



The St. Clair Township BEACON



THE TOWNSHIP
OF ST. CLAIR

Issue 7

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Drone camera captures St. Clair Fire Department training exercise



Training is an important part of the work St. Clair Township volunteer firefighters do to keep their emergency skills tuned up. Mike Coen of Bluewater Drone Pix submitted this action shot of a training exercise he and his drone witnessed near Courtright on June 7. One of the township's two mighty "T-Rex" trucks is shown in action, pumping a powerful spray of water through its 100-foot long boom. The boom can also be used to apply a variety of fire-fighting chemicals in the event of industrial fires.

Protect family / pets against tick bites

Lambton Public Health reminds all area residents to protect themselves and their pets against Lyme disease-carrying black-legged ticks when outdoors. For more information, see page 22, and go online to: LambtonPublicHealth.ca or visit ontario.ca/lyme.

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MUNICIPAL NOTES

Vehicle/RV parking by-law reminder

Property/home owners are reminded to adhere to the township by-law (Number 33 of 2017) regarding the parking of derelict vehicles and recreational vehicles on public streets at certain times and in certain locations in the interest of public safety and traffic flow. [This by-law can be found online at the St. Clair Township website in its entirety, and fines are issued for parking infractions. A complaint must be made to the St. Clair Township Clerk before an enforcement officer can investigate an infraction.](#)

Here are a few excerpts applicable to the summer season.

- ◆ Trailers and boats are permitted to be parked in the property owners' private lanes, but not beyond their property lines.
- ◆ A derelict vehicle (inoperable or with an improper or expired vehicle license) cannot be parked on any road or street at any time of year.
- ◆ No marine vehicles, camping trailers, commercial trailers, or other recreational trailers can park on any Township or County road at any time, when not attached to a legally parked, licensed motor vehicle.
- ◆ Between the third Monday of October (any year) and April 1, recreational trailers or boats cannot park in any private driveway unless it is beyond the minimum front yard setback from the property line according to the current Township Zoning By-law.
- ◆ "...upon discovery of a vehicle parked or left in contravention of this by-law, it may be moved or taken to a place or stored in a suitable place, and ALL COSTS AND CHARGES for removing, care and storage of the vehicle...are payable by the owner before the vehicle may be released..."

Speed patrol on parkway yields uncertain results

In a report to council, OPP Inspector Chris Avery stated a focused patrol along the St. Clair Parkway did not find traffic travelling "in notable excess of the posted speed limit on an ongoing basis." During a focused patrol, officers did 9.5 hours of radar/speed enforcement

Council Meeting Schedule

All regular public council meetings are being held online until the COVID-19 threat has subsided enough to allow public gatherings. The public may view these meetings online by going onto the township website at: www.stclairtownship.ca. On the St. Clair Township home page, look for a link to the meeting at the top of the page. The Facebook link is added just before the meeting is slated to begin.

Upcoming meetings include: Monday, July 5 at 3 p.m. Only one meeting is slated for July and one meeting for Monday, Aug. 9 at 3 p.m.

St. Clair Township offices at the Civic Centre in Mooretown will remain closed to the public during council meetings. Opening will be considered on a meeting-to-meeting basis until it is safe to reopen the facility. Anyone wishing to contact the municipality can call 519-867-2021 for further information.

Pay taxes and water online

Ratepayers now have the option to pay taxes or water bills online with any major credit card (Visa, Mastercard, Amex) or PayPal with PaySimply, a secure third-party provider. Visit the St. Clair Township website and simply click on 'property taxes payment' or 'water payment'.

Please allow three business days for processing. A convenience fee will be applied to cover payment handling and processing charges.

2021 Tax Due Dates

FINAL: Thursday, July 29; Wednesday, Sept. 29.

in the area which resulted in six e-tickets being issued.

One officer, using hand-held radar, measured the actual speed of on-coming traffic while a neighbourhood resident guessed the speed of the same vehicles. When the officer compared the radar speed with the resident's guesses, re-

See page 3

Graffiti/vandalism poses financial burden for taxpayers, property owners

Graffiti vandals are most active in the summer, but this unwelcome form of vandalism is a year 'round problem for those who must clean up the damage. Graffiti 'tags', 'bombs', 'bubble letters', and 'throw ups' are not art. Unlike the attractive murals, panels, 'pieces', and designs we see displayed on some buildings (with permission to do so from the property owner), graffiti is an ugly form of vandalism that damages public surfaces, it is a blight on neighbourhoods, and it requires costly repairs that are a burden to taxpayers and individual property owners.

If you know someone who indulges in this, or any kind of destructive vandalism, or if you witness it, please report it to law enforcement or inform the township. And parents, please talk to your children about this form of negative "self expression".



More MUNICIPAL NOTES

From page 2

sults revealed the actual speed was consistently lower than the resident's perceived speed. However, the focused patrol has continued to gather data along the parkway. Inspector Avery stated in his report that he is not sure lowering the speed along the parkway is the answer to the problem.

He suggested the use of extra or over-sized signage, or a speed trailer (shows the speed of oncoming vehicles to remind motorists to stay within the posted speed limit) might be employed to reinforce compliance.

Work in park stirs up controversy

The township's work to improve public parks is sometimes a messy business and it can stir up a lot of dust as well as bad feelings; the Macdonald Park ball diamond project is a case in point. Washington mix, a special type of soil, was recently installed at the two MacDonal Park ball diamonds over a period of days with the goal of reducing the amount of dust that is kicked up during the games.

During the project, which put more dust into the air than normal, windy weather carried the dust onto several properties surrounding the park. Ensuing complaints to council by local residents noted the work had put dust on a boat, in a pool, and in the interior of a house, which had windows open at the time. The affected residents demanded the township rectify the situation.

At the June 21 council meeting, Kendall Lindsay, Director of Community Services, explained some dust was inevitable with the work that was done and he asked for council's direction.

During council's discussion, it was pointed out that the public ball park has been used by the community for about 30 years, long before the complainants moved into the area, so the dust situation could not have been unknown to them. Further, councillors who live in rural or park-adjacent areas commented they and their neighbours routinely cope with heavy dust as a normal part of their occupancy, and they are aware of the conditions that generate these conditions in their area. Council is hopeful the residents adjacent to MacDonal Park will gain awareness of the conditions in their area and respond accordingly to prevent further complaints.

As a good will gesture to resolve the immediate matter, council passed a motion for a **one-time** payment of up to a maximum of \$750 for interior, boat, and pool cleaning, and the replacement of a pool pump if required.

Paving for Branton-Cundick Park parking lot

While approving the paving of the Branton-Cundick Park parking lot, Mayor Arnold commented the paving of park parking lots, as well as the diligent upkeep of park washrooms, helps make a good impression with the many people who frequent and enjoy township parks each season.

MSC summer camp opening/operation

In anticipation of the provincial government moving to its COVID-19 Step 2 reopening protocol (see page 11), council considered a proposed plan to open and operate summer camp at the Moore Sports Complex.

Of special importance is the need for safety in light of the fact that COVID-19 and its latest more transmissible Delta variant (see information on page 4) are still present in Lambton County. Council agreed that all staff, and others associated with and attending the summer camp, will be strongly encouraged to be fully vaccinated. The virus will still be present in the community and it is important to take every precaution to ensure the safety of everyone at the camp.

Council approved a motion to give preference to the children of township residents, since the summer camp is partially subsidized by the township. The remaining spaces

allowed on the camp roster can then be filled by the children of non-residents.

Fee increases will be necessary to pay for the extra staff required to supervise the summer camper groups and to keep the facility thoroughly cleaned at all times as required by COVID-19 protocol.

Concerns were raised about the risk involved with opening the summer camp. Issues raised were: the possibility it would be difficult to find sufficient people to staff the camp and summer campers to make opening the facility worthwhile. A minimum of 15 campers per day would be needed to make the camp financially feasible.

See More Municipal Notes, page 4

COVID-19 UPDATES

Lambton Public Health Vaccine Call Centre is open Monday to Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. It can be reached by calling 226-254-8222 or going online to the [Contact Us](#) page on the Lambton Public Health website. Anyone who has vaccine inquiries or those who are having difficulty booking their COVID-19 vaccination appointment online can call the new Vaccine Call Centre phone number above to speak directly to an agent.

Individuals aged 12 and older are now eligible for vaccination. All individuals 18 years and older who have had their first dose are eligible for their second dose after 28 days. They should be booked through Lambton Public Health's Vaccine Call centre from Monday to Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 226-254-8222. (Call volumes can be extremely high. If you are unable to contact an agent or you get a busy signal, please try calling back until you get through.

The Clearwater Arena is the second high-output immunization clinic to be opened in Sarnia thanks to the generous donation from Enbridge and Bluewater Association for Safety, Environment, and Sustainability's (see BASES, page 8) ongoing commitment to the 'hockey hub' model in Lambton, as well as other contributions from many local community partners. The hub operates through the hard work of staff from Lambton Public Health, Lambton EMS, the City of Sarnia, and Bluewater Health.

Caution still necessary

Dr. Theresa Tam, Canada's chief public health officer, cautions everyone, including one-shot (and two-shot) vaccine recipients, to continue to observe COVID-19 protocols when in public places, especially spaces that are heavily populated. "There's a reduction in your risk of transmission, but it doesn't necessarily eliminate your risk of transmission," she said.

COVID-19 vaccination pharmacy sites

To book an appointment for vaccination, here are the participating pharmacies closest to St. Clair Township residents:

SARNIA - Superstore, 600 Murphy Road, call 519-383-8133 or [covid19.realcanadiansuperstore.ca/en](https://www.covid19.realcanadiansuperstore.ca/en); **Shoppers Drug Mart**, 510 Exmouth Street, register online at: www.shoppersdrugmart.ca/covid19; **Rexall**, 697 Cathcart Blvd., register online at: www.rexall.ca/covid-19/vaccines

BRIGHT'S GROVE - Bright's Grove Pharmacy, 2670 New Lakeshore Road, 519-869-6900, to register online: www.bgfamilypharmacy.com

CHATHAM - Shoppers Drug Mart, 420 Queen Street, call 519-352-3360; **Rexall**, 401 St. Clair Street, register online at: www.rexall.ca/covid-19/vaccines

More information at: [GetTheVaccine.ca](https://www.getthevaccine.ca)

If you cannot get a timely doctor's appointment for COVID testing, appointments can be made by going online to:

[getcorigan.ca](https://www.getcorigan.ca) or by calling 510-491-6188.

