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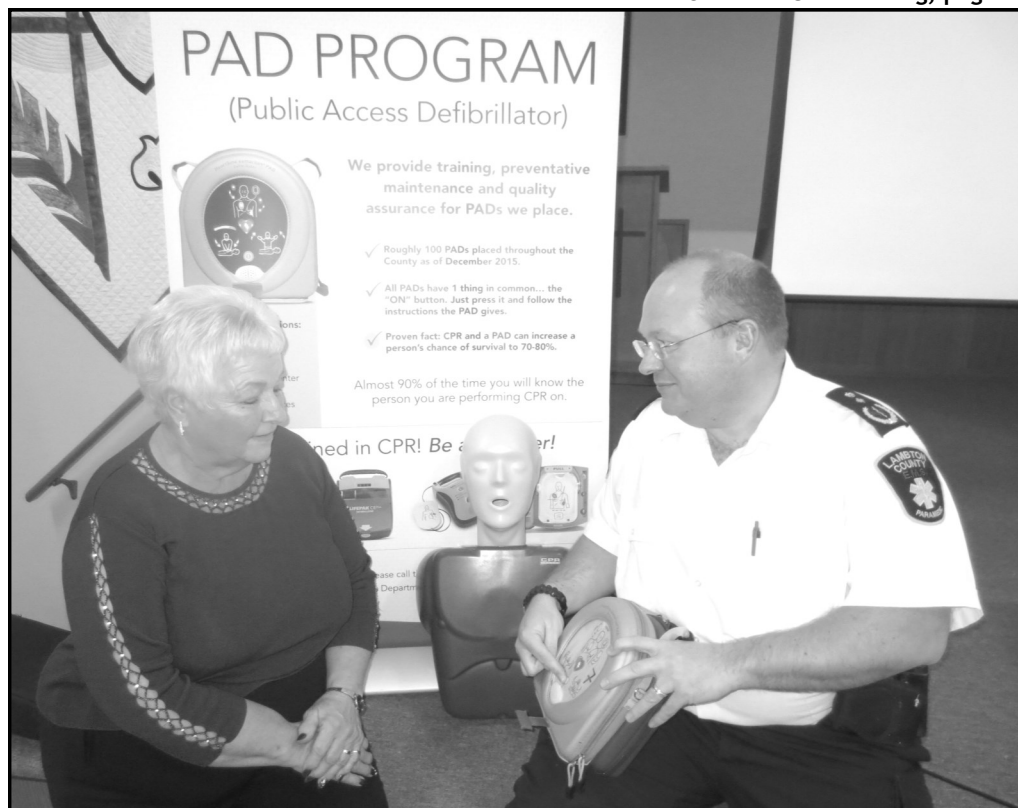
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Soup luncheon raises funds and awareness

The irresistible smell of simmering soups set taste buds aflutter as the United Church Women of Corunna United Church presented a soup luncheon to benefit the Canadian Heart and Stroke Foundation. The event attracted a full house and made over \$950 for the foundation. The event featured guest speaker Jon Cann, supervisor of EMS Operations for Lambton County. He emphasised the importance of learning CPR and he also demonstrated the life-saving abilities of a Public Access Defibrillator (PAD) unit. In the past few years, over 100 PADs have been placed in public buildings throughout Lambton County. These units can be used by almost anyone; with a push of the ON button, the unit tells the user how to proceed. CPR and a PAD have been shown to increase a victim's chance of survival by 70 to 80 per cent.

The PADs are located at community centres, arenas, municipal offices, schools, and grocery stores, but the units can be purchased for use in other locations. Mr. Cann says the

See PAD/CPR training, page 4



Lambton County EMS Operations Supervisor Jon Cann explains the operation of the Public Access Defibrillator (PAD) to Corunna UCW member Sylvia Knight. 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 the third Monday of each month by noon. The deadline for the next issue will be Monday, March 21 by noon.

Email: beacon@twp.stclair.on.ca



Municipal Notes

Crossing guards are positioned at busy intersections to keep our school children safe, but sometimes, weather and lighting conditions make it difficult for motorists to see the stop signs that the guards currently use to control traffic during a crossing. Ross Helps from the Corunna Community Policing Committee recently visited council to speak about a new type of sign that offers improved visibility at greater distances than the present

Better signs requested for crossing guards

ones.

He noted the new lighted STOP signs are 12 inches across and they use bright flashing LED lights that are visible at up to a mile away. He added that the signs have been proven effective even in snow storms and white outs.

Council has requested that the engineering department research the new signs and obtain quotes for four of the signs - three for Corunna and one for Brigden.

Details of major Lambton College Expansion revealed

A delegation from Lambton College attended the Feb. 1 meeting of council to reveal the exciting details of the proposed new NOVA Chemicals Health and Research Centre and the Athletics and Fitness complex.

This addition to the 50-year-old institution would facilitate complete and comprehensive training for health care workers such as nurses and paramedics, plus health research facilities and superbly equipped labs and simulation facilities. There will also be athletic and fitness research and training, with the combined floor space of the facilities amounting to about 100,000 square feet. The modern new building will house state-of-the-art training environments including a simulated 42 bed hospital setting, a pharmacy, and a paramedic lab that houses a working ambulance as well as classrooms and labs. There will also be an Alumni Hall for important events.

Current figures show two-thirds of the total college enrolment is from Lambton County, with 356 of the students originating from St. Clair Township. Twenty-five per cent of the college's enrolment is in the health sciences.

The new facilities will focus on care delivery within the rural and small-urban context. Funds are currently being raised for the project, with naming opportunities available for various donation levels.

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, March 7 at 6:30 p.m. and on Monday, March 21 at approximately 5 p.m. following the Committee of the Whole meeting at 3 p.m. Anyone wishing to address council should call the municipal office at 519-867-2021.



Notice of 2016 Budget Meeting

The St. Clair Township 2016 draft budget presentation and deliberation meeting will be held in the Council Chambers at the St. Clair Township Civic Centre, 1155 Emily Street, Mooretown, on Thursday, March 10, 2016 starting at 5 p.m. The Budget is open to the public and all ratepayers are welcome to attend.

