



THE ST. CLAIR TOWNSHIP BEACON



ISSUE 11

VOLUME 17

NOVEMBER 2024

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HUGE TRACTOR OR PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT?



At the Brigden Fair on opening day, some of the more imposing farm machinery took the place of playground equipment. Among the children who scaled the heights of the huge John Deere were kids from Corunna including: Poppy, Atlas, Mason, Harvey, Grace, Iris, Aster Lewis, Violet, and Elliot. Their supervisor/mom, Megan, kept a close eye on everyone as they explored the monster machine.

Bonnie Stevenson photo



MUNICIPAL NOTES



NOTICE

2025 Capital Budget Meeting

Notice of 2025 Capital Budget Meeting St. Clair Township's 2025 Capital Budget presentation and deliberation meeting will be held on Thursday November 28, 2024, starting at 5 p.m. The budget meeting is open to the public and all ratepayers are welcome to attend.



Winter Parking By-law

In accordance with St. Clair Township By-Law 5 of 2022, as of Dec. 1, it is against the law to leave vehicles of any kind, whether licensed or unlicensed, parked overnight from 1 a.m. to 7 a.m. on public roads or streets.

They must be kept clear to allow the unimpeded passage of snow or any winter control operation conducted by municipal forces or contractors. The by-law will be in effect until April 1, 2025. It includes: camping trailers, commercial trailers, derelict vehicles, marine vehicles, and recreational trailers. All obstructions, including basketball nets and garbage cans, must also be kept off the streets.

Residents are reminded it is against the law (Highway Traffic Act) to shovel snow from driveways and sidewalks out onto public streets. These snow piles create dangerous obstacles that can contribute to needless automobile collisions and the loss of control of a vehicle.



Council Meeting Schedule

All regular council meetings are open to the public, and can also be seen online by going onto the township website at: www.stclairtownship.ca.

The regular Council schedule of two monthly council meetings are held the first and third Mondays of each month.

(Schedule may be altered to accommodate holidays.)

Upcoming council meetings will be:

- Monday, November 4 at 3 p.m.
- Monday, November 18 at 6 p.m.
- Monday, December 2 at 3 p.m.

To make a presentation to council or for more information, call the St. Clair Township municipal office at 519-867-2021 (1-800-809-0301).

NOTE: This information is accurate at publication time but may be subject to change.



Hunting licences NO LONGER available at St. Clair Township office

Township of St. Clair will **NO LONGER** issue municipal hunting licenses. Government of Ontario hunting requirements still apply.

For more information, visit:

<http://www.ontario.ca/page/hunting-licence-ontario>



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MORE MUNICIPAL NOTES

Seniors Advisory Committee explains new seniors service strategy

Representatives from the Seniors Advisory Committee (SAC) recently attended Council to present an overview of the group's background, goals, functions, priorities, accomplishments, challenges, and next steps.

The SAC, which held its inaugural meeting in February of 2023, was formed by taking into consideration: that Lambton County has an aging population; a higher portion of seniors compared to other communities in Ontario; seniors are identified as a priority population under the new Sarnia-Lambton Ontario Health Team; and it would build on Age-Friendly community planning initiatives within Lambton County. SAC members will serve a term of two years operating under the premise that all seniors are entitled to age safely and with dignity.

Concerns the group will work on were identified after the committee was formed by a motion of County Council prior to COVID, from 2017 to 2019. "The committee has no budget. Committee Chair Bill Weber said, "We get feedback from each of the members of the committee and focus on the issues to try to communicate and connect people." The issues include: low staffing levels throughout the systems of care; long wait times for low-income long-term-care beds, and retirement home space. Seniors learn about available services through word-of-mouth, so the lack of communication regarding services available to seniors and how to access them must be addressed.

The SAC consists of one senior member from each of the 11 local County of Lambton municipalities, one County of Lambton staff member, and one member from Navigating Senior Care Lambton. The group answers to the Lambton County Warden and County Council on issues specific to Lambton County seniors.

SAC priorities, as stated in Mr. Weber's presentation to St. Clair Township Council, include: advocating for improved transportation services to reduce the isolation experienced by seniors; increasing our seniors' sense of belonging to their community; improving access to health care and wellbeing services by promoting community access points; and encouraging residents to plan for their elder years.

The SAC faces several challenges in its work to better the lives of Lambton County seniors. "One of the challenges for the committee is, how do we communicate that there are a lot of services available in the County, and how do we communicate those services to the seniors in the community who need them," said Mr. Weber.

Transportation was identified as a crucial issue for many seniors. "Transportation has been a big issue brought up by committee members. We hear that all the time. We've advocated to the County to continue with the rural transportation study that is going on," said Mr. Weber. "There are a lot of services available out in the County, but people don't know how to contact them and we don't know how to communicate that availability to the general group of seniors."

Mr. Weber noted social media is not the whole answer to communicating the committee's message. "Social media works great but there are a lot of seniors that aren't connected to social media, so that's one of the big issues."

To learn more about the Seniors Advisory Committee, visit: www.lambtononline.ca/SAC



Emergency notification system recommended for township

The need for an effective emergency notification system in St. Clair Township became apparent during the recent diesel spill. In a report to council by St. Clair Fire Chief Richard Boyes, he detailed how all of the systems that have been used over the years failed to inform the public efficiently.

He pointed out that sirens, the direct dialer system which worked off the white pages, and the FM alert system that employed the radio to sound the alarm all failed to inform the public in a thorough, timely manner. "The fact is that we still have no real method, other than sounding sirens, to notify everyone in the township of a potential emergency," he said. "Sirens were originally set to sound in the event of a vapour release and our residents were told 'if you hear the siren, shelter in place'." In addition, many of the sirens are old and undependable, and if a strong wind is blowing in the wrong direction, the sound of the siren can be lost to people on the wrong side.

Even local radio and television alerts are not dependable now. "We used to have the ability to call local media to get things on the radio fairly quickly...but that was based on the old siren system," he explained. "Now radios are on the air for a certain number of hours and the rest of the time, the sirens and the radio are on auto pilot, so we can't get the message out." And when timely notification is not delivered to the public, Chief Boyes says social media takes over and rumours begin to spread inaccurate or fabricated information.

The deterioration of the emergency notification system poses a threat to the community and the environment, so St. Clair Fire has been exploring solutions to the problem.

The most viable solution is the *SARNIA-Lambton ALERTS* system, which boasts partners like Lambton County, City of Sarnia, BASES, everbridge, and now, St. Clair Township. It is a regional public alerting system used by other Sarnia-Lambton municipalities and other community partners to send emergency alerts and other important community notices to subscribers in a timely manner.

Users can subscribe FREE OF CHARGE and customize which types of notifications they would like to receive, indicating how they would like to receive them. The available notifications include: shelter-in-place advisories; drinking water emergencies; evacuation advisories; extreme temperatures; Lambton Public Health notices; and industrial updates.

Stay informed when minutes matter!

To subscribe to this emergency notification system, go online to: sarnialambtonalerts.ca



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MORE MUNICIPAL NOTES

Operation of any motor vehicle on St. Clair River Trail is illegal



Recent complaints to the St. Clair Township office indicate there are still some people operating their motor vehicles on the St. Clair River Trail.

