



The St. Clair Township BEACON

Discoveries
That Matter
THE TOWNSHIP
OF ST. CLAIR

Issue 2

Volume 16

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Firefighters? You bet your life they are!

These three firefighters had different reasons for joining the St. Clair Fire Department, but they all have one thing in common - they want to be there to help and reassure people on "the worst day of their lives." Do you have what it takes to be a firefighter/emergency medical service responder? See page 11 to read more.

Bonnie Stevenson photo



MUNICIPAL NOTES

Presentation details purpose and need for battery energy storage project

Following up on the virtual public meeting regarding three proposed battery energy storage facilities in St. Clair Township, representatives from Enbridge's Renewable Energy division attended council to make a formal presentation on the purpose and need for these facilities.

The need for greatly increased energy capacity in this area was identified by the Independent Electricity Supply Operator (IESO) which oversees the power grid that keeps the province supplied with power.

The IESO has determined that southwestern Ontario will soon be receiving an insufficient energy supply to meet the demands of increased population, the electrification of certain sectors and vehicles, and economic growth, including mining, industrial, and agricultural sectors. This situation prompted the IESO to issue RFPs (Request For Proposal) inviting companies to develop strategies that could increase energy capacity for the grid. The Enbridge Renewable Energy division is currently working on a proposal that, if accepted, could allow the three battery energy storage projects in St. Clair Township to proceed.

Since the design and construction of environmentally-friendly power generation facilities would take years to engineer, build and bring online, battery energy storage facilities could be used to store energy from solar and wind sources, as well as excess energy from the grid during times of low demand.

During peak usage times when the power supply could not meet the demand, the intelligent software employed to control these "batteries" would bring them online to fill the energy deficit and prevent blackouts.

The "batteries", which resemble shipping containers, are assembled in rows of single units about nine feet in height and about 20 feet in length. They cannot be stacked due to their weight and the need for access during regular maintenance, so they will be installed in one layer on cement pads.

The properties to be used for the three projects are owned by Enbridge and some company infrastructure is already installed on them, although most of the land is currently being used for agricultural purposes.

Enbridge has been working with St. Clair Township and Lambton County to understand what permitting requirements and other policies and requirements might apply. The company has done this to ensure that if its proposals to the IESO are accepted, work can begin on the projects with minimal delay. Successful proposals will be announced on May 1.

BY-LAW REVIEW FYI

By-Law #57 of 2021

This is a property Standards By-Law amendment regarding the prohibition of Sea Cans in residential zones.

By-Law #57 of 2021 states, "Without a valid permit, storage containers, (also known as "sea cans") are not permitted in any residential zones."

More Municipal Notes, page 3



Council Meeting Schedule

All regular council meetings are open to the public, but will continue to be available by going onto the township website at: www.stclairtownship.ca.

Upcoming council meetings will be: Monday, Feb. 6 at 3 p.m., Tuesday, Feb. 21 at 6 p.m., and March 6 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 and may be subject to change.

Winter curbside parking by-law aids snow removal efforts

All vehicles, whether licensed or unlicensed, must NOT be parked on a highway, road, or street in such a manner that it interferes with the clearing of snow or any winter control operation conducted by municipal forces or contractors between the hours of 1 a.m. and 7 a.m. The by-law, which will be in effect until April 1, 2023, includes: camping trailers, commercial trailers, derelict vehicles, marine vehicles, and recreational trailers.

All obstructions including basketball nets and garbage cans must also kept off the streets during this period.

Property owners are also reminded it is against the law to shovel snow off driveways and sidewalks onto public streets. These snow piles create dangerous obstacles that can contribute to needless automobile collisions and the loss of control of a vehicle.



MORE MUNICIPAL NOTES

Exceptions allow these containers to be temporarily permitted in a residential zone when it is entirely on private property and NOT on any township street or boulevard. It must comply with site triangle setbacks for corner lots, and it must be removed within 14 days of its arrival on-site.

Anyone considering the location of a storage container on their property is urged to check out this by-law BEFORE getting one. For more information on this by-law, please contact the St. Clair Township Clerk's Department at 519-867-2021.

BY-LAW REVIEW FYI

By-Law #55 of 2017

This is a by-law to regulate Open Air Burning in the Township of St. Clair.

This by-law regulates the times during which fires may be set in the open air, and the precautions to be observed by persons setting such open air fires. These regulations are necessary to prevent fires and the spread of fires.

Such fires lead to the need for emergency response and as a result, the person or persons responsible for the fire are subject to pay a fee for emergency re-

More Municipal Notes , page 8



Notice of 2023 Budget Meeting

St. Clair Township's 2023 draft budget presentation and deliberation meeting will be held on Thursday March 9, 2023, in the Council Chambers starting at 5:00 p.m. The meeting will not be live streamed, but the public and all ratepayers are welcome to attend in person.

George Lozon,
Treasurer



St. Clair Township 2023 Interim Property Tax Due Dates

Thursday, February 23 and Thursday, April 27

Payment options available as follows:

- ✓ Monthly pre-authorization
- ✓ Pay online or by telephone at your bank
- ✓ In person at your bank branch
- ✓ Drop a cheque into the secure drop box
at Civic Centre front door
- ✓ Mail a cheque
- ✓ Debit, cash, or cheque at Civic Centre
- ✓ Credit card, debit available for a fee
on www.paysimply.ca

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If you do not receive your tax bill(s)
in the mail by February 6 please email:
taxes@stclairtownship.ca



OFFICIAL PLAN ONLINE SURVEY AND FEEDBACK OPTIONS

St. Clair's Official Plan is our community's vision for our future. The Official Plan includes policies that address important parts of building our community that affect everyone who lives and works in St. Clair, including agriculture, housing, jobs, the environment, and the economy.

