



The St. Clair Township ELECTION ISSUE BEACON



THE TOWNSHIP
OF ST. CLAIR

Issue 9

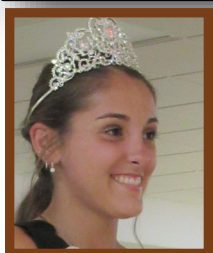
Volume 15

September 2022



Airborne at the new Corunna Skateboard Park

12-year-old Kain Wallace of Corunna catches air as he practices jumps on the ramp at the new Corunna Skateboard Park. For more information see page 4.



Ambassador Emma Ouelette is looking forward to Brigden Fair 2022 - Oct. 7 - 10

See page 18 for more information

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MUNICIPAL NOTES

~MUNICIPAL ELECTION DAY~

October 24, 2022

*Inaugural meeting
of new Council
November 21, 2022*

By-Law for election signs

By-Law 27 of 2022 requires that campaign signs not be posted until Sept. 1 and not exceed 20 square feet in size. No permit is required to install election signs in any zone, but they cannot be installed on private land unless the owner's permission is obtained.

Signs posted on municipal road allowances will be restricted to areas and locations that do not obstruct vision for vehicular or pedestrian traffic, and they are subject to the consent of the adjacent land owner. They are also not permitted in municipal road allowances abutting public lands, including parks.

Any signs removed in this way will be done at the exp

See More Municipal Notes, page 3

Candidate List

MAYOR

Tracy Kingston; Jeff Agar; Chad Shymko

DEPUTY MAYOR

Steve Miller - **ACCLAIMED**

COUNCILLOR Ward 1 (north of Bickford Line)

Charles Mortley-Wood; Cathy Langis; Pat Brown;
Holly Foster; Bill Moran; Michelle Maitland

COUNCILLOR Ward 2 (south of Bickford Line)

Bill Myers; Gary Martin; Craig Bezaire; Brad Langstaff

LKDPS BOARD TRUSTEE

Heather Skolly; Kathryn Shailer; Greg Agar

SCCDSC BOARD TRUSTEE

Jann Tooshkenig - **ACCLAIMED**

Candidate Profiles on pages 8 to 12

Council Meeting Schedule

All regular council meetings are open to the public, but will continue to be available 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 near the top of the page. The Facebook link is added just before each meeting is slated to begin. Upcoming meetings include: Monday, September 12 at 3 p.m., and October 11 at 3 p.m. Anyone wishing to contact the municipality or to find out more about making a presentation in-person or via Zoom, can call 519-867-2021 for further information.



St. Clair Township 2022 Final Property Tax Due Date Thursday, September 29

Payment Options available are as follows:

- ☒ Monthly Pre-Authorized
- ☒ Due Date Pre-Authorized (4x per year)
- ☒ Pay online or by telephone with your bank
- ☒ In person at your bank branch
- ☒ Drop a cheque into the secure drop box at Civic Center doors
- ☒ Mail a cheque
- ☒ Credit card, debit available for a fee on www.paysimply.ca

If you did not receive your tax bill(s) in the mail by Feb 11th, please email to
taxes@twp.stclair.on.ca
www.stclairtownship.ca

Notice to property owners to destroy noxious weeds

Notice is hereby given to all persons in possession of land, in accordance with the Weed Control Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter W.5, Sections 3, 13, 16, and 23, that unless noxious weeds growing on their lands within the municipality of the Township of St. Clair are destroyed throughout the season, the municipality may enter upon said lands and have the weeds destroyed, charging the cost against the land, plus an administration charge as set out in the Act. (Minimum charge per parcel is \$80.) The cooperation of all land owners is earnestly solicited.

Jeff Baranek, Clerk
519-867-2021



More MUNICIPAL NOTES

From page 2

pense (\$200 per sign) of the candidate, and the money will be considered part of the candidate's own contribution to their campaign. Confiscated signs will be recoverable after Oct. 24. Signs must be removed within 48-hours after the day of the election.

Be aware of fence by-laws

A rash of recent fence height issues have come before council to be resolved, although a simple check of the current fence by-law could have prevented these issues from happening. The fence height set by St. Clair Township By-Law 36 of 2010, states, "No person shall erect, construct, or maintain a fence more than 1.83 metres (6 feet) in height."

At the Aug. 8 meeting of council, several public meetings dealt with fences that did not conform to the 6-foot limit; variances were being sought by their owners to allow the fences to remain as built. In each case, the by-law was enforced and the owners were instructed to bring their fences into compliance with the by-law.

Anyone considering the construction of a fence or any other structure should consult township by-laws and regulations to ensure their project is in compliance.

Former bowling alley rezoned to "Residential"

Courtright may soon have a six-unit residential unit at 1595 Third Street where the unused former bowling alley now stands. Owner Jamie Mayhew presented an architect's rendering of a two-storey apartment building that will be for residents aged 55 and over. During the rezoning presentation to council, Mr. Mayhew noted Courtright is in need of more housing specifically for older adults.

The property, currently zoned "Highway Commercial", has not housed a commercial business since the bowling alley closed, and there were no objections forthcoming from adjacent residents who were notified of the public meeting. It was agreed the property would be better used for residential housing, and the change to "Residential" was approved by council. Information related to the Official Plan and Zoning By-Law amendment is available for inspection at the Clerk's office at the St. Clair Civic Centre, 1155 Emily Street, Mooretown during regular business hours of 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday to Friday.

Pollinator vegetation installations approved

At the August meeting of council, the planting of pollinator vegetation gardens was approved for the Sombra lagoon, Courtright WWTP, and Corunna pump station. The township has applied for Monarch Habitat Restoration Funding through the Canadian Wildlife Federation to po-

tentially cover costs attendant to these township properties. The work will be done by Ontario NativeScape, a division of the Lambton Stewardship Network. Director of Public Works Brian Black reported the Port Lambton and Brigidon lagoon properties were already planted with pollinator vegetation in 2008 and 2015.

A planting will also be done at St. Joseph Catholic School as an educational tool to promote the sustainability of pollinators like the Monarch butterfly. The school will be applying for funding through a *TD Friends of the Environment Foundation* grant. The Golden Alexanders have submitted a proposal for the school garden.

The strategy to sustain pollinator populations in Southwestern Ontario was first proposed and approved during the April 4, 2022 meeting of council. A motion, based on the Canadian Wildlife Fund Pollinator Network Report submitted by Mr. Black, approved a membership with the Canadian Wildlife Fund's Pollinator Network. It also approved the use of township property around sanitary lagoons for the planting of wildflowers to sustain and enhance failing pollinator populations in Southwestern Ontario.

These environmentally responsible measures are crucial to sustain insects like bees and butterflies, as well as bats and many species of birds - all necessary to the pollination of plants. Bee populations have already decreased to an alarming level worldwide and must be increased. Without the successful pollen fertilization of agricultural crops, plants will not be able to produce enough food for all species along the Food Chain, including humans. The abundance of agricultural production depends heavily on the quantity of pollen distributed by pollinators. If these tiny creatures die off, so do we!

Vaping store proposal

A letter proposing the opening of a vaping store at 201 Hill Street, Unit 2a, in Corunna was brought before council at the Aug. 8 meeting. Clerk Jeff Baranek pointed out the township is currently an "unwilling host" for such stores, but there is no municipal policy in place yet. The company that submitted the proposal currently has an operation in Wallaceburg, but no decision on the Corunna store was made pending a report from staff at the next council meeting.

Moore Sports Complex upgrades progressing

Major upgrades on the rinks at the Moore Sports Complex are progressing well. Rink #2 has been completed and has been open for skating since July 31. The new compressor room has passed inspections and has been turned over to the township for operation. And the concrete floor of Rink #1 is slated for pouring the third week of September if not earlier.

The pool will be closed for about two weeks at the beginning of September to allow for maintenance work. Fall swim registration opened on Aug 1.