It is not only a Provincial offence to operate a motor vehicle on the trail, but it violates **St. Clair Township By-Law #45 of 2018**, in which motor vehicles are defined as any type of vehicle drawn, propelled, or driven by any kind of power except muscular power. This includes automobiles, motor scooters,

mini-bikes, motorized snow vehicles, golf carts and ATVs.

The St. Clair River Trail exists to provide pedestrians of all ages with a safe place to walk and enjoy the natural beauty the St. Clair River Trail affords.

Every person who contravenes any provision of the by-law is guilty of an offence and if convicted, faces a set fine of \$200.



Annual St. Clair Township Years of Service Awards presented



THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR SERVICE!



It takes a lot of people to run a municipality as large as St. Clair Township, and their efforts do not go unacknowledged. This year, 13 employees from several departments were recognized for their years of service with a gift and a barbecue lunch.

Shown with Mayor Jeff Agar, front right, in no particular order, are: **5 years**, Chad Kitchen; **10 years**, Rich Leach; Lindsay Bradley-Lindsay; Shannon Bogaert; and Scott Barnes; **15 years**, Vick O'Leary; Donald Nickle; Ruth McPherson; Chris Murphy; Karen Grant; and Dave Neeley; **35 years**, Doug Brooks; **40 years**, Wayne Bradburn.

Left: Mayor Jeff Agar and Teriann Weeke cut the cake for dessert.

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MORE MUNICIPAL NOTES

Responsible Pet Ownership by-law By-Law 40 of 2024

New draft By-Law 40 of 2024 provides for the regulation, restriction, and prohibition of the control and keeping of Dogs and other animals within the Corporation of the Township of St. Clair.

The by-law has been developed to protect township residents and their dogs. It includes subjects such as: Prohibiting dogs from running at large or trespassing; Control of animals;

Dog kennels and runs; Pound keeping and penalties for such infractions as abandoning a dog or litter; Leaving an animal unattended in a motor vehicle if weather conditions are not reasonably suitable for that containment; **Not having a current license for the dog and the fine for failing to do so.**

While discussing the new by-law, council also discussed the inclusion of cats that run loose unlicensed and unrestrained. This subject has been discussed at other council meetings in the past and issues such as enforcement have rendered such a by-law impractical. But should current circumstances change, amendments can be considered.

Please be courteous to Township staff

Township office staff and personnel conduct the business of the township as it is written in the by-laws and in the decisions made for the smooth operation of the municipality. When interacting with these people, remember they must adhere to these by-laws and decisions when trying to assist you. **PLEASE BE COURTEOUS TO STAFF.** Remember they are doing their job. Even if the answers you receive in the course of your interaction are not satisfactory to you, ask them politely who would be able to help you and how to contact them.

Please treat our staff the way you want to be treated.



CARBON MONOXIDE (CO) – a silent killer?

Carbon Monoxide Awareness Week, observed from November 1-7, aims to educate the public about the dangers of carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning, often referred to as the "silent killer" due to its colourless, odourless, and tasteless nature.

Safety Tips From St. Clair Fire:

- **Install CO Alarms (It's The Law!):** Place alarms on every level of your home and near sleeping areas. Test them monthly and replace them as per manufacturer guidelines.
 - **Annual Inspections:** Have all fuel-burning appliances, chimneys, and vents inspected annually by a licensed contractor.
 - **Proper Usage:** Use generators and grills outdoors, away from windows and doors. Never use them inside garages or enclosed spaces.
- Emergency Response:** If a CO alarm sounds, evacuate immediately and call 9-1-1

Safety starts with awareness

Be mindful of the following and protect yourself and your loved ones from carbon monoxide:

- CO is impossible to detect without a working CO alarm
- Signs of CO poisoning resemble flu-like symptoms
- An activated CO alarm sounds different than a smoke alarm, typically four beeps
- If a CO alarm activates or you suspect someone in your home has symptoms of CO poisoning, immediately go outside and call 9-1-1.

For more tips and information about how to recognize the dangers of CO and protect yourself and loved ones, follow the OFM on [X](#), [Facebook](#), or visit: ontario.ca/page/carbon-monoxide-safety

BEACON *"Hard work beats talent when talent fails to work hard!"*
BITS *~Alexander Graham Bell*

Col. Cameron Public School receives three great donations

Below: CF Industries donates to student breakfast program: Statistics Canada says food insecurity, the inadequate or insecure access to food due to financial constraints, is a serious public health problem. At Col. Cameron Public School, a breakfast program open to all the students is doing great things to ensure there is food available at the start of every school day. CF Industries, where several Col. Cameron grads work, recently donated grocery store gift cards to help the school's breakfast program volunteers purchase food to keep the program running smooth. **Photo Left: Col. Cameron Principal Denise Ladd and CF Industries administration staff, Rachael Hunter and Natasha Robins, right, help several Gd. 5/6 students display some goodies the women brought along to go with the gift cards.**



Right: Learning is lots of fun: Grade 11 Leadership teacher Scott Steves (left in photo) asked his Leadership class at Great Lakes Secondary School to raise money for a



donation. His students made the money by designing and selling t-shirts, which sold out. The funds raised were used to buy interactive learning items for Col. Cameron Public School. Scott, a former Col. Cameron alumni, let the Grade 5/6 students try out the items and their happy reactions proved he made good choices.



Waiting for the Shell pizza party to begin

Left: The Shell Manufacturing Centre near Corunna generously donated a free pizza lunch to Col. Cameron's staff and students recently. This happy assembly of students from the junior classes is ready to dig in after their photo is taken.

Stay active with new sports kits from Lambton County Library

To promote health and wellness by encouraging physical activity and learning through play, Lambton County Library is expanding its collection to include new Sports Kits.

There are four separate Sports Kits, each one focused on a particular sport, containing basic equipment needed to play the sport.

The four Sports Kits include:

- Basketball: Includes a basketball and pump.
- Pickleball: Includes two paddles and balls.
- Baseball: Includes four bases, a pitcher's marker, bat, and ball.

- Soccer: Includes a ball, cones, and pump.

Patrons can enjoy a seven-day lending period for each Sports Kit. This timeframe allows them to explore a new sport at their own pace, practice their skills, or enjoy a friendly game.

Sports kits can be borrowed with a valid Lambton County Library card. Library cards are free for anyone who lives, works, studies, owns property in Lambton County, or is a resident of a First Nations community in Ontario. For more information on how to become a Lambton County Library cardholder visit: www.lclibrary.ca/apply

Weekly St. Clair Township libraries hours of operation

- ***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.



Public Works Department

PW General - Roads/Drainage - Water/Sewer - Utility Billing - Engineering

St. Clair Township Civic Centre, 1155 Emily St. Mooretown, ON N0N 1M0

After Hours Emergency 1-888-441-4204

(519) 867-2993 (T)

(519) 867-3886 (F)

stclairpw@stclairtownship.ca

www.stclairtownship.ca

<http://fb.com/stclairwppw>

**Water utility appointments
require 48 hours notice**

St. Clair Township By-Law 11 of 2024 requires at least 48 hours notice in advance of scheduling appointments with the Public Works department to avoid service fees.

