



The St. Clair Township

BEACON

Discoveries
That Matter

Issue 3

Volume 13

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THE TOWNSHIP
OF ST. CLAIR

Ship's wheel from by-gone era stands in silent respect for the CCGS *Samuel Risley*



The retired ship's wheel that has become a landmark for the Courtright shoreline park serves as a reminder of the centuries-old shipping heritage of the St. Clair River. On a blustery February day, the wheel provided a fitting set piece for the passing of the *CCGS Samuel Risley*. The Canadian Coast Guard ice breaker/buoy tender is one of two Samuel Risley-class ships built in 1985/1986 (the second is the *Earl Grey*). The ships' design is based on that of an offshore supply-tugboat, but with modifications to strengthen the vessel. They are 69.7 metres/228 feet in length with a beam of 13.7 metres, and they are each equipped with one crane.

The *Risley* has a crew of nine officers and 15 crew. It is powered by four Wartsila Vasa 16V22 12-cylinder geared diesel-electric engines which drive two controllable pitch propellers that develop 8,844 horsepower for a maximum speed of 13 knots/24 km/hr. The Arctic Class 2 ship can break ice up to two feet thick. It is based in Parry Sound, Ontario, and is sometimes called upon to participate in rescue and recovery operations.



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MUNICIPAL NOTES

Anti-icing issue explained

At the Feb. 3 meeting of council, David Neely, Coordinator of Operations for the township's Public Works Department, reported to council on the township's anti-icing methods used to mitigate the bonding of snow and ice to road surfaces and prevent the formation of "black ice". Mr. Neely's report was requested by council in response to a deputation at the previous meeting by Mr. Owen Anthony and some other concerned residents who felt that "brine", the calcium chloride liquid used to prevent the icing of roads during cold weather, was being overused by the township's works department road crews.

A document reviewed by council cited the Jan. 25, 2013 revision to the Minimum Maintenance Standards for Municipal Highways Regulation 239/02 of the Municipal Act which states, "...a road authority in charge of road maintenance is mandated to treat a roadway both before the formation of ice as well as after the formation of ice." This important change to the standard made municipalities liable for accidents caused by ice that could have been prevented.

Mr. Neely explained the product used by St. Clair Township, known as Mastermelt, is used by about half of the municipalities in Ontario, including Kingston, the Region of Peel, Norwich Township and Central Elgin.

It should be noted an attempt to use an alternate solution of 20 per cent beet juice and 80 per cent of 23 per cent sodium chloride is currently being used in the City of London, but it foams and requires the use of a lot of anti-foaming agent and is often known to plug nozzles and hoses. All of these products are known to encourage the oxidization of steel in the same way as regular road salt.

The environmental impacts and damage to infrastructure are taken into consideration when the rate of application of the Mastermelt is determined. Spreading rates are governed by road temperatures, air temperatures, and probable precipitation. All snow plow/salting trucks owned by St. Clair Township are equipped with electronic metering systems supplied by Dickey-john, a company that supplies material application controllers specifically developed for use by public works. These controllers allow calibration and setting of application rates. Each truck is calibrated and tested at the beginning of each winter for salt, sand, and brine quantities.

Based on Dickey-john setting and truck log books, the Mastermelt product is applied in St. Clair Township at any rate between 40 L/lane km and 90 L/lane km, with an average application rate of 70 L/km. This is the equivalent of spreading 3.5 five-gallon pails of product over 1 km of road or 25 kg/lane of dry salt (if water was removed from the Mastermelt). Also, consider that the average road salt application is 100 kg/lane km.

Mastermelt is also less expensive to use than road salt.

Mr. Neely also pointed out that, although weather conditions sometimes make it necessary to call works staff in after hours to lay down a coating of Mastermelt, anti-icing can often be applied during normal working hours which helps to reduce these after-hours call-ins.

Without the use of liquid anti-icing, there is little or no defense against black ice formation, which typically develops around 5 a.m. This leaves a very short window of time between calling out the salt trucks and the ability to make roads safe for morning traffic.

Courtright shoreline protection continues

The shoreline protection project now underway at Courtright

Park will continue past the 75 metres of revetment that were originally planned for the current phase of the project. The project qualifies for the Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund (DMAF) which provides 40 per cent funding to assist with shoreline and other mitigation related projects. This, combined with the amount budgeted by council for the entire project, has created a surplus that will allow the Courtright shoreline project to be completed immediately so that other urgent shoreline protection projects in the township can be undertaken.

SCRCA reports high water may worsen

In a report to council on Feb. 17, Girish Sankar, Director of Water Resources for the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority, explained the complexities of managing water levels within the SCRCA water shed and how the decision is made to open the McKeough Dam when high water levels threaten to flood downriver communities within the water shed. In summary, Mr. Sankar cautioned that, using all indicators, data, and resources available to the SCRCA, water levels this coming summer may exceed those of 2019 by an appreciable amount. They could also be made worse by heavy rainfall if current water levels do not drop. Several concerned residents from the township attended this presentation and were able to speak to Mr. Sankar at the conclusion of the presentation.

Council discussed the high water levels later in the meeting. Mayor Arnold noted that areas of the St. Clair Parkway in vulnera-

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Council Meeting Schedule

Dates for upcoming January meetings of St. Clair Township Council are tentatively slated for Monday, Monday, March 2 at 3 p.m.; Monday, March 16 at 6 p.m., Monday, April 6 at 3 p.m., and Monday, April 20 at 6 p.m. Anyone wishing to attend or 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.

Winter parking by-law

The winter parking by-law is currently in effect until April. 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 and safely without having their work hampered by parked cars.

Property owners are 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 and mishaps.



More MUNICIPAL NOTES

From page 2

ble areas such as Sombra could be severely impacted by high water, with flooding, especially during times when there is turbulence in the river due to storms or large boat wakes. Residents in low lying areas along the St. Clair, Sydenham, and other watercourses within the SCRC watershed should be aware that flooding may occur, especially if the McKeough Dam is activated. Flooding mitigation methods and areas of concern will also be investigated.

In association with this discussion, the subject of the closed Branton-Cundick Park boat launch arose. Kendall Lindsay, Director of Community Services, presented four options for the launch. But the most cost-effective option, given the need for flood mitigation in several other sectors of the township and the attendant cost of installing that protection, made closure the only option that made fiscal sense and ensured the safety of those who might attempt to use it. Council decided that the Sombra and Mooretown boat launches should be kept in good repair. **(PLEASE NOTE: Residents who decide to undertake some form of flooding mitigation should contact the SCRC before doing so. See page 8 for information regarding the SCRC shoreline protection permit application process.)**

Port Lambton 200th receives funds

Anne Hazzard, the chair of the Port Lambton 200th Anniversary Committee, attended the Feb. 3 meeting of council to report the committee's progress and to request \$25,000 funding in support of the year-long cele-

bration activities and events. Council voted in favour of the funding request given the significance of the occasion. The committee reported efforts are also being made to seek funding through the Ontario Tourism for Samia/Lambton Spark Grant (see page 10 for results), as well as the Moore Foundation, local industries and

More Municipal Notes, see page 9

Join Us
Saturday April 18th

Wilkesport Community Centre

1622 Baby Line, Wilkesport

Spring renewal Gala

Cocktails | 6:00 pm

Dinner | 7:00 pm

Midnight Meal | 11:00 pm

Silent and Live Auction | Cash Bar

Tickets \$100 Available at

Moore Sports Complex
Township of St. Clair Civic Centre
Kay's Petals and Plants - Corunna
Rum Runners - Sombra
Online at: www.ticketscene.com



Design and Print Sponsor



Transportation Sponsor



Gold Sponsor

Rob's
no frills

LaPier's
Flowers

All Proceeds in Support of

MOORE
SPORTS COMPLEX
RENEWAL



OUR COMMUNITY COULD WIN
**AN NHL GAME
AND \$250,000**
LET'S RALLY

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT: KRAFTHOCKEYVILLE.CA



Here's a chance to show Canada the passion and enthusiasm St. Clair Township has for the game of hockey. It's also a chance to win \$250,000 toward the Moore Sports Complex Renewal project AND an NHL game played right here. The 2019 Hockeyville winner hosted a game between the Tampa Bay Lightning and the Pittsburgh Penguins.