Vote-by mail procedure outlined in St. Clair Township By-Law 1 of 2022

At the beginning of 2022, council enacted By-Law 1 of 2022 outlining the procedure that will be observed for the Oct. 24, 2022 Municipal Election. This is a brief outline of the procedure that will be observed. The full by-law can be viewed online or at the St. Clair Township Civic Centre.

On Sept. 1, Canada Post will begin delivery of Voter Kits to those who are on the voter's list. The kit must be filled out as instructed and returned by Oct. 17 (if it is being returned by mail) and, if by some other means, by 8 p.m. on Oct. 24. When the kit is received at the Civic Centre, 1155 Emily Street in Mooretown, it will be placed in a vault for safe-keeping until the designated time for it to be opened. Blank Voter Kits will be stored

in the vault as well and the vault door will be closed at all times except when it is necessary to access other material stored in it. The blank kits are unable to be used until they are assigned to an elector by the Clerk or his/her designate.

On Oct. 24, counting will begin no earlier than 2 p.m. at the St. Clair Township Civic Centre by approved election workers who will be sequestered in a controlled access area. Designated ballot package opening times will be posted on the township election website, and all candidates or their scrutineer may attend each and any session.

No results will be announced until after the 8 p.m. close of the polls.

More MUNICIPAL NOTES

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Good citizen acknowledged

A 10-year old Corunna resident was recently acknowledged for his very grown-up approach to a bicycle accident he had. Matteo Fanelli was riding his bike along St. Clair Boulevard when he courteously moved over to avoid pedestrians. In the process, he drove over an overgrown depression in the road which caused his bike to overturn and injure him. The depression turned out to be a catch basin that had sunken six inches into the ground.

He decided to do the responsible thing; he wrote a letter to Mayor Steve Arnold describing the accident and alerting him to the location of the hazardous catch basin. Mayor Arnold contacted the Public Works Department and the catch basin was secured and repaired immediately.

To thank Matteo for his responsible action, Council recently honoured him with a presentation in the Council chamber where he was presented with a Certificate of Appreciation and a township pin. "He's a great example for his generation," said Mayor Arnold. "With our presentation, I wanted everyone to understand how important it is to protect others by reporting these things right away."

Although Matteo's dad was not able to attend the ceremony, his mom, Christina, beamed as she watched her son honoured. "Frank and I are very proud of him for speaking up and following through on his complaint, and we're proud to belong to a community with such a caring town council," she said after the ceremony.

A modest man of few words, Matteo, a student at Sir John Moore Public School and an avid swimmer, had this to say about his future aspirations. "I want to swim a lot in the Olympics," he said.

Christina explained her son started with the Mooretown swim team last year and has come to love the sport. "He is focused on going to the Olympics now," she said.



Matteo Fanelli receives his Certificate of Appreciation from Mayor Steve Arnold during a Council session on Aug. 8. *Stevenson photo*

New Corunna Skateboard Park just in time for summer fun

A bunch of happy Corunna youth were among those who gathered to see the official opening of the Corunna Skateboard Park on July 31. Corunna Skateboard Committee member Nicole Krohn said the project, (which took only 35 days to go from sod-turning to ribbon-cutting in time for Captain Kidd Days), has been "our heart and soul" from the day it was approved. Corunna Skateboard Committee member Geoff Dale told attendees that in the eight months, from the project's approval to reality, the committee has already raised over \$50,000 through community donations and fundraisers. He added many of the young people who now use the park helped with those fundraisers, and fundraising will continue until the entire \$100,000 is paid.

Mr. Dale thanked St. Clair Township for making the 7,200 square foot property available for the park, which includes several large features including: rails, stairs, ramps, a half pipe and a pump track. No excavations or concrete fabrications were required. The \$200,000 bill for this project is being paid for by a 50/50 funding partnership between the Corunna Skateboard Committee and St. Clair

Township.

It's the latest in a long series of enriching, youth-centred projects realized by a partnership between St. Clair Township and community-minded groups.

Right: Standing on the half pipe during the grand opening of the Corunna Skateboard Park are, left to right: Moore Optimist Club representative Tracy Kingston; CSP Committee members Chantal Dale, Brian Daamen, Melissa Atyeo, Nicole Krohn, and Geoff Dale.

Stevenson photo





Public Works Department

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

Engineering.....519-867-2125

Website..... www.stclairtownship.caAfter hours emergency
~ 1-888-441-4204 ~

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

Fax.....519-867-3886

Civic Centre, 1155 Emily Street, Mooretown

Water utility appointments require 48 hours notice

St. Clair Township By-Law 16 of 2022 requires at least 48 hours notice in advance of scheduling appointments with the Public Works department to avoid service fees.

Download the St. Clair Township app



and never miss
another collection day.

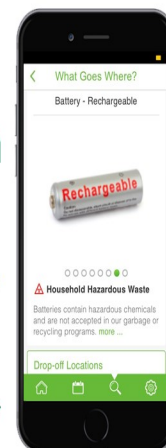


Want the latest updates on recycle and waste collection?

Download the **Recycle Coach App!**

Recycle Coach is an app paid for by St. Clair Township so residents can get up to date notifications regarding waste collections. Any resident in the township can download the *Recycle Coach* app at no cost and get the notifications in real time.

Recycling
information
at your
fingertips!



For more updates on information related to Public Works, including Waste and Recycling collection, follow up on Facebook @stclairwppw.



Download the FREE
Recycle Coach™ app



Waste Collection

As of July 5th, 2022, Marcotte Disposal has taken over most waste collection services in St. Clair Township. Residents are reminded of the following waste guidelines:

- All waste must be placed at the curb side before **7:00 AM** on your waste collection day and must be placed within one meter of curb/road edge.
- Household waste in containers must be bagged securely. Materials must not be loose in the container.
- Containers must be within the weight limit of 23 kg (50 lbs.) and limited to six (6) items. Two (2) of six (6) items can be bulk; they will be recorded and picked up separately from regular waste.
- Waste must be free of prohibited content (e.g., hazardous materials, needles, animal remains, vehicle parts, tree stumps, construction/renovation waste).



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>

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Public Works Department

Hydrant Flushing

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 2022 - Fall 2022

For current areas affected, refer to stclairtownship.ca

During this maintenance procedure, you may notice some water discolouration 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 discolouration disappears.

Sewer Main Flushing

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 2022 - Fall 2022

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.

Emergency Preparedness

It starts with YOU!

1. Make a plan

2. Build a kit

3. Stay Informed

Don't wait 'til it's too late!

For more information, visit:
ontario.ca/beprepared



State of Infrastructure Stormwater Assets

Asset Type	Inventory	Asset Value	Condition
Culverts	13 km	\$20 M	Acceptable
Pipes	72 km	\$102 M	Acceptable
Lift Station	1	\$375 K	Excellent
Basins	2	\$255 K	Excellent

In Summary

Storm Pipes

- Currently exceeding LoS target
- Existing budget sufficient to maintain condition
- No expected funding gap

Culverts

- Currently exceeding LoS target
- Existing budget insufficient to maintain condition
- Expected funding gap of ~\$900,000 over 10-years

Pumping Station

- Assessed condition in 2019, Very Good
- Target full reconstruction year ~2059
- No significant capital expenditure next 10-years

Retention Basins

- Excellent condition, relatively new assets
- No significant capital expenditure next 10-years

The Asset Management Plan is posted on the Municipal Website
<http://stclairtownship.ca/asset-management/>

AMSC – Asset Management Steering Committee

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. They can also be costly to repair.

Be sure to call 1-800-400-2255 or visit OntarioOneCall.ca 5 days before you dig.

Emergency Preparedness

FACT SHEET

hydro
one

for COMMUNITY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATORS
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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

Help college and university students get high grades in fire safety



Deputy Fire Chief/Fire Investigator Andrew McMillan has some words of wisdom for students and their parents about the need for fire safety in their "away from home" accommodations.

