



THE ST. CLAIR TOWNSHIP **BEACON**



**Discoveries
That Matter**

Issue 4

Volume 9

April 2016

THE TOWNSHIP
OF ST. CLAIR

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St. Clair Township conveys community support to 2016 Special Olympians



Photo by Bonnie Stevenson

All members of St. Clair Township Council were recently given the opportunity to send their good wishes to some very special athletes; they signed a special flag that was brought to them by local members of the Knights of Columbus. For more, see Olympic dreams, page 4.

New Website now in effect for St. Clair Township

The Township of St. Clair has a new Website -
<http://stclairtownship.ca>

The old township Website at www.twp.stclair.on.ca will no longer be updated, so users are urged to update all links to this site. Any questions, concerns, or suggestions should be addressed to webmaster@twp.stclair.on.ca. Please note that the new website is a work in progress so we apologize for any problems that might arise when accessing information, etc., but when complete, it should be an improvement over the older website. We ask for your patience during this transition.

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, April 18 by noon.

Email: beacon@twp.stclair.on.ca



Municipal Notes

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, April 4 at 6:30 p.m. and on Monday, April 18 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.



SEWER MAIN FLUSHING

**St. Clair Township
Affected Residents
Courtright**

Public Works will be flushing sewer mains connected to the St. Clair Township sewer system in Courtright during the hours of **7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in April 2016**. During this maintenance procedure you may notice some gurgling noises in drains. If conditions persist after 24-48 hours of normal use, please notify *Public Works* @ 519-867-2993.

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.

2016 operating budget yield 0% increase

After much hard work and deliberation, St. Clair Township Council was able to bring in a relatively impressive 2016 operating budget.

Mayor Arnold said, "The operating budget was passed with no increase in the existing tax rate, and any increase will be based solely on changes in assessments for the various properties in St. Clair Township." He noted that several negative factors made the budget decision process problematic. "The budget process continues to be a struggle for us as the Lambton Generating Station and other tax appeals create a loss of assessment, which seems to be an annual event, as well as the continued erosion of the OMPF funding grant," he said. "These two issues change the assessments that are shared with all other properties in the township."

In spite of the zero increase, Mayor Arnold says council has not compromised the delivery of services. "We have worked very hard to ensure that services to our residents are maintained to a very high standard and we continually looked for ways to improve these services throughout the municipality."

The budget will also support two major projects, funded by the Education and Environment Fund: the LAVIII memorial project and the new NOVA Chemicals Health and Research Centre at Lambton College.

The LAVIII project has been initiated by the 1st Husars, who have acquired an LAVIII (Light Armoured Vehicle used in the Afghan war) to be turned into a memorial for those who served during that conflict. The support will signify a tribute to St. Clair Township resident Private Cushley, who lost his life serving his country there.

The Lambton College expansion project will receive a \$100K five-year financial commitment of \$20,000 per year. This decision was deemed appropriate since the college enrolment includes a substantial number of St. Clair Township students - 356 in this current school year.

Property taxes will also be influenced by the newly-passed Lambton County budget, which resulted in an increase of 1.94% over last year.

St. Clair Township Information

For a current meeting schedule, agendas, minutes of previous meetings, and selected by-laws, go online to: <http://stclairtownship.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.



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

Find The Beacon online at:
<http://stclairtownship.ca>
and click on the "Beacon" icon



ST CLAIR TOWNSHIP 2016 PROPERTY TAX DUE DATE

The 2016 Interim due date is
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 <http://stclairtownship.ca>

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

Oratorical winner proceeds to district competition



LCCVI student Kyle Hebert, above, recently won the Optimist Club of Brigden's annual essay contest. The theme of the essay was "Lead by Example: Reality or Fiction". He received his first place medal and a cheque for \$50, and will be going on to the district competition to compete against winners from other Optimist Club competitions within the district.

~New Township Website~
<http://stclairtownship.ca>

2016 Census needs local help

Statistics Canada will be hiring about 35,000 people across Canada to help with the collection of the 2016 Census that is set for May. Some of these people will be hired right here in St. Clair Township. More information and applications can be found online at: census.gc.ca

All residents are encouraged to complete the census. It has a direct impact on gathering information that is required to plan, develop, and evaluate programs and services such as daycare, family services, police, fire protection, and skills training for employment. Census data is also vital for planning infrastructure such as schools, housing, and roads.

Have you checked your sump pump lately?

If your residence has a sump pump, it needs to be kept in good condition. Take a few minutes to inspect it to see that it is working properly and that the sump pit is clear of debris. If you have a water backup pump, make sure the float is operating freely and the shut-off works. And if you aren't sure how to ensure the pump's efficient operation, call a plumber or basement specialist to do the inspection for you. The cost of a professional inspection is small compared to the cost and headaches of coping with a flooded basement.

NOTE: Homeowners should also check their residential insurance policies to ensure they are covered for emergencies like this.

Check by-laws before you begin any new project

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.



The 7th annual St. Clair certified course over flat, River Run is slated for Saturday, July 16. On-line 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 River Trail.

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

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 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 Friday, April 22, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. and 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 Friday, April 29, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. and Monday, May 30, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.

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: Wednesday, April 13, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.; Wednesday, April 27, 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

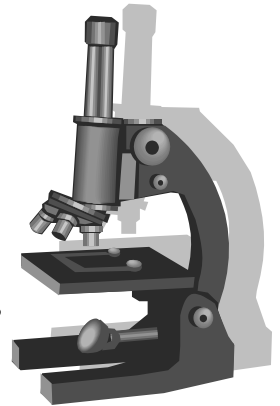
Created by our registered Social Worker, this two-hour seminar, offered monthly, will provide you with information on how to effectively manage stress through: regulating the stress-response; goal-setting; problem-solving; challenging unhelpful thinking; communicating assertively. This seminar is open 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, 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.

