



THE ST. CLAIR TOWNSHIP **BEACON**



**Discoveries
That Matter**

THE TOWNSHIP
OF ST. CLAIR

Issue 5

Volume 9

May 2016

INSIDE

Municipal Notes
Page 2

~ ~ ~

2016 Tax due date
Page 3
(Please note changes to
tax and water
paper stub payment)

~ ~ ~

Rapids Health Team
Page 5

~ ~ ~

**Mooretown Sports
Complex**
Page 6

~ ~ ~

**Traditional Native craft
receives modern
make-over**
Page 9

~ ~ ~

Heritage Corner
Page 10

~ ~ ~

Community Contact
Page 12

~ ~ ~

Around the Township
Pages 13-16

T-REX AT THE READY - NEW EMERGENCY CAPABILITIES



Photo by Bonnie Stevenson

St. Clair Township's fleet of emergency vehicles has now been updated. Two mighty new Rosenbauer T-Rex fire trucks are now on duty: one is located at the Bridgen fire station and one at the Corunna station. Both trucks boast a 115 foot articulating platform and a bucket that can not only hold five people, but it can evacuate a stretcher inside the bucket in a secure horizontal position. The trucks' remarkable rescue capabilities even allow them to right an overturned vehicle with their booms' superior crane power. The safety of the township's firefighters and the remarkable flexibility of the vehicle's rescue abilities were primary considerations when the purchase of the vehicles was undertaken. At \$1.7 million each, the vehicles were thoroughly vetted and funding was carefully examined. When the investigation was complete, funding sources were found to facilitate their purchase without impacting municipal taxes. Mayor Steve Arnold explained the process.

"One of the things we concentrated on is the protection of people and property. We are in a unique area that includes heavy industries; their locations and the potential dangers that exist had to be considered. As well, many people have looked to new industry located in our municipality for direct and indirect jobs. With that in mind, our existing ladder truck was at the end of its front line service life of 25 years, and it needed to be replaced. We chose to replace it with one of the new trucks, but we also chose to purchase a second identical truck as well as a mobile command unit, plus three fire hall additions, and a new dual-wheeled truck that could safely pull the mobile air unit and contamination unit. The first truck was paid for by all of us because it was a necessary replacement. The balance of the project was paid for by a municipal surcharge on heavy industrial taxpayers. Council felt this was justified since industry has enjoyed a 22 per cent tax decrease since 2006 and many of them count on the municipality to provide major back up to their firefighting. We have had many positive comments from them as we have discussed this initiative with them," he said.

Ride Don't Hide event confronts stigma

The annual *Ride Don't Hide* campaign kicked off at the Mooretown Sports Complex (MSC) on April 5 with a cycling event led by Carol MacPherson, left. About a dozen riders participated in a spin class to publicize the Canadian Mental Health Association's annual fundraiser. This family event, slated for June 26 at the MSC, aims to raise awareness and support for mental health, and to reduce the stigma that surrounds mental illness. Registration is \$35 per person and it can be done online at: www.ridedonthide.com Funds raised support the Preventative Education Program.





MUNICIPAL NOTES

Beginning in mid-April, residential property owners began receiving their MPAC assessments for 2017-2020. During the April 4 meeting of council, MPAC representative Tracy Pringle was on hand to provide a 2016 Assessment Update. She noted that the 2017-2020 notices for farm, multi-residential, and business properties will be mailed out in October.

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, May 2 at 6:30 p.m. and Monday, May 16 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.



HYDRANT FLUSHING

St. Clair Township Residents

Public Works will be undertaking the annual flushing of fire hydrants connected to the St. Clair Township water distribution system during the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. until this fall. During this maintenance procedure, you may notice some water discolouration using your taps, flushing toilets, doing laundry, etc. as some sediment may be drawn into your residence. We recommend that you run the cold water tap for a few minutes or until the discolouration disappears. If discolouration of the water continues after 10-15 minutes of normal use please notify Public Works at 519-867-2993.



SEWER MAIN FLUSHING

St. Clair Township Residents

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

MPAC representative updates council regarding assessment method

Residential owners will have 120 days from the issue date of the assessment to file a Request for Reconsideration (RfR), making the deadline Aug. 16. Ms. Pringle pointed out that the property assessment notice has been redesigned to be easier for the recipient to understand.

Responding to a question regarding how the assessment is determined from cycle to cycle, Ms. Pringle told council that building permits are used to adjust the assessment of residential properties. If the permit indicates that the project it was issued for will add value to a residence, the new value will affect the assessment. The sale of similar properties in a given area will also affect future property values.

Preliminary MPAC residential market trend figures specific to St. Clair Township indicate a 2.7 per cent increase may be applied.

Courtright kids to make a splash this summer

The installation of the new Courtright splash pad is exciting news for all of the kids and the "kids at heart" in the area. It also has some people thinking that the project is paid for and that donations are no longer required. They are wrong.

The project is funded under a commonly-used 50/50 funding agreement between St. Clair Township and the Courtright Splash Pad Committee, with the township money coming from a fund fed by Clean Harbors tipping fees. The Township contributes half of the cost and lends the other half to the group that is advocating for the project. The group must pay that money back within five years, although to date, none of the groups have ever taken that long to pay off their loan. The Courtright project is well on the way to being paid off but funds are still being sought. In addition, following the example of other community splash pad projects, the committee hopes to build a picnic shelter where visitors to the facility will be able to find shade. The committee has asked council for permission to use the surplus funds from the splash pad project to fund the shelter and council has supported the project in principle. The existing playground, which is in need of repair and improvements, will be assessed as well to see what upgrades should be made to it.

