



# The St. Clair Township BEACON

Discoveries  
That Matter

Issue 1

Volume 15

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THE TOWNSHIP  
OF ST. CLAIR

## Year-end events help raise spirits going into the new year



St. Clair Township came alive during the holidays as several well-attended local public events helped inspire a festive spirit in the community. Still in the pandemic's shadow, local organizations and businesses joined forces to host outdoor COVID-mindful gatherings. The Royal Canadian Legion Leslie Sutherland Branch 447 hosted the *Pay It Forward* event to collect non-perishable food and donations for the local foodbank. Visitors were treated to hot dogs, sweet treats and hot chocolate donated by Nicole Smith of Exit Realty, and the Legion hired Claire and Todd Jardine to bring their gorgeous Belgian horses and wagon, and give rides around the neighbourhood near the Branch 447 hall. Although it was windy and cold, horses Ginger, above right, and Mary didn't seem to mind taking the appreciative visitors for a ride. In the drivers' seats holding the reins are Claire, left, and his son, Todd Jardine. For more photos of this and other local holiday events, see pages 9 and 10.

*Bonnie Stevenson photo*



Municipal  
Notes  
Pages  
2-4

Works Dept.  
Notices  
Pages  
5, 6

Heritage  
Corner  
Pages  
11-13

Community  
Contact  
Page 16

Around  
The  
Township  
Pages 20, 19



## MUNICIPAL NOTES

### Township receives infrastructure grant

St. Clair Township has been allocated a grant of \$2,257,316 for 2022 through the Ontario Community Investment Fund (OCIF). This is double the amount first promised for 2022 by the province. The stated goal of the grant is to support critical infrastructure projects that support economic recovery, growth, and job creation in communities with under 100,000 residents.

Mayor Steve Arnold says the funding will allow the township to undertake important projects that would otherwise have had to be deferred.

"The Capital budget we have tentatively approved has just over \$600k already allocated," he said. During a discussion about the grant, several council members noted it will also benefit ratepayers, reducing any tax increase that might be necessary.

See More Municipal Notes, page 3

### Township office reopening delayed

The Township of St. Clair office, 1155 Emily Street in Mooretown, **will NOT reopen** on January 4, 2022.

Staff will be available during normal business hours by phone or via email and appointments are suggested, as social distancing, masking, and screening will be required. Contact the office at 519-867-2021 or see website [www.stclairtownship.ca](http://www.stclairtownship.ca) for individual department phone and email information.

The Township of St. Clair thanks you for your patience as we navigate the uncertainties of this pandemic. We continue to encourage everyone to stay safe and follow the public health measures as set out by Lambton Public Health related to the COVID-19 pandemic. We are all in this together and look forward to welcoming you back to the Civic Centre in April, 2022.

~Jeff Baranek

Director of Administration/Clerk



### Pheasant/rabbit hunting licenses on sale

The Township of St. Clair pheasant/rabbit hunting licenses are on sale now until Feb. 28, 2022. They will be available at the following locations: Corunna Home Hardware; Agris Co-operative Ltd., Brigden; St. Clair Civic Centre, Mooretown.

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

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

Jeff Baranek

Director of Administration/Clerk

### Council Meeting Schedule

All regular public council meetings will continue to be available to the public online by going onto the township website at: [www.stclairtownship.ca](http://www.stclairtownship.ca). On the St. Clair Township home page, look for a link to the meeting near the top of the page. The Facebook link is added just before each meeting is slated to begin.

**Upcoming meetings include:** Monday, Jan. 17 at 6 p.m., Monday, Feb. 7 at 3 p.m., Monday, Feb. 21 at 6 p.m. Anyone wishing to contact the municipality or to find out more about making a presentation via Zoom meetings, can call 519-867-2021 for further information.

### Winter Parking by-law

The **amended** St. Clair Township winter parking by-law is now in effect and will continue until April 1, 2022. Under the amended by-law, it is against the law to leave vehicles or obstructions of any kind parked on public streets and roads overnight from **midnight to 7 a.m.** The by-law ensures that snow removal crews can do their jobs efficiently and safely without being hampered by parked vehicles.

#### Keep laneways clear

All boats and trailers parked in laneways **MUST** be set back at least to the front yard set back of the zone in which you reside. In Corunna and all built-up areas, any trailer or boat **MUST** be a minimum of six (6) metres setback from the property line through April 1, 2022.

#### Watch where you shovel your snow

Property owners are reminded to dispose of shoveled snow safely. According to the Ontario Highway Traffic Act, it is against the law to shovel snow onto a public street, highway, or roadway, and anyone caught doing it can be fined under that law. Roads are cleared for your safety and snow piles create dangerous obstacles that can contribute to needless vehicle collisions and mishaps.



See More Municipal Notes, page 3



## MORE MUNICIPAL NOTES

From page 2

### County Council to gather public info re: homelessness/housing

Lambton County Council has endorsed a Huron County resolution requesting that the Provincial and Federal governments provide financial support for housing and homelessness programs, and mental health/addiction services.

County staff have been asked to gather public input through an online survey. Information gathered in this way will be discussed at the Feb. 2, 2022 meeting of Lambton County Council.

### Winter parking by-law amended

The annual winter parking by-law now in force requires all vehicles to be off township streets

See More Municipal Notes, page 4

## Open house in Courtright outlines Lambton G.S. blast plan



*Bonnie Stevenson*

The Courtright fire hall hosted an open house for the public to review and discuss the proposed blast plan that will put a final end to the demolition of one of St. Clair Township's largest landmarks in early February, 2022.

Representatives from Ontario Power Generation and from Delsan-AIM, the company now in charge of the demolition project, were on hand to explain the process and answer questions with the help of a series of graphic story boards.

The Delsan-AIM team responsible for bringing down the stacks and the remaining structure at the Lambton G.S. site is the same team that performed and demolished the dropping of the Lakeview thermal generating station in Mississauga, an eight-boiler station, and a number of other power plants across Canada, including Nanticoke Generating Station.

Among the visitors who attended the open house were several former Ontario Power Generation employees who spent part of their careers working at the Lambton Generating Station. Above: Dean Sowinski, left, and Lisa Munday, both operators at the station for 31 years and 29 years respectively, discuss the importance of wind direction to the overall success of the blast plan with Del-

san-AIM Senior Manager, Corunna Southwest, Ralph Curitti.