Second doses of COVID-19 Vaccine can be interchangeable

From Lambton Public Health media release

Recent vaccine shipment delays reinforce the need for individuals to get the first vaccine available for their first or second dose. The approved mRNA vaccines, Moderna and Pfizer brands, are interchangeable and are presently being used, and will continue to be used, at mass immunization clinics.

This direction is in keeping with NACI (National Advisory Committee on Immunization) scientific guidance which states that all COVID-19 vaccines available in the province have been determined to be safe and effective by Health Canada, and have been shown to prevent serious illness, hospitalization and death associated with COVID-19.

If you had Moderna or Pfizer for your first dose, you can safely take either Moderna or Pfizer for your second dose for strong protection. Both Moderna and Pfizer vaccines are authorized for use in Canada and use a similar mRNA technology, so the vaccines are interchangeable and safe to mix.

If you had AstraZeneca for your first dose, you can safely take either AstraZeneca, Moderna or Pfizer for your second dose for strong protection. However, NACI now recommends an mRNA vaccine be administered as a second dose for those who received AstraZeneca as a first dose.

To ensure maximum protection against COVID-19 and the Delta variant, Ontarians should get vaccinated as soon as possible and book their second dose as soon as they are eligible.

The only exception to this are 12-17 year olds, for whom

Pfizer is the only approved vaccine. People in this age group will receive Pfizer for both their first and second dose.

Lambton Medical Officer of Health Dr. Sudit Ranade said, "What's most important is that as many Lambton County residents receive both first and second doses as soon as possible. We know that having two doses provides the strongest possible protection against the **Delta variant*. We have enough vaccine coming in the next 2-4 weeks to increase our local vaccination rates significantly, and doing so will allow us to safely return to the activities and gatherings we have missed so much. I strongly encourage all Lambton residents to take the first available dose they can, whether they are coming for their first or second dose."

**The COVID-19 Delta variant of the coronavirus is of great concern because of the way it has mutated from the original COVID-19 virus. This means as the virus spreads, it discovers more ways to defeat the human immune system. So far, the Delta variant has found a way to spread more easily from person to person (transmissibility). Since it was first identified in India in October, 2020, it has now spread to 80 countries. The sooner the population is fully vaccinated, presenting fewer hosts to accommodate viral mutation, the better will be our chances of freeing ourselves from COVID-19.*

-from World Health Organization (W.H.O)

If you haven't already done so, please be vaccinated as soon as possible.

More COVID-19 information on page 24

More MUNICIPAL NOTES

From page 3

After much discussion, council passed a motion to allow the camp to operate if the Community Services and Community Programs staff were reasonably confident the summer camp would be safe and if enough summer campers registered and attended.

The MSC staff will be observing provincial Ministry of Health guidelines specifically developed for day camps. Campers and camp staff will be screened every day for symptoms. Daily admissions and associated fees will not be offered because consistent separate cohorts will be required to attend full Monday-Friday sessions only. These cohorts will be divided by age and will not be allowed to interact (i.e. kindergarten, primary/junior school, junior school, and secondary school). They will not share equipment and it will be kept clean and disinfected between uses. The MSC pool will not be used until its use is in compliance with the provincial reopening strategy. Before and after school programs will follow the policies and guidelines observed by school boards for the 2020-2021 year.

Safety concerns surround Brander Park

Council received several emails and videos from local Port Lambton residents regarding safety issues in the vicinity of Brander Park. A video of a group of unsupervised underage youths driving carelessly in a golf cart was among the emails of concern. Other residents reported witnessing near-misses of golf carts, ATVs, and dirt bikes driven by both underage youth and adults narrowly avoiding collision with vehicles driving along the parkway. And vehicles parked along the road were said to be a hazard for pedestrians trying to cross the road from between the parked vehicles.

A subsequent report from the township Coordinator of Operations led council to approve the installation of an enhanced Level 2 pedestrian crossing at 4538 St. Clair Parkway. *Parents are urged to provide adequate instruction and supervision when allowing their underage children to operate any type of powered vehicles.*

Malicious vandalism at CAP costs taxpayers

A malicious and extensive bout of vandalism at the Corunna Athletic Park washrooms at the end of May has resulted in an unnecessary cost to the taxpayers. Sinks were clogged with clothing and garbage, and water was turned on to overflow the sinks and waste water. All dispensers were torn from the walls and destroyed. And when the repairs were finished, it was necessary to have a township staff member attend the building each night to close and lock the washrooms. From the wasted water and clean up, to the cost of staff time, this required the use of tax money that could have been put to good use in the community. All residents are asked to stay vigilant and report all suspicious activity in their vicinity.

The theft of plants and garden decorations from township gardens have also been reported by township horticultural teams, who say these thefts are becoming an annual occurrence. Corunna and Brander Park have been hit the hardest. These thefts also cost taxpayer dollars.

Waterfront property repairs

Some waterfront properties require repairs due to high water levels over the past two years. Council has been assured that damage to township boardwalks and docks are being repaired. Jobs township staff cannot handle will be done by contractors.

Sandbag program discontinued

The township sandbag program has been discontinued as water levels have receded by 18 inches below the record 2019/2020 levels. Council was told the program cost \$16,300, with 25,000 bags and 400 tonnes of sand provided to property owners during this time.

Be careful of water quality after rainfall

Lambton Public Health does not monitor water quality at St. Clair River swimming sites. Those who use these sites, including docks and sandy stretches along the river, are urged to be aware of the water quality before they enter the water, especially after a rainfall. Agricultural runoff carried by streams that empty into the river can carry harmful bacteria that can cause illness. Swimming should be avoided if the water is cloudy.

More MUNICIPAL NOTES

SOME ST. CLAIR TOWNSHIP SERVICES SUSPENDED

St. Clair Township complies with provincially-enacted COVID-19 protocols
The reopening of the municipal office **may** align with Provincial re-opening plan Phase 3.
(Please see page 11 for details of the three-phase Provincial reopening plan.)

Some of the Township of St. Clair's services may be suspended.
Those services still being offered can be expected to have a delay.
Several employees are working from home but will have access to their email.
Please email or leave a voicemail and the employee will get back to you as promptly as possible.

The following services have resumed but significant delays can be expected:

- a) Issuance of Marriage Licenses
- b) Issuance of Lottery Licenses
- c) Processing of all Planning Act Applications

The following Township buildings are closed until further notice:

- a) Moore and Sombra Museums
- b) St. Clair Township Civic Centre
- c) Emergency Services Building (Fire Department)

The Township thanks you for your continued patience throughout these difficult times and it remains our priority to offer professional and courteous service when we're able.

All Planning Applications can be accepted at the Civic Centre by appointment.

Employees will continue to occupy these buildings and can be reached their email or by phone at:

- a) Moore Sports Complex 519-867-2651
- b) Public Works 519-867-2993
- c) Finance/Drains/Clerks/Building/Planning 519-867-2021
- d) Fire Department 519-481-0111

SLEP offers free services to small businesses and entrepreneurs



The Sarnia Lambton Economic Partnership now offers local business owners free access to specialized services provided by professional advisors through its Business Enterprise Centre. Services include: human resources, legislative compliance, operations management, marketing, brand development, and sales strategies.

One hour consultation services are now available through video platforms. Confidential consultations are provided by highly-qualified experts in their fields, from a certified Human Resource Professional with 15 years experience to a successful Sales and Marketing innovator who has pitched ideas to the television business pros on *Dragons Den* and *Shark Tank*.

The SLEP Business Enterprise Centre focuses on supporting entrepreneurs who are functioning within the new small business economy. The centre will assist: those who are in start-up mode; purchasing a new business for the

first time; or looking for support to add a new revenue stream as they pivot to meet the evolving needs of their customers.

The Virtual Service Advisor initiative is part of Small Business Centres (SBC) Ontario, launched in February, 2021. It is functioning as the Ontario Small Business COVID-19 Recovery Network. Funding for this network connects 54 Small Business Enterprise Centres (SBEC) locations that have been in operation for 30 years through support from the Ontario Government, as well as local and regional governments.

The formalized network offers local services, events, locations, and e-learning in one web portal- www.sbcontario.ca - to increase awareness and access to supports available for small businesses as they recover from the economic impact of the pandemic.

Don't try to struggle through your small business challenges alone.

To learn more about this program, contact SLEP at 519-332-1820, email: smallbusiness@sarnialambton.on.ca, or go online to: sarnialambton.on.ca/BEC

This enhanced program will be available until Sept. 30, 2021.



Public Works Department

After hours emergency
~ 1-888-441-4204 ~

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

COVID-19 Measures in Effect

The St. Clair Township Works Department will be continuing to observe COVID-19 guidelines regarding social distancing for the well-being of employees and the public. Residents will still be able to call for assistance or information. Public Works staff have resumed work that requires entry into a premise, however precautions will

be taken such as pre-screening residents, masks will be worn by staff and 6 feet distance will be maintained between the employee and resident.

Please be patient during this emergency. The health and safety of the community will be the priority for all St. Clair Township staff.

Waste Collection - Bag and Tie Waste

A reminder to bag and tie all waste (garbage) to secure litter, especially napkins, paper towels and tissues. Also, napkins, paper towels and tissue are not recyclable!

Failure to do so could result in uncollected waste.

Water utility appointments require 48 hours notification

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

Hydrant Flushing

Public Works will be undertaking annual flushing of fire hydrants connected to the St. Clair Township Water Distribution System, during the hours of:

7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

May 2021 - Fall 2021

For current areas affected, refer to stclairtownship.ca

During this maintenance procedure, you may notice some water discoloration using your taps, flushing toilets, doing laundry etc., as some sediment may be drawn into your residence. We recommend that you run the cold water tap for a few minutes or until the discoloration disappears.

If discoloration of the water continues after 10-15 minutes of normal use, please notify Public Works at 519-867-2993.