Clear the Road

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

Please take notice - Failure to remove sports nets and other equipment from roads and streets will result in this equipment being collected by the Public Works Departments and stored at the Public Works Operational Centers.

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.
April 2024 – November 2024

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

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.
April 2024 – November 2024

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

Contact information for recycling provider

- Residents wishing to report any recycling collection issues are to contact the Contractor (Emterra Environmental) directly at 1-888-597-1541.
- Alternatively, visit their website at: emterra.ca, and click on "Customer Service" section.
- For further recycling issues / concerns residents may also contact "Circular Materials" by email at: customerservice@circularmaterials.ca



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

**A SHORT RINSE
GOES A LONG WAY**

Rinsing food residue from containers prepares them to be recycled.

Learn more:
circularmaterials.ca/ON



See More Works Department, page 8

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Public Works Department

Prevent your Water Meter and Pipes from Freezing!

Its that time of year again!

With the winter weather around the **corner** your home is at risk of frozen 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
- * NEVER use a blow torch 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 freezing

New Where to Recycle website

There is a new "Where to Recycle" website that has launched that offers residents the ability to look up items they are unsure of where to recycle:

<https://rpra.ca/where-to-recycle/>

RPRAs (Resource Productivity & Recovery Authority) - RPRAs's "Where to Recycle" map displays locations across

Ontario where you can drop off used materials to be recycled, such as batteries, electronics, household hazardous waste, lighting and tires, for free. Materials collected at these locations are reused, refurbished, recycled, or properly disposed of to help keep them out of landfill, recover valuable resources and protect our environment.

Yard Waste

Yard Waste Collection:

Yard waste collection (leaves, grass, etc.) will be collected for the fall season until Nov. 20. *Christmas tree collection will remain the same for Jan. 6, 2025.

Brush collection (bundles of sticks) is no longer provided. See below chart for suggested disposal sites.

Suggested locations to take brush:

(All locations require a fee)

Transco Recycling, 387 McGregor Side Rd., Sarnia; Mon.-Fri. 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sat. 8 a.m. to Noon; 519-332-4045

Curran Recycling, 526 McGregor Side Rd., Sarnia; Mon.-Fri. 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sat. 8 a.m. to Noon; 519-332-0849

Waste Depot, 456 McGregor Side Rd., Sarnia; Mon.-Fri. 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. Sat. 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. 519-333-08252

Wallaceburg Leaf and Yard Depot, 505 Water St., Wallaceburg Mon.-Sat. 8 a.m. to Noon 519-627-8101

NOTE: Call ahead to confirm hours and



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>

From page 8

Public Works Department

AUTUMN ON THE ST. CLAIR RIVER

While you're out enjoying the scenic beauty of the St. Clair River Trail, please remember that **motorized vehicles are NOT permitted on the trail.**

"Motor Vehicle" includes: automobile, motorcycle, motor scooter, mini bike, motorized snow vehicles, or any type of vehicle drawn propelled or driven by any kind of power, excluding MUSCLE power.

More Foodcycler® units NOW AVAILABLE!

The Foodcycler® Waste Diversion Pilot composter trial, in which St. Clair Township participated in 2023/2024, resulted in the township selling 277 Foodcycler® units and having a waiting list of 19. The success of that trial has prompted Council to approve another order of Foodcycler® units; the original FC-30 and the larger capacity ECO 5 Maestro.

To learn more about the program, please contact Public Works at: stclairpw@stclairtownship.ca



FC-30

ECO 5 Maestro

Lambton Public Health warns—TEST YOUR WELL WATER SUPPLY

Lambton Public Health (LPH) urges residents with private wells to regularly test their well water to ensure the water is safe to drink. High-water levels, flood conditions, and saturated grounds could allow harmful bacteria to enter the drinking water, making it unsafe to consume.

Test wells routinely several times a year or after flood conditions to test for harmful bacteria such as E.coli. Bacteria testing and water sampling kits are available FREE OF CHARGE at: **Charlotte Eleanor Englehart Hospital in Petrolia**, Monday–Wednesday from 8 a.m. to 3:30p.m. OR **Lambton Public Health, 160 Exmouth Street in Point Edward**, Monday-Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 10 a.m.

DIG SAFE! Contact OntarioOneCall first!

Property owners who dig without knowing where buried utility, pipelines, and cables are located are looking for trouble, expensive repairs, and maybe even tragedy.

Contact on1call.com or call 1-800-400-2255 to be sure you know where the buried hazards are and what they are.



Power Outage/Emergency Line

1-800-434-1235 (operates 24/7)

Residents can call this number to report power outage, fallen trees or power lines.



St. Clair Fire cautions: NEVER leave a grill or kitchen stove unattended! Unattended cooking is the #1 cause of fires.

Emergency preparedness starts with you
be prepared



make a plan



build a kit



stay informed

ontario.ca/beprepared



MEMORIES OF BRIGDEN FAIR 2024

"COUNTRY ROOTS AND RUBBER BOOTS"



ABOVE: Dignitaries on hand for the opening of the 174th Brigden Fair included, from left: Audrey Joyce & June Struck aka. Clara & Emma Spooner (2024 OAS Meritorious Award Recipients; Enbridge Representative Spencer Pray; St. Clair Township Mayor Jeff Agar; Marcy Scott, Homecraft Div. 2nd VP; Lori Ouellette, Homecraft Div. 1st VP; Kathy Scott, Homecraft Div., President; Lambton County Warden Kevin Marriott; MP Marilyn Gladu; MPP Bob Bailey; Pastor Tim Brown from New Life Assembly in Petrolia; Mark Williams, District 13 Representative; Mary Jane Marsh; and Moore Agricultural Society John Scott.



TOP RIGHT : Mayor Agar introduces a special guest to the stage.

RIGHT: At the Friday morning Agriculture Awareness Day display, young volunteers Elsie and Penelope help guide visitors through the varieties of poultry being shown. Elsie, right, is holding a Silkie chicken, which is easy to identify by the feather pompom on its head. (Special thanks to MAS member Dennis Robinson for his assistance during the photo shoot at Agricultural Awareness Day.)



LEFT: Moore Agricultural Society member Duncan MacRae demonstrated how to use an old fashioned wooden corn planter while helping Lachlan Morris plant one. Lachlan was visiting Brigden with his family.



Duncan MacRae's alter-ego



ABOVE RIGHT: The LCCVI Marching Band from Petrolia added to the excitement of the fair with a rousing selection of music and their enthusiastic attitudes.

Bonnie Stevenson photos

HERITAGE CORNER

The tale of *Jigger*, the rusty relic

In 1886, when the railways played an important part in the transportation of freight and people along the Erie and Huron Railroad between Chatham and Sarnia, there was a happy little railroad speeder called *Jigger*. The little rail car was very fast for his size and he used his speed to carry rail inspectors and repair crews to places on the railway that needed repair.

As time passed, other forms of transportation were developed. People started to travel in cars and trucks, and as these vehicles became increasingly popular, *Jigger's* service was needed less and less. With every day that passed, *Jigger's* body rusted a little more and his engine began to seize up; there came a time when he didn't work at all. He was fired from his job and left to decay in a lonely field by the railway tracks.