As a Fire Investigator, I have investigated a number of fires in student housing. I found that smoke alarms were often found disabled by tenants or not installed by the landlord. **Most of the fires were caused by unattended cooking. A stovetop fire can start in a flash. Stay close to the kitchen when cooking and don't leave flammable objects like paper or cloth towels, wooden or plastic utensils near the stove. Keep a lid near the stove to smother flames if a fire starts in a pot.**

Smoke Alarms - It is the law in Ontario to have working smoke alarms on every storey and outside all sleeping areas. The law applies to single-family, semi-detached, townhomes and apartments (including basement apartments), whether owner-occupied or rented. Rooming houses have specific regulations about smoke alarms or fire alarm systems. In addition to smoke alarms within each unit or suite, apartment buildings and student residences operated by the school may also have a building fire alarm system. Make sure the landlord, administrator or superintendent identifies and explains the fire

alarm and detection features in the building and unit. The landlord is responsible for installing working smoke alarms where required and tenants are responsible for notifying the landlord if they become aware of an issue with the alarms. Students are encouraged to test the smoke alarms monthly by pressing the test button.

Carbon Monoxide Alarms - Ontario law requires all homes/apartments to have a working carbon monoxide alarm outside all sleeping areas if there is a fuel-burning appliance or fireplace in the home/apartment. If the building has a service room or a garage, carbon monoxide alarms must be installed outside each sleeping area of all apartment units above, below and beside the service room or garage.

Fire Escape Plans

In a fire emergency, everyone must know what to do and where to go. Large apartment buildings and student residence buildings require a Fire Safety Plan, which informs the occupants about emergency procedures. Ask the building administrator or superintendent to explain the procedures in the Fire Safety Plan.

If a fire breaks out, GET OUT immediately and call the fire department.

Reminder: Be sure to include a good First Aid kit in your school preparations and know how to use it.

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

Emergencies don't wait until we are prepared for them - do it now!

Make an emergency kit that includes: an adequate supply of warm blankets and clothing, flashlights, food, safe drinking water, necessary medications, a First Aid kit, *pet supplies, *baby supplies, etc., and have a designated safe shelter area. **Develop a fire escape plan** and designate an outside meeting place.

Make sure your emergency strategies are prepared and be ready for unexpected emergencies.

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

** if applicable*

St. Clair Township 2022 Election Candidates - listed in alphabetical order

~MAYOR~

Jeff Agar

I have been a resident of St. Clair Township for 39 years. My wife, Sue, and I raised our son, Nick here, and he now resides here with his wife, Michelle. I work for Kel Gor Limited as a material controller.

I was elected to Council from 2006-2018 and I was a councillor for three terms. While on council, I sat on almost all committees. I attended important municipal conventions such as *Good Roads* in the winter and *AMO* in the summer, where I was fortunate to be involved in meetings both with Provincial and Federal ministers. These meetings often led to the township receiving grants for numerous township projects.

In the past, I have coached and been involved with Mooretown minor hockey and ball hockey, as well as soccer in the summer months. I also sat on the board of the Moore Agricultural Society, and currently belong to the Moore Optimist Club. I am a member of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church in Corunna, and Sue and I enjoy spending time with the residents at Thompson Gardens calling bingo once a month.

In my opinion, infrastructure is a top priority to attract new businesses and investments in our community, and we must keep our roads well-maintained. Our services, such as sewage, waste collection and amenities throughout the township, must kept at a high standard. Environmentally, we must ensure our waste facilities keep us updated on any facility issues, and our heavy industries in the township must do the same since we all have to co-exist together.

I expect future updates from the Ministry of Environment on the Ladney waste site outside of Corunna. I have not heard any updates in a long period of time. I would also like to question the county about the electric vehicle charging.

My 12 years on council has given me the background I need to lead this township effectively, especially with experience gained in roles such as chairperson of the Finance Committee and the Public Works Committee. I have also experienced all aspects of the operations within the township.

My proven honesty and integrity are two of my finest attributes. I am truly a leader and am interested in finding the best way rather than having my own way. I will consider all ideas and I very much need the next council to work as one team.

During my campaigning, I have never accepted donations from anyone, therefore all the decisions I am entrusted to make will be held without bias. All areas of the township will be treated fairly and considered equally.

I want all residents of St. Clair Township to know that the reason I am most qualified to be your mayor is the experience and honesty I bring to the task.

Tracy Kingston

People who take pride in St. Clair Township are willing to help make their community a remarkable place to live. This feeling of pride is why, for 50 years, my husband Rob and I, along with our daughters Nicole and Allison, have called Corunna home and worked to give back to the community.

As the retired owner of our family business, KAY'S Petals & Plants, I was always keen to give back in any way I could. As an active Moore Optimist Club member for over three decades, and as past Corunna Santa Claus Parade chair, working for the good of my community is a value I hold close. I've held numerous positions and leadership roles in a variety of community groups, charities, and business organizations like the Canadian Cancer Society, Sarnia-Lambton Chamber of Commerce and Junior Achievement.



In the past 8 years as a St. Clair Township Councillor, I've gained experience serving on a long list of township committees including the Committee of Adjustment, Drainage and Asset Management, just to name a few. As well, I am the mayor's alternate on Lambton County Council and have attended meetings on his behalf. I frequently attend municipal conferences and educational workshops to stay current on important issues. In a bid to acquire funding for this expansion, I've written and presented funding requests to two Provincial Ministries. It's essential we protect our waterways for the benefit and enjoyment of everyone.

One of my personal attributes - my willingness to work with an open, unbiased mind, considering all sides of the story - will be a crucial asset to me as mayor. I am able to graciously accept decisions of the majority, even when I personally disagree.

As mayor, my first priority would be to work with council, staff and residents to write a Strategic Plan that would advance common, achievable goals. It is also imperative that we continue to seek project funding at every opportunity to mitigate shoreline erosion and improve infrastructure for all, including expanding our waste water treatment plant.

My goal as Mayor will be to work co-operatively alongside a team of people like myself who have a passion for St. Clair Township. The infrastructure and community improvements we achieve will help facilitate growth by attracting new businesses and providing employment opportunities that will let people remain in this community and encourage others to make St. Clair Township their home.

Chad Shymko

I have lived in Corunna my entire life, 38 years. I have been a process operator at Shell for 16 years.

I have been involved in Mooretown minor hockey as a goalie coach and with the Corunna minor baseball as well. I have never been a member of council but I have attended meetings before.

The thing that is most tough to see is trying to please everyone's needs. There is only so much money that can be spent and budgets are tight. I would just like the people of St. Clair Township to know I am going to work extremely hard and try to bring new adventures to the area for people of all ages.



DEPUTY MAYOR

Steve Miller (ACCLAIMED)

First elected to Sombra Township Council in 1982, I've been on council (through the amalgamation of Sombra and Moore Town-



More Candidate Profiles, page 9

More Election Candidate Profiles

ships that became St. Clair Township) for 40 years consecutively. I appreciate the people who have supported me all this time. I like to help people and I think I helped our township keep up with the times and I'll continue to do that in the next four years.

COUNCILLOR—WARD 1

Pat Brown

My wife Cindy and I have resided in Corunna for 44 years and raised our two children here. I am retired as a Construction Coordinator from Arlanxco, and Local 663 Pipefitters. I am a current St. Clair Township Councillor, and I have also served on St. Clair Township Council (2006-2010) and a term on the former Moore Township Council. I am currently vice-chair of the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority, and serve on the board for CAER (Community Awareness Emergency Response) and as chair of the St. Clair Parkway Golf Committee. In the past, I have served on Lambton Group OPP Police Services Board, Corunna Community Safety, Moore Museum Board, and St. Clair Township Public Works and Finance.



If I'm successful, this will be my fourth term as Councillor for our Township.

I believe we need to continue to upgrade Township infrastructure by improving roads, sidewalks, water lines and sewage treatment. Working closely with our Provincial and Federal governments, I'll advocate to secure funding for these projects and other grants for shoreline work and recreational facilities.

My last term on council included working with council, staff, and community groups on projects such as: the expansion of internet service to underserved areas of the Township through SWIFT; making upgrades to the Mooretown Arenas, including the elimination of the direct ammonia cooling system for creating ice; and improvements to the golf course with new outdoor patio. I support development of environmentally friendly projects and want to establish EV charging stations within our Township.

