867-2651 to register or get more information.

### Free Heart Healthy Presentation

February is Heart and Stroke Month. With this in mind, the Mooretown Sports Complex will host a FREE Heart Healthy presentation on Friday, February 12 at 11:15 a.m. The event will feature healthy snacks. This program is provided by the West Lambton Community Health Centre. Registration is required for this event. See above for contact information.

### Spinning classes offered

Join our certified spinning instructors for a great workout to improve your cardiovascular endurance, muscular strength, and power. Join any time for a 12 week session for \$72 or a 10 pass admission for \$80. Morning Spin classes are held on Tuesdays or Thursdays from 7:15 a.m. to 8 a.m., and Evening Spin classes are Wednesdays from 5 p.m. to 5:45 p.m. If you're a beginner, there are classes designed for you on Thursdays from 7:15 p.m. to 8 p.m. If you're looking for strength training combined with a spin workout, come to the Bikes & Bells class on Friday from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. or Monday from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m.

### Hip Hop & Ballet

Dance classes are currently being offered. Kids from age six to 13 are invited to enjoy training in hip hop and ballet on Thursday evenings. Fun, exciting and popular Hip Hop dance moves for ages 7-13 years are taught from 5 p.m. to 5:45 p.m. at a cost of \$120 for 12 weeks. Ballet for ages 3-5 years is taught from 5:45 p.m. to 6:15 p.m. at a cost of \$110 for 12 weeks. And ballet for ages 6-9 years is taught from 6:15 p.m. to 7 p.m. at a cost of \$120 for 12 weeks. Classes begin on Jan. 14.

### Muscle Mix group fitness classes

You can join the Muscle Mix group fitness class any time. These classes include kettlebell training that will build lean muscles, improve strength and power in your upper body, core and lower body, and increase coordination, joint mobility, and overall endurance. Classes are held Monday or Wednesday from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m., as well as Tuesday or Thursday from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. The cost is \$45 for a 10 visit pass, or is included in the full fitness centre membership.

### Do you need a winter break?

Come and enjoy the feeling of being down south without enduring the hassle of airport procedures and long, tiresome flights. Get that vacation time feeling while luxuriating in our 85 degree F pool, soaking in the soothing hot tub, or relaxing in the sauna. Enjoy all this and much more with a Fitness Centre membership at a tax-included cost of just \$255 per year (\$243 for seniors). Daily, monthly, three month, and six month rates are also available and there are no initiation fees to pay.

### FREE indoor/outdoor walking exercise program

The West Lambton CHC sponsored walking exercise program is held every Monday and Wednesday morning from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m.

### March Break Day Camp - March 14 to 18, 2016

Children ages 5 through 12 are invited to participate in the March Break Day Camp being offered from March 14 to 18. The camp includes swimming, skating, crafts and games. The program will operate from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. with an early drop-off at 7:30 a.m. and late pickup by 5:30 p.m. available for an extra fee. The program costs \$27 per child per day or \$110 for the week.

### Juvenile Silver Stick play in Mooretown

The annual Juvenile Silver Stick Tournament comes to Mooretown the weekend of Jan. 7 through 10. Daily admission will be \$5 per adult, \$3 per student/senior, with a weekend pass costing \$14 and children 13 years and under admitted free. Semi-finals will begin at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday with championship play on Sunday afternoon.

### Pat Abela - Lyle McPhedran Skate Competition

The Pat Abela-Lyle McPhedran Memorial Invitational Skate Competition, hosted by Bluewater Region, will be held at the Mooretown Sports Complex from Friday, Jan. 22 to Sunday, Jan. 24. More information about this Skate Canada (Western Ontario) sanctioned competition is available online at: [www.skating-wos.on.ca](http://www.skating-wos.on.ca)

**Contact the Mooretown Sports Complex at 519-867-2651.**

## Habitat offers a hand up

- We offer home ownership to families who would not otherwise be able to afford a home of their own
- Once built, we sell our homes to deserving families (we do not give homes away)
- We offer 0% interest mortgages
- Monthly payments are geared-to-income
- Our partner families have a chance to build equity (and build wealth)
- Habitat partner families have a safe and decent living environment

