



The St. Clair Township

BEACON

Discoveries
That Matter

Issue 1

Volume 12

January 2019

THE TOWNSHIP
OF ST. CLAIR



LOTS OF LOVE COMING AT YOU! Good cheer and lots of love should have been the theme of the Courtright volunteer firefighters' annual Christmas event on Dec. 2. Two hay wagons filled with children of all ages toured around the town picking up more children for a ride back to the firehall. At their destination, the kids enjoyed hot dogs and hot chocolate plus a visit with jolly old Santa Claus.

While waiting for the ride to begin, three-year-old Cassidy spent her time showering her mom, Ellissa, with Christmas kisses while Emily, 10, enjoyed the fun. More on page 7.

Photos by Bonnie Stevenson



46th Annual Mooretown Juvenile Silver Stick Finals

January 3 - 6, 2019

Mooretown Sports Complex



INSIDE



Municipal
Notes
Page 2,3

Works Dept.
Notices
Page 4,5

Heritage
Corner
Page 8

Mooretown
Sports
Complex
Page 15

Community
Contact
Page 17

Around
The
Township
Pages 19, 20



MUNICIPAL NOTES

Council Meeting Schedule

TENTATIVE TIMES for January St. Clair Township Council meetings are Monday, Jan. 7 at 6:00 p.m. and Monday, Jan. 21 at 5:30 p.m. following the Committee of the Whole meeting at 3:00 p.m.

Anyone wishing to address council should call the municipal office at 519-867-2021 for further information or to be put on the agenda.

Please note that these dates are accurate at press time but are subject to change.



2019-2022 council is now in session

St. Clair Township CAO John Rodey presents fourth-term Mayor Steve Arnold with the chain of office at the inaugural meeting of the newly elected council on Dec. 3.



Pheasant/rabbit hunting licences

The Township of St. Clair pheasant/rabbit hunting licenses are now on sale. They will be available at the following locations: Courtright Variety Store, Courtright; Corunna Home Hardware, Corunna; Agri Co-operative Ltd, Brigiden; St. Clair Civic Centre, Mooretown.

The fees will be \$5.00 for a resident license and \$8.00 for a non-resident license. They will be on sale until Feb. 28, 2019. Applicants must apply in person and multiple licenses will not be issued.

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



Notice of 2019 Capital Budget Meeting

St. Clair Township 2019 Capital Budget presentation and deliberation meeting will be held on Thursday, January 17, 2019 in the Council Chambers starting at 5:00 p.m. The budget meeting is open to the public and all ratepayers are welcome to attend.

Charles Quenneville
Director of Finance



Winter parking by-law in force

The winter parking by-law is now in effect. Under this by-law, 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.



ST. CLAIR TOWNSHIP

2019 TENTATIVE INTERIM PROPERTY TAX DUE DATES

The Interim tax due dates are
February 27, 2019 and April 29, 2019

****Please take note of the earlier due dates, in February & April****

The following methods of Tax Payments may be utilized:

- Automatic Bank Machines
- Telephone & Internet Payments through your bank
- Payment at most Financial Institutions (*any bank charges will be the responsibility of the ratepayer*)
- Post dated cheques
- Counter services, cash, cheque or debit (*credit cards not accepted*)
- Mail to, or
- Drop Box at 1155 Emily St. Mooretown Ontario N0N 1M0

Pre-authorized payment plans are also available and encouraged; please visit our website at <http://stclairtownship.ca/>

St. Clair Township Tax Department

519-867-2024

fax: 519-867-5509

taxes@twp.stclair.on.ca

New St. Clair Township Council sworn in



The new St. Clair Township Council for 2019-2022 was sworn in during a ceremony at the St. Clair Township Civic Centre on Dec. 3. Back row left: Councillors Bill Myers, Jim DeGurse, Tracy Kingston, Deputy Mayor Steve Miller, Councillors Roses Atkins and Pat Brown. Seated left: CAO John Rodey; Mayor Steve Arnold; Clerk Jeff Baranek.

Below: The choir from Sir John Moore Community School sings *Oh Canada*.

Bonnie Stevenson photos



Find The Beacon online

*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).*



Public Works Dept. Notices

Contact Information

Public Works/Roads...519-867-2993

Engineering.....519-867-2125

Website..... www.stclairtownship.ca

After hours emergency
~ 519-344-9318 ~

Water billing.....519-867-2128

Fax.....519-867-3886

Civic Centre, 1155 Emily Street, Mooretown



Water utility appointments require 48 hours notification

St. Clair Township By-Law 41 of 2017 user fees requires that property owners provide at least 48 hours in advance of scheduling appointments with the Public Works department to avoid service fees.

Changes to recycling collection January 1, 2019

Beginning January 1, 2019, recycling will only be collected in blue recycling boxes. ***Clear or blue bags will no longer be accepted.*** Blue boxes are available to purchase at the Civic Centre and will be sold at a reduced price of \$5.75 starting September 1, 2018 until January 1, 2020.

NEEDED! Crossing guards - St. Clair Township

The Township of St. Clair requires a fill-in crossing guard to assist school children crossing in Brigden. The work involves one hour in the morning and one hour in the afternoon on school days. The current compensation is \$30.55 per day. This position will be on a "call in" basis and hours will vary widely depending on need. Please send applications to public-works@twp.stclair.on.ca or in person at the Civic Centre.

Clear the road!

