



The St. Clair Township

# BEACON

Issue 2

Volume 12

February 2019



THE TOWNSHIP  
OF ST. CLAIR

## New exhibit graces Corunna Legion memorial wall



Royal Canadian Legion Leslie Sutherland Branch 447 member Bob Churchill, project leader; Branch 447 1st Vice-President Marg Emery; and Branch 447 President John Cormier stand before the memorial wall with the new propeller visible overhead.  
*Bonnie Stevenson photo*

A new exhibit commemorating the namesake of Royal Canadian Legion Leslie Sutherland Corunna Branch 447 now hangs at the top of the memorial wall in the branch clubhouse.

An 8'4" long aluminum propeller, made by John Shelley of Shelley Machine and Marine, bears an inscription in memory of the final flight of 22-year-old Warrant Officer Leslie Gordon Sutherland of Corunna and his crew, who were killed on a mission during World War II.

Sutherland, stationed in Dishforth, Yorkshire in England with the #426 RCAF Thunderbird Squadron, flew a Wellington X HE 281 OW "D" aircraft.

The plane was brought down on May 24, 1943 while on a mission to destroy a synthetic oil and coking plant in Dortmund, Germany.

An inscription on the propeller reads: WO Leslie Gordon Sutherland; Leslie Gordon Sutherland and crew - final mission, May 23/24, 1943; Sgt. W. Dunkerley RAF, navigator; Sgt. S. Jepson RAF, bomb aimer; WO Kenneth Howard Matheson - wireless air gunner; WO Afrien Levee Rivest - rear gunner.

The propeller, the most recent exhibit to be installed on the memorial wall, will soon be finished off with a wooden cone, to be installed at its central hub.

Branch 447 member Bob Churchill, project leader for the memorial wall, says the wall was built to display exhibits and artefacts that are important to the branch. Several artefacts donated by the family of Leslie Sutherland have been given pride of place on the wall.



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# MUNICIPAL NOTES

## Council Meeting Schedule

**TENTATIVE TIMES** for upcoming St. Clair Township Council meetings are: Tuesday, Feb. 19 at 6 p.m. and Monday, March 18 at 6 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.*

## Capital budget set for ratification

The Finance committee has recommended a \$15.35 million capital budget to St. Clair Township Council. The budget will cover a total of 113 projects. Direct taxation, to be raised in 2019, will contribute \$2.4 million to this budget with the rest coming from reserves and acquired grant funding.

This capital budget will be ratified during the overall budgeting process that is slated for early March.



## 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](mailto:taxes@twp.stclair.on.ca)



## 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; 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. 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.



## Public Works Dept. Notices

### Contact Information

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

Engineering.....519-867-2125

Website..... [www.stclairtownship.ca](http://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.

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### 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.

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### 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](mailto:public-works@twp.stclair.on.ca) or in person at the Civic Centre.



### Blue box update

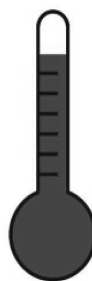
January 1, 2019 - The elimination of clear/blue plastic bags was made by the Contractor and the recycling industry. The plastic bags cannot be recycled and create issues for the sorting facilities. Previous companies said they could recycle 'plastic film' but the market shows there is no demand for it. The previous company (Waste Management) attempted to sort the plastic film at their Cambridge facility, but that plant burned down a few years ago. Therefore, the new processing company (Emterra) has stated that no plastic film can be used during collection and that only recycled material placed in recycling containers will be picked up.

The Township is selling blue boxes in the Public Works Dept of the Civic Centre at a reduced price of \$5.75



### 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 1350 residents using our Recycling app.

Help us get to 2019 in 2019! Download the App!

For your complete waste & recycling information

recyclecoach™

### BEFORE YOU DIG

call Ontario One Call at 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](http://www.stclairtownship.ca)

## 2020 Waste Calendar Photo Contest



Our St. Clair Township Recycling and Waste Calendar is celebrating its 10<sup>th</sup> year! As part of this celebration, Public Works is holding a contest for residents to submit photos which they feel represent St Clair Township.

