



THE ST. CLAIR TOWNSHIP **BEACON**



**Discoveries
That Matter**

Issue 2

Volume 9

February 2016

THE TOWNSHIP
OF ST. CLAIR

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Around the Township

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Negligent motorists: What part of “red light” don’t they understand?



By Bonnie Stevenson

The stop light is one of the most fundamental components motorists encounter on public roads, yet some motorists still seem to be having trouble understanding the new stop light-regulated intersection at the corner of Beckwith and Lyndoch Streets (pictured above).

This odd gap in some motorists' knowledge of traffic regulations poses a puzzle to law enforcement and municipal officials alike. OPP Inspector Scott Janssens says there have been witnessed incidents of seniors from Thompson Gardens trying to use the intersection while motorists seem to ignore the lights. Further, he says the potential for serious pedestrian injuries or fatalities exists as long as motorists fail to obey the red light. Like any other traffic light, the installation at Beckwith and Lyndoch is a standard traffic light and as long as the red light is on, traffic must remain stopped until the green light comes on.

Motorists who ignore the red light do so at the risk of incurring a hefty penalty. Inspector Janssens says, “(The fine for) a “red light - fail to stop” conviction is \$260 plus a victim surcharge of \$325, and three demerit points.”

The new lights were installed to provide a safe place for pedestrians to cross the road, as many seniors from Thompson Gardens do throughout the day. Motorists driving south on the



See New stop lights, page 4

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 the third Monday of each month by noon. For the March issue, the deadline will be Monday, Feb. 15 by noon.

Email: beacon@twp.stclair.on.ca



Municipal Notes

St. Clair Township Council has approved a modest increase in fees imposed on development of new structures.

The fees, which help to fund the growth of infrastructure and facilities required to support new development, are part of the overall building permit charge. A single detached unit, which currently carries a development fee of \$3,500, will now carry a charge of \$4,250, one of the lowest in the area.

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, Feb. 1 at 6:30 p.m. To allow for Family Day, the second meeting of the month will be held on Tuesday, Feb. 16 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. Please keep all vehicles off of public roadways and streets overnight from 2 a.m. to 6 a.m.

Post office box numbers required

All township residents must provide the municipal office with their post office box numbers to allow all the efficient delivery of St. Clair Township bills and documents. Post office box numbers can be called in to the Water Department at 519-867-2993 or email: public-works@twp.stclair.on.ca OR the Tax Department at 519-867-2024 or email: taxes@twp.stclair.on.ca



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 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.

MODEST INCREASE IN DEVELOPMENT CHARGES APPROVED

To put this increase into perspective, consider that the current development charge in Plympton-Wyoming is \$9,127. Council's deliberations were based on a comprehensive report by Hemson Consulting Ltd.

The increase will be in place for the next five years after which it will be reconsidered according to the economic requirements of the time.

Heritage registry approved with conditions

St. Clair Township has approved the inclusion of five properties on a municipal heritage registry.

At the January 4 meeting of St. Clair Township council, Heritage St. Clair Chair David Pattenden appeared before council to report on a proposal to develop a the municipal registry of heritage properties. To date, five property owners within the municipality have expressed an interest in the registry, which will recognize the historical significance of the properties.

The new registry was approved with the understanding that it would not limit the owner's ability to modify the structure. Mayor Arnold reminded Mr. Pattenden that council has already passed a resolution prohibiting any property from being deemed "heritage" under the Heritage Act.

Mr. Pattenden asked that Heritage St. Clair be notified if an owner of a building on the registry intended to demolish the structure so that the committee would have an opportunity to photograph and record data on the structure prior to the demolition.

Property owners can voluntarily place their properties in the registry and can also remove them at any time.

Mr. Pattenden says Heritage St. Clair has a long list of potential properties but the group wants to begin with the five sites before further expanding the registry.

40 years of volunteering acknowledged

During the Dec. 21 meeting of St. Clair Township Council, Sombra Museum volunteer Eldon Grant was formally recognized for contributing over 40 years of volunteer service to the museum and the community. During the presentation, Mayor Steve Arnold said, "(Your service) shows you have a caring heart for this communi-

See Eldon Grant, page 3



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., Brigden; 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.

Eldon Grant congratulated for 40 years

From page 2

ty...we're grateful for the work you have done and the projects you have moved forward." He noted Mr. Grant was a driving force behind the planning and building of the new Sombra Museum Cultural Centre. Mr. Grant's wry sense of humour was evident as he responded, "Forty years seems like a long time when you're looking forward but it's not long when you're looking back."

Congratulating Mr. Grant, Sombra Museum Curator Shelley Lucier said, "Eldon is well known for his historical knowledge, humility, sincerity, and the willingness to share his local heritage." Some of Mr. Grant's contributions to the museum and local heritage include: volunteering as a Sombra Museum board member for 40 years; membership in the Sombra Township Historical Society; volunteering on museum committees that brought about the construction of the new Sombra Museum Cultural Centre and the acquisition of the Q105 wall mural; assistance with museum fundraisers and the setting up of displays; the use of some of his own artifacts to enhance an exhibit. Mr. Grant is currently doing maintenance work on the Victorian Bury House and caring for the artifacts.