NOTE: The last blood draw of the day is done at 11:15 a.m. After this time, the courier has already come and gone.



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

Special Olympic dreams supported by K of C and St. Clair Twp

From page 1

When the 2016 Special Olympics are held in Durham this June 1-3, the Olympians will be receiving the support of communities all across Canada thanks to the Knights of Columbus. Six flags bearing the Special Olympics logo are being circulated across the nation by K of C chapters to be signed by municipal leaders and special needs children. The flags will be collected and displayed in Durham during the event. The Knights, who founded the Special Olympics and have raised over \$500 million since its inception, also hope to raise \$4.5 million for these Special Olympics, and fundraising tickets will be sold locally at *No Frills* on Friday and Saturdays through April.

As part of the initiative, Mike Hendryks, District Deputy Grand Knight, along with members of the Corunna/Courtright Knights of Columbus, attended the March 7 meeting of council to make a Special Olympics flag available for signatures. Mr. Hendryks also gave a brief presentation on the purpose of flag initiative after which Mayor Arnold commended the Knights for their dedication to the Special Olympics and thanked them for the opportunity to give St. Clair Township an opportunity to be represented at the event in a tangible way. "The Knights do wonderful work around the township," he said. "So many good things would not see the light of day without them."

Mooretown Sports Complex wants to get you moving

If you want to keep your health, keep moving! That's the latest advice from physicians and fitness experts alike. Let the Mooretown Sports Complex get you moving with a wide variety of fitness methods. 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.

Here are more ways you can keep moving and stay healthy.

Spring 2016 Swim Lesson Session

The spring session of swim lessons have just begun. It may not be too late to register, so give the Mooretown Sports Complex a call to find out what openings are still available.

Become a Lifeguard or Swim Instructor

Call for more information to learn about the path to becoming a lifeguard or swim instructor.

NEW! In-line public skating.

Don't mind the weather. You can in-line skate at the Mooretown Sports Complex on Sundays, 1-2:15 p.m. from April 24 to June 19.

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.

CMHA Ride Don't Hide event coming

The Canadian Mental Health Association *Ride Don't Hide* event is coming to the Mooretown Sports Complex

on Sunday, June 26. The CMHA rides will be hosted in six provinces in 35 communities with the aim of engaging over 8,000 participants and raising \$1.5 million. To register or for more information, go online to: www.ridedonthide.com. See page 7 for more poster.

Prism Anti-Cancer Diet seminar*

Cancer survivor Bryan Ball will share his story and his book, *The Prism Anti-Cancer Diet* at the Mooretown Sports Complex on April 26 at 6 p.m. **Please note: The Township of St. Clair assumes no responsibility for the information provided. The book and information was prepared or accomplished by Bryan Bell and the views, opinions, and information expressed are the author's own. They do not reflect the views or opinions of the Township of St. Clair.*

St. Clair Township summer student job fair

This job fair will be held at the St. Clair Parkway Golf Course, 132 Moore Line, on Saturday, April 9 from 11 - 2 p.m.

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

Golf season returning!

Come and enjoy the beautifully manicured greens at the St. Clair Parkway Golf Course. Watch for opening day announcements at: www.stclairparkwaygolf.com



Big bad Bradshaw Bears roar again!

The Bradshaw Bears have triumphed at their March Break 3-on-3 tournament in Watford for the second year in a row. The championship team is made up of Mooretown players as well as a few from Petrolia. They named their own team last year as a light-hearted salute to Bradshaw, the name of an area located just outside of Brigden.

Congratulations are due to the new coaches: Greg Hay, Nolan Farr, and Kyle Vandersteen.

Photo submitted

Moore Skate Club Summer Power Registration

The Moore Skate Club will hold summer power registration at the Mooretown Sports Complex from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Tuesday, April 19 and Thursday, April 28.

Sessions will begin on the following dates: Monday, July 18 through August 29; Tuesday, July 19 through Aug. 30; Wednesday, July 20 through Aug. 31; and Thursday, July 21 through Sept. 1. Class for those nights are still to be announced. Please check the club Website or email: gladwishm@gmail.com after April 4 for set schedules.

Thornyhurst W. I. provides warm and fuzzy "creature comfort" for children in crisis



Members of the Thornyhurst Women's Institute recently made a donation to the St. Clair Township Fire Department that will calm and comfort young children who are involved in traumatic incidents. The group has assembled small care packages, each containing stuffed animals, a children's book, and a small quilt, to be given to these children when the fire crews respond to catastrophic incidents. These gifts can have a powerful positive effect on young victims.

"A house fire or car accident can be absolutely terrifying for young children," said Deputy Fire Chief Steve Bicum. "To have a small gift that we can give to these traumatized kids can help to ease some of the fear and help start the healing process."

Thornyhurst Women's Institute spokeswoman Ann Shepley

says this comfort strategy is being adopted throughout the province. "This is a province-wide initiative and we hope this small gift can bring some joy to a child during a crisis."

Above: The first two packages are presented to the Wilkesport and Becher fire stations, with more packages slated to be given to other fire stations within the municipality. On hand for the presentation are, back row left: Wilkesport Firefighter Pat Levellie, Training Officer Doug Lester, Jr.; Deputy Chief Steve Bicum; Becher Captain Joe Krogman; and District Deputy Chief Dan Gonyou. Front row left: Thornyhurst members Irene Kraayenbrink, Ann Shepley, Lois Dramnizke, Myrna Hyatt.