One spring day, the sad little speeder, whose body was now thick with rust except for a tiny bright yellow paint chip that clung to his roof, was noticed in the high grass by two people walking along the railway tracks. They began to point at *Jigger* and speak excitedly, and *Jigger's* rusty wheels began to tremble with expectation. He wondered if they would take him to a place where he could be helpful again.

But instead, they turned and ran away, leaving him alone again.

A tiny drop of oily rainwater fell from *Jigger's* rusty oil pan as he watched the people quickly become silhouettes that disappeared into the distance.

Several months passed, spring turned to summer, and *Jigger's* metal body rusted even faster in the summer rains.

Jigger could feel it happening and his sadness grew. He wondered if he would ever know another minute of happiness. His life seemed to have no point and with his body hidden in the tall grass, it seemed that his lot in life was to disappear into the mud; a rusty relic, invisible and unloved.

As he pondered his fate, a distant murmur of curiously familiar voices interrupted his train of thought. He turned his attention to the top of the railway track and in the distance, several fast-moving silhouettes were growing bigger as he watched.

Soon, he recognized the silhouettes; they were the people who had left him behind in the spring. *Jigger* decided they were probably just passing by and he resumed his contemplation of the fate that awaited him in the future.

"Hey Lyle, is the truck here yet?" said a voice from the top of the railway track. After a brief pause, another voice called, "Leo's got the truck on the other side of the track. We'll use its chasis winch to lift this poor thing out of the ditch." The two men came into view, then descended into the grassy ditch where *Jigger* sat. They set about inspecting *Jigger's* rusty body until they found a length of the speeder's frame that was only lightly rusted. "This should be strong enough to bear its weight when it's lifted from the ditch," said one of the men. The other nodded in agreement. "We'll have it back to the museum in no time," he said.

Jigger was liberated from the ditch with a minimum of fuss, loaded into the back of a well-used pickup truck, and secured with chains the men had brought with them.

When the truck was on the gravel road leading back

to the museum, *Jigger* marvelled at the number of motor vehicles he saw. No matter where the truck was taking him, he was sure it had nothing to do with the railway. He was frightened at first, but his fear was short-lived.

When the truck reached its destination, *Jigger* could see a small railway station and a beautiful red caboose that made him feel at home.

When work began on his body, there were welding sparks flying, sand paper rubbing away the rust, and discussions being held about what colour should be used to paint the speeder. *Jigger* came to know the name of the museum and appreciate the people who volunteered at the Moore Museum, especially the men who were giving him a new life. *Jigger* repeated all of the men's names as if they were a prayer to be spoken in thanks for his new life. When he was rust-free and his restoration was complete, he silently recited with thanks, "Jim and Louis Townsend, Jay Chipman, John Shymko, "Tuesday Guys" Dave Pattenden, Phil Pattenden, Dave Taylor, John Richardson, Dan Hayward, Paul Mitchell, Joe Doherty, Tom Walter, Lyle Gander and Leo Griffiths."

The time finally came to move *Jigger* out of the workshop building and over to his new location on the rails in front of the railway station. As the men moved him out of the building, *Jigger* caught a glimpse of himself in a pane of window glass.

The sight made his running lights glow with joy. His new coat of paint was bright yellow! His friends had painted him the same colour he wore when he was a working speeder.

He was beyond happy and even more, he wasn't a rusty relic anymore.

~Bonnie Stevenson



Jigger the rusty relic before restoration



At the celebration of *Jigger's* new life, the restored railway speeder is joined by, from left: St. Clair Township Mayor Jeff Agar; Deputy Mayor Steve Miller; Volunteer Lyle Gander; Councillor Pat Brown; Volunteers Joe Doherty; Paul Mitchell; Dave Taylor John Richardson, and Dave Pattenden.

Fiona Doherty photo

Aamjiwnaang Community observes National Day of Truth and Reconciliation

Children of the Aamjiwnaang First Nation gathered on Sept. 30 to pay tribute to the approximately 150,000 indigenous children who were separated from their families to attend one of the 140 federally operated residential schools.

The National Day of Truth and Reconciliation, or *Orange Shirt Day*, is now a Federal statutory holiday. It is an Indigenous-led grassroots commemorative day intended to raise awareness of the individual, family and community inter-generational impacts of residential schools, and to promote the concept of "Every Child Matters".

The orange shirt is a symbol of the stripping away of culture, freedom, and self-esteem experienced by Indigenous children over generations.

On September 30, all Canadians are encouraged to wear orange to honour the thousands of residential school survivors.

The National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation offered a free virtual educational program from Sept. 23-27 to all schools across Canada. This is a transformative journey for students, educators, and the broader community to engage with the history and enduring spirit of First Nations, Inuit, and Métis Peoples.

Right: Drummers Nodin Cottrelle, left, and Nimkee Plain play a solemn rhythm and sing a song to honour the residential school survivors.

Below: The serenity of the fountain memorial provided a fitting place to hold a ceremony that paid tribute to the thousands of children who experienced horrific treatment, humiliation, and fear in the residential schools.



Above: School buses arrive at the Aamjiwnaang First Nations Maajiigin Gumig Community Centre on Orange Shirt Day (Sept. 10, the National Day of Truth and Reconciliation). They were on their way to the beautiful fountain memorial behind the community centre that honours the indigenous children who were separated from their families and never returned home, those who survived the horrors of the residential schools, and their families and communities.



B. Stevenson photos

Autumn Walks

Annual trail edging has started in waterfront parks and along residential sections of the St. Clair River Trail. This task helps to maintain the intended width of the trail to keep all users safe.

The trail is looking good with help from an increasing number of residents regularly sweeping areas adjacent to their property. Less grass, sticks, and gravel are seen on the pavement, which results in a safer trail experience for all!

Mother Nature is busy dropping the fruit of the nut trees. Residents (and squirrels) have been spotted gathering hickory nuts in Brander Park.

Are you storing your bike for the winter and planning to spend more time walking on the trail? Remember to always be aware of your surroundings; safely enter and exit the trail, keep earbud volume low, and wear bright, reflective clothing on each and every walk. **'Be Safe, Be Seen.'**

Notice: Members of the Community are invited to attend The Annual General Meeting of the St. Clair River Trail Committee on Wed. November 27th at 7 pm at the Mooretown Sports Complex (2nd floor meeting room) Please RSVP to rivertrail@stclairtownship.ca

Happy Trails!

West Lambton Community Health Centre Programs for November

☕ Coffee Time

Join us for free coffee and conversation every Friday at 10:45 a.m. Everyone is welcome! Every Friday, 10:45 - 11:45 a.m. at West Lambton Community Health Centre (#100-429 Exmouth St., Sarnia)

🧑‍🤝🧑 Coping with Stress & Preparing for the Holidays Online Workshop

Learn how to navigate holiday obligations and manage seasonal stress. November 18th, 3:00 p.m. via Zoom.