St. Clair Township Mayor Steve Arnold presents Eldon Grant with an award of appreciation to signify 40 years of volunteering at the Sombra Museum and in the community.
Photo by Bonnie Stevenson



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

St. Clair Township Information

For a current meeting schedule, agendas, minutes of previous meetings, and selected by-laws, go online to: www.twp.stclair.on.ca or call 519-867-2021. Long distance callers can call 1-800-809-0301.

If you wish to speak before council on matters of fact, petitions, policy, or to make a request of council, please contact the Clerk at 519-867-2021.



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

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:

Living With Diabetes

Living With Diabetes is a two-hour session that provides 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 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.

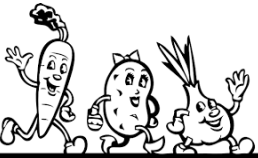
Diabetes Prevention

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, Feb. 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



Be aware of by-laws *before* you build

Spring is on the way and many property owners are preparing to make changes to their homes and yards. But many will also proceed without educating themselves on the municipal by-laws that may apply to the projects they wish to undertake.

It is the property owner's responsibility to know the by-laws that apply to their projects *before* they proceed. A call to the St. Clair Township municipal office is a good way to get the information you need. Just remember that infractions can be costly and they are avoidable.

Failure to obey new lights will prove costly to negligent motorists

From page 1

St. Clair Parkway are alerted to the new intersection control lights by way of the large "NEW" stop light sign (see inset photo on page 1) posted well in advance of the intersection, and as vehicles approach the lights, a graphic sign indicates that motorists should be aware of people in the intersection. There is also a sign that says, "Stop here on red signal". The lights are timed to allow the passage of pedestrians, some of whom are challenged by mobility issues, and under the Highway Traffic Act, Section 144 (18) "Every driver approaching a traffic control signal showing a circular red indication and facing the indication shall stop his or her vehicle and shall not proceed until a green indication is shown."

Citing the Highway Traffic Act, Section 144 (28), Inspector Janssens added, "Every pedestrian who lawfully enters a roadway in order to cross may continue the crossing as quickly as reasonably possible despite a change in the indication he or she is facing, for purposes of the crossing, has a **right of way over vehicles.**"

St. Clair Township Mayor Steve Arnold explains the installation of a more simple pedestrian crosswalk at the intersection failed to offer the level of safety it was meant to provide. It was decided that further steps had to be taken. "We had a number of complaints and concerns with the previous crosswalk and the next step council decided on was to install a traffic light at the inter-

section to ensure motorists would come to a full stop," he said, adding the intersection is now regulated under the Highway Traffic Act.

"We are pleased to add another level of safety for folks using the Beckwith and Lyndoch intersection," said Mayor Arnold.

The Corunna Community Policing Committee (CCPC) also received comments from concerned residents.

Inspector Janssens says it is hoped the lights will offer pedestrians using the intersection a safe, secure means of doing so, and he warns that steps will be taken to ensure that motorist compliance. "The Lambton County OPP Detachment fully supports St. Clair Township Council's decision to install a new traffic control system which will increase pedestrian safety and community wellness. Officers will focus on increasing public compliance through safe driving enforcement action. Through education and targeted enforcement, we should be able to increase the public's awareness and compliance to ensure the safe passage of the public across this intersection.

Mayor Arnold said, "The well-being of every citizen of St. Clair Township is a priority council strives to protect. The new light-controlled intersection is a serious step toward doing that. With the aid of law enforcement monitoring and heightened public awareness, we hope that all motorists will chose to respect the right of pedestrians to feel safe each and every time they must venture onto public thoroughfares."

Mooretown Flags club hosts concussion awareness seminar



The Mooretown Flags Hockey Club recently hosted a concussion awareness seminar for local minor hockey team trainers. The seminar was presented by the Flags' Level 3 Certified Trainer Shawn Osborne, who has advanced knowledge about concussion injuries.

The seminar is intended to give the hockey trainers concussion protocol information that includes: baseline testing; SCAT 3; BESS testing; and *return to play* procedure. The event also included how to recognize concussion symptoms, the mechanism of injury, and information about sudden impact syndrome and CTE.

The seminar was attended by, back row from left: Shawn Osborne, Jason Bourdage, Bob Gladwish, Rick Leonard, and Jeff Sterling. Front row left: Andrew Vandersteen, Kim Cather, and Ian Williamson.

Photo submitted

Sombra Township Child Care kids donate to Sacred Heart Food Bank

It's never too early to teach children the joy that comes with helping others. The Sombra Township Child Care kids learned a valuable lesson in giving at Christmas time by collecting non-perishable food items and new unwrapped toys to donate to the Sacred Heart Food Bank. The food bank coordinated the annual drive to provide Christmas hampers to the less fortunate families in the south St. Clair Township area.

Here, representatives of the food bank, Frank Johnston, standing left, and Colin Miller, dropped by to collect the results of the children's efforts. With them are some of the young donors who helped with the collection: Ben VanDellen, left, Graeme Klompstra, Brantley Waring, and Alexandra Castaldi.