Sewer Main Flushing

Public Works will be flushing sewer mains connected to the St. Clair Township Sewer System, during the hours of:

7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

May 2021 - Fall 2021

For current areas affected, refer to stclairtownship.ca

During this maintenance procedure, you may notice some gurgling noises in your drains.

If conditions persist after 24-48 hours of normal use, please notify Public Works at 519-867-2993.

St. Clair River Trail

The St. Clair River Trail is open now and until Nov. 30. Please practice social distancing during this time.

Ask Mylo? What Goes Where recycle app

St. Clair Township utilizes the Recycle Coach app to keep connected with its residents and reminds residents to download the smartphone app or access their web-app online.

Now equipped with the Ask Milo "What Goes Where?" search engine on our website and Recycle Coach App. Residents can search where to properly dispose their items.



Your Works Department works for you every day

Water/Wastewater Operation Dept. staff Ryan Nap and Aaron Jardine prepare a water main to allow a new service installation.

Road reconstruction - Wilkesport Line to Baby Road

Starting in July, expect intermittent road closures and detours for **6-8 weeks** due to road reconstruction from Wilkesport Line to Baby Road.

Public Works Department

Sanitary backup prevention

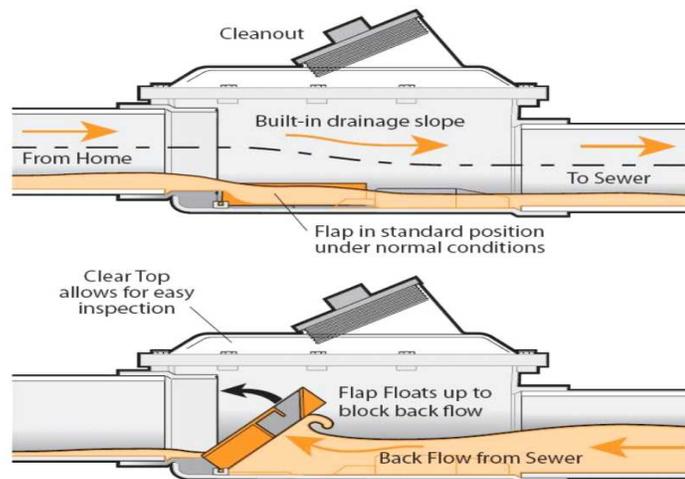
Do you have a backwater valve? A backwater valve, if properly installed and maintained, can prevent sewage from backing up into your home during a blockage or surcharge. It is recommended you follow the backwater valve manufacturer's guidelines and recommendations for maintenance.

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.

Gotta' dig? Contact OntarioOneCall first!

Property owners who have to dig anywhere on their property are reminded to know what lies beneath their land BEFORE digging. Damaged or severed cable, power, water, and gas lines can be dangerous and cause major disruptions to service. The can also be costly to repair.

Be sure to call 1-800-400-2255 or visit [OntarioOneCall.ca](https://www.ontarioonecall.ca) 5 days before you dig.



PUBLIC WORKS IS NOW LIVE ON FACEBOOK!

Follow or like our page for all the latest updates and notifications. Visit our page at <https://www.facebook.com/stclairtppw>

2021 Household Hazardous Waste Collection Events

The County of Lambton and its partner Clean Harbors Canada Inc. will be holding the next Household Hazardous Waste Collection Program on Saturday, Sept. 25. These popular events offer Lambton County residents an opportunity to dispose of household hazardous waste at no cost.

The final opportunity for residents to safely dispose of their household hazardous waste will be held on Saturday, Oct. 30. All events are held at the Clean Harbors Lambton Facility (4090 Telfer Road, St. Clair Township) from 9:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.

Additionally, in light of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, event attendees are asked to follow physical distancing and safety protocols, including the following:

- > Package materials in disposable containers (i.e. cardboard boxes) as they will not be returned;
- > Place materials in the trunk or back of their vehicle to maximize distancing for event staff when collecting items; and
- > Remain in their vehicle at all times, as event staff will be removing materials from the vehicle.

"Corrosive, toxic, reactive and flammable materials will be collected at these events," says Matt Decline, Public Works Manager, County of Lambton. "These items should never be placed in a regular landfill because they have the potential to injure workers and damage the environment."

Examples of these types of accepted materials include:

Corrosive

Batteries
Drain Cleaners
Oven Cleaners

Toxic

Pesticides
Rat Poison
Cleaning Fluids
Pharmaceuticals

Reactive

Pool Chemicals
Ammonia
Bleach
Aerosols

Flammable

Gasoline
Paints
BBQ Starter
Oils
Solvents
Propane Cylinders

Items NOT accepted include: PCBs, commercial, industrial, radioactive wastes, electronics, and explosives (flares and ammunition).

For more information visit the County of Lambton's website at: lambtononline.ca/hhw or call 519-845-0801.

Emergency preparedness starts with you
be prepared

make a plan **build a kit** **stay informed**

ontario.ca/beprepared Ontario

BASES puts focus on community Safety, Environment, and Sustainability

The launch of the Bluewater Association for Safety, Environment, and Sustainability (BASES) has created a collaboration between Community Awareness Emergency Response (CAER), the Industrial Educational Cooperative (IEC), and Sarnia-Lambton Environmental Association (SLEA). BASES will work collaboratively with all communities in Lambton County, all levels of government, First Nations, local contractors, building and construction trades, and Lambton College. All information about CAER, IEC, and SLEA can now be found online at www.lambtonbases.ca as a central hub for the interactive exchange of information pertaining to the protection of workers, the community, and the environment.

Applications being accepted for renovation and homeownership programs



The County of Lambton is accepting applications for the Lambton Renovates and Homeownership Down-Payment Assistance Programs.

The Lambton Renovates program provides one-time financial assistance for home repairs, and the Homeownership Down-Payment program offers one-time financial assistance in the form of a 20-year forgivable loan for a 10% down payment to be used towards the purchase of a new or resale home.

Applications can be downloaded at lambtononline.ca/lambtonrenovates and lambtononline.ca/homeownership. Interested applicants can also call the Housing Services Department at 519-344-2062 to request a paper application via mail.

The Lambton Renovates program offers financial assistance to eligible households in one of two ways:

One-time assistance in the form of a 10-year forgivable loan, secured by registration on title, for home repairs to a maximum of \$20,000 per household.

One-time assistance in the form of a grant, which does not require repayment, for accessibility improvements to a maximum of \$5,000 per household.

Eligible repairs under the Lambton Renovates program may include major repairs and rehabilita-

tion required to make your home safe while improving energy efficiency, or modifications to increase accessibility.

The Homeownership Down Payment Assistance program offers financial assistance to eligible households living in rental accommodations. The program offers one-time assistance in the form of a 20-year forgivable loan, secured by registration on title, for a 10% down payment to be used towards the purchase of a new or resale affordable home.

"Both the Lambton Renovates and Homeownership Down-Payment Assistance programs offer unique funding opportunities to eligible Lambton County residents," says Mackenzie Kada, Project Coordinator. "We encourage all residents to review the eligibility requirements and, if eligible, apply to the program that best suits their needs."

Applicants for these programs must meet a number of qualifications related to residency, income, asset level and home value, which can be found online at lambtononline.ca/lambtonrenovates and lambtononline.ca/homeownership.

Applicants are asked to review the [Lambton Renovates Information Sheet](#) and the [Homeownership Down Payment Assistance Information Sheet](#) prior to completing an application.



S-L Chamber of Commerce Outstanding Business Achievement Awards: Nominate deserving businesses in your community



Do you know a business, service, store, or individual in St. Clair Township that deserves recognition? Here's your chance to see them recognized for customer service or for being a cool place to work.

The Sarnia-Lambton Chamber of Commerce is now looking for nominations for its annual Outstanding Business Achievement Awards (OBAAs). There are 11 categories open for nomination.

Recognition Awards include:

- **Customer Service - Individual:** Individuals who go above and beyond to deliver great customer service.
- **Customer Service - Business:** Organizations that provide outstanding customer service and drive value throughout the community; a place we send our family, friends, and colleagues.
- **Cool Place to Work:** Organizations that demonstrate a healthy, positive, productive work environment.

Technical Awards include:

- **Agri-Business:** Organizations that drive value through agri-business, celebrating both the success and passion for growth and excellence in the agricultural sector.

- **Tech-Novation:** Organizations that incorporate new or improve existing technology in the development of new products, services, or business processes.
- **Inclusivity:** Forward-thinking champions of inclusive values and principles.
- **HSE Leadership:** Organizations that demonstrate leading health, safety, and environmental excellence and sustainability.

"...Of-The-Year" Awards

- **Non-Profit:** Non-profit organizations that have shone even brighter in the past year to support those in the community.
- **Entrepreneur:** Individuals who introduced a new product or idea to meet changing and consumer demands.
- **Member of the Year:** Individuals who work with the Chamber of Commerce to innovate and lead the way in our community.
- **Business of the Year:** Celebrating excellence across the board.

The entire nomination process had been moved online. Visit www.slchamber.ca/OBAAs to nominate a business/individual for an award or to self-nominate your own business.

Applications close Sunday, July 11 at 11:59 p.m.

Beacon Bits

"The most authentic thing about us is our capacity to create, to overcome, to endure, to transform, to love, and to be greater than our suffering."

-Ben Okri, author and poet

Emergency Preparedness

FACT SHEET



For COMMUNITY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATORS

March 2020

How to Contact Hydro One

In the case of an emergency or power outage you can reach us by calling one of our emergency numbers below.

- **Hydro One Power Outage & Emergency Line:**

1-800-434-1235

Use this number to report a power outage, fallen tree hazard or emergency (24 hours, 7 days a week)

- **Hydro One Media Relations:**

416-345-6868 or 1-877-506-7584

After-hours, on weekends and holidays: 1-888-254-3992

- **Hydro One Community Relations**

Hydro One's Media and Community Relations staff members are available to answer questions and concerns from elected officials (e.g. MPP's, Mayors, Reeves)

Monday - Friday: 1-877-345-6799

For More Information

In the event of an emergency or power interruption we encourage you to take a moment to visit www.HydroOne.com, follow [Hydro One on Twitter](#) or check any one of the links below for more information:

- [Power Outages & Safety Information](#)
- [Interactive Power Outage Map Outlining Planned & Unplanned Power Outages](#)
- [Contact Us](#)

Hydro One transmits and distributes electricity in the province of Ontario however; there are other local distribution companies that may serve your community. Visit the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) website at www.ieso.ca to find your local utility.