**Interested? We'd like to hear from you.**  
(519) 339-7957 • [www.habitatsarnia.org](http://www.habitatsarnia.org)



**Habitat for Humanity**  
Sarnia/Lambton

# Community Contact

## **Hockey Moms' fundraisers ongoing**

The Mooretown Hockey Moms have a busy season ahead as they continue to raise money to help fund team activities. Their efforts help feed the hungry teams as well as avid spectators during home games. The group also sells fundraiser items such as the Hockey Moms Keepsake 2016 Calendar, Christmas draw tickets (first prize is an all inclusive trip for two to Cuba), Moore-town drawstring backpacks, leather logo necklaces, toques, mini sticks, stickers and more.

## **Put your spare change to work**

Never underestimate the power of spare change. 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. Please support this fundraiser 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. 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](http://stclairrivertrail.com)

## **Brigden Fair student volunteer opportunities**

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.

## **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.

## **Lambton County Jr. Optimist Club seeks members**

As 22 young Junior Optimist Club members will tell you, belonging to a group that does so much good for the community is a blast! The club began with just 10 members and it didn't take long for other young people to join in. It's fun and it's rewarding, and friendships made can last a lifetime. New members ages 10 through 18 are being sought for the Lambton County Junior Optimist Club. Members volun-

teer 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.

## **Mosaic Lambton Project will honour Canada's 150th**

The Lambton Mosaic Project (LMP), developed this as a Confederation project to honour Canada's upcoming 150th anniversary on July 1, 2017, is now underway in Lambton County. All residents of the 14 communities within Lambton County (11 Municipalities and 3 First Nations Communities) are 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 Organization For Literacy In Lambton received a 2014 grant from the Lambton County Creative Fund (LCCF) to get the project underway and is sponsored by: Organization For Literacy In Lambton, the Creative County Fund, Sarnia-Lambton Workforce Development Board, Rotary Club of Sarnia, Tourism Sarnia-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](http://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. 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.

# News items from Lambton County

## **Flu shots continue**

Flu shots are available at 30 Lambton pharmacies, from health care providers, at 10 community clinics; and at Lambton Public Health, 160 Exmouth Street in Sarnia. Individuals at high risk of influenza complications are urged to get their flu shot as soon as possible. This group includes: adults 65 and over; infants and children six months to under five years of age; individuals with a chronic health condition; healthy pregnant women; individuals of any age who reside in long-term care or other chronic care facilities; and Aboriginal people. Statistics from the 2014-2015 flu season indicate there were 63 lab confirmed cases of influenza and three flu-related deaths recorded in Lambton. "Getting the flu shot is the safest way to prevent spread of the flu and



the best way to protect your loved ones," said Erin Courtney, Supervisor with Lambton Public Health. "In Canada, the flu kills more people than any other communicable disease." For information about seasonal influenza and the flu shots clinic schedule, visit [www.lambtonhealth.on.ca](http://www.lambtonhealth.on.ca) or call Lambton Public Health Flu Info Line at 519-383-3812 or toll-free at 1-800-667-1839, ext. 3812.

## **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.



## HERITAGE CORNER

### Old-Fashioned Christmas sparks creativity in young students



About 700 elementary school students recently enjoyed learning old-school ways of celebrating Christmas at the Moore Museum's annual *Old-Fashioned Christmas* program. Left: Museum program staffer Linda Woods offers freshly-pulled taffy to students who helped do the pulling. Right: Mooretown-Courtright students Taylor and Kaedyn select buttons and trim to create gingerbread decorations. The students were allowed to take their handmade masterpieces home. *Photos submitted*



### Moore Museum's Adopt-A-Project campaign well supported in 2015

*By Moore Museum Curator Laurie Mason*

Each year, the Moore Museum's Adopt-A-Project campaign seeks funding for a variety of projects needed for the Museum's development, programming, and maintenance. Again in 2015, community-minded industries, businesses, organizations, and individuals have generously sponsored the following projects:

TransAlta sponsored the construction of a woodshed to provide dry firewood for programming as well as to allow students to experience "fetching wood".

The Optimist Club of Moore sponsored the purchase of child-sized mannequins to enhance exhibits of children's clothing from various time periods.