Charles Quenneville
Director of Finance

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.

Open houses slated to discuss draft Lambton County Official Plan

An open house regarding Lambton County's draft official plan is slated for the Royal Canadian Legion Corunna Branch 447 hall at 450 Albert Street on Wednesday, March 23 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

The official plan is a key planning document outlining County policy for land use as well as environmental, social, and economic matters. It provides a long-term strategy/outlook that is used by municipalities in the County federation to guide their own official plans. The plan has been drafted using input received from the public in 2015.

Open houses will also take place from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. at three other county locations: Monday, March 7 at the Dawn-Euphemia Community Centre; Thursday, March 10 at Victoria Hall in Petrolia; and Tuesday, March 22 at the Shores Recreation Centre in Forest. A public meeting to discuss the draft official plan has been tentatively scheduled for June. The Lambton County Official Plan can be found online at www.lambtononline.ca - click on the *Official Plan Review* tab. The current version of the County's official plan came into effect on Jan. 3, 1998.

Aamjiwnaang flag presented to St. Clair Township



Accepting an invitation from Mayor Steve Arnold, Aamjiwnaang Chief Chris Plain and William Cottrelle visited St. Clair Township Council on Feb. 16 to present a tribal flag for display in the council chambers.

The inclusion of a visual First Nations presence in council chambers is a trend started by the City of Regina in 2011 and it has been embraced by some municipalities across Canada as a show of respect for neighbouring First Nations communities.

"It's important that we build these relationships," said Mayor Arnold, adding that there is much to be learned from First Nations cultures.

Chief Plain presented the flag on behalf of his community citing the "growing trend of friendship" that offers the children of the Aamjiwnaang community access to local schools in Corunna and plentiful opportunities for them to play hockey at the Mooretown Sports Complex.

Above: William Cottrelle, left, and Chief Chris Plain, present the Aamjiwnaang tribal flag to Mayor Arnold as St. Clair Township looks on.

Below: In a moving presentation, William Cottrelle played a hand drum and sang a traditional honour song to mark the occasion.



New laws govern pedestrians and cyclists

Motorists take note: New laws recently enacted offer further protection to pedestrians and cyclists.

New fines and demerit points are in place to protect pedestrians at pedestrian crossings and school crossings. Pedestrian crossings are identified by specific signs, pavement markings, and lights, and they have illuminated overhead lights/warning signs and pedestrian push buttons.

A school crossing is any pedestrian crossing where a school crossing guard is present and is displaying a school crossing stop sign.

Drivers and cyclists must now wait for pedestrians to COMPLETELY cross the road before proceeding.

Failure to comply with the new laws could result in a fine of between \$150 and \$500, plus three demerit points. Fines are doubled in Community Safety Zones. This law does not apply to crosswalks unless a crossing guard is present.

For more information, go online to: www.mto.gov.on.ca/english/safety/pedestrian-safety.shtml#q1

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 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

New resident moves into St. Clair Township Industrial Park

LamSar, a privately-owned multi-trade, full service industrial contracting company that has been operating in the Sarnia area since 1979, is moving into the St. Clair Township Industrial Park. LamSar president Paul Healy says this is a significant move for the company. "Our long-term plan is to consolidate all of our head office staff at this new location over the next few months." The company currently has two manufacturing facilities and one field resource shop in Sarnia, and a five-acre facility with a shop and office in St. Clair, Michigan.

Mr. Healy says the new building has the amenities the company has been looking for as a consolidation site. "The new Corunna facility has CN rail access and will make an excellent module yard for assembling and shipping modules by rail or via the much-anticipated heavy haul corridor," he said. "The property comes with two high quality tenants and LamSar sees them as a good fit for the facility going forward." LamSar also purchased additional acreage to the south of the Corunna plant to support its civil operations. The company offers a skilled workforce, with a management team comprised of engineers, planners, estimators, quality control personnel and buyers. It also has a top flight field staff of carpenters, pipefitters, boilermakers, millwrights, labourers, and operating engineers to provide complete industrial mechanical services in the petrol-chemical, energy, and industrial sectors.

Mayor Steve Arnold welcomed LamSar at a recent ceremony, noting that the addition of this vibrant industrial resident to the industrial park is yet another indication that St. Clair Township is thriving. He says this is a satisfying development for St. Clair Township - a testament to the hard work of municipal council and staff, and to the municipality's potential for growth.



LamSar President Paul Healy, left, and Vice-president Dave Hill accept a township flag from Mayor Steve Arnold and St. Clair Township CAO John Rodey during a welcoming ceremony on Feb. 16. Photo by Bonnie Stevenson



Courtright splashpad receives substantial donation

On Feb. 16, the Courtright Splashpad Committee accepted a generous \$25,000 donation from long-time community philanthropist Patty Harkins. The donation brings to \$65,000 the total money raised by the committee to date, leaving less than 20 per cent of the committee's share of the total cost to be raised. Committee spokesperson Cathy Vickerd says the donation is a wonderful gift to the community. "It's awesome," she said. "This goes a long way to getting us that much closer to our goal." The committee has held several successful fundraisers since the splashpad was proposed last summer. Present for the hand-off of the donation cheque folder, from left: Committee members Alysha Johnny, Melissa Miller, Cathy Vickerd, Mayor Steve Arnold, donor Patty Harkins, committee members Adam Brandon and Diana Austin. Absent from the photo is committee member Jeanette Robbins.

Photo by Bonnie Stevenson

St. Clair Township libraries - calendar of events

Lambton County Library invites teens between the ages of 12-18 to participate in the 7th Annual Teen Photo Contest. Photo submissions can be dropped off at the Sarnia Library between March 4 and April 1. For more information, call the Sarnia Library Reference Department at 519-337-3291.