Photo submitted

Stay active at the Mooretown Sports Complex

The Winter brochure for the Mooretown Sports Complex can be found online at: 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.

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

Winter driving requires attitude adjustment

Winter weather poses enormous challenges to drivers no matter where they go, and driver who fail to adjust their driving habits to the road conditions they encounter are asking for trouble. Motorists are reminded that, no matter how bad road conditions may be, the person behind the wheel is ultimately responsible for any mishaps that occur.

In bad weather, slow down, keep your distance from other vehicles, and if stranded, wait with your vehicle for help to arrive. For current road information, go online to: www.mto.gov.on.ca and click on "Ontario 511".

Kyle Brandon Memorial Award presented

During the recent 2016 Silver Stick Tournament at the Mooretown Sports Complex, the annual Kyle Brandon Memorial Award for the Most Sportsman-like Player in the tournament was presented to Mooretown Jr. Flags player Austin Smalls of Mooretown. The award is named for former Mooretown Flags player Kyle Brandon, who passed away two years ago at the age of 29. He played for the Flags all of his hockey career, including the year the team won the International Silver Stick in Mooretown.

Shown at right presenting the award to Austin are Kyle's parents, Debbie Vannieuwenhuyze and Wayne Brandon, who established the award in loving memory of their son.



Photo by Rick Harris

Mooretown Silver Stick Tournament results

The championship teams in the four categories of the 2016 International Silver Stick Tournament, played Jan. 7-10 at the Mooretown Sports Complex, were: Juvenile AAA - Ennismore Robert Young Construction; Juvenile A - Erie North Shore Storm; Juvenile B - Cayuga Stars; Juvenile C - South Bruce Blades.

Community Contact

Lady Giants softball skills camp offered

The Lady Giants Under 12 girls softball skills camp is taking place at Sir John Moore Community School in Corunna on Thursday evenings from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. All girls born in 2004 and 2005 are welcome to attend. This is NOT a tryout for the team; they will take place in the spring. The skills camp helps players improve their skills, make new friends, and have fun learning the game of softball. Skills include running the bases, throwing, catching, and pitching. Attendees require indoor shoes, a glove, and a positive attitude. For more information, call Coach Marc Greenwood at 519-813-9271.



Elimination draw fundraiser underway at Corunna Legion

The Royal Canadian Legion Corunna Branch 447 is currently selling elimination draw tickets to benefit the many community activities and initiatives it supports. The first draw is slated for May 7 (final draw on Sept. 24) and tickets are going fast, so get yours now. Tickets cost \$20 each and can be obtained at the Legion hall at the corner of Albert and Beckwith Streets, or at the Corunna fire station on Hill Street. The first prize will be \$2,400. For more information, call the Legion hall at 519-862-1240.

Support local hockey through Hockey Moms' efforts

The Mooretown Hockey Moms provided crucial support for local team through fundraising events, draws, and the sale of team merchandise such as Mooretown drawstring backpacks, leather logo necklaces, toques, mini sticks, stickers and more. Please help support your hometown teams through support of the Moms' many efforts.



A little change can make a big change

A little spare change from you can make big changes along the St. Clair Trail. Funds to be donated to the *Penies for Pavement* program can be dropped off at: 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



Brigden Fair student volunteer opportunities

Student volunteer opportunities are available at the Brigden fairgrounds 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

The Junior Optimist Club is the place for youth to enjoy new experiences, make new friends, and thrive while serving their community. New members ages 10 through 18 are always welcome at the Lambton County Junior Optimist Club. Members volunteer in the community and fundraise to put on their own programs and to donate to other youth programs. All hours spent volunteering through the club 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. Everyone residing in St. Clair Township may submit drawings, paintings, photos, poems, crafts, and short stories for the project. 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. The Organization For Literacy In Lambton received a 2014 grant from the Lambton County Creative Fund (LCCF) to get the project underway. 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 from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. the Port Lambton Community Hall. 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 6:30 p.m. at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church on Colborne Street in Corunna. Drop in for the meeting or call 519-862-4119. All ages are welcome to attend.



**Stay connected with
your community
when you're away.**

Find The Beacon online at:
www.twp.stclair.on.ca
and click on the "Beacon" icon

HERITAGE CORNER

Looking ahead: Tea, trains, and artistic talent at Moore Museum

On a cold February day, it's hard to recall the warm, gentle breezes of summer and all of the good things summer brings. At the Moore Museum, those good things include a Victorian Tea that takes us back to a the less hurried pace and the delectable morsels that always accompanied the oh-so-civilized afternoon tea. The summer is also about playful afternoons spent marveling at the scale model trains and the incredible Lilliputian land-



scape they travel through in the museum's model train room. And just before autumn signals the end of another St. Clair Township summer, the museum site becomes a shopper's paradise as a multitude of artisans and crafters fill the grounds with a million and one items to decorate the home, tempt the taste buds, and present the perfect gift for a special birthday, Christmas, or even the person doing the shopping. But best of all, summer is a time of exploration and the opportunity to satisfy your curiosity about the community you live in and how it came to be.