The Sarnia-Lambton branch of the Retired Women Teachers of Ontario sponsored improvements to the Museum's school programs with the goal of increasing their learning value.

Diana Colborne and Kay's Petals and Plants sponsored landscaping improvements to the chapel garden for visitors to enjoy and to provide a lovely backdrop for wedding and family photos.

Improvements to the Lionel model train room were sponsored by: Ruby Bailey, who provided materials for a hand-

painted wall mural to enhance the layout; and the Knights of Columbus Council 9447, who provided locomotives and power supplies to reliably operate the trains.

Renovations to the century-old wooden CNR caboose were sponsored by: CN, in recognition of volunteer and CN retiree Leo Griffiths; and the Moore Community and Recreational Fund.

The following donors contributed to the 2015 capital project and operating costs, including preserving artifacts, creating new exhibits, maintaining buildings, and offering interesting programs: Imperial Oil Foundation (in recognition of volunteers and Imperial Oil retirees Dave Beer and Fred Strickland; Lambton Mutual Insurance Company; LANXESS Inc. Donations Committee; Vidal Street Industrial Park Inc.; Eleanor Vargo; Royal Canadian Legion Branch 447 Corunna; Imperial Roofing (Sarnia) Ltd.; Watson TIM-BR Mart; Wilhemine Mason; Bruce and Margaret MacPherson; Mayflower Rebekah Lodge #324; Optimist Club of Brigden; Earle and Joanne Clysdale; Lady Martha Rebekah Lodge #245; Leopold Lodge #397; Olga Murray; Evelyn Japp; Bonnie Lester; Sally Townsend; and Geraldine Phair.

## MAKE 2016 YOUR YEAR TO VOLUNTEER!

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



## MORE HERITAGE CORNER

### Busyville among the many tiny hamlets that once populated St. Clair Township

*With files submitted by  
Heritage St. Clair*

Busyville is a curious name for a town, but once upon a time, it was a real place. Unfortunately, the only proof that the hamlet of Busyville ever existed can be found in the form of the school's sturdy cement block outhouse.

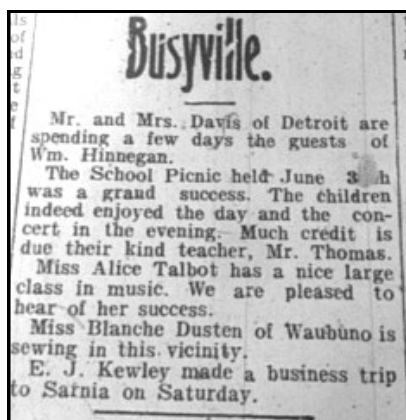
The hamlet in what used to be Sombra Township was a post office from 1911-1914. Located on lot 20 of concession 11, the place was named by a local school teacher.

Busyville is just one of several St. Clair Township hamlets that have faded from memory. Others, like Copleston and Kimball, were just post office locations. Some, like Waubuno and Ladysmith, survive in name only on road signs.

Other hamlets once located in St. Clair Township include: Baby's Point; Blecher; Charlemont; Avonry; Bickford; Duthill; Moore Centre; Osborne; Sykeston; Cromar; Thornyhurst; Colin-

ville; Port Seckerton; Vye's Grove; Bradshaw; and West Becher.

*Do you want to find out more about the history of St. Clair Township? The Sombra and Moore Museum archives are filled with documents, photos, and other material that bring the past alive for those who care to know more about their community's past.*



Left: A newspaper social column was the Twitter of its day.

Above: Today, the sturdy Busyville School outhouse is all that remains of the hamlet.

*Photos courtesy Sombra Museum archives*

### Mooretown Flags home game schedule for 2015-2016



Home games are slated for the Mooretown Sports Complex on the following dates: Sat., Jan. 2 at 7:30 p.m. against Alvinston; Sat., Jan. 16 at 7:30 p.m. against Amherstburg; Sat., Jan. 30 at 7:30 p.m. against Blenheim.

**COME OUT AND ROOT FOR THE HOME TEAM!**  
**GO FLAGS!**

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

# Still More Around The Township

## From page 11

here's a chance to attend church mid-week.

Brigden United Church holds regular services every Sunday at 10:30 a.m. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to join the congregation for meaningful worship, followed by coffee and fellowship. More information can be obtained on Facebook.