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



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

See above
right for
CHANGES

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



Changes to Tax and Water paper stub payment option

Effective June 6, 2016, banks will no longer process WATER and TAX payments using paper-based processes. Ratepayers can continue to make water and tax payments through electronic bill payment options, but banks will no longer accept bill payments that require a paper stub. The township is sorry for any inconvenience this may cause, however, this is a **change in bank policy** and NOT in Township of St. Clair policy. *See item at left for more information.*

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.



The 7th annual St. Clair 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 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.

Rapids Family Health team receives donation



Mayor Arnold presents RFHT Executive Director Lynn Laidler with a cheque for \$4,000.
Photo by Bonnie Stevenson

The Rapids Family Health Team office at the Shell Health Centre at 233 Cameron Street in Corunna will have a new Automated External Defibrillator (AED) and a new EKG machine thanks to a recent donation from St. Clair Township. These machines provide an extra level of service to township residents and RFHT Executive Director Lynn Laidler, says the donation is much appreciated. "We try very hard to bring more services to St. Clair Township and we're working to bring new physicians here as well," she said. "St. Clair Township has been amazing to work with."

Mayor Arnold commented that the RFHT office in Corunna has been of great service to township residents. "When the blood-letting clinic closed, residents had to go into Sarnia for that service. The local clinic saves them an unnecessary trip and provides many other valuable services and programs as well," he said.

Donation to college will reap local benefits



The local importance of Lambton College to the education and careers of hundreds of St. Clair Township residents was made clear when council approved a donation of \$100,000 to the major expansion underway at the college site. The money, made available through the township's Education and Environment Fund, will be donated over a period of five years; the first donation of \$20,000 was presented to Lambton College President Judith Morris during council's April 18th meeting. During the presentation, Mayor Arnold said, "When we (council) heard about the project, we couldn't have been more excited." He added that, in recognition of the hundreds of local students who attend the college each year, it was fitting that the municipality should support the institution in its effort to expand, offering even more educational opportunities for local residents.

In response, President Morris expressed thanks for the generous donation. "It's huge to have supporters like your community," she said. "(The expansion) will change the landscape of the college...we're overwhelmed." The new NOVA Chemicals Health and

Research Centre will enable nursing students to remain at the college for the full length of their training. It will also provide more intensive hands-on training for EMS students through mock ambulance and hospital ward facilities. Health research will also be undertaken in the new building. Above: Lambton College President Judith Morris receives the first of five donation cheques from Mayor Steve Arnold. On hand for the presentation are members of council and key staff members, from back left: Clerk Jeff Baranek, CAO John Rodey; Councillor Jim DeGurse; Councillor Jeff Agar; (in front of J. Agar) Treasurer Charles Quenneville; Deputy Mayor Peter Gilliland; Councillor Tracy Kingston; Councillor Steve Miller; Spencer Dickson, Lambton College Vice-President of Corporate Performance and Employee Relations; Margaret Dragan, Lambton College Vice-President of Finance and Administration; Lianne Birkbeck, Executive Assistant of Government Relations and Advisor to the President and Board of Governors; St. Clair Township Fire Chief Walter Anderson; and Tracy Simpson, Manager of the Lambton College Foundation.

Photo by Bonnie Stevenson

Towering 115 foot T-Rex articulating rescue platform demonstrated



St. Clair Township Deputy Fire Chief Steve Bicum demonstrates the height and power of the 115-foot articulating platform during the recent unveiling of the two new T-Rex fire trucks. The platform has many uses; it can accommodate five firefighters or disaster victims and extract a stretcher-bound victim from a dangerous environment in a secure horizontal position. The boom arm has the power to act as a crane, lifting a load of up to 8,800 pounds, such as an overturned vehicle, or reaching horizontally up to 93 feet in order to extract victims from dangerous water situations. A veritable tsunami of firefighting water can also be delivered at up to 2,000 gallons per minute. The trucks will be for residential and heavy industrial use.

Photo by Bonnie Stevenson

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.

Health seminars return to Rapids Family Health Team clinic

The following sessions are being offered at the Rapids Family Health Team clinic, located at the Shell Health Centre, 233 Cameron Street in Corunna. There is no charge for participation but **you must register to participate**. Please note space is limited. If we are unable to accommodate you for the day of your choice, we will put you on a waiting list for future sessions.

For more information, go online to: www.rapidsfhteam.ca or to register, call 519-813-9800 and speak to reception.

Living With Diabetes

This is a two-hour session that provides a general overview of diabetes. We will discuss some of the most common myths about diabetes, learn what "good control" is, and discuss some of the things you can do to manage diabetes. The session is led by a Nurse Educator.

Sessions will be held from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. on: Monday, May 9; Friday, June 10; and Friday, July 22.

Diabetes - Healthy Eating And Keeping Active

This is a two-hour session for people who have already attended our Living With Diabetes class or who have had past education on the basics of diabetes and want more information on diet. We will discuss the basics of healthy eating, what types of food affect blood sugar levels, reading food labels, when and how much to eat, and how to increase our physical activity level. The session is led by a Registered Dietitian.

Sessions will be held from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. on: Monday, May 16; Friday, June 17; and Friday, June 29.

A Guide To Diabetes Prevention

This is a 1.5 hour group session for those who want to learn about diabetes and how to prevent it, or for those who have been told they are at risk of getting diabetes. This session is led by a Registered Nurse and a Registered Dietitian. They will discuss what diabetes is, risk factors for getting diabetes, and how to decrease blood sugar levels through lifestyle changes. The program is open to the public and no physician referral is required.

Sessions will be held on Monday, May 30, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.; Friday, June 24 from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.; and Wednesday, July 27 from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Healthy Weight By Healthy Means

This is a series of five sessions, one per week each Thursday, lasting two hours each. The aim of the program is to help 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 (good and 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. Weekly assignments will help you reach your goals.