*See below for more details
and mark your calendars.*

Victorian Tea

The popular Victorian Tea has been a popular rite of spring for 20 years, treating visitors to the Moore Museum to a variety of delicious home-baked scones with butter and jam, and tea, coffee, or juice served at a proper linen covered table by volunteer Victorian wait staff like Emily, **above**, who is dressed in vintage attire from the Victorian Era. The tea takes place in a turn-of-the-20th Century cottage, **above right**, one of the restored buildings that graces the Moore Museum site in Mooretown. This year, the event is planned for Sunday, May 22 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. at a cost of \$7 per adult/senior, \$3 for children, and \$2 for preschoolers.

Model Train Time

Children of all ages will enjoy this opportunity for enhanced viewing of the many model trains. The volunteer engineers will be on site running the trains and answering questions on Sundays, July 24 and August 21 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Regular admission will apply.

Downriver Craft Sale

Enjoy a unique shopping experience amid over 80 tables of handmade goods and enjoy a lunch break as you shop on Sunday, Sept. 18 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Crafters can get more information by calling *the Moore Museum at 519-867-2020* to be added to the mailing list. Admission is \$2 per adult and free for children under age 13.

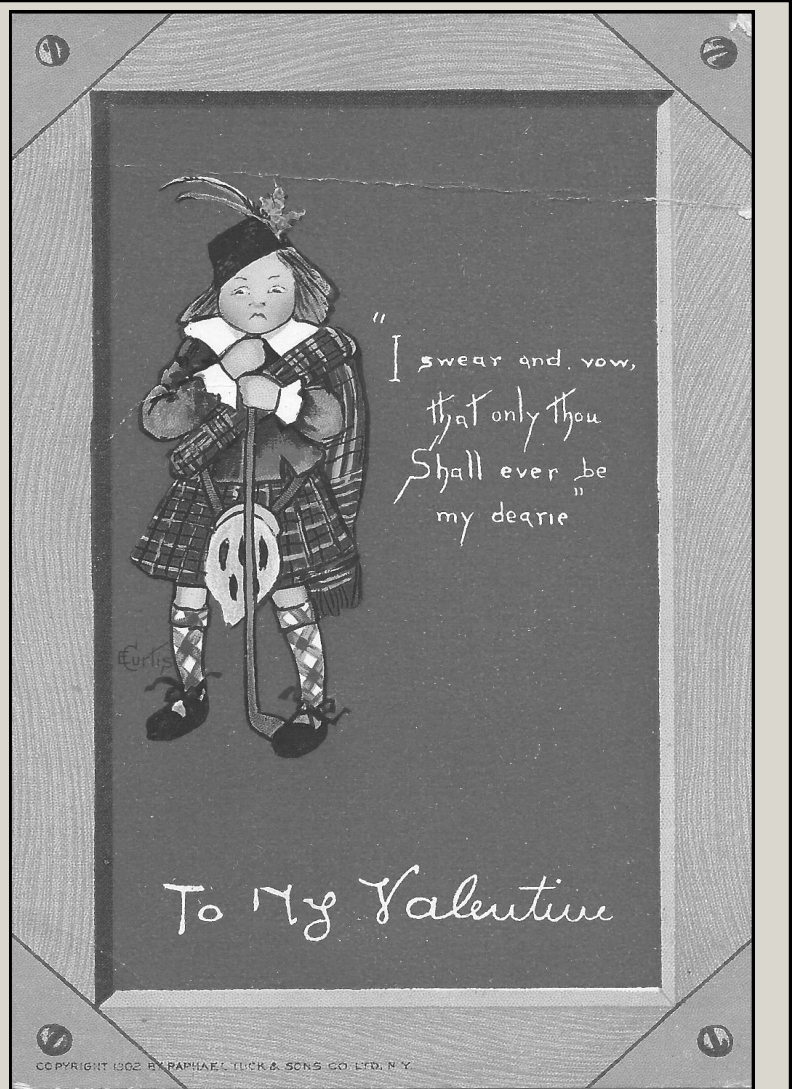
MORE HERITAGE CORNER

Volunteers made 2015 a year of progress at Moore Museum

Curator Laurie Mason reports that 2015 was a year of great progress for the Moore Museum. "Fifty-eight volunteers contributed over 2,100 hours (of work)," she said. The volunteers took on a variety of projects including: renovations to the CNR caboose; the restoration of the Courtright fire boat; the construction of a display shelter for WWI memorials; the construction of various display cases; additions to the model train exhibit; maintenance of the museum's buildings and gardens; sewing of costumes for the use of museum volunteers and children in visiting school groups; and ongoing public programming activities such as tours and events.

Mrs. Mason says the volunteers provide services that are crucial to the operation of the museum. "We want to express a huge "thank you" to all of our volunteers for the time they dedicate to sharing their talents to help the Moore Museum grow and offer informative and enjoyable lifelong learning opportunities for visitors of all ages."

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.



Here's a Valentine's Day blast from the past courtesy of the Moore Museum archives. In 1908, Miss Eliza MacKenzie of Brigden received this charming card from an admirer in Detroit, Michigan.