👨‍🍳👩‍🍳 Cooking Buddies in Corunna

Join our children's cooking classes for ages 6-12! Kids will learn to read recipe cards, measure ingredients, try new foods, and have fun! Classes will run once a month. November 28th, 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. in Corunna (346 Beresford St., Corunna)

🧘‍♀️ Meditation Class

Join our seated meditation class designed to boost self-esteem, improve focus, lower blood pressure, and

reduce stress. Every Monday, 10:00 - 11:00 a.m. at West Lambton Community Health Centre (#100-429 Exmouth St., Sarnia)

🧘‍♀️👩‍🏫 Mooretown Low Impact Exercise Class

Enjoy low-impact cardio, bodyweight, and resistance band exercises on Wednesdays, 9:30 - 10:30 a.m. at Mooretown Sports Complex (1166 Emily St., Mooretown)

🧘‍♂️👤 Sit or Stand Exercise Class (Zoom)

This class offers exercises with resistance bands, with options to stand or sit. All fitness levels are welcome! Mondays, 10:30 - 11:30 a.m. & Wednesdays from 1:30 - 2:30 p.m. via Zoom

**To register for any programs, please call Rebecca at (519) 344-3017 ext. 237. For our virtual programs, don't forget to email rever-aerert@nlhcc.com to receive the Zoom link!

Updates to St. Clair River health celebrated

Binational achievements keep coming

The second annual *Honouring the St. Clair River* event held in Sarnia in September was a time for smiles and positive news. It was hosted by the Canadian Remedial Action Plan Implementation Committee to provide an update on progress being made to 'Areas of Concern' along the river. Over the past 30 years, significant progress has been made in restoring the river's water and environmental quality; 13,000 cubic metres of mercury contaminated sediment has been cleaned up; bacteria and discharges impacting local beaches and the river have been reduced.

This is a list of the binational groups that continue to bring the St. Clair River back from the brink: Remedial Action Plan partners like Rural Lambton Stewardship Network; St. Clair Region Conservation Authority; Friends of the St. Clair River; Aamjiwnaang First Nation, Walpole Island First Nation; St. Clair Township;

Bluewater Association for Safety, Environment, and Sustainability, municipalities, provincial and federal agencies.

Background

In 1987, the St. Clair River was designated as a binational Area of Concern (AOC) under the Canada-U.S. Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement. The water had been fouled by heavy industrialization, urbanization, and agricultural land use which seriously degraded the river's water quality and ecosystem health. The contaminated water and sediment bore large quantities of heavy metals, toxic organics and E.coli bacteria both in the river and its tributary watersheds. Twelve major issues were identified to be remedied, so groups on both sides of the river united and took on the challenge of cleaning it up.

Today, those groups have done a great job and 8 of the issues have been addressed. Work continues on the final 4. Three of these are in the process of being redesignated and one requires further assessment, which is underway.

COMMUNITY CONTACT

Remember your food bank when you shop Help Sacred Heart food bank help others

The Sacred Heart Food Bank continues to aid the community addressing food insecurity all year long. Nourishing food items 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. Food bank shelves need to be replenished on a regular basis. The Sacred Heart food bank appreciates all donations and the basics are always in high demand. **Drop off bins are located for your convenience at: DG Grains Becher location; Mainstreet Credit Union in Port Lambton; Port Lambton Food Market; Port Lambton United Church; Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Port Lambton.**

St. Andrew's food bank helps those in need Please help St. Andrew's with your donation

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. The food bank serves those in need, offering a variety of food products to help people eat healthily, including dairy products, bread, and meat, as well as daily requirements like household cleaning supplies, hygiene products, 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.**

Sombra Optimist Clubs welcome 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. 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.

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.

Courtright Friendship Club activities

The Courtright Friendship Club meets every first Thursday of every month next to the Courtright Library, 1533 Fourth Street. Annual membership is \$10, but non-members are welcome to come out to weekly card games. Euchre is played on Wednesdays at 1 p.m., and Pepper is played on Fridays at 1 p.m. The cost per game is \$3 per person.

Mental health group and resources

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, 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. For those who face the mental health or addiction challenges, the Samia-Lambton Ontario Health Team can help. 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.

Aamjiwnaang greenhouse research aids search/identification of native plant species

Bonnie Stevenson

Before the land along the St. Clair River was settled and urbanized, many native plants were plentiful across the land. They are hard to find now.

But these, and many other species, may have a resurgence thanks to the efforts of the Maajiigin Gumig native plant greenhouse staff at the Aamjiwnaang First Nations Maajiigin Gumig Community Centre. Leader of the search for, and identification of the vintage species is Dylan Henry. Having studied Ecosystem Management Technology as well as various horticultural subjects, he says work at the greenhouse is a joint effort that includes Vertex and Lambton College.

The project currently requires a search for undisturbed land that could yield buried seeds from the threatened native plants. Once located, 10mm-long core samples of the soil are taken. The samples are then planted to see what types of plants grow from them.

During an interview at the greenhouse, Dylan pointed out two plants that have been identified as native plants; one variety, the England Aster, is long-stemmed with delicate mauve flowers. The other is the Bushy Aster, a short plant that bears tiny yellow flowers. One of the surprising native plants Dylan identified was the Golden Rod, a plant he says has a bad, but undeserved reputation. "The belief that Golden Rod causes allergy is a false one," he said. "Golden Rod blooms at the same time as Rag Weed, which does cause allergies." He said that some plants look the same as others, which is the case where the Golden Rod and Rag Weed are concerned. Another case of mistaken identity between the Fox Glove and a plant called the Beard Tongue was cited as well. "As a native plant greenhouse, we strive to understand the relationship between aesthetic landscaping, restoration, and natural ecology," said Dylan.



Seen here in the recently-harvested Maajiigin Gumig Greenhouse are, left, greenhouse colleague Deon Wrightman, and greenhouse manager Dylan Henry. The harvested plants were sent to Vertex and Lambton College to be identified and studied.

West Lambton Community Health Centre We Now Offer Online Program Registration!!

Please visit <https://www.nlchc.com/services/wellness-programs/>



Anger Management: Identify your anger triggers and patterns while learning positive and effective anger management skills. Classes run from Sept. 26 to Nov. 7 on Thursdays from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at West Lambton Community Health Centre, 100- 429 Exmouth Street in Sarnia.

Coffee Time Social Drop-in Brigden: New Location! Thursdays at 10:45 a.m. (@ Brigden United Church—2420 Jane Street, Brigden). We will be meeting in the lower hall. The church has an elevator, so is accessible for all.