GenreCon, an annual literary convention associated with the Sarnia Pop Culture Show, will take place on Sunday, March 13 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the Holiday Inn in Point Edward. Discussion panels will be held on a variety of topics relating to both Pop Culture and Genre Fiction. Authors J.D. DeLuzio, Sylvia Hubbard, John McFetridge, Stewart Sternberg, Christian Laforet, and Ben Van Dongen will be among the panelists.

New preschool sessions begin the week of March 14 at most li-

brary branches. Tales for Tots is a 30-minute program designed for children ages three and under and their caregivers. Story Hour is a one-hour program for three to five-year-olds and their caregivers. Songs, stories, fingerplays, activities, and crafts are used to stimulate and create an early interest in reading. French Story Hour is offered at the Corunna branch. Visit www.lclibrary.ca for details.

Your local Lambton County Library branch offers activities for all ages. Call your local St. Clair Township library branch for more information at: **Brigden (519-864-1142)** ; **Corunna (519-862-1132)**; **Courtright (519-867-2712)** ; **Mooretown (519-867-2823)**; **Port Lambton (519-677-5217)**; **Sombra (519-892-3711)**

Note: All library branches will be closed for Easter holidays on Friday, March 25, Sunday, March 27, and all day Monday, March 28.

PAD/CPR training may save someone you know

From page 1 units cost about \$1,100, and if a group buys one, PAD and CPR training is free through the Lambton EMS. He is also hopeful that everyone will take the time to obtain training in CPR.

"My goal is to get as many people trained in CPR as I can," said Mr. Cann, who adds that the recent revelation that CPR can be done effectively by singing a song to keep the rhythm is accurate. "You need to push hard and fast, and rhythm is important. Sing-

ing a song can help you keep the rhythm."

During the resuscitation process, damage can be done to the victim's rib cage due to the need for hard, vigorous pressure over the heart, but Mr. Cann points out that pressure is a substitute for the victim's own heartbeat and it must be sustained.

Perhaps the best reason for learning CPR and the use of the PAD hits closer to home. "Almost 90 per cent of the time, you will know the person you are performing CPR on."

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 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 sessions will be held on the following dates: Wednesday, March 2, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.; Friday, April 15, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.; and Monday, May 9, 9:30 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 sessions are slated for the following dates: Wednesday, March 9, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.; Friday, April 22, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.; Monday, May 16, 9:30 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. No physician referral is required. The sessions are slated for the following dates: Friday, March 18, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.; Friday, April 29, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.; Monday, May 30, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Healthy Weights By Healthy Means

A series of five sessions lasting two hours each will be presented with the aim of helping you make permanent lifestyle changes; this is not a "diet" program. You will set your own healthy eating and physical activity goals and learn how to make plans for achieving them. Some topics that will be discussed include: carbohydrates, protein, and fats (the good and the bad); physical activity, what types and amounts are beneficial; emotional eating strategies; sensible portions and portion control strategies; group discussions will help

you learn from others' experiences, and weekly "assignments" will help you reach your goals. The sessions will be held on the following Tuesdays from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.: March 22; March 29; April 5; April 12; and April 19.

Quit Smoking Workshop

This is a two-hour session for people who are thinking about quitting or are ready to quit using tobacco. We will discuss strategies and methods for quitting, such as cutting back, using nicotine replacement therapy, and using prescribed medications. We will also work on finding ways to overcome barriers to quitting, how to make a quit plan, managing withdrawal symptoms, and how to prevent a relapse.

Participants are also welcome to schedule individual appointments to receive further support and information from one of our nurse educators. Quit Smoking sessions will be held on the following dates: Friday, March 4, 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.; Wednesday, March 16, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.; Wednesday, April 13, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.; Monday, April 25, 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.; Wednesday, May 11, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.; Wednesday, May 25, 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Stress Management Workshop

Created by our registered Social Worker, this two-hour seminar, offered monthly, will provide you with information on how to effectively manage stress through: regulating the stress-response; goal-setting; problem-solving; challenging unhelpful thinking; communicating assertively. This seminar is open to the public. No physician referral is required. These workshops will take place on the following dates from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.: Friday, March 11; Friday, April 8; and Friday, May 6.

Please note: Class dates and times are subject to change or cancellation depending upon the number of patient registrants.

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 some 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* proceeding with the work. 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.

Get ready for spring at the Mooretown Sports Complex

Are you ready to shed those winter clothes?

If the winter has you fearing what you'll see in the mirror when you try on your summer clothes for the first time, fear not! Perhaps all you need is a bit of pre-spring preparation and the Mooretown Sports Complex is the place to "git 'er done". Feel and look your best with a fitness centre membership for just \$255 per year. Membership includes swimming, saunas, whirlpool, muscle mix classes, and fitness kick boxing classes. Join today and get fit so those spring clothes will fit.

Spring 2016 swim lesson sessions

Register now for the spring swim lesson sessions. Lessons begin the week of April 4.

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.

March Break Activities

March Break activities at the Mooretown Sports Complex will include:

Recreational swim: Every day from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. for

\$2.25 per child, \$3.25 per adult, and \$6.50 per family. Reminder: During recreational swims, rentals, or parties, an adult must directly supervise, within arms length, children under 10 years of age who are unable to comfortably swim two widths of the pool, children under 48 inches tall, children under seven years of age, or special needs - two children per adult.

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

Moore Skate Club Carnival

The Moore Skate Club Carnival will be held on Saturday, April 2, with a show at 2 p.m. and another at 7 p.m.

Canadian Mental Health Association media launch

Come out and enjoy the Canadian Mental Health Ride Don't Hide media launch at the March 23 spin class. Call to register for this event if you would like to join the class and have some fun.

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.

For more information or to register for any of these programs, contact the Mooretown Sports Complex at 519-867-2651.

New year, new trail logo and ideas wanted

New ideas and input invited

The St. Clair River Trail Committee is looking for a fresh new logo and new ideas to help improve and invigorate the St. Clair River Trail. The input of trail users and everyone who has been waiting to contribute to the trail in some way is being sought to help make this happen.