All homeowners are reminded to clear recreational sports equipment (e.g. basketball nets, goal nets, etc.) off and away from roads and streets. Please contact St. Clair Township Public Works with any questions.

Courtright WWTP Odour Control Project and Final Effluent Reuse System

St. Clair Township is in the process of upgrading the Odour Control System and installing a Final Effluent Reuse System at the Courtright WWTP. The township has been approved for funding through the FCM (Federation of Canadian Municipalities) grant to assist with the costs. Some of the benefits from these projects include:

- Improvement to public health
- Improvement to the community's quality of life
- Reduction of off-site odours
- Positive impact on nearby land and residents
- Increase in home value on neighbouring properties
- Reduction in water consumption (estimated to be reduced by up to 80%)
- Decrease in facility operating and maintenance costs
- Operational improvements from the newly installed systems

The Courtright WWTP Odour Control Project is projected to be completed by **spring 2019**.

Tours of the facility are expected to be planned for late spring 2019.

During construction you may notice increased traffic on site.



St. Clair River Trail winter closure

The St. Clair River Trail will be closed annually from Nov. 30 to April 15. No winter maintenance will be completed during this period under By-Law 45 of 2018.



Attention Residents!

We have 1048 residents using our Recycling app.
Help us get to 2019 in 2019! Download the App!
For your complete waste & recycling information

recyclecoach™



More Public Works Dept. Notices

Continued from page 4

Public Works has gone
MOBILE
to better serve our community



We have migrated to an Enterprise Operations Management System with mobile capability.

Bringing Value to You!

- Achieving Service Level Targets
- Integrating Mapping, Scheduling, and Asset Management
- Tracking Inspections, Maintenance, Installations and Repairs
- Optimizing Infrastructure Investments

To ensure Public Assets are Functional, Safe and managed Effectively and Efficiently

Asset Management FCM Funding Update

\$50k Funding Received, upon successful completion of our project objectives, to increase the Municipality's overall Asset Management readiness. This was accomplished in the areas of;

- Building an Asset Management Framework
- Migration of CMMS to an Enterprise Operations Management System
- Education/Training and Operational Improvements

Work included the establishment of a Steering Committee, Policy Creation, and Level of Service documentation. Migrating and implementing a new Operations Management System along with multidiscipline Asset Management awareness training and education.

**BEFORE YOU
DIG**
call *Ontario One
Call*
1-800-400-2255
It could save you
money and save
your life.

If you're planning to dig anywhere on your property, all it will take is one simple call to make sure the buried pipes and cable under the surface will not be damaged or severed. Cutting a power cable or gas line can be a dangerous thing for you or whoever is doing the work, and any infrastructure that is damaged could prove costly for you.

Find township information and *The Beacon* at:
www.stclairtownship.ca

Public input sought to get consensus on hunting season for cormorants

In the summer, the double-crested cormorant is a regular visitor to this area, but its presence has led some people to believe it is a threat to the environment. Fishermen say the bird is reducing the fish population and some say the acidity of its droppings kills trees and vegetation.

The provincial government is now considering classifying the cormorant as a game bird and introducing a nine-month hunting season. Hunters with an outdoors card and a small game licence would be able to kill up to 50 per day, with no possession limit. If approved, hunters would be able to leave the dead birds where they fall. This is not allowed with other game birds.

St. Clair Township's extensive waterfront attracts hundreds of cormorants during the summer season and Mayor Steve Arnold recently weighed in about this controversial issue.

"Cormorants and their destruction of trees, etc., has been the concern of many groups over the years. My understanding is that their numbers have only recently (past 20 years) increased substantially because of a cleaner environment, better fishing and no real natural predators. They are part of the balance of nature and as

such, I have no issue with hunting them as a game bird and utilizing them for food. However my personal belief is that it is not right to mass slaughter them and leave their carcasses to rot. This, in my mind, is not an acceptable practice."



Double-crested cormorants in Sombra

To contribute your comments to the conversation, go online to the Environmental Registry of Ontario at <https://ero.ontario.ca/> by Dec. 3.

Pembina continues investment in community projects

By Bonnie Stevenson

The roof system of the aging Moore Sports Complex in St. Clair Township is in dire need of replacement and the price tag has been a major cause for concern for the municipal council.

To help with the cost, Pembina Pipeline Corporation recently committed a \$150,000 donation to the project. The donation, which will be paid over the next two years, was recognized on Dec. 2 with a presentation at the Mooretown complex.

During the event, Mayor Steve Arnold praised Pembina's contributions to the community. "Randy Alwood (Senior Manager, Operations) has been instrumental in many of our initiatives," he said. "We appreciate Randy and the Pembina Community Investment Team and their commitment to our community very much."

Mayor Arnold, who played hockey at the Mooretown facility, as well as in Wallaceburg and Chatham as a teen, says it provided a better environment (than playing pond hockey) in which to hone social and team skills. "It became the place to be," he said. "Playing on a team created a cohesive dynamic where we learned to cooperate with each other."

Mike Edgar, Pembina District Manager for Corunna,

says he understands how a community centre like the Mooretown Sports Complex benefits the community. "I'm from Petrolia and we used to have to play pond hockey down on the flats," he said. "Ice hockey was part of my life. (Team sports) turn kids into good people. It can be very important down the road. This place is a core area of the community and we love getting involved in this project."