The exact date of the February demolition effort cannot be determined until the environmental and meteorological conditions are favourable at the time of the blast. Delsan-AIM planners believe February is a good time to carry out the demolition because it is outside of the migratory bird nesting season and the fish spawning season. However, consideration must be given to wind direction and strength to ensure that any dust clouds created by the blast will blow in the right direction, eliminating or limiting the impact it may have on local residential properties and infrastructure.

To limit the dust kicked up by the blasts, Delsan-AIM General Manager Karim El-Khatib noted the dust issue has been addressed at the source, with crews of cleaners that have cleaned all visible dust from the structure and as well as dust that has gathered beneath cladding and in other concealed locations.

The scope of the demolition project will entail the "controlled drop" of the station's four boilers, three stacks, and two structures that have been cleaned of fly ash. The project will conclude with the site being cleared of all materials and left as a "brownfield" site.

## More MUNICIPAL NOTES

From page 3

from 2 a.m. to 6 a.m. to allow winter night shift snow removal crews to do their jobs. However, **the amended by-law now requires that roads be clear of all parked vehicles from midnight to 7 a.m.** "There have been challenges with the night crew plowing some of these streets," said Brian Black, Director of Public Works. He added the change will make a positive difference in the plow operators' ability to clear the roads without having to negotiate around parked vehicles on narrow streets.

Deputy Mayor Steve Miller noted it would be better to have no parking on township streets at any time of day. "It might come to that," said Mayor Arnold. "We only have a certain amount of vehicles and operators out there and they have to make it work somehow." He pointed out that St. Clair Township is the largest municipality in the county and it is difficult for road crews to keep up with snow removal, especially during heavy, prolonged storms. He added many of the streets are narrow and parked vehicles cause delays and difficulties for the plows as they make their rounds.

Under light snow conditions, there are only two operators out on the streets, but more are called in when more severe conditions are in progress.

### Sea can By-law 57 of 2021 approved

Sea cans, those large metal shipping and storage boxes that have become a common site in both residential and agricultural areas, are now regulated by a recent amendment to By-law 57 of 2021. A

valid permit is now required before a sea can is allowed on a property. The container must be located completely on private land (not a township street or boulevard), and it must be removed within 10 days of its arrival. If it is to remain longer than 14 days, authorization from council must be obtained prior to the container's arrival at the site. For agricultural use, a permit must be acquired for a sea can, but it may remain longer as long as the owner has a valid permit for it. For more complete information about By-law 57, go online to the township website.

*Please note that enforcement of this by-law will be done when a valid complaint is reported to the township office.*

### Civic Centre reopening will be delayed

The reopening of the St. Clair Township Civic Centre has been delayed and it will remain closed through March, 2022. The reopening was reconsidered and approved at Council's Dec. 20 meeting.

The decision to delay was made in light of the sharp increase in COVID-19 cases being seen in Ontario. The increase, coupled with growing concern among health officials that the highly transmissible Omicron variant may shortly become the dominant strain in the province, makes it necessary to avoid meetings in the council chambers that may become a "spreader events".

Removable plexiglass partitions will soon be installed in the township council chambers.

### County Council delays reopening

Lambton County Council will also continue to meet virtually through March, 2022. The County administration building in Wyoming will be open for the public to enter the main atrium, but no further.

**St. Clair Township Council in-person meetings delayed**  
**Civic Centre remains closed through March, 2022 due to COVID-19**  
**Up-to-dated details for municipal office operations will be posted at: [www.stclairtownship.ca](http://www.stclairtownship.ca)**



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) St. Clair Township Civic Centre
- b) 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 are able.

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

*Employees will continue to occupy these buildings and can be reached via their email or by calling:*

- 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

## Food price hikes not farmers' fault says National Farmers' Union

Disturbing retail price hikes in the cost of food is not the fault of the farmer, says the National Farmers Union.

In a media release, the NFU states, "Public data shows that corporate food processors and retailers have relentlessly, for decades, pushed up retail prices even as the prices paid to farmers remained largely stagnant."

The union believes meat packers, food processors, and big retailers are taking increasingly larger shares. NFU President Katie Ward is on record as saying, "Processors and retailers are overcharging because they can; mergers and concentration have multiplied their power...Rising market power and declining competition has led to steadily rising retail prices."



## Public Works Department

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

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

Engineering.....519-867-2125

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

Look for your Waste/Recycling 2022 Calendar the first week in January!!!

### 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.

### Amended Overnight Parking

The **amended** St. Clair Township winter parking by-law will be in effect as of Dec.1,2021 and continuing until April 1, 2022. Under this by-law, it is against the law to leave vehicles of any kind parked on public streets and roads overnight from 2 a.m. to 6 a.m.

See **Municipal Notes**, page 4.

### Asset Management Plan

IN DECEMBER 2021, Our Municipality finalized an update to our Asset Management Plan, meeting new requirements of O. Reg 588/17 for core assets, for Council approval.

This project was partially funded under FCM's Municipal Asset Management Program (MAMP) grant application and achieved through collaboration with Dillon Consulting.

**AMSC - Asset Management Steering Committee**

### Friendly Waste Reminders

Just a few friendly reminders in regards to your waste collection days and some "winter tips" that will make this season's waste collection seamless.

Rapid at home Covid tests are considered "medical waste" and can't be put in regular garbage. These must be disposed of in same way as all medical waste.

Bulk items are picked up weekly with your regular waste collection. You can place 2 items to the curb as long as the items do not exceed more than "100 lbs" per item.

Please tie all garbage bags. Contractors will not collect "loose garbage" so remember to tie them up.

As we are approaching winter weather garbage pails are being weighed down by rain and snow. This makes waste collection hard. We suggest drilling holes in the bottom of your garbage pails so that excess water can drain out or placing a lid on top of your garbage pail.

All waste collection days remain the same for the holidays.



Works Dept. photo

A contractor working for Public Works, Sign Ontario Ltd. from Stratford, is installing a new directional information sign along the St. Clair Parkway near Emily Street in Mooretown. This sign replaces an old wooden structure which was about 20 years old. The new signs are also manufactured and designed by Sign Ontario Ltd.

See more Works, page 6

## Public Works Department

### FROZEN WATER METER AND PIPES

#### Preventative:

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

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

If you suspect your pipes are frozen check the following:

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

#### Water Department

Office Hours:

Monday - Friday

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

519-867-2128

After Hours Emergency: 1-888-441-4204

### 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.



#### 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/stclairtwppw>

Emergency preparedness starts with you  
**be prepared**



make a plan



build a kit



stay informed

[ontario.ca/beprepared](https://ontario.ca/beprepared)



# 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](http://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](http://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.