Photo donated

Mooretown Flags coach Slipacoff to return for another season

The Mooretown Flags are pleased to announce that this past season's GLJHL *Coach of the Year*, Doug Slipacoff, will be returning for another season. Doug guided the Flags to a fourth place finish with a record of 21 wins, 15 losses, 2 ties, and 2 overtime losses. With a fair number of players returning from last year's roster, Doug is hoping to build on this past season's success. Players interested in attending the Mooretown Flags camp should complete a recruitment form on the Flags' Website: [www.http://pointstreaksites.com/view/ohamooretown](http://pointstreaksites.com/view/ohamooretown)





ridedon'thide



Canadian Mental
Health Association
Mental health for all



JOIN
THE MOVEMENT
ride and raise funds for mental health
JUNE 26, 2016

MOORETOWN SPORTS COMPLEX
1166 Emily Street, Mooretown
8km, 20km and 50km routes
Kids ride free

RideDontHide @ridedonthide

register and donate at **www.ridedonthide.com**

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MEDIA SPONSORS



The Observer

Sarnia & Lambton County This Week

The Petrolia Topic

Chatham This Week

The Chatham Daily News

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PHARMACEUTICAL COMPANIES
OF Johnson & Johnson



For more information contact Angela Kirkland: 519-337-5411 or akirkland@cmhalambtonkent.ca

HERITAGE CORNER

Watery graveyard once surrounded Stag Island

Information provided by Heritage St. Clair

In the era of wooden ships, wood-fueled boilers, and towed barges and schooners, the St. Clair River was a very dangerous place.

Since the 1830s, there have been over 200 marine disasters along the river; within the boundaries of present day St. Clair Township, over 60 of these have occurred. Fortunately, few of these resulted in the direct loss of life, although many deaths occurred in the wake of these marine accidents.

People didn't seem to worry as much about the image or the health of our beautiful river in those days. It was not uncommon for a vessel that had been deemed unseaworthy or that had been fired beyond repair to be abandoned in the river outside of the shipping channel.

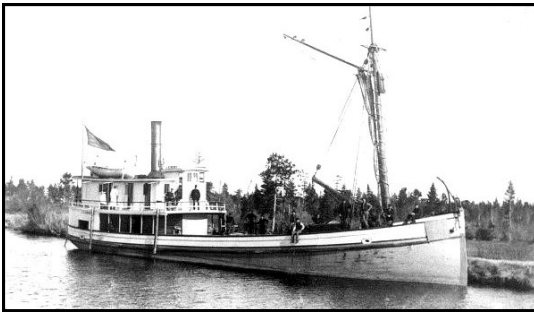
A popular dumping ground was Stag Island; over time, the shallows surrounding the island became the ideal place to get rid of an unwanted vessel. But this

careless disposal of derelict vessels had dire consequences for those who ventured too close to the submerged hulks. The ruined vessels included the steamer *Superior*, the *J.S. Ruby*, the *Mineral Rock*, and two unidentified ghosts.

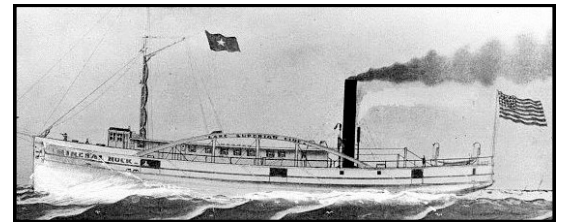
The *J. S. Ruby*, a small steamer headed north in November, 1891, caught fire about three miles north of Corunna and was eventually beached at Stag Island. The crew escaped unharmed. The steam barge, *Mineral Rock*, was worn out from years of service; her engine and boiler were removed and she was abandoned at Stag Island.

And the *Germanic* caught fire after running aground at Stag Island on Nov. 6, 1904. Her crew escaped unharmed and she languished beside the *Ruby* and the *Mineral Rock*. She was later raised by Reid the Wrecker of Sarnia, rebuilt, and renamed the *Reliever*. She eventually burned in Georgian Bay in 1909.

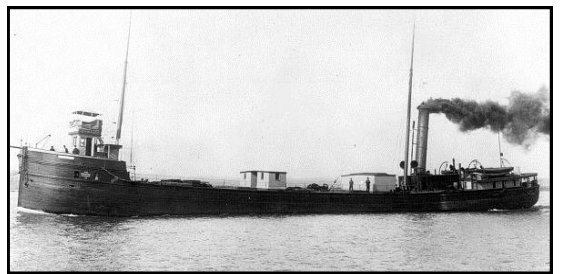
Two drownings and a number of pleasure boat sinkings were caused by the unmarked relics. Fortunately, in 1958, Lee Marine of Wallaceburg won the Federal contract to remove these unwanted, dangerous derelicts that posed such a threat to those who dared venture into the treacherous marine graveyard. The company removed as much debris as they could from the ships with cranes and back-hoes, and dynamite was used to blow what remained to pieces.



The J.S. Ruby



The Mineral Rock



The Germanic

sels included the steamer *Superior*, the *J.S. Ruby*, the *Mineral Rock*, and two unidentified ghosts.