The Hockeyville competition deadline is approaching fast, so there's no time to waste. The top four finalists will be chosen on March 14. Go online to krafthockeyville.ca to get all the information you'll need to tell your own hockey story and add your voice to St. Clair Township's entry in this competition. **LET'S GO, ST. CLAIR!**

Hockeyville Report

Organizers on the local Hockeyville front lines report the township's Hockeyville write-in campaign is going well. They report, "Hometown heroes such as Derek Drouin, Dustin Jeffrey, Kassie Roache, and Paul Ysebaert add their nomination stories to the 1196 entries submitted on behalf of Mooretown." Voting will begin to determine the winner on March 14 and end on March 26. See page 17.

WE ARE HOCKEYVILLE-
Tell your story and prove it!

MSC Spring Renewal Gala Update

The MSC Spring Renewal Gala will include a buffet dinner, two guest speakers, a dance, and a photo booth. Transportation to and from the event will be provided by Bad Dog of Corunna. Tickets are 1/3 sold out and sales close on Wednesday, April 8. They can be purchased at Moore Sports Complex at the Moore Sports Complex, the Township of St. Clair Civic Centre, Kay's Petals and Plants, Rum Runners in Sombra, and online at: <https://www.ticketscene.ca/events/28151/>

Those who require a vegan dinner or who would like to reserve a table for 12 can do so by email to: mscgala20@gmail.com.

Thank you to sponsors: Lambton Ford Lincoln, Bad Dog, LaPier's Flowers and Gifts, Nicole Smith Exit Realty, Rob's No Frills, Blue Monster Creative, and Kay's Petals and Plants.



Public Works Department

After hours emergency
~ 519-344-9318 ~

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

Engineering.....519-867-2125

Website..... www.stclairtownship.ca

Water Utility.....519-867-2128

Fax.....519-867-3886

Civic Centre, 1155 Emily Street, Mooretown

Water Utility appointments Require 48 hours notification

To avoid service fees, St. Clair Township By-Law 8 of 2020 requires at least 48 hours notice in advance of scheduling appointments with the Public Works.

Crossing Guard - March 2020

The Township of St. Clair requires a crossing guard to assist school children crossing in Corunna. The work involves one hour in the morning and one hour in the afternoon on school days. The current compensation is \$33.05 per day.

Please send applications to public-works@twp.stclair.on.ca or apply in person at the St. Clair Township Civic Centre, 1155 Emily Street in Mooretown.



Municipal 511 notification system

The Public Works Department of St. Clair Township will be utilizing (starting January 1, 2020) notification system known as "Municipal 511". This mapping-based system will allow the Public Works Department to notify the public of road closures, detour routes, watermain breaks, etc. Access this website at www.Municipal511.ca. Information found on Municipal511 will also be linked to navigation systems (cell phones, GPS) such as Google Maps, Apple Maps, Garmin, MapQuest and ESRI.



Bridge closures

Please be advised that the Holt Line bridge over the Sydenham River and the Pretty Road bridge over Black Creek will be closed until rehabilitation can commence in 2020. Please find alternate routes.



St. Clair River Trail winter closure

The St. Clair River Trail is now closed until April 15. No winter maintenance will be completed during this period under By-Law 45 of 2018.



Clear the road!

All homeowners are reminded to clear recreational sports equipment (e.g. basketball nets, goalie nets, etc.) off and away from roads and streets. This includes sports nets that are located on the street surface and near the back of the curb. A verbal and/or written warning will be issued to homeowners with sports nets on or near the road.

Please take Notice

If sports nets are not removed, all equipment will be collected by the Public Works Department and stored at the Public Works Operational Centres (Mooretown and Wilkesport).



Winter parking by-law in effect

The Winter Parking By-Law is now in effect between the overnight hours of 2 a.m. to 6 a.m. until April. Vehicles must not be parked on the streets during this



Road Closed Signage



RB-92 (red dot)

This is a regulatory sign.

Driving past this sign is illegal!

Charges can be laid under the Highway Traffic Act



TC-7TA & TC-7TB (orange colour)

This sign is generally placed at each intersection on either side of the construction, notifying drivers that the road is closed.

It is intended that only drivers who need to access specific properties on the affected section of road are to drive around these signs.

No through traffic is permitted.

Public Works Department

AVOID FROZEN WATER METERS AND PIPES

Prevention

It's that time of year again! The winter weather is here and your home is at risk of frozen water meters and pipes. This can stop the flow of water and may be costly to repair. Property owners are responsible for protecting water pipes and meters from damage. Here are a few tips to help prevent frozen water meters and pipes:

- Eliminate cold drafts near water pipes
- Turn off service to external water taps
- Insulate pipes that are most prone to freezing
- Make frequent use of your water supply
- Know the location of your indoor shut-off valve in case a pipe bursts

If you suspect your pipes are frozen check the following:

- Most likely the pipes near an outside wall, or where the water service enters the house through a foundation wall, are frozen. Begin by opening a faucet near the frozen pipe to avoid a burst line when water starts flowing
- **NEVER** use a blowtorch or open flame to thaw a line
- Begin by warming the pipes using a blow dryer, heating pad or portable heater (Do not leave electrical devices unattended or place near flammable materials)
- Once water starts flowing, allow a small stream of water to continue until heating is restored
- Eliminate drafts and allow heat to circulate to avoid refreezing

Water Department

Office Hours:

Monday - Friday

8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

519-867-2128

After Hours Emergency: 519-344-9318

Public Works Department

Sanitary Backup Prevention

Do you have a backwater valve?

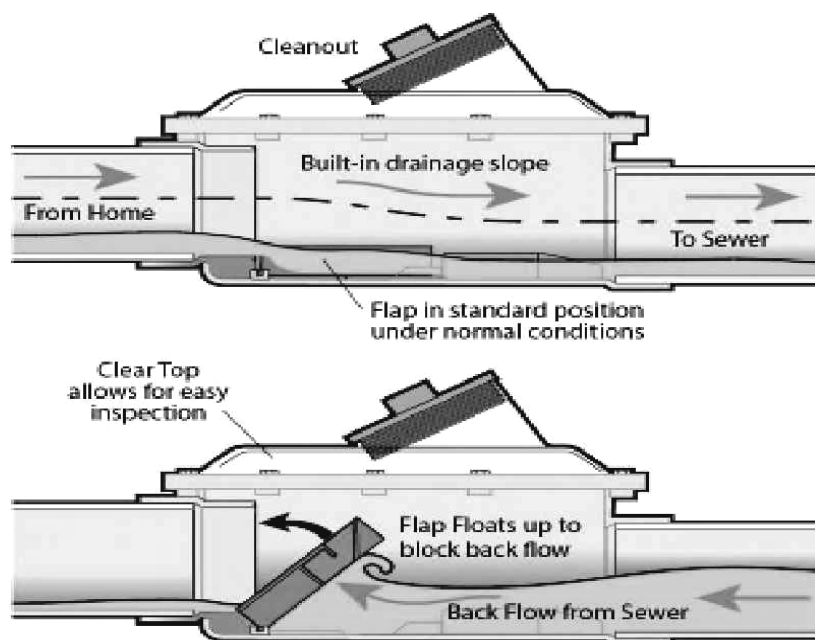
A backwater valve, if properly installed and maintained, can prevent sewage from backing up into your home during a blockage or surcharge. It is recommended you follow the backwater valve manufacturer's guidelines and recommendations for maintenance.

Regular maintenance is required to ensure it operates as required during a sanitary backup.

1. Remove cleanout cap on top of the valve and do a visual inspection.
2. Ensure O-ring is in good condition on the cap.
3. Use a flashlight to properly see inside the valve body.
4. Inspect for debris build-up on body, gate (flap) and beneath the gate (flap).
5. If debris build-up is found, flush clean.
6. Inspect the O-ring for deterioration and replace if necessary.
7. Ensure the gate (flap) moves freely up and down.
8. If the backwater valve is a model with floats, check condition of floats and replace as necessary.
9. Reinstall cleanout cap.

