



The St. Clair Township BEACON



THE TOWNSHIP
OF ST. CLAIR

Issue 1

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January 2018



Good Neighbour Experience concludes with fellowship and smiles *Results reveal a community of kind hearts*

The final group of Good Neighbours gathered at the St. Clair Township Council chambers on Dec. 4 to receive thanks and spend quality time with like-minded souls. They included, from left: Liz Lovell; Kyla Kennedy; Peggy Jenkins; Peter and Bev Cassel; Cel and Ken Simpson; Penny and Doug Miller; Mayor Steve Arnold; Dave Robinson; John Wilson; and Colleen and John Flesher. Missing was Good Neighbour Kevin Hodgert. *Bonnie Stevenson photo*

By Bonnie Stevenson

The final *Canada 150 Good Neighbour Experience* project reception took place on Dec. 4 during a regular meeting of St. Clair Township Council.

Amid the warm fellowship and smiles, a group of kind-hearted people gathered to receive certificates of appreciation from Mayor Steve Arnold and Council, and to enjoy time with others who view the world as they do - with compassion and optimism.

Good Neighbour Dave Robinson cited the words of wisdom his father shared with him many years ago. "If you can't help someone else, you can't help yourself." Good Neighbour John Wilson wrote about his experience as a crossing guard and the rewards he reaps from keeping children safe. "The kids get across the street safely and the real winner is me," he wrote.

That wisdom has been the basis of peace for centuries, expressed in different ways according to the culture. Buddha put it this way - "If you light a lamp for someone else, it will also brighten your path."

This year, as Canada turned 150 years old, we celebrated not only the birth of our nation, but the peace and privileges we enjoy from living here. One look at the evening news from other parts of the world is enough to spark a feeling of gratitude in any right-thinking Canadian.

Yes, we have our worries. We have our own ideas on how the country should be run. We grumble about the driver that cuts us off at an intersection or the woman who butts into line at the grocery store or the child who won't stop acting up when we're trying to watch our favourite television show.

But we need to remember the man who has no home; the woman who must scrape together a few meager bits of food to keep her family alive; the child who lives without the basics of life.

The Good Neighbour Experience has given us cause for hope in a world where hope seems counterintuitive. Our identified Good Neighbours have seen need and answered it with positive action. We have heard about the kindness of 24 individuals as well as about 180 volunteer firefighters. We have read about the selfless acts of countless other volunteers, generous industries, businesses and individuals in the Beacon and other local publications, and heard about them on radio and television. When you clear away the thick fog of bad news and sensationalist nonsense, you can find cause for hope.

Christmas in St. Clair Township was a clear example of the difference we make with even the smallest donation or cheerful word. Light a lamp for someone in the dark and see how it brightens your own world.

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MUNICIPAL NOTES

Council Meeting Schedule

St. Clair Township Council meets every first and third Monday of the month (with exceptions to accommodate holidays). The next meetings will be held on Monday, Jan. 8 at 5 p.m. following the Committee of the Whole meeting at 3 p.m. and on Monday, Jan. 15 at 6:30 p.m. Anyone wishing to address council should call the municipal office at 519-867-2021 for further information.

Municipal Election 2018

The municipal election is slated for Oct. 22, 2018. St. Clair Township ballots will be mailed out the first week of September. Watch this space for more local information as election day approaches and be sure you are on the voters' list.



Winter parking by-law in effect

The winter parking by-law is now in effect. Motorists are advised that it is against the law to leave vehicles of any kind parked on public streets and roads overnight from 2 a.m. to 6 a.m. This by-law ensures that snow plow crews can do their job efficiently without having to slow down to avoid parked vehicles.

Property owners are also reminded that it is against the law to shovel snow out onto public streets. These snow piles create dangerous obstacles that can contribute to needless vehicle collisions.



Pheasant/Rabbit Hunting Licenses

The Township of St. Clair pheasant/rabbit hunting licenses are now on sale until February 28, 2018. They will be available at the following locations: Pic-N-Pay Variety, Sombra; Courtright Variety Store, Courtright; Corunna Home Hardware, Corunna; Agris Co-operative Ltd, Brigden; St. Clair Civic Centre, Mooretown.

The fees will be \$5.00 for a resident license and \$8.00 for a non-resident license.

Applicants must apply in person and multiple licenses will not be issued.

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

\$2 billion NOVA facility in progress

The big news this month in St. Clair Township and Lambton County in general is the announcement of a \$2 billion investment by NOVA in a new state-of-the-art polyethylene plant and an expanded polyethylene cracker at the company's Corunna site.

The announcement was made in Sarnia on Dec. 7 by NOVA dignitaries, including Naushad Jamani, NOVA's senior vice-president of olefins and feedstock, and Ontario Economic Development Minister Brad Duguid.

For more details on what the new project will mean for St. Clair Township, see NOVA, page 4.

PLAA secures refurbishment of McDonald Park concession building

Council recently approved \$50,000 for much-needed renovations to the concession building at Port Lambton's McDonald Park.

Port Lambton Athletic Association (PLAA) representative Jeremy VanRuymbeke attended the Nov. 20 meeting of council to make a presentation outlining the building's advanced state of disrepair. He noted the building is the sole storage area for all athletes who use the park and it acts as a major point-of-sale during Port Lambton Gala Days, a major annual fundraiser for the local sports leagues and facilities.

Council viewed a number of photographs of areas that require repair or replacement. These include: a new support post for the pavilion, which requires the enlargement of the canteen window and addition of a service ledge; a new water fountain; double doors to the storage area; removal of disconnected plumbing to maximize floor space and eliminate water damage; and a new roof. Mr. VanRuymbeke's rough estimate of the project was about \$43,000, although he had not yet received actual quotes. He assured council that volunteers on the board would pitch in to do all of the labour permitted under the law and expressed hope that the project could get underway as soon as possible so that the structure would be ready for next summer.

New freezers will also be necessary, but Mr. VanRuymbeke says the PLAA is prepared to purchase their own.

The building will also be fully accessible for the disabled when the project is completed.

Council commended the PLAA for the ongoing work its members do to maintain local parks and sports programs.

Be a **Better Recycler** with the **Recycle Coach™ app**

You get:

- A personalized collection schedule
- Custom pick-up reminders
- A 'What Goes Where?' search tool
- And more!