This series begins Thursday, June 2 and continues for five weeks from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Note: Patients **MUST** attend the first class in order to attend the final four classes. This program is open to the public with no physician referral required.

Quit Smoking Workshop

This is a two-hour session for those 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.

The workshop is open to the public with no physician referral required. Participants are also welcome to schedule individual appointments

to receive further support and information from one of our Nurse Educators.

The next Quit Smoking sessions will be held on: Wednesday, May 25, 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.; Wednesday, June 8, 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.; Wednesday, June 22, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.; and Wednesday, July 27, 9 a.m. to 11 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 and no physician referral is required.

The next roster of workshops will take place Fridays from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. on: May 6; June 3; July 15; August 12; Sept. 9; Oct. 7; and Dec. 2.

Anxiety Awareness

The Anxiety Awareness Therapy Group is an eight-week program for adults 18 and over who are living with and managing anxiety in day-to-day life. The program is facilitated by Registered Social Workers. During the group sessions, participants will learn how to deal with their anxious thoughts, feelings, and behaviours by understanding their anxiety and how to manage their worry. Relaxation skills and stress reduction techniques will be focused on during weekly sessions. The group will cover the following topics: overview of generalized anxiety; challenging negative and positive beliefs about worrying; developing strategies to challenge worries and accept uncertainty; problem solving and decision making; managing the anxious body, mind, and behaviour; exploring and practicing relaxation skills and stress reduction techniques; maintaining the gains and developing a self-management plan.

This group program will be held on Mondays from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. (with the exception of Victoria Day) beginning Monday, May 2.

Note: Class date, times, and locations within Corunna are subject to change or cancelation depending upon the number of patient registrants.

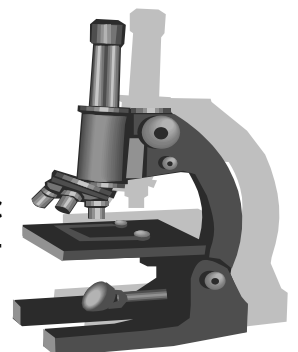
Teaching Kitchen

Healthy cooking classes will not only help you build on your knowledge of healthy eating, but will also help you be able to apply them in a friendly group setting. Classes will cover a wide range of healthy conditions/topics including: heart health, digestive concerns, vegetarian, cooking for one, increasing fruit and vegetables, high blood pressure, and more. Cooking classes are open to the public and no physician referral is required.

Classes will be held on Wednesday, June 22 from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. and on Thursday, July 28 from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

~ ~ ~ ~ ~ Laboratory services offered

Laboratory services at the clinic are available Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 11:15 a.m.



Mooretown Sports Complex wants to get you moving

If you want to maintain 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.

Spring Into Fitness

Join Fitness Kick Boxing, Muscle Mix, or Water Aerobics any time. The cost is \$6 per class (\$5 per senior) or \$45 per 10 visit pass. Spin classes are also available. Join any time.

Summer Swim Lesson Session

The summer session of swim lessons will soon get underway. Don't miss this chance to learn to swim or to hone your swimming skills. Register now.

Summer Day Camp

Summer day camp for children ages 5 - 12 will begin on July 4 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. weekdays. (Early drop off and late pickup will be available). Fees are \$27 per day, \$110 per week, or \$861 per summer.

Sports Camps

For the young sports enthusiasts in the house, sports camps for children ages 7 - 14 will be offered from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays with early drop off and late pickup available. Camps will be held as follows: Golf - July 4-8; 18-22; Aug. 8-12; Sports Combo - July 11-15; July 25-29; Aug. 15-19; Track & Field - Aug. 2-5. Fee will be \$110 per week.

Red Cross Babysitting Course

Children ages 11 and up can learn the skills needed to become a good babysitter on Monday, June 6 (PA day) from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The cost will be \$50 per child.

Canadian Safety Council Home Alone course

Children ages 10 and over can learn how to be safe when left at home alone on Monday, June 6 (PA day) from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The cost is \$50 per child.

Tick and Lyme Disease Awareness seminar

A tick and Lyme disease awareness seminar will be held on Wednesday, May 11 at 1 p.m. at the Mooretown Sports Complex. This seminar is presented by Lambton Public Health. Please call to register. See contact information below.

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 until 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.

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



Photo submitted

Hockey Moms efforts pay off for Minor Hockey

The Mooretown Hockey Moms have worked tirelessly all season to raise funds to keep Mooretown Minor Hockey alive and well. The group recently presented a cheque for \$20,000 to the Mooretown Minor Hockey Association. This is the second year in a row the group has been able to raise this impressive sum. On hand for the presentation are, from left: Hockey Moms VP Kim Sylvester and President Laurie Pepper, Mooretown Minor Hockey Association President Andrew Vandersteen, and Hockey Moms Secretary Nicole Wilson. Absent from photo: Hockey Moms Treasurer Meghan Schenck.

Mooretown Jr. Flags Bantam Rep win OMHA Championship



The Mooretown Jr. Bantam Rep team has capped off a remarkable season. According to *Beacon* correspondent Dan Howard, the team stormed through the OMHA playdowns, winning the Bantam B Championship with a 12-1-1 record. They swept through Lambeth and Listowel, then took out Penetang in the semi-finals. And in a hard-fought championship series, Mooretown defeated Petrolia 3 games to 1 after dropping the series opener.

The team's championship season ended with a record of 49-5-3, it went undefeated in the Shamrock League, and also won the International Silver Stick Championship.

The coaching staff, comprised of Dan Gardner, Jody Dennis, Dan Howard, and Mike Williams, is to be commended for their hard work and dedication to the team's ultimate success.

The 2015-2016 team players include: 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, and Casey Vanderveeken.