I appreciate our numerous volunteers who help identify and preserve local history, and those who raise funds towards community projects like the new Corunna skateboard park that opened this summer. Volunteers contribute to making our community better for all residents.

We need to continue attracting new industries to our area. The arrival of the new Crown Royal Distillery will be a good example of those efforts, and major expansions within our township will create secure work and strengthen our tax base for the future.

My previous council experience, along with the boards I serve on and my employment background, will bode well for all residents when dealing with most municipal issues and concerns.

I am dedicated to the needs of St. Clair Township and I am approachable, open, honest and willing to listen to individual concerns. I look forward to continuing serving as your Councillor for the next four years.

Holly Foster



Born and raised in St. Clair Township, I currently own and operate Holly's Heavenly Touch since 1990, which is located in Corunna. I specialize in foot and skin care.

Four years ago, I was encouraged to run for council, but I didn't have the extra time. Before COVID-19, I also worked as an NCAA

women's basketball and field lacrosse official. The dedication it took to run a successful business and officiate at NCAA level was demanding although extremely enjoyable. The time has come to end that chapter in my life and I have retired from the NCAA level. Now I have the time to run for council.

Some of my past community involvement included working with youth by coaching sports, teaching Sunday school, and coordinating high school students to get their volunteer hours. I was recently selected to be a role model for Skill Ontario, which promotes trades to high school students throughout Canada. Currently, I volunteer weekly at the St. Andrew's Foodbank and have for the past few years.

I've held many positions on boards from president, secretary, treasurer and, currently, I sit on the Health committee at Aamjiwnaang.

I understand how budgets work and the importance of future planning and building from the bottom up. I have watched Zoom council meetings and have a good grasp at meeting procedures and how to obtain information needed to support decisions needed to be made.

I will bring a strong work ethic, business mind, and community involvement to council. I like to read and will prepare as much as possible to be able to give my input in a fair, confident, and compassionate way. I'm not afraid to voice my opinion but do so with knowledge to back it up. I am able to listen and look at all sides, and think outside the box. I know I would represent St. Clair Township community strongly and I hope you give me the chance to work for you.

Cathy Langis

Off and on, Greg and I have lived in St. Clair Township for a total of 28 years. In the past, I was very active in the Corunna community. I was the first Parent Council chairperson for Father Gerald LaBelle School, I was a Corunna Optimist, started fund raising for improvements to Duggan field and worked on both the Juvenile Silver Stick Committee and Gold Bat Committee (major juvenile hardball tournament).

Since returning to the Township, I have become a Marshall at the St. Clair Parkway Golf course, joined the Liturgy committee and the CWL at St. Joseph's Church and now serve on the Moore Community and Recreational Foundation.

I had started to attend St. Clair Township Council meetings just prior to COVID-19 and have since watched the meetings on YouTube. I keep up with the council minutes, agendas, and correspondence for each meeting.

I am a retired Educational Assistant of 31 years with the LKDSB where I worked with students who had difficulties coping behaviourally in the classroom setting. I was also the Union president for three years and on the negotiating committee.

I am running for a Ward One seat on Council because I have a positive approach. I'm a hard worker and I'm accountable. There will be new challenges, during this election and moving forward, to work as a team with new leadership. I will be new to Council, but I am up to the task. I am pleased to see how Council respects and supports the expertise of our Township staff, and I look forward to working in a mutually respectful environment. I will represent the Township with honesty and integrity, and when assigned a task, it will get done.

Michelle Maitland

I was born in Ottawa and raised there and in surrounding areas. I have been in the St. Clair Township since 2007. I am a married mother of two boys. I have served my community in various ways. I was a Board member of MTMHA,



More Election Candidate Profiles

Secretary for the Fundraising Committee for the Arena, a Volunteer for Captain Kids Days. I have also served the community as a PSW as well as by teaching yoga and fitness classes. I take great pride in my community and its potential.



I believe that the biggest obstacle that the new council will have to learn to navigate is the frustration that hums through our community. I have heard the compliments as well as complaints. Some of our community is content with the status quo, while others feel overlooked and invisible and that other user groups get preferential treatment. I feel that a large part of overcoming the obstacle is ensuring that our community votes. I ran for council last term and have attended a meeting as part of a committee; I witnessed many very passionate community members advocate for our township and its inhabitants. With respect and effective communication, I believe that if we work together, we will see our community thrive.

The most important thing I hope the community understands is that I see you, and I hear you. My choices will always reflect my love and respect for this community.

Bill Moran

Through my formative years, my family lived in the township sharing many happy times with relations like the Wilson Walker family of Mooretown. My early local schooling prepared me for a three-year Marine Engineering Technology degree. When no local jobs in my field were available, I took a job with Ontario Hydro in Operations at Pickering G.S. but returning to the township was always my goal. In 2019, we returned to Corunna and I retired in 2020. My wife, Dawna, and our 10-year-old twins, Rosalyn and Freddy, love living here even though restrictive COVID protocols made it difficult to integrate into the community.



After attending council meetings, I took an interest in the process, but I believe what you hear in the community is also vitally important. The township has significant infrastructure issues that need to be addressed and the current asset management plan must set more demanding goals in the foreseeable future.

From speaking with fellow citizens, I have discovered a disconnect between the community and the township office. Some people are frustrated when trying to resolve even minor issues and misinformation seems to be widespread, leading to unsatisfactory outcomes.

People are looking for decent facilities and public places of which they can be proud. We urgently need community lab services restored in Corunna. We need to improve and invest in our Township assets. St. Clair is experiencing new housing and industrial growth. Council needs to ensure that new development pays its fair share when it comes to our infrastructure needs.

During my career, I worked hard to be productive and I brought improvement and favourable results to my own work, to those I trained, and the facilities with which I was entrusted. Building positive relationships and practicing effective communication are my core strengths. Actively listening to others and seeking their ideas are important leadership skills to achieving quality results. Strategic thinking, long-term planning and recognition of value for money was always part of my equation.

I need your support so I can be part of the solution to the challenges that will face our new council during its term in office.

Charles Mortley-Wood

My family and I have lived in St. Clair Township since 1999 when we transferred back to the area with our employer. Our connection to Lambton County goes well beyond that with our families having lived in the local area over the years. Over the years I have been active in local sports coaching and managing both minor baseball and hockey teams and participating in the executive of minor hockey, minor baseball and the Flags Jr C. Hockey club. I also coordinated the local community food bank that runs out of St. Andrews Presbyterian Church for a number of years. Today I volunteer with the local Red Cross, assisting with the Meals on Wheels program and driving for the Red Cross Transportation group getting people in need of assistance to medical and other necessary appointments in London, Windsor and Sarnia. Since I retired, I have tried to use my available time to contribute to the community as best as I can.



I have participated in volunteer Sarnia city committees where I got a feeling for the operations of a municipal council.

The greatest challenge I see for the next council will be developing and administering a responsible budget. With inflationary pressures higher than recent memory, it will take considerable discipline to avoid making the financial situation for the township's families even harder while ensuring the ongoing delivery of critical infrastructure maintenance and public municipal services that are needed to maintain the township.

Over my 30-year career in Chemical Valley I acquired experiences that help me run and participate in meetings, to set and steward budgets, to work through conflict, to ensure competing priorities can coexist and to work to meet the needs of the organization that I was working for. I believe I can bring these same skills to the St. Clair Township Council and the people the council represents. Ensuring the council works to minimize the impact of inflationary pressures on our tax paying citizenship will be a priority I bring to the team.

I want to people to know that they will get what they see, and what those who know me have seen for years, a hard working dedicated and responsible socially minded team member who will ensure his vote on council always represents responsible spending and encourages growth in our community.