Get it on Google play | Download on the App Store | Search "Recycle Coach"

The St. Clair Township Beacon is issued monthly by St. Clair Township as a public service to township residents. It is edited by Bonnie Stevenson.



**ST CLAIR TOWNSHIP
2018 PROPERTY TAX TENTATIVE DUE DATES**

The 2018 TENTATIVE Interim Tax due dates are

March 1 and May 2, 2018

***Note dates are tentative and may change**

The Interim Tax Notices will be mailed out
the last week in January 2018 with both instalments on it.

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*).

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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 free of charge and encouraged. Find the form at <http://stclairtownship.ca>**

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St. Clair Township Tax Department
519-867-2024
fax: 519-867-5509
taxes@twp.stclair.on.ca

Local artists invited to submit work

Lambton County artists are invited to submit samples of their work to the Judith and Norman Alix Gallery (JNAAG) for inclusion in the upcoming *Look and See 2018* exhibit. Submissions must be made on or before Feb. 18.

This invitation is open to all Lambton County artists who live in and produce their work here, including those who have never shown their work in a formal exhibition. Selected artists will have their work presented in one of two time periods: June 1-17 or July 6-15.

All work must be original and all media will be considered. Those who have had an exhibition at the JNAAG in the past three years or are scheduled to be shown in the next three years are not eligible. However, some accommodation may be made for works that have been shown elsewhere in Lambton County within the past three years.

Submissions must include your artistic statement, an entry fee of \$25 (gallery members can submit free of charge), a USB with jpeg images of up to 12 works or a short video of time-based work, and special installation instructions, if required. All submissions must be mailed to or dropped off at the gallery. No electronic submissions will be accepted. Application forms and submission details are available at the JNAAG website: www.JNAAG.ca

Look and See is an opportunity for artists living in Lambton County to receive a curatorial studio visit, have their art considered for a Pop Up exhibition at the Judith and Norman Alix Art Gallery, and present a public talk and tour about their work.

Correction

In the November Beacon, page 5, the Sew Crazy Girls club meeting place should have been written as the Royal Canadian Legion Corunna Branch 447 hall. Sorry for the confusion.

The Beacon is at your fingertips

*No matter where you are, you can read The Beacon. Back issues are also available online. Go to the St. Clair Township Website: www.stclairtownship.ca and click on **Beacon** on the black bar (top right).*

NOVA Chemicals to build world-class facility in St. Clair Township

By Bonnie Stevenson

St. Clair Township has been named as the site of a new \$2 billion project that will see NOVA Chemicals build a new polyethylene facility and undertake a major expansion of the ethylene cracker, which will be linked to the new facility and will supply 50 per cent more ethylene feedstock.

The project is projected to provide not only construction jobs, but about 150 permanent new jobs. When viewed in the context of the Chemistry Industry's Association of Canada's commonly used "multiplier effect for investments in the manufacturing sector", this translates into five indirect jobs from every direct job. Using this formula, there could be up to 750 new jobs created in the community.

The project was formally announced in Sarnia on Dec. 7, with Provincial Economic Development Minister Brad Duguid, Federal MP Marilyn Gladu, Provincial MP Bob Bailey, and several NOVA dignitaries on hand. The project is underway now, with site preparations clearly visible along the north side of Rokeby Line east of Highway 40, where perimeter berms are being developed and the site is being prepared for construction.



Shown during the announcement are, left; NOVA Director of Regional Manufacturing Tom Thompson; Provincial Economic Development Minister Brad Duguid; NOVA's Senior Vice-President of Olefins and Feedstock Naushad Jamani.

said. The world-scale polyethylene facility will be making the product using NOVA's own proprietary SCLAIRTECH™ technology, developed in St. Clair Township at the Sclair Corunna site. Mr. Jamani pointed out that increased consumer demand for the new polyethylene has created the need for the expanded production facilities.

With the project underway, Mr. Jamani says it will be a busy four years. "There will be lots of construction jobs...and opportunities for our youth looking for jobs in our area."

The new facility will generate approximately one billion pounds of polyethylene per year and it will be only the second of its kind in the world. The first is located in Joffree, Alberta.

Provincial Economic Development Minister Brad Duguid called the announcement, "...a game changer... This puts our chemistry here and across the province on a bright path."

The province contributed \$100 million to the project, which is on record as the second largest manufacturing investment the province has made within the last century. He also pointed out that many locations were considered for the plant before a decision was

made. "This plant was going to be built somewhere in the world and NOVA chose here," he said.

NOVA Director of Regional Manufacturing Tom Thompson was equally enthusiastic about the placement of the new facility in St. Clair Township.

"This is an exciting, historic event for our region," he said. "It's the largest capital investment in this area...in history." He went on to applaud the assistance and support NOVA received from St. Clair Township and other local authorities.

When asked about the environmental impact of the new facility in light of past issues that have cropped up for time to time, Mr. Thompson made it clear that, "...the agreement will not go forward unless the company is in full compliance (with environmental regulations) and partner companies must also comply."

Speaking in response to the news, Sarnia-Lambton Economic Partnership CEO Stephen Thompson said, "This announcement reflects NOVA Chemicals' confidence in the Sarnia-Lambton economy. The economic spin-off of this investment provides our existing businesses with an opportunity to elevate their own service offerings, invest in new and innovative technologies, and look at their own growth strategy with increased confidence."

The new project was welcomed by St. Clair Township Mayor Steve Arnold. He gave credit to the municipal team that has been proactive in investigating opportunities for attracting jobs and facilitating growth within the municipality.

"St. Clair Township Staff and Council have worked very hard to help facilitate this type of growth and to prepare our community for additional investments," he said. "The best part of the whole project is that we will see the latest technology incorporated in the plant, making it a safe and environmentally sound facility for many years to come."

He noted that the proximity of St. Clair Township to the major utilities and amenities that support new development was likely a factor in NOVA's choice.

"I believe there were a number of contributing factors: proximity to markets; adding to an existing portfolio of businesses here; proximity to processing feedstocks; the availability of a safe and highly skilled labour force, including a highly professional engineering presence; and our relatively stable weather system."