Photo submitted

Coach returns for another season

The Mooretown Flags are pleased to announce that this past season's GLJCHL Coach of the Year, Doug Slipacoff, will be returning for another season. Doug guided the Flags to a 4th place finish with a record of 21 wins, 15 losses, 2 ties, and 2 overtime losses. The Flags defeated Lakeshore Canadiens in a seven-game first round series before bowing out to League champions Essex 73s in the semi-finals. With a fair number of players returning from last year's roster, Doug is hoping to build on this past season's success.



Coach Doug Slipacoff

Players interested in attending a Mooretown Flags camp should complete a recruitment form on the Flags' website:

[www.http://pointstreaksites.com/view/ohamooretown](http://pointstreaksites.com/view/ohamooretown)

Don't mess with these misses



Another fastball season is getting underway and these determined players from the U12 Girls Fastball organization mean business as they prepare for tryouts. Pictured are, left: Olivia Prentice, Makayla Mootrey, Brice Knight, and Emma Greenwood.

Photo submitted

NFU urges action on critical farming issues

By Bonnie Stevenson

It has long been known that the traditional family farm is under siege from a multitude of negative factors; this is a trend that members of the National Farmers Union of Ontario (NFU) are fighting to rectify.

NFU-O Lambton Local 328 held a strategy meeting in Brigden on April 6 to set out its agendas, meetings, and speakers for the coming year. The group also congratulated its president, Emery Huszka of Florence, who recently garnered the title of NFU-O Ontario President, NFU National Board member, and NFU Region 3 Coordinator at the union's annual general meeting in Kingston.

Two vacant seats on the group's executive were filled during the meeting, with Elizabeth Davis-Dagg, former deputy mayor of Lambton Shores, being named to the Women's Advisor post and Ed Molson, an original member of the NFU, being named Interim Youth Advisor. Pres. Huszka says he is pleased with both choices, noting that the experience and knowledge they bring to their respective posts will be invaluable assets to the group.

Guest speaker, Lambton County Warden Bev MacDougall, delivered some good news to the group in the form of \$200,000 in funding for an aggressive program to combat the invasive phragmites species that is currently crowding out local vegetation. Pres. Huszka says St. Clair Township was on the leading edge of the plant's encroachment into Lambton County and it has now spread to Dawn-Euphemia. This plant, also known as the European Common Reed, is causing damage to the biodiversity of Ontario's ecosystem, releasing toxins from its roots into the soil and killing surrounding plants. However, it is not to be confused with the native phragmites that poses no threat.

Part of the issue surrounding the control or elimination of the noxious weed, says Pres. Huszka, is the unorganized way the threat is being handled by the provincial government. The control of the phragmites problem is currently being left up to individual

municipalities and property owners but little or no ground has been gained. "It takes over everything...it makes more sense to combine resources," he said. "They have to give us some clear leadership," he said. "We're looking for a response (to the union's request for a cohesive strategy) but they've been treading carefully about giving us an answer."

The NFU submitted a comprehensive list of concerns to the provincial government during the 2016 Ontario Pre-Budget Consultation process. These concerns included land use planning, citing MPAC figures that show disturbing negative trends in the amount of farmland that is currently owned by non-farmers. Pres. Huszka says this trend poses a very real threat to the future of small farms, the small communities they support, and even the land itself. "The NFU recognizes the lack of vision over the last 20 years...we've seen an "uninvestment" culture at the provincial level...Canadian farmers have been taken for granted." He noted farmers who own the land are committed to long-term stewardship of the soil whereas those who have no stake in the future of the land have a limited focus solely on the economic return on investment. Other stated concerns included local food production, rural labour, and several other crucial issues.

At the heart of the matter is the need for public support for the plight of small agricultural producers. Pres. Huszka says the public must be better educated about the true cost of ignoring the agricultural sector. Until the overwhelming benefits of local food production, from the superior quality of the product to the economic vitality that a vibrant farming culture brings to the nation, are clearly understood by the average consumer, Canadian farmers will be burdened with greater and greater challenges.

"We need the government to pass thoughtful policies that put family farms as a centerpiece of agriculture," said Pres. Huszka.

To find out more about what can be done to ensure an adequate domestic food supply well into the future, go online to: NFU-O.ca

Optimist Club of Moore holds oratorical contest



Four young speakers recently competed for top honours in the 2016 Southwestern Ontario Zone level Oratorical Contest. The theme for this year was "How My Best Brings Out The Best In Others". The two top speakers had the opportunity to go on to the District Semi-Final Contest in Essex, vying for a shot at the district final where a trophy and a \$2,500 scholarship would be up for grabs.

Judges were Don Smith, Irene Payne, and Bonnie Stevenson.

The speakers, from left, were: Ashley Klumpenhauer; Brice Knight; SWONT Optimist Youth Activities Chair/Zone 6 Lt. Gov. Mary Lou Abrams; Peter Matthews, and Kelly Wilks. Peter and Kelly were chosen to go on to the District level competition.

Photo by Bonnie Stevenson

Creative County program funds modern take on traditional Native American craft

The dream catcher is a familiar part of Native American culture; it's a beautiful way to keep evil spirits and bad dreams at bay. And now, a Walpole Island man is using traditional craftsmanship to reinterpret this ancient symbol.

Peter Redmond recently received a grant of \$800 through Lambton's *Creative County Fund* to further his work making tipi night lights. "This is the 21st century answer to the dream catcher to ward off bad spirits," he said. The grant was awarded with the intention of helping Mr. Redmond teach the public about history



Wolf motif tipi

that is not taught in the regular school curriculum. His goal is to encourage the public to be proud of their ancestors and the region in which they live, as well as their rich history. His stated measure of success will be to promote a less stereotypical image, to broaden racial knowledge, and to forge tighter bonds as Canadians.