One photo will be chosen for the cover of the 2020 Recycling & Waste Calendar. The contest will run from February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019 to August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2019.

Submissions must be made by email to [pwphotocalendar@stclairtownship.ca](mailto:pwphotocalendar@stclairtownship.ca). Any additional questions, please contact Public Works Dept. 519-867-2993

### Rules

- 1) Contest is open to St. Clair Township residents only
- 2) Photos must be taken in St. Clair Township
- 3) All photo entries must be accompanied by the photographer's name, address and phone number. Winner will be notified.
- 4) Must provide the date and location the photo was taken.
- 5) Subject matter of all photos must be family friendly in nature
- 6) No recognizable faces within the photos
- 7) Limited to a maximum of three (3) entries per person
- 8) No alteration of content or addition of graphic elements on digital files
- 9) Minimum resolution of 300 dpi at 8x12 inches for digital files
- 10) Deadline to submit is August 31, 2019

### Disclaimer

*By entering a photo, the photographer grants to The Township of St. Clair a royalty-free, worldwide, perpetual, non-exclusive license to display, distribute, reproduce and create derivative works of the entries, in whole or in part, in any media now existing or subsequently developed for Township purposes, including but not limited to advertising and promotional materials, its website, exhibition and commercial products. St Clair Township will not be required to pay any additional consideration or seek any additional approval in connection with such uses.*



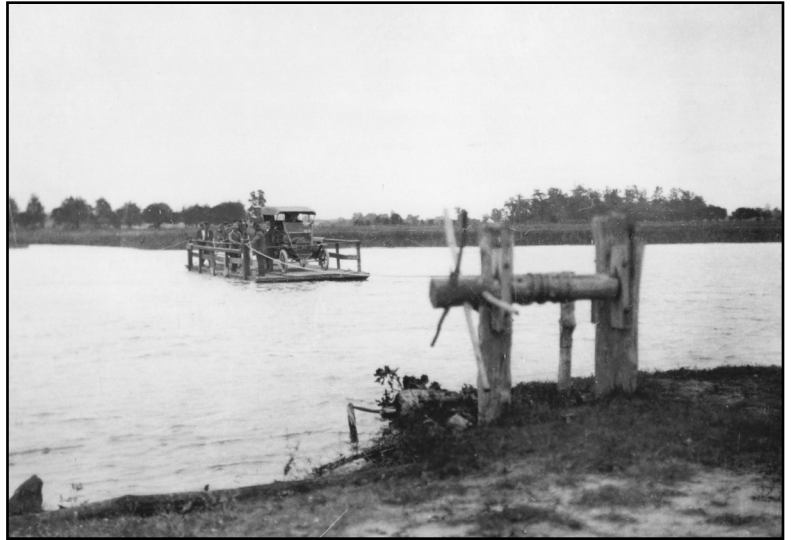
## HERITAGE CORNER

### This is the way it was...

*Photos from Heritage St. Clair*



A replica of the "Nonsuch" on St. Clair River near Mooretown, July 10, 1971. The original *Nonsuch* was the first trading vessel to enter Hudson Bay in 1668-69, beginning the fur trade for what would become the Hudson Bay Company.



A wooden pull ferry on the Sydenham River, ca. 1920s.



### 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](mailto:secretaryheritagestclair@gmail.com) . Or visit the St. Clair Township site: [www.stclairtownship.ca](http://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.