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 and click on the "Creative County" tab under the "Residents" heading.

Healthy Kids Community Challenge program promotes healthy lifestyle

By Bonnie Stevenson

Concern over the growing incidence of childhood obesity and the long-term risks it poses to a child's future well-being has prompted several Lambton County municipalities to take action through the Healthy Kids Community Challenge.

St. Clair Township has partnered with Lambton Shores, the City of Sarnia, Warwick Township, and Lambton Public Health to undertake this program, with funding for the challenge coming from the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care. Healthy Kids Lambton will receive up to \$825,000 over the three years the program is in force.

A total of 45 community groups throughout the province are undertaking the Healthy Kids program, which works to link organizations from different sectors in the community to promote the health of children aged 12 years and under. The program will emphasize lifestyle components such as balanced nutrition, increased physical activity, adequate restful sleep, and the limiting of sedentary behaviour.

The Lambton program was recently launched at an event at the Shores Recreation Centre in Forest, but it will see its local debut in St. Clair Township on Monday, Feb. 15, 2016 during the Family Day Community Health Info Fair at the Mooretown Sports Complex. *(See page 15 for more information.)*

Hopscotch mats were used at the launch to create excitement for the program and the initia-



During the recent kick off to the Healthy Kids Community Challenge, Mayor Steve Arnold, left, showed good form as he took a turn around a hopscotch mat to demonstrate how easy and enjoyable physical activity can be.

Photo by Linda Kennedy

tives that are being introduced over the next three years. Programs will be offered throughout the schools and there will be an equipment lending program offered, plus draw prizes and healthy lifestyle programs.

Every nine months throughout the program's three-year operation, the Ministry has committed to launching a new theme relating to healthy weights in children. The first theme is "Run.Jump.Play.Every day."

This theme was selected to highlight daily physical activity and to change the perception that being active requires expensive equipment or travel to an arena or playground. As any parent can tell you, most children prefer to be active (this is all too evident on a long drive

to Nana's house). The key is to give children the opportunity, the space and the time to be active every day. The result will be happier, healthier children.

Program developers note that changes will not happen overnight, but small steps toward increasing heart rates through daily play will eventually yield those changes.

St. Clair Township Mayor Steve Arnold says the program will help to create a healthier, more vibrant community. "This pilot program that was allocated by the province to us in St. Clair Township and to other parts of Lambton County will help motivate our children to spend at least 60 minutes a day

See Lifelong commitment, page 11

Lifelong commitment to physical activity good for body and mind

From page 10

engaged in physical exercise," he said. "At the conclusion of the program, it is hoped our children will be more likely to want to play actively as part of their normal day and, in the long run, this will be part of their lives, especially for the balance of their childhood."

During the program launch, Mayor Arnold demonstrated the finer points of hopscotch for the students who attended the event. He grins as he recalls how free his young audience was with their suggestions while he was negotiating the hopscotch grid. "The children coached me well on the skills of hopscotch, but laughed at my lack of finesse," he said. "We had a lot of fun."

The program urges parents to help their children create a playful atmosphere at home. An example of a small change leading to unex-

pected fun might mean that, instead of walking down a hallway at home, the child could bunny hop instead.

Parents can get into the act during those times when spare moments present themselves; when you're waiting for a kettle to boil or for your computer to boot up, do some jumping jacks. Take a break from a stressful task with a short walk around the neighbourhood. Studies cited in *Scientific American Mind*, July/August 2015, have shown that intervals of regular activity throughout the day are not only healthy for your body, but they can also sharpen your mind in the short term and help maintain brain function as you age.

The main thrust of this new program is that healthy children and healthy families create healthy communities.

For more information, go online to: www.healthykidslambton.ca

Don't feel alone with your addiction - help is available through Bluewater Health

For those who struggle with addiction, life can be an overwhelming challenge; Bluewater Health offers counselling, treatment, and integrated withdrawal management for a variety of these serious challenges.

The integrated Withdrawal Management Program, open to anyone in Sarnia-Lambton who is struggling with substance use issues, provides fully-trained staff to offer community withdrawal support, day withdrawal programming, psycho-educational groups, and family support and harm reduction approaches. The program is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., and on Saturday and Sunday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information,

call 519-464-HOPE.

The Addiction Services program provides professional assessment and treatment for people experiencing negative consequences related to alcohol and/or drug use. Services are also available to family members and/or significant others. The program also collaborates with many other addiction assistance programs (i.e. gambling, mental health, Alcoholics Anonymous, Al-anon, etc.). Referrals for all programs are accepted from any source, including self-referrals. Contact 519-464-4400, ext. 5370.

Visit www.bluewaterhealth.ca for more information.

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News items from Lambton County

Creative County 2016 Funding Intake underway

The Lambton County *Creative County Fund* is now accepting applications for the only intake that will be offered in 2016. A total of \$75,000 is available for partner projects, events, activities, or workshops that will enhance the cultural vitality of Lambton County.