The *Superior* was docked at Port Huron in May, 1920, when a fire in the boiler room engulfed it. After a brief attempt to douse the fire failed, the ship was cut loose from its moorings and allowed to drift downriver, where she burned to the waterline. She eventually ran aground at Stag Island. An 11 year argument ensued between the ship owner, the insurance company, the Government of Canada, and the citizens of Corunna over who was re-

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

MORE HERITAGE CORNER

Ship building and destruction featured in new display

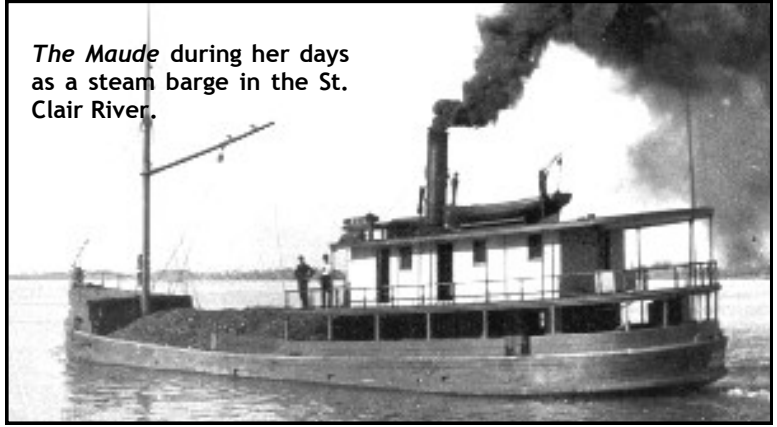
The St. Clair River used to be a place where ships not only sailed its waters, but they were also built along its banks and they succumbed to its hidden hazards. And, on occasion, they were the victims of bad judgement on the part of those who sailed them.

Such was the case of *The Maude*, a propeller-driven, steam barge built at the Anderson Shipyard in Marine City, Michigan, in 1899. Built from the best local lumber, the vessel was 95 feet long, 23 feet wide, and had a draft of seven feet. *The Maude* sailed without incident until 1915, when she was struck by *The Hilton* while docked at Courtright. She was subsequently raised and returned to service, but in 1917, she was destroyed by fire at St. Clair, Michigan.

This is just one of the fascinating stories visitors will find when they take in *Wood, Glory, Tragedy*, a new exhibit at the Sombra Museum. The story of the illustrious wooden shipbuilding era along the St. Clair River, as well as tales of the over 100 shipwrecks and disasters that occurred on it, will no doubt give visitors a new respect for the river's concealed dangers.

Just a ferry ride away in Marine City, Michigan, the Marine City Museum is joining forces with the Sombra Museum to present its own display, *Ship Building in Marine City*. For more information, call 519-892-3982 or go online to: sombramuseum@hotmail.com or sombramuseum.webs.com

The Maude during her days as a steam barge in the St. Clair River.



St. Clair Township libraries - calendar of events

April is Care month and the Lambton County Library branches have a great car resource, the Chilton Library, available 24/7. For over a century, the Chilton manual has been a trusted resource for auto repair, maintenance, and service information. Use your valid library card to access this resource online from anywhere you have Internet access. This **free**, continually-updated resource provides: Coverage dating back to 1940 (covering 15 makes and over 50 models); domestic and import vehicle information; step-by-step instructions; maintenance and specification tables; troubleshooting guides and diagnostic trouble codes; photos, illustrations, diagrams, and multimedia (videos and animations); individual tabs for repair, maintenance, labour estimating, and bulletin/recall information; and ASE test prep quizzes. Go online to: www.lclibrary.ca and look under *eLibrary and eResources*.

These activities at your local St. Clair Township library branch are free unless otherwise noted. Please pre-register for all programs except those specified as **drop-in** by contacting the individual library you will be attending. **Brigden (519-864-1142)** - Tales for Tots for children age 0-3 with caregiver, pre-register, Wednesday, April 6, 13, 20 from 10-11 a.m.; Adult book club, pre-register, Wednesday, April 27 from 7-9 p.m.

Corunna (519-862-1132) - Drop-in make and take crafts (children) - all month, all ages, any time; Drop-in activities (children) - all month, all ages, any time - in April, WiiU; Tales for Tots (ages 18 months to three years with caregiver) drop-in - 10:30 - 11 a.m., Mondays, April 4, 11, 18; French Story Hour (families) - pre-register - 4 - 5 p.m., Thursdays, April 7, 14, 21 - designed to help make learning French fun with no previous French language skill required of guardians or children; Book Club (adult) pre-register - Monday, April 25 from 6:30 - 8 p.m.; Adult colouring - drop-in - Monday, April 4, 11, 18, 25 from 1 - 3 p.m.; Adult Spring

paint - pre-register - Saturday, April 2 from 2:30 - 4:30 p.m. - be creative painting a small spring project; Felt flowers (adult) - pre-register - Thursday, April 14 from 6 - 8 p.m. - learn to make felt flowers for broaches, headbands, hair clips, etc.; Thompson Gardens book club (seniors) drop-in - Monday, April 4 from 1:30 - 3 p.m.; YMCA Settlement Services (adult) drop-in - Monday, April 25 from 11 - 2 p.m.; Watercolour painting (adult beginners) pre-register - Tuesday, April 5, 12, 19, 26 from 1 - 3 p.m. - fee of \$40 for the four-week session is payable to the instructor at first class.

Courtright (519-867-2712) - Drop-in make and take crafts (children) - all month, all ages, any time; Scavenger Hunt (children) - all month, all ages, any time - on April 30 - Rainbows and Raindrops; Tales for Tots (18 months to 3 years with caregiver) drop-in - Thursday, April 7, 14, 21 from 10 - 10:30 a.m.; Tween Scene (ages 7 - 12) drop-in - Thursday, April 7, 21 from 4 - 5 p.m. - explore with discovery kits and have fun; Adolescence (teens; 12-17) drop-in - Thursday, April 7 from 8 - 9 p.m. "Dodgeball"; Book Club (adults) drop-in - Wednesday, April 20 from 7 - 9 p.m.; Adult colouring - drop-in - Tuesday, April 12 from 6 - 8 p.m..