If you have suggestions, ideas for a logo design, or any thoughts on how the trail could be made better, contact the committee by calling 519-867-2655, emailing stclairrivertrail@gmail.com or going online to www.stclairrivertrail.com

Trail update

In 2015, St. Clair Township and the St. Clair River Trail Committee completed the trail section from Courtright Line to Frog Point (north end of the Lambton Generating Station property). There is now an on-road and partial off-road section of trail in this area.

The last link of the trail is a small section from Courtright Park south to Courtright Line. There is a very

small road shoulder on the west side of the St. Clair Parkway, so the trail will be located on the east side connecting to the section south of Courtright Line. The committee is hoping this section will be completed in 2016.

Thanks to volunteers and donors

Almost 20 years have passed since the first trail meeting. The past two decades have highlighted the determination and spirit of our many volunteers and donors, as well as the community's belief in and support of the trail's value to the people of St. Clair Township and beyond.

The St. Clair River Trail Committee extends a heartfelt "Thank You" to all of the volunteers and donors who have taken part in this effort over the years, and to St. Clair Township Council and Staff for their counsel and support.



Current logo



The 7th annual St. Clair River Run is slated for Saturday, July 16. Online registrations are now being accepted at: stclairriverrun.com

Those who register before June 1 will receive a technical t-shirt and reduced registration fee. The event, which employs chip timing, includes a 10K Run and a 5K Run/Walk (stroller friendly). It takes place on a

certified course over flat, paved terrain, taking participants along the beautiful St. Clair River through Sombra and Port Lambton to terminate at Brander Park. There is also a free Minnow Run for the children.

Proceeds from this event will be used for the care and maintenance of the St. Clair River Trail.

HERITAGE CORNER

Once upon a time, in a land close to home...

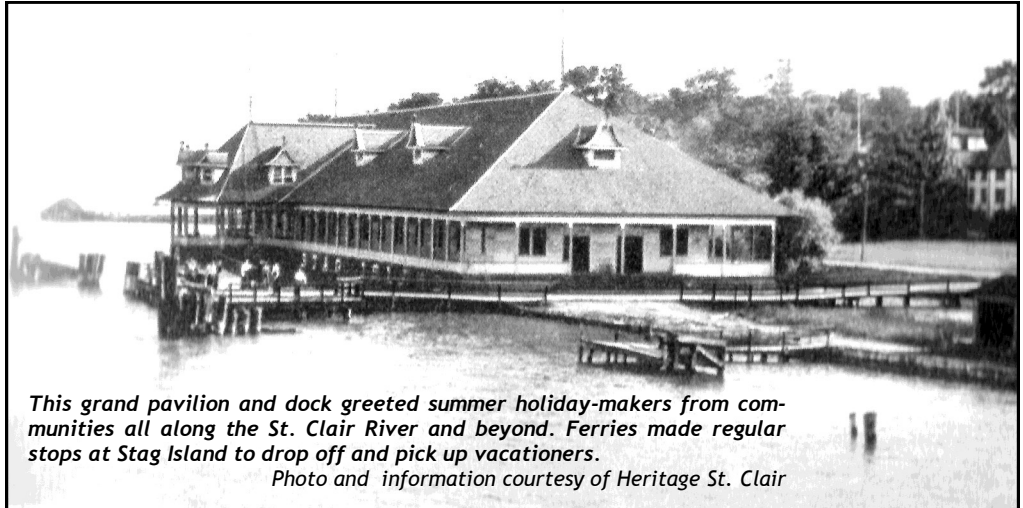
...visitors from another land enjoyed fun and frolic near Corunna each summer.

Around 1900, Stag Island was a premier holiday destination for summer holiday-makers from Detroit, Sarnia, and other populated areas along the river. A frequent parade of ferries could be seen off-loading excited guests at the dock and retrieving those who had enjoyed the elegant diversions provided by the island's hotels and picnic spots.

Much of the credit for the development of the island in the early days is attributed to Nelson Mills, an enterprising Marysville, Michigan lumberman who was able to see how marketable the small, lush island could be. Around 1900, Mills, a Canadian by birth, built a dock and pavilion on the east side of the island in hopes of attracting travelers. His risk paid off and by 1906, he had built the Grifon Hotel, a 200-guest establishment that boasted an elegant dining room, 100 guest rooms, an annex, and 23 guest cottages. Eventually, other additions such as a pool, a bowling alley, tennis courts, a park and picnic grounds, along with amenities like a sewage system, a steam-operated waterworks, and access to long distance telephone connections, made Stag Island a favourite vacation destination. Over time, a baseball diamond, bicycle and nature trails were developed as well.

At the pinnacle of its popularity, the White Star Line, the same company whose fleet included the Titanic, made four stops per day at Stag Island, and the passenger ship, *Hiawatha*, made six trips from Sarnia each day.

The island accommodated some business ventures aside from tourism; fish and garden crops provided income in the summer. In winter, harvested blocks of river ice were stored in ice sheds beneath a thick cover of saw dust to be sold to local homes and businesses the following summer.



This grand pavilion and dock greeted summer holiday-makers from communities all along the St. Clair River and beyond. Ferries made regular stops at Stag Island to drop off and pick up vacationers.

Photo and information courtesy of Heritage St. Clair

The onset of WWI caused business to decline and as the tourist business died off, the land was eventually put up for sale.

The island's contemporary use got its start in 1919 when it was bought by three fraternal associations from Detroit: the Independent Order of Odd Fellows; the Masonic Fraternity; and the Knights of Pythias. The group boasted that it had created the world's greatest fraternal resort. This ultimately resulted in the formation of the Fraternal Fellowship Association which continues to manage the island today through private land owners.

If we look a lot further back in time, the mighty little island's first recorded name was Isle Aux Cerfs, named by an early French visitor before 1800. According to the word of early visitors, the island was home to large herds of deer that became a food source for soldiers stationed at the Fort Gratiot base on the west side of the river. Early writings from that time say that local Native American residents of the area knew the island as Saw-Ge-Too-Yawn.