Organizers of new or expanding local cultural, heritage, and arts initiatives can apply for funding to cover up to 50 per cent of their project cost. Program guidelines and the related application form can be found online at www.lambtononline.ca under the tab "Creative County Fund".

According to Lambton County Warden and Fund Chair Bev MacDougall, "The Creative County Fund continues to demonstrate a growing, lasting impact on the cultural fabric of Lambton County."

Applications must be submitted by 4 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 25. Since its first funding intake in 2013, the fund has awarded

\$218,705 to successful applicants.

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.

For information about seasonal influenza and the flu shots clinic schedule, visit 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.

St. Clair Township libraries - calendar of events

Lambton County Library is currently running its 4th annual Read Aloud Lambton and Spread the Words program. Families are encouraged to explore the works of two authors this year: Eric Carle, known for his distinct collages and nature-based stories, and Lemony Snicket, known for his "A Series Of Unfortunate Events" books on the adventures of the Beaudelaire orphans. Participants are invited to enter their names in a draw at any of the 26 library branches to win a book by one of these authors. Families also have a chance to win the grand prize of a Family Fun Pack which includes many great activities for families to do together around Lambton County. Visit www.lclibrary.ca for details.

Here are some of the activities happening at your local St. Clair Township library branch. For complete information, the branch phone number is included.

Brigden (519-864-1142) - Tales for Tots for children age 0-3 with caregiver, pre-register, Wednesday, Feb. 3, 10, 17, from 10-11 a.m.; Adult book club, pre-register, Wednesday, Feb. 24 from 7-9 p.m.

Corunna (519-862-1132) - Call for details: Drop-in Make and Take Crafts for children; Tales for Tots ages 18 months to three years; French Story Hour for families; Discovery and Activity Kits for ages six and up; Personalized Tags for ages four and over; Zendoodle and Adult Colouring; Thompson Gardens Book Club for seniors; YMCA Settlement Services for adults; Adult Book Club.

Courtright (519-867-2712) - Call for details: Drop-in Make and Take Crafts for children; Scavenger Hunt for children; Tales for Tots; Tween Scene; Adolescence for teens; Book Club for adults.

Mooretown (519-867-2823) - Afternoon Book Club for adults, drop-in, Wednesday, Feb. 10.

Port Lambton (519-677-5217) - Magnets for children ages six to 12, drop-in, Feb. 6, 13, 20, 11-noon.

Sombra (519-892-3711) - Tales for Tots for children ages 0-3 with caregiver, drop-in, Wednesday, Feb. 3, 10, 17 from 10:30 to 1 a.m.; Tween Event, drop-in, Tuesday, Feb. 16 from 4 to 5 p.m.; TAG for teens, drop-in, Tuesday, Feb. 16 from 6 to 8 p.m.

Sombra Township Optimists award bursaries to local students



Seven bursaries were awarded to deserving area university/college students during the first 2016 general meeting of the Optimist Club of Sombra Township in January. Five first-year and two second year students received a total of \$1,450 from the club to help with the cost of the 2015-2016 school year.

During her remarks, Sombra Township Optimist Club President Carla Aarsen emphasised the importance of offering support to motivated local students. "As an Optimist club, we recognize the importance of investing in the youth of our community and their efforts to continue their education," she said.

Left: President Carla Aarsen presents student Lauren Flanagan with one of the seven bursaries that were awarded.

Food bank attributes success of Christmas effort to great community support

By Frank Johnston, President, Sacred Heart Food Bank

On behalf of the Sacred Heart Food Bank, I would like to thank the people in Ward 2, St. Clair Township who donated food items during the door-to-door campaign on Sunday, Nov. 29, 2015. I would also like to thank the community groups and private citizens who have made valuable monetary donations to the Sacred Heart Food Bank in Port Lambton. In 2015, through your support and effort, we were able to provide Christmas baskets and gifts for 57 families in this area.

Heartfelt thanks to the parishioners of St. James the Apostle Anglican Church in Port Lambton for donating their parish hall for our use in sorting donated items and packing the Christmas hampers. We also appreciate the members of the church that volunteered to help with this Christmas program.

Special thanks are also extended to the Port Lambton Pirates baseball team for donating their club house to use in sorting and packing the gifts, as well as their help in collecting the food and delivering the Christmas hampers.

Thank you for the Father Nelligan Knights of Columbus Council, the Sombra Township Optimist Association, the staff

and students of Riverview Central School, Sacred Heart School, and the Best Start Program for their help and donations. We also appreciate the efforts of the drivers, volunteers, sorters, and packers, and the Sombra Township Scouts for helping with door-to-door canvassing.

We gratefully acknowledge the generosity and help of the following churches, industries, organizations, and individuals: the Macdonell family; Windswept Crafts; St. James the Apostle Anglican Church, Port Lambton; United Church Women's group, Port Lambton; Women's Thursday Night Bowling League, Courtright; Sacred Heart Church, Port Lambton; St. John's Catholic Women's League, Sombra; Sacred Heart Catholic Women's League, Port Lambton; OPG Lambton Generating Station, Courtright; and St. Clair Township.