## Forever Fit classes resume in Corunna

Forever Fit classes for adults aged 55 and over, sponsored by Lambton Elderly Outreach, are held at Thompson Garden's Cruickshank Centre on Monday, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. For more information, please call Gayle at 519-813-9853, Dianne at 519-862-2678, or Mary at 519-862-2124.

## Ongoing activities offered at Cruickshank Community Centre

Several ongoing activities take place at the Cruickshank Community Centre each week.



These include: **morning coffee socials** from Monday to Saturday from 8:30 a.m. to 10 a.m. - everyone is welcome; **euchre nights** on Tuesdays at 7 p.m. - cost is \$3 per session which includes light refreshments; and **bridge** on Wednesdays at 1 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 Sarnia. Issues that are covered include phobias, depression, anxiety, sleeplessness, and several others. For more information, contact Rita at 519-867-2932.

## Weekly sporting clay shoots held

The Lambton Sportsman's Club shoots sporting clays every Sundays at 1 p.m. sharp. This event is open to the public (licensed firearms owners and their guests) and ladies are most welcome. Trap shooting will resume in April, 2016.

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. Please note that the club's rifle and handgun ranges are only open to club members and their invited guests.

## Blewater Sharks 2016 Spring Women & Men's Hockey Tournament slated

The Women's 6th and Men's 5th Annual Recreational Blewater Sharks Hockey Tournaments will be held on April 15 through 17 at the RBC Centre in Sarnia. These non-competitive tournaments carry a three-game guarantee for the following groups: Women 18 and over; Men 19 and over; and men 35 and over. All divisions, with six teams per division, will have a Friday evening start. The tourney will end on Sunday with Finals that could go to five games. The deadline to enter is March 20. For more information contact: Ed Marcy, 519-344-8624 (emarcy@sympatico.ca) or Lance Marcy, 519-344-2205 (lmarcy@cogeco.ca) Visit the Website at: [www.blewater sharkshockey.com](http://www.blewater sharkshockey.com)

## Ballroom Dancing Club begins

The Sarnia Ballroom Dancing Club holds regular dances at the Camlachie Community Hall. For more information, go online to: [www.sarniaballroomdancingclub.ca](http://www.sarniaballroomdancingclub.ca)

## 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.*

**NOTE: DEADLINE FOR FEBRUARY BEACON WILL BE MONDAY, JAN. 18 BY NOON.**

Please double-check each submission for accuracy before sending.

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

## Vaccination info required by February

Lambton Public Health warns parents that high school-aged students must have up-to-date vaccination information on file. Those who do not update their information will face school suspension in February, 2016. This information can be reported: online at [www.lambtonhealth.on.ca](http://www.lambtonhealth.on.ca); by email at [immunization@county-lambton.on.ca](mailto:immunization@county-lambton.on.ca); by calling 519-383-8331, ext. 3589 or 1-800-667-1839; faxed to 519-383-7092; or dropped off at Lambton Public Health, 160 Exmouth Street, Point Edward.

## More Around The Township

### From page 12

a number of great events are slated for January and February. The first will see the Down River Junior Optimist Club hold a Youth Dance on Friday, Jan. 22 from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. at the Port Lambton Community Hall. The dance is open to youth in Grades 3-8 with an admission of just \$5. All proceeds will be donated to a local charity. The second event will be a euchre tournament hosted by the Optimist Club of Sombra on Saturday, Jan. 23 at the Port Lambton Community Hall. Registration will be at 11:30 a.m. at a cost of \$20 per team. The tournament will begin at noon sharp. There will be cash prizes and food and beverages will be available for sale. Then, children of all ages are invited to attend a morning of crafts at the Port Lambton Community Hall on Saturday, Feb. 6 at 10 a.m. And finally, a night of comedy featuring talented comedians from Yuk Yuk's will be held at Bogey's Inn and Suites on Saturday, Feb. 13. Tickets are \$30 per person and are available at Shaykin' Bait Variety in Port Lambton. These popular events sell out fast so get your tickets early.