Garden Fresh Box: The Garden Fresh Box is an inexpensive monthly food buying program for anyone who wants fresh vegetables and fruit all year round. *For info, call 519-344-3017, ext. 237 or email reveraert@nlchc.com Orders are accepted in person with payment. Cash ONLY*

Brigden Low Impact : Low impact cardio, bodyweight and resistance band exercises will be held Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. beginning on Thursday, Oct. 10 at Brigden United Church. *To register, call 519-344-3917, ext. 237 or email: reveraert@nlchc.com*

Mooretown Low Impact: Low impact cardio, bodyweight and resistance band exercises will be held on Wednesdays beginning on Oct. 2 at 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. *To register, call 519-344-3017, ext. 237 or email reveraert@nlchc.com*

VIRTUAL PROGRAMS

Feeding Your Toddler Class: April 17 @ 1:30-3 p.m. Toddlers can be a challenge. Learn how to support your picky eater and get healthy snack and meal ideas. To register, email EarlyON@nlchildcare.ca

Heart Healthy Living: Virtual discussion with our Registered Dietitian to discuss about types of cholesterol, heart smart diet and healthy heart lifestyle habits. For more information about dates/time and *to register, call 519-786- 4545 ext. 307.*

Shibashi/Sit or Stand Combo: Fridays @ 10:15 a.m. - 75 min .class. A combination of movements used in Shibashi and Sit or Stand classes. Shibashi is—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. Sit or Stand is performed with the options of either standing or seated in a chair. Resistance bands are used. All exercise abilities are welcome. *To register, call 519-344-3017, ext. 237 or email reveraert@nlchc.com*

Sit or Stand: Tuesdays @ 10:15 a.m.—60 min. class. This exercise is performed with the options of either standing or seated in a chair. Resistance bands are used. All exercise abilities are welcome. To register, *call 519-344-3017, ext. 237 or email reveraert@nlchc.com*



Mooretown Sports Complex-What's happening?

Mooretown Sports Complex at 519-867-2651

Check out our schedule at:

stclairtownshipcommunityservices.ca

MOORETOWN SPORTS COMPLEX-FALL 2024 SCHEDULE

Fall Sunday Public Skate

1 p.m. - 2:15p.m. \$3.00/child, \$4.25/adult,
\$10.00 / family

Fall Weekday Public Skate

Wednesday - 10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Monday and Friday - 12:30pm - 2 p.m.
\$2.50/person, \$10.00/family

Shinny Hockey (18+)

Tuesdays 9-10a.m. - \$5/person

Family Shinny

Nov. 15, Dec. 27, Jan. 3, Jan. 31, Feb. 17, Mar. 14,
April 4, June 27, 11a.m.-12p.m. - \$5/person

www.stclairtownshipcommunityservices.ca
and take the first step towards a healthier you!

Winter Swim Lessons

Registration opens Dec. 11, 2024, at 9 a.m.
Login to your account or call 519-867-2651 for more
information!

Do you want to become a Lifeguard/Swim Instructor?

Check our website for Advance Courses such as
Bronze Medallion, Bronze Cross, National Lifeguard,
Swim Instructor and Lifesaving Swim Instructor.

Get Fit at Moore Sports Complex!

Join us for a variety of energizing fitness classes,
including Mat Pilates, Guns and Buns, Spin, and Yoga!
Whether you prefer to pay as you go, purchase
a punch pass, or commit to a membership, we have
options that suit your needs.

Check out our full fitness schedule at:

Check our website for our Fall pool and fitness schedule

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

Hockey Canada's 2024 World U17 Hockey Challenge comes to Sarnia -Lambton



Warden Kevin Marriott is shown here with the World U17 Challenge Cup at the Lambton County Administration Building.

Lambton Heritage Museum will be hosting the World U17 Challenge Cup from October 30 to November 1, as part of the ongoing *Hockey* exhibition at the Museum.

The 14-game international tournament, featuring teams from the United States, Finland, Sweden, Czechia, and two from Canada (Canada Red and Canada White) will be played at the Progressive Auto Sales Arena (near Lambton College), and the tickets will be sold there at the Sarnia Sting box office.

Tournament ticket packages are now on sale at \$210 to \$265 for adults and \$140 to \$175 for children. Additional ticket packages and individual packages are expected to be made available in the coming weeks pending availability, according to Tourism Sarnia-Lambton.

Tickets for the Nov. 1 exhibition games at the Greenwood Recreation Centre in Petrolia and Shores Recreation Centre in Forest will be sold separately. In conjunction with the tournament, a three-day FanFest, featuring displays and activities, will be held.



In May, Tourism Sarnia-Lambton announced the U17 Challenge would be coming to Sarnia-Lambton, several rinks in the area were assessed to determine which ones were large enough to meet Hockey Canada's tournament requirements. St. Clair Township Mayor Jeff Agar, a former hockey coach and avid hockey fan, was present at the assessment of the Moore Sports Complex "They came to the MSC to see if the rink would accommodate the pro games but they were not big enough," said Mayor Agar. Tourism Sarnia-Lambton Executive Director Mark Perrin noted Mayor Agar was very helpful while the assessment group was there.

The tournament is expected to attract about 25,000 visitors to the area, which could yield a substantial economic boost for all of Sarnia-Lambton. Mr. Perrin says the local economy can expect a boost of \$4 to \$5 million. He added this could be a conservative estimate. After talking to the 2023 hosts of the U17 challenge in Charlottetown, PEI, he says their estimated economic gain was higher than expected; it was close to \$6 million," he said.

Anyone who wishes to be on of the 190 volunteers during the nine-day event can get information online at [Tourism Sarnia-Lambton](http://TourismSarnia-Lambton.com) and Hockey Canada websites.

Hockey fans can currently get a healthy dose of their favourite sport at HOCKEY, a hockey exhibit from the Canadian Museum of History. This fantastic display is NOW SHOWING, at the Lambton Heritage Museum until November 9. See below.



Hockey fans MUST SEE *Hockey* exhibition at Lambton Heritage Museum

Hockey fans will be in Hockey Heaven at the Lambton Heritage Museum when they experience the *Hockey* exhibition now being shown until November 9.

The one-of-a-kind traveling exhibition is an engaging two-dimensional display that uses photographs and reproductions of key artifacts, memorabilia and works of art to present hockey highlights from yesterday and today. Listen to audio archives from hockey history and get into the game by recording your own running commentary, just like legendary sportscaster Foster Hewitt.

From Paul Henderson's winning goal for Canada in the 1972 Summit Series to Manon Rheaume's debut as an NHL goalie to Sheldon Kennedy's advocacy on behalf of sexual abuse victims, *Hockey* revisits game-changing moments and players. By highlighting tabletop hockey games, Roch Carrier's classic story "The Hockey Sweater," and Shania Twain's NHL-inspired stage outfits, the exhibition also reminds us of how deeply hockey is woven into the tapestry of Canadian life.

In addition to the travelling exhibition, Lambton Heritage Museum has added a special local addition. Explore local artifacts and hear stories with deep ties to Lambton County. These treasures offer a glimpse into how hockey has shaped and influenced our own community, providing a richer understanding of its significance on a

local level.

The exhibition, which originates from the Canadian Museum of History, looks at how hockey has influenced our lives, and what that reveals about us as a people.

"Whether we hit the ice or cheer from our living rooms, hockey is more than just a game to Canadians. It has helped shape our history and our national identity from coast to coast to coast," said Caroline Dromaguet, President and CAO of the Canadian Museum of History.

On a local level, Dana Thorne, Curator / Supervisor of Lambton Heritage Museum, feels the exhibition will also fuel the passion Lambton County hockey enthusiasts bring to the community. "Thanks to generous contributions from our community, we've been able to include local artifacts, photographs and stories that highlight Lambton County's rich hockey history. This adds a personal touch and connects our local stories to the broader national narrative, making the exhibition even more meaningful for our visitors," she said.

Lambton Heritage Museum, 10035 Museum Rd., 8 km south of Grand Bend on Highway 21.