Mr. Redmond produces the tipis in his home, working full time to keep up with the many orders he receives for them. "I put my heart and soul into everything I do," he said, adding that his passion for the work began 23 years ago when he learned the construction technique from a craftsman from the Aamjiwnaang reserve south of Sarnia. "A guy called Paunchie made them...he showed me how to make them and he said it was OK to do it on Walpole," said Mr. Redmond. "Two years ago, we took them on the pow wow trail and they sold very well."

Since then, the Redmond family has sold tipi night lights at many pow wows throughout Canada and the U.S. Mr. Redmond notes that his young daughter also participates as a dancer at these events. Through these events, the tipis have grown in popularity and demand for the product has grown with it. "They're in demand all over the Six Nations...I very busy. I wish there was eight days in a week," said Mr. Redmond.

He is also trying to pass along the skills necessary for the tipis. "We do classes," he said. "They take about two hours. (We provide) blank tipis and teach how to put the designs on them. If feel strongly about these classes because they (students) come in with a certain mindset and, after two hours, they go away a completely different person."

Although he has been a Walpole Island resident for many years now, Mr. Redmond says his family lived in Toronto, where his mother, Mildred, started and oper-

ated the Native Indian Club in her home. He says that is where he learned about his culture and about the importance of volunteering.

But he spent summers on Walpole Island with family and absorbed more of the culture he is so proud of. He explains that his mother eventually moved back to the island after years of involvement and hard work with the club she had founded left her tired and longing for home. And when she was diagnosed with cancer, Mr. Redmond came back to care for her and stayed to make a home on the island.

As summer approaches, he says preparations are underway to hit the pow wow trail once again. He is especially proud of the event slated for Walpole Island over the May 24 weekend. "There will be over 200 tipis (large outdoor living structures) there as well as lots of craftsmen and eight drums from Canada and the U.S.," he said, explaining that this number of drums is not a common sight, which adds to the excitement surrounding the event.

The tipi night lights are available in a wide variety of designs from traditional Native American to contemporary images such as Disney and sports team logos. Mr. Redmond says tipis can also be made to order for team, business, organization, and personal occasions. The tipis can be purchased at the *Turtle Soul* shop in the main mall on Walpole Island, just across the main bridge that connects the island to the mainland.



Colourful nature motif tipi

To date, Lambton's *Creative County Fund* has advanced \$227,355 to projects, events, activities, and workshops in Lambton County in an effort to complement and build upon the heritage, arts, and cultural offerings of Lambton County. This program awards funding by considering applications from four quadrants of the county; St. Clair Township and Dawn-Euphemia are considered the south quadrant, and Walpole Island falls within that area as well. Mr. Redmond's grant was one of 15 awarded during this latest application intake.

The next intake of applications for Lambton's *Creative County Fund* will occur this fall. The applications must be for projects and events that will occur in 2017. For more information about this fund, go online to www.lambtononline.ca and click on the *Creative County Fund* tab under the *Residents* heading.

HERITAGE CORNER

Hands of Time exhibit looking for timely donation of clocks



Your "timely" donation of a wind-up clock will help the Moore Museum expand the *Hands of Time* exhibit, seen above.

The Moore Museum's clock repair shop exhibit features fine examples of clocks from by-gone days. Donations of wind-up clocks are now being sought to round out the museum's collection. Anyone who has a clock they would be willing to offer should call the museum at 519-867-2020.

The clocks do not need to be in working order as the museum is fortunate to have a clock repair person on its roster of enthusiastic volunteers. Although space limitations will not allow the museum to accept all clocks offered, each will be carefully considered to provide the best possible variety of timepieces for the exhibit. It is hoped that a well-considered exhibit of clocks will help visitors learn more about this essential part of daily routines.

Moore Museum on Doors Open Lambton tour

The Moore Museum will be one of Lambton County's interesting public and private locations that will be featured on the 2016 Doors Open Lambton tour, set for Saturday, June 11 and Sunday, June 12. Admission to the site will be free and there will be lots of heritage demonstrations to engage and delight the entire family. The event will run from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. both days. For more information, call the Moore Museum at 519-867-2020.

CIBC Bank closure in Sombra sparks memories of the facility's past

As of September this year, the CIBC Bank in Sombra will be but a fading memory. According to CIBC management, telephone and online banking are to blame for the closure, but many are wondering how local needs like ATM banking and currency exchange will be done in the bank's absence. It is clear that the absence of a bank in the area will pose hardships to those who live in the area and to those who are traveling across the border.

Heritage St. Clair says there has been a CIBC in Sombra since 1928, although the first bank was called the Sterling Bank of Canada. It was housed in what is now the Aft Cabin Restaurant. It moved across the street in 1917 to the Logan Tailors building at the corner of King and the St. Clair Parkway. However, its operation was short-lived when, in 1920, a gas explosion put an end to the whole building.

The Sterling Bank quickly rebuilt on the same site and the little building remains. It is now known as the Old Bank. In the early 1920s, Sterling amalgamated with the Standard Bank, which was bought by the CIBC in 1928. It operated until 1968, when the current bank building was built on the site of the Sombra Hotel, (also known as the St. Clair Hotel and the Washburn Hotel during its lifetime), which burned down on New Year's Day, 1961.

The CIBC has seen some excitement over the years. In 1959, it was the site of a mid-afternoon robbery that resulted in the loss of a whopping \$1,000 in small bills.

To date, all efforts by individuals and the township have failed to keep the bank operating. And after 90 years, technology will now rob the Village of Sombra once again, and this time, the thief is taking the whole bank.

Anyone for tea?