Editor's note: Community need is a 24/7 concern for members of the Sacred Heart Food Bank, the Operation Christmas Tree (Moore Optimists) program, and several other charitable organizations in St. Clair Township. Please keep the joy of Christmas in your heart all year long by doing what you can to support these year-round efforts.

Risk assessment on Talfourd Creek explores potential threat to fishermen

With files from Friends of the St. Clair River newsletter Jan. 10, 2016

A risk assessment recently carried out on Talfourd Creek by the Standards Development Branch of the Ontario Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (MOECC), focused on the risk of exposure to contaminants faced by people who use the creek for recreational activities such as fishing.

By definition, a human health risk assessment is a process for estimating the likelihood that people may experience adverse health effects from exposure to contaminants. The screening level risk assessment that was carried out did not include consideration of risks from other activities or from sources other than the creek water and sediment. (More comprehensive assessments rely on more complex information and use less conservative scenarios to formulate results.)

The risks attendant to consumption of fish and other wildlife caught in Talfourd Creek were not part of the assessment since sport fish spend most of their time in the St. Clair River. The MOECC reviewed available information to identify contaminants that should be considered in the risk assessment, and six contaminants were identified: cadmium, manganese, titanium, polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, octachlorostyrene, and 2,6-dichlorobenzyl chloride. The study considered groups of people who would

likely be exposed and how they would be exposed. These groups included "frequent recreators" and groups that are less frequently exposed to the area. The frequent recreator was assumed to be exposed to maximum or close-to-maximum measured concentrations of the contaminants found in the creek.

These estimated exposures were compared to reference exposures that reflect negligible risk. Exposures no greater than the reference exposures are considered to be of negligible risk and exposures higher than the reference exposures would be flagged for further study.

The results of the study determined that, "Based on the assessment in this screening level assessment, exposures to contaminants in Talfourd Creek reflect negligible additional risk to a frequent recreator."

This risk assessment reflects only the additional risk a person would have from recreational use of Talfourd Creek, not the total risk a person would have from all sources of exposure to a contaminant in Lambton County.

Those who consume sport fish from Talfourd Creek should consult the consumption advice for Upper St. Clair River in the OME Guide to Eating Ontario Sport Fish, available online at: www.ontario.ca/environment-and-energy/guide-eating-ontario-sport-fish.

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@coqeco.ca

Local Ontario Early Years Locations

The OEYC Samia-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:

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.

Still More Around The Township

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nelius 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. The cost of admission is \$10 per adult and \$7 per student. For tickets and more information, call 519-892-3982 or email sombramuseum@hotmail.com

Messy Church at Bridgen United

The Messy Church event is 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, here's a chance to attend church mid-week. Bridgen 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 in Corunna full

Forever Fit classes being held at Thompson Garden's Cruickshank Centre are now full. An announcement will be published in The Beacon when the classes start up again in Sept. 2016.

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.

Bluewater Sharks 2016 Spring Women & Men's Hockey Tournament slated

The Women's 6th and Men's 5th Annual Recreational Bluewater 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.bluewatersharkshockey.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

Share news of your coming events 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 MARCH BEACON WILL BE MONDAY, FEB. 15 BY NOON.

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

Email: beacon@twp.stclair.on.ca

More Around The Township

From page 16

Doug at 519-330-4960. The second hike will take place at Lorne Henderson Conservation Area on Saturday, Feb. 20, with participants meeting at 9:30 a.m. The two-hour activity is considered to be of medium intensity for most walkers. For more information, call Ernie at 519-882-1262.

Pancake supper at All Saints, Corunna

The congregation of All Saints Anglican Church in Corunna, corner of Lyndoch and Hill Streets, will host a pancake supper on Tuesday, Feb. 9 from 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. Everyone is welcome to come in for a hearty meal of pancakes, sausages, and baked beans.

Soup's On at the Corunna United Church

The Corunna United Church Women will host a Soup's On luncheon, featuring a variety of soups, bread, and dessert on Thursday, Feb. 11 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Admission will be by free will offering in support of the Heart and Stroke Foundation. There will also be a demonstration on defibrillators at 12:15 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Moore Optimists present Family Fun 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 2:30 p.m. The event will include family games and lunch (\$5 for a hamburger/chips or hot dog/chips). The Junior Optimists will be holding a bake sale, so leave room for dessert. There will be free 10 pin bowling at Airey Lanes with bowling times set for 11 a.m., 12 p.m. and 1 p.m. (please note there will be no bowling at 10 a.m.)

Healthy Kids Community Challenge Health Fair

Family Day is the perfect time for the debut of the Healthy Kids Community Challenge (see page 10). The Healthy Kids Health Fair will take place at the Mooretown Sports Complex the evening of Monday, Feb. 15. Local operators of children's programs will display and

promote program information and anyone interested in booking a table at the event can contact Linda Kennedy, Coordinator of Community Programs, at 519-867-2651 or fax 519-867-2393. This is a great opportunity for families to discover the benefits of leading active lives and to find out many ways to accomplish this goal.