## Would you be ready to handle a minimum of 72 hours without outside aid?

**Emergencies don't wait for us to be prepared.**

Do you have an adequate supply of , water, flashlights, food, safe drinking water, daily medications, a First Aid kit, pet supplies, baby supplies, and a designated safe shelter location in your home? Do you have a fire escape plan in place? Make sure your emergency strategies are prepared and be ready for unexpected emergencies.

**Go online to: [www.getprepared.gc.ca](http://www.getprepared.gc.ca) for more information.**

## Third shot / 'booster' recommended when vaccine is available

Residents can register for their vaccination or attend a drop-in clinic. Full details are available online at [getthevaccine.ca](http://getthevaccine.ca).

Several local pharmacies are also administering vaccinations, including third 'booster' shots. Information is available at the Lambton Public Health website where a new dedicated "Pharmacy page" can direct individuals to these options.

Transportation to vaccination sites are available for people age 50 and over who do not have any other transportation options to use. Contact Lambton Elderly Outreach (LEO) at 519-845-1353, ext. 360, or the Canadian Red Cross at 519-332-6380.

Third 'booster' doses are recommended for individuals over age 70, health workers, designated essential caregivers in congregate settings, retirement home staff, and designated caregivers, and anyone who received two doses of AstraZeneca or one dose of Janssen. You must be at least 168 days past your second dose to receive the third, and everyone is urged to get the booster when they become eligible.

Boosters are especially important as more is learned about the most recent Omicron variant, the most easily transmitted variant to date. Data is still

being collected, but Omicron is already known to pose a threat to young children and even adults who have had two shots. Boosters are being recommended by infectious disease experts, who say it is a good way to strengthen the potency of the first two vaccinations as we encounter future variants. In addition, vaccinations are still the best way to arm yourself against hospitalization or worse.

In late December, Lambton experienced a delay in receiving supplies of the Pfizer vaccine, but it should be noted that the Moderna mRNA vaccine can be used in place of the third Pfizer booster.

Now is NOT the time to give up! For the good of everyone you love and your community, and for an eventual future free of this pandemic, please keep observing COVID-19 safety protocols and, if a booster is an option for you, please have one as soon as possible. If you have concerns about the vaccine, talk to your doctor or another licensed medical professional who has the accurate information you need to know. (See "Know the truth about vaccination", page 20).

## Student mental health target of provincial funding

Post-secondary students in Lambton County will now benefit from an additional \$151,154 in provincial funding to support mental health care. The initial funding in November was part of an \$8.7 million program for postsecondary institutions through 2021 Ontario Economic and Fiscal Review: Build Ontario.

An increase in the need for mental health services in these institutions is attributed to stresses brought on by the pandemic. The funding will also benefit nine Indigenous Institutes in Ontario, the Northern Ontario School of Medicine, and l'Université de l'Ontario français.

Jill Dunlop, Minister of Colleges and Universities, says, "Ontario's publicly-assisted colleges, universities and In-

digenous Institutes play an important role in supporting the mental health needs of Ontario's postsecondary students, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic."

This funding is part of the province's Roadmap to Wellness, a plan to build a connected and comprehensive mental health and addictions system meant to ensure that children, youth, and adults in Ontario receive appropriate services where and when they require it. The plan supports those living on campus and attending classes virtually, helping to address the needs of vulnerable and diverse groups such as Indigenous students, LGBTQ+ students, and students with disabilities.

## Businesses benefit from Sarnia Lambton Economic Partnership (SLEP) programs

### Grant received for Digital Service Squad

Small businesses have experienced challenges during the pandemic that have made it difficult to thrive. Traditional methods of conducting business have given way to new ones through the use of digital technologies.

Small businesses now have access to the assistance of trained DSS digital specialists who can help them cope with online technologies and digitally transform their sales, marketing and back-office operations, all at no cost. The squad is already visiting businesses in Sarnia and Lambton County.

This is the third year SLEP has been able to offer OGP, which is administered by the Ontario BIA Association in partnership with the Toronto Association of BIAs. Locally, the program will provide

3,000 Digital Transformation Grants to qualified brick-and-mortar small businesses. It will include support for basic website setup, Google My Business profiles, 360° photos, social media presence, and more. Where COVID-19 restrictions are in place, DSS members can provide support through phone and video tools such as Zoom.

The SLEP Apprentice Job Match tool can connect Sarnia-Lambton employers with apprentices seeking available opportunities. Registration is free and can be found at [www.sarnialambtonapprentice.ca](http://www.sarnialambtonapprentice.ca).

More information about the Job Match Program can be found by calling 519-332-1820, ext. 225 or online at: [apprentice@sarnialambton.on.ca](mailto:apprentice@sarnialambton.on.ca)

## RAPIDS FAMILY HEALTH TEAM

### LABORATORY SITE OPEN

Lab services are offered from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m.  
Monday through Friday.

The lab is a specimen collection site only. Patients with concerns regarding billing or their online profile for test results, may contact LifeLabs at 1-877-849-3637.

The Rapids Family Health Team clinic, located in the Shell Health Centre at 233 Cameron Street in Corunna, is not yet offering in-person programs. However, the clinic can be contacted online at [www.rapidsfhteam.ca](http://www.rapidsfhteam.ca) or by calling 519-339-8949 to speak to reception.

## ~ Christmas season memories ~

### OPP Operation Christmas Tree drive-through



The Optimist Club of Moore's **Operation Christmas Tree** hamper program, partnered with the annual OPP drive-through donation event, brought out the community's holiday spirit. **Above left:** Volunteers Mary Laughlin and Carolyn Laughlin make a tag for a bicycle an anonymous donor contributed. **Below left:** Volunteers Mary Lou Abrams and Bryce Abrams sort through new donated kitchen items. **Above:** During the donation event, volunteers staffing the donation area included, from left: Reese; Cst. Jeanine Robertson; Aux. Cst. Caitlyn Gonyou; Aux. Cst. Nelson DaSilva; Cole; Cst. Amy O'Keefe; Brayden; Kian; Cst. Kieran Monaghan; Christie Monaghan; Cst. William Wells.

### Royal Canadian Legion Corunna Br. 447 hosts Pay it Forward event

The Royal Canadian Legion Leslie Sutherland Branch 447 hall hosted the *Pay It Forward* event on Dec. 11 to gather non-perishable food and donations for the local food bank.