COUNCILLOR—WARD 2

Craig Bezaire

As a resident of St. Clair Township growing up on the last gravel road in the Village of Sombra to witnessing the installation of reliable high-speed internet, our municipality has continued to improve and grow for the betterment of all our residents. To this day I believe it is our role as citizens to leave our community better than how we found it. I have always been a 'community-first' person, having served as President of the Port Lambton Athletic Association for the last 12 years, Chair of the Port Lambton Parks Board since its inception, volunteer at Gala Days, the Port Lambton Food Bank, coached youth baseball and continue to play for the Sr. Pirates. I also serve on St. Clair Township's Committee of Adjustment and the Parks Advisory Committee. I have been active in discussing and solving



More Election Candidate Profiles

local issues and I believe I have been able to maintain healthy relationships with our current elected officials and staff.

I am a proud 22-year member of U.A. Local 853 Sprinkler Fitters of Ontario and have been fortunate to work as a Business Development Rep. for four years and am currently in my fourth year as a Business Representative. I also currently sit as the Financial Secretary and Recording Secretary for the Sarnia-Lambton Building Trades Council. My work experience in these roles has prepared me for the task as Councillor for Ward 2. I represent 3,017 hard-working individuals daily to make their lives better and to protect their livelihood. It has also taught me to listen, be respectful of everyone's opinions, and to make decisions that benefit everyone.

Some of the issues that we will need to address during this term of council is to maintain our level of service while maintaining fiscal responsibility to all taxpayers. As Council members, we will need to ensure that the Corunna OPP Branch remains open, the Lambton GS site is cleaned up to our standards, the Coast Guard Building in Port Lambton, if decommissioned, is not left to deteriorate. There will also be major decisions regarding our infrastructure and the need to fix and maintain our assets before its too late.

Brad Langstaff

Born and raised in St. Clair Township, I began investing in my community at the early age of 20. In the last 12 years my family, my partner, Nelke, and I have enjoyed having the ability to continue investing in such a beautiful community.



Having such an appreciation for the finer details of our community has motivated me to sit on local boards at the Grain Farmers of Ontario, Ontario Federation of Agriculture, and Lambton Soil and Crop. Becoming a land owner and also being involved in a family business has taught me how to become fiscally responsible at a young age.

Being in the service industry has taught me how to manage and lead employees, how to be reachable 24/7, and understand how to run large projects.

As councillor, I would excel in fighting for the rights and values of the residents of St. Clair Township. Shoreline protection on Township properties and investment in infrastructure for faster rural Internet should remain a focus moving forward. It has also come to my attention that the Sombra Museum Cultural Centre and the Sombra Community Centre floors need repair, and park washrooms need to be updated. While seeking major industry, commercial, and residential investment in St. Clair Township, it is imperative that we expand the waste water treatment plant in Courtright, and improve our water supply from the Lambton Area Water Supply System.

I have a strong relationship with our current MP and MPP, which is a crucial asset when circumstances require upper tier funding. Maintaining Provincial financial involvement in drains, and looking at a 10-year repayment loan, are issues that require our attention. Growing up with strong, selfless mentors has inspired me to continually do my part for the betterment of St. Clair Township. Implementing conservation projects on my own lands is a small example of my commitment to leave our township in a better place for future generations to enjoy. Working with many tiers at Enbridge personally, to ensure they continue the same high level of respect for the community that Union Gas has displayed, is a passion I have to ensure that they are held to the same standards as we are, as caretakers of the land.

It would be an honour to serve the people of St. Clair Township as their Councillor. As councillor, I would be determined to implement the values of the residents in St Clair Township.

Gary Martin

I was raised and live in St. Clair Township near Becher where I operate a field crop farm on Charlemont Line. Our family has been involved in farming locally since 1865, with my aunt living at the Century Farm just south of the border in Chatham-Kent, and my parents farming locally here since 1961.

I have attended a few council meetings virtually mainly to see the Hydro One Transmission presentation on the new lines coming through the area, and to view the discussion on the settlement border expansion on Rokeby Line. Both were pertinent issues for me to report back to the Lambton Federation of Agriculture.

I think the role of a councillor is to advocate for the Ward as a whole and it is a good thing to have experience in land use planning as well as budgeting and governance.

My roles in the past show that I have governance and budgeting experience having been President of the LFA since January 2020 and Director for the Sydenham District Hospital Corporation, with the Chatham-Kent Health Alliance July 2009 to June 2015, & Vice-Chair of the CKHA Finance Committee in 2015.

During the 2022 Winter term I wrote and taught Introduction to Canadian Agricultural Law at Lambton College and I learned a great deal about land use planning and the intersection of Municipal Politics with Provincial and Federal Politics.

I also have a Bachelor of Science (Agr.) in Agricultural Economics from the University of Guelph, and upgraded from there to get my membership as a Certified General Accountant / Certified Public Accountant (eighteen years public experience).

Over the past 2 and a half years I have been fortunate enough to work with local organizations to bring the agricultural voice to economic development. I was on the Sarnia-Lambton Workforce Development Board Post-Pandemic Scenario Workforce Planning Committee as well as the City of Sarnia Airport Action Working Group, and have worked closely with Sarnia-Lambton Economic Partnership and the Sarnia-Lambton Chamber of Commerce on quite a few projects, particularly bringing together and highlighting county and city businesses and their collaborations.

I also have been a Public Representative on the Thames-Sydenham and Region Source Protection (Drinking Water) Committee since May 2018.

I realize that being a member of St. Clair Council is a demanding but rewarding position, and I feel I can make a positive difference and hope to continue with the two-way communication with residents and landowners, the same way I have been doing with LFA member/farmers.

Bill Myers

I was born and raised in Chatham Township, and I married Kathy, born and raised in St. Clair Township. We lived in Wallaceburg when we first married until we found our dream home in St. Clair Township. When we moved here 18 years ago with our two young daughters, we knew this was where we wanted to raise our family.

I have been employed as a machinist for 33 years, and I have always believed in the importance of giving back to my community through volunteer and charity work. Since moving to St. Clair Town-



More Election Candidate Profiles

ship, I have been an active member of the Moore Agricultural Society. I have completed three terms as president of the organization and I remain an active volunteer as chair of several committees.

I am currently completing my first term on council. During my time on council, I have been part of Heritage St. Clair, the Sombra Museum Board, the Wilkesport Community Center Board, the township Court of Revision, and the township Drainage Committee as Chairperson. Serving on council and serving on several committees has broadened my knowledge about the great things happening in our communities and how council can support them.

Aging infrastructure such as buildings and bridges and the rising costs of maintenance will pose a challenge for the new council as they work to find cost-effective solutions. I think it is important that council work closely with staff to find funding streams and make efficient use of the funds. I am a team player who is always willing to listen to and work with others for the greater good.

My first four years on council have been an avalanche of growth for me; I have learned so much and met so many great people along the way. I look forward serving our community for a second term to continue my growth while helping people solve issues and working with council and staff to help our communities grow and prosper.

LKDPS BOARD TRUSTEE Central Lambton

Greg Agar

I'm married and retired from NOVA Chemicals, where I was a process operator for 35 years and a union steward. After I retired, I got a job driving a hearse and, from there, I was on the board of the Southwest Credit Union. After that, I worked for Progressive Auto for three years, then I worked as a security guard a while. I also ran for the NDP twice.

I have grandchildren, so I ran for the school board and I've enjoyed doing that for the last four years. I sat on the bargaining committee, the grievance committee, and I've done budgets. During COVID, we didn't have a chance to do a lot and now, after Ford's moratorium on school closings, some rough decisions need to be made; there are school closings down the road. They are going to have to be done because this province doesn't have a lot of money for education.

I care about education because of my grandchildren. School kids have missed so much over the last few years and, sooner or later, they're going to have to make up that time. We really need to avoid a strike in October. I would like to see our schools combined because there are a lot of schools that don't have a lot of students and I'd like to see one school board so more can be done for our students. I'd also like to see more trades taught here in Sarnia.

I've tried to help people the last four years and they are pretty happy with what I've done, but you can't please everybody.

The board has done a pretty good job with Great Lakes; it's beautiful now although I don't know if we spent too much money. Closing S.C.I.T.S. wasn't pretty.