## MORE HERITAGE CORNER

### *Join us for Victorian Tea in May*

*Thoughts of warm spring days are a pleasant distraction from the bone-chilling cold of winter, but fear not; the Moore Museum's annual Victorian Tea is on the way on Sunday, May 19. Think of the delectable flavour of homemade scones warm from the oven, the soothing warmth of tea or coffee, and the pleasant feeling of enjoying it all in the charming atmosphere of the museum's Victorian cottage.*

*For 20 years, the Victorian Tea has been a popular rite of spring. The event will run from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. at a cost of \$7.50 per adult/senior, \$3 for children, and \$2 for preschoolers. This includes admission to the other 11 buildings that comprise the Moore Museum site.*



*Your table will be waiting*

### **Optimist Club of Sombra presents Roy Grealis trophy**



The Optimist Club of Sombra recently presented the Optimist Roy Grealis "Team of the Year" trophy to the Port Lambton Girls Mites "A" baseball team. The team, with players ranging in ages from seven to nine, won for showing sportsmanship during the season and into the playoffs with other area teams.

Here, the team proudly shows off the coveted trophy. On hand for the presentation were, back row right, Optimist Phil Johnston and the team's coaching staff.

*Submitted photo*

## Sombra Optimist Club awards 2018-2019 bursaries

The Optimist Club of Sombra recently presented five students with bursaries to help further their post-secondary education.

*Submitted*

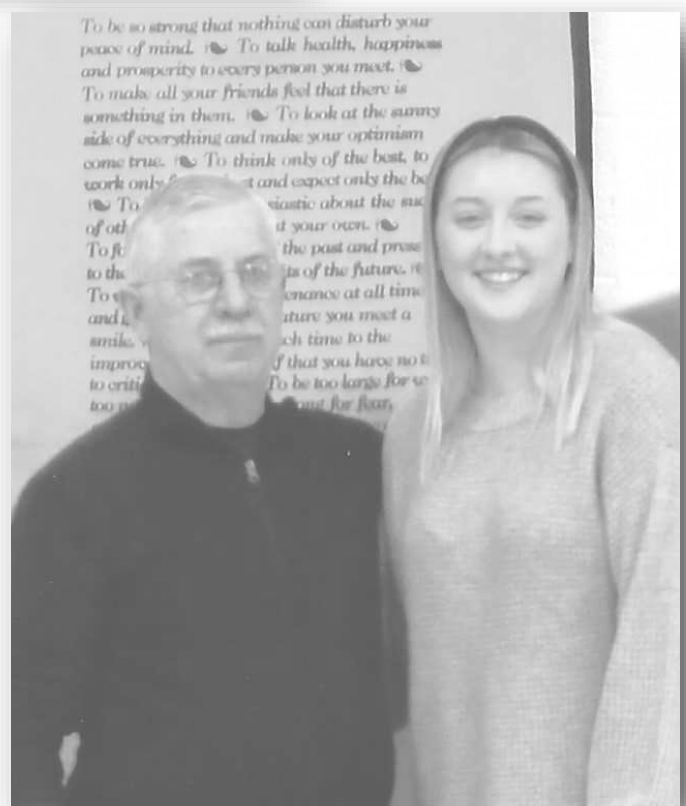


Top photo, left: Optimist Shani Knight; Optimist Phil Johnston; bursary award recipient Mira Pelletier; Optimist Diane Ross. Mira is attending Brock University, studying Mathematics and History.

Bottom left: Optimist Phil Johnston congratulates first year Lambton College student Bailey Lauwers, who is studying Chemical Power Engineering Technology.

Bottom right: Optimist Phil Johnston congratulates first year Lambton College student Taylor Johnston, a student in Pre-Health Sciences.

Unable to attend the bursary award presentation ceremony were Lambton College students Stephanie Brown, who is in her first year of Pre-Health Sciences, and Zachary Ellis, a student in Protection, Security and Investigation. They will receive their awards at a later date.





# Sombra couple run a honey of a business

By Bonnie Stevenson

St. Clair Township has no shortage of agricultural operations, from food crops to livestock, but few yield such sweet results as the one operated by Barry and Debbie Smith of Sombra. Where most livestock producers measure their animals in pounds, the Smiths measure theirs in grams.