The clear top allows for easy inspection to determine if the gate (flap) is open or closed.

Keep in mind, when the backwater valve is closed you *can't* use your plumbing as you normally would. Avoid showering, flushing the toilet, using the washing machine or dishwasher until conditions return to normal and the backwater valve gate is open.



If you have further questions, contact a licensed plumber.

Public Works Department



Public Works Summer Employment

The Township of St. Clair Public Works Department has summer employment opportunities for six (6) positions; four (4) positions as "Operations Labour", one (1) position as Engineering student, and one (1) position as Administration student.

The positions will start May 4, 2020 for a period up to August 28, 2020. The location of the Operations Labourer Positions will be the Wilkesport or Moore Operations Centre's with hours of work being Monday to Friday 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. This position will work outdoors and indoors and therefore candidates must be able to work in all environments (hot temperatures). The Engineering and Administration positions will be located at the Mooretown Civic Centre with hours of work being Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

The positions are subject to receiving subsidy funding from Canada Summer Jobs Service Program, and therefore applicants must meet the requirements of this program. The following must apply:

- 1) Be a Canadian Citizen
- 2) Youth between the ages of 15-30 (at start of employment period).
- 3) Must have a valid G-2 licence or greater, as the job will require driving.
- 4) Provide a valid social insurance number.

Please submit a resume with covering letter, clearly marked with the position being applied to, by mail or email no later than 1:00pm on Friday, March 27, 2020 to:

St. Clair Civic Centre
Attn: Public Works Department
1155 Emily Street
Mooretown, ON N0N 1M0
pwresume@twp.stclair.on.ca

Personal information submitted will be used for the sole purpose of this competition. It is collected under the authority of the Municipal Act and will be used in accordance with the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act for employment purposes.

Please note this document is available in alternative formats upon request, to accommodate individuals with a disability beginning with the recruitment process. The Township of St. Clair is committed to providing accommodations for people with disabilities. If you require an accommodation, please contact the Clerk's office and we will make all necessary arrangements to meet your needs.



St. Clair Township Community Service Department is seeking enthusiastic, energetic and motivated students to join our team during the summer of 2020.

We have several positions available that run from April/May through to the end of August.

1. Parks and Recreations
2. Campgrounds
3. Golf Course
4. MSC Day Camp

Please drop a resume off at reception at: Moore Sports Complex in Mooretown, 1166 Emily Street, Mooretown, Ont., N0N 1M0; or email to sknight@stclairtownship.ca

SCRCA shoreline protection permit application process

From media release issued by SCRCA

High lake and river levels impacting shoreline communities have emphasized the need for proper shoreline protection for municipalities and private citizens. The St. Clair Region Conservation Authority regulates shoreline properties within the St. Clair Region watershed to ensure development activities are completed in a safe and reliable manner. Regulated activities include the installation of shoreline protection.

Every permit for shoreline protection is reviewed by the SCRCA staff on a case-to-case basis to ensure that: the protection is structurally sound; the structure has sufficient life-expectancy; and that the structure does not negatively impact adjacent landowners. It is recommended that landowners contact SCRCA staff to arrange

a pre-application consultation meeting prior to submitting their application.

Erosion control projects are expensive and they require the input of specialists, including engineers and shoreline construction contractors. Funding programs for private landowners have not been available for over a decade.

Brian McDougall, General manager of the SCRCA says, "We strongly encourage anyone who has questions or concerns regarding our involvement in erosion control projects to contact us. We are open, available, and eager to work with our communities to protect their properties and investments."

For more information, visit the SCRCA website at: www.scrca.on.ca

Starter Company Plus program accepting second round of applications

Small business owners and entrepreneurs seeking grants to help fund a business startup or growth are invited to apply for the Sarnia-Lambton Economic Partnership's (SLEP) Starter Company Plus program.

The program, now in its second year, will award six grants of \$5,000 to successful applicants to start a business or grow an existing one. The award will also provided grant recipients with personalized business coaching and access to peer-led support sessions.

This program is administered by SLEP's Business Enterprise Centre, and it is funded by the Ontario Ministry of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade.

To be eligible for the program, appli-

cants must be over age 18 and not currently enrolled in a post-secondary institution. They must have at least 25 per cent of the requested grant amount in equity and have not received a Starter Company Plus Grant in the past.

Applicants for the grant must meet with a Business Enterprise Centre counsellor prior to the application submission due date Monday, April 6.

For more information on how to apply, contact Chantelle Core at chantelle@sarnialambton.on.ca



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).

More MUNICIPAL NOTES

From page 3

service groups, and individual employee financial support programs offered by some employers.

The permissions and support required to accomplish some of the events were also sought. Council asked that the organizers inform local businesses of any disruption a celebration event might cause to their operation.

Groups involved in the celebration include: The Port Lambton Optimist Club; St. Clair Township Port Lambton Fire Station; Port Lambton Athletic Association; Sacred Heart Church-Knights of Columbus and CWL; Port Lambton United Church; Sombra Museum; Lambton County Library/Port Lambton library branch; Gala Days Committee; Port Lambton Community Hall Board; Riverview Public School; Sacred Heart School; Mainstreet Credit Union; and the Community Horticultural Group. Events being proposed for 2020 include: four evenings of music in Dedecker Park; a vendor

street sale; historic ghost walk; baseball day; quilt and church history tour; shared event days between Riverview and Sacred Heart Schools; slow roll village bike ride; commemorative tree planting and horticultural display; a history display at a local venue; and a featured 200th Anniversary sandwich at Shaykin Bait Variety. Other annual events will feature the 200th anniversary theme as well, including the Gala Day Parade (see page 18) and the Optimist Car Show, which will feature 200 cars, one for each of Port Lambton's 200 years as a village.

Sombra Child and Youth fishing derby

The Sombra Township Optimist Club and the Sombra Sports and Rec Club advised council they are working together to plan the first Annual Sombra Child and Youth fishing derby this coming July 1 during Sombra Days.

The groups hope to attract the participation of over 100 two-person teams (one member older than 17 and one member younger than 17) as a fundraising event. The organizers hope to be able to offer two extraordinary grand prizes. *The location of the derby is still being finalized.*

2020 Lady Flags "Try It" skates & "Try It" goalie sessions offered

The Mooretown Lady Flags Girls Hockey Association offers a fantastic girls hockey program that just keeps growing. It doesn't matter if the girl is new to skating, new to the game, or just looking for a new sport, a little competition, and some big fun with the girls, why not consider hockey as the right fit for your family?

Player "Try It" Skates

These sessions are for any girls three to nine who are not part of another girls hockey association, including Mooretown. The newest girls will be given the best experience possible while introducing them to the love of the game! No previous hockey experience is needed.

Goalie "Try It" Sessions

These sessions are for any girls (5-9) who are not part of another girl's hockey association who would like to see what it is like to be a goalie! We welcome current Mooretown Lady Flags players to these goalie sessions as well. No goalie experience is needed.

These skates will be held at Moore Sports Complex on Rink 2, at a cost of \$10.00 / session or \$60.00 for all nine sessions.

The cost of these sessions are discounted accordingly in consideration that registrants may not be able to attend all sessions due to other commitments.

*Full equipment required (we can help with equipment for these sessions if needed).

"Try It" Session Dates

All skates are from 3:00 - 4:00PM on Rink 2: March 1; March 8; March 15; March 22; March 29.

For Online Registration please visit the website:

https://mooretownladyflags.ca/Articles/1206/2020_Lady_Flags_Try_It_Skates_and_Try_It_Goalie_Sessions/

*Payment in full is required at the time of online registration via e-Transfer. The child will not be considered registered unless payment is received.

*Please include your player's first & last name in the comment section of the e-Transfer.

*Please send payment via e-Transfer at time of registration to treasurer@mooreladyflags.ca. If you have any questions at all please contact Mooretown Lady Flags President, Kevin Slater at president@mooretownladyflags.ca

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



EarlyON Child and Family Centres

The Early ON 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 Birchbank Drive, Corunna, 519-862-5071, ext. 224

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

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

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

Brigden United Church,

2420 Jane Street, Brigden

519-892-3151

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

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

HERITAGE CORNER

Port Lambton receives Spark program grant to fund history walk

Port Lambton's 200th Anniversary Committee recently received a welcome grant from Tourism Sarnia-Lambton's "Spark" program.