Mayor Arnold says Pembina has made several much-appreciated donations to community projects since the company became a corporate citizen of the township in 2010. In addition to donating to the municipality's fire services training and equipment acquisition, the company has helped improve the accessibility of two township playgrounds, it became the first major contributor to the new Sombra Museum building (\$60,000), and funded the new Pembina wing renovation in the Shell Health Centre to create doctors' offices (\$100,000). "We appreciate them so much," he said.

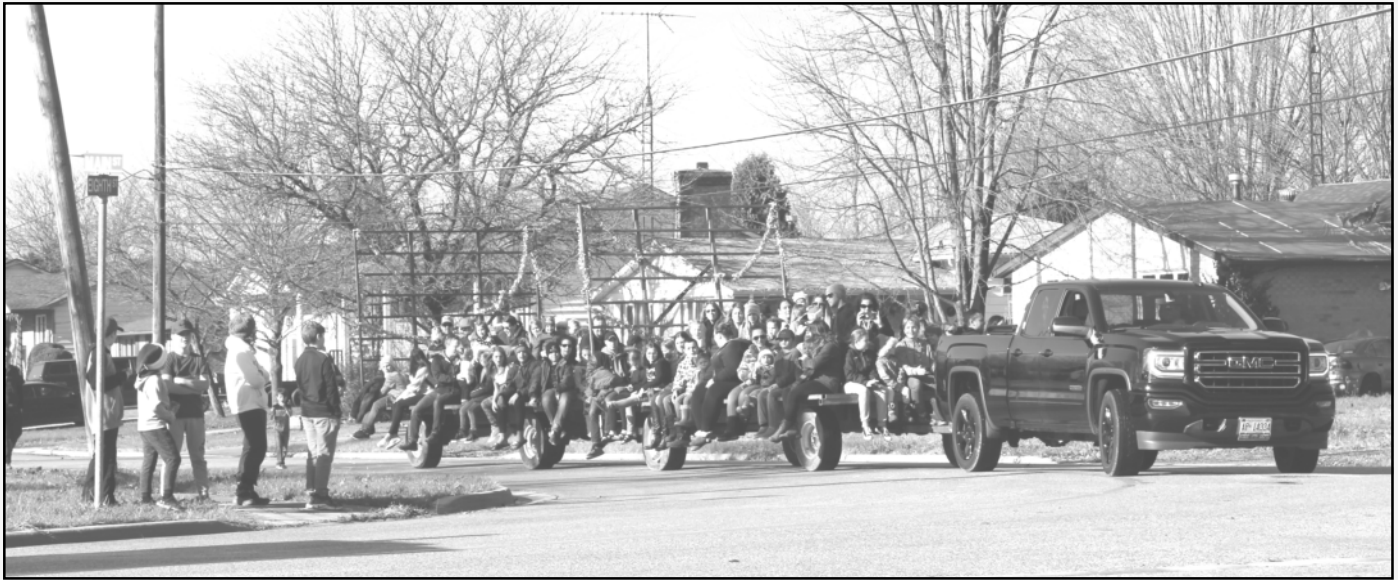
Mr. Alwood noted the latest donation will benefit the entire community. "A community centre brings people together," he said. "This allows us to enrich the lives of everyone."



The Pembina donation toward the cost of a new roof was celebrated on Dec. 2 with a recognition event at the Mooretown Sports Complex. On hand for the ceremonial cheque presentation were, front row: Mike Edgar, Pembina District Manager, Corunna; St. Clair Township Councillors Pat Brown and Jim DeGurse. Back row, left: Randy Alwood, Pembina Senior Manager, Operations; Mayor Steve Arnold; Councillors Tracy Kingston and Bill Myers; Deputy Mayor Steve Miller. Also in attendance were students from Mooretown-Courtright Public School, who enjoyed some ice time and showed the dignitaries how much their efforts to repair the complex would be appreciated.

Photo by Bonnie Stevenson

Courtright volunteer firefighters bring Santa to town



Once upon a time, in the quiet town of Courtright, there lived a merry group of community heroes who loved to look after their town and keep all the people in it safe. Fire feared the heroes and hated to see them coming down the road in their big red trucks, ready for battle.

And when they had no fire to vanquish or good deed to do, the heroes loved to see children smile. And so it was that, once every year, the heroes emailed Santa to see if he would come to Courtright. Of course, Santa always said yes because making children smile was his favourite thing to do. He would email them back and tell them when he could come.

On that special day each year, the heroes would get into their big red trucks and go from street to street making fantastic noises and bidding the children to come and see Santa.

This year, on Dec. 2, Santa was with the heroes as they drove their big red trucks from street to street. The children got to ride on two big hay wagons as the sun shone down on their happy, noisy parade of trucks and wagons.

When they arrived at the place where the heroes lived, the children ate hot dogs, drank hot chocolate, and got to tell Santa what their hearts desired for Christmas. He loved talking to them so much that he gave each child a special bag of goodies.

The children smiled and laughed, and so did all their mommies and daddies, for they knew that the children's smiles were a special gift Santa gave to grownups.

The End...until next December



Left: Santa listened closely as Ariella, 4, told him what she would like for Christmas.



Above: Chase, 8, made a sign to wish everyone along the parade route a Merry Christmas. He said, "I wanted to make everybody happy." Emily, 10, shared his happy sentiment and Cassidy, 3, was just in between smiles when this picture was taken.

Beacon photos

HERITAGE CORNER

Annual Moore Museum Christmas program a favourite with kids



Above: The 2018 annual Christmas program at the Moore Museum hosted about 900 students from elementary schools throughout the area. These Grade 2/3 and Grade 3 students from Kinnwood Central School enjoyed making paper tree ornaments much like the pioneers did in the early days of St. Clair Township.