Barry Smith says his interest in bees began with his grandfather, who had hives and a book on bee keeping. "My grandfather had a bee book I was interested in and I thought that one day, I'd like to have bees."

The opportunity to actually raise bees didn't present itself until the Smiths retired. "We started with two hives," he said. The Smith's venture got off to a discouraging start when one of the hives was lost, but they persevered with the help of an experienced local bee keeper, Ray Heeringa. "Ray has been a really good source for us," said Barry. "He's our mentor. We also learned from our mistakes."

Bee farming is not the most forgiving pursuit. The bees have to feed at the right times on flowers from which they can easily extract nectar. Barry says the flavour of the honey they produce depends on what types of plants the bees have visited.

For instance, their first food in the spring is often dandelions and the honey they make is delicious. "We have a 25-acre hobby farm...we let the dandelions grow for the bees to feed on," said Debbie. Throughout the season, the Smith's bees have access to, and help maintain, a small orchard under which the hives are situated. And in the autumn, a diet of golden rod and wild aster is said to make the honey good for treating allergies.

Barry, the primary bee keeper, says honey from the hives is customarily extracted from the hives once each season, although he prefers to do it twice to take advantage of the varied flavour characteristics that arise as the season progresses.

Explaining that every functioning hive has a queen to lay the eggs, Barry says he has learned how to create his own queens when the colony needs to be expanded. "You identify a hive you like where the bees are passive and good honey producers," he said.

The acquisition of this kind of knowledge helps the Smiths increase and maintain a thriving apiary. Last year, the Smith apiary boasted 60 hives which produced 2,000 pounds of honey. Although there has been some reduction in the number of hives due to factors such as excessively cold weather, it will be this knowledge of bee culture that will help the Smiths rebuild the colony. Barry noted the bees can survive a certain amount of cold weather by gathering into one large mass and vibrating. "The temperature in the hive can reach up to 90 degrees F," he said, adding this temperature cannot be sustained indefinitely.

Collection of the honey is just half of the process that leads to the finished product; that's when Debbie steps in. She prepares the honey for packaging and even creates different styles and flavours of honey such as creamed, cinnamon, and lemon. The bees wax



Debbie Smith at the Sweet Sombra Honey booth during a Thursday farmers' market event in the concourse at Bluewater Health in Sarnia.  
Karen Stevenson photo

is also used to create candles.

Debbie is also the salesperson, bringing her love of people to the job of marketing Sweet Sombra Honey. The product is sold at craft sales, farmers' markets, and from a kiosk at the end of the Smith's driveway at 164 West Smith Line. "I love meeting the people who come to buy honey and eggs," said Debbie, explaining that the Smith farm also has poultry for egg production. The honey products can also be ordered for delivery.

The Smiths have also been offering an educational program for the past two years and Debbie says it will continue this season. "(It began) when my grandson was in Grade 3. His teacher brought the kids here on a field trip to learn about honey and bees," she said. "We'll be doing it again this June and we welcome inquiries from school groups." The children are given samples of the honey to take home.

For more information, call 519-892-3810.

## 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](http://www.stclairtownship.ca) and click on **Beacon** on the black bar (top right).



## 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](http://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 are slated for the following Tuesdays: Feb. 5, 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.; March 5, 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.; April 9, 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.; May 7, 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.; June 4, 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Please note: a 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 session is led by a registered dietitian. The next sessions are slated for the following dates: Tuesday, Feb. 12 from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.; Monday, March 18 from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.; Tuesday, April 16 from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.; Tuesday, May 14 from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.; and Tuesday, June 11 from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m..