The \$3,000 grant will be used to develop and operate a History Story Walk through the village.

The Spark program's goal is to find, foster, and support new tourism ideas to: enhance current tourism offerings; create new, high-quality tourism experiences; address gaps in tourism products and services; motivate travel to the area along with longer stays and repeat visits; and increase year-round visitation and tourism spending.

The Port Lambton Spark application was one of 21 received from across Sarnia and Lambton County. Out of that

pool, six finalists, including the Port Lambton, were chosen to compete in a "Dragon's Den" style event to determine which three applicants would receive a \$3,000 grant to start up or to continue growing their tourism idea. The winning applicants will also receive mentorship opportunities to ensure their long-term success.

The Sarnia-Lambton "Spark" Mentorships and Grants Program is a partnership between: the Ontario Tourism



The 2019-2020 Sarnia-Lambton "Spark" program winners are, from left: Megan O'Neil, 100th of a Marathon Event (Lambton Shores); Bo Tait, Throwchella (Sarnia); Kailyn Shepley and Anne Hazard, History Story Walk (Port Lambton).
Photo submitted

Innovation Lab; Ontario Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries; Southwest Ontario Tourism; Tourism Sarnia-Lambton; Sarnia Lambton Economic Partnership; Waterfront Regeneration Trust; Libro Credit Union; and the Sarnia-Lambton Workforce Development Board. Sarnia-Lambton is one of six regions in the province to offer the program to date.

Moore Museum celebrates 45th anniversary

The Moore Museum celebrates 45 years of heritage preservation in 2020 and volunteers are working hard to get the museum, its extensive collections and artifacts in shape for the coming season.

A new model train layout and a unique display of Vaseline glass will be highlighted, and annual favourites like the Victorian Tea, held in the onsite Victorian cottage, will feature Victorian clad wait-staff, warm homemade scones and tea/coffee served in fine china. Who knows what other wonders await?

If you live in St. Clair Township, you live in a community rich in Canadian history.

Visit the Moore Museum during this special season and be amazed!

Notice Bear Creek Cemetery Company

Bear Creek Cemetery has submitted by-laws to the Registrar of the Funeral, Burial, and Cremation Services Act, 2002. Any interested parties may contact Russell Marsh at 519-331-1798 for information or to make copies. By-laws or amendments may be reviewed or copied at 3393 Telfer Road, Mooretown, Ontario.

These by-laws are subject to the approval of the Registrar, Funeral, Burial, and Cremation Services Act, 2002. Contact can be made by telephone to: Bereavement Authority of Ontario, 647-483-2645 or 1-844-493-6356.

MORE HERITAGE CORNER

Pioneer spring envisioned in story from Moore Museum

Although spring isn't officially here yet, we can feel the first hints of it in the air, coming to rescue us from the dark, cold winter. With this optimistic attitude in mind, the Moore Museum's Linda Woods, who often takes on the character of a pioneer woman during various museum programs, has written a charming account of how the early residents of St. Clair Township may have perceived the coming of spring.

A pioneer spring imagined

Prologue

*O h, the joys of spring!
Waking up today and letting my dog outside, I feel the cool morning air and smell the richness of the earth. The snow has melted from the paved sidewalk and it looks like the car could use a trip to the carwash. While planning my day, I think about making some fresh broccoli soup and a ham wrap with fresh lettuce and green peppers with a cold glass of water from the tap. It makes me think about how much things have changed since the early pioneers settled here. What did they think of spring? What did they eat after such a long winter? They certainly must have been running out of supplies and with the spring mud, going to the nearest grocers would be next to impossible.*

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Imagine the harsh winter they would just have been through; the cold winds and snow as high as the horse's chest; the way they tried to keep the inside of the house warm and the way they used fire wood sparingly because they didn't know if it would last until spring. Eventually, the weather would begin to warm, bringing half snow, half rain, creating a mushy layer of mud that covered the land and encapsulated the farm. They'd smell the rotting manure waiting to be spread on the fields and areas of the ground would smell like rotted earth.

If they wanted to reach a destination, walking would be their best choice because they would never get the buggy or buckboard with its wooden wheels through the deep, slimy mud. If they were unable to walk, like some of the older generation, they would have to wait another few weeks before they could venture too far outside.

The night chill meant they would have to keep quilts hung along the walls of the cabin to catch the cold breeze before it caught them. One of the boys would have to fetch more wood if the wood pile in the shed was getting low. The first items they would need to set up would be the boot scrapper and bootjack, otherwise Mother would complain about the horrible amount of mud being tracked across her just-cleaned floors.

In the livestock sheds, the animals would begin birthing. There would be some long nights with little sleep. The pioneers would need to keep the wood fire burning to warm some of the newborn animals.

They would desperately wish for a fresh chicken pie, a rhubarb pie, and store-bought coffee. But in the early spring, stored vegetables from the cellar would need the spoiled and moldy areas cut away before use, and dried, salted pork might be eaten three times a day. The last of the dried apples from the attic would have been used weeks ago and squash from the kitchen garden would have rotted away.

Turnip would remain and no woman's recipe box would be complete without recipes for fried turnip, creamed turnip, raw

turnip sticks, and mashed turnip. It might be too much turnip but it would last the longest due to its rough, hard skin. It was slower to rot, bruise or pick up molds and blights from the other rotting fruits and vegetables. There wouldn't be anything green to eat until they saw the first stinging nettles growing. If harvested when young leaves and shoots appeared, it could be used just like spinach. It must have tasted wonderful after a long winter. Later there would be dandelions, leeks, violets, rhubarb, garlic, mustard, fiddle heads and the roots of wild carrots.

And don't forget the tasty part of spring - maple syrup. It's hard work to make but as many trees as possible would be found and tapped. The sweet sap would flow from the trees into buckets and then boiled in huge caldrons until the water was turned into steam and thick maple syrup was formed. One delightful trick was to pour some of the sap into the snow and wind it around a stick. This created a tasty sweet, an edible treat which children would not have seen since Christmas...if they were lucky enough to have the supplies to make the treats.

As the weather warmed, they would find themselves sitting closer to the glass windows. They were feeling spring fever! It was too cold to start the gardens and yet warm enough to make them feel comforted by the sun's rays. The light became easier on the eyes and they would begin to repair clothing, harnesses, tools, and all the things they would use on the farm. Summer would come and then preserving for winter would begin again.

With the seasons would come new and tasty delights, and there would be lots of work to do before Winter came again.

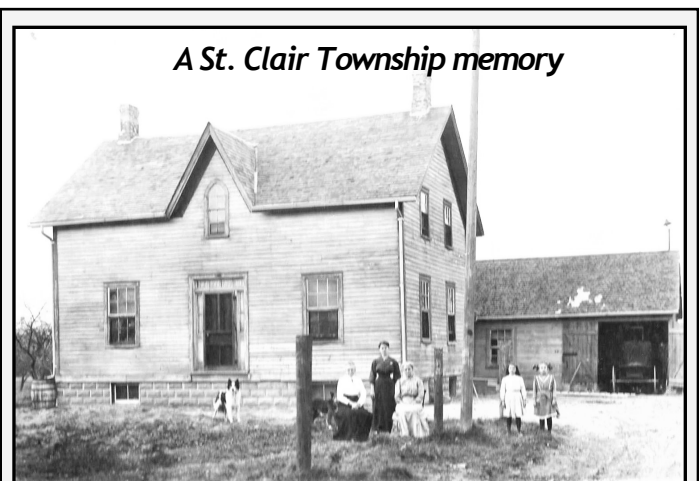
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The author offers this example of a preserve the early settlers might have made to get through the winter.

Geranium Jelly

Place 5 lbs. of currants or apples in small amount of water. Cook slowly until pulpy. Drain in jelly bag. Heat with 1 stick cinnamon 2 whole cloves and 1 geranium leaf in a spice bag for 1- min. then remove. Add 1 cup sugar for 1 cup juice. Boil to jelly stage or use Sure-ell as directed. Can.