We need an increase in the budget for bussing. The price of fuel has gone up and we already have a hard time with budgets. It's not going to improve next year unless the Ford government pays more money toward bussing. That's a major issue I've had in the past few years. Rural

areas with bussing have a lot of problems. In the country they have a 20 km ruling that's unreasonable.

I believe in being honest with people and I think people believe I'm honest. I don't believe in nonsense; I speak from the heart. I'm not going to lie to people. I'd like to do a few more years on the board. We've got to work together and get along...the kids are the ones who are suffering.

Kathryn Shailer

The educational experiences and opportunities of our children are fundamental to the future quality of life of our region, province, and nation. Their success is our success. As a lifelong educator—and even more importantly, as a mother of two and grandmother of three—I understand well the issues facing our schools and our children today. With over forty years of experience as a postsecondary teacher and administrator, including directing and teaching in continuing education programs for upskilling adult learners, I am convinced of the benefits of well-integrated academic and applied learning at all levels.

As a senior administrator, I chaired countless meetings, acquired strong policy-development, planning, and financial management skills, and worked with several boards of directors. I have also served on community arts boards and heritage preservation committees, including in Sarnia and Brooke-Alvinston. Since retiring to Lambton County four years ago, I have experienced a whole new level of community—warm, supportive, savvy—and witnessed the extraordinary ability of our people and our schools to pivot to the demands of the global public health crisis. As we emerge from the pandemic, we need to understand what was lost (the so-called education deficit), not only in terms of academics, but also social skills and the mental well-being of our students (and teachers).

Then, too, the world is changing rapidly. A strong and responsive public K-12 school system is critical to developing the understanding and knowledge our graduates will need to succeed in this changing world as they pursue their life's ambitions. The role of a school board trustee is as a liaison between the community and the school board—someone who listens, advocates, and communicates regularly. I'd be honoured to serve as LKDSB Trustee for Central Lambton.

Heather Skolly

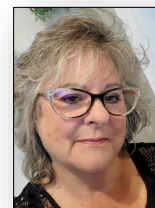
Thank you to the Beacon for the opportunity to introduce myself to your readership.

My husband of 46 years and I retired from our jobs in Oxford County and moved into Petrolia 3 years ago. We are thrilled to be in the Sarnia Lambton area, closer to our son and daughter, their spouses, and our 3 grandchildren.

Raising a child who had special needs stretched and grew us in everything we "thought" we knew as parents. Learning and dealing with our second son's special education needs became the driving force behind my choosing a career path as an Educational Assistant.

I retired after 27 years and was hired first, for the Oxford County Board of Education, then the Thames Valley District School Board, which included eight years of representing E.A.s and I.A.s (Instructional Assistants) as their union president. Some of my work/life/educational achievements included: receiving certification in Occupational Health and Safety, WSIB, Nonviolent Crisis Intervention, Behavioral Management, and Braille through the Hadley Institute, and I was recognized by the Elgin-Middlesex United Way for dedication and commitment. My

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knowledge and participation in classroom/student support and Board, committee, staff, member, and bargaining meetings would definitely be an asset for my Trustee role.

Students with challenges seem to be struggling to have their needs met, and staff are struggling to accommodate those increased challenges and needs. I believe that improvements to the education system, through the Minister of Education, could happen when additional supports are provided for students and classrooms. Putting dollars, and resources into supporting student success now, will benefit our community as more students, who have struggled through their challenges, become employed members of our future workforce.

As a Trustee Candidate, to Beacon readers and, hopefully, my supporters, my passion is in education, with a heart for special education, and a hope for all student/staff wellbeing and success.

ST. CLAIR CDSS BOARD TRUSTEE

South Lambton/East Kent

Jann Tooshkenig (ACCLAIMED)

"I'm very excited to embark upon this new journey as Trustee. I will bring my experience and a fresh perspective, but I'm mostly grateful to be able to listen, learn, and represent South Lambton/East Kent in this new role."

Cast your vote for the candidates of your choice

If you are in doubt about being on the St. Clair Township voters' list, or if you don't receive a mail-in Voter's Kit by late September, please call the St. Clair Township Clerk's office at 519-867-2021.

Mermaids galore on the Brander Park shore



Disney's ocean princess, Ariel, made an appearance, treating her young fans to a luxurious hair combing with her silver salad spork. Enjoying the attention were sisters Victoria Ford, left, and Evy Van Ruymbeke, left.

The event also featured over 50 artisans and vendors, music, food, Breakfast with the Mermaids, and a whole lot of family fun.



Above: The stunning group of freshwater mermaids included, from left: Mermaid Estuaria; Mermaid Tara Lynn; and Mermaid Anna.



Left: When little girls dream of mermaids, they don't expect to ever meet one, but little Evelyn from Sarnia, left, along with an unprecedented multitude of visitors to Brander Park, did just that at the Mermaids and Mariners event on Aug. 20.

St. Clair Township community festivals bring out the crowds



Captain Kidd Days
brought the mighty Captain and his pint-sized crew to CAP park for a weekend of merriment, contests, music, dancing, good food, and summer fun!

Sr. Ambassador Avery Aloral, 18, won a \$500 scholarship and some nifty swag by singing What's In Your Mind by the Cranberries.



Jr. Ambassador Benjamin Thomas, 9, won a \$300 scholarship with an impressive Taekwondo demonstration. He has been studying this martial art for five years.



The prize for Best Homemade Costume went to Koara Hagan, 6, who made her own costume and the treasure box she carried.



The Scariest Pirate prize went to Dax Bowling, 5.

Special thanks to Jim Kilbreath for breathing life into Captain Kidd and to all the volunteers who helped.

The prize for Best Captain Kidd Look-Alike went to Zane Bowling, 7, right. Captain Kidd's helper, left, was Madison Kilbreath, 8.



Post-pandemic freedom brought crowds out to celebrate



Lucky young hitch hikers charmed spectators along the parade route.



Gala Days Parade marked beginning of weekend fun



Several Pirate crews invaded the parade, including this float full of battle-ready U11 Lady Pirates, the 2022 U11 Champions of the Lambton Central Girls Softball League. *Stevenson photos*



The Gala Days Kids Zone at McDonald Park was a hit with the kids. This ring toss game was a perfect test for some aspiring major league pitchers.

The 2022 Gala Days 50/50 draw brought in \$50,000. Event organizers say this is a perfect example of "...the remarkable community support that's alive and well in Ward 2."

Vintage tractor's can still get-up-and-go!



Stevenson photo

The Vintage Tractor Pull at the Brigden Fairgrounds on July 30 proved an important adage by philosopher/poet Stanislaw Lec, who wrote, "Youth is a gift of nature, but age is a work of art." The tractors on the pull track may not have been young, but they hauled the sliding weight with grace and power. Corunna resident Mait Noyle's 1952 Farmall Super M is seen here doing a graceful wheely in hopes of powering its way to a winning run.



From the sublime to the ridiculous-The car show held at the Corunna Athletic Park during Captain Kidd Days had everything a car buff could want. From the raw power of Corvettes and hot rods, to roached-out old beauties from the 1940s, it was a gear-head's wonderland.



Fun before tech explored in *Lights Out!*



Most kids aren't familiar with life before technology and in the new children's book, *Lights Out!*, one boy learns how kids had fun in the "old days". The book is the brainchild of Sombra Museum Curator Kailyn Shepley and Museum Assistant Ellita Gagnier, who illustrated the book as well. The story is about young Sam, who brings his technology along to pass the time when he visits his Grandpa. When the power goes off and the lights go out, Sam's Grandpa gives him a lesson in how children passed the time and had fun in his day.

Kailyn says the book was inspired by museum volunteer Eldon Grant, who used to visit the museum with vintage artifacts and let them guess what they were for. All of the items Sam encounters in the book are actually part of the museum's collection.

Lights Out! Can be bought online at: sombramuseumshop.square.site Curbside pick up is available at a designated pick up time.