Site preparations are clearly visible along the north side of Rokeby Line east of Highway 40, where perimeter berms are being developed and the site is being prepared for construction.

Bonnie Stevenson photos

Canada 150 fly-over benefits 44 Sarnia Imperial Squadron Air Cadets



One feature of the July 1 Canada 150 celebration at the Mooretown Sports Complex was a fly-over by the 403 Honour Flight precision flying team, a group of dedicated private pilots that can often be seen in the skies over Remembrance Day services and events that honour our veterans. The fly-over was delayed by bad weather, with the officials at Chris Hadfield Airport keeping all aircraft grounded until the storm cleared, but the 403 Honour Flight persevered and were eventually given the word to proceed.

The pilots of the 403 Honour Flight offer their services without cost, but an honorarium was proposed and the pilots requested that it be donated to the 44 Sarnia Imperial Squadron Air Cadets to help with the group's preparation for its upcoming 80th anniversary.

On Nov. 28, St. Clair Township Mayor Steve Arnold

attended a regular meeting of the 44 Squadron, meeting with representatives of the 403 Honour Flight and the cadets, who stood in formation as the donation was formally presented.

Above: Capt. G. Mainville, left, stands by as Mayor Arnold presents a certificate of appreciation and the cheque for \$500 to 403 Honour Flight pilots Mark Seibutis and Rick West, with the 44 Squadron Sponsoring Committee Chair Melody Gibson ready to receive the much-appreciated donation.

Mr. Seibutis explained that the team's mission is to pay tribute to all veterans whose sacrifice now gives private pilots the freedom to fly. The team spends many hours of personal time practicing maneuvers to build trust and confidence in each other's flying skills.

Bonnie Stevenson photo

Wanted: Motivated youth looking for rewarding challenges

The Royal Canadian "1st Hussars" Army Cadet Corps Petrolia invites boys and girls ages 12-18 to learn new skills, marksmanship, orienteering, hiking, leadership, pipes and drum band, and teamwork, participate in many new challenges, make new friends and attend great summer camps, all at no cost. Cadets are not required to join the military. Join us today! For more information, call 519-332-6555 or visit: www.petroliacadets.com

Volunteers of all ages brightened lives through Operation Christmas Tree

All through the Christmas season, volunteers around the township collected, assembled, and distributed Christmas hamper of food and toys for the less fortunate families and individuals in St. Clair Township. Operation Christmas Tree in Ward 1 and the Sacred Heart Food Bank in Ward 2 had volunteers of all ages donating their time to the cause.

Top right: A group of Moore Optimist Club "elves" (Audrey Taylor-Cassidy, left, Davida Nimmo, Dorothy Inglis, Lorne Powell, Marilyn Fox, and Peter Grunte) hurry to sort through the donations raised during the Dec. 9 OPP drive-thru and finish assembling over 112 food hampers.

Below right: Don Smith, retired Moore Optimist and volunteer, along with his granddaughters Carolyn McLaughlin, 13, and her sister Mary McLaughlin, 11, sort through the toys to group them and put them into boxes for delivery.

Below center: Sisters Laylah, left, and Stella Leveille from Riverview Central School traded cookies for canned goods to boost their school's Christmas canned food drive. They set up a *Cookies for Cans* table at Rob's No Frills in Corunna on Dec. 9 and collected 268 cans of food. *Submitted photo*

Below: Haley McKinlay, while still in kindergarten at Col. Cameron Public School, started raising money each year for Operation Christmas Tree. This year, this big-hearted Grade 8 student raised about \$1,000, supported by the students and staff at Sir John Moore School. *Submitted photo*



Parkway Church in Corunna offering free clothing; taking donations

Parkway Church at 551 Murray Drive in Corunna is requesting that anyone with gently used children's or adults' clothing to donate should bring it to the church, where a free adult and children's clothing room is now in operation. This clothing can be dropped off

at the front door. Clothing rooms are open every Wednesday evening from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. and Thursdays from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

This program is not based on income and is available to everyone in the community.

Local Ontario Early Years Locations

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

Best Start Hub - Riverview Central School

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

Hours of Operation:

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

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

535 Birchbank Drive, Corunna, 519-862-5071, ext. 224

Hours of Operation: Monday: 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.;

Wednesday: 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

& 1 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.; Friday: 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Brigden United Church,

2420 Jane Street, Brigden

519-892-3151

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

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

HERITAGE CORNER

Christmas organ concert at Moore Museum draws capacity crowd



Jeff Searson entertains on the 1881 reed organ while, below, he explains the operation of the vintage instrument to some curious members of the audience.



The sold out *Sounds of the Season* Christmas organ concert at the Moore Museum filled the 80 seat Trinity Chapel to capacity. Organ virtuosos Rodney Jantzi from Baden, Ontario, and local favourite Jeff Searson, delighted their audience with a wide range of performances on the 1881 reed organ that was fully restored by Mr. Jantzi two years ago. From sacred tunes like *O Come, O Come Emmanuel*, done by Jeff in a number of variations that used additional piano and synthesized flute harmonies, and a gentle Polish lullaby, *Infant Holy*, *Infant Lowly*, to *The Skater's Waltz* and *Jingle Bells*, there was never a dull moment. Singer Lori Jantzi joined her husband at the organ to perform two Christmas carols and audience members were supplied with song booklets so they could add their voices to the mix.

During intermission, the audience was invited to roam the museum, school house, and log cabin, which had been decorated for the season, and to enjoy refreshments and sweet treats.

Photos by Bonnie Stevenson

MORE HERITAGE CORNER

Moore Agricultural Society holds volunteer appreciation dinner

The Moore Agricultural Society paid tribute to two long-time members at its annual volunteer appreciation dinner on Nov. 25. Above: Mary Robinson, this year's Brigden Fair parade marshal, was honoured for her many years of volunteer service as a catering consultant as well as Homecraft Division President in 1993/94. The presentation was made by Homecraft President Michelle Evanitski, left, and MAS President Bill Myers. Donna Taylor, who could not attend the event, was also honoured for three decades of service. The "Apple Lady" as she was called, was a common sight in the Jr. Building during each Brigden Fair, talking to the visitors about apples and keeping a watchful eye out for any mischief that might occur.