----- clip here -----

More names of local men who served during WWI

Editor's Note: The names of three local men who served in WWI have recently been discovered and will be added to the names currently listed in *St. Clair Allies In Arms*, a book that was published by in 2014 to coincide with the 100th anniversary of World War I. Although the book's editorial staff did their best to find and research all of these servicemen and women, records and information about them were, at times, difficult or impossible to find. It was inevitable that some would be left out. However, for those who purchased the book *St. Clair's Allies In Arms: The Men of Sombra and Moore Townships in WWI*, we encourage you to amend your book by clipping this item and affixing it inside the book. Should more names be discovered and published, they will appear here in Heritage Corner.

Bragg, William, farmer

(Henry Bragg, father)

Reg # 127444

William Bragg, 23, joined the army, enlisting Aug. 2 in London to serve with the 7th Fusiliers. Although he was living in Blenheim at the time, he settled in Sombra Village after the war. He is buried in Riverview Cemetery, Sombra.

Ewans, Tom

"Pte. Tom Ewans, who enlisted from here with the First Battalion, returned from the front 'honourably discharged' as medically unfit for further service. He was wounded at the Battle of Ypres and did his bit well. It is useless for us to attempt to tell his experience but Tom said that he would go back at once if able. He was both wounded and gassed on the same day, and describes the latter experience as terrible. He says the Canadians have saved the nation and he was proud to be one of them."

—From the Thursday, Nov. 18, 1915 issue of the *Sombra Outlook*

Lockyer, Alfred James

(Married)

Occupation: Moulder

Reg # 472092

Alfred Lockyer, 38, joined the army as part of the 65th Battalion, enlisting on June 29, 1915 at Wadena, Saskatchewan. He is buried in Riverview Cemetery, Sombra.

~ Lest we forget ~

MORE HERITAGE CORNER

The mystery of the golden treasure of the Moore Township Her-

Josiah Clark is not a familiar name in St. Clair Township today, but in the pioneer era of 1835 to 1858, "Old Clark" was a fixture in Moore Township. He was a combination tramp, hermit, and recluse. His unkempt appearance and strange clothing made him memorable and frightening to local residents.

But appearances can be deceiving. In reality, he was a harmless and peaceful man who simply had his own lifestyle. He lived in the woods along the Second Line in eastern Moore Township in a strange dugout covered with logs, but his "home" had a garden bordered by two pine trees that were not native to the township.

His comings and goings were unpredictable; for many years, he was seen traveling and visiting along the Bear Creek Valley, then veering off to and along the St. Clair River. Yet he would disappear for months on end. He never talked about himself or his background, but local residents eventually realised he was a harmless soul.

Rumours spread about him being a rich man and one cold winter's eve in February, 1842, there was proof. After he had spent the night with the Whittet family, they discovered he had 82 five dollar gold coins in his possession.

Early in the winter of 1858, everyone in the township

was shocked to learn that Old Clark had died suddenly, in great agony, in a lumber camp on Lot 9, Concession 6.

Although his body was initially buried, the suspicious death was immediately thought to be the result of foul play. The suspicion was so compelling that the coroner had the body exhumed and an inquest was held.

Josiah Clark's stomach was removed and sent to Toronto for analysis. The results confirmed what the community had suspected - Old Clark had been poisoned. His stomach contents contained prussic acid.

Two people, Thomas Simpson and Dr. Alexander Thom, were arrested for murder and a sensational trial, which was reported across Ontario, ensued. However, the accused were ultimately acquitted of Old Clark's murder.

No one was ever convicted and punished for the murder of the Moore Township Hermit. Furthermore, no one ever discovered what had become of his golden treasure. It remains a mystery to this very day.

-This story is a summary of a copy of the Reminiscences of Rowland Whittet, the son of the early pioneers of Moore Township. The original story appeared in a 1914 edition of the Brigden Progress, a weekly newspaper that ceased publication long ago.

-Submitted by Heritage St. Clair

Doors Open Lambton County seeks unique heritage sites

The Doors Open Lambton County event is slated for June 11 and 12 this summer. In preparation for this event, organizers are asking the owners of unique heritage sites to consider participating. This is the third year Doors Open has been held in Lambton County; the 2012 and 2014 events attracted over 13,000 visitors to sites to the area.

Doors Open is a cultural event celebrated annually by communities around the world. The event provides residents and visitors with a unique opportunity to explore hidden heritage

treasures free of charge.

To this end, organizers are looking for heritage sites that are rarely seen by the public. These include private residences, businesses, public buildings, and natural spaces.

Sponsorship opportunities are available.

For more information or to participate, please contact doorsopen@county-lambton.on.ca or go online to: www.doorsopenlambtoncounty.ca

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Sarnia/Lambton

Enbridge Gas Storage boasts new state-of-the-art facility

At the Enbridge Gas Storage site on Tecumseh Road near Mooretown, an impressively progressive building has taken shape.

The new 42,000 square foot building is a state-of-the-art, environmentally friendly facility that would not be out of place in an urban landscape. Its planning and construction, which took place over a four-year period, was proposed to consolidate all of the staff and services into one building instead of the several smaller buildings that have been used on the site in the past.

Brian Black, Director of Gas Storage Operation, says that since it opened in 1964, the plant and its workforce has continued to expand, creating the need for more office and work space. By the time a new building was built and occupied, it was quickly filled to capacity.

With this in mind, the new building not only accommodates the site's entire workforce and services, but it marks a new level of consideration and care for personnel well-being. "Ergonomic considerations are being made for the benefit of our employees," said Mr. Black. "We want to help prevent repetitive stress." Each employee is being assessed to determine what measures can be taken to prevent such problems as carpal tunnel and other repetitive stress-related injuries.

During his remarks, Jim Grant, Vice-president of Strategy and Integrated Services, stressed the importance of the Mooretown-based facility. "It is a crucial part of a broader business," he said. The plant provides energy to an area bounded by Toronto, Ottawa, and the Niagara region. "About 50 per cent of the natural gas we (Enbridge) use is coming from this facility...(the new building) is an investment in the business." He noted that the building has been built using the most up-to-date designs to bring about substantial reduction in energy and water consumption under the LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certification program. LEED is one of the most popular green building certification programs in use around the world. It is a set of rating systems for design, construction, operation, and maintenance of green buildings that are environmentally responsible and that use resources efficiently.