Mooretown (519-867-2823) - Afternoon Book Club (adults) - drop-in, Wednesday, April 13 from 2:30 - 3:30 p.m.

Port Lambton (519-677-5217) - Discover Light (children) drop-in - Saturday, 2, 9, 16, 23 from 11 - noon. Discover different activities involving the use of light.

Sombra (519-892-3711) - Tales for Tots (children ages 0 - 3 with caregiver) drop-in, Wednesday, April 6, 13, 20, 27 from 10:30 - 11 a.m.; Tween Event, -drop-in, - Tuesday, April 19 from 4 - 5 p.m.; TAG's (teens) drop-in, Tuesday, April 19 from 6 - 8 p.m.

Visit www.lclibrary.ca for further details. If you live outside of the Wyoming local calling area, call toll-free at 1-800-324-6912 with any questions or concerns.

St. Clair Township teen equestrian following her dreams

By Bonnie Stevenson

If you ask 15-year-old Chloe Duffy her philosophy of life, she will answer, "Don't follow your dreams. CHASE THEM."

This motivated teenager was raised on the family farm near Sombra, and has been riding horses ever since she learned to walk. Her passion is clearly revealed by the way she works with and advocates for horses, and she is part of the Ontario Horse Trials Association Young Riders program. "I am homeschooled, which allows me lots of time to work and train with my horses," she says.

Chloe is keenly focused on training to represent Canada in future national and international riding competitions. She is guided in her quest by Olympian/head coach Jessica Phoenix from Uxbridge, Ontario, dressage coach Barbara Rice of Petrolia, and personal trainer Jaclyn Watson of Wallaceburg. At this moment, she is training for the Thoroughbred Makeover and National Symposium in Lexington, Kentucky at the Kentucky Horse Park. The event, slated for Oct. 27-30, is organized by Retired Racehorse Project from Davidsonville, Maryland. This charity is dedicated to finding placements in second careers for thoroughbred ex-racehorses. Chloe says the Makeover will showcase the talent of the off-track, ex-thoroughbred racehorses with the objective of inspiring trainers to ensure the future of these beautiful horses after racing retirement. The event will be held over a three-day period. It will include competition as well as educational seminars and demonstrations, a trade fair, and the Makeover Horse Sale. Prospective buyers will have an opportunity to evaluate the makeover horses that are available for sale.

Chloe says the path to this event is not an easy one to travel. "There are 480 trainers approved to compete in this event; it's almost doubled from last year's applicants," she said. "To be approved to compete, there was an application process that required two references and a video of my riding along with narratives of my future goals and past achievements."

Chloe, parents Ryan and Sandy, and "Eddie" (a.k.a. *Just Between Us*, an ex



Chloe Duffy with her ex-racehorse, Eddie, a four-year-old dark brown bay that stands 15.3 hands in height. For those who wish to support this intrepid team, Eddie has his own hashtag - #GoEddie for the #TBMAKEOVER.

-racehorse eligible for the Makeover), will be traveling to the event a week in advance to get Eddie settled and comfortable with his surroundings before the competition. For Chloe, this is a dream come true. "It's an honour to have the privilege to be competing at the Kentucky Horse Park," she said. "I have dreamt of this day since I was a very young girl riding my little pony all over the farm."

As the only junior rider from Ontario competing in the Junior Eventing, Chloe and *Eddie* must display their talents in three disciplines: Discipline (also known as dressage, this event tests gaits, suppleness, and obedience through a series of prescribed movements); Cross Country (gallop at top speed while negotiating obstacles, water hazards, banks, and ditches); and Jumping (exhibits the team's energy, athletic ability, conditioning, and training while jumping obstacles).

The event will pit Chloe and her team against trainers from 11 states as well as 19 other trainers from Ontario.

As she prepares for her major challenge in October, Chloe will be honing her skills with her other horse, Oro. She hopes to run at an event in Virginia in May to qualify in an effort to be chosen by the selectors committee to compete in the North American 2016 Young Rider Championship taking place in Colorado in July.

Sandy Duffy, Chloe's mom, says everyone is proud of the way her daughter is taking on this immense challenge. "It's a big year for her and her team of horses," she said. "It's very exciting and we are so incredibly proud of her passion and determination."

To follow Chloe's progress, check out Facebook at: www.facebook.com/DuffyEquestrian. To find out more about the Retired Racehorse Project go online to: www.RetiredRacehorseProject.org. And to inquire about adopting one of these beautiful ex-racehorses, go online to: info@longrunretirement.com.

Community Contact

Smart Serve® training offered

Lambton Public Health will offer free Smart Serve® training. Anyone who serves or handles alcohol in a licensed establishment or at a licensed special event in Ontario **must be certified by Smart Serve®**. Training sessions will be held at the Lambton Public Health building, 160 Exmouth Street, Point Edward, on Wednesday, April 6 from 6 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. and on Saturday, April 16 from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. (Session end time is approximate.) Participants must be 18 years of age or older, or turning 18 in 2016. Each session is limited to 20 participants. To register, call 519-383-8331, ext. 3526 or 1-800-667-1839.

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 hold their meetings every Tuesday night at the Brigden Optimist Hall. Weigh-ins are from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Meetings are from 6:45 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. For more information, please call 519-864-1865. The TOPS mission is to help our members to sensibly take off and keep off pounds.