The popular Victorian Tea at the Moore Museum is slated for Sunday, May 22 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. This annual rite of spring features Victorian-costumed servers delivering delectable home-baked scones and tea, coffee, or juice to your table, served up in elegant china. The event setting, a charming turn-of-the-20th century cottage, provides just the right atmosphere for an oh-so-proper tea time. Admission is \$7 per adult/senior, \$3 per child, and \$2 for preschoolers. For more information call 519-867-2020.



Firefighters donate life-saving AED defibrillator to Corunna Legion



The membership of the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 447 Corunna has been discussing the need for an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) for a while now. Legion spokesperson Malcolm Boczek says the need is apparent "...especially considering the longevity of many of our members."

And now, there is no need for further discussion because the dedicated volunteer firefighters from the St. Clair Township Fire Department's Corunna station have come to the rescue. The firefighters recently presented the Legion with an AED that will stay on-site to contribute to the safety and well-being of Legion members and the public groups that use the facility.

Mr. Boczek says the Legion has a longstanding relationship with the St. Clair Township Fire Department and it has been of mutual benefit to both groups over the years. "Receipt of the AED is a fine example of these two organizations working together."

Left: Presenting the new AED unit to RCL Branch 447 President Dan Watson, centre, is District Chief Tom Mitchell, left, and District Deputy Chief David Yorke. Photo submitted

Online resource PressReader available through Lambton County Library

The Lambton County Library's newest eLibrary resource is sure to capture the interest of the many county residents who can't get through the day without scouring their favourite newspapers and magazines. PressReader is an online newspaper and magazine stand that gives users access to over 4,000 periodicals from 100 countries, in over 60 languages. Content is always up-to-date and is often available online before it's published in print.

Local newspapers, as well as national and foreign publications like the Toronto Star, the Washington Post, the Daily Mail, and USA Today are available online, as well as magazines from home and abroad. PressReader also broadens the reader's horizon by instantly translating the content of many foreign publications.

Library members who visit their local library branch can gain access to this resource with their personal device through the library's Wi-Fi connection with no log-in required. Once a title is downloaded, it can be viewed anywhere at any time. Users can also access PressReader from home using their library card barcode and PIN number through a link on the Library's new catalogue.

Author Sonia Faruqi to visit two Lambton County Library locations

Writer Sonia Faruqi, author of *Project Animal Farm*, will be visiting two Lambton County Library branch locations on Saturday, May 7 to discuss her book - Petrolia branch at 1 p.m. and Sarnia Library Theatre at 3 p.m.

Ms. Faruqi, who left a career in investment banking on Wall Street to write, has written a book about the treatment of farm animals. It's based on experience she gained while touring farms around the world and outlines her concerns over the treatment of farm animals. Her insights and solutions have

been developed during this process with the goal of making the world a better place for all of its inhabitants. She also offers tips to consumers who want to make ethical purchases. For more information, contact the Sarnia library at 519-337-3251 or the Petrolia library at 519- 882-0771. Pre-registration is required for the Petrolia library event.

Amnesty period for fines in effect

The Lambton County Library announced that, as of May 2, an amnesty period for overdue library material to encourage residents to return their long-overdue books, CDs, and DVDs. This amnesty applies at all 26 branches of the county's library branches. Outstanding fines will be forgiven and patrons will again be allowed to use their library cards.

Used Book Fair on the way

A Used Book Fair will be held at the Lambton County Headquarters in Wyoming on Saturday, May 14 from 9 a.m. to noon. A donation of 50 cents per child's book and \$1 per adult book is suggested, or fill a bag for only \$5. A wide selection of genres, including picture books, crafts, cooking, travel, health, autobiographies, fiction, and non-fiction for all ages, will be featured.

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For more information about activities and events for all ages coming up at your local Lambton County Library branch, contact numbers are:

**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)  
**Wilkesport** (519-864-4000)

# COMMUNITY CONTACT

## ***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.

## ***Mooretown Hockey Moms grateful for family and community support***

The 2015-2016 hockey season is over but another season will get underway this fall. When it does, a recent \$20,000 donation from the Mooretown Hockey Moms to the Mooretown Minor Hockey Association will help provide crucial support for local minor hockey. Throughout the season, the Moms undertake fundraising events, draws, and the sale of team merchandise such as Mooretown draw-string backpacks, leather logo necklaces, toques, mini sticks, stickers and more. The group recently expressed gratitude for the continuing support of their families and of the community in general.

## ***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: [stclair-rivertrail.com](http://stclair-rivertrail.com)

## ***Brigden Fair student volunteer opportunities***

Student volunteer opportunities are available at the Brigden fair-

grounds 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.

## ***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.

## Update all students' vaccination records or face suspension on May 16

Parents are warned that May 13 will mark the deadline for updating all school students' vaccination records. Failure to do so will result in the student's suspension as of May 16.

To comply with this requirement, simply report the updated information via email at: [immunization@county-lambton.on.ca](mailto:immunization@county-lambton.on.ca); online at: [www.lambtonhealth.on.ca](http://www.lambtonhealth.on.ca); call 519-383-8331, ext. 3589 or toll-free 1-800-667-1839; or mail or drop off to: 160 Exmouth Street, Point Edward, Ont., N7T 7Z6.