Volunteers continue museum improvements

The Moore Museum volunteers are never stuck for projects to do around the museum site. One of the latest builds involves the construction of a window for the new addition on the Francis E. Shaw Exhibition Hall. With Dave Beer, left, wielding the power tools, Dave Patten, center, and Lyle Gander watch the work while discussing the next project that needs to be done.

Submitted photos



Heritage St. Clair seeking old photos of St. Clair Township's past

Heritage St. Clair is still seeking the help of township residents to gather old photographs (over 20 years old - the older, the better) depicting St. Clair Township (and former Moore and Sombra Townships) from the past.

For more information, contact Heritage St. Clair by email:

secretaryheritagestclair@gmail.com . Or visit the St. Clair Township site: www.stclairtownship.ca under the "Residents" or "Recreation" tab to find Heritage St. Clair. Or call Ian at 519-864-1119 or Dave at 519-862-3797.

Sir John Moore Community School choir receives certificate of appreciation from township



The Sir John Moore Community School recently received a visit from Mayor Steve Arnold, shown rear center, who made a very special presentation to the group. They received a formal certificate of appreciation from St. Clair Township to acknowledge their performance at the Dec. 3 inaugural meeting of the 2019-2022 St. Clair Township Council. The talented young choir performed a multilingual rendition of *Oh Canada*, singing it in English, French and Ojibwe. Choir leader Mme. Kurts and assistant leader Mme. Millar are shown rear right and left respectively.

Photo sub-

Creative County Grant Program will support two township projects

Among the 23 cultural initiatives receiving grants from the 2018 Lambton Creative County Grant program are two from St. Clair Township.

Heritage St. Clair and St. Clair Township will receive \$3,000 for the installation of signage marking the early hamlets and villages of St. Clair Township (formerly Moore and Sombra Townships).

The second grant will go to the Sombra Museum for a historical village ghost tour and a walking tour map for Sombra Village.

The Creative County Grant Program

was launched in 2013 to support innovative projects that build cultural capacity, strengthen the creative community, define the county's unique identity and enrich the quality of life of all residents.

The next application intake for this grant program is not until the fall of 2019 but those who have a project concept that may conform to the program's parameters can watch for news about the fall application intake by going online late next summer to LambtonOnline.ca or watch local media for information.

Creative
County
Fund



Sacred Heart Food Bank Christmas program a community effort



Students from Sacred Heart Catholic School sit among the 3,170 items collected by the student body. They were waiting for volunteers and their trucks to arrive and load the items for transport to St. James Anglican Church for sorting.

Shown from back to foreground: Frank Johnston, president of the Sacred Heart Food Bank; Miss Fantuz, Grade 2/3 teacher; Allison, Gr. 5; Mya, Gr. 5; Daisy, Gr. 6; Dracen, Gr. 6; Camden, Gr. 3; Jackson, Gr.3.

Cont'd on page 11

Sacred Heart, from page 10

Mrs. Verstraeten's Grade 3/4 class collected the most items, about 835, and as a reward, they will be able to choose a class treat such as a popcorn and movie party or more gym time.



Food bank volunteers arrive to load the collected items into boxes and then into their vehicles for the short trip down the street to the Anglican Church.

The top individual student item collectors were: 1st. Jackson, Gr. 3; 2nd. Laurie (JK); tied for 3rd, Dracen, Gr. 6 and Camden, Gr. 3. They will also be receiving a treat for their good work.

The collection effort was spearheaded by the school's *Me to We Club*, which allows Grade 5 to 8 students to focus on social justice topics. Gr. 2/3 teacher Miss Fantuz, who oversees the *Me to We Club*, says the students participate in various campaigns throughout the years. "This one was for global hunger," she said.

The Christmas food bank collection effort was so successful that everyone received a treat. "The entire school will enjoy a popcorn and movie (activity) the last day of school before Christmas," said Miss Fantuz.

At about 2 p.m., an armada of trucks arrived at the

school's front door and volunteers spilled from the vehicles ready to harvest the abundance of food, toys, and household items amassed in the lobby.

Down at the Anglican church, another group of volunteers sorted food items that had already arrived, checking that every item was in good order and had a valid "best before" date.

This process continues throughout the Christmas season. Volunteers work hard to be sure the less fortunate families and individuals in their community have



enough to eat and the children have something wonderful to look forward to.

Thanks to the caring hearts of those who toiled to bring joy to those in need, and to those who donated food, goods, money and time in support of those front-line "Christmas elves", St. Clair Township knew the true spirit of Christmas again this year.

Above: With his truck filled to the brim, Jay Johnston prepares to head for the sorting facility while volunteer Jim Hay makes another trip into the school to retrieve another box.

Left: In St. Jame's Anglican Church kitchen, Kathy Miller, foreground, Patty Richardson, and Christine Reedy check each tin and box carefully before assigning a location for them.



OPP Drive-through event hosts Mr. and Mrs. Santa this year



Operation Christmas Tree was a great success again this year for the Optimist Club of Moore and its many generous donors. The annual OPP Drive-through event sealed the deal with the help of Mr. AND MRS. Santa Claus. Mrs. Claus told the Beacon she was a little concerned about leaving the North Pole so close to Christmas. She confided that the elves always bake when she's away and they aren't big fans of cleaning up.