Photo right: Gathered around the sale table during the recent book launch of *Lights Out!* are, from left: Curatorial Assistant Mara Garva, twin visitors Frederick and Rosalyn Moran, and Sombra Museum Curator/*Lights Out!* Co-author Kailyn Shepley. Missing is Co-author/Illustrator/museum assistant Ellita Gagnier, who was off on tour pleasing audiences with her angelic voice.

Stevenson photo

Foodbank donations made to keep shelves stocked



There is no vacation for the volunteers at the St. Andrew's Corunna Food Bank. The need remains throughout the year and fortunately, many donors don't forget about their community.

Left: The good folks at No Frills collected canned goods during the Captain Kidd Days parade and matched their value to make a substantial donation. Accepting that donation is food bank volunteer Carol Amos, left, and representing No Frills is Micheline Bickner.

Right: Connor Oakes, Green Scene Lawn representative, left, and Crystal Clear Janitorial representative Jesse Bowen, right, presented donations to Gloria Hands from the St. Andrew's Corunna Food Bank. Another generous donation was received from Southwest Credit Union.

Submitted photos



Lambton County Library branches offer much more than books

The summer rush is ending and it's time to relax with a good book or a great online offering from the Lambton County Library. If you have a library card, you have access to the books, paper or digital, and a lot more. *And if you don't have a library card, get one. They're free!* For more information on locations, services and hours of operation visit www.lclibrary.ca



***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.

***Wilkesport** (519-864-4000): Tuesday, Saturday, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.; Thursday, 3 p.m. to 7 p.m.

If computers are not your thing, get the latest paper version of the **St. Clair Township Beacon** at your local library!

COMMUNITY CONTACT

Sacred Heart food bank - help your community thrive

Summer doesn't reduce the constant need for donations of food, personal and household supplies. Shortages are still being experienced by local food banks and the need is still great, but 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, as well as grocery store gift cards and monetary donations, are always gratefully accepted. 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 Samia.

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 distributed 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. Memberships are \$20 per person until further notice. For more information on the membership role, contact 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

The Optimist Club welcomes new members

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.

Lambton County Junior Optimist Club invites new members to get involved

The Lambton County Junior Optimist Club invites youth from age 10 through 18 to join and discover the fantastic feeling of volunteering in the community. Members put on their own programs and find creative ways to fundraise for other youth programs. Hours spent volunteering with the club count toward the volunteer hours needed at school. The club meets the first Monday of every month at 6 p.m. Meetings are now held at the Emergency Services Building in Corunna at the intersection of Lyndoch and Hill Streets. 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 needed by 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.

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.



Mental Health & Addictions Supports

For those who face the mental health or addiction challenges, the world can be a bleak place. The Sarnia-Lambton Ontario Health Team has the information that can point the way to a happy, sober life.

The place to start is with your primary care provider. He or she will know more about treatment options and local support/resources available to you.

To talk to someone about local resources, call Connex Ontario, 1-866-531-2600, or the Family Counselling Centre Care Pathways, 519-336-3600. In crisis? Call CMHA Lambton-Kent and talk to a mental health professional 24/7 at 1-800-307-4319. These are just a few of the resources available to you. Don't hesitate to call.

For full local listings, visit: agefriendlysarnialambton.ca

170th Brigden Fair 2022 - Oct. 7 to 12

Family fun at Agriculture Awareness Day - Friday, Oct. 7

The Brigden Fair Agriculture In The Classroom school program will not be held this year due to the conflict with P. A. Day for Lambton Kent Elementary School students. However, the fair will be offering "Agriculture Awareness Day" in the Coliseum area on Friday, Oct. 7 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. This will be an opportunity for families to come and learn together. No pre-registration is required. Fair admission: Preschool and elementary students - free; Friday Admission - \$5 per person until 5 p.m.; \$10 after 5 p.m. and for the remainder of the weekend. Always FREE Parking on the grounds.

Brigden Fair hosts part of the Ontario Four Horse Hitch Series Finals

Clydesdales, Shire, Percheron, and Belgian hitches from across Canada and the United States will compete at draft horse competitions to accumulate points. Feel the thunder of these gentle giants at the Brigden Fair. Check the Brigden Fair Web and Facebook pages for details.

Features you've missed most about the Brigden Fair

Features will include the Great Canadian Lumberjacks, Western Ontario Outlaws, Pro Riders completing death defying stunts as they flip and spin in the air, Zimmer Air helicopter rides, the Mason's CHIP (Child Identification Program), Team Sorting, and much more to thrill and delight! Watch the Brigden Fair Web and Facebook pages for event times and details.

Live stock shows and something unusual

The livestock shows, as usual, will feature crowd favourites like cattle, horses, poultry, sheep and dinosaurs?...YES, **DINOSAURS** will attend the Brigden Fair this year. Check the Brigden Fair Web and Facebook pages for schedule of events.

Brigden Fair Baby Show Changes

The 2022 Baby Show will be held on Monday, October 10 this year. Pre-registration is a **MUST**, so please go to <http://www.brigdenfair.ca> to view the prize book and details, or see the Brigden Fair Facebook page.

Brigden Fair Prize Book

The Brigden Fair Prize Book is now available on the Brigden Fair Facebook page or at <http://WWW.Brigdenfair.ca>. All entries are due **prior** to September 25. Please check the rules and regulations **prior** to making your entries.

**WE'LL SEE YOU
AT THE FAIR!**



The new Ambassador, Emma Ouellette, seated centre, and her court, clockwise from seated left: Savannah Denomme; Emma Wheeler; Marissa Lester; Tanis DeGurse. Bonnie Stevenson photo

2022 AMBASSADOR CROWNED!

Where are the fairest ladies in St. Clair Township?

Five of those fair ladies graced the stage at the Brigden Fairgrounds Exhibition Hall on Aug. 14 during the 2022 Brigden Fair Ambassador competition. Judges Elaine Montgomery, Morgan MacTavish, and Rev. Jill Rogers faced a difficult task as they listened to and watched each contestant speak and comport themselves through the event. The ladies each made a prepared speech describing their favourite interest or hobby, and fielded an impromptu question as well. They appeared in an outfit that best suited their individual interests as well as formal attire.



The new ambassador, 18-year-old Emma Ouellette, is a recent graduate from Wallaceburg High School and will be attending Western University for Management and Organizational Studies this fall. As a high school student, she played basketball for the Wallaceburg Air Hawks and her school team. She has shown cattle in 4-H for three years and has raised three pet chickens as well as hatching out chicks. Emma's aspiration is to become a lawyer, live on a farm, and raise cattle.

During her acceptance speech, Emma said she was overwhelmed at the honour, having looked up to previous ambassadors as a child.

A special part of the event was an expression of appreciation to previous ambassador, Melody Riedl, who's reign from 2018-2020 was acknowledged as the "longest tenured" in the history of the title, which began in 1972. Melody agreed to stay on as ambassador during the pandemic until she was ready to go to university. She is currently in her second year of pursuing a Bachelor of Theology degree at the University in Alberta.

In her absence, family member Jessica Riedl, who was Brigden Fair Ambassador for 2000-2001, has filled in for her. Since Melody never had the opportunity to make her end-of-reign speech, she finally got to express her parting thoughts via a recorded Zoom call during this year's event. She said she was "humbled and honoured" to have had the opportunity to represent the fair. At the conclusion of the call, Cheryl McGuire, president of the Moore Agricultural Society Homecraft Division, presented Melody with a \$500 Homecraft bursary.

SCRCA Scholarships handed out to post-secondary students

The St. Clair Region Conservation Authority (SCRCA) recently awarded four deserving students with 2022 Scholarships to help them go on to post-secondary studies in conservation-related fields. They were recognized for their high academic achievements and their involvement in environmental initiatives. The scholarships, made possible by trust funds established by the St. Clair Region Conservation Foundation and its donors, totaled \$3,000 this year. For more about the SCRCA scholarship program, visit: www.scrca.on.ca/scholarships/.