Please note: a 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 the program is to help you make permanent lifestyle changes. This is NOT a diet program. You will set your own healthy eating and physical activity goals and learn how to make plans for achieving them. Some topics to be discussed will include: carbohydrates, protein and fats, good and bad; physical activity - what types and amounts are beneficial; emotional eating strategies; sensible portions and portion control strategies; group discussions will

help you learn from the experiences of others. The next session is slated to begin on Wednesday, March 20 from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

**This program is open to the public. 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. The following classes will be held on these dates: Love Your Heart, Eat Smart, Tuesday, Feb. 19 from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.; Eating Well for Cancer Prevention, Tuesday, March 26 from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.; Cooking for Your Bones, Thursday, June 20 from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.; Meatless Mondays, Tuesday, Sept. 17 from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.; Meals for One, Thursday, Oct. 24 from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.; Healthy Holiday Baking, Thursday, Dec. 12 from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

**Cooking classes are open to the public and no physician referral is required.**

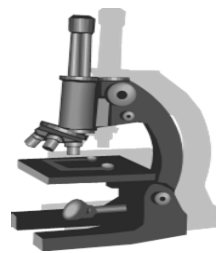
**Note: Class dates, times, and location within Corunna is subject to change/cancellation depending on number of patient registrations.**

**Note: Dates for the following programs have yet to be determined: Happiness 101; Stress Management Workshop; and Anxiety Awareness.**

### ***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.

## ***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](http://www.petroliacadets.com)



Rapids Family Health Team presents  
**BOOSTING BALANCE &  
 BONE HEALTH PROGRAM**

**Tuesdays starting February 26th  
 (5 week program)**

**First Time Participants ONLY**

**Time: 9:30 – 11:30 AM**

This 5 week program, run by a registered occupational therapist is designed to gradually improve balance and strength to avoid falls and maintain independence as well as educate individuals on keeping bones healthy.

- ♦ One hour is designated for group exercise, and one hour is designated for education on bone health.
- ♦ Education sessions include overview of bone health, dietary and medication practices to maintain strong bones, and home safety tips.
- ♦ Individuals who are able to safely participate in a supervised exercise program are invited to register.



*Rapids*

Family Health Team

**KEEP BONES  
 HEALTHY**

**MAINTAIN  
 HEALTHY LIVING**

**IMPROVE  
 BALANCE**

**LOCATION:  
 The  
 Cruickshank  
 Centre at  
 Thompson  
 Gardens  
 Gym  
 Lower Level  
 Corunna**

**CALL TO  
 REGISTER:**

**519-339-8949**

**\*SPOTS ARE LIMITED**



## Ontario Command Service Officer to visit

The Royal Canadian Legion's Ontario Provincial Command Service Officer, Rebecca Calder, will be in the area the week of March 6 to 8. She will be able to provide information and advice on topics such as disability pensions, financial assistance, veterans independent programs, and services.

Veterans and/or their families with concerns or questions about eligibility or access to benefits and services can set up an appointment to meet with Service Officer Calder by calling Shawn MacNeil at 519-383-9386 or the Corunna Legion Branch 447 at 519-862-1240 before Feb. 13.

## *Get ready for spring at the Mooretown Sports Complex*

The winter gloom won't last forever. Want to get ready for bright sunny days ahead? Let us help you keep your spirits up, boost your energy levels, and shed those unwanted winter pounds as you exercise at the Mooretown Sports Complex. Here are some of the great programs and activities you can enjoy.

### **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 co-ordination, 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.

### **NEW! Youth POUND®!**

Kids ages 10 to 15 can get in on the fun now with the new Youth POUND classes. Registration is required. The cost is \$55 for a 10-week session. Call today for more information at 519-867-2651.

### **Cardio Kick Boxing**

The Cardio Kick Boxing fitness class is a high energy, cardio workout with martial arts moves to rev up your metabolism. 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!

#### **Red Cross Babysitting Course**

This course is offered on PA day, Friday, Feb. 1 and April 5 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. It is designed for youth 11 years and up who want to learn the skills needed for becoming a babysitter. The course covers the responsibilities of a babysitter, safety tips for children of all ages, basic child care skills, and what to do in case of an emergency. The cost for the program, including the manual, is \$60 per child.