Hydro One's Emergency Preparedness Team

- **Emergency Preparedness**

416-603-4308 / 1-844-791-1155

Hydro One's Business Continuity & Emergency Preparedness team plans for and assists with Hydro One's internal response to any significant disruptions to our electricity system. Please use the communication resources listed above for power outage and restoration information. In the event of an extraordinary situation, contact the team and special arrangements will be made to facilitate appropriate levels of support to you and your community.

EMERGENCIES HAPPEN!

Are you ready for them? Don't wait to find out what you SHOULD have done to get through a catastrophic wind, rain, or snow storm, a lengthy power outage, or a man-made environmental catastrophe.

Do you have an adequate supply of daily medications, water, flashlights, food, safe drinking water, pet supplies, baby supplies, etc.? Make sure your emergency kit is prepared and ready for unexpected emergencies. **A MINIMUM supply for 72 hours is recommended.**

Go online to: www.getprepared.gc.ca for more information.

Roadmap to Reopen reveals Ontario's three-step reopening strategy

~STEP ONE~

Step One of the road map may begin after 60 per cent of Ontario's adults receive at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine and if public health indicators, such as hospitalizations, ICU occupancy and new admissions and case rates indicate the province can safely move to this step of the roadmap. Based on current trends in key health indicators, including the provincial vaccination rate, the government expects to enter Step One of the Roadmap the week of June 14, 2021. The province will confirm closer to the expected start of Step One.

Step One will permit the resumption of more outdoor activities with smaller, well-managed crowds where risk of transmission is minimized and will permit retail, all with restrictions in place, including but not limited to :

- Outdoor gatherings up to 10 people;
- Outdoor dining up to 4 people per table;
- Outdoor fitness classes, personal training and sports training up to 10 people;
- Essential retail at 25 per cent capacity and can sell all goods (including discount and big box);
- Non-essential retail at 15 per cent capacity;
- Retail stores in malls closed unless the stores have a street facing entrance;
- Outdoor religious services, rites and ceremonies with capacity limited to permit 2 metres' physical distancing;
- Horse racing and motor speedways without spectators;
- Outdoor horse riding;
- Outdoor pools and wading pools with capacity limited to permit 2 metres' physical distancing;
- Outdoor zoos, landmarks, historic sites, and botanical gardens with capacity limits;
- Campsites, campgrounds and short-term rentals; and
- Overnight camping at Ontario Parks.

COMPLETE

~STEP THREE~

Ontario will remain in Step Two for at least 21 days. If at the end of those 21 days the province has vaccinated 70 to 80 per cent of adults with one dose and 25 per cent of adults with two and positive trends in public health and health system indicators continue, Ontario will move to Step Three.

Step Three will permit the resumption of indoor services with larger numbers of people, with restrictions in place, including but not limited to :

- Outdoor gatherings with larger capacity limits;
- Indoor gatherings with larger capacity limits and other restrictions;
- Indoor dining with capacity limits;
- Indoor sports and recreational fitness facilities with capacity limits;
- Indoor meeting and event spaces with capacity limits;
- Essential and non-essential retail capacity expanded;
- Personal care services with capacity expanded and other restrictions;
- Indoor cinemas and performing arts facilities with capacity limits;
- Indoor and outdoor religious services, rites or ceremony gatherings with capacity limited to permit 2 metres' physical distancing;
- Indoor museums and art galleries with capacity limits;
- Indoor zoos, aquariums, waterparks and amusement parks with capacity limits;
- Casinos and bingo halls with capacity limits; and
- Other outdoor activities from Step Two permitted to operate indoors.

This list is not exhaustive. The government will continue to work with sectors on reopening plans, to ensure that they have full awareness of when they can begin to safely reopen and how.

~STEP TWO~

The Ontario reopening continues with Step Two in most areas of the province on June 30. (Exceptions are hot spots in and around the GTA as well as Waterloo, where municipal officials have chosen to stay in Stage One due to the prevalence of the fast-spreading Delta variant in the community.)

Step Two will further expand outdoor activities and will resume limited indoor services with small numbers of people where face coverings are worn, with other restrictions in place, including but not limited to :

- Outdoor gatherings up to 25 people;
- Indoor gatherings up to 5 people and other restrictions;
- Outdoor dining up to 6 people per table;
- Outdoor sports and leagues;
- Overnight camps;
- Outdoor meeting and event spaces with capacity limits;
- Non-essential retail at 25 per cent capacity; essential retail at 50 per cent capacity;
- Personal care services where face coverings can be worn at all times with capacity limits;
- Outdoor cinemas and performing arts with capacity limits;
- Horse racing and motor speedways for spectators with capacity limits;
- Outdoor tour and guide services with capacity limits;
- Indoor religious services, rites or ceremony gatherings at 15 per cent capacity;
- Public libraries with capacity limits;
- Outdoor waterparks and amusement parks with capacity limits; and
- Fairs and rural exhibitions with capacity limits.

We all must navigate the Roadmap to Reopen

The Roadmap to Reopen is the latest provincial strategy aimed at getting our daily lives back to the cuddly, maskless days we used to enjoy. It's also a necessary guide to rehabilitating the economy and to restoring our ability to move freely through the world.

Tourism Sarnia-Lambton has supplied the Beacon with this outline of the three-step plan which we hope everyone will read and follow. The list of restrictions listed here is not complete but it answers many common questions about what each step will allow.

As 2021 unfolds, we have a choice. Do we ignore this provincial strategy and carry on as if nothing is wrong? Or do we take to heart the instructions laid out in this 'roadmap' and slay the unseen monster that has sickened and murdered too many of our loved ones?

The choice is ours and we must make the right one. Our alternative is to be trapped in a constant cycle of shut downs, missed family milestones, threatened jobs, and interrupted lives.

Please get vaccinated as soon as you have the opportunity to do so. A bright future can only rise beyond this pandemic if we become the fuel that powers our community's recovery.

Regardless of your belief, COVID-19 has a very real grip on our community. It will take real action and real commitment by everyone to set us free.

Subscribe to the Beacon online

The free monthly subscription list for the St. Clair Township Beacon is still growing.

Add your email to the list is by emailing:

beacon@stclairtownship.ca and typing the word "Subscription" in the Subject line.

Please include your name with the email.

HERITAGE CORNER



Duthil Days: Memories of My Hometown: Part IV

By G. Wayne Brown

Editor's note: In the April 2021 Beacon, we were introduced to life in the hamlet of Duthil by author G. Wayne Brown, who spent the first 22 years of his life there. We soon discovered the hamlet wasn't always the sleepy little dot on the map we expected it to be.

This fourth and final installment of Duthil Days: Memories of My Hometown offers a bittersweet farewell to life less complex and more mysterious - less hectic and more precious.

Cuckoo

I would be remiss if I didn't mention a well known Duthil resident who's nickname was "Cuckoo". He was from Belgium and, when referring to him by his real name, its spelling and pronunciation sounded very much like his nickname.

Cuckoo was a very intelligent man who spoke several languages and had studied to become a priest. However, after serving as a soldier in World War II, he suffered from post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD).

Cuckoo lived in poverty in a one-room shack located on the 100-acre farm owned by John Fraser, directly across the road from the Tulloch farm. He had no steady job aside from helping his neighbours from time to time. Cuckoo remained a bachelor all his life.

~ ~ ~

One of the "strange things" done in Duthil

I want to include one last tidbit of information about an event that took place quite a few years ago in downtown Duthil, or at least it started out there.

Those who recall the poem *The Cremation of Sam McGee* by Robert Service will remember that the first line reads, "There are strange things done under the midnight sun by the men who toil for gold". We could paraphrase this poem to describe the "...strange things done by young teenage girls who want to drive before they earn a driver's license."

This young girl just happens to be my sister, Bonnie, who, at the time, was 14 or 15 years old. Her dad told her she could drive the old '52 International half-ton truck over to visit her cousin and good friend, Janet Tulloch, on the condition that she drive no further than the short distance over the bridge to the Tulloch driveway.

He also warned her he would check the truck's odometer when she got home. However, after arriving at Duthil, the two girls decided to drive all the way to West Becher to buy a particular kind of candy. Now, how does one resolve the odometer problem? If you're my sister, you drive the 3.5 miles to West Becher backwards so that the odometer reveals nothing!

~ ~ ~

The Darcy McKeough Floodway Project

I had moved away from the area and by the time I came back, the Darcy McKeough Dam was built. However, I was kept informed about it due to its close proximity to the Brown farm, where construction of the diversion channel eliminated several acres of our land on north side of Holt Line.

The dam is located immediately north (upstream) of the Holt Line bridge. It was completed in 1984 at a cost in the order of \$20 million with the purpose of providing flood relief to the community of Wallaceburg. It is capable of diverting approximately 37% of the Sydenham River's water through the seven kilometre long channel.

I recall many times before the floodway project was finished when, during spring melt, the high water and accompanying ice flows missed the undergirding of the bridge by only a few feet. The dam also allows an excellent view of the Duthil bridge for those who might be interested, especially in the fall of the year.

~ ~ ~

The Duthil Reunion

Late in 1986 a committee was struck to plan a reunion for anyone associated with the Duthil community. I was joined by Ed Hay and David Buckingham (sorry if I missed any other members) to put things in place.

During the summer of 1987 a large, enthusiastic group assembled at the Wilkesport Community Center to renew old friendships and enjoy the nostalgia of Duthil's past.

~ ~ ~

Conclusion

There are so many more things I could have touched upon but we'll call the ones in this narrative the highlights. Several resources were used to verify historical events, including the World Wide Web, The London Free Press, and The Sombra Museum Cultural Centre.

Special thanks to Lois Tulloch and her son, Gordon, for the use of their numerous photos and newspaper clippings, as well as their verification of local history. I couldn't have put this article together without them.



Feedback from readers of The Beacon indicate they have enjoyed this candid glimpse of life in one of St. Clair Township's many early hamlet communities. Author G. Wayne Brown invites anyone who has read this series, and has comments or questions about it, to contact him by email at: brownw@sympatico.ca

Find The Beacon online during the pandemic

Email: beacon@stclairtownship.ca to subscribe—FREE!