Mr. Grant says the use of this program has helped limit the environmental footprint within the area. The new building is outfitted with large windows and skylights throughout to maximize the admission of natural light, and high-efficiency LED lighting is also used. The building

also employs measures that limit or mask noise.

The security and safety of the site has also been designed to meet modern requirements. A card swipe system and security guards will be employed to keep the site secure, and the site will be safeguarded from power outages with double redundancy back up generators to ensure that the control room remains operational even when the rest of the building is without power.

During the tour of the facility, invited guests were treated to a tour that encompassed the office spaces, the operations room, a huge warehouse, instrumentation shop, and an impressive workout room. Employees will also be using a large, airy lunch/event room that presents a stunning blend of functionality and organic architectural elements that would be the envy of an upscale Toronto art gallery. In the summer, employees will also have access to a well-outfitted enclosed patio complete with gas barbecue. To drastically reduce waste, employees will all have their own dedicated covered cup with disposable dishes being used only for visitors.

However, the fundamental purpose of the building is always top-of-mind. Jim Sanders, Vice-president of Engineering and Integrity, says the gas storage operation the building supports is a deceptively powerful entity. To put it into perspective, he said, "This facility can move the energy of six Darlington nuclear power facilities."

And Dean Dalpe, Director of Distribution, Planning and Records, noted that having everyone under one roof will improve the staff work dynamic. "It will be easier for employees to work as a team...this building is an investment in long-term storage."

The building was slated to be occupied by mid-February with actual operation functions to be moved into the structure by summer. At the conclusion of the presentation, Lambton County Deputy Warden Ian Veen commented that the new facility showed continued commitment of Enbridge to its employees and the community.

St. Clair Township Deputy Mayor Peter Gilliland noted the company's willingness to develop such a high-profile project within the township was proof that St. Clair Township had much to offer its residents, both residential and corporate. "Enbridge's \$16 million investment in this facility instills a confidence in this municipality's future."



Many staff members from the Enbridge Gas Storage site turned out to celebrate the opening of the spacious new office/plant facility on Tecumseh Road, Mooretown. Ready to cut the red ribbon at the official dedication, centre, is Brian Black, Director of Gas Storage Operations. To his right is Vice-president of Engineering and Integrity Jim Sanders, and Vice-president of Strategy and Integrated Services Jim Grant. To Mr. Black's left is Peter Rapine from Enbridge's Toronto office, Director of Distribution, Planning and Records Dean Dalpe, Deputy Warden of Lambton County Ian Veen, and Deputy Mayor of St. Clair Township Peter Gilliland. This photo was taken in the cavernous equipment maintenance bay that is part of the modern 42,000 square foot building. The bay contains a 5-ton crane that can be used to hoist huge compressors and other massive equipment into the bay for servicing and repair. The bay also contains a sandblasting and painting area.

Photo by Bonnie Stevenson

Community Contact

Community pays back dear friend through fundraiser

The Brigden and area community came through in a big way to pay back a dear friend who has given so much to that community over his 40+ of volunteer service. After a serious accident in early January left "Cowboy Bill" O'Brien in critical condition with multiple injuries, his friends, family, and the community in general banded together to present and support a benefit jamboree at the Brigden Fairgrounds exhibition hall. Through the swift, determined efforts of a compassionate and caring community, the event raised \$25,000 to be used towards Mr. O'Brien's medical care and on-going recovery. (See note of thanks below.)

Landowners meeting scheduled

The Lambton Middlesex Kent land owners group will meet on March 17.

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 *Pennies for Pavement* program can be dropped off at: Shaykin Bait Variety in Port Lambton (*the Canada Post office no longer accepts donations*) 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

Brigden TOPS group meetings

Brigden TOPS holds its annual meetings every Tuesday night at the Brigden Optimist Hall. Weigh-ins are from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. and meetings are from 6:45 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. For more information, call 519-864-1865.

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.

COWBOY BILL O'BRIEN SAYS "THANKS"

We would like to extend a heartfelt "Thank You" to our family, friends, and community members who organized, participated in, and attended the country music jamboree and live and silent auction benefit on Jan. 2, 2016.

The jamboree was a huge success. The hall was full. It was a great boost to me in my recovery and it gave us peace of mind. It was fantastic to receive so many donations; they were all much appreciated.

Thank you to everyone who participated in this event in any way. Please know that your hard work was much appreciated. Thank you all and may God bless each and every one of you.

Bill and Chantal

Mooretown Jr. Flags Bantam Rep undefeated in regular season

Team continues winning ways to win the International Silver Stick Finals

The challenges of the 2015-2016 hockey season were no match for the Mooretown Jr. Flags Bantam Rep team. The local hockey juggernaut completed its Shamrock Regular Season schedule in top spot with an undefeated record of 20-0-2 in the 20-team league.

Those who watched the team closely during the season say the Jr. Flags dominated at both ends of the ice, leading the league in 126 goals scored while allowing a league low of only 21 goals.

The team's winning ways continued into post-season play with an undefeated showing at the 2016 International Silver Stick Finals Championship in Forest in late January. After

defeating Penetang, Petrolia, and Syracuse, N.Y. in round robin play, the Jr. Flags bested Littleton, CO in the semi-finals. The epic final was decided by a penalty shot in the third overtime as the team beat Petrolia 2-1 to take the title.

The triumphant team is shown here in no particular order: Dominic Aliperti; Jeffery Barclay; Riley Brown; Cole Clements; Logan Gardner; Steele Harris; Jason Heggie; Walker Holmes; Luke Houle; Blake Howard; Josh McLean; Luke Nahmabin; Thomas Snary; Luc Thorne-Smith; Kaymond Turner; Jake Vandersteen; Casey Vandersteen. Coaching staff: Dan Gardner; Jody Dennis; Dan Howard; Mike Williams.