The event featured food and hot chocolate supplied by Nicole Smith of Exit Realty, and visitors enjoyed a horse-drawn wagon ride courtesy of Corunna Legion Branch 447.

**Left:** Santa Claus was on hand to hand out goodies to the children. **Center:** Legion volunteers handed out hot dogs and hot chocolate to help visitors fend off the chill. A steady stream of visitors attended the event in spite of the high winds and cold. **Bottom:** To ward off the cold, Legion volunteers Brooke Ronan and Bonnie Martin handed out cups of soothing hot chocolate. **Above:** Belgian beauty, Mary, sets off with her team mate, Ginger, to take visitors on a 15 minute wagon ride around the neighbourhood.

From page 9

## ~ More Christmas Season Memories ~

### Little Country Christmas lights up Brigden

The *Little Country Christmas*/lighting of the park event in Brigden, organized by the Optimist Club of Brigden, featured crafter and vendor tables, music, and the lighting of the village park at the corner of Brigden Road and Courtright Line. **Left:** Throwing the switch to light the park is Santa Claus, who dropped by while making his annual pre-Christmas trip to see who had been naughty and who had been nice.



**Above right:** Marie Gorton was busy selling delectable pies made by the Brigden Fair Pie Ladies. Customers Martha Arndt, middle, and daughter, Elizabeth, deliberated for a few minutes before making their choice.

**Below:** The Seaway Sounds entertained visitors with Christmas carols and sweet harmonies.



**Above:** Several St. Clair Township Council members also came to welcome Santa to the municipality and enjoy the festivities. **Right:** Mayor Steve Arnold; Councillor Pat Brown (black mask) and his wife, Cindy, granddaughters Lilly Nead, left, and Brynn Brown, and Councillor Tracy Kingston.

The Brigden *Little Country Christmas* was organized by the Optimist Club of Brigden.



*Bonnie Stevenson photos*



## SLEP Apprenticeship Network provides employer/apprentice connection

Sarnia-Lambton Economic Partnership has launched the Apprenticeship Network in an effort to help keep recent graduates in Sarnia and Lambton County and grow the local economy.

The goal of the project will be to help employers navigate apprenticeship resources and processes, access training incentives, and connect directly with apprentices. Activities will include: one-on-one consultations; information sessions; employer recognition; and a new online platform to streamline the recruitment of suitable apprentices.

"As we continue growing our population, this program is aligned to the longer-term economic strategy

of retaining and attracting in-demand skills to our area," said Stephen Thompson, CEO of the Sarnia-Lambton Economic Partnership. "A strong talent pool, including apprentices, is also important in attracting future investments and growing our existing businesses."

Employers interested in knowing more about the project or how to participate can contact Cari Meloche at SLEP by email: [cari@sarnialambton.on.ca](mailto:cari@sarnialambton.on.ca) or by calling 519-332-1820.

The Employment Ontario Project is funded in part by the Government of Canada and the Government of Ontario.

## HERITAGE CORNER

# Ice harvesting prepared community for summer

### Winter ice collected for summertime cooling

*Contributed by Moore Museum staff*

A frosty winter day in the late 19th and early 20th century was the perfect time to think ahead and prepare for summer. Harvesting ice from the St. Clair River or from ponds in inland areas provided ice to preserve food longer in an ice box during warm weather months. This little luxury allowed people to enjoy summertime treats like homemade ice cream and freshly squeezed lemonade over ice. Larger supplies of ice were also used by the railroads, as well as hotels and other commercial establishments.

Ice harvesting would begin when the ice was at least a foot thick, and preferably, 18 inches. Horses were essential to this harvest. Horse-drawn scrapers were used to clear off the surface of the ice before a horse-drawn plough (see photo bottom right) was used to score the ice in the shape of large blocks. Then, the ice harvesting crew would use saws which resembled crosscut saws, but with only one handle, to cut the blocks along the score lines into approximately two foot squares. The blocks, which often weighed over 100 pounds depending on the thickness, were floated to the loading area using pike poles. Ice tongs were used to lift the blocks out of the water and onto horse-drawn sleighs for transport to ice houses.

Individual homes or farms sometimes had well-insulated ice houses, and certainly every good-sized commercial establishment would have one as well. Ice houses were insulated by placing a second wall two to three feet inside the outer wall, then tightly packing the space in between with bark or sawdust. Sawdust was also packed around the ice itself within the building. A well-designed and well-insulated ice house could keep ice available throughout the summer months, although more than half the original volume of ice would eventually melt away.

Much of the ice was used to keep perishable food

fresh in a household icebox from the 1830s onward. In rural areas, these would be supplied by the farm's own icehouse. In cities and towns, the iceman would regularly deliver blocks to each home. Iceboxes (like the one shown bottom left) were generally made of wood, and the ice compartment was often lined with zinc panels.

The sale of natural ice remained strong in cities and towns until the 1930s, when the widespread use of electric refrigerators removed much of the need for ice supplies, and artificially manufactured ice could be made. In rural areas, the use of iceboxes continued well into the mid-



Above: Vintage post card shows a work crew of men with a heavy work sleigh ice harvesting blocks of ice near Stag Island. Below: Ice plough and ice tongs used to harvest and handle ice. The ice plough is five feet in length (not counting the width of the handles) and each blade is eight inches high.

*~Photos from the Moore Museum*



Above: The ice box was once a familiar sight in all kitchens beginning in the 1830s.

twentieth century until electricity arrived at each farm.

[Note: There are many interesting videos on-line, both historical films and modern re-enactments, showing the process of ice harvesting.]

#### Sources:

Geikie, John C. *Adventures in Canada; or, Life in the Woods* [1882. Originally published in 1864 as *George Stanley: or, Life in the Woods. A Boy's Narrative of the Adventures of a Settler's Family in Canada*].

Powell, James. "Remember This? The iceman no longer cometh". *City News, Ottawa*. May 18, 2020. Accessed from <https://ottawa.citynews.ca/remember-this/remember-this-the-iceman-no-longer-cometh-2359180> Dec. 8, 2021.