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.

Local Ontario Early Years Locations

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

Best Start Hub - Riverview Central School

3926 St. Clair Parkway, Port Lambton
519-892-3151

Hours of Operation:

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.



Courtright splash pad project receives Optimist donation



The Courtright Splash Pad Committee received a welcome donation from the Optimist Club of Moore at the club's monthly meeting on March 14. The committee is tasked with raising half of the cost of the splash pad and this donation has been a welcome boost for the project, which is scheduled to get underway on April 18 and is expected to take a week to complete. Committee member Cathy Vickard thanked the club for its generous contribution and noted the new facility will be ready to use when the temperatures climb this summer. She added that the committee is hoping to be able to fund a sheltering pavilion adjacent to the splash pad as well. **Left: Committee members Diana Austin, left, and Cathy Vickard accept the donation from Moore Optimist President Stan Marsh. Below: An artist's rendering of the splash pad layout that will be installed on the grounds of the Courtright ball diamonds.**



Community comes to aid of disabled Corunna resident

In a time when greed and apathy too often conceal the goodness in the world, an abundant generosity of spirit within the community is illuminating the life of a 43-year-old Corunna man.

Jamie Stewart was a boilermaker until the age of 26, when a diving accident snapped his neck and left him a quadriplegic. Existing on only a small pension, he does not qualify for government programs that would help him maintain his home. He has been living alone in a small wartime house that is fast becoming uninhabitable. After inspecting the extensive damage that is all too evident in the house, Peter Bakker of Bakker Design and Build of Watford, found that it would be less expensive to build a new house than to carry out the \$90,000 worth of repairs to the old one. He set about designing a new barrier free

960 square foot home and said he would donate his expertise and labour.

Since then, he has been urging tradespeople to chip in to build the new house and Mr. Stewart's sister, Terri, has begun fundraising, setting up a crowdfunding website and undertaking a wine and beer bottle drive. A committee has also been formed to oversee the project.

A community fundraiser is planned for the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 447 Corunna on Saturday, June 4. The event will include live entertainment, a silent auction, and raffles. Donations can also be made online through: www.gofundme.com/Raise_the_Roof_for_Stewy, or by emailing: terrinely70@gmail.com. Information can be obtained at peter@built.by

Corunna Legion seeking volunteer treasurer

The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 447 Corunna is currently seeking someone who would like a way to give back to the community. The membership is looking for a volunteer to take on the duties of Branch Treasurer. A Legion member would be preferred, but if no one comes forward, an outside volunteer in a contract position with an honourarium or stipend would be considered. Anyone interested in this position can call the branch at 519-862-1240 and Branch 447 President Dan will return the call. Together, "We Will Remember Them".





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...and Still More Around The Township

From page 14

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.

28th Annual Bluewater Sharks Boys Hockey Tournaments planned

The Bluewater Sharks Hockey organization has three weekend tournaments are set for the following weekends: April 15-17; May 6-8; and May 13-15. For more information, go online to the Sharks Website at: www.bluewatersharkshockey.co. Information can also be obtained by contacting Ed Marcy at 519-344-8624 (emarcy@sympatico.ca) or Lance Marcy at 519-344-2205 (lmarcy@cogeco.ca).

Sarnia Braves two-pitch tourney planned

A two-pitch tournament will be held at the Corunna Athletic Park diamonds the weekend of May 28 and 29. All proceeds from this event will help fund the Sarnia Braves Minor Peeewe baseball team's trip to Pigeon Forge, Tennessee, where it will participate in the Cal Ripken tournament. Come out and show your support for the team and the our local athletes.

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 June 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

Lambton Public Health presents parenting programs in April

Lambton Public Health offers free parenting programs across Lambton County to help parents, grandparents, and caregivers raise children to be healthy, resilient, confident, and ready to learn.

Free child care is available but space is limited.

Parenting Talk (for children of all ages) acknowledges that parenting can be rewarding, stressful, and difficult. Discuss topics and share ideas with a public health nurse and other parents about important issues. This program will be presented in three St. Clair Township locations during the month of April.

Brigden - Friday, April 8 from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the Brigden OEYC site and Best Start Hub, Brigden United Church at 2420 Jane Street. To register call 519-892-3151.

Corunna - Monday, April 18 from 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the Corunna Best Start Child and Family Centre, St. Joseph Catholic School, 535 Birchbank Drive in Corunna. To register call 519-892-3151.

Sombra - Tuesday, April 26 from 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the Sombra Township OEYC satellite site and Best Start Hub, 3926 St. Clair Parkway, Port Lambton. To register call 519-892-3151.

Other programs available in April include: **How To Talk So Kids Will Listen** in Sarnia on Mondays, April 4, 11, 18, 25, and May 2 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at Lambton College OEYC main site, 1457 London Road in Sarnia. To register call 519-383-8331, ext. 3568.

In Camlachie, the program will be **Children See, Children Learn** (ages 1-6) on Monday, April 18 from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the Camlachie United Church OEYC, 6745 Camlachie Road, Camlachie. To register call 519-786-6161, ext. 9226.

And in Forest, the program will be **Parenting Through Each Other** (ages 0-18 months) on Monday, April 25 from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the Forest Best Start Child and Family Centre, Kinnwood Central School, 63 MacDonald Street, Forest. To register call 519-786-6161, ext. 9230.

Still More Around The Township

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the Lambton Heritage Museum south of Grand Bend until April 30. Originally used by hunters to encourage wild birds to venture within range of their weapons, the art of decoy carving, now considered to be folk art, is now embraced by master carvers and hobbyist alike.