Below: Left - Silver Stick presentation to Team Captain Logan Gardner; Middle - Silver Stick Championship Banner presentation to Team Alternate Captains Josh McLean, Jake Vandersteen, and Blake Howard; Right - Silver Stick Trophy presentation to Team Captain Logan Gardner.

Photos submitted



New library shelving improves safety and access for patrons



Showing off the beautiful new shelving at the Brigden Library are, from left: Teacher and School Librarian Cheryl Chartrand; Library Branch Coordinator Leslie Vye; and St. Clair Township Council/Library Committee Member Tracy Kingston. *Photo submitted*

The Brigden branch of the Lambton County Library has a bright new look but the changes that have been made go way beyond being simply cosmetic.

The dangerous old wooden shelves that have caused safety concerns for a long time now have been replaced by sturdy new ones thanks to funds contributed by St. Clair Township, the Optimist Club of Brigden, Mrs. B's restaurant, and the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 635 Brigden.

Library Branch Coordinator Leslie Vye says the new shelves are much appreciated. "The old wooden shelves were becoming a hazard because of their age and we were concerned about the safety of the children," she said.

She added the library now has a cohesive look and the books are now more organized and easier to access.

St. Clair Township Councillor Tracy Kingston, who also represents Council on the Brigden Library Committee, explains that the Brigden Library is a unique space because it is shared by the public and the students of Brigden Public School. As a result of this shared use, the collection of books available to students is enhanced.

The joint use of the library, which was originally a pilot project for this kind of dual use, has been a success during its many years of operation.

Decades ago, many people doubted the shared facility would work out.

However, it has proven that the county, municipalities, and school boards can work together to bring the joy of reading to everyone.

Sports Disabled Lambton offers opportunities to play

Sports Disabled Lambton (SD Lambton) offers individuals with disabilities the opportunity to play sledge hockey, floor hockey, weight lifting, and bocce. Anyone interested in playing can register until August, 2015 and early registration is advised because spaces

are limited. Pre-registration and an opportunity to try out a sport will be made available. If you have any questions about SD Lambton programs, registration or the organization, please email Joanne Somlai at jsomlai@cogeco.ca

Local Ontario Early Years Locations

The OEYC 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.

...and Still More Around The Township

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tional 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.co

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

Doors Open Lambton County

Unique heritage sites and properties will be showcased again this year when **Doors Open Lambton County** takes place the weekend of Jan. 11 and 12. To participate, see page 8. For more information, go online to www.doorsopenlambtoncounty.ca

39th Annual Firefighters' Field Day

The Corunna Volunteer Firefighters' Field Day is slated for the weekend of June 10 and 11. The event will include a parade, children's activities, a two-pitch tournament, fire demonstrations, a beer tent, and a dance. This is the firefighters' major fundraiser for the year, so mark these dates on your calendar. (In 2015, the firefighters donated to several minor sports organizations, Operation Christmas Tree, the Moore Optimist Santa Claus Parade, a Wyoming firefighter who was battling cancer, the Canadian Fallen Firefighters Foundation, local schools, and families who have experienced tragic circumstances.)



Spread the word about 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



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Hockey Moms present draw prizes

The Mooretown Hockey Moms recently announced the winners of the Christmas Draw they ran from October to December, 2016. First prize winners Jake Shaw and Jenn Lyon won an inclusive trip for two to Melia Peninsula Resort, Veradero, Cuba. The couple is shown here with their prize package, along with Marlin Travel branch manager Sherry Williams, left, and Laurie Pepper, President of the Mooretown Hockey Moms. The second prize was a barbecue and third prize was a gas gift card.

The Moms fundraise on an on-going basis, so when you see them in the kitchen feeding hungry hockey players or out selling cash calendars or fundraiser tickets or team merchandise, support them if you can. Mooretown hockey thrives through their efforts.

Photo submitted

Still More Around The Township

From page 15

features a wide variety of displays and demonstrations of interest to seniors, from leisure pursuits and health information, to health care and financial matters. *The Beacon will carry further information when details for the event have been finalized.*

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.

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 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. 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.

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.

Canadian NHL great to speak

Canadian NHL player and motivational speaker Theo Fleury will bring his *Don't Quit Before The Miracle* presentation to Victoria Hall in Petrolia on Wednesday, April 6 at 6 p.m. The presentation is family-friendly, encouraging personal growth through self-reflection, mindfulness, and action. Tickets for the presentation and an autograph session are \$20 per person and can be obtained through the Victoria Playhouse Petrolia box office at 519-882-1221, 1-800-717-7694, online at: www.thevpp.ca, or in person from Monday to Friday between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m.

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

The Women's 6th and Men's 5th Annual Recrea-

More Around The Township

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243-2600 or 1-800-265-0316. And *Paint Ontario*, an art competition, exhibition and sale will also be held at the museum March 12 through April 3. This juried competition of "representational" art will be presented by the Grand Bend Art Centre. Artists compete for cash prizes and other awards and visitors are invited to view and purchase excellent original art featuring the diversity of Ontario landscape, architecture, flora and fauna, water-scapes, and urban-scapes.

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: 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 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 on March 13, when the St. Patrick's/Everyone Is Irish Jamboree jigs and reels into Brigden and don't forget to celebrate the end of winter on April 10 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.

Irish stew supper at Knox Moore Church

Faith 'n begora, 'tis time for the wearin' of the green and a chance to enjoy a delicious Irish stew supper on Thursday, March 17 at Knox Moore Presbyterian Church on Rokeby Line. From 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., this supper will be served at a cost of \$13 per adult, \$5 for children ages six through 12, and free for children under age five. For tickets, call Dorothy at 519-862-1576.

Easter In The Park at CAP

The Optimist Club of Moore will host Easter In The Park at the CAP on Hill Street on Sunday, March 20 at 1

p.m. sharp. Children 12 years of age and under are invited to come out, find an egg, and trade it for candy and a toy.