~From the book *Early 1900 Pantry Recipes* by Marcie Leitzke



A St. Clair Township memory

The Hayward Homestead, 2nd Line, Moore Township, is shown here in 1914. In front of the house are residents, from left: Mrs. Christie Gray, Mrs. Ruth Hayward, Mrs. Katie Hayward, Lyla Warren, and Gladys Hayward.

Moore Museum archives

Mooretown Jr. Flags Atom Rep team skates to victory at Int'l Silver Stick tourney



Macy Gauvin photo

MOORETOWN JR. FLAGS ATOM REP INTERNATIONAL SILVER STICK 2019-2020 CHAMPIONS

Front row: Liam Lahey. Second row left: Graeme Hazzard; Cole Grant; Tucker Ysebeart; Klarke McLaughlin. Third row left: Chase Ticknor; Daynen Vanderveeken; Max Gauvin; Cole Scott; Ryan Teschke; Oden Lajoie; Ewan Snedden; Drew Mullen. Back row coaching staff left: Ben Hazzard; Ian Snedden; Aaron Ticknor; Sean Lajoie; Adam Teschke; Ryan Scott.

-Reported by Rebecca Brander and Coach Ben Hazzard

The Mooretown Jr. Flags Atom Rep team went into the International Silver Stick finals in Forest on Jan. 26 and wrote a story that will never be forgotten; the team secured the first Atom B International Silver Stick final for Mooretown.

This was the third straight year the Mooretown Atom Rep team advanced to the international tournament but it was the first championship. In addition to superb team play, out of a selection of six noteworthy players, four were from the Mooretown Flags: Ewan Snedden, Drew Mullen, Oden Lajoie, and Liam Lahey.

The climax of the game was a dramatic shoot-out to

break a 1-1 tie. Coach Ben Hazzard says, "They dominated their division and vanquished a shoot-out loss beating Penetang, (the number four team in Ontario) to win Sunday afternoon's championship game. There is no doubt this is superhero performance."

The team's remarkable performance was so stunning that it will be forever commemorated on a plaque that will be on display at the Hockey Hall of Fame in Toronto.

**They came, they played, they conquered!
CONGRATULATIONS FLAGS!**

*Weather
not good
for Sombra
rink ice*

Just before the cold snap in November, 2019, we were able to clear leaves and drain water so that we had an appropriate thickness of ice. During that time, we had a solid 1.5 inches of good ice and were looking forward to being able to skate soon; a few days later, we received a large amount of snowfall, followed by rain and then freezing temperatures again. This created a layer of slush between a frozen bottom and a frozen top that was not appropriate for skating. A subsequent melt gave us a second chance at a decent surface but the temperatures were too high resulting in an extreme melt. During the -16° temperatures on Feb. 12, we again tested the ice and, though it looked decent on the surface, there was about an inch of water between the bottom and top layers of ice. It would not hold the weight of a person. As a result the rink remains locked. It is disappointing but these spring-like temperatures have not been conducive to creating safe ice. We are sorry this is the case. For further updates on the rink please visit our Facebook page.

-Sombra Sports and Recreation

2020 BRIGDEN FAIR WINS *FAIR OF THE YEAR AWARD*



Brigden Fair Ambassador Melody Riedl and 2019 President Malcolm Rogers with the Fair of the Year Award, shown above.

Several representatives from the Moore Agricultural Society (MAS) - Home of the Brigden Fair travelled to Toronto in February to attend the annual Ontario Association of Agricultural Societies (OAAS) Convention.

While there, Brigden Fair received the honour of being presented with the World's Finest Shows 2019 Fair of the Year award, a testament to the hard work and dedication that has been a hallmark of MAS members for decades.

The members of the Brigden Fair would like to thank Mr. Barry Jamieson and family, and World's Finest Shows for this award.

Thank you also to all the volunteers, entertainers, exhibitors and patrons. It is your continuous support and dedication that makes the fair successful!

-Moore Agricultural Society



MAS Homecraft representatives Cheryl McGuire and Marie Gorton enjoy a close encounter of a big bird kind at the convention.

Submitted photos

On-going bird congregations in progress in St. Clair Township



Avian congregations have been in progress all over the township this winter. The urge to migrate south has not appealed to many species, including the gulls and the geese. Above: The Shell Manufacturing Facility dock north of Corunna has been playing host to congregations of seagulls. Warm water from the outflow and the good fishing to be found there have made it the perfect venue for this event. The dock itself has become a hospitality suite where the birds are able to digest their food and take a break from the crowded congregation space in the air over the river. Below: Canada Geese have been enjoying the waterfront at parkland such as this lovely stretch of Cathcart Park. The majestic birds are finding adequate food and protection from predators, and are leaving behind an abundance of slippery reminders of their occupation.

Bonnie Stevenson photo



Rapids Family Health Team

The following sessions are being offered at the **Rapids Family Health Team** clinic located in the Shell Health Centre, **233 Cameron Street**, Corunna. There is **no charge** for participation and all classes are open to the public - **no physician referral required**. You must register to participate. Please note space is limited.

For more information go to www.rapidsfhteam.ca or to register call 519-339-8949 and speak to reception.

Healthy Eating and YOU

A series of **four** sessions, each lasting two hours. The aim of the program is to help you make permanent lifestyle changes; this is not a "diet" program. You will set your own healthy eating and physical activity goals, and learn how to make plans for achieving them. Some topics that will be discussed include:

- ◆ Carbohydrates, protein and fats (the good and the bad)
- ◆ Physical activity: What types and amounts are beneficial
- ◆ Emotional eating strategies
- ◆ Sensible portions and portion control strategies
- ◆ Group discussions will help you learn from others experiences.

This four-week series will be repeated two more times this year.

The **second series** is set for Thursdays, April 30, May 7, 14 & 21 from 9:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

And the **third series** is planned for Wednesdays, Sept. 16, 23, 30 & Oct. 7 from 9:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

FREE Cooking Classes: Love Your Heart - Eat Smart!

These classes focus on nutrition advice to reduce your risk of developing heart disease and stroke.

This three-week series will be held on Thursdays, Sept. 17, 24 & Oct. 1 from 9:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

FREE Cooking Class: Boosting Bone Health

This class is all about cooking delicious and nutrient-packed recipes to promote strong healthy bones to decrease the risk and progression of developing osteoporosis.

This class is set for **Wednesday, March 25** from 10 a.m. to noon.

FREE Cooking Classes: Dining with Diabetes

These classes are geared for anyone looking to prevent or

manage their diabetes or support a loved one diagnosed with diabetes. We'll explore some delicious recipes to help manage your blood sugar.

This four-week series will be repeated twice through the year.

The **first series** is set for Thursdays, May 7, 14, 21 & 28 from 1:30 p.m.-3:30 p.m.

The **second series** will be held on Wednesdays Nov. 18, 25, Dec 2 & 9 from 10 a.m. to noon.

FREE Cooking Class: Eating Comfortably with IBS

IBS is pain and bloating in your stomach followed by diarrhea/constipation. If you are suffering from Irritable Bowel Syndrome (IBS), this is the class for you. Nutrition interventions have been proven to help manage symptoms. Join us as we cook up IBS-friendly recipes!

This class will be held on **Thursday, June 18** from 9:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

*Class date, times and location within Corunna subject to change/ cancellation depending upon number of patient registrants

LAB OPEN

Just a reminder that our lab is open daily
for all residents

Monday to Friday - 7:30a.m. - 11:15 a.m.

Congratulations to the Rapids

Family Health Team - Corunna site!

*The Corunna Rapids Family Health Team doctor's office recently received the Platinum award in the **Offices of Physicians** category, presented by CommunityVotesSarnia, an annual business poll. A total of 3,206 businesses and individuals were nominated for the awards and only the top 10 in each category moved on to the voting process.*

Check out Trail Facebook page, video & website



The St. Clair River Trail Facebook page and website has added a new promotional video to its photo

archive. The natural beauty the trail is known for comes alive on the screen.