Inside, some young helpers were packing the Christmas hampers. Moore Optimist members Mary Lou Abrams and Brad Cote were assisted by: John M., Mary M., Carolyn M., Matthew A., Rachel S., Taylor M., Caleb H., Bryce L., and Ashlie V.

Bonnie Stevenson photo

1st Corunna Scouts donate to Royal Canadian Legion Corunna Branch 447 Poppy Fund



The 1st Corunna Scouts presented a cheque for \$291.85 to the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 447 Poppy Fund. The money was raised during the Scouts' annual Remembrance Candle Light Vigil on Nov. 10.

Attending the presentation, back row left: Br. 447 President John Cormier, Kayla McLean, Chris Moore. Front row left: Owen Schinkel, Tucker McLean, Kylan Schinkel, Br. 447 Poppy Chairman Bob Chambers.

Submitted photo

Corunna Legion Br. 447 donates community groups



12

Once again, Christmas was a time of giving for the Royal Canadian Legion Corunna Branch 447. Donations were given to the following organizations and initiatives: Clockwise from top left: *The Canadian Cancer Society representative Paula McKinlay receives a \$1,000 donation for the *Wheel Of Hope* initiative from RCL Br. 447 President John Cormier; *Br. 447 President John Cormier, back center, presented the **Mooretown Lady Flags Atom B team** with a two-year sponsorship of \$1,100. Back row left: James Devine, Kendle Adams, Ella Routley, Jaelyn Devine, Meadow Edwards, Dave Routley. Front row left: Kylie Slater, Eastyn Potvin; Mekah Dewhirst, Charlie Potvin. *The **Girl Guides Corunna/Courtright** units received a donation of \$1,000. At the presentation were, back row left: Nicki Leach, Tracy Woodward, Br. 447 President John Cormier, Wendy Morningstar, Andrea Robbins. Front row left: Jillian Pierson, Meaghan Woodward, Taysia Morningstar, Emily Robbins. *The **Corunna station of the St. Clair Township Fire Department** received \$756 raised from the branch's Elimination Draw. Receiving the donation from Br. 447 President John Cormier, left, and Br. 447 Poppy Chairman Bob Chambers is firefighter Chris Fields. *The **Special Olympics** received a donation of \$503, raised through the branch's Elimination Draw, from Br. 447 President John Cormier. Special Olympics representative Tana Manchester, left, and Mitchell Clendenning received the donation.

Submitted photos

Mooretown Bantam AE Jr. Flags win regional Silverstick



The Mooretown Bantam AE Jr. Flags were victorious at the South Huron Regional Silverstick Tournament, with a 4-1-0 showing. The team beat host team South Huron 4-2 in the championship game. The team will now play in the International Silverstick tournament on Jan. 9, 2019. The team is comprised of: Xander Blair; Charlie Brander; Dylan Ferguson; Casyn Foster; Carter Hagan; Logan Klomp-

stra; Caleb Laframboise; Chase MacDonald; Carter MacLean; Joel McLaughlin; Ryerson Petrie; Jack Samson; James Sneddon; Seth Sutherland; Lleyton Ticknor; and Rhys Vanderzon. The coaching team included: Ian Sneddon, Jeff MacLean; Aaron Ticknor; Scot Poland; and Justin Hagan. **GO FLAGS!**

Photo submitted

Hockey trio makes the most of winter sun



The brilliant winter sunshine and blue skies that accompanied a balmy 12 degree C day on Dec. 2 coaxed this hockey trio out of the house and onto Sixth Street in Courtright. Vying for the ball is, left, Colby, Brayden, and Andrew.

Bonnie Stevenson photo

Skill and Drill children's program offers school

The Organization for Literacy in Lambton offers a free evening Skill and Drill children's programs in Brigden at the Brigden Library and in Corunna at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church until April 4, 2019 (excluding December and holidays).

Parents can register their children by calling 519-332-4876, online at www.readsarnia.com, or by email at oll3@bellnet.ca. Space is limited so please register by Friday, Oct. 5. These programs are for children in Grades 1-7 and are offered with the help of Lambton County Libraries. Children are helped to improve their math and reading while improve their self-confidence in learning.

Volunteers are needed to assist with this program on weekday evenings. Anyone interested in being part of this program can contact Judith Farris at 519-332-4876 from Monday to Thursday from 12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. or Friday from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., or online at: oll3@bellnet.ca

Keep off winter weight at Mooretown Sports Complex

It's the new year and dull days of winter have just begun. Let the many activities and programs at the Mooretown Sports Complex help you manage your weight, keep you healthy, and keep your spirits and your energy levels up.

Winter swimming lessons - Registration

Registration will begin on Nov. 5. Call today for more information at 519-867-2651.

Spinning Classes

Join the certified spinning instructors for a great workout that improves cardiovascular endurance, muscular strength and power! Join any time for a 10 week session for \$10 per class or buy a 10 pass admission for \$85. Morning spin classes are held on Tuesdays or Thursdays from 7 a.m. to 7:45 a.m. If you're a beginner, there are classes designed for you on Tuesday evenings from 7:15 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. If you're looking for strength training combined with a spin workout, come to the Bikes & Bells class on Monday or Wednesday evenings from 5 p.m.-6 p.m. or Friday from 9 a.m. - 10 a.m.