Bonnie Stevenson photo



Sombra Museum seeking baseball memorabilia

The Sombra Museum staff and volunteers are working on an exhibit to explore the history of St. Clair Township baseball. Stories, photos, memorabilia, or artefacts like baseball bats, gloves pre-1970 girls/women's baseball uniforms and trophies are being sought to be taken on loan during the 2018 season. Photos and documents can be scanned and returned promptly. A number of much-appreciated items have been received at the museum, including a trophy, pictured left, from Margaret Clancy, who received the award for Most Valuable Player while playing with the 1964 Sombra Blue Denims women's team. A newspaper clipping of the award accompanied it.

If you can help, please call 519-892-3082 or email: sombramuseum@hotmail.com

Retired OPP officer uses experience to address mental health issues

Retired OPP Sgt. John Flesher has seen his share of tragedies during the course of his career and he knows what it's like to become overwhelmed by them. His experience with post traumatic stress disorder, and the path he took to regain his mental health and resume his career, have inspired him to pursue a second career as a mental health counsellor and soon, a Registered Psychotherapist.

He's been preparing for this new endeavour for decades, obtaining a Bachelor's Degrees in Sociology and Criminal Justice Law Enforcement, and currently studying for a Master of Arts in Counselling. And he has recently accepted a position with the Family Counselling Centre in Sarnia where he previously completed an eight-month placement working with clients with anxiety, stress, depression, grief and loss, and post traumatic stress disorder.

John's policing experience included service on the crisis team and the role of crisis negotiator, and placed him in countless high-stress situations. Exposure to horrific scenarios like child deaths and suicides has made him realize that first responders often shy away from asking for help when the job stress closes in on them. "In my 19 years of being a supervisor, I had to attend every crisis situation and every contact leaves a trace. If you're an empathetic person, you bring some of it home with you," he said, adding the he eventually knew he needed help. "I got frustrated at work and broke my hand (punching a steel locker)".

He says he was fortunate to get help working with a psychologist. He was able to heal and return to work, and that's the message he wants to convey to others now that

he is taking on his new career.

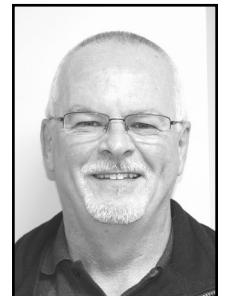
"We really try to emphasize that there is an opportunity for post traumatic growth. Some of us are led to believe we are broken and that our diagnosis is a death sentence. But it is an injury and, like a broken bone, it can heal and we become even stronger with proper care and treatment."

The stigma attached to mental health issues has dissipated to a degree in past years, but John believes there should be as much consideration given to mental health as there is to physical health. He also believes that emergency first responders should feel comfortable seeking assistance for issues that often lead to burn-out. "There are people who accept and understand," he said.

He says the philosophy at the Family Counselling Centre is "strength-based and solution focused". Counsellors work to determine what strategies have worked for their clients in the past and then try to use them to address the problem.

For those who think counselling would be helpful but that it is not affordable, the Family Counselling Centre may be able to arrange funding through a government funding program.

For more information call the Family Counselling Centre at 519-336-0120.



John Flesher

Junior volunteers at Brigden Fair vie for scholarships



The Moore Agricultural Society Volunteer Appreciation event provided a perfect opportunity for the adults to recognize the contributions of the younger volunteers who shared their efforts and energy this year during the Brigden Fair and other events. Seventy-three youth volunteers put in a total of 850 hours of work, and every time they logged time on the job, a ballot in their name was entered for a draw, with the prize of a \$250 education bursary at stake. The random draw resulted in four bursaries being awarded. In past years, a \$1,000 lump sum has been donated to a local charity, but this year, it was decided to award four education bursaries to help the volunteer youth.

Above: Some of the young volunteers attended the volunteer appreciation event and three of the four winners were on hand to receive their bursaries. The winners included, from left: Emma Ouellette, Adam Fiddler, and Morgan MacRae. Missing from the photo is bursary winner Faith Tanghe.

Right: Junior volunteer Curtis Vandendool receives a special token of appreciation for his tireless efforts during the Brigden Fair. "He was always ready to help. He looked for work to do," said presenter, Julie Maw

Bonnie Stevenson photos



LEGION

Legion service officer available

Assistance for Veterans and Spouses available

Do you know someone who is living on the street or who might benefit from the "Soldier On" program? Are you interested in finding out if you qualify for assistance with problems like housekeeping, snow

clearing, grass cutting, hearing aids or other medical assistance? For information call the Royal Canadian Legion Corunna Branch at 519-862-1240 or the Brigden Branch at 519-864-1395, or Veteran Service Officer Shawn MacNeil at 519-383-9386.

COMMUNITY CONTACT

Down River Jr. Optimist Club seeks members

New members are being sought for the Down River Jr. Optimist Club. Youth between the ages of 10 and 18 are invited to get involved with the community and make a difference for kids. The club meets at the Port Lambton Community Hall on the third Monday of each month. High school students can acquire volunteer hours needed for graduation. For more information, call Carla at 226-402-3870.

Corunna Legion 8th Annual Elimination Draw

The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 447 Corunna is now selling tickets for its 8th Annual Elimination Draw. The cost is \$20 per ticket and they can be purchased at the Legion hall. First prize is \$2,400. Weekly draws will be held May 5 through Sept. 15 and chosen tickets will be returned to the drum. The official draw event will be held on Saturday, Sept. 22 and **only 350 tickets will be sold.**

Volunteers needed for 1st Corunna Cub Scouts

The First Corunna Cub Scouts group is looking for volunteers. This would be a great opportunity for high school students to gain their volunteer hours and for retirees to share their experience and skills. The variety of volunteer positions and opportunities include fundraising, administrative tasks, camp cooks, supply coordinators, sewing, and helping run weekly meetings. Anyone interested in volunteering can contact Andrea Lane at 519-381-2556 or by email at:

andrealane@live.ca

Taoist Tai Chi coming to Corunna

Weekly Taoist Tai Chi classes are held at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church hall, 437 Colborne Drive in Corunna on Wednesdays from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Beginners are welcome. Tai Chi is a gentle art that can offer health benefits for every age and for many health issues. The group is a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting the health benefits of the Taoist Tai Chi arts by making them available to all who want to learn. For more information about tai chi or class times, call 519-344-0346.