HOURS: Closed Sunday, Monday, Tuesday. Open 11 a.m. Wednesday to Saturday, Closes 4 p.m. except Thursday when it is open until 8:30 p.m.

CALL: 519-243-2600 or online: lambtonmuseums.ca

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MORE AROUND THE TOWNSHIP

HPAO Lambton-Kent District luncheon information

The Hydro Pensioners Association of Ontario (Lambton-Kent District) holds retiree luncheons during the year. Retirees from Hydro companies (i.e. Generating stations, Hydro One, etc.) are welcome to attend. Advanced luncheon reservations and payment for the meal must be made before the luncheon to obtain a ticket.

To make a reservation or obtain more information about these luncheons, contact Rod Honke at: honker@sympatico.ca OR call: 519-337-3293.

Preferred payment is by eTransfer, but a personal cheque can be sent to Rod Honke, 539 Cardiff Drive, Sarnia, Ont. N7S 4B8. Call Rod to notify him your cheque is being mailed.



Sombra Museum Fall Speaker Series

November 19 at 7 p.m.

SHOW-AND-TELL

Show-And-Tell with the Lambton County Archives as head archivist Nicole Aszalos shows off artifacts from the vault. Our audience members will be welcome to bring their own historical or family artifacts to show and share. Admission \$10 at the door.

sombramuseum@stclairtownship.ca

This is the final event in the 2024 speaker series, but great things are coming up for 2025. Watch this space in The Beacon for more information as it develops.

Sacred Heart Food Bank events planned this autumn/Christmas

Friday, Nov. 1: The Sacred Heart Food Bank Christmas food drive begins.

Sunday, Nov. 3: The Knights of Columbus Charity Night Auction will be held at Sacred Heart Parish Hall. Refreshments will be available at 5 p.m. with a Roast Beef Dinner at 6 p.m. and an auction beginning at 7 p.m.

Proceeds will go to Sacred Heart Food Bank.

Saturday, Nov. 16: Drop Off Canned goods and Non-perishable Food items from 10 a.m. to 1 pm. at the corner of Stoddard St. and Merritt Street in Port Lambton.

Sunday, Nov. 17: The Sacred Heart Food Bank door-to-door collection will take place from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Monday, Dec. 2: the Sacred Heart Food Bank Fowl Bingo will be held at the Sombra Community Centre at 7 p.m.

NOTE OF THANKS FROM SACRED HEART FOOD BANK

Sacred Heart Food Bank would like to thank everyone who donated labour, materials and financially towards our Capital fundraising initiative to get our new business location set-up. We hope to have the new location operating by the end of the year and we could not have succeeded without each and every one of you.

We would like to take this opportunity to also thank everyone who has supported the Food Bank through either non-perishable goods contributions or monetary donations over the years. Your continued support to the operation of the Food Bank business provides a reliable program for those in need.



Lambton Public Health says it's vaccination time

Lambton Public Health (LPH) reminds everyone that fall immunization is now available for everyone in the general public. This year there are expanded access points for COVID-19 and flu shots. Pharmacies and health care providers should now have these vaccines, allowing public health units to reach people with limited vaccine access options.

These high-risk individuals are urged to

be vaccinated: children ages 6 month to 4 years; people in or from First Nations communities; pregnant individuals; People 65 and over; and first responders.

Regarding vaccination for RSV (respiratory syncytial virus), which is currently being recommended on TV ads: LPH Supervisor of Health Promotion Matthew Butler says this vaccine should be discussed with your health care provider to see if you should receive it.

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MORE AROUND THE TOWNSHIP



Creative County Grants now accepting applications

The Creative County Grant program is now open to receive applications for the arts, culture, and heritage initiatives occurring in Lambton County in 2025.

The program invests in new and innovative projects that build cultural capacity, strengthening the creative community and enriching the quality of life for all residents.

County Councillor Brad Loosely, Chair of the Creative County Committee, explained, "These projects are essen-

tial in telling Lambton's story and building a stronger, more connected community."

Applications for the Creative County Program will be accepted online only at lambtononline.ca/creative_county until Monday, Nov. 18 at 4 p.m. The County has allotted a budget of \$75,000 in available funding for the 2025 program year.

Since the program began in 2013, it has provided financial support to more than 200 cultural initiatives across Lambton County.



Grow your business with free expert guidance

The Sarnia-Lambton Economic Partnership is here to help your business thrive in Sarnia-Lambton. Take advantage of our complimentary consultation and business visits to explore expansion opportunities and enhance your business strategy. Email: CHANTELLE@sarnialambton.on.ca to

Libraries in rural and underserved areas to offer Wi-Fi hotspots

People in rural and underserved areas will be able to find a Wi-Fi hotspot at their local library thanks to a new initiative by Lambton County Library. Paired with a library cardholder's own device, such as a smartphone, tablet, or computer, a Wi-Fi hotspot will provide reliable internet service. Wi-Fi hotspots are available for a 14-day lending period for adult and teen borrowers. The hotspots offer unlimited data access, but content restrictions are in place to comply with vendor policies. These restrictions include streaming services like Netflix, Prime, and Disney+, as well as



gambling and adult content sites.

Hotspots must be reserved and can be delivered to any Lambton County Library location for pickup.

(Library cards are free for anyone who lives, works, or studies in Lambton County, owns property in Lambton County, or lives in a First Nations community in Ontario. Identification, including proof of address, must be presented.)

Visit lclibrary.ca for more information on Lambton County Library's locations and collections.

Trust special events to Br. 447 Ladies Auxiliary



For your special event, check out the banquet facility at the Royal Canadian Legion Corunna Br. 447 hall, 350 Albert Street in Corunna. From weddings and sports banquets to corporate/business meetings and trade shows, Branch 447 Ladies Auxiliary Banquet Hall can comfortably accommodate up to 289 people; it's fully accessible with plenty of parking. The more intimate atmosphere of the Club Room offers space for 143.

Each of the recently renovated facilities offers its own L.C.B.O. licensed bar. The large industrial sized kitchen boasts an experienced staff that can handle food offerings for any occasions. To find out more regarding food and table information, please call Ladies Auxiliary President Denise Taylor at 519-491-5627. For banquet hall bookings and prices, please call 519-862-

862-

Advertisement for 'Comedy in Motion with Bob Cates' featuring a man in a suit sitting in a chair, surrounded by award logos and show details. Text includes 'FREE ADMISSION!', 'BRIGDEN COMMUNITY CHURCH PRESENTS', and 'Award-winning entertainer Bob Cates Saturday, November 16 7 p.m. show for all ages Illusions & Comedy Snacks after show 2389 Courtright Line'.

SARNIA-LAMBTON



Crime STOPPERS SARNIA-LAMBTON

Your information can be submitted by calling 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) or going online to: www.p3tips.com Callers are guaranteed 100% anonymity. Crime Stoppers does not subscribe to any call display services. If your tip leads to an arrest or charges being laid, you may receive a cash reward.

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MORE AROUND THE TOWNSHIP



Moore Optimists Christmas season is underway

The Optimist Club of Moore is once again making sure those in need throughout our community will have a reason to be merry this Christmas. Registration for a Christmas hamper will start the week of Nov. 11 and continue until Nov. 29. Walk-in donations will start on Dec. 2 until Dec. 20. And the delivery date will be Dec. 21 starting at 8 a.m.