Muscle Mix Group Fitness Classes

The Muscle Mix group fitness class includes kettlebell training that will 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 Tuesday and Thursday from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m., and Wednesday from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. Cost is \$7 per class or \$5.50 per class per senior; \$50 for a 10-visit pass; or \$275 per year. Senior rate is \$255 per year for full fitness centre membership.



POUND® !

POUND® is the world's first cardio jam session inspired by the infectious, energizing and sweat-dripping fun of playing the drums. Classes are Thursday evenings from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. Cost is \$7/class, or \$5.50/class/senior; \$50 for a 10-visit pass; or \$275/year for full fitness center 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 \$7/class, or \$5.50/class/senior; \$50 for a 10-visit pass; or \$275 per year for full fitness centre membership.

Shallow & Deep Water Aerobics

Enjoy and experience the rejuvenating power of the 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 \$7 per class or \$5.50/class/senior; \$50 for

a 10-visit pass; or \$225 per year or \$205 per year per senior; or included in full \$275.00 fitness centre membership.

Water Therapy -

Arthritis, Fibromyalgia Water Exercise

This program includes cardiovascular training, functional fitness, muscular endurance and strength, 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 \$7 per class or \$5.50 per class per senior; \$50 for a 10-visit pass; or \$225/year, or \$205 per year per senior; or included in full \$275.00 fitness centre membership. Join any time!

Indoor/Outdoor Walking Exercise Program - FREE!

This West Lambton Community Health Center sponsored walking exercise program is held Monday and Wednesday mornings from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. Call 519-867-2651 for more information.

Shinny Hockey is back!

Adult Shinny Hockey is now being held every Tuesday morning from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. The cost is \$5/person.

Public Skate

Public skating is now being held on Sundays from 1 p.m. to 2:15 p.m. Cost is \$2.50/child, \$3.75/adult, and \$7.50/family.



Parents, Tots & Seniors Skate - FREE

Families are now invited to enjoy free skating on Wednesdays and Thursdays from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m.

Lifeguard & Swimming Instructor Courses

Become a lifeguard and swimming instructor! Contact the Mooretown Sports Complex for more information!

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



SENIORS HELPING SENIORS

HANDYMAN/HANDYWOMAN PROGRAM FOR SENIORS

Home & yard maintenance
Housekeeping
Computer training & repair



PLEASE CALL 519 339 8866

Toll Free 1-877-219-4717

www.lambtonseniors.com

A UNITED WAY funded agency

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. **The schedule for these classes was not available at press time. For more information. 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 date for the next session, has not been announced yet.

Please note: a physician referral is required. Physician referral is required.

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 date for the next session was not announced at press time.

Please note: a physician referral is required.

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/or a Registered Dietitian who will discuss what diabetes is, risk factors for getting diabetes, and how to decrease blood sugar levels through lifestyle changes. *Information for the next session was not available at press time. The program is open to the public and no physician referral is required.*

Healthy Eating and You

Healthy Eating and You is a series of four sessions lasting two hours each. The aim of this 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 discus-

sions that will help you learn from the experiences of others. *Information for the next session was not available at press time. This program is open to the public and no physician referral is required.*

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.**

No information was available at press time.

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.

Protect yourself with the flu shot

Protect yourself against the flu this year with a flu shot, especially if you are at high-risk for contracting this highly-contagious disease.

Those at high risk of influenza complications include: babies under six months; children under five years of age; older adults; pregnant women; people with underlying health conditions.

Free flu shots are available at six community clinics, 33 Lambton County pharmacies, and all health-care providers.

For more information on the flu, go online to: lambtonhealth.on.ca or call Flu Info Line at 519-383-3812 (toll-free at 1-800-667-1839, ext. 3812).

One thing nobody wants for Christmas is the flu. Do yourself a favour and do the responsible thing - get a flu shot.

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

COMMUNITY CONTACT

St. Clair Community Church services

St. Clair Community Church, 3435 John Street, in Sombra welcomes everyone to attend services at 10 a.m. every Sunday. The church is part of the Evangelical Missionary Church of Canada. For more information, call 519-542-4447 or go online to www.stclaircc.ca/

St. Andrew's foodbank needs supplies

The food bank at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church on Colborne Street in Corunna is in operation every other Wednesday evening from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. on Dec. 5 and 19, and Jan. 2, 16, and 30. The food bank is also open on Thursdays from 9 a.m. to noon.

The need for donations exists throughout the year in this community and all communities throughout Lambton County. Non-perishable food, baby care, and personal care items are always needed. At this time, the St. Andrew's food bank is experiencing a shortage of the following items: pudding/fruit cups; canned tomatoes, toilet paper, and pancake syrup. Please support your local food bank.

Lambton Youth Choir accepting new members

The Lambton Youth Choir is accepting new members. Rehearsals are held every Wednesday during the school year from 6:15 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at LCCVI in Petrolia. The choir is comprised of youth attending Grade 4 and up as of Sept. 2018. For more information, contact D. O'Dell at 519-882-2315 or email: odelld@cogeco.ca Check out the Lambton Youth Choir Facebook page.