Loose change can make a big change

Just a little loose change can help to make a big change on the St. Clair Trail. The *Pennies for Pavement* program helps pay for trail maintenance. Just drop it off at the following locations: 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

Become a community builder as an Optimist Club member

The Sombra Optimist Club is looking for new members who want to help their community thrive. This

volunteer organization exists to make their community a better place by doing great things for the youth in their area. Be a friend of youth - join the Optimist Club of Sombra. For more information or to become a member, call Carla Aarssen at 519-892-3536.

New members welcome - Lambton County Jr. Optimists

The Lambton County Junior Optimist Club is always on the lookout for youth who want to make a difference in their community. Club members ages 10 through 18 volunteer in the community and fundraise to put on their own programs and to donate to other youth programs. Hours spent volunteering with 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 United Church activities/services

Brigden United Church holds regular Sunday services at 10:30 a.m. (10 a.m. July and August). The church will also host **Messy Church** September through May (except December) every last Tuesday of the month from 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. It introduces children to a faith-based life in a fun and informal way, and includes a relaxed evening with an interactive Bible story, crafts and supper. Children must bring an adult. And the **Mom and Tots Drop-in** is held at the church every Friday morning from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. (excludes July and August). The program is sponsored by Sombra Rural Child Care. For more information, call 519-892-3151. And don't forget to check out Brigden United Church on Facebook.

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 Our Lady of Mercy Church rectory hall at the corner of Christina and London Road (entry off London Road) in Sarnia. For more information, contact Rita at 519-867-2932. **Please note the change of location.**

Local TOPS weight control group meetings

TOPS weight loss groups help members sensibly take off and keep off pounds. Three TOPS groups hold meetings in the St. Clair Township area and everyone (all ages) is welcome to attend. **Brigden TOPS** hold 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. **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. **TOPS Corunna** meets every Tuesday at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church at 437 Colborne Street in Corunna. Weigh-in is 6:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. with a short meeting from 7 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. For more information, call Wendy at 519-381-5584.

Don't be caught unprepared when emergencies strike

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS BEGINS AT HOME

Often, disasters seem like a remote possibility - they always seem to happen somewhere else. At anytime however, in any community, a natural or human-caused disaster may occur, requiring a large scale, coordinated response. Police, fire, public health, social services, public works, emergency medical services and municipal officials may need to work together to prepare and respond to the incident and protect the public.

You can also play a part during an emergency and prepare for your own safety and the safety of your family. Begin by learning about the potential risks and hazards in your community and then make sure everyone in your family knows what to do before, during and after disaster strikes. Also, prepare to be self-sufficient for at least 72 hours during an emergency. By doing so, you can help your community by helping yourself. Prepare for emergencies before they happen, you'll be better able to respond when the unexpected happens.

DURING AN EMERGENCY

Here are some important tips to keep in mind during an emergency:

- ⇒ Tune to a local radio station and listen for information and instructions from emergency officials. Do as emergency officials advise and stay away from the disaster scene. Be prepared to relocate if you are advised to do so and follow all instructions carefully.
The main local radio stations serving Lambton County are:
1070 AM CHOK / 103.9 FM CHOK
99.9 FOX FM
K106.3 FM
- ⇒ Visit a news media or municipal website for information and instructions.
- ⇒ Do not call 9-1-1 looking for information about an emergency. Call 9-1-1 to report an emergency or if you or someone else needs police, fire, or medical assistance. If you are looking for information following or during a major emergency, Ontario 211 will be activated by County or municipal officials to handle information calls from residents. Simply dial 2-1-1 to connect to a call-taker.
- ⇒ Do not use your telephone (either land-line or cellular) unless it is absolutely necessary (i.e. you are calling for assistance or checking on the welfare of someone who might be in trouble). Telephone usage often soars during disasters or crises but telephone systems are not designed to allow every customer to use their phones at once. If telephone networks are overwhelmed, people in need of assistance might not be able to reach 9-1-1, and emergency responders might not be able to communicate with one another.
- ⇒ Keep your 72 Hour Emergency Supplies Kit handy when you have to take shelter (i.e. during a tornado warning).

72 Hour Supply Kit

One of the best ways you can prepare for emergencies is to have enough supplies at home to feed and take care of you and your family for at least three days. This is called a 72 Hour Emergency Supplies Kit.

If you are advised to leave your home or stay inside for a period of time, having some essential supplies on hand will make you and your family more comfortable. To prepare for an emergency, assemble a Kit and store the items in an easy-to-carry container such as a duffel bag or plastic storage bin. That way, everything will be kept together and, if you have to leave your home, you will easily be able to take your Kit with you. Store your Kit in an accessible location such as a closet shelf on the main floor. Your Emergency Supplies Kit should have enough food, water and basic needs that will keep your household self-sufficient for at least three days. Below is a link to a 3:45 minute video provided by Public Safety Canada that explains how to create an Emergency Supplies Kit.

Your kit should include the following items:

- ⇒ "special needs" items for any member of your household (i.e. baby formula, diapers, prescription medication etc.)
- ⇒ first-aid supplies (bandages, adhesive tape, antibiotic ointment, antiseptic towelettes, cleansing agent or soap, cold pack, eyewash solution, cotton swabs, disposable gloves, gauze pads, hydrogen

peroxide, lip balm etc.)

- ⇒ a change of clothing for each household member (footwear as well)
- ⇒ candles and matches or lighter
- ⇒ a sleeping bag or bedroll for each household member (in case you have to evacuate)
- ⇒ flashlight and batteries
- ⇒ battery-powered radio and extra batteries
- ⇒ duct tape
- ⇒ non-perishable food (this should be replaced every year)
- ⇒ bottled water
- ⇒ whistle (in case you need to attract someone's attention)
- ⇒ playing cards or games
- ⇒ toilet paper and other personal care supplies
- ⇒ extra car and house keys
- ⇒ extra cash (change too - for vending machines etc.) and copies of important family documents (birth certificates, passports and licenses). Copies of essential documents should also be kept in a safe location outside your home - in a safe deposit box or the home of a friend or family member who lives out of town is a good idea.