The donation campaign kick-off of a wiener and beans lunch is slated to take place at the Corunna Legion on Nov. 14 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The OPP drive-through donation event will be held on Nov. 30 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The Optimist commitment to their community can be seen all year long. Last Christmas, the Moore Club looked after 120 families, including 120 children and 179 adults, as well as three emergency donations for house fires, and one house that was hit by a car.



Please help the Optimist Club of Moore make the season bright for those in need.

Thompson Gardens Cruickshank Centre

Join the morning coffee group at Thompson Gardens Cruickshank Centre from 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. for just a dollar. It's open to everyone who enjoys good conversation and good coffee (or tea).

GAMES ANYONE? Monday and Wednesday evenings are Games Nights. Monday is Wi virtual bowling and Wednesday is euchre at a cost of \$3 per person, to be awarded as prize money.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME! WE HAVE A LOT OF FUN. JOIN US!

EarlyON website informs parents

A EarlyON website highlights drop-in centres for young children and their families across Lambton County. It showcases the many resources offered through EarlyON Centres. These centres offer free programs and provide a place where parents, caregivers, and children from birth to age six can play and learn together. **VISIT: Earlyonlambton.ca** to explore the new website and to find your local EarlyON Centre.



STARS ON ICE holiday show in Sarnia Dec. 7

STARS ON ICE is coming to the Progressive Auto Sales Arena on Saturday, Dec. 7 at 7 p.m. Tickets are available at the Sarnia Sting box office or via www.starsonice.ca. Ticket prices start at \$39.99 for children 12 and under, and \$59.99 for adults. Visit www.starsonice.ca to unwrap your show tickets and find out more about the tour. Limited on-ice seating will be announced as an upgrade opportunity. Skaters include: Elvis Stojko, Kaetlyn Osmond, Kaitlyn Weaver & Andrew Poje, Elladj Balde, Jeremy Abbott, and Keegan Messing.

HARVEST HOME DINNER

The Wilkesport Community Centre at 1622 BABY Road in Wilkesport will once again host the popular Harvest Home Dinner. The event will feature a feast of fantastic home cooking, a 50/50 draw, a homemade pie sale and entertainment by *Girls Night Out*.

The event is slated for Friday, Nov. 1 at 6 p.m. Doors open at 5 p.m.

Tickets are: adults \$30; children age 6-10, \$20; and children 5 and under are free. To purchase, call Karen at 519-350-3198 or Gail at: 159-328-0907.



ENJOY THIS FANTASTIC COMMUNITY EVENING!



Are you looking for work?

In Corunna, help is as close as the Corunna Library, 417 Lyndoch Street on Tuesdays from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. The Lambton Works employment team can connect you with employers and local community service providers to help you reach your goals and support your well-being. Job seekers and employers can access resources and support to navigate the job market or check out Facebook:

www.facebook.com/lambtonworkcentre

No appointment is needed

Free Online Subscription Available

Email:

beacon@stclairtownship.ca

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

To find THE BEACON online, visit the township website homepage at: www.stclairtownship.ca

and click on The Beacon icon. THE BEACON is open at no charge to not-for-profits in St. Clair Township (i.e. service clubs, etc.) and groups, events, or activities that will benefit and/or interest residents of St. Clair Township.

To submit information, photos, or notices email: beacon@stclairtownship.ca

DEADLINE FOR DECEMBER IS MONDAY, NOVEMBER 11

Early submissions are welcome

AROUND THE TOWNSHIP



Corunna Legion Br.447
350 Albert St., Corunna
519-862-1240

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

- Nov. 4, 18, 25 - Pepper start 1pm
- Nov. 7, 14, 21, 28 - Cribbage start 1p.m.
- Nov. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 - Bridge start 1p.m.
- Nov. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 - Friday Night Fun
Meat Darts start 7p.m.
- Nov. 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 - Meat Draw - start 4 p.m.

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Saturday, Nov. 9 Honours and Awards  
Banquet Cocktail 5 p.m. - 6 p.m. and Dinner  
at 6 p.m. Tickets Available at Legion  
Br.447, Corunna.  
Veterans and their caregiver - No Charge  
for dinner but ticket is required.

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Monday, Nov. 11, Remembrance Day.
Parade to and service at the Clock Tower,
Lyndoch St. Corunna; Starts at 10:45 a.m.

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Saturday, Nov. 30 - Open Jam, all wel-  
come to come along and join in or listen to  
the music from 3 p.m. - 6 p.m.

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4th Annual Winter Market and Craft
Sale on Saturday, Nov. 16 starts at 10
a.m. - 2 p.m.

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Sunday, Nov., 24, Jim "Mitch" Mitchell Pro-  
gressive Euchre Tournament Register 11:30  
a.m. - 12:30 p.m., Play at 1.p.m.

*Legion membership is NOT necessary  
to enjoy the facilities.*  
Our hall is wheelchair accessible  
**ALL ARE WELCOME**  
Contact: [arodgers89@hotmail.com](mailto:arodgers89@hotmail.com)

FB: Royal Canadian Legion, Leslie Sutherland Br 447  
**More information on the above events  
is available by calling (519) 862-1240**  
or on Facebook: The Royal Canadian Legion,  
Leslie Sutherland Br.447



**Brigden Legion Br. 635**  
3021 Brigden Road, Brigden  
519-864-1395

### Remembrance Day, Nov. 11

The Remembrance Day service will be held at  
the Brigden cenotaph on Monday, Nov. 11 at 11  
a.m. The service will be followed by refreshments and fel-  
lowship at the Branch 635.

*Everyone is always welcome at Br. 635!*  
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### Sombra Museum seeks info - Sombra Rangers

\*Sombra Rangers, St. Clair River League: Do you remember  
the Sombra Rangers hockey team and/or the St. Clair River League?  
The Sombra Museum wants to hear your stories about the team and the  
league. Contact us by phone (519-892-3982), email:  
([www.sombramuseum.ca](http://www.sombramuseum.ca)), or Facebook or Instagram

### Moore Agricultural Society

#### STUDENTS, DO YOU NEED VOLUNTEER HOURS?

Students who need volunteer hours are invited to collect  
them by helping the Moore Agricultural Society (Brigden  
Fair). To discuss opportunities call 519-864-1197 or  
email: [info@brigdenfair.ca](mailto:info@brigdenfair.ca) OR  
[michelle.evanitski@brigdenfair.ca](mailto:michelle.evanitski@brigdenfair.ca)

## ~HOLIDAY SEASON DEADLINE

The holidays cause a disruption in the publication of The Beacon.  
To rectify this problem, hard deadlines are necessary.

◆ **DECEMBER 2024 BEACON DEADLINE**  
**WILL BE MONDAY, NOVEMBER , NOV. 11, 2024**

◆ **JANUARY 2025 BEACON DEADLINE**  
**WILL BE WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2024.**

**Early information/photo submissions will be welcome.**

**~ LATE SUBMISSIONS CANNOT BE ACCEPTED~**