### Lambton County Jr. Optimist free movie night

The Lambton County Junior Optimist Club will host a FREE movie night at the Courtright Community Hall on Friday, Jan. 22 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Popcorn and juice will be provided. Those who attend are asked to please bring winter hats, mittens and/or gloves to donate for distribution at local schools. And of course, the kids can wear pjs and bring their pillows and covers if they wish.

### Jam sessions at Corunna Legion

The popular Saturday afternoon jam sessions continue at the Royal Canadian Legion Corunna Branch 447 hall. They are held on the last Saturday of each month through next May at 2 p.m. Everyone is invited to come out to listen to local musicians play live music. For more information, call the Legion hall at 519-862-1240.

### Moore Optimists present Family Fund Day

The Optimist Club of Moore and the Lambton County Junior Optimist Club will host Family Fun Day at the Courtright Community Centre on Monday, Feb. 15 from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. The event will include family games and lunch (\$5 for a hamburger/chips or hot dog/chips). There will be free 10 pin bowling at Airey Lanes with bowling times set for 10 a.m., 11 a.m. and noon. Due to limited space, please register to bowl by calling Dorothy at 519-867-5314.

### Yuk Yuk's tour comes to Corunna

It's time to yuk it up with the *Yuk Yuk's On Tour* show at the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 447 Corunna. The show is slated for Saturday, Feb. 27 with doors open at 8 p.m. and the show at 9 p.m. Advance tickets are available

at the Legion hall for \$20 or at the door for \$25, and only 200 will be sold. It's a great way to chase away those winter blues.

### Fall/Winter lecture series at Sombra Museum

The Fall 2015/Winter 2016 Monthly Lecture Series continues at the Sombra Museum. The public is invited to come to the Sombra Museum Cultural Centre at the corner of Smith Street and the St. Clair Parkway to enjoy these fascinating evenings. The cost of admission is \$10 per adult and \$7 per student. The schedule for this season includes: Tuesday, March 29 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., Glen Scott tells tales of the *War of 1812 in the Western District*. The war was one of the most iconic for Canada, with widespread conflict in many different regions. It left behind stories that continue to capture our imagination.

Tuesday, April 26 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., Larry Cornelius will speak about the species of trees in Lambton County. In *Native Trees of Lambton County*, he will reveal interesting facts about them as well as the history of the tree cover in Lambton since the last ice age receded. For tickets and more information, call 519-892-3982 or email: [sombramuseum@hotmail.com](mailto:sombramuseum@hotmail.com)

### Messy Church at Bridgen United

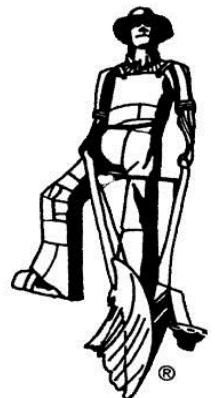
The Messy Church event will be held at Bridgen United Church on the last Tuesday of every month from 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. through June, 2016. Everyone is invited to join the congregation members for a fun and messy evening of worship, crafts, and supper. Children must be accompanied by an adult caregiver. If Sunday mornings are too busy for you,

See Still More, page 10

### Greetings from Moore Agricultural Society

The Moore Agricultural Society, home of the Bridgen Fair, would like to wish everyone a wonderful and prosperous 2016 and express hope that everyone made special memories with family and friends during 2015 and over the Christmas season. We have appreciated your patronage over the past year at the Bridgen Fair, the regular jamborees and campout weekends, tractor pulls, demolition derby, brunches, beef dinner, and other special events. We look forward to seeing you again throughout 2016.

Thank you  
and Happy New Year to all.  
Moore Agricultural Society



# Around The Township

## Cowboy Bill's Jamboree planned

The *Friends of Bill Committee* will host Cowboy Bill's Jamboree/Benefit Dance at the Brigden Fair exhibition hall on Saturday, Jan. 2 at 1 p.m. This event will raise money to help MAS member Bill O'Brien with medical bills accrued after a serious accident broke several bones and caused other severe injuries. Tickets and more details are available at: McCormick Insurance; the Brigden Country Jamboree on Dec. 13; at the fair office 519-864-1197; Mainstreet Credit Union in Brigden; and the Friends of Bill Committee.