#### **Low Impact Walking - 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. until April, 2019. Call 519-344-3017, ext. 237 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](http://www.lambtonseniors.com)**

**A UNITED WAY funded agency**

# COMMUNITY CONTACT

## Lambton Youth Choir accepting new members



The Lambton Youth Choir is accepting new members in Grade 4 and older. Rehearsals are held every Wednesday during the school year from 6:15 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at LCCVI in Petrolia. For more information, email Diane O'Dell at [odelld@cogeco.ca](mailto:odelld@cogeco.ca). You can also check out the Lambton Youth Choir Facebook page.

## 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/](http://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 Feb. 13 and 27. The food bank is also open on Thursdays from 9 a.m. to noon. *Thanks are extended to the Operation Christmas program (Moore Optimist Club) for its contribution to the food bank during the Christmas season.*

## 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](http://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. **TOPS Corunna** meets every Tuesday at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church at 437 Colborne Street in Corunna. Weigh-in is at 6 p.m. with a meeting at 6:30 p.m. For more information, call Wendy at 519-381-5584.

## 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.





## Homeless veterans benefit from Marcotte donation

The Royal Canadian Legion Corunna Branch 447 recently received a donation earmarked for the Homeless Veterans Program. The funds were raised with revenue generated by the rental of temporary dumpsters during the Christmas season.

Left: A cheque for \$1,200 was presented to Br. 447 President John Cormier, left, and Poppy Chairman Bob Chambers by Marcotte Lumber Sales Manager Jim Leavoy.

*Submitted photo*

## Trail has new Facebook page



The St. Clair River Trail has a new Facebook page.

Message the page if you have photographs of the trail or events you would like us to

add. Trail committee member Susan Vollmar says, "We would love to hear from you. Search the St. Clair River Trail on Facebook to find us."

## Optimist Club of Moore hosts oratorical

The Optimist Club of Moore will host its annual oratorical contest for students on Saturday, Feb. 9 at 10:30 a.m. the Courtright Community Hall (Silverdome). This year's theme will be "Is There A Fine Line Between Optimism and Reality?"

Speeches will be judged on content and presentation to determine the top winners, who will receive a monetary prize for first, second and third place. Winning speeches will be sent to the Zone level and, if successful, will go on to the District level. Winners at that level will go on to the regional contest in St. Louis, Missouri and the top speakers there will compete in the World Championship at St. Louis University. Those speakers may win up to \$22,500 in scholarships.

So come out on Feb. 9 and cheer on our local speakers as they vie for a chance to claim international fame.



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

## STILL MORE AROUND THE TOWNSHIP

From page 15

classes are held Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 9:30 a.m. For more information, call Gayle at 519-813-9853, Dianne at 519-862-2678, or Mary at 519-862-2124.

### 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.

### Mark your calendar...

#### Moore Museum summer events

Watch for more information about the Moore Museum's Model Train Event on Sunday, July 14 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. and the Downriver Craft and Gift Sale on Sunday, Sept. 15 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.



### Brigden Fair Advanced prize list now available

It's time to start working on your Homecraft entries for 2019.

The Brigden Fair Advanced prize list is ready and copies are available at the Brigden Fair office.

The list will also be available soon online at [www.brigdenfair.ca](http://www.brigdenfair.ca).

Be sure to check out the list for all the new and exciting classes for all ages as well as an increased Industrial Arts division.

There's something for everyone!

**This year's theme is  
Cowbells and Carousels.**

## United Way of Sarnia-Lambton announces community investments

The United Way of Sarnia-Lambton recently announced the community investments for 2019-2020. Two of the investment recipients offer services that directly benefit St. Clair Township residents.