Brigden Rebekah's to host Valentine dinner

The members of Lady Martha Rebekah Lodge in Brigden will host a Valentine pork dinner at the Brigden Community Hall on Tuesday, Feb. 16 from noon to 1 p.m. The cost is \$12 per person and everyone is welcome to attend. For more information call 519-542-2876 or 519-864-1820.

1st Corunna Scouts Hike for Hunger

The 1st Corunna Scouts will walk from the Corunna Clock Tower park to St. Joseph Catholic Church on Saturday, Feb. 20 at 10 a.m. during their *Hike For Hunger*. The troop will donate previously collected non-perishable food items to the St. Vincent de Paul food bank.

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. *Please note that the jam session slated for Feb. 27 has been moved to Saturday, Feb. 20 to avoid conflict with Yuk Yuk's comedy show.* 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.

Winter lecture series continues at Sombra Museum

The Winter 2016 Lecture Series continues at the Sombra Museum Cultural Centre at the corner of Smith Street and the St. Clair Parkway with the following events. On 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. And on Tuesday, April 26 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., Larry Cor-

More Around The Township, page 14



Cinderella Story prom dress collection

The Cinderella Story of Sarnia-Lambton will be hosting the 7th Annual Prom Dress Drive from Monday, Feb. 22 to Monday, Feb. 29. Dresses must be current fashions, they must be clean, free of damage, and on a hanger. They can be dropped off at: Libro Credit Union, 1315 Exmouth Street, Sarnia; the Sarnia Lambton Business Development Corporation, 109 Durand Street, Sarnia; and the Blackburn Radio-Sarnia office at 1455 London Road, Sarnia. For more information, call 519-864-1161 or email: info@cinderellasarnia.org

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; by email at 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.

Around The Township

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: Feb. 5, 12, 19, 26; March 11, 18; April 1, 8, 15, 22, 29; May 6, 13, 20. Everyone is welcome.

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: 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 Bridgen

The Bridgen Fairgrounds exhibition hall is the scene of the popular Winter Jamboree series again this year. Admission is only \$2 and a cash bar will be operating. The next jamboree for 2016 will be the Valentine's Jamboree on Sunday, Feb. 14; on March 13, enjoy the St. Patrick's/Everyone Is Irish Jamboree; and on April 10 celebrate the end of winter with at the 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.



Corunna Legion to host events

The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 447 Corunna will host several events in February and March. *The Barb Griffin Open Darts Tournament will be held on Saturday, Feb. 6 beginning with registration at 11 a.m. and play starting at noon. The cost is \$5 per person, featuring doubles and teams, with singles if time allows. *On Sunday, Feb. 14, an Open Progressive Euchre tournament will begin with registration at 11:30 a.m. and play starting at 1 p.m. The cost is \$10 per person. *And don't forget to treat your valentine and/or yourself to the Yuk Yuk's Comedy Show on Saturday, Feb. 27. Doors open at 8 p.m. with the show at 9 p.m. Tickets are \$20 per person in advance or \$25 at the door. Seating is limited so get your tickets now.

The month of March kicks off with the Spring

Ham Bingo on Wednesday, March 2 beginning with doors open at 6 p.m. and "eyes down" from 7 p.m. until 10:30 p.m. The cost will be \$20 for four cards with 25 regular games and a feature game with \$750 in prizes. The Hank Stothers Memorial Cribbage Tournament is slated for Sunday, March 6 with registration at noon and play starting at 1 p.m. The cost is \$10 per person. On Saturday, March 12, the Mel Wilkinson Memorial Mixed Darts Tournament will feature men's doubles, ladies' doubles, mixed doubles, and teams. Registration will take place at 11:30 a.m. with play beginning at noon. The cost will be \$5 per person per event and all monies will be returned as prizes. And on Saturday, March 19, don't miss the Spring Pickerel Fry and Dance with music by Christine Storey and The Chapters. Dinner will be served at 6 p.m. and the dance will run from 7:30 p.m. to midnight. The cost is \$18 per person by advance tickets only.

These events are open to members and non-members as well. The hall is wheelchair accessible and the public is encouraged to attend these enjoyable fundraisers. By supporting your local Royal Canadian Legion, you help fund the beneficial initiatives and activities it supports in the community.

Sombra Optimists to host events

The Optimist Club of Sombra will host the following events in February. 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.

Euchre players will be happy to hear that the club-sponsored euchre tournament originally scheduled for Jan. 23 has been re-scheduled to Saturday, Feb. 27. The event will take place at the Port Lambton Community Hall with registration at 11:30 a.m. at a cost of \$20 per team. The tournament will begin at noon. There will be cash prizes, and food and beverages will be available for sale.



Please note: The club is thrilled to announce that the Yuk Yuk's comedy show slated for Bogey's Inn & Suites on Saturday, Feb. 13 is sold out.

Lambton Outdoor Club to host hikes

For those who have resolved to be more active in 2016 or who simply enjoy a good walk in the fresh air, the Lambton Outdoor Club has organized two perfect opportunities to do just that. The first hike, slated for Saturday, Feb. 6 at the Perch Creek Wildlife Management Area, is a two-hour activity considered to be easy for most walkers. The group will meet at 10 a.m. For more information, call