Volunteer hours for secondary students

Secondary school graduation is fast approaching and the Brigden Fair office is the place where students can find many ways to get the volunteer hours they need to graduate. Call the office at 519-864-1197. *Volunteer opportunities are available all year long.*

Supporting the St. Clair River Trail makes good cents

Supporting the beautiful St. Clair River Trail, with its scenic views of the river and safe pedestrian use is a good sense use for your spare cents. Donation locations can be found at Shaykin Bait Variety in Port Lambton or the Riverview Restaurant in Sombra Village. Your donations will be matched 2:1 by St. Clair Township Council and your pockets will be a lot less noisy. 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 NOTE: The trail will

Taoist Tai Chi open house in Corunna

An introduction to the Fung Loy Kok Taoist Tai Chi® Arts will take place at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church Hall, 437 Colborne Drive in Corunna, on Wednesday Jan. 9 at 6:30pm. A demonstration and registration period will be followed by the first of the series of weekly classes. These gentle arts offer benefits to people of all ages in a compassionate and non-competitive environment. For more information, please call 519-344-0346.

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.

Be a community builder with the Optimist Club

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 Junior Optimist Club

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.

Down River Junior 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 volunteers hours needed for graduation. For more information, call Carla at 226-402-3870.

Brigden United Church activities/service

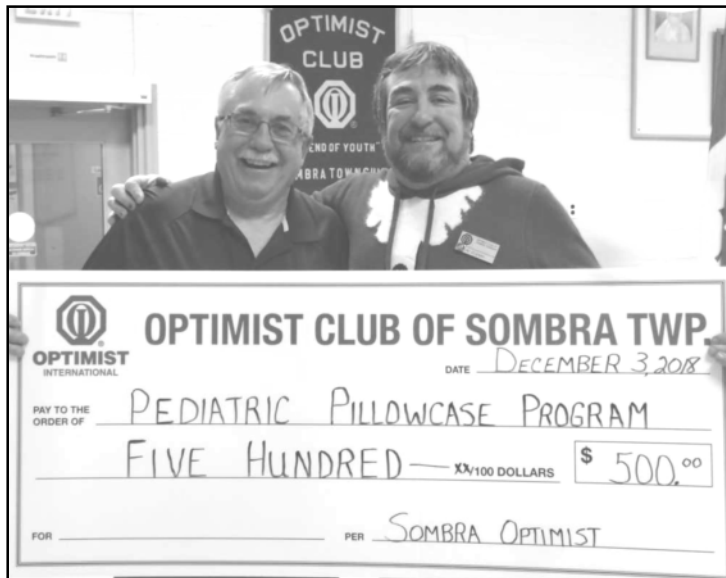
Brigden United Church holds regular Sunday services at 10:30 a.m. (10 a.m. July and August). The church also hosts **Messy Church** through May (except December) every last Tuesday of the month from 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. And the **Mom and Tots Drop-in** is held at the church every Friday morning from 9 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.

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.



Sombra Optimists donate to child pillowcase program

During their Christmas meeting on Dec. 3, the Sombra Optimist donated \$500 to Bluewater Health's Optimist Pediatric Pillowcase Program. This program, supported by eight Optimist Clubs, provides special handmade pillowcase for children up to the age of 13. Upon being admitted, the child can choose a pillowcase from a selection that includes various designs and familiar characters. The goal is to provide comfort for the child and make the hospital stay feel a bit more like being at home. The child can take the pillowcase home at the end of treatment. This is the fifth year the program has been in operation and over 2,000 pillowcases have been donated to Bluewater Health in Sarnia.

Left: Sombra Optimist President Vic O'Leary, right, presents the \$500 cheque to Optimist Ted Gravelle.
Photo submitted

Photo contest calendars still available

Purchase your Moore Museum 2019 calendar now so you will have all 12 months to enjoy the award-winning photos that illustrate each month! The calendar features the winning entries in the Canada 150 photo contest held by Moore Museum in 2017. All of the photos, taken by local photographers, feature local scenes from around the township. Adorn your wall with this community souvenir throughout 2019 by purchasing your calendar now.

They are available for \$10 each (HST incl.) at Moore Museum. Winter hours at the Museum vary, so please call 519-867-2020 before you visit to avoid disappointment. For your convenience, calendars are also available at Kay's Petals & Plants in Corunna. Support your community museum and enjoy the creative photographic talents of the residents of St. Clair Township throughout 2019.



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.

Parkway Church in Corunna offering free clothing

Parkway Church at 551 Murray Drive in Corunna has free clothing available for children and young adults. The room is open Thursdays from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. or by appointment.

Clothing donations are always accepted. They can be dropped off in the church's clothing bin at the side door or call 519-862-3380, ext. 21.



EarlyON Child and Family Centres

The EarlyON Child and Family Centres 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 Birch bank 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.

MORE AROUND THE TOWNSHIP

From page 20

the church online at: parkwaychurch-michelle@gmail.com

Cruickshank Community Centre hosts weekly activities

The Cruickshank Community Centre at Thompson Gardens in Corunna hosts several activities each week including: *The Coffee Social, Monday through Saturday from 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Cost is 75 cents for unlimited coffee and good company. *Fun Bingo is played Tuesdays at 1:30 p.m. Cost is a \$1 fee to participate and \$1 per card played. *Euchre is played on Tuesday evenings at 7 p.m. Cost is \$3 to play, which includes light refreshments. On Tuesday, Dec. 4, play will be complimentary for everyone who wants to come out and play. Registration is required so please call 519-862-1628 or 519-862-2629.

Courtright Friendship Club plays cards

The Courtright Friendship Club plays euchre every Wednesday afternoon at 1 p.m. and now plays Pepper every Friday evening at 7 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

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. The cost is \$1 per stick. Join the fun, enjoy a beverage and camaraderie, and maybe even take home dinner.