And while you're looking at the video and submitted photographs, why not send us some of the shots you've taken while enjoying the trail?

Like the St. Clair River Trail on Facebook and message us your pictures.



Moore Sports Complex ready to help you get pre-pared for spring

Spring is on the way and you may feel you need to pare down the annoying winter pounds that have been making your shirts shrink. Be ready to fit into your nifty shorts and light shirts when they come out of storage. Moore Sports Complex can help you dispose of the unpleasant inches before the summer shirts come out. Find a program you'll enjoy and get information ranging from registration times and program schedules to last-minute cancellations by consulting our Facebook page. Like us on Facebook and we'll do our best to keep you informed and ready to wear those summer clothes.

Public skating

Public skating is offered on Sundays from 1 p.m. to 2:15 p.m. until March 24, 2020. Cost is \$2.50 per child, \$3.75 per adult, and \$7.50 per family. (No skating on Jan. 5, or Feb. 23.)

Free skating

Free family skating is held every Wednesday and Thursday from 1 p.m. to 2:15 p.m.

Parents, Tots and Seniors skate

The Parents, Tots and Seniors skate is held free of charge on Wednesdays and Thursdays from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. until March 26, 2020. (No skating Mar. 18 and 19.)

Shinny hockey is on!

Shinny hockey has resumed at the Moore Sports Complex. Come out on Tuesdays from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. until March 19, 2020 and get your game on. Cost is just \$5 per person.

Spinning Classes - NEW PRICE!

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 \$50. Morning spin classes are held on Tuesdays or Thursdays from 7 a.m. to 7:45 a.m. Beginner classes are held on Tuesday evenings from 7:15 p.m.

to 8:00 p.m. Strength training combined with a spin workout is offered with the Bikes & Bells classes on Monday or Wednesday evenings from 5 p.m. - 6 p.m. or Friday from 9 a.m. - 10 a.m.

Drum away the pounds with 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 per class, or \$5.50 per class per senior; \$55 for a 10-visit pass; or \$275 per year for full fitness center membership.

Shibashi

Tai chi/qigong is a practice of aligning breath and movement for exercise and health. Shibashi consists of 18 simple steps. It is easy to learn and perfect for beginners. Classes are being held Wednesdays until May at 10:15 a.m. Register at the first class.

Low impact exercise offered

The West Lambton Community Health Centre will offer low impact exercise on Mondays and Wednesdays from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. Register at your first class.

NEW! Youth POUND®!

Kids ages 10 to 15 can get in on the fun now with the new youth POUND classes on Thursdays from 5 p.m. to 5:45 p.m. Registration is required at a cost of \$55 for a 10-week session. Call today for more information at 519-867-2651.

Generation POUND®!

Kids ages five to nine will enjoy the Generation POUND classes on Thursdays from 4 p.m. to 4:45 p.m. Registration is required at a cost of \$55 for a 10-week session. Call today for information at 519-867-2651.

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

Golf season 2020 ready to go



The St. Clair Parkway Golf Course is ready to begin the 2020 season with opening day slated for the first week of March. The golf simulator is also scheduled to be up and running at the beginning of March when the heat in the clubhouse is turned on. It's just in time for golfers to perfect their swing before they hit the links for another season.

For more information, go online to:

stclairparkwaygolf.com

Congratulations to Kay's Petals and Plants

*Congratulations to Kay's Petals and Plants of Co-runna for receiving the Gold award in the **Retail - Florists and Flowers category**, presented by CommunityVotesSarnia, an annual business poll. A total of 3,206 businesses and individuals were nominated for the awards and only the top 10 in each category moved on to the voting process. Owner Tracy Kingston remarked, "Recognition for a job well done is always appreciated, but when it comes as a surprise, it's humbling. As part of the community for 43 years, we have been given so many amazing opportunities. Thank you to everyone for acknowledging our commitment to enriching the lives of those who enrich ours."*

COMMUNITY CONTACT

Well water safety a concern to LPH

Lambton Public Health (LPH) is encouraging residents with private water wells to test their water supply as soon as possible if the well is flooded by excessively high water levels and flood conditions caused by rain and snow melt.

Harmful bacteria may enter the drinking water supply making it unsafe for consumption.

LPH Public Health Inspector Vicky MacTavish cautions, "Until you can test your well water, use bottled water for daily use including drinking, making infant formula or juices, cooking, making ice washing fruits and vegetables, and brushing teeth."

Once floods have receded, the well should be disinfected and tested at least three times at one week intervals before the water is used for drinking. The test for bacteria (total coliform and E. coli) and water sample kits are free. Water samples must be dropped off within 24 hours of being taken. **Local drop-off centres are at Lambton Public Health, 160 Exmouth Street, Point Edward, and at Bluewater Health CEE lab, 450 Blanche Street in Petrolia.**

For a full schedule of access times for these locations and resources on how to take a water sample, visit LambtonPublicHealth.ca

It is recommended well water be tested three to four times per year whether or not there has been flooding to ensure the water supply is not contaminated.

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Volunteers needed for telephone support

Volunteers are being sought to provide check-in calls to seniors through the Tel-Check program. Volunteers are also needed to staff the Distress Line to ensure that when people reach out to this telephone help line, their call will be answered. For more information or to volunteer, call Donna at the Family Counselling Centre, 519-336-0120. This service is funded by the United Way of Sarnia-Lambton.

St. Andrew's foodbank needs supplies

The food bank at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church on Colborne Street in Corunna is in operation every Wednesday from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. and every Thursday evening from 9 a.m. to noon. It operates in association with the Inn of the Good Shepherd in Sarnia. Thanks are extended to all local individuals and groups who support the food bank with donations. Your generous support is critical to the ongoing success of the food bank. In the first 10 months of 2019, it has helped 73 different client families from our community, offering a variety of healthy food including milk, eggs. The food bank offers a variety of food products to help people eat healthily, including milk, eggs, bread, and meat. The fresh food supplied at the food bank costs approximately \$75 per week to purchase. Anyone wishing to make a financial donation to the food bank can do so through Food Bank, C/O St. Andrews Presbyterian Church, 437 Colborne Drive, Corunna, Ontario, N0N 1G0.

Please be generous this year. As winter progresses, more people turn to the food bank for help with utility bills rise, taking away money that would allow them to purchase healthy food choices. Donations of non-perishable items are also welcome, including household supplies like laundry soap, household cleaners, and toilet tissue, and personal hygiene items like toothbrushes, soap and shampoo, deodorant, and shaving items.

St. Joseph-St. Charles Catholic Church Community to participate in food program

The St. Joseph-St. Charles' Catholic Community in

Corunna, along with the Catholic churches in Petrolia, Forest, and Watford, has worked collaboratively with the Boys and Girls Club of Sarnia-Lambton to extend Project Backpack, a food assistance program, into Lambton County. The program provides a bag of nutritious food that can be easily assembled to people ages 14-24 who are in need of a healthy meal. Each bag also contains hygiene items and helpful information from community partners. People who qualify for this program can find these bags at the St. Joseph Catholic Church Parish office at 346 Beresford Street in Corunna during regular office hours (Monday from 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and Tuesday-Thursday from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.). Program organizers say the program will continue into the fall and they hope to continue it as long as there is a need for it.

New young voices invited to join Lambton Youth Choir

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 odell@cogeco.ca You can also check out the Lambton Youth Choir Facebook page.

The Optimist Club supports community youth - new members welcome

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 new members ages 10-18

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

Good listeners wanted - Family Counselling Centre

Good listeners are needed by the Family Counselling Centre to staff the Distress Line, speaking with individuals who need support and need to feel connected. Volunteers are also needed to staff the Tel-Check program line, placing daily calls to seniors and persons with disabilities who live alone and are feeling isolated. To register or to find out more about this effort, call Donna at the Family Counselling Centre, 519-336-0120, ext. 251.

MORE COMMUNITY CONTACT

From page 16

Opening Doors mental health support

The West Lambton Community Health Centre offers Opening Doors, a healthy lifestyle program for individuals living with mental illness or seeking mental health support. For more information, call 519-344-3017, ext. 259.

Brigden United Church activities/service

Brigden United Church holds regular Sunday services at 10:30 a.m. 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.