Below left to right: Accepting their awards from SCRCA Chair Mike Stark are: Tesni Grieg-Clarke, win-

ner of an A.W. Clarke Memorial Scholarship, will attend the University of Waterloo to pursue a degree in Knowledge Integration; Kiersten Denning, also winner of an A.W. Clarke Memorial Scholarship, will attend the University of Guelph to study Wildlife Biology and Conservation; Clarke Dunn, winner of the Tony Stranak Conservation Scholarship, will attend Trent University to pursue a degree in Conservation Biology; and Heather Scott, winner of the Mary Jo Arnold Conservation Scholarship, will study Architectural Conservation and Sustainability Engineering at Carleton University.

SCRCA photos



West Lambton Community Health Centre

We now offer online program registration!!

Please visit <https://www.nlchc.com/services/wellness-programs/> (Be sure to specify which program you are registering for on the top of the form.)

To register, call 519-344-3017 ext. 237, or email adinell@nlchc.com to register and/or receive the Zoom link.

***LOW IMPACT EXERCISE - Virtual will begin in October.**

***Virtual Worry Wart Workshop:** Sept. 19 at 2:30 p.m. Education and support for individuals managing worry and anxiety. To register please call Rebecca at 519-344-3017 ext. 277 or email revera-ert@nlchc.com.

***Boosting Balance & Bone Health:** Wednesdays - 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Starts Sept. 14. Five-week exercise and education program run by Occupational Therapist designed to improve balance and strength. To register please call 519-344-3017 ext. 274.

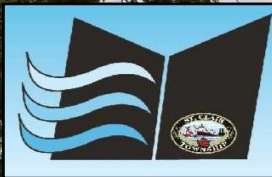
***Lambton Public Health Young Parent Prenatal:**

Sept. 20 to Oct. 18 from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. (West Lambton Health Centre) Five-week program learning with other young parents about labour and delivery, relationships, nutrition, caring for your baby and more! To register please call LPH at 519-383-3817 for more info to register.

***Dietitian Visit:** Sept. 22, at 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. (Petrolia EarlyON Centre). Dietitian will be available to answer questions regarding feeding your child (e.g. breast, bottle, first foods, picky eating, etc.).

***Shibashi:** Fridays, (Canatara Park) at 11:00 a.m. 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. Meet at the picnic pavilion adjacent to the children's playground. Closest to the Point Edward entrance. To register, call 519-344-3017 ext. 237 or email: adinell@nlchc.com.

Check out the October Beacon for classes coming to Mooretown.



THE MOORETOWN SPORTS COMPLEX

1166 Emily Street, Mooretown, ON

N0N 1M0

For further information about programming or updates about the exciting new updates, completed or underway, here's how to contact us:

Facebook-@mooretownsportscomplex; **E-mail:** info@stclairtownship.ca;
Website- www.stclairtownshipcommunityservices.ca; **Phone:** 519-867-2651

AROUND THE TOWNSHIP

Lambton County Plowing Match 100th anniversary

The Lambton Plowmen's Association will celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Lambton County Plowing Match at 1748 Rokeby Line in St. Clair Township on Saturday, Sept. 3, with registration starting at 9 a.m. and the events starting at 10 a.m. Food will be available and admission is free for all.

Bluewater Angler General Meeting

The Bluewater Angler General Membership meeting will be held on Tuesday, Sept. 13 with doors open at 7 p.m. and the meeting beginning at 7:30 p.m. Guest speaker Lorne Font from Twin Bridge Fishing Charter will speak about the art of vertical jigging for Walleye. For more information, call Ron Allison at 519-542-7805.

Downriver Craft Sale at Moore Museum

The annual Downriver Craft and Gift Sale at the Moore Museum in Mooretown is slated for Sunday, Sept. 18 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission will be \$2, children free when accompanied by an adult. The sale will feature over 100 vendors of crafts and intriguing gifts, and a food booth will be onsite to fuel your shopping experience. It's a great place to start your Christmas shopping, find unique things for your home and garden, or just treat yourself to something special.

Corunna Legion events set

The Royal Canadian Legion Corunna Br. 447 will host the following events:

Toby Keith Tribute is set for Sept. 24 with doors open at 7 p.m. The show starts at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$30 per person. Open seating tickets are on sale beginning Aug. 31. The hall is wheelchair accessible and all are welcome. Call Legion for

more details at 519-862-3368 or check out Facebook.

Thanksgiving Turkey Bingo is set for Sept. 29 with doors open at 6 p.m. and play at 7 p.m.

There will be 25 regular games - turkeys: 5 cards for \$25.00 and special cash game for \$2.00 per strip, 1st prize-\$1,000 cash, 2nd prize-\$200 cash, 3rd prize-\$100 cash. A 50/50 cash draw will also be held. Food will be available. The hall is wheelchair accessible and all are welcome. Call Legion for more details at 519-862-3368 or check out Facebook.

Pickarel Fry and Dance is set for Oct. 1, with doors open at 5 p.m. and dinner from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. The dance will be from 7:30 p.m. to midnight. Entertainment will be by CORNERSTONE. Tickets will be on sale for \$25.00 per person on Sept. 7. Admission is by advanced tickets only with no refunds and open seating. The hall is wheelchair accessible and all are welcome. Call Legion for more details at 519-862-3368 or check out Facebook.

Brigden Fair family Agriculture Awareness Day planned

The Brigden Fair Agriculture In The Classroom school program will not be held this year due to the conflict with P. A. Day for Lambton Kent Elementary School students. However, the fair will be offering "Agriculture Awareness Day" in the Coliseum area on Friday, Oct. 7 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For MUCH MORE information see page 18.

JNAAG exhibit Feels Like Home exhibit

A display by renowned St. Clair Township photographer, poet, and oral historian Larry Towell will be featured at the Judith and Norman Alix Art Gallery in Sarnia alongside a juried selection of photos from the *Take Your Shot* teen photo contest until Saturday, Oct. 8. Mr. Towell's work provided the inspiration behind the contest, which asked teens to capture the feeling of home in photographic form.

ONLINE SUBSCRIPTION AVAILABLE

For your convenience, a free full-colour digital copy of The St. Clair Township Beacon can be emailed to you.

To subscribe, e-mail:

beacon@stclairtownship.ca

Please type the word 'Subscription' in the Subject line and include your full name.

If you have a not-for-profit in St. Clair Township (i.e. service clubs, youth/seniors groups, agricultural groups, charity initiatives, etc.) or are holding a community event that will benefit and/or interest residents of the township, contact *The St. Clair Township Beacon* to spread the word.

E-mail:

beacon@stclairtownship.ca

The DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS is the third Monday of each month for the following month.

October deadline for submissions:

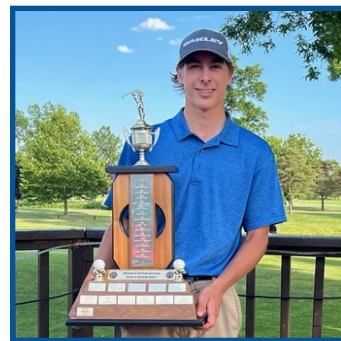
Monday, Sept. 19 by noon.

(Autumn/Christmas events can be submitted now.)

Future golfing phenom?

After taking up golfing in 2020, 16-year-old Mooretown resident Tyler Coene, right, won the St. Clair Parkway Jr. Club Championship in 2021. This year at 17, he won the Bright's Grove Optimist Jr. Tournament at Huron Oaks on July 3. Other St. Clair Township jr. golfers included Caleb Laframboise, Casyn Foster, Carter MacLean, and Carter Foster.

Tyler's next tournament is the Optimist Jr. Southwestern Ontario District Qualifier in



Leamington. (After being cancelled due to bad weather, the tourney was rescheduled.) The tourney's top golfers will be part of the Optimist International Jr. Tournament in Miami

in July, 2023. Submitted photo

PRINTED BEACON NOW AVAILABLE

Get your copy at: all St. Clair Township library branches, Thompson Gardens, Corunna, and the St. Clair Township Civic Centre. Just look for the Beacon bin.