Just type the word 'Subscription' in the Subject line

Find the St. Clair Township home page at: www.stclairtownship.ca, then click on **The Beacon** on the black, top right corner information bar.

Brigden Fair falls victim to COVID-19 for second year: see you in 2022

MOORE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

Home of the Brigden Fair Since 1850



It is with sincere regret that the Moore Agricultural Society is announcing the postponement of this year's Brigden Fall Fair to the Fall of 2022. This is the second consecutive postponement of the annual Brigden Fall Fair as a result of the ongoing COVID-19 (2019 Novel Coronavirus) global pandemic.

Collectively we had hoped that the summer months would bring relaxation to pandemic related restrictions and easement to gathering limitations that would allow our celebration of agriculture to proceed as customary. However, despite the progress being made in communities across the province, it is now clear to organizers that the alleviation from critical restrictions will not be made quickly enough.

The health and well-being of every person that attends our fairgrounds over the Thanksgiving Weekend is of paramount importance to the Moore Agricultural Society. Proceeding with the Brigden Fall Fair at this time could compromise months of slow and painstaking progress that has been made in the fight against COVID-19. With infection rates dropping and immunization rates on the rise, now is not the time for unnecessary risk taking.

The Moore Agricultural Society would like to thank the Business, Organizations and Individuals whose generosity and support has helped sustain us through this difficult time. We recognize that our sponsors have all been hit hard by the economic repercussions of the ongoing global pandemic. We appreciate all that you have done for us, and we look forward to celebrating together in the future.

Please monitor the official website for the Brigden Fair (WWW.BRIGDENFAIR.CA) along with its various social media accounts for news regarding future activities. Plans are already in motion for smaller ticketed events and more will be announced as pandemic restrictions are relaxed and events can be conducted safely. We recognize that the Brigden Fair has far reaching social and economic impacts, and the Moore Agricultural Society is committed to mitigating the losses felt across the community.

Please continue to work on your exhibits using the theme "Hats Off to Brigden Fair", hone your prize winning recipes and plan for a time when we can all meet again and truly give "thanks" that together we have endured.

All the best to everyone.

Stay healthy, stay safe and we will see you Thanksgiving Weekend 2022.

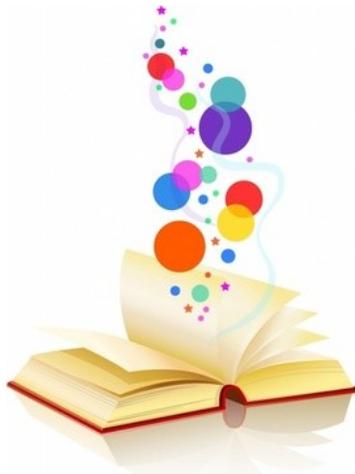
*~Moore Agricultural Society
Home of the Brigden Fair*

Lambton County Library annual summer reading program underway

Lambton County Library cardholders are invited to enjoy the 2021 Summer Reading Program, a six-week initiative promoting reading and the maintenance of literacy skills for children during summer break. It may also encourage reading as a hobby among adults.

The theme for 2021 is *Every Hero Has A Story*. "The library encourages heroes of all ages from around Lambton County to read stories, participate in activities, and discover online programs," said Greer Macdonell, Community Library Supervisor. "The more registrants read and participate, the more chances they have to win amazing prizes."

The Summer Reading Program is free and available for Lambton County Library cardholders, who can register now by visiting a curbside pickup location during opening hours. Kids ages 0 -12 will receive an age-specific registration package (0-4 years, 5-8 years or 9-12 years) in French or English which will include: a passport, program instructions, stickers, supplies for three DIY activities, activity sheets and recommended reading list. For every five books read, kids will earn one free book prize to a maximum of three book prizes.



Through July and August participants can take part in online activities, games, challenges and set reading goals for themselves. Books can be borrowed through the library's curbside pickup service, and eBooks are available through digital platforms found at: www.lclibrary.ca. Online activities, games and challenges will open on July 5, 2021 at www.lclibrary.ca/srp. They include: Herovision; Secret Code Word Scavenger Hunt; Superhero Weekly Online Photo Challenge; and Story Walk. Prizes to be won include: a bike and helmet (Herovision); one of five \$50 Amazon gift cards (Secret Code Word Scavenger Hunt); a movie night prize package (Superhero Weekly Online Photo Challenge); \$50 Discover Sarnia-Lambton gift cards; food prizes; and puzzle prize packages.

This is just a sample of what awaits the summer program readers. For a complete look at the program's activities and special events, visit www.lclibrary.ca/srp and follow @LCLibrary on Facebook and Twitter.

If you don't have a library card, just visit www.lclibrary.ca/apply and watch the Lambton County Library heroes make one magically appear.

United Way of Sarnia-Lambton serves the community 24/7



FROM POVERTY TO POSSIBILITY

United Way is helping people move out of, or avoid, the cycle of poverty with access to nutritious, affordable and appropriate food security and with supports to access emergency shelters and to maintain safe and stable housing.



ALL THAT KIDS CAN BE

Investing in kids so they can succeed in school and develop supportive relationships. Giving children and youth the support they need to make healthy choices and to better handle life's challenges.



HEALTHY PEOPLE, STRONG COMMUNITIES

United Way is creating a strong, inclusive community connecting people of all ages to supports for their personal wellbeing - from addiction and mental health supports to helping seniors live independently.



United Way
Sarnia-Lambton
theunitedway.on.ca

#UnitedWaySarLam



Mental health services for children/youth expanded

The Ontario government will provide funding totalling \$200,100 to organizations in Sarnia-Lambton that address the mental health needs of children and youth. The funding is part of the province's *Roadmap to Wellness* plan. Organizations receiving this funding include: St. Clair Child and Youth; Youth Services of Lambton

County Inc.; Social Services Bureau of Sarnia-Lambton Inc.; Community Living Sarnia-Lambton; and Sarnia-Lambton Rebound.

This funding acknowledges the pandemic's negative effect on children and youth, and will help ensure timely care and improved outcomes when problems arise.

Lambton Agricultural Hall of Fame inducts three new members

The Lambton County agricultural community recently honoured three of its most worthy people. Sid Fraleigh, Dona Stewardson, and Kevin Marriott were inducted into the Lambton Agricultural Hall of Fame during a well-attended virtual Zoom ceremony.

Hall of Fame individuals, organizations, and businesses are nominated for having had a positive influence on agriculture in the rural community within the borders of Lambton County. The chosen inductees have influenced, changed, and contributed to the agricultural industry regionally, provincially, and sometimes, internationally. The biographies of all three of the 2021 inductees tick all of those boxes with a life's work that touches agricultural communities at home and abroad.

During her opening remarks, ceremony spokesperson Joanne Sanderson acknowledged the reasons the three honourees deserved to be in the Hall of Fame. "We're here to honour the success they've had," she said. "It wasn't an accident. It is hard work, perseverance, learning, studying, sacrifice, and most importantly, love of what they do."

Sid Fraleigh

Sid Fraleigh's 70 years in agriculture in Lambton County began with his involvement in the swine sector as a pork producer. He brought his experience to the promotion of pork as a provincial representative to the Ontario Pork Council. He later became the MP for Lambton-Middlesex while still actively farming. As a chair of the Ontario Pork Producers marketing board, he helped develop an export market in Japan that flourished and is still in operation today.



Sid Fraleigh

In the community, he has been a 4H Swine Club leader, an army cadet leader, a sports coach, an active member of the Anglican Church, and a curling club member. His compassion for others also led to his work as a driver for cancer patients who needed transportation to their appointments. He was noted for his strong leadership, sense of humour, and commitment to the betterment of agriculture and those who make their livings from it.

Dona Stewardson

Dona Stewardson was born into a farming family and married a farmer, all the while developing a strong love of agriculture and, by extension, the environment. Along with her husband, Don, the couple started their farming operation milking cows, raising hogs, and working 100 acres in Bosanquet Township. Today, their three boys carry on the farming tradition with milking cows, broiler chickens, and cash crops.

From promoting dairy farming as the Lambton County Dairy Princess, to serving her community as an elected board member of the Lambton County Federation of Agriculture, her lifetime of service blossomed with several watershed moments as the first female to shatter the "glass ceiling".

As the first female president of the LFA, she took on rural challenges that resulted in the formation of the Lambton Rural Child Care Program and raised awareness of the importance of agriculture through Agriculture In The Classroom, which was done in partnership with the Women's Institute and the OMAF staff. Other organizations that benefited from Dona's efforts include: Sarnia Chamber of Commerce Environment Committee, Rural Lambton Stewardship Program, and the Remedial Action Committee Advisory Board for Sarnia. Dona represented agriculture in local, provincial, federal, and international appointments, breaking several gender barriers along the way.

Her numerous other achievements included: becoming the only woman on the board of directors with the Ontario Federation of Agriculture; chairing the OFA environmental committee; serving on the public advisory committee for International Joint Commission between the U.S.A. and Canada; participant and observer for the stable funding resolution that started in Lambton County and evolved into provincial legislation for farm business registration; representing agriculture for 12 years on the board of directors of the Cooperators and became its first female CEO; and being elected as a municipal councillor for Bosanquet Township. Dona is also a founding member of the North Lambton Community Health Centre; a deacon of Knox Presbyterian Church; and a member of several other boards of director.



Dona Stewardson

Kevin Marriott

As an active member of the agricultural community, Kevin Marriott is involved with pork and beef, and has developed his operation in acreage worked and in cash crops, especially the identity-preserved GMO-free food grade soy beans he grows for the Japanese market. He was one of the first farmers to practice no-till farming in Enniskillen Township starting in 1988. He has been actively involved in various groups and activities within Lambton County, many in leadership capacities, with membership in Enniskillen and Dawn 4-H beef Club where he mentored the next generation. He went on to be a member of the 4-H Leaders Association, member of Enniskillen Township Junior Farmers, eventually becoming a director and then president of that group. Participating in many county and provincial activities, he served with the Lambton County Soy Bean committee, the Grain Farmers of Ontario, Agriculture in the Classroom, Lambton Soil and Crop Improvement Association, and the Bluewater Conservation Club.