Catch the Ace at Corunna Legion

The Catch the Ace lottery is now being played on Wednesdays at the Royal Canadian Legion Corunna Branch 447, 350 Albert Street. Ticket sales will be from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. and the draw will follow. The weekly draws will continue until the game is won. Food will be available and the hall is wheelchair accessible. Proceeds from the lottery will support the work of various community groups, youth sports programs, and the Corunna Legion. Rules are available at the Corunna Legion website, legion447.ca, or at the Legion branch.

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.

2108 Corunna Santa Claus Parade winners

The Optimist Club of Moore is pleased to announce the parade entry winners of the 2018 Santa Claus Parade. The winner in each category is: Firetrucks: Shell, 6th in line; Commercial: Holmes Auto, 31st in line; School/Youth: Mooretown Ladies float, 33rd in line; Industrial: NOVA, 28th in line; Most Entertaining: Brigden Optimist Club, 20th in line.



Corunna Minor Baseball registration

The Corunna Minor Baseball organization has moved to an earlier registration format. Registration is being done online and will be open until Jan. 15, 2019. An early bird fee applies until Dec. 1 after which the cost goes up by \$10. After Jan. 15, a late fee of \$50 will be added and only in divisions that are not full. Registration before the January deadline is the only way to guarantee your child will be rostered on a team during the 2019 season.

All details are available at www.corunnaminorbaseball.com or can be found on the organization's Facebook page.



Mooretown Flags Home Schedule

Mooretown Flags hockey action

Wednesday, Jan. 2 - Lakeshore, 8 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 12 - Essex, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 19 - Dresden, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 26 - Petrolia, 7:30 p.m.

Go
Flags!

AROUND THE TOWNSHIP

New Year's Levee at Corunna Legion

The Royal Canadian Legion Corunna Branch 447 will host its New Year's Levee on Tuesday, Jan. 1 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Snacks and refreshments will be provided. Everyone is welcome to attend and join the fun as members of Branch 447 thank the community for its support of their events and programs, and to welcome in 2019.

Euchre resumes at Sombra Community Hall

Euchre will resume at Sombra Community Hall on Fridays at 1 p.m. on the following dates: Jan. 4, 11, 18, 25; Feb. 1, 8, 15, 22; March 8, 15, 22, 29; April 5, 12, 26; May 3, 10, 17. Everyone is welcome.

Rotary 15th Annual Book Sale

The Rotary Club of Bluewaterland will host the 15th Annual Book Sale at the Bayside Centre in Sarnia on Jan. 11 to 13 from 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, and 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday. Over 30,000 assorted hard and soft-covered books will be available and underground parking is free on Friday and Saturday.

Jamborees are back at the Brigden Fair exhibition hall

The Brigden Fair exhibition hall is the place to enjoy monthly jamborees, held the second Sunday of each month through April. Doors open at noon with music starting at 1 p.m. A cash bar will be open and limited dinner tickets will be available for the 5 p.m. scalloped potato and ham supper. Musicians are always welcome.

Dance away those winter blues at the Winter Wonderland Country Jamboree on Sunday, January 13. Doors open at noon with

music starting at 1 p.m. The ham and scalloped potato supper will be offered at 5 p.m. with tickets to be sold at the door. A cash bar will be in operation and musicians, as always, are welcome. Bring your partner, your dancing shoes and your love of music.

Then celebrate with your Valentine on Sunday, February 10 at the Valentine's Country Jamboree. Doors open at noon and music begins at 1 p.m. A cash bar will be in operation and dinner tickets will be available for 5 p.m. seating. Musicians are always welcome and the larger the crowd, the more fun we have.

MAS Annual General Meeting planned

The annual general meeting of the Moore Agricultural Society will be held on Saturday, January 19 at the Brigden Fairgrounds Exhibition Hall. The event will begin with registration and membership renewal starting at 4:30 p.m. with a potluck supper set for 5:30 p.m. and the meeting to follow at approximately 6:30 p.m.

Yuk Yuk's returns to Corunna Legion

Laugh away the winter blahs at the Royal Canadian Legion Corunna Branch 447 when the Yuk Yuk's show takes to the stage on Saturday, January 19. Tickets are \$20 in advance or \$25 at the door. These tickets would make a really great Christmas stocking surprise.

Canadian Cancer Society 5th annual

Snowballz Two-Pitch Tourney

The 5th annual Snowballz Winter Classic Two-Pitch Tournament to raise funds for the Canadian Cancer Society will be held on Jan. 26 and 27 at the Corunna Athletic Park on Hill Street and the Royal Canadian Legion Corunna Branch 447 hall. There will be 16 men's and 16 women's teams, and they must be registered and paid in full by Jan. 10, 2019. The cost to field a team is \$300. The event will include prizes, foods and beverages. Proceeds will benefit research for men's cancers. In the firsts four years the tournament has been held, about \$8,000 per year has been raised. For more information, call the Canadian Cancer Society Sarnia branch at 519-332-0042.

Weekly Souper Thursdays in Corunna

The Parkway Church, located at 551 Murray Drive in Corunna, hosts a FREE Souper Thursday hot lunch every Thursday from 11:30 a.m. 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



Promote your event in The Beacon

The deadline for Beacon submissions is the
third Monday of each month by noon.
E-mail: beacon@stclairtownship.ca

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, don't stress! Put your event in the spotlight **free of charge** here in The Beacon.

Please note: Photos submitted close to the deadline may be held until the following issue due to lack of space.