Your 72 Hour Emergency Supplies Kit could prove to be very useful if electricity is lost or weather keeps you from leaving your home. You should bring your Kit if you are advised to evacuate, so include any other items you think you might need. Being organized and having essential and comfort items with you will lessen the stress of evacuating.

PETS & EMERGENCIES

Caring for Your Pet During an Emergency

Past emergencies have shown that families with pets need to plan how they will take care of them during a crisis. If time and safety permit, take your pet with you! Pets should not be left behind during an evacuation because they could be lost, injured or even killed as a result of the emergency.

Have an Emergency Supplies Kit for Pets!

Just as you should prepare an emergency supplies kit for you and your family, prepare an emergency kit for your pet(s) to keep them comfortable for at least seven days including: food and water, bowls, blanket, an up-to-date ID tag with your phone number and the name/phone number of your veterinarian. *Emergency supply requirements vary for different kinds of pets. Should you have questions about the care of your pet and the items that should be included in their emergency supplies kit, please refer to the web links at the bottom of this page, or contact your veterinarian.*

-For complete instructions on home safety during an emergency, go online to EmergenciesLambton.ca

YMCA now hiring Early Childhood Educators



The YMCA is now hiring part-time/casual Early Childhood Educators and support staff in the Sarnia/Lambton County, Chatham-Kent, and Huron regions. For details, visit www.ymcaswo.ca/careers

*Stay current with what's happening in
St. Clair Township. Find information
and The Beacon at:
www.stclairtownship.ca*

1st Corunna Scouting gets closer to nature camping near Parkhill



Seventeen young members of 1st Corunna Scouting, as well as 10 leaders, enjoyed an autumn camping trip to Parkhill on Nov. 18. The second annual outing got campers closer to nature and set them on the path to bigger, better campouts.
Submitted photo

Township libraries update

Lambton County Library's annual Spread The Words program begins on Jan. 27 at all branches. This event encourages families to read together and discover the wonderful world of books. Authors featured this year are the late Amy Krouse Rosenthal for children age eight and under, and Avi, an author for older children. Books listed on the Freedom To Read Challenge book list are also included.

This event begins on Family Literacy Day, celebrates World Read Aloud Day on Feb. 1, and finishes on the last day of Freedom To Read Week on Saturday, March 3. Participants have an opportunity to win prizes by entering their name in a draw for each book read independently or together as a family. Entries can be submitted through the library's website at www.lclibrary.ca or by filling out a ballot at your local library branch.

Prizes include: one prize pack of books by Amy Krouse Rosenthal with a fun family activity in the County; one prize pack of books by Avi with a fun family activity in the County; two \$25 gift cards for Book Keeper or Forest Theatre for the adults.

Freedom To Read Week is an annual event encouraging Canadians to be aware of books and magazines that have been challenged or removed from libraries, schools, and book

stores, and to reaffirm their commitment to intellectual freedom. For more information, visit www.freedomtoread.ca

New preschool sessions begin the week of Jan. 15 at most Lambton County Library branches.

All branches will be closed on Monday, Jan. 1 and Monday, Feb. 19.

The **Makerspace** program continues at St. Clair Township library branches. The public has free access to this equipment but some of the equipment requires attendance at a workshop before being used independently. Pre-registration is required.

The schedule is as follows: **BRIGDEN**- littleBits - Wednesday, Jan. 17, 4-5 p.m.; Silhouette & Craft Circuits - Wednesday, Feb. 14, 4-5 p.m. **CORUNNA** - Dash & Dot - Monday, Jan. 8, 4:30-5:30 p.m.; Sewing Machine & Soft Circuits - Monday, Feb. 5, 4:30-5:30 p.m. **COURTRIGHT** - Sewing Machine & Soft Circuits, Thursday, Jan. 18, 7-8 p.m.; Ozobots - Thursday, Feb. 15, 7-8 p.m. **MOORETOWN** - Sewing Machine & Soft Circuits - Monday, Jan. 8, 7-8 p.m.; Ozobots - Monday, Feb. 5, 7-8 p.m. **PORT LAMBTON** - Sphero - Thursday, Jan. 25, 6:30-7:30 p.m.; Necomimi & Mindwave - Thursday, Feb. 22, 6:30-7:30 p.m. **SOMBRA** - Ozobots - Thursday, Jan. 25, 4-5 p.m.; Sphero - Thursday, Feb. 22, 4-5 p.m. **WILKESPORT** - Necomimi & Mindwave - Wednesday, Jan. 17, 6:30-7:30 p.m.; littleBits - Wednesday, Feb. 14, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

2017-2018 Mooretown Flags Home Schedule

The season is winding down but the action continues. Check out this home ice schedule and be in the arena as the team continues its bid for the championship.

Wednesday, Jan. 3, Lakeshore, 8 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 13, Amherstburg, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 20, Dresden, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 3, Blenheim, 7:30 p.m.

Mooretown Sports Complex

Winter swimming lessons offered

Register now for Winter swimming lessons. Choose from private lessons, group, adult, and parent and tot programs. Lessons begin the week of Jan. 8, 2018 so call today to reserve your place. The Winter brochure is available online at: www.stclairtownshipcommunityservices.ca

Spinning classes for everyone

Spinning classes are offered here! Join our certified spinning instructors for a great workout to improve your cardiovascular endurance, muscular strength, and power. Join any time for a 12 week session for \$10 per class or buy a 10 pass admission for \$80. Morning Spin classes are held on Tuesdays or Thursdays from 7:00 p.m. - 7:45am. If you're a beginner, there are classes designed for you on Tuesday Evenings from 7:15 p.m. - 8 p.m. If you're looking for strength training combined with a spin workout, come to the Bikes and Bells class on Monday or Wednesday evenings from 5:00 p.m. - 6:00pm, or Friday from 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

Muscle Mix group fitness classes

The Muscle Mix group fitness class includes kettlebell training to build lean muscles, improve strength and power in the upper body, core, and lower body, and increase coordination, joint mobility, and overall endurance. Classes are Wednesday at 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. Cost is \$6 per class or \$5 per class per senior, \$45 for a 10 visit pass, or \$255 per year for a full fitness membership.