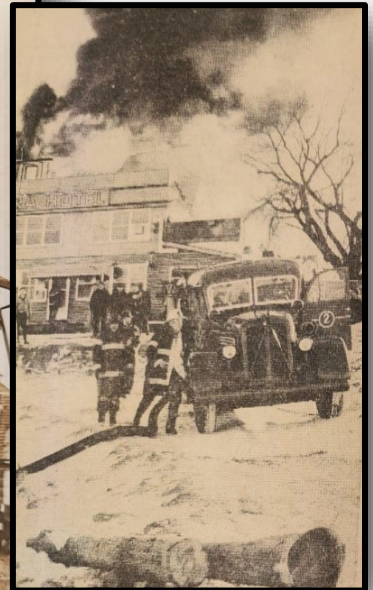
Scott, Amy. "Ice Harvesting in 19<sup>th</sup> & Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century Ontario". *Culinary Historians of Ontario newsletter*. Winter 2003. Number 35.

See Moore Heritage, page 12

## MORE HERITAGE CORNER

From page 11

# Historic Sombra Hotel goes up in flames waiting for fire crew



~From Sombra Museum archives



Promotional calendar from Becher store.

January 1, 1962 was a bad day for the Sombra Hotel and owner Jerry Cousineau. He and his family awoke to find their residence full of thick smoke. They escaped unharmed, but the hotel didn't fare as well.

Neighbours called the Sombra Township Area 1 (Port Lambton) volunteer fire department for help, but the firefighters lacked breathing equipment and were unable to enter the smoke-filled hotel.

Other fire departments in the area were called to help handle the blaze and the Sombra ferry's *Daldean* was sent across the St. Clair River to pick up the Marine City Fire Department's heavy pumper. Soon after it arrived it was drawing water from the river and the fire was brought under control.

The hotel housed 19 guest rooms, a dining room, a recreation room, a coffee shop, a beauty shop, and a barber shop.

Fortunately for the Cousineau's, who had been living in the hotel, were in the process of renovating a house they had purchased, so they were not left homeless.

Above: The Sombra Hotel, originally known as the St. Clair Hotel when it was built around 1897, is surrounded by patrons and village residents during the summer tourist season.

Above Left: In this photo, cut from the pages of the Sarnia Observer, a pumper truck with hose extended tries to limit damage to the hotel. The damage was estimated at between \$50,000 and 60,000.

Sombra was a popular place for summer holiday makers to visit in the mid-1800s. The Sombra Hotel was one of several hotels located in the village. They included: the Morning Star (at Baby Point); the British Hotel; the Sombra House; The Crown and Anchor; and the Grand Union.

Port Lambton was also a popular resort. A May, 1884 advertisement in the Sarnia Observer notes the Lambton Exchange in Port Lambton offers first class accommodation, good stabling, good fishing, and an attentive hosteler, all for \$1 per day. The ad went on to say Detroit and Wallaceburg steamers "...stop opposite the hotel permitting passengers to remain in town five hours between the up and down trips."

See More Heritage, page 13

## MORE HERITAGE CORNER

From page 12

### Artifact searches continue at Moore Museum

Two separate artifact searches are on to create new collections and displays at the Moore Museum.

All current and retired St. Clair Township firefighters are invited to contribute past and current patches from each of the fire stations in St. Clair Township. They will be used to create a feature in the fire hall exhibit building on the museum site. Anyone with one or more patches to donate can call the Moore Museum at 519-867-2020.

When creating a display of fashions or lifestyles, small decora-

tive pieces can put the finishing touch on an exhibit. With this in mind, Moore Museum would like to create a small collection of ladies' compacts. These fashion accessories were popular from the Roaring 1920s to the 1970s, so they represent an era especially interesting to this generation of museum visitors. Anyone with a decorative compact they would be interested in donating can contact Moore Museum at 519-867-2020. While all offers are appreciated, only a limited number of compacts can accepted into the collection to provide a small representative sampling of styles.

### Newly updated Heritage St. Clair page features map showing historic plaques and storyboards situated throughout the township

Heritage St. Clair has updated its page on the St. Clair Township website, and one of the features now on view St. Clair Township's Historic Points of Interest map. This interactive map points out the locations of these colourful and educational installations and includes photographs of them so you'll be sure not to miss them. Here's a link you can use to go directly to St. Clair Township's Historical Points of Interest page:

<http://stclairtownship.ca/st-clair-townships-historical-points-of-interest/>

### Mooretown Jr. Flags put the *ho-ho-ho* in *hockey*!



U13 Tier 1 players and coaches from the Mooretown Jr. Flags raised over \$500 for United Way of Sarnia-Lambton just by wearing their colourful, and often whimsical, Christmas sweaters.

This continues the team's six-year Christmas tradition of raising donations for the United Way of Sarnia-Lambton, which was started by player Chase Tichnor's brother, Charlie Brander.

Again this year, Chase invited his teammates to wear their favourite Christmas sweaters to their Dec. 19 game against Strathroy, and to collect donations for the United Way for doing it. Great sweaters, a great fundraiser, and a great performance by the team. They won by a score of 2-0!

Submitted photo

## St. Clair Township from the air - the answer lies within



Mike Coene photo

Things look different from the air, but this plant has been in the township for decades. The answer lies within the pages of this Beacon but you'll have to look closely. Find the answer and see if your guess is correct.

### *Lambton County Library branches help obtain proof of vaccination receipts*

A vaccine passport policy requiring all residents to provide proof of their COVID-19 vaccination status **with QR code** and proof of identity is now required to enter certain businesses and settings. It is hoped this proof will reduce the risk of viral transmission, limit the number of COVID cases to protect provincial hospital capacity, and provide the tools needed for businesses to remain open and minimize disruptions, while keeping customers and staff safe. A proof of identity will be required so that the proof of vaccination can be verified.

To ensure that all vaccine recipients are able to obtain a receipt proving their vaccination status, a new free Lambton County Library service at all 25 library branches will help residents to obtain their receipts. (This service recognizes that not all residents have ac-

cess to a computer or printer.) This service will provide support to assist with any technical difficulties that may be encountered while trying to obtain the receipt.

Those who use the service must supply a photo health card (numbers from the front and back of the card, expired cards accepted); date of birth; postal code associated with your health card.

To make an appointment to obtain this service, call the library branch you wish to visit during their hours of operation, or call the central booking line toll free at 1-866-324-6912, ext. 5900.

**NOTE:** Those with a red and white health card or no health card should call Lambton Public Health's Vaccine Call Centre for assistance at 226-254-8222, Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.



### **Find The Beacon online during the pandemic**

Email: [beacon@stclairtownship.ca](mailto: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](http://www.stclairtownship.ca), then click on The Beacon on the black, top right corner information bar.