St. Clair Community Church services

St. Clair Community Church, 3435 John Street, holds services every Sunday at 10 a.m. The congregation invites you to join in to praise God through song, prayer and hearing the Word taught by Pastor Wendy Beasley or one of the church's other speakers. For more infor-

mation, call 519-542-4447 or visit the church website at www.stclaircc.ca

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.



We want to live in Hockeyville

The Mooretown Lady Flags Novice C team took time out from practice to show their support and their enthusiasm for the Kraft Hockeyville campaign currently in progress in St. Clair Township. The team represents a large segment of the community that values and supports the Moore Sports Complex.

These players also know there is \$250,000 at stake if they can help win the Hockeyville contest. They're looking forward to having new ice pads to play on, an upgraded new pool to swim in, and new facilities that will help them and their families maintain good health and make great memories throughout their lives.

The team members are, back row left: Julia Gardner, Kate Leitch, Avery Jeffrey, Hanna Stewart, Julia Feddes, Hallie Jeffery. Front row left: Kara Slater, Irelynn Shaw, Harlie La-joie, Harper Vandenheuval, Mackenzie Maoirat.

Submitted photo

See page 3 to find out how easy it will be to support the Moore Sports Complex Renewal project and help win the Hockeyville challenge

Vaccinations required to prevent student suspension from school

Suspension orders have already been mailed out to students whose immunization records are not up to date with the Lambton Public Health. The deadline to update immunization records is March 2. In many cases, the suspensions were lifted because the students' parents hadn't yet reported their vaccinations to LPH, so the list has fallen from 2,600 to 1,800.

The province requires that students must be immunized, in the process of being immunized, or legally exempt from being immunized against the following dis-

eases: diphtheria, tetanus, polio, measles, mumps, rubella, meningococcal disease, pertussis, and varicella (for students born in 2010 or after).

Immunizations can be reported in the following ways: online at www.lambtonpublichealth.ca; by phone at 519-383-8331, ext. 3594 or toll free at 1-800-667-1839; delivered to the office at 160 Exmouth Street, Point Edward; or scanned and emailed to immunization@county-lambton.on.ca

Even MORE AROUND THE TOWNSHIP

From page 18

10:30 a.m. Register at your first class.

WLCHC classes will also be offered at the Moore Sports Complex, 1166 Emily Street in Mooretown, on Mondays and Wednesdays from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. Register at your first class.

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.

Pickleball will resume in May/June with beginner classes

The 2019 Pickleball season is on the way. Known as "the fastest growing sport in the world", new adult players will be able to join the fun at the Corunna Athletic Park courts in May/June 2020 to take lessons. Watch the Beacon for details when pickleball season approaches.

Coming Events ~ Spring/Summer ~

MSC Renewal Concert Fundraiser - Come and See Spot Run

See Spot Run is Canada's #1 indie band and it's coming to St. Clair Township for one concert only as the Moore Sports Complex Renewal Committee presents the Raise The Rink fundraiser. The concert, slated for Friday, May 1 at 8:30 p.m., will take place at the Moore Sports Complex on Rink 1. Popular local band *Full Disclosure* will open for the headliners and general admission will apply, with food and a cash bar available. Tickets will be \$20 per person. Details are now being finalized and more information will soon be released.

Celebrate Mother's Day in Brigden

The Moore Agricultural Society - Home of the Brigden Fair invites you and your family to treat mom to the Mother's Day Brunch at the Brigden Fairgrounds exhibition hall on

Sunday, May 10, with seating from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. No reservations are required. More Details to follow in the April Beacon.

Corunna U.C. bus trip planned

The annual Corunna United Church Bus Trip is set for Tuesday, June 2. A Badder Bus Lines bus will leave from Corunna Athletic Park at 8:30 a.m. sharp. Its destination this year will be St. Jacob's, where you'll enjoy a day of shopping, lunch, a show, and dinner. The show at the St. Jacob Country Playhouse will be "A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder", a musical comedy that has garnered great critical reviews and enthusiastic audience approval. Dinner will be at the Crossroads Restaurant. Tickets for this trip is only \$115 per person, which includes the bus, performance and dinner. To reserve a seat on the bus, call Jill at 519-862-3517.

Vacation Bible School in Brigden

The Brigden United Church is planning its summer Vacation Bible School from July 6 to July 9.

Port Lambton Gala Days will celebrate village's 200th anniversary

The theme of this year's 2020 Port Lambton Gala Days parade on Aug. 1 will celebrate Port Lambton's 200th anniversary. In an effort to reflect this spirit of celebration for the town's bi-centennial, the Gala Days committee is seeking ideas and support that will help to make the parade one to be remembered through the generations. Anyone interested in making this happen can contact Jordan Lane at 519-312-7499 to register.

The grand prize for this year's Gala Days will be a 2020 Can-Am Maverick Trail, with all proceeds going towards the Port Lambton Athletic Association. Tickets can be purchased online at: <http://go.rallyup.com/plgaladays>

Gala Days Parade - general information

The parade on Saturday, Aug. 1 at 11 a.m. will include floats, trucks, classic cars, farm equipment, walking entries and whatever else is entered. Entry is free so get creative and join the fun. (For safety reasons, no water balloons or water guns are allowed and candy cannot be thrown. Please distribute it by hand.)

Curlers and curling fans take note

The Pinty's Grand Slam of Curling season will open in Sarnia with the Masters this autumn on Oct. 20-25 at the Sarnia Arena. Tickets/passes available online at: thegrandslamofcurling.com

Income tax clinics planned

Income tax preparation can be a daunting task, but there are volunteers ready to help you navigate the process. The Community Volunteer Income Tax Program volunteers can help you prepare your income tax and benefit return if you have modest income and a simple tax situation.

The volunteers are not employees or volunteers from the Canada Revenue Agency, but the program can be found listed at: www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/tax/individuals/community-volunteer-income-tax-program.html

Community Volunteer Income Tax Clinics will be held in St. Clair Township in at the Corunna library, 142 Lyndoch Street, (519-862-1132), and at the Sombra Library, 3536 St. Clair Parkway, (519-862-3711) at the following dates and times: Corunna - Saturdays, March 14, April 18 and 25 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.; Fridays, March 27, April 17 and 24 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. At the Sombra library, 3536 St. Clair Parkway in Sombra (519-862-3711) on Thursday, March 26 from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Photographic club welcomes new members

The Sarnia Photographic Club welcomes new members from all around Lambton County. The club holds two meetings per month, with one featuring a guest speaker and the other focusing on camera information and photography techniques. There are also two workshop sessions per month at the Lawrence House, and a variety of photographic outings to enjoy throughout the year. Visitors are welcome to attend up to two meetings to learn more about the club.

The club will meet Tuesday, March 3 at the Sarnia Public Library Theatre with a social time at 6:30 p.m. and the meeting beginning at 7 p.m. Club member Jim Norman will make a presentation entitled *Stones and Crosses*.

For more information, go online to: www.sarniaphotoclub.com

MORE AROUND THE TOWNSHIP

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p.m. and 6 p.m. The theme for this year will be **A Tribute to the Music Legends**. Between ice shows, there will be a pasta dinner at the arena. It will be free for all skaters and \$5 for other family members.

Taoist tai chi in Corunna

An introduction to the Kung Loy Kok Taoist Tai Chi Arts will be held at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, 437 Colborne Drive in Corunna on Wednesday, April 8 at 6:30 p.m. A demonstration and registration period will be followed by the first of a series of weekly classes. This gentle form of exercise benefits people of all ages in a compassionate and non-competitive environment. Call 519-344-0346 for more information.