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.

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 features a wide variety of displays and demonstrations of interest to seniors, from leisure pursuits and health information, to health care and financial matters.

Mother's Day Social in Corunna

The Cruickshank Centre will host a Mother's Day Social on Monday, May 9 at 1:30 p.m. This event includes a fashion show by Tan Jay from Lambton Mall, door prizes, and a dessert of lovely specialty cakes. Advance tickets are \$10 per person and the deadline to purchase them will be Wednesday, May 4. For more information, call 519-862-1628.

Roast beef dinner at Knox Moore

The congregation of Knox Moore Presbyterian Church will host a roast beef dinner with homemade pie on Wednesday, May 4 from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$17 per adult, \$5 per child aged six through 12, and free for children under age five. They are available by calling Dorothy at 519-862-1576, Janet at 519-862-3354, or Nora at 519-864-1711.

Mother's Day coffee and bake sale

All Saint's Anglican Church in Corunna will host a Mother's Day coffee and bake sale on Saturday, May 7. Coffee, tea, and dessert will be \$3, and there will be a bake table and jewelry table as well. All are welcome.

Bus trip to see *Music Man* slated

The Cruickshank Centre will host a bus trip to the Imperial Theatre in Sarnia to see the *Music Man* on Friday, May 13. The bus will depart Thompson Gardens in Corunna at 4:30 p.m. so theatre-goers can enjoy dinner at Wagg's Restaurant before the show. The registration and ticket sale deadline for this activity will be Wednesday, April 13 and tickets are \$65 per person. Don't miss this chance to enjoy this Tony award-winning musical by Meredith Wilson.

Victorian Tea at Moore Museum

Spend a delightfully civilized afternoon tea break at the Moore Museum's popular Victorian Tea. The event, slated for Sunday, May 22 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. has been pleasing the palates of discerning guests over 20 years and it has become a popular rite of spring. Victorian-costumed servers will deliver delicious home-baked scones to your table as you relax in the

charming atmosphere of the Moore Museum's turn-of-the-20th-century cottage. The cost is \$7 per adult, \$3 per child, and \$2 for each pre-schooler.

Benefit golf tourney slated

A benefit fundraiser in the form of a golf tournament will be held in the name of Becky Bouma, a well-known kindergarten teacher at Colonel Cameron School in Corunna who lost her life to leukemia in 2013. The event will be at Sawmill Creek Golf Course on May 28, with a shotgun start at 1 p.m. Registration is \$100 per person, which includes golf, cart, lunch, and dinner, and prizes. A silent auction will also be held. One hundred per cent of proceeds from the third annual Becky Bouma Believe Golf Tournament will go to a foundation that has been set up to help Sarnia-Lambton residents who have endured tragic events and require financial support. To date, the tournaments have raised \$15,000 and the money has helped three individuals and families. For more information, contact Derek Bouma online at: derek.bouma@lkdsb.com

Fundraiser for Jamie Stewart set

A fundraiser to benefit Jamie Stewart will be held at the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 447 Corunna hall at Albert and Beckwith Streets on Saturday, June 4. See page 10 for more information.

6th Annual Summer Kick-off

The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 447 Corunna will hold its 6th annual Summer Kick-off event on Saturday, June 18. For more information, call the Legion hall at 519-862-1240.

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

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.

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

More Around The Township

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limited. Mark your calendars and enjoy! For more information, call the fair office at 519-864-1197.

Hospice presentation in Port Lambton

St. Joseph's Hospice of Sarnia Lambton will be featured in an informative presentation on Wednesday, April 13 at 7 p.m. at the Port Lambton Community Centre. The presentation is sponsored by the Sombra Optimist Club, the Port Lambton Knights of Columbus, and the Port Lambton C.W.L. The presentation is intended to inform the public about how the hospice works and the many services it offers to both those with life-limiting illness and to members of their support network of family and friends. A question and answer period will follow the presentation. Those wishing to reserve a seat can call Phil Johnston at 519-677-5298 or Johanne Leach at 519-677-5716. Pre-registration is not a necessity and all are welcome to attend.

Weekly trap and sporting clay shoots

The Lambton Sportsman's Club will resume trap shooting on Wednesday, April 13 at 6 p.m. and will continue every Wednesday evening until October. Sporting clays shooting will continue every Sunday at 1 p.m. sharp. Both of these events are open to the public (licensed firearms owners and their guests) and ladies are most welcome. For more information, call Caron Ball at 519-862-2641 or 519-381-1199. The club is located on the southeast corner of Hwy. 40 and Bickford Line in beautiful St. Clair Township. Please note that the club's rifle and handgun ranges are only open to club members and their invited guests.

Roast beef dinner in Brigden

The congregation of Brigden United Church will host the annual Roast Beef Dinner at the church on Sunday, April 17 from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Admission is by advance tickets only at a cost of \$15 per adult, \$5 per child ages six through 12, and free for children under age five. For tickets call Marie at 519-864-4016, the church at 519-864-1747, or any Brigden United Church member.

Knights of Columbus Sunday breakfasts

The Corunna/Courtright Knights of Columbus will host their final Sunday breakfast and meat raffle of the season at the St. Joseph's Parish Centre on Lyndoch Street from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on 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.

Roast beef dinner in Brigden

The congregation of Brigden United Church will host a roast beef dinner on Sunday, April 17 from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Admission is by advanced tickets only at a cost of \$15 per adult, \$5 per child age six through 12, and free for children age five and under. For tickets call Marie at 519-864-4016 or the church office at 519-864-1747 (please leave a message).