## Ontario Museum Association recognizes Award of Excellence to Oil Museum of Canada

The Oil Museum of Canada may not be in St. Clair Township, but the township has flourished from the petroleum industry for well over 150 years. The fact that the industry got its start in nearby Oil Springs, the site of the first commercial oil well in North America, is significant. (It beat Titusville, Pennsylvania by one year.)

In early December, the Ontario Museum Association presented the Oil Museum of Canada's Educational Program Coordinator, Christina Sydorko, with an Award of Excellence in Programs. The award recognizes programming that creatively engages new audiences or provides exemplary service to existing ones.

Christina was acknowledged for her efforts to improve educational reach as a result of the pandemic by offering both synchronous and asynchronous learning opportunities to educators, as well as video content for the general public. These can be viewed on YouTube and through 360° tours. These learning tools have reached beyond Lambton County to 17 school boards in Ontario and three in Alberta. Among the firsts achieved by the Oil Springs site

were: the first drilled oil well; the first gum beds that were commercially used (roads were paved with the tarry substance); the first oil and gas gushers in Canada; the first commercial oil field in the world, and the registration of the world's first petroleum company. Men who honed their skills in the Oil Springs oil fields, as well as oil fields in Petrolia and Bothwell, often went on to travel to far-away locations in the Middle East and the Orient. The ability to operate up to 25 wells with the help of "jerker lines" (see photo, right) attached to one huge steam-driven field wheel is one of the technologies the "foreign drillers" might have taught during their time overseas.

The Oil Museum of Canada in Oil Springs has been keeping the area's incredible oil heritage alive for several decades. The site was recognized with a National Historic Site designation in 1925 by the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada. It is currently on the short list to be considered as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The sites currently include: the Rideau Canal; Wood Buffalo National Park; Stonehenge; Venice; and Vatican City.



Christina Sydorko with award



Jerker line

## All Lambton County Library locations open; hours of operation adjusted

All 25 Lambton County Library locations are now open to the public. They all offer in-person browsing according to each site's provincially designated capacity limit, and scheduled computer use, wi-fi use, and academic research. Curbside pickup will continue.

Library COVID-19 protocols require that visitors over the age of two must wear masks or face coverings, and no food or beverage is permitted. Computer appointments are limited to 45 minutes once per day, patrons browsing may spend no more than 45 minutes in the library, and capacity limits are in effect at all sites.

To book an appointment for public computer use, wi-fi use and academic research, cardholders can call the location they wish to visit, book online at [www.lclibrary.ca/appointments](http://www.lclibrary.ca/appointments) or call the central booking line at 519-337-3291 ext. 5900, toll free at 1-866-324-6912 ext. 5900. Walk-in appointments will be accommodated as space and time allows.

Library hours of operation have been adjusted to better align with individual community and operational needs. St. Clair



Township locations and public hours of operation are as follows:

**Brigden** (519-864-1142): Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, 2 p.m. to 7 p.m.; Wednesday, Friday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

**Corunna** (519-862-1132): Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

**Courtright** (519-867-2712): Tuesday, Saturday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.; Thursday, 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.

**Mooretown** (519-867-2823): Monday, Saturday, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.; Wednesday, 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.

**Sombra** (519-892-3711): Tuesday, 3 p.m. to 7 p.m.; Thursday, Friday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

**Port Lambton** (519-677-5217): Monday, Saturday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.; Wednesday, 3 p.m. to 7 p.m.

\* To become a Lambton County Library cardholder, call or visit your local library during open hours.

For more information on locations, services and hours of operation visit [www.lclibrary.ca](http://www.lclibrary.ca)

Keep your community strong. Please support your local businesses.

## COMMUNITY CONTACT

*Food banks are an important part of our community.  
Your donations are always appreciated.*

### **Sacred Heart food bank - help your community thrive**

A constant need for donations of food, personal and household supplies is still being experienced by local food banks and the need is still great. Our neighbourhood food banks continue to come to the aid of the community. Nourishing food and daily supplies like personal hygiene items, baby needs, and household cleaning supplies are always needed. In Ward 2, The Sacred Heart Food Bank has shelves that need to be replenished on a regular basis, not just on special occasions. Please keep the Sacred Heart food bank in mind when you shop for your own groceries.

### **St. Andrew's food bank continues to help those in need**

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 serves those in need, offering a variety of food products to help people eat healthily, including milk, eggs, bread, and meat, as well as daily requirements like household cleaning supplies, toiletries and baby needs. 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.

### **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.

### **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](mailto:Finance@brigdenfair.ca). Memberships are \$10 per person until further notice. For more information on the membership role, contact [info@brigdenfair.ca](mailto:info@brigdenfair.ca).

### **Motivated youth seeking adventure**

The Royal Canadian "1st Hussars" Army Cadet Corps Petrolia is welcoming boys and girls ages 12-18 to learn join the ranks and learn valuable skills they can use for a lifetime. Cadets are not required to join the military. For

more information, call 519-332-6555 or visit: [www.petroliacadets.com](http://www.petroliacadets.com)

### **The Optimist Club supports community youth - new members welcome**

The Sombra Optimist Club is looking for new members who want to help their community thrive. This volunteer organization exists to make their community a better place by doing great things for the youth in their area. Be a friend of youth - join the Optimist Club of Sombra. For more information or to become a member, call Carla Aarssen at 226-402-3870.

*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**

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

### **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 Facebook. (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.

## Alcohol/drugs and snowmobiles don't mix!

Snowmobiles, ATVs, ORVs, and other powered vehicles are fun to use, but they also demand that the operator use them responsibly.

The operation of such a vehicle under the influence of alcohol or any drug that impairs judgement is punishable under the Criminal Code of Canada, just like a car, truck, or motorcycle. Even small amounts can slow reaction time, impair perception, and limit ability to operate safely.

**Have fun  
responsibly!**

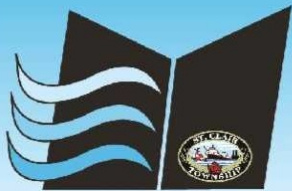


Bonnie Stevenson photo

**The Breakfast Bunch:** The inaugural public Thursday morning breakfast at Wellings of Corunna attracted this hungry group of friends who were anxious to try the fare and enjoy the spacious surroundings. Wellings has opened its doors for Thursday breakfast food service to answer the need for a local breakfast dining place in the Corunna area.