Easter Sunday Brunch

The Moore Agricultural Society (MAS), Home of the Bridgen Fair, invites you and your family to enjoy Easter Brunch at the Bridgen Fairgrounds exhibition hall on Sunday, April 12, with seating from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. No reservations are required. *More Details to follow in the April Beacon!*

Spring Renewal Gala fundraiser planned for April

The Moore Sports Complex Renewal Committee presents the Spring Renewal Gala on Saturday, April 18 at the Wilkesport Community Centre (1622 Baby Line in Wilkesport). The event will begin at 6:30 p.m. with cocktails followed by dinner at 7 p.m. and a silent and live auction. A DJ will keep the music going all evening to keep you dancing, with a midnight meal at 11 p.m. to top off the evening. Tickets are \$100 per person and are available at the Moore Sports Complex, St. Clair Township Civic Centre at 1155 Emily Street in Mooretown, Kay's Petals and Plants in Corunna, Rum Runner's in Sombra, and online at www.ticketscene.com

Corunna Legion hosts several regular events

The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 447 will host several monthly events through the winter. They include: *An **Open Jam Session** on the last Saturday of each month through May, 2020 at 3 p.m. ***Catch the Ace** will be held on Thursdays with supper served at 5 p.m. and sales open at 5 p.m. and closing at 7 p.m. The draw will be held at 7:30 p.m. ***Fun Cribbage** will be held on Thursdays at 1 p.m. ***Fun Bridge** will be played on Friday at 1 p.m. ***Meat Darts** will be held on Fridays at 7 p.m. ***Meat Draw** will be held Saturdays at 4 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend these enjoyable activities and the hall is wheelchair accessible. For additional information call 519-862-1240.

Shibashi in Mooretown

Shibashi, a tai chi/qigong practice that aligns breath and movement for exercise and health, is being offered at the Moore Sports Complex on Wednesdays at 10:15 a.m. until May. This class is offered through the West Lambton Community Health Centre. Registration can be done at the first class.

Sombra senior fitness exercise classes

The Sombra Senior Fitness chair exercise classes at Sombra Community Hall, sponsored by Lambton Elderly Outreach, have been changed to Mondays and Thursdays at **1:15 p.m.** (Please note

the time change from 1:30 p.m.) The Forever Fit classes are held at 9 a.m. on Monday and Thursday mornings, and at 10 a.m. on Tuesdays.

LEO fitness classes in Corunna

The LEO Forever Fit class for seniors 55 and over is held at Thompson Gardens/Cruikshank Centre on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 p.m.

Weekly Souper Thursdays

The FREE **Souper Thursday** hot lunch hosted by Parkway Church, located at 551 Murray Drive in Corunna, is now offered on Thursdays 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, take out, or even delivery. Those who require assistance can call 519-862-3380 to have lunch delivered. For more information, contact the church online at: parkwaychurchmichelle@gmail.com

Cruikshank Community Centre 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 \$1 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 has been changed from Tuesday to Thursday afternoons at 1:30 p.m. The cost is \$3 and it includes light refreshments. On the last Thursday of the month, the registration proceeds will be given to a chosen charity and individual donations will also be accepted. **Everyone is welcome.** For additional information please call 519-862-1628.

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.

Activities offered at Wellings in Corunna

Wellings Corunna, 180 Bunker Avenue in Corunna, will hold several weekly activities offering people enjoyable afternoons to socialize and meet new friends. Euchre will be held every second and fourth Monday of each month from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. for a \$2 fee, and bridge will be offered every Tuesday at 1 p.m. Call 226-778-0539 to register.

Low impact exercise offered in Brigden and Mooretown

The West Lambton Community Health Centre (WLCHC) will offer low impact exercise at the Bridgen Fairgrounds exhibition hall, 2976 Brigden Road, on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:30 a.m. to

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MAS 2020 quilt raffle tickets on sale

Moore Agricultural Society Homecraft Division has once again created a beautiful quilt for this year's raffle. Tickets can be purchased from Homecraft members and at events held at the Bridgen Fairgrounds. Don't miss the chance to purchase your chance to own this beautiful piece of art.

AROUND THE TOWNSHIP

Corunna Legion hosts special events

The Royal Canadian Legion Leslie Sutherland Branch 447 will host a number of special events during the months of March and April. *The Hank Stothers Memorial Cribbage Tournament is set for Sunday, March 1 with registration from noon to 12:45 p.m. and play at 1 p.m. *On Saturday, March 7 the Mel Wilkinson Memorial Dart Tournament will be held with registration from 10 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. and play at 11 a.m. *The Annual Pickerel Fry and Dance is set for Saturday, March 21. Admission is by advance tickets only. They go on sale on Feb. 17 at a cost of \$25 per person. Music will be by Celtic Hillbillies. *The Easter Ham Bingo will be held on Wednesday, April 1 with doors open at 6 p.m. and play at 7 p.m. *A Progressive Euchre is set for Sunday, April 5 with registration from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and play at 1 p.m. For more information about any of these events, please call 519-862-1240.

World Day of Prayer - Corunna

All Saints Anglican Church at the corner of Lyndoch and Hill Streets in Corunna, will host the World Day of Prayer on Friday, March 6 at 2 p.m. This year's theme will be *Rise! Take Your Mat and Walk*. It is written by the women of Zimbabwe. The service will be followed by refreshments and fellowship. Everyone is welcome. For more information, call 519-813-9084.

World Day of Prayer - Brigden

The World Day of Prayer 2020 service will be held at the Brigden United Church on Friday, March 6 at 1:30 p.m. The theme, "Rise! Take Your Mat and Walk", was written by the women of Zimbabwe. Everyone is welcome to come for prayer and fellowship.

Sombra Museum Speaker Series event

The Sombra Museum Speaker Series will continue on Friday, March 6 from 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

with *Property Search with the Lambton County Archives*. Learn about resources available locally and online that can help you uncover your property's past. The archivist from Lambton County Archives will share tips and tricks on navigating the ONLAND website, a free resource that shares access to official property related information and documents. Attendees may bring property information and their laptop to follow along if they wish. The cost is \$10. For more information call 519-892-3982 or email sombramuseum@hotmail.com

St. Patrick's Day Jamboree in Brigden

On St. Patrick's Day, everyone is a little bit Irish. So come out to the Brigden Fairgrounds exhibition hall and enjoy the fun as we celebrate St. Patrick's Day a week and a bit early on Sunday, March 8. Doors open at noon, a cash bar will be available, and supper tickets will be sold at the door. Or just come for the great music and jig, reel, or just do your favourite dances all afternoon. If you are a musician, please join in.

Euchre played in Sombra

Euchre is played at the Sombra Community Hall on Fridays at 1 p.m. Everyone is welcome. The winter/spring schedule is as follows: March 13, 20, 27; April 3, 17, 24; and May 1, 8, and 15.

Stew supper in Wilkesport

A stew supper will be held at the Wilkesport United Church on Thursday, March 19 from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. The meal will include homemade biscuits, coffee/tea/juice, and desserts. A free will donation will be taken to benefit the church. Take out will be available. For more information call Ann at 519-892-3673 or email wilkesportunit-edchurch@hotmail.com

Wellings celebrates St. Patrick's Day

Wellings of Corunna presents the Kitchen Party Band on March 20 in celebration of St. Patrick's Day. The event will start with a sit down dinner at 5 p.m. and Irish dancers at 6 p.m. The party starts at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$20 per person and attendees must RSVP by March 13 by calling 226-778-0539.

Housing laws subject of new workshop series

A series of workshops covering various aspects of housing law is being held at the Lambton County Petrolia Library branch. The series continues with *Ending a Lease Early* on March 25; *Eviction Basics* on April 29; and *Landlord and Tenant Board* on May 27. Margaret Capes, a retired legal aid lawyer from the Community Law School, leads this series to foster a better understanding of the Residential Tenancies Act.

Annual Beef Dinner in Brigden

It's time again for the popular annual beef dinner slated for Sunday, March 29 at the Brigden Fairgrounds exhibition hall. Tickets are now on sale so get them early as this event was sold out in 2019. Seatings will be from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. and admission is by advanced tickets only. Tickets can be purchased at the fair office, at the jamborees, from directors or homecraft members, or at local Brigden businesses - the Brigden Feed Mill and Always Quilting. The cost is \$18 per adult; \$6 per child ages six-10; and free for children ages five and under.

Moore Skate Club Ice Show

The 2020 Moore Figure Skating Club annual ice show is slated for Saturday, April 4, with shows at 1

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Here's a great idea!
Promote your coming
non-profit or charity
events right here 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, 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.