As of April 19, there were still 1,100 elementary school students on the suspension list. In Ontario, students must be immunized, be in the process of immunization, or be legally exempt from immunization in order to attend school. For more information about immunization or reporting, call the above phone numbers or go online to: [www.health.gov.on.ca](http://www.health.gov.on.ca)



## Local Ontario Early Years Locations

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

### **Best Start Hub - Riverview Central School**

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

### **Hours of Operation:**

Tuesday, & Thursday: 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

### **Best Start Hub - St. Joseph's School, Corunna**

535 Birchbank Drive, Corunna

519-862-5071, ext. 224

**Hours of Operation:** Monday: 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.;  
Wednesday: 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. & 1 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.; Friday: 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

**Brigden United Church**, 2420 Jane Street, Brigden  
519-892-3151

**Hours of Operation:** Friday: 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

For a complete listing of hours and parent/caregiver workshops, go online to: [www.ontarioearlyyears.ca](http://www.ontarioearlyyears.ca)





## Mooretown Flags win big with the Whole Pig

The Mooretown Flags Jr. C hockey organization scored big-time recently through a meat raffle that was held by Courtright Variety Store owners Darrel and Cindy Lefaive. A luscious package of pork, supplied by The Whole Pig's owners Martin and Teresa Van Raay, was won by Kay Vautour. Proceeds from the draw were then donated to the Flags.

Left: The happy winner of the pork prize, Kay Vautour and her husband, Rob, center, are shown with, from the left: Teresa Van Raay, Darrel Lafaive, and Mooretown Flag's Executive Director Larry Taylor.

*Photo submitted*

## Port Lambton K of C donate to St. Joseph's Hospice

Following an information session on April 13, the Knights of Columbus, Council 10873, Port Lambton, made a \$1,000 donation to St. Joseph's Hospice of Sarnia-Lambton. The lecture was sponsored by the K of C, the Sombra Optimist Club, and the Port Lambton C.W.L. Maria Muscedere, Fund Development Manager for the hospice, talked about how the hospice assists those with life-limiting illnesses, as well as their families and their support people. All services are free, with some costs paid by the government and some by public donations to the facility. Shown here are Grand Knight Frank Johnston, Maria Muscedere, and Bob Murrany of St. Joseph's Hospice of Sarnia-Lambton. For more information, go online to: [www.stjosephshospice.ca](http://www.stjosephshospice.ca)



## ...AND STILL MORE AROUND THE TOWNSHIP

From page 14

### 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.

### Ballroom Dancing Club begins

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

**LAMBTON SENIORS** ASSOCIATION  
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## STILL MORE AROUND THE TOWNSHIP

From page 15

games, face painting, snacks, and much more.

### Duthil Cemetery decoration day set

The annual Duthil Cemetery Decoration Day service will be held on Sunday, June 5 at 2:30 p.m. Attendees are asked to bring a lawn chair.

### Brigden Campout Country Jamboree

The Brigden Campout Country Jamboree will be held the weekend of June 8-12, with camping just \$25 per night. On Saturday, June 11, enjoy a roast beef dinner for just \$18 per ticket. Tickets go on sale on June 6. The event will feature a vintage tractor and machinery show, and a country craft sale. For more information, contact Bill Myers at 519-627-5065.

### 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.)

### 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](http://www.doorsopenlambtoncounty.ca)

### Brigden Country Craft Show set

The Brigden Country Craft Show will be held on Saturday, June 11 at the Brigden Fairgrounds from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission for this arts and crafts show is free. Please enter off Highway 80. For more information, contact the fair office at 519-864-1197. If you would like to be a vendor, please contact the office at the above number or email: [finance@brigdenfair.ca](mailto:finance@brigdenfair.ca)

### LSA 27th annual picnic

The Lambton Seniors Association will host its 27th annual picnic at the Petrolia Fair Grounds, Lions pavilion, on Wednesday, June 15 from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Admission is \$3 which includes music, dancing, food, prizes, and surprises.

### 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 from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Admission is free and money raised will go to Legion activities and community donations. For more information, call the Legion hall at 519-862-1240.

### Becher fire station open house

The St. Clair Township Fire Department's Becher sta-

tion, located on Kimball Road just north of Lambton Line, will host the Station 6 Open House on Saturday, June 25 from noon to 4 p.m. Visitors are invited to see the new addition to the fire hall, check out the new apparatus, demonstrations, fire prevention trailer, a barbecue, and much more. There will be lots of fun for the whole family.

### Brigden United plans summer camps

Brigden United Church will host Vacation Bible School on Monday, July 11 through Friday, July 15 and Specialty Day Camp on Monday, Aug. 15 through Friday, Aug. 19. Both camps will run the full day from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Further details will appear here in the Beacon as they become available. For more information, call 519-864-1747.

### Messy Church at Brigden United

The Messy Church event is held at Brigden 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.

See ...and Still More, page 13



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

# MORE AROUND THE TOWNSHIP

From page 16

## LOC host outdoor activities

The Lambton Outdoor Club will host several cycling activities within St. Clair Township during May and June. **Helmets will be mandatory.** On Saturday, May 14, cyclists will enjoy the 40 km. *Easy Riders (easy level)* trip along the St. Clair River Trail from Guthrie Park north of Corunna south to or Sombra and returning. The group will meet at the park at 9:30 a.m. and will enjoy lunch on the way. Call Sharon at 519-542-8639 for info. On Saturday, May 28, more experienced riders can join the *Hares (medium level)* 70 km ride from the fish fountain at Centennial Park in Sarnia at 8:15 a.m. or the Sombra ferry dock at 9 a.m. Call Jim at 519-677-5348. On Saturday, June 11, the *Easy Riders (medium level)* will meet again at Guthrie Park at 9:30 a.m. for a 50 km ride to Sombra for lunch, then returning. Call Jim at 519-542-8141. The *Hares (medium level)* will set off again on Saturday, June 11 at 9 a.m. from the fish fountain in Centennial Park, Sarnia, to ride along the river road for a distance of 80-90 km to Sombra for lunch, then return. Call Norm at 519-332-1411. And on Saturday, June 25 at 10 a.m., the *Easy Riders (easy level)* will meet at the fish fountain, Centennial Park, for a 30-35 km ride to Corunna for lunch, then return. Call Stan at 519-336-9907.