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.

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

Winter lecture series wraps up at Sombra Museum

The final lecture in the Sombra Museum's Winter 2016 Lecture Series wraps up for the season on Tuesday, April 26 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Guest speaker Larry Cornelius will speak on the ecological and cultural history of Lambton County forests and native trees. The event will be held at the Sombra Museum Cultural Centre, corner of Smith Street and St. Clair Parkway, and admission will be \$10 per adult and \$7 per student. For tickets and more information, call 519-892-3982 or email sombramuseum@hotmail.com

Wilkesport Community Centre annual meeting

The Wilkesport Community Centre annual meeting will be held on Thursday, April 28 at 7 p.m. The purpose of the meeting will be to receive the financial statement for the past year, to elect directors for a two-year term, and to discuss other business of concern to the community centre. Everyone is welcome to attend. Those who cannot attend but wish further information can call Chuck at 519-864-4221.

4th Annual Talent Show in Wilkesport

St. Clair Township's Got Talent! Here's your chance to show off your own talent at the 4th annual Wilkesport Talent Show slated for Saturday, April 30. Do you sing, play an instrument, dance, do visual arts and crafts, or have another talent you can wow the audience with? Here's your chance. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and the show will begin at 7 p.m. Admission will be available at the door for \$10 per adult and free for children and students. Tea, coffee or juice, and cookies will be included. Some of the artists will have items for sale and everyone is welcome to attend this great event. *This is a fundraiser for the Wilkesport United Church and a terrific way to support the talented members of your community.*

Shoreline Drifters exhibit

The exacting art of waterfowl decoy creation is on display at

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

Lambton Outdoor Club activities

The Lambton Outdoor Club has a slate of activities planned for the coming months. They include: 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 - tamold@teksavvy.co); or 519-336-3919, (email - judymsmail@gmail.com). Other upcoming activities include: Howard Watson Trail hike on Saturday, April 9; Ausable Trail - Mystery Falls Loop on Saturday, April 16; Canoe & Kayak at Pinery Provincial Park on Sunday, April 17; Thames Valley Trail - Hwy. 7 on Saturday, April 23; Maitland Trail hike on Saturday, April 30.

Brigden Optimists to hold April events

The Optimist Club of Brigden will hold several events in April, starting with a bottle drive fundraiser on April 2 from 9 - 1 p.m. at the Brigden gas bar. On Thursday, April 14 starting at 6 p.m., there will be a quarter auction at the Brigden Community Hall. A youth dance is slated for Friday, April 15 from 7:30 - 10 p.m. at the Brigden Community Hall for students in Grades 4-8. Admission will be \$4. And on Tuesday, April 26 at 7 p.m., bingo will be played at the Brigden Community Hall.

Corunna Legion to host events in April

The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 447 Corunna will host a progressive euchre tournament on Sunday, April 3. Registration will be from 11 - 12:30 p.m. and play will begin at 1 p.m. Entry fee is \$10 per person with all monies returned as prizes, and everyone is welcome.

And on Thursday, April 21, from 11:30- 1:30 p.m., the Legion will host a chili luncheon to aid the Canadian Cancer Society. Join the crowd to enjoy some of the best Blue Ribbon Chili in town and to support the fight against cancer. The cost is \$6 per plate or \$5 for take-out tickets. Call the Legion at 519-862-1240 for takeouts or to reserve your table or tickets. Tickets will also be available at the door.

Girls On The Move program in Port Lambton

Girls in Grades 4 through 8 are encouraged to join the *Girls On The Move* program now underway on Wednesday evenings from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. through April at the Port Lambton Community Center. The program features a variety of activities including food creation, circuit training, dancing, and resilience-building. This program is supported by the Sombra Optimist Club and the Port Lambton Athletic Association. The cost is \$20. For more information or to register, call Rose at 519-677-5924 (email: rbatkins@kent.net) or Meghan at 226-627-2307 (email: sealey_megan@hotmail.com).

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.

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.

Creative workshops set for Moore Museum

The Moore Museum will host a series of creative workshops this spring. The series will begin on Sunday, April 10 from 2 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. with *Learn To Crochet*, where you will learn basic crochet stitches and make a small project to take home. The cost is \$30 per person, which includes all materials and HST. The next workshop, *Needle Felting*, will be held on Sunday, April 24 from 2 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Try your hand at this intriguing craft to fashion decorations from wool roving. The cost will be \$35 per person, including all materials and HST. And on Sunday, May 1 from 2 to 4 p.m., artist Amanda Moorehouse will introduce attendees to *Watercolour Painting*. Learn watercolour techniques while Amanda provides guidance as you create a painting inspired by the Moore Museum collection. The cost will be \$35 per person, which includes all materials and HST. Registration for each class is limited, so call the museum at 519-867-2020 now to avoid being disappointed. *The Moore Museum extends thanks to the Lambton County Creative Fund for its support of these workshops.*

Induction of Rev. Marnoch planned

The congregation of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church in Mooretown will host the induction of Rev. Ian Marnoch into the Lambton/West Middlesex Presbytery on Sunday, April 10 at 7 p.m. Rev. Marnoch will assume his duties as minister to the charge of St. Andrew's Mooretown and Knox Moore on April 1. He and his wife, Hannah, have come to the area from London, Ontario and will reside in Corunna.

Spring Jamboree slated for Brigden

Kick winter to the curb with the Spring Jamboree, slated for Sunday, April 10 at 1 p.m. Admission is only \$2 and a cash bar will be operating. And 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