Provincially, Kevin has been a provincial director of the Ontario Soy Bean growers for over 10 years and is a founding provincial member of the Grain Farmers of Ontario who shared his time, knowledge and expertise as this organization developed their mission statement and set the foundation for future farmers to work from. Internationally, he held a position of director on the American Soy Bean Association. Representing Canada, he helped develop government programs that, to this day, are the foundation used in lobbying our Canadian government in the growth of our commodity programs.



Kevin Marriott

Kevin led a delegation to Japan in 2008 to promote Canadian food grade soy beans, served as a Canadian director on the National Biodiesel Board for five years, and was part of the Canadian farm debt mediation board panel for a three-year term.

Closer to home, he got into politics with his 1994 election as an Enniskillen Township councillor and is currently the Warden of Lambton County. Over the past 40 years, he has supported the agricultural community and says he plans to continue farming and encouraging other farmers to grow and take an active part in their community.

Sombra Museum seeks information/photos of COVID era

The Sombra Museum is collecting pandemic stories, photos, videos, art work, etc. (family friendly) from St. Clair Township residents to help record and preserve memories of the COVID experience for future generations.; day-to-day memories of life in Sombra, Wilkesport, Port Lambton, Mooretown, Lambton County, Canada, and elsewhere in the world.

Information we hope you will share includes:

- * Shopping conditions and how they changed over time.
- * Adapting to working at home, and any challenges or creative solutions that were needed.
- * Financial challenges.
- * Feelings caused by the outbreak and thoughts about social distancing.
- * Keeping children/adults occupied during self-isolation.
- * New or newly rediscovered hobbies or crafts you did
- * Stories from workers on the front lines/staffing essential services.
- * Struggles of family/friends infected with the virus.

- * Stories of everyday heroes, i.e. people helping neighbours/people accepting inconveniences for the greater good.
- * How daily life and routines have changed.
- * For those who lived through the Depression, World War II, etc., are there similarities to those experiences?

- How social media and technology is impacting life in social isolation (using technology for the first time, using it differently).

Submissions can be sent by email to:

sobramuseum@hotmail.com with the subject line "COVID-19 History Snapshot".

Please share this request for community life memories with as many people as possible. We encourage everyone to document this time, if not to share publicly, then for yourself and your family to look back and reflect on in years to come.

Take care and be well.

~Kailyn Shepley

Lambton County Library lends passes for Ontario parks

The Lambton County Library has seasonal day-use permits valid library cardholders can borrow to take in the natural beauty of provincial parks like Pinery Provincial Park near Grand Bend. The permit will allow unlimited daily entry for one vehicle plus all of its passengers. The permit will come with a \$5 day-use coupon for future regular day-use, as well as a park guide.

The permits will be valid until Dec. 31, 2021 and may be borrowed for a period of seven days. The vehicle permit must be returned after the lending period but the borrower may keep the coupon and parks guide.

To prepare for your park encounter, the Lambton County Library offers a variety of materials to enhance your visit, including: a collection of wildlife books, trail guides, and children's nature books. The library collections also include snowshoes, pedometers, and GPS units that can be borrowed.

Ontario parks passes and other library materials can be reserved for contactless curbside pickup using the online catalogue at lclibrary.ca or the Iguana Library mobile app, or by calling a participating curbside loca-

tion during hours of operation.

The Lambton County Library received the passes from Ontario Parks as a part of its library day-use vehicle lending program. The program encourages Ontario residents to enjoy the outdoors and to reap the mental and physical health benefits offered by outdoor activities.

If you haven't got a library card, call 519-845-3324, ext. 5266 or 1-866-324-6912, ext. 5266, or email: librarytech-help@county-lambton.on.ca.

For more information on locations, services, and hours of operation, go online to: www.lclibrary.ca.



Above: The Ontario Parks pass, park guide and \$5 coupon.

Moore Museum seeks information about history of old Moore Township schools

Moore Museum is still accepting information for a virtual exhibit for the museum's website. It will feature brief histories and photos of the schools in the former Moore Township prior to centralization in 1963. There were 19 school sections in Moore, four of which were union schools - two shared with Sombra Township and two with Sarnia Township. To see the map that indicates where the schools were located, see the March or April 2021 Beacon. It can be accessed, along with further information, by going online the St. Clair Township website home page. Click on *The Beacon*, top right of the page.

~Laurie Mason, curator, Moore Museum



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.

COURTRIGHT RESIDENT CONQUERS MOUNT EVEREST...

well, virtually anyway..

Courtright resident Will Graham, multi-media artist (including tattoos), business man, and now, mountaineer, recently conquered Mount Everest, virtually speaking.

The online challenge is the answer to an existential issue Will began to grapple with when the COVID-19 shut downs began.

"I started this because I want to prevent myself from getting old and fat," he said. "I like food a lot and I love cinema, so sitting around snacking is a bad combination. At the same time, I really like a good challenge," he said. "I want to be able to walk when I'm 64."

In his search to discover a way to stay motivated and remain active, he discovered a website that offers virtual challenges that require physical activity. "It's really unique; it tracks your movement and it shows you where you are. They plant a tree every time you reach a benchmark," he said. "It's a way to push me to make it to the finish line."

To represent the mileage and conditions needed to achieve his Mount Everest 'climb', Will started running last January, through the snow, sleet, or whatever weather he had to endure, with his phone tracking his progress. The challenge was deemed to be complete when the actual distance from the ground up to the summit was accumulated.

As a participant accumulates mileage/kilometres and the total distance covered increases, the site emails actual photographs of some of the locations that have been reached. Post cards are also sent out and a medal is awarded for the successful completion of the challenge.

Will's Facebook following was able to share his experiences online and he says most of the response was positive. But predictably, when using social media to share positive efforts of any kind, some people will always find something to gripe about. "I thought it would be fun to share my adventures with the greater world out there, so I started posting my challenges", said Will.

For the Everest Challenge, he posted the Everest location pictures he had received to show viewers the places on the mountain he had encountered virtually. "I'd write, 'Today, I made it 14 kilometres and here are some pictures of where I am on the mountain,'" he explained. "During the pandemic, a number of people jumped on me instantly, like 'what the h**l are you doing traveling around the world in a pandemic...it's not safe...you're part of the problem'...and I thought, guys, it's virtual, I'm doing this around my neighbourhood by myself."



Virtual mountaineer Will Graham with his challenge medal and a few encouraging 'post cards'

Knowing the pandemic has brought out strong emotions, both good and bad, in most people, Will has taken the criticism in stride. "I know we're all stressed and we're all doing our best at a difficult time, but the propensity to immediately jump to the worst case scenario is a reflex we, as a society, need to work on stopping," he said. "Maybe they don't know what it means but more than likely, it's just a reflex. I wasn't prepared for that."

In spite of the hostile feedback he received, Will soldiered on, heeding only the positive support he was receiving from the majority of his followers. The challenge provided him with tangible motivation to stay active and maintain a level of fitness during the pandemic. "The challenge is the push for me, it keeps me honest," said Will.

There are a selection of activity challenges for which a small fee is charged. Will is now involved in another challenge that takes the participant along the Route 66. For this challenge, wheels are required, so he rides a bicycle to Sombra and back to simulate driving a car along the famous American highway, which runs from Chicago to Santa Monica, California.

As a forward thinker, Will already has his next challenge in mind. "The next one I want to do after this, probably next year, is swimming the English Channel. I'll just hop in the river and swim down every day. It's fun," he said.

Lambton County Archives introduce virtual appointments

The extensive archival resources at the Lambton County Archives can now be accessed via a virtual service. The service also allows patrons access to the researchers and genealogists who can facilitate family, property, and historical searches.

Virtual appointments must be booked in advance with the Archivist. They will include two 15-minute video or telephone meetings, and one hour of research time. The Archivist will also assist by reviewing research and answering questions. The cost is \$20 for members and \$40 for non-members, which includes 1.5 hours of research support. Additional research time can be purchased as required.

Those who wish to be introduced to the various online genealogical and local history resources can ask to be introduced to *AncestryLibrary*, *Onland*, and other programs.

To book appointments or make a reservation, visit the [Lambton County Archives website](https://www.lambtoncountyarchives.ca).

Rapids Family Health Team

Program information for the Rapids Family Health Team clinic located in the Shell Health Centre, 233 Cameron Street, Corunna, is currently not available. Watch this space for more information as it becomes available. To contact the clinic, go to www.rapidsfhteam.ca or call 519-339-8949 and speak to reception.

LAB OPEN
Just a reminder that our lab
is open weekdays for
all residents
Monday to Friday -
7:30a.m. - 11:15 a.m.



Virtual SCRA spring water awareness program marks three years

Families living within the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority watershed benefit every year from an annual SCRA program that teaches children about the hazards of playing around fast-flowing rivers in the spring.

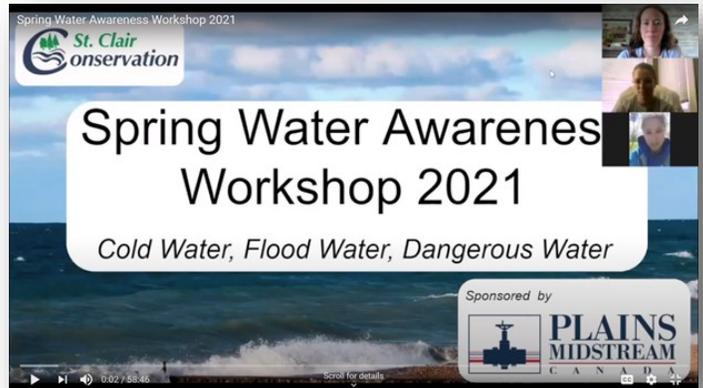
The icy cold, turbulent spring runoff can turn a trickling stream into a rushing torrent in minutes, sweeping a small child into the flow.

For the third year, Plains Midstream Canada has donated \$5,000 to fund the program so that it can be presented free of charge. It was offered as a virtual live stream workshop this spring.

“Through our annual Spring Water Awareness Program (SWAP), we talk with students about the potentially dangerous conditions associated with streams and rivers during the spring, and provide them with safety guidelines,” said Melissa Levi, Conservation Education Coordinator at the SCRA.