Stan Marsh, President of the Optimist Club of Moore, notes that some local clubs and groups who gather for weekly breakfasts have to go into Sarnia to find a suitable place to meet. The Thursday dining program is being offered on a trial basis to see if there is a demand for it. More information can be found on the Wellings Corunna Facebook page.

Above: Discussing the news of the day and catching up on a week's worth of "doings", are Optimist Club of Moore members Ross Helps, left, and President Stan Marsh, and friend John Dantas. Pouring another round of coffee is food services staff member Emily McCann.



## THE MOORETOWN SPORTS COMPLEX

1166 Emily Street | Mooretown, ON | N0N 1M0

Ph: 519-867-2651

Check out what's new for

**21/22**



**Arena project PHASE 1 now underway!** Follow us on Facebook, or watch our website for further updates including programming.

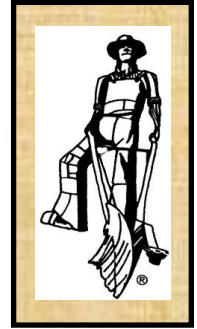
@mooretownsportscomplex

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

[www.stclairtownshipcommunityservices.ca](http://www.stclairtownshipcommunityservices.ca) / E-mail: [info@stclairtownship.ca](mailto:info@stclairtownship.ca)

## MOORE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

*Home of the Brigden Fair Since 1850*



### NOTICE

MOORE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 22, 2022 at 1 P.M.**

*To be held in the Brigden Fairgrounds Exhibition Hall*

- Receive Financial Statements
- Appointment of Auditors
- Election of Directors
- Updates on MAS Projects

**REGISTRATION & MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL: 12 p.m. – 1 p.m.**

**Voting Eligibility Requirements:** Must be a member/honourary member in accordance with the Constitution and By-Laws and Guidelines of M.A.S.

- Paid Member in good standing for 2021 and 2022.
- Must have attained the age of 18.

If you are interested in becoming a Director with Moore Agricultural Society, or would like to recommend someone, please notify the office by email no later than Friday, January 14<sup>th</sup>.

E-mail: [info@brigdenfair.ca](mailto:info@brigdenfair.ca).

Pre-payment of 2022 memberships can be made at the Office:

Monday – Friday: 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. & 1 p.m. – 4 p.m.

An after-hours mail slot is also available (beside the Front Office doors). Please make sure to include names and contact information.

**COVID MEASURES WILL BE FOLLOWED AS MANDATED  
BY THE GOVERNMENT OF ONTARIO AND THE LAMBTON HEALTH UNIT**

**Please follow our Brigden Fair webpage or Brigden Fair Facebook page for any updates  
due to changes in the Covid regulations or restrictions.**

Website: [www.brigdenfair.ca](http://www.brigdenfair.ca) Facebook: Brigden Fair

Moore Agricultural Society, 2976 Brigden Road, Brigden, ON N0N 1B0 Phone: 519-864-1197

## 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.

*CF Industries south of Courtright produces chemicals like ammonia, nitric acid and other solutions used in agriculture and industrial applications.*

## Bear Creek Cemetery Company

Bear Creek Cemetery has submitted by-laws to the Registrar of the Funeral, Burial, and Cremation Services Act, 2002. Any interested parties may contact Russell Marsh at 519-331-1798 for information or to make copies. By-laws or amendments may be reviewed or copied at 3393 Telfer Road, Mooretown, Ontario. These by-laws are subject to the approval of the Registrar, Funeral, Burial, and Cremation Services Act, 2002. Contact can be made by telephone to: Bereavement Authority of Ontario, 647-483-2645 or 1-844-493-6356.

## MORE AROUND THE TOWNSHIP

### From page 20

For in-person classes, if you are feeling unwell, please do not attend. Screening will take place prior to every in-person class & Public Health Guidelines will be followed.

Please note, our holiday break from programming will begin Monday, Dec. 20, and classes will resume on Jan. 3, 2022.

### LOW IMPACT EXERCISE

**Virtual - Low Impact** - Monday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday at 9 a.m. To register, call 519-344-3017, ext. 237 or email [adinell@nlchc.com](mailto:adinell@nlchc.com) to receive the Zoom link.

**Mooretown Sports Complex exercise:** **\*\*Proof of vaccination is required and capacity rules will be followed. Please call to reserve your spot.**

Mooretown Sports Complex is at 1166 Emily Street in Mooretown.

**Thursday Low Impact** - 9 a.m. To register call 519-344-3017, ext. 237, or email [adinell@nlchc.com](mailto:adinell@nlchc.com)

**Thursday Shibashi** - 10 a.m. To register call 519-344-3017 ext. 237 or email [adinell@nlchc.com](mailto:adinell@nlchc.com)

**Virtual Chair Exercise:** Monday at 1:30 p.m. To register, call 519-344-3017, ext. 237 or email [adinell@nlchc.com](mailto:adinell@nlchc.com) to receive the Zoom link.

**Seated Yoga (virtual):** Tuesdays at 11a.m., Jan. 11 to May 10. For more information call 519-344-3017, ext. 237 or email [adinell@nlchc.com](mailto:adinell@nlchc.com).

**Yoga (virtual):** Thursdays at 11am, January 13-May 12 To register, call 519-344-3017 ext. 237 or email [adinell@nlchc.com](mailto:adinell@nlchc.com) to receive the Zoom link.

**SHIBASHI offered:** (Tai chi/qigong is a practice of aligning breath and movement for exercise and health. Shibashi consists of 18 simple steps. It is easy to learn and perfect for beginners.

**Shibashi: (in-person) \*\*proof of vaccination required & capacity rules will be followed \*\* Call to reserve your spot\*\*** Classes will be held at All Saints Anglican Church, 248 Vidal Street N. on Fridays at 11 a.m. To register, call 519-344-3017 ext. 237.

**Shibashi (Virtual):** For a Zoom link to join the class, email [adinell@nlchc.com](mailto:adinell@nlchc.com)

**Opening Doors:** Healthy lifestyle program for individuals living with mental illness or seeking mental health support. For information, 519-344-3017, ext. 277.

**Night Light: Virtual and In-Person,** Thursdays, Jan. 6-Feb. 17 at 6 p.m. Finding Hope and Wellness while managing mental illness. To register call 519-344-3017, ext. 223 **\*taking registrations for January, 2022 program.**

**Virtual Rise and Shine:** Join our social worker Joy Voscato and learn 10 ways to awaken your resilience! Class held via Zoom on Monday, Jan. 24 at 2:30 p.m. Contact Rebecca at 519-786-4545, ext. 279 to register.