**Right:** Lambton Elderly Outreach (LEO) received a 9 per cent increase, from \$53,000 to \$58,000 annually, for its transportation program. In addition, its subsidized Meals on Wheels county

program, a newly funded program, will received \$16,600 annually. Shown here with one of the organization's transportation vehicles are: Laurie Lapierre, Bob Slack, and Ron Bain.

Also funded was the *Community Integration* program of the *New Beginnings* ABI and Stroke Recovery program. It received a 25 per cent increase from \$36,000 to \$45,000 annually.

*Photo submitted*



### Col. Cameron hosting kindergarten registration



Col. Cameron Public School 338 Cameron Street in Corunna, will host its kindergarten registration on Wednesday, Feb. 13 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. For more information or to register, go online to <https://www.lkdsb.net/Elementary/Registration/Pages/default.aspx> or to the school.

### Sir John Moore Community School to hold kindergarten registration

Sir John Moore Community School will hold kindergarten registration on Wednesday, Feb. 13 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Register online at: <http://lkdsb.net/Elementary/Registration/Pages/default.aspx> or in person at the school. Both English language kindergarten and French immersion are offered at the school.

## Creative County Grant Program will support two township projects

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](http://LambtonOnline.ca) or watch local media for information.

Creative  
County  
Fund



COUNTY OF  
LAMBTON

## MORE AROUND THE TOWNSHIP

From page 16

### NERF night in Courtright

The Lambton County Jr. Optimist will hold a NERF night on Friday, March 8 at the Courtright Community Hall. Ages seven through nine will play from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. and ages 10-13 will play from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Admission is \$2 each and a snack and NERF 'bullets' will be provided. To register, contact Michelle by March 2 at 519-481-0577.

### Annual pickerel fry at Corunna Legion

The Royal Canadian Legion Corunna Br. 447 will host the annual pickerel fry and dance, with entertainment by *Cornerstone*, on Saturday, March 16. Doors open at 5 p.m. with dinner from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. and dancing from 7:30 p.m. to midnight. The cost is \$20 per person and admission is by advanced tickets only. Tickets will be on sale starting Feb. 18 and everyone is welcome. The hall is wheelchair accessible. For more information call the Legion at 519-862-1240.

### Annual Beef Dinner at Brigden Fairgrounds exhibition hall

It's time once again for the annual Beef Dinner at the Brigden Fairgrounds exhibition hall on Sunday, March 21. Seating will be from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. and admission is by advanced tickets only. The cost is \$17 per adult, \$8 per child ages six to 10; and free for children five and under. Tickets can be purchased at the Brigden Fair office, at the jamborees, from directors and homecraft members, or at local Brigden businesses.

### Easter Brunch at Brigden exhibition hall

The Moore Agricultural Society invites you to the Easter Brunch at the Brigden Fairgrounds exhibition hall on Sunday, April 21. Mark your calendar. More details to come.

### 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 the church online at: [parkwaychurchmichelle@gmail.com](mailto:parkwaychurchmichelle@gmail.com)

### Cruikshank Community Centre hosts weekly activities

The Cruikshank 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](http://legion447.ca), or at the Legion branch.

### LEO fitness classes in Corunna accepting new members

The LEO Forever Fit class for seniors 55 and over, held at Thompson Gardens/Cruikshank Centre, is accepting new members. The one our

See still More, page 14

### Brigden Fair sponsorship opportunities

Have you ever thought about being a part of the Brigden Fair? Opportunities to become a class sponsor at the fair are now available to individuals and/or companies. Please call the fair office at 519-864-1197 or email [michelle.evanitski@brigdenfair.ca](mailto:michelle.evanitski@brigdenfair.ca) to discuss these great opportunities.

And if you would like to sponsor a class in the Brigden Fair Prize Book, you are invited to contact the fair prior to April 1, 2019 so your name and/or company can be noted in the prize book. For example, to sponsor a typical Homecraft class, the cost would be only \$25. A livestock class is higher, so please call for details.