The workshop was a success, allowing the important message to be heard and offering a live experiment where children received a cold water exposure experience right in front of their computer. They quickly learned that cold water can affect dexterity and interfere with their ability to move.

Ian Forster, Community Relations Advisor to Plains Midstream Canada says the program is important to the community’s ability to be a strong, safe, healthy place. “It’s fantastic to see the positive impact the program offers by educating kids about water safety



This watery screen shot shows the beginning of the virtual version of the annual SCRA’s Spring Water Awareness program, which took place in late June.

and safe enjoyment of our region’s watercourses,” he said.

Some safety tips for kids to remember include: tell an adult where you are going; take a friend in case you get into trouble; never play around dams or culverts - they have can have strong currents that are hard to escape; lakes and ice can be dangerous and unstable; if you have permission from an adult to play around water, wear a PFD (personal floatation device) and make the adult wear one, too.

Lambton County Archives project features videos by county’s young writers

The Young Canuckstorian Project, a collaborative community project of the Lambton County Archives, gave young writers an opportunity to write scripts for 20 two-minute animated videos that celebrate outstanding community leaders from Lambton County’s past. The Young Canuckstorian Project: Hometown Heroes project, spearheaded by local author, illustrator Mickey Maple, whose alter ego Mike Collier, a recent Premier’s Award Nominee from Lambton College, was a six month effort to acknowledge community leaders such as Sadie Knowles, Roy Caley, Doc Dougall, and Deo Suzuki.

The videos allow historical societies and other institutions

to heighten visibility and public awareness of their work. They also serve as a social studies curriculum resource for the Lambton Kent District School Board (LKDSC).

Nicole Aszalos, Archivist/Supervisor for Lambton County Archives, said, “The Archives is honoured to support this innovative project which aims to engage youth with local history and inspire future research and learning.”

The videos are available on *The Young Canuckstorian* YouTube channel and the *Lambton County Archives* blog. In the coming months, a weekly video will also be highlighted on the *Lambton County Archives* Facebook page.

The project was made possible by support from the Creative County Grant Program in collaboration with Lambton County Museums and Archives, local historical societies, and LKDSC.



Brigden Fair quilt draw tickets on sale

Tickets for the Brigden Fair Quilt Draw are on sale now and are available from any member of the Brigden Fair Homecraft Division or can be purchased through e-transfer. Email:

quiltraffle@brigdenfair.ca to let the draw organizers know how many tickets you wish to purchase, and include names and contact information for the tickets. The cost is \$2 per ticket or three for \$5. They can also be purchased in larger quantities. This gorgeous quilt was lovingly created by members of the Homecraft Division.

The draw will be held on Thanksgiving Monday, Oct. 11, 2021.



Wanted: Motivated youth seeking adventure

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



THE MOORETOWN SPORTS COMPLEX

1166 Emily Street | Mooretown, ON | NON IMO

Ph: 519-867-2651

2021

HAPPY NEW YEAR



@mooretownsportscomplex

Follow us on Facebook, or watch our website for further updates including programming.

Contact us by email or phone if you have any questions.

www.stclairtownshipcommunityservices.ca / E-mail: info@stclairtownship.ca

St. Clair River TRAIL

actively connecting communities

Photos taken along the trail continue to be in demand, so use your camera when you see a photo-worthy scene while enjoying the trail and message your photos to us. Don't forget to like the St. Clair River Trail on Facebook.

Right: A new Canada goose family strolls



Riverside Cemetery

Riverside Cemetery has submitted by-laws to the Registrar of the Funeral, Burial, and Cremation Services Act, 2002. Any interested parties may contact Dennis Robinson at: 519-892-3316 for information or to make copies. By-laws or amendments may be reviewed or copied at 3164 St. Clair Parkway, Sombra, 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.

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.

ST. CLAIR PARKWAY GOLF COURSE

The Parkway

happy new year

2021

**“Lambton
County’s
Best Golf
Value”**

THE GAME IS ON...
**and when you finish your game, take
time to unwind on our 80 seat patio!**
We’re waiting for YOU!

*Follow us on Facebook, or watch
our website for any further
updates including programming*

Contact us by email or phone if you have any questions.



St. Clair Parkway Golf Club

Email: kgrant@stclairtownship.ca

Phone: 519-867-2160

Facebook: [@stclairparkwaygolfclub](https://www.facebook.com/stclairparkwaygolfclub)

Website: <http://www.stclairparkwaygolf.com/>



COMMUNITY CONTACT

EDITOR'S NOTE TO ALL CONTRIBUTORS

Some groups that contribute notices to Community Contact have not yet submitted updated information for their notices. If the item is no longer current, please notify the editor at:

beacon@stclairtownship.ca

NOTICES NOT UPDATED FOR THE AUGUST ISSUE OF THE BEACON WILL BE OMITTED until new notices are submitted.

Moore Agricultural Society membership

Interested in becoming a member of the Moore Agricultural Society or need to renew your membership? Memberships can be paid either by dropping off payment and member information (name, telephone number, email address, home address) at the Brigden Fair office or through e-transfer at Finance@brigdenfair.ca. Memberships are \$10 per person until further notice.

For more information on the membership role, contact info@brigdenfair.ca.

Sacred Heart food bank - the need continues

The community side effects of the coronavirus have resulted in constant need for supplies at local food banks. Many people have lost their jobs due to shut downs and closures during the pandemic, and the need is still great. Now more than ever, our neighbourhood food banks are called upon to come to the aid of the community. Nourishing food and warm clothing are more important than ever. In Ward 2, The Sacred Heart Food Bank has shelves that constantly need restocking. Please keep the Sacred Heart food bank in mind when you shop for your own groceries.

St. Andrew's foodbank remains open

The food bank at St. Andrew's Church on Colborne Street in Corunna is open every Wednesday evening from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. and every Thursday morning from 9 a.m. to noon. It operates in association with the Inn of the Good Shepherd in Sarnia.

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. Gift cards to Foodland and No Frills are also welcome.

Donations of non-perishable items are always welcome. These include not only food, but household supplies like laundry soap, household cleaners, and toilet tissue, and personal hygiene items like toothbrushes, soap and shampoo, deodorant, and shaving items.

Well water safety remains a concern during high water levels

Lambton Public Health (LPH) is encouraging residents with private water wells to test their water supply about three to four times per year, and also in the event of the well being flooded by excessive rainfall or high water levels. Harmful bacteria may enter the drinking water supply making it unsafe for consumption.

If your well is flooded, it should be disinfected and tested as soon as the water recedes and at one-week intervals for three weeks afterwards to ensure the water

is safe 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. (Please note there may have been changes to the way samples are received. For a full schedule of access times for these locations, as well as resources on how to take a water sample, visit LambtonPublicHealth.ca

During the COVID-19 pandemic, access restrictions are in place. Please call before visiting the office. Learn more about testing options at Lambtonpublichealth.ca/2019-novel-coronavirus/service-changes/

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.

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 Aarsen at 226-402-3870.

Please note: The Down River Jr. Optimist group (Sombra) has been disbanded.

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 (closed during COVID-19 shutdown). For more information, call Mary Lou at 519-862-3950.

Local TOPS weight control group meetings

Local TOPS weight control groups can be contacted for information as follows: **Brigden**—519-864-1865; **Corunna**—519-381-5584. People of all ages are welcome to attend.

Good listeners wanted - Family Counselling Centre

Good listeners are needed by the Family Counselling

MORE COMMUNITY CONTACT

From page 21

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 Counseling Centre, 519-336-0120, ext. 251.**

Brigden United Church activities/service

Brigden United Church holds regular Sunday services at 10:30 a.m. More information regarding the Brigden United Church schedule is available on Face-

book. (Dependent upon provincial COVID-19 shut down requirements for places of worship.)

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. For more information about support options during the COVID-19 emergency, contact Rita at 519-867-2932. More mental health resources include: Lambton Mental Health Distress Line, 519-336-3445 or 1-800-307-4319; Lambton Public Health mental health and addiction line, 519-464-4400, ext. 5370.

Scholarship offered by Lambton County W. I.

Lambton County Women's Institute is offering a \$1,000 scholarship for students entering their first or second year of full-time studies at any college or university in Ontario. Studies must lead to the student's first degree or diploma, and the applicant's address must be in Lambton County. Previous winners are not eligible.



Complete a typed application with a cover letter and the most recent official transcript of academic results.

Include your program of studies and the starting date of your courses at the college or university you attend, have applied to, or hope to attend.

Include a list of your community activities while attending high school/college, university over the last two years. List all organizations of which you have been an active member, including offices held in your high school/college/or university, leadership activities in organizations, special interests, hobbies and accomplishments. State why you chose this course and what you plan to do after graduation.

Include a typed essay of 250-350 words on this subject: *If the 2020 pandemic has changed your family's food choices, give supporting reasons for changing and reasons why those changes will or will not be sustained.*

Return your completed application with the above, plus:

1. Present complete mailing and email address.
2. Names of your mother/grandmother who is/was a W.I. member, if applicable.
3. Names and telephone numbers of three references who could be contacted to support your involvement in the activities you have listed.

Inquiries can be emailed to Anne McGugan at amcgugan@hotmail.com. Applications can be emailed in pdf format to the above email address or mailed to: Anne McGugan, 3842 Old Walnut Road, R.R. # 7, Alvinston, Ontario, N0N 1A0 .



Anne McGugan with a past scholarship recipient.

Virtual Learning funding for Lambton College

Before the pandemic hit, virtual learning was developed out of the need to help educate those who did not have easy access to educational resources. "Night school", which offered online courses when the Internet made it possible, was the option many adults turned to for career or personal enrichment. It was later expanded to offer distance learning to those who were too far removed from brick-and-mortar educational facilities.

The pandemic raised the stakes by making it necessary to deliver effective off-site educational instruction; the need was met with inconsistent educational programs and many students who had little or no access to a computer and/or access to the Internet. Educators also had to adapt their teaching methods, something many of them found difficult and frustrating.

But while computer and Internet access problems persist, virtual learning is being developed and honed at a rate that clearly demonstrates its overwhelming importance.

At Lambton College, virtual learning has received a funding boost through a provincial grant of \$472,234, which will expand access and choice of high-quality post-secondary education and training opportunities for students.