**Virtual Pulmonary Rehab (existing clients):** Mondays & Thursdays at 3 p.m. 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. 22.

**Virtual Pulmonary Rehab (new clients):** Tuesdays & Thursdays from 1-3 p.m. (New client session begins Tuesday, Oct. 5 for 6 weeks.) 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

**Virtual BMI (Body & Mind Inspired):** With a Registered Dietitian. Monthly topics focused on nutrition and healthy lifestyle targeting your best weight. Classes are held on the fourth Tuesday of every month from noon to 1 p.m. Please contact [ageorge@nlchc.com](mailto:ageorge@nlchc.com) or 519-786-7878, ext. 307 to register.

**Breastfeeding Support:** To learn more about our breastfeeding support that is virtual and free, please contact April at 519-786-4545 or [ageorge@nlchc.com](mailto:ageorge@nlchc.com) for more info.

### Up-to-date bulletins available on SCRC website/Facebook



The St. Clair Region Conservation Authority has been kept busy this year monitoring water levels throughout the SCRC watershed. Spring and fall have both presented challenges.

The latest in October brought several incidents of heavy rain and the threat of increased runoff and flash flooding, as well as flooding in both urban and rural areas because of exceeded storm drain capacities and saturated soil.

When threatening conditions persist, it is wise to be aware of any that pose a risk in your community. Go online to [www.scrca.on.ca](http://www.scrca.on.ca) or The SCRC Facebook page to get the latest bulletins about such conditions as unusually high water levels, flood warnings, when flooding is imminent, and flood watches, when there is a potential for flooding.

### MAS office open during regular hours

The Moore Agricultural Society office at the Bridden fairgrounds will be observing normal office hours in 2022 beginning on Jan. 3. (COVID-19 restrictions may affect this reopening.) The office will be open Monday to Friday from 9 a.m. to noon, and from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. It will be closed on holidays and weekends.

### 50-/50 draw benefits S-L United Way



United Way  
Sarnia-Lambton

Click to play with  
United Way!

Get your tickets online at:  
[www.united5050.ca](http://www.united5050.ca)

### Beacon Bits

*"Resilience is accepting your new reality, even if it's less good than the one you had before. You can fight it, you can do nothing but scream about what you've lost, or you can accept that and try to put together something that's good."*

*~Lawyer, author, health activist Elizabeth Edwards  
(written while fighting metastatic breast cancer)*

## AROUND THE TOWNSHIP

### Shamrock Midget All-Star games in Mooretown



The Shamrock Hockey League (SHL), an OMHA representative level hockey league consisting of Tier 1-3 teams, is slated to hold its Midget All-Star games at the Mooretown Sports Complex on Jan. 2, 2022 (COVID-19 status permitting). One minor game at 12:40 p.m. ((15-year-olds) and one major game at 2:15 p.m. (16 and 17-year-olds) will be played. The event has become one of the hallmarks of the U18 season and the Mooretown Jr. Flags have proudly hosted it three times. Don't miss minor hockey at its best! **(COVID-19 safety protocols will be in effect and proof of vaccination will be required.)**

### Corunna policing group in the works

Local acts of vandalism and other distressing behaviours in the Corunna area have sparked the formation of a new group that will combine activities associated with community policing and Neighbourhood Watch. To gauge community interest in this group, a town meeting will be held on Jan. 20 at 7 p.m. at the Royal Canadian Legion Corunna Branch 447 hall. The meeting will be led by organizer Tammy Palmer, with OPP and St. Clair Township Council representatives on hand to provide information and guidance. Community-minded residents are invited to attend and contribute feedback.

### Corunna Legion hosts weekly activities

The Royal Canadian Legion Corunna Branch 447 will host four weekly activities. They are: Cribbage, Thursdays at 1 p.m.; Bridge, Fridays at 1 p.m.; Meat darts, Fridays, 7 p.m.; Meat draw, Saturdays, 4 p.m. All COVID-19 protocols will be in effect.

### Join the Corn Hole League!

Don't give in to the Winter Blahs - Join the Corn Hole League! The Corunna Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 447, is starting up a Corn Hole League in January, 2022. A youth league for ages 8 to 16 will play from 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., and a couples adult league will play

from 7:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. on Monday evenings. The league will run for 13 weeks plus closing tournament. Registration for youth is limited to the first 32 individuals and the adult teams is limited to 16. Please contact the branch at 519-862-1240 for further information or to register.

### West Lambton Community Health Centre classes

Registration can now be done online. Just visit <https://www.nlhc.com/services/wellness-programs/> (Please be sure to specify, on the top of the form, which program you are registering for.)

See More Around the Township, page 19

### Know the truth about vaccination

**"Normal" will not happen without vaccination!**

**Just under 96,000 responsible residents of Lambton County have acquired their second dose and over 11,000 have had their third "booster" shot. Almost 76% of children age five and over are also fully vaccinated.**

**But ignorance of the science and the truth surrounding COVID-19 vaccines is preventing many from being vaccinated. This virus and its increasingly dangerous variants will only be defeated when there are no more vulnerable hosts in which they can mutate and thrive. KNOW THE TRUTH! Talk to your doctor or pharmacist, or go online to these legitimate websites:**

>Lambton Public Health information is online at:

[LambtonPublicHealth.ca](https://lambtonpublichealth.ca)

>The Government of Canada has an extensive COVID-19 site at:

[canada.ca/covid-19/vaccines](https://canada.ca/covid-19/vaccines)

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

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

**Educate Yourself!**

**The Beacon is issued online only due to COVID-19.**

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

**Email:**

**[beacon@stclairtownship.ca](mailto:beacon@stclairtownship.ca)**

**and type Subscription in Subject line**

**Just type the word 'Subscription' in the Subject line**

**February deadline: Monday, Jan. 17**

**E-mail:**

**[beacon@stclairtownship.ca](mailto:beacon@stclairtownship.ca)**

If you have a non-profit or charity event or activity coming up in St. Clair Township, or an event that will benefit the residents of the township, 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.**

### DO YOU HAVE THE PROOF?

**Proof of full vaccination with a QR scanning code included, proof of identity, and a mask that covers nose to chin are required for entry into public places.**

**Children 12+ will also require proof of vaccination to enter some venues when they have been vaccinated.**

**Safety protocols are crucial to our return to normal life.**

**We must continue to use all measures at your disposal to deny the COVID-19 virus a place to breed and to generate new, more powerful variants.**