## 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.

## Sombra Optimists to host Safety Awareness Day

The Optimist Club of Sombra will host a free Safety Awareness Day for the whole family on Saturday, May 28 in VanDamme Park in Port Lambton. The OPP will be educating young riders on proper cycling safety on a simulated course and attendees are encouraged to bring their bicycles and helmets. The event will also feature safety displays by local St. Clair Township Fire Department firefighters as well as the Canadian Coast Guard, EMS, Red Cross, and more. Registration begins at 10:30 a.m. and the event begins at 11 a.m. Participants will receive a certificate of completion and the chance to win prizes. There will also be free hot dogs and chips supplied by the Optimist Club of Moore.

## Jam sessions at Corunna Legion

The final Saturday afternoon jam session of the season will be held at the Royal Canadian Legion Corunna Branch 447 hall on Saturday, May 28 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.

## 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 Pee wee 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.

## 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](mailto:derek.bouma@lkdsb.com)

## LSA annual general meeting slated

The Lambton Seniors Association will hold its 26th annual general meeting on Tuesday, May 31 at 9 a.m. at the Chris Dawson Centre, 2nd floor, 420 East Street N. in Sarnia. This meeting is open to the public and there will be a guest speaker.

## Vibrant Living seminar planned

Wellness is a topic of concern for people around the world, as the *Vibrant Living 2016* seminar will vividly demonstrate. This event, slated for the Sombra Community Centre, 152 Smith Street, on Tuesday, May 31 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., will feature guest speaker Joan Van Rensburg, who operates a successful Wellness Centre in South Africa. The event will include door prizes. Registration is not necessary but would be welcomed, and donations would be appreciated. Contact Rita Vandertil, 519-892-3378 or email: [ritavandertil@bell.net](mailto:ritavandertil@bell.net)

## 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.

## Carnival Fun in Courtright

The Lambton County Junior Optimist Club and the Optimist Club of Moore will present Carnival Fun at the Courtright Community Centre (Silverdome) on Sunday, June 5 from 10 a.m. to noon. The event will include

# AROUND THE TOWNSHIP

## Alzheimer Society Writing Contest

The Alzheimer Society of Sarnia-Lambton presents its 7th annual writing contest. What kind of letter do you think an elder relative of yours would write to you? What memories or secrets would he or she reveal? This is your opportunity to delve into your imagination and write the letter a parent, grand parent, or great-grandparent might have written to you. Letters are welcome from all ages, with entries from contributors 18 and over requiring an entry fee of \$20. Cash prizes will be awarded to the winning entries. The contest deadline for entries will be Friday, May 20. Contest rules can be found online at: [www.alzheimer.ca/sarnialambton](http://www.alzheimer.ca/sarnialambton) For more information, call Kim at 519-332-4444.

## Creative workshop set for Moore Museum

The final creative workshop of a three part series, *Watercolour Painting*, will be held at the Moore Museum on Sunday, May 1 from 2 to 4 p.m. Artist Amanda Moorehouse will introduce attendees to watercolour painting techniques and guide them as they create a painting inspired by the Moore Museum collection. The cost will be \$35 per person, which includes all materials and HST. Registration 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.*

## Weekly Souper Thursdays in Corunna

Members of Parkway Church at 551 Murray Drive in Corunna will host *Souper Thursdays*, a free community lunch, every Thursday from noon to 2 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend and enjoy a homemade lunch to eat in or take out. Those who require assistance can call 519-862-3380 to have lunch delivered.

## 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. Admission is free and free shuttle service will be running from the parking lot of the Point Edward Casino during the fair. 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, as well as door prizes and lunch vendors.

## 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, \$6 per child aged six through 12, and free for children under age five. Tickets are available by calling Dorothy at 519-862-1576, Janet at 519-862-3354, or Nora at 519-864-1711. This is a fundraiser for kitchen maintenance.

## 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: May 6, 13, 20. Everyone is welcome.

## Games and Crafts event in Courtright

The Lambton County Junior Optimist Club and the Optimist Club of Moore will present *Games and Crafts Morning* on Saturday, May 7 from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the Courtright Community Centre (Silverdome). Come out and enjoy lots of family fun - snacks will be provided.

## Lambton Sportsman Club hosts archery

The Lambton Sportsman Club will host archery sessions on Saturday mornings (not Tuesday evening) from 9 a.m. to noon beginning Saturday, May 7 and continuing every Saturday morning until Sept. 24. An archery committee member will be on-site during these sessions. Please note that archery is open to the public but a club member must be present. All ages are welcome and children up to the age of 15 will be admitted free when accompanied by an adult. Ages 16 and over must pay a \$5 fee for the use of the range. For more information, please call Len at 519-344-7009 or Elsie at 519-867-3940.

## 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 jewellery table as well. All are welcome.

## Garage Sale at Corunna United

Corunna United Church, 198 Hill Street, will host its annual Garage Sale on Saturday, May 7 from 8 a.m. to noon. The event will feature gently used household items. For more information, contact Sylvia at 519-862-1940.

## Elimination draw fundraiser underway

The first draw of the Royal Canadian Legion Corunna Branch 447 Elimination Draw fundraiser will be held on May 7. The final draw will be Sept. 24 and tickets are going fast. They are \$20 each and are available by calling the Legion hall at 519-862-1240. The first prize will be \$2,400.

## Mother's Day Brunch in Brigden

Treat your mother to the Mother's Day Brunch at the Brigden Fairgrounds Exhibition Hall on Sunday, May 8 from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Admission is \$10 per adult, \$5 per child 6-10, and free for children under age five. For more information, contact the fair office at 519-864-1197.

## 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.