Pasta dinner to benefit Diabetes Research

A pasta dinner will be held at the Corunna United Church on Friday, April 22 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$12.50 per adult, \$7.50 for children ages seven to 12, and free for children six and under. Tickets can be obtained by calling Allan at 519-862-1040. This event, sponsored by the Bluewater Lions Club of Sarnia, is being held in support of Diabetes Research.

Sombra Optimists plan Good Friday Fish Fry

The Optimist Club of Sombra Township invites everyone to attend the annual Good Friday Fish Fry on March 25 from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Port Lambton Community Hall. Admission is \$12 per adult, \$6 for each child ages five to 12, and free for children under the age of five. Dinner includes yellow perch, fries, a dinner roll, coleslaw, and a cupcake. Proceeds from this event go toward local youth and community projects.

Cinderella Story Dress Boutique

The 7th Annual Dress Boutique, sponsored by Cinderella Story Sarnia-Lambton, will offer free current fashion formal apparel to help make prom dreams come true on Friday, April 8 from 5:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. and on Saturday, April 9 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. The Boutique will be set up at 100 Christina Street in Sarnia. This two-day event will offer girls the chance to attend their school proms in dresses and accessories fit for a princess **at no cost to them**. To attend this event, register online at www.cinderellasarnia.org or email: info@cinderellasarnia.org. This program is a 100 per cent volunteer effort.

Craft day in Port Lambton

The Optimist Club of Sombra Township invites children of all ages to attend Kids Craft Day on Saturday, April 23 from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the Port Lambton Community Hall. This event is free to all who attend.

Broasted chicken at Courtright U.C.

The congregation of Courtright United Church will host the Three-piece Broasted "Spring" Chicken Dinner on Sunday, April 24 at the Courtright Community Centre (Silverdome). The cost will be \$18 per person and seating will be available from 4 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. For tickets, call Deb at 519-892-3767, Lynn at 519-331-9798, or Arlene at 519-892-3765 or email: g_abarclay@icloud.com

LSA Senior Info Fair planned

The Lambton Seniors Association will present the annual Seniors Information Fair on Tuesday, May 3 and Wednesday, May 4 at the Point Edward Arena. This event

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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

Around The Township

Corunna Legion to host March events

The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 447 Corunna will host several events in March, starting 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.

World Day of Prayer in Corunna

Everyone is invited to come out to the Corunna United Church on Friday, March 4 at 2 p.m. to join the World Day of Prayer service. This annual event is an international ecumenical movement that brings Christians of many traditions together to observe a common day of prayer.

Sombra Optimists host craft day

The Optimist Club of Sombra Township invites children of all ages to attend Kids Craft Day on Saturday, March 5 from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the Port Lambton Community Hall. This event is free to all who attend.

Chili Cook-off set for Port Lambton

Do you think you've got what it takes to win bragging rights at this year's annual charity Chili Cook-off? The Optimist Club of Sombra Township will host the event on Saturday, March 5 at the Port Lambton Community Hall. Contestants need to be at the hall for 3 p.m. so their culinary masterpieces can be set up and ready for judging at 4 p.m. Judges will choose the first and second place winners, but the public will have a chance to select the "People's Choice" winner. Doors open at 4 p.m. Admission will be \$8 per adult, \$5 for children ages five to 14, and free for children under the age of five. In addition, the Down River Junior Optimist Club will be selling hot dogs and chips as part of their fundraising effort. Live entertainment will be provided by *PULL 3*. Proceeds from the cook-off will go towards the many youth programs sponsored by the Sombra Optimist Club. Cooks who wish to pre-register or get further information can contact Optimist Joanne at 519-677-5716 or email: jleach@bell.net

Lambton Outdoor Club activities

The Lambton Outdoor Club has a slate of activities planned for the coming months. They include: Saturday, March 5 beginning at 10 a.m. there will be an easy 2 1/2 hour hike along Suncor Nature Way/Wawanosh Wetlands, meeting at Suncor NWW on Modeland Road. Contact 519-882-1262 for more information; Saturday, March 12, a medium level walking tour of Petrolia will begin at 9:30 a.m. at the Victoria Hall parking lot. Contact 519-882-2507; Saturday, March 19 a hike group will meet at the Highway 402 Esso Truck Stop for an easy 2 hour hike at the A.W. Campbell Conservation Area (includes a pancake lunch). Contact 519-704-1113.; Monday, March 21 from 7:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. there will be canoe pool practice sessions at the Sarnia YMCA on Finch Drive. Cost \$10. Contact 519-542-2590; Saturday, April 2 at 2 p.m., a free introduction to canoe tripping will be presented at Lochiel Kiwanis Community Centre, 180 North College Street in Sarnia. Everyone/all ages are welcome to attend to find out everything you will need to know to portage, navigate and camp along the way. Pre-registration would be appreciated. Contact: 519-542-2015, (email - bjseabrook@hotmail.com); 519-542-1578, (email - tarnold@teksavvy.co); or 519-336-3919, (email - judymsemail@gmail.com).

Wilkesport United Church stew supper set

A beef stew supper will be held at the Wilkesport United Church on Thursday, March 10 from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. or until sold out. The meal will include beef stew, biscuits, and dessert. Admission is by free will donation and everyone is welcome. For more information, call 519-627-3793 or 519-864-4669.

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

Big Buck Day planned

The Farmers and Friends Conservation Club will hold its annual Big Buck Day event on Saturday, March 12 at the Oil Springs Youth Centre. Doors open at 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. with admission \$5 per person and kids under 16 free of charge. Food booths and vendors will be on site. For more information, call Harold at 519-864-3113 or Jarrod at 519-402-2917.

Heritage Museum hosts events

The Lambton Heritage Museum south of Grand Bend will host the *Return of the Swans Festival*, March 12 to April 3 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. Interpretive displays and activities will celebrate the return of thousands of swans, ducks, and geese to their migration stop-over site directly behind the museum. Migration updates can be found at: www.returnoftheswans.com or by calling 519-