Cardio Kick Boxing

The Cardio Kick Boxing fitness class is a high energy cardio workout with martial arts moves to get your metabolism revving. Classes are Monday from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. Cost is \$6 per class or \$5 per class per senior, \$45 for a 10 visit pass, or \$255 per year for a full fitness membership.

Shallow and Deep Water Aerobics

Experience and enjoy the rejuvenating power of water. Programs include a variety of exercises that target posture, muscular endurance, strength, cardiovascular, flexibility, and balance. Shallow water classes are Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m., and Tuesday and Thursday from 8 p.m. to 9 p.m. Deep water classes are Monday and Wednesday from 8 p.m. to 9 p.m. Cost is \$6 per class or \$5 per class per senior, \$45 for a

10 visit pass, \$205 per year or \$195 per year per senior, or included with the full \$255 per year full fitness membership.

Water Therapy - arthritis and fibromyalgia water exercise

This program includes cardiovascular training, functional fitness, muscular endurance and strength, and balance and flexibility training with a goal of improved mobility. Classes are Tuesday and Thursday from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. Cost is \$6 per class or \$5 per class per senior, or \$45 for a 10 visit pass. Join any time.

Shinny Hockey Is Back!

Adult shinny hockey is held every Tuesday morning at 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. The cost is \$5 per person.

Public Skating

Public skating will be held on Sundays from 1 p.m. to 2:15 p.m. The cost will be \$2.25 per child, \$3.25 per adult, and \$6.50 per family. **Cancelled public skating are set for Nov. 19 and 26, Dec. 24 and 31, Jan. 7 and 28, and Feb. 25.** The last public skate will be on Sunday, March 25, 2018.

Parents, Tots, and Seniors Skate - Free!

The free parents, tots, and seniors skate will be held on Wednesdays and Thursdays from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m.

Lifeguard and Swimming Instructor Courses

Become a lifeguard or swimming instructor. Contact the Mooretown Sports Complex for more information.

Free - Indoor walking/low impact exercise program

Indoor walking, low impact exercise is offered each week on Mondays and Wednesdays between 9 a.m. and 10 a.m. This program is provided by the West Lambton Community Health Centre. For more information, call 519-344-3017, ext. 237. Begins Oct. 2.

For more information or to register for any of these programs, contact the Mooretown Sports Complex at 519-867-2651. Find us online at: www.stclairtownshipcommunityservices.ca

West Lambton Community Health Centre programs

The West Lambton Community Health Centre offers the following two programs in St. Clair Township.

Cooking Buddies for kids

This free series of children's cooking classes for ages 6-12 focuses on nutritious recipes, learning to read a recipe, learning to measure, kitchen safety, and clean up, and the get to eat a meal together. Programs are offered in Brigden, Corunna and Port Lambton. Spaces are limited. Call 519-344-3017, ext. 237 for more information to register for these free classes.

Low impact exercise classes

Low impact exercise classes are offered free of charge in two St. Clair Township locations. The classes are now being held at the Mooretown Sports Complex, 1166 Emily Street, on Mondays and Wednesdays from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. until April, 2018.

Classes are also being held at the Brigden Fairgrounds exhibition hall on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

For information about these programs, call 519-344-3017, ext. 237.

Rapids Family Health Team

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 for each one you take. Please note that 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 next sessions, led by a Nurse Educator, will be held on the following dates: Tuesday, Jan. 16, 9:30-11:30 a.m.; Tuesday, Feb. 13, 1:30-3:30 p.m.; Tuesday, March 20, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

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 your blood sugar levels, reading food labels, when and how much to eat, and how to increase your physical activity level. The next sessions, led by a Registered Nurse, will be held on the following dates: Tuesday, Jan. 23, 9:30-11:30 a.m.; Wednesday, Feb. 21, 1:30-3:30 p.m.; Tuesday, March 27, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

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. The next sessions will be held on the following dates: Friday, Jan. 12, 9:30-11:30 a.m.; Monday, Feb. 12, 2-4 p.m.; Friday, March 23, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Healthy Eating and You

There will be two separate Healthy Eating and You programs, each running for four weeks. The aim of this series of four two-hour sessions 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 that will help you learn from the experiences of others. This program is open to the public and no physician referral is required. The first program will be held Thursdays, on Jan. 11, Jan. 18, Jan. 25, and Feb. 1, from 10

a.m. to noon. The second program will be held Wednesdays, on Feb. 28, March 7, March 14, and March 21 from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. *Patients must attend the first class in order to attend the final three classes.

Quit Smoking Workshop

This is a two-hour session for people who are thinking about quitting or are ready to quit using tobacco. The discussion will include strategies and methods for quitting, such as cutting back, using nicotine replacement therapy, and using prescribed medications. The session will also include finding ways to overcome barriers to quitting, how to make a quit plan, managing withdrawal symptoms, and how to prevent a relapse. This workshop is open to the public; no physician referral is required. Participants are also welcome to schedule individual appointments to receive further support and information from one of the nurse educators. Sessions are planned for: Tuesday, Jan. 9, 1:30-3:30 p.m.; Tuesday, Feb. 6, 9:30-11:30 a.m.; and Tuesday, March 6, 1:30-3:30 p.m.

Teaching kitchen

Healthy cooking classes will not only help you build your knowledge of healthy eating, but also help you apply them in a friendly group setting. A wide range of health conditions and topics include: 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. The next classes are slated for: Wednesday, Jan. 17, 1-3 p.m.; Thursday, Feb. 15, 1-3 p.m.; Tuesday, March 20, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Note: Class dates, times, and location within Corunna is subject to change/cancellation depending on number of patient registrations.

Laboratory

Services offered

Laboratory services at the clinic
are available

Monday through Friday from
7:30 a.m. to 11:15 a.m.

New patients being accepted

A family medical practice is in operation at the Shell Health Centre (Rapids Family Health Team), 233 Cameron Street, in Corunna. Applications are available by calling 519-813-9800.

Rapids Family Health Team seeks volunteers for new program

Volunteers are needed to help with a Boosting Balance program to be held in Corunna through the Rapids Family Health Team this spring. This is a two-hour commitment once a week for four weeks. Anyone interested in volunteering can call Cynthia McColeman at 519-402-5274 or email: cmccoleman@rapidsfhteam.ca No experience is necessary. Volunteers will be trained.