Other advertising opportunities are also available. The Brigden Fair is one of Ontario's premiere fall fairs and it boasts a substantial annual attendance that offers wide advertising exposure. These opportunities can be explored by calling the fair office at 519-864-1197.

## AROUND THE TOWNSHIP

### Sombra Optimist draw at Rum Runners

The Optimist Club of Sombra will host meat raffles at Rum Runners Speakeasy in Sombra from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. on the following Wednesdays: Feb. 6; Feb. 20; March 6; and March 20. Come out and join the fun while supporting the great work of the Sombra Optimists.

### Optimist Oratorical contest in Courtright

Local students will compete in the annual Optimist Club Oratorical contest at the Courtright Community Hall on Saturday, Feb. 9 at 10:30 p.m. (For more information, see page 13.)

### Corunna Legion to host dart tourney


The Royal Canadian Legion Corunna Br. 447 will host the Barb Griffin Ladies Memorial Dart Tournament on Saturday, Feb. 9. Registration for ladies doubles, ladies teams, and ladies singles (if time permits) will be 10 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. with play beginning at 11 a.m. The cost will be \$5 per event and all monies will be returned in prizes. Food will be available and the hall is wheelchair accessible. For more information, call 519-862-1240.

### Jamboree fun 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. For more information about any one of these jamborees, call the fair office at 519-864-1197.

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.

And in March, get your Irish on! Everyone is a bit Irish at the **St. Patrick's Day Jamboree**, being held a week early on Sunday, March 10. Doors open at noon with music beginning at 1 p.m. for an afternoon of great music and dancing. Musicians are invited to bring instruments and join the jam. There will be a cash bar and supper tickets will be available at the door. 

The "Thank Goodness It's Spring" Jamboree, slated for Sunday, April 14, will make you forget about those April showers. Doors open at noon with music beginning at 1 p.m. for an afternoon of great music and dancing. There will be a cash bar and dinner tickets for the scalloped potato and ham dinner at 5 p.m. will be available at the door. Musicians can bring their instruments and sign up to be part of the jam.

*If you're looking for a terrific anniversary, birthday, or "just because I care" gift that will deliver hours of enjoyment to those who receive it, jamboree gift certificates are available at the Brigden Fair office Monday to Friday from 9 a.m. to noon and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. You can also pick them up at the jamborees.*

### Jr. Optimists host chocolate bar bingo

The Lambton County Jr. Optimist and the Optimist Club of Moore will host a fun family Chocolate Bar Bingo on Monday, Feb. 18 from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Courtright Community Hall. Admission is a full size chocolate bar. One bingo card will be handed out in return for each bar, and a snack will be provided.

### Brigden Community Church hosts special meetings

The Brigden Community Church will host special meetings on Wednesday, Feb. 27 and Thursday, Feb. 28 at 7 p.m. featuring Milad Khoury. Mr. Khoury is a youth pastor from Israel who works there with Jewish and Arab youth. He will be telling the group what is really happening in Israel. Everyone is welcome. For more information, call Joanne at 519-864-4111.

### World Day of Prayer in Brigden and Corunna

The World Day of Prayer 2019 service will be held in **Mooretown** at St. Andrew's Church on Friday, March 1 at 1:30 p.m. The theme, "Come, Everything is Ready", was written by the women of Slovenia.

This event will also be celebrated in **Corunna** at Corunna United Church at 2 p.m.

Everyone is welcome to come for prayer and fellowship at these events.

### Corunna Legion to host cribbage tourney

The Royal Canadian Legion Corunna Br. 447 will host the Hank Stothers Memorial Cribbage Tournament on Sunday, March 3. Registration is from noon to 12:45 p.m. with play beginning at 1 p.m. The cost is \$10 per person and all monies will be returned in prizes. Food will be available and the hall is wheelchair accessible. For more information, call 519-862-1240.

See More, page 15



## 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](mailto: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.