The college, in collaboration with Fanshawe, Mohawk, Niagara, and St. Clair Colleges, is developing a four-module course to prepare educators with the skills they require to educate learners.

"At Lambton College, we recognized early on that the digitization of learning and the adoption of Industry 4.0 concepts was essential for preparing students to succeed in a rapidly changing workforce," said Judith Morris, President and CEO, Lambton College. "Now, more than ever, we see the need for high-quality virtual learning material, and postsecondary educators who can effectively teach in a digital learning environment."

The Ontario government is investing over \$70 million to implement the Ontario Virtual Learning Strategy. MPP Bob Bailey noted the creation of responsive and flexible digital programs, along with the focused training educators will receive to deliver them, will benefit both students and teachers. "We're helping the next generation of workers innovators, researchers, and leaders develop the skills and training they need to succeed in their careers, when and where they need it most," he said.

Beware of Lyme disease carrying ticks

Lambton Public Health reminds everyone it's tick and Lyme disease season. Use DEET bug spray and wear long pants and long sleeved shirts when out in the fields and wooded areas. **For more information, visit LambtonPublicHealth.ca or ontario.ca/lyme. Don't forget to protect your pets from ticks.**

Black-legged tick is the size of a poppy seed → *

MORE AROUND THE TOWNSHIP

From page 24

information, call 519-344-3017, ext. 277/

Pulmonary Rehabilitation: (for existing clients) For people living with lung disease. Learn to self-manage through education and exercise. To register or for more information, call Brenda at 519-786-4545, ext. 265 or Lorie at 519-491-2123, ext. 227.

BMI (Body, Mind, Inspired): Held every third Thursday, monthly topics focus on nutrition and healthy lifestyle, targeting your best weight. Classes are facilitated by a Registered Dietitian. To register, call 519-786-4545, ext. 307 or email: aqgeorge@nlchc.com

Virtual-Let's Be Real: Get connected about real issues surrounding substance abuse. Join this Zoom drop-in on Thursdays from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. Contact Candace at 519-786-4545 to sign up.

Virtual-Master Your Health-Chronic Pain: Techniques to deal with stress, pain, and depression, and improve sleep, learn about fatigue management, pain medications and treatments. Build confidence, create personal action plans, and deal with everyday challenges of living with chronic pain. Light exercises improve strength and flexibility. Join us Thursdays, from July 8 to Aug. 19 - 1:30 p.m. to 4 p.m. via Zoom To register, call 519-344-3017, ext. 259.

Virtual-Master Your Health-Chronic Disease: Increase self-confidence and the ability to manage your chronic conditions and stress, positive thinking, guided imagery, relaxation techniques, better breathing, manage pain, fatigue, difficult emotions, symptoms and daily activities, healthy eating, exercising safely, and feeling better. Also, how to communicate with your health care team and make new friends. Held Wednesdays until July 14 from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. via Zoom. To register, call 519-344-3017, ext. 237, or email adinelle@nlchc.com to receive the Zoom link. *Spaces are limited.

Virtual Breastfeeding support: To learn more about free, virtual NLCHC breastfeeding support, please contact April at 519-786-4545 or email aqgeorge@nlchc.com for more information.

Virtual Baby Food Making: Slated for Wednesday, July 28 from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Learn up-to-date guidelines, how to progress with textures, baby-led weaning, healthy meal and snack ideas. To register, call 519-344-3017, ext. 237 or email adinell@nlchc.com to receive the Zoom link.

Virtual Shibashi: Held Mondays at 1.30 p.m. To register, call 519-344-3017, ext. 237 or [email adinell@nlchc.com](mailto:adinell@nlchc.com) to receive Zoom link.

Virtual Chair Exercise: Held Monday at 11 a.m. To register, call 519-344-3017, ext. 237 or email adinell@nlchc.com to receive the Zoom link.

Virtual Low Impact Exercise is held Monday and Wednesday at 9 a.m. To register, call 519-344-3017, ext. 237 or email adinell@nlchc.com to receive the Zoom link.

Low Impact in-person (Mooretown): Held on Thursdays at the Mooretown Sports Complex. To register, call 519-344-3017, ext. 237 or [email adinell@nlchc.com](mailto:adinell@nlchc.com)

Postponed MAS beef dinner still pending

Hope springs eternal! The Moore Agricultural Society is still waiting to host its popular beef dinner, which was cancelled in March, 2020. It may be rescheduled when COVID-19 restrictions are lifted. Tickets purchased for the 2020 dinner will be honoured if the event is held. MAS is looking at refunding the cost of the tickets of those who cannot attend on the rescheduled date.

For more information as the situation changes, watch

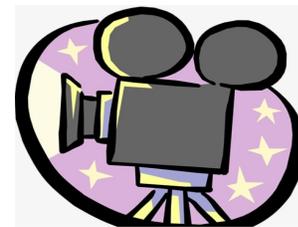
the Brigden Fair website at www.brigdenfair.ca or go to the Brigden Fair Facebook page.

Bluewater Anglers cancel Family Fun Fishing Derby

The annual Bluewater Anglers Family Fun Fishing Derby scheduled for Saturday, July 10 has been cancelled and there is no plan to reschedule the derby this year. Cancellation is due to COVID-19 safety restrictions and public health guidelines.

DRIVE - IN AT BRIGDEN FAIRGROUNDS

It's drive-in movie night at the Brigden Fairgrounds on Friday, Aug. 27. Check out the Brigden Fair Facebook page for additional information and to vote on the movies you'd like to see. Details and price of admission will be here in the August St. Clair Township Beacon.



SLEP receives gold award for marketing initiative

A marketing initiative in which Samia-Lambton was recently showcased has been awarded an the international Hermes Creative Awards gold medal.

The competition, whose past winners have included media conglomerates and Fortune 500 companies, is administered by the Association of Marketing and Communication Professionals (ACMP), one of the largest and oldest third-party evaluators of creative work in the world.

SLEPs marketing initiative went to print early in 2020 following extensive research, consultation, and development. The result was a brochure for each of the Samia-Lambton area's 11 local municipalities.

The clever strategy used by SLEP revolved around niche opportunities that existed in Samia-Lambton waiting to be filled. To identify them, the group used data analysis and feedback from area municipalities and residents regarding goods and services they would like to be able to find locally. Over 100 one-on-one meetings and 12 public consultations were organized in nine locations across Samia-Lambton.

"The creation of the Samia-Lambton Community Prospectus Documents showcases each municipality, what it offers, as well as business opportunities," said Kevin Marriott, Warden of Lambton County. "Many municipalities have never before had this information consolidated into a professional document to use for resident and business attraction."

Right: Stephen Thompson, CEO, Samia-Lambton E.P. with award-winning brochures



Keep your community strong.
Please support your local businesses.

AROUND THE TOWNSHIP

Pickleball at C.A.P. courts underway

Pickleball is now being played at the CAP courts in Corunna every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 9:30 a.m. to noon. The pickleball/tennis courts have recently been upgraded by the St. Clair Township Parks and Rec crew. All adults are invited to visit the courts to see the game in action. Newcomers are always welcome to join the group and anyone new to the game is invited to learn how to play.

Drive-by dinners on hold at Corunna Legion

The Royal Canadian Legion Corunna Branch 447 drive-by dinners on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month are on hold in compliance with the current COVID-19 shut-down. This notice will be updated when the situation changes.

SCRCA camps open for seasonal campers

Seasonal campers with a full-season contract can now access the A. W. Campbell, Lorne C. Henderson, and Warwick Conservation Areas. However, seasonal campers are required to either visit for no more than 24 hours for an essential purpose or for a minimum of 14 consecutive days. Transient camping is NOT permitted at this time.

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

Hit the road for SCRCA challenge fundraiser

Are you up for a challenge? To celebrate the St. Clair Region Conservation Area's 60th anniversary, the first-ever St. Clair Challenge virtual fundraiser will encourage all SCRCA watershed residents to get out in the fresh air to walk, run, hike, bike, or paddle along the trails and SCRCA watershed waterways. The challenge will run from July 1 to Aug. 31. To register, go to @WWW.RACEROSTER.COM and search for the St. Clair Challenge. Enjoy the summer by supporting this SCRCA fundraiser. It's the best way to support and preserve the environment in this regions. #stclairchallenge

The Beacon is issued online only at least until the community is clear of COVID-19.

However, our readers are important to us.

For your convenience, your free digital copy can be emailed to you.

Email:

beacon@stclairtownship.ca

and type Subscription in Subject line

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 St. Clair Twp. Beacon.

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

Annual Paint Ontario Art Show Postponed

The 25th annual Paint Ontario Art Show and Sale at the Lambton Heritage Museum south of Grand Bend on Hwy. 21 has been postponed until Sept. 3 to 26. The show will be an in-person event operating with COVID-19 protocols similar to those employed during the successful September 2020 show. For more information, go online to: www.paintontario.com

North Lambton Community Health Centre classes

(Virtual) Night Light : Monday and Wednesday until June 23 from 2:30 p.m. to 4 p.m. - Find hope and wellness while managing anxiety and depression. To register, please call 519-344-3017, ext. 237.

Opening Doors: Healthy lifestyle program for individuals living with mental illness or seeking mental health support. For

See More Around the Township, page 23

Vaccination update

See page 4 for information regarding the Delta variation of the COVID-19 and the current vaccination protocol.

Anyone experiencing mental health issues should contact their family doctor, who can recommend helpful resources and information. Talking to a trusted friend or family member is also a good way to find support but it is NOT a good way to obtain factual, science-based information about the virus or vaccines (unless your trusted friend or family member is a licensed medical professional).

Although the phenomenon dubbed "COVID fatigue" remains an issue, it may be on its way into the history books. With the on-going vaccination program in full swing and most people continuing to observe safe COVID-19 practices, the end might finally be in sight.

KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK, ST. CLAIR TOWNSHIP!

For those who are still curious about the coronavirus, here are three websites that provide good, science-based information.

>Lambton Public Health information is online at:

LambtonPublicHealth.ca

>The Government of Canada has an extensive COVID-19 site at: canada.ca/covid-19/vaccines

<The World Health Organization (WHO) site can be found at:

<https://www.who.int/covid-19/vaccines>