MORE AROUND THE TOWNSHIP

From page 16

ed for the Corunna United Church on Thursday, Feb. 15 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Proceeds will benefit the Canadian Heart and Stroke Foundation.

Yuk Yuk's on Tour at Corunna Legion

Coming up in the New Year is the Yuk Yuk's on Tour show at the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 447 Corunna wheelchair accessible hall. The show is slated for Saturday, Feb. 17 with doors open at 8 p.m. and the show starting at 9 p.m. Advanced tickets will be available at the Legion for \$20 beginning on Nov. 13 or at the door for \$25, and only 200 tickets are available. These tickets would make a great stocking stuffer or Valentine's gift. For more information call 519-862-1240.

Cinderella Story prom dress drive planned

The Cinderella Story of Sarnia-Lambton will hold its annual Prom Dress Drive from February 5-12. Donations will be accepted at The Co-operators office, 197 Hill Street, Unit C, in Corunna. For more drop-off locations, visit

www.cinderellasarnia.org

Please note that dresses must be 2015 or newer, and be clean and in excellent condition.

Women's & Men's Recreational Non-competitive hockey tourney set

The Women's and Men's Recreational Non-competitive hockey tournament will be held at the Progressive Auto Sales Arena in Sarnia on April 22 to 23. This will be the 8th Annual Women's 18 and Over tourney and the 7th Annual Men's 19 and Over tourney. All divisions will have a Friday evening start. The entry deadline will be March 31. For more information contact Ed Marcy at 519-344-8624 (emarcy@sympatico.ca) or Lance Marcy at 519-344-2205 (lmarcy@cogeco.ca). Applications are available at: www.bluewatersharkshockey.com

Brigden Legion donates to Brigden Optimists Children's Christmas party



The Royal Canadian Legion Brigden Branch 635 recently donated a cheque to the Optimist Club of Brigden in support of the Optimist Children's Christmas party. Accepting the donation are Brigden Optimists Calvin Nesbitt, Denise Annett, and Larry Mitchell.

Submitted photo

Masons donate to Sacred Heart food bank



The St. Clair Masonic Lodge in Sombra recently donated toys and a cheque for \$1,125 to the Sacred Heart Food Bank. The funds were raised through numerous charity events held by the lodge members. Here, Mason Chris Dobbelaar presents the cheque to Sacred Heart Food Bank representative Frank Johnston. Masons Harry Barons and Adrian Kloet were also in attendance.

Submitted photo

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Sarnia-Lambton

AROUND THE TOWNSHIP

Euchre at Sombra Community Hall

Euchre will be played at Sombra Community Hall on Fridays on the following dates: Jan. 5, 12, 19, 26; Feb. 2, 9, 16, 23; March 9, 16, 23; April 6, 13, 20, 27; May 4, 11, 18.

Brigden Legion hosts meat raffles

The Royal Canadian Legion Brigden Branch 635 will host a series of meat raffles on the following Saturdays: Jan. 6, 20; Feb. 3, 17; March 3, 17, 31; April 14, 28. Come out and meet old and new friends, relax, and support your local Legion. A free luncheon is provided. The Legion is open to everyone including children supervised by an adult.

Meat draws in Sombra

The Optimist Club of Sombra Township hosts meat draws at Rum Runners Speakeasy in Sombra from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Wednesdays, Jan. 10 and Jan. 24. All proceeds will help fund the local youth-focused initiatives of the Sombra Optimist Club. New members are always welcome. The club meets the first Monday of every month at the Port Lambton Community Hall, with dinner starting at 7 p.m. For more information about the club or its affiliated Down River Junior Optimist Club for youth ages 8 to 18 can contact Club President Johanne at 519-331-5737.

Celtic Ceilidh at Corunna United Church

The Amicitia Club of Corunna United Church will host the 4th Annual Celtic Ceilidh on Friday, Jan. 19. A roast beef dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m. with entertainment by *Christine Storey and Friends*. The cost is \$30 per person. For tickets, contact Lloyd at 519-384-0782 or Allan at 519-862-1040.

Weekly Souper Thursdays in Corunna

The Parkway Church, located at 551 Murray Drive in Corunna, hosts a FREE *Souper*

Thursday community lunch every week from noon to 1 p.m. Everyone is welcome to come to the church and enjoy a homemade lunch to eat in or take out. Those who require assistance can call 519-862-3380 to have lunch delivered. For more information, contact the church online at: parkwaychurchmichelle@gmail.com

Cruickshank Community Centre hosts weekly activities

The Cruickshank Community Centre hosts two popular activities each week. Morning coffee socials run from Monday to Saturday from 8:30 a.m. to 10 a.m. and everyone is welcome. And *euchre nights* are held on Tuesdays at 7 p.m. The cost is \$3 per session, which includes light refreshments.

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.

Weekly fun slated for Corunna Legion Br. 447

The Royal Canadian Legion Corunna Branch 447 has four weekly fun events open to everyone. Every Thursday at 1 p.m., fun cribbage is played. On Fridays at 1 p.m., it's time for fun bridge. Don't know how to play? Come on out and learn from those who do. On Friday nights, enjoy Meat Darts starting at 7:30 p.m. And every Saturday at 4 p.m., get in on the meat draw, with all meat coming from Foodland. The cost is \$1 per stick. Join the fun, enjoy a beverage and comradery, and maybe even take home dinner.

LEO exercise for seniors in Sombra

Lambton Elderly Outreach continues to offer Forever Fit exercise classes for seniors at Sombra community hall. Classes are Mondays and Thursdays at 9 a.m., and Tuesdays at 10 a.m. Chair exercise is offered at 10 a.m. on Mondays and Thursdays. Everyone age 55 and older are welcome. Shoes with a good tread are required.

Soups On Luncheon in Corunna

The 3rd annual Soups On luncheon is slated-



CONTACT
THE BEACON

If you have a non-profit or charity event or activity coming up in St. Clair Township, or an event that will benefit the residents of the township, you may promote it free of charge here in The Beacon.

The deadline for Beacon submissions is the third Monday of each month by noon.

E-mail: beacon@twp.stclair.on.ca

Please note: Photos submitted on deadline day cannot be guaranteed a place in the current issue.

See More, page 15