## Sombra Community Hall card parties set

The Sombra Community Hall card parties are held on Fridays at 1 p.m. Dates for upcoming card parties are: Jan. 8, 15, 22, 29; Feb. 5, 12, 19, 26; March 11, 18; April 1, 8, 15, 22, 29; May 6, 13, 20. Everyone is welcome.

## Lambton Outdoor Club to meet

If you're hankering for some enjoyable ways to experience the great outdoors this winter, the Lambton Outdoor Club will present a free introduction to winter activities at the Lochiel Kiwanis Community Centre, 180 North College Street in Sarnia on Saturday, Jan. 9 at 2 p.m. All ages are welcome to attend. Learn what you need to know to get started in snowshoeing, cross-country skiing, dog sledding, winter camping, navigation and safety. Pre-registration is not necessary but would be appreciated. For more information or to pre-register, call Tony at 519-542-1578 or email: [tarnold@teksavvy.com](mailto:tarnold@teksavvy.com)

## Knights of Columbus Sunday breakfasts

The Corunna/Courtright Knights of Columbus will continue to host their popular Sunday breakfast and meat raffle events at the St. Joseph's Parish Centre on Lyndoch Street from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the following dates: Jan. 10, Feb. 7, March 13, and April 17. The all-you-can-eat meal includes pancakes, eggs, sausage, bacon, ham, home fries, rolls, orange juice, coffee and tea. The cost is \$7.50 per adult, \$3.50 per child aged six to 12, and free for children under age six. Everyone is welcome to attend.

## Country Jamboree series slated in Brigden

The Brigden Fairgrounds exhibition hall will be hosting its popular Winter Jamboree series again this year. Admission is only \$2 and a cash bar will be operating. The first jamboree for 2016, the Winter Wonderland Jamboree, is slated for Jan. 10; followed Feb. 14 with the Valentine's Jamboree; March 13, St. Patrick's/Everyone Is Irish Jamboree; and April 10, Spring Jamboree. These jamborees are a great opportunity to shake off the winter blahs with toe-tapping music you can dance to if the spirit moves you. And

if you are a musician or singer, get up and join in the music-making. When the jamboree is over, enjoy a ham and scalloped potato dinner beginning at 5 p.m. You can buy your dinner tickets at the door so come early because they are limited. Mark your calendars and enjoy! For more information, call the fair office at 519-864-1197.

## Annual MAS General Meeting set

The annual general meeting of the Moore Agricultural Society (MAS) will be held on Saturday, Jan. 16 in the Brigden Fairgrounds Exhibition Hall. The event will begin with a potluck supper at 6:30 p.m. The meeting will follow.

## Seniors On the Move program in Sombra

The free *Seniors On The Move* program will be held at Zion Free Methodist Church, 2951 Bentpath Line (corner of Bentpath and Mandaumin) on Wednesday, Jan. 20 from 9 a.m. to noon. The event will cover topics including fall prevention, incontinence, medication, exercise, and more. A free lunch will be offered and there will be prizes. Seating is limited so call 519-864-1511 to ensure your seat. This program is sponsored by VHA Home HealthCare, the VON, and the Heart and Stroke Foundation.

## Girls On The Move program offered

Girls in Grades 4-8 are invited to register now for the *Girls On The Move* program, which begins on Wednesday, Jan. 20. This six-week program offers a variety of activities including yoga, boxing, nutrition, circuit training, and resilience-building. Weekly sessions are held from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Port Lambton and Sombra Community Centres. They are supported by the Sombra Optimist Club and the Port Lambton Athletic Association. The cost is \$20 for six weeks. For more information or to register, please contact Rose at 519-677-5924 ([rbatkins@kent.net](mailto:rbatkins@kent.net)) or Megan at 226-627-2307 ([sealey\\_megan@hotmail.com](mailto:sealey_megan@hotmail.com))

## Celtic evening at Corunna United

Don't miss the second annual Celtic Ceilidh at Corunna United Church on Friday, Jan. 22. The evening, presented by the Corunna United Church Amicitia Club, will feature a delicious beef dinner plus an evening of Celtic music by Christine Storey and Friends. Tickets are \$25 per person. For information and tickets, contact Allan at 519-862-1040 or Lloyd at 519-384-0786.



## Sombra Optimists announces several events

The Optimist Club of Sombra has announced that