YOUR INPUT IS IMPORTANT

There are several ways for you to submit your feedback on the Official Plan:

- **Online Survey:** Participate in the Township's Survey and provide your valuable feedback at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ZRVYHHV>
- **Mail:** Official Plan Review, Township of St. Clair, 1155 Emily Street, Mooretown N0N 1M0
- **E-mail:** Official Plan Review at officialplanreview@stclairtownship.ca

More information:

The Township's current Official Plan may be reviewed on the Township website at <http://stclairtownship.ca>



Public Works Department

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

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

Engineering.....519-867-2125

Website..... www.stclairtownship.ca

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

Fax.....519-867-3886

Civic Centre, 1155 Emily Street, Mooretown

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.

Overnight Parking

The St. Clair Township winter parking by-law is now in effect and will continue until April 1, 2023. Under this by-law (By-Law #5 of 2022) it is against the law to leave vehicles of any kind parked on public streets and roads overnight from 1:00 a.m. to 7:00 a.m.

Frozen Water Meter and Pipes

Preventative:

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

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

If you suspect your pipes are frozen check the following:

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

More Works page 5



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 4

Public Works Department

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.

E-waste

Not sure where to drop off e-waste? See the chart below!

Business	Contact Information
Transco	387 McGregor Side Rd. Sarnia, ON N7T 7H3 519-332-4045
Staples	1379 London Rd. Sarnia, ON N7S 1P6 519-542-4461
Best Buy	1380 Exmouth St. Sarnia, ON N7S 3X9 1-866-237-8289
Digital Friends	1121 Evett St. Unit 1. Sarnia, ON N7S 5N3 519-344-3334
Premier Recycling	325 Gladwish Dr. Sarnia, ON N7W 1A7 519-337-8999
Goodwill	1307 Michigan Ave. Sarnia, ON N7S 4M6 519-541-9273 1121 Wellington Ave. Sarnia, ON N7S 6J7 519-332-0440
Habitat for Humanity	1787 London Line. Sarnia, ON N7T 7H2 519-339-7957
Trash Taxi	800 Roper St. Sarnia, ON N7S 6K8 519-384-9595
Trijan Industries	1279 Plank Rd. Sarnia, ON N7T 7H3 519-337-3779

More Works page 6

When was the last time you checked your chimney?

Look for loose bricks, crumbling mortar, dark stains and white powder; they all indicate problems in a masonry chimney. Inside a chimney, buildups of black, tarry creosote can cause devastating house fires. Dark stains and white powder at the joints of a wood stove pipe chimney also spells trouble. **The SAFEST and most practical way to check and maintain your chimney, woodstove, and fireplace is to contact a WETT* certified Chimney Sweep.**

From page 5

Public Works Department

New Water Treatment, Transmission and Metering fixed fee

St. Clair Township has introduced a new Water Treatment, Transmission and Metering fee that now appears on your water/sanitary bill. The new water fee is being introduced to help the municipality pay for costs related to water treatment, metering and distribution facilities that, with the growing water demands and aging infrastructure, will enable the ongoing delivery of safe drinking water to every customer in St. Clair Township and ensure that it is properly metered.

Residents will notice a new line item on their bill containing the Treatment, Transmission and Metering Fee information. An average residential customer with a 3/4-inch water meter will see "Water Fixed Fee Res Qtly < 1 inch". The fee is based on your meter size and rate class. For example, residential customers with a 3/4-inch diameter meter will receive a monthly Water Treatment, Transmission and Metering Fee of \$4 (\$12 billed quarterly) in 2023. The new water fixed fee will be adjusted over the next two years until new infrastructure costs are being financially balanced with the added revenue.

MAKING A MOVE? Update your bank information

You will have a NEW ACCOUNT NUMBER FOR YOUR WATER BILL

Did you know that when you move properties within St. Clair Township you get a **NEW ACCOUNT NUMBER** for your water bill?

It is important that when you move properties you update your banking with your NEW account number so that your payments go to the correct account and don't land you in **HOT WATER!**

St. Clair Township Fire Department Awards Dinner resumes after two years

Like many organizations that had to call a halt to annual in-person activities during the pandemic shut down, the St. Clair Township Fire Department

was forced to delay its awards dinner for two years. Finally, in December, milestone service awards and special awards were handed out, and, **below left**, new recruits were welcomed to the force.

Below right: Mayor Jeff Agar and Fire Chief Richard Boyes presented retired Fire Chief Roy Dewhirst with his 50-year service award and congratulated him on his retirement. After the presentation, the former chief offered his perspectives on the changes that had occurred in the fire service from the time he served to the present day.

Lynn Lester photos



New recruits are welcomed to the team.



Retired fire chief Roy Dewhirst is honoured.

Emergency Preparedness

FACT SHEET

FOR COMMUNITY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATORS



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

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.



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

Contact OntarioOneCall before you dig!

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



FIREFIGHTERS WANTED!

The St. Clair Township Fire Department is currently recruiting men and women to join our team

All training, clothing, and equipment is provided; paid on-call firefighting and training; WSIB & insurance coverage and AD&D insurance; Employee Assistance Program; and available Rec Club membership.

REVIEW THE RECRUITMENT GUIDE AND POSTING ON:

www.stclairtownship.ca

GFO general meeting hosts special guest speaker

The Grain Farmers of Ontario, District 3 general meeting in Wyoming on January 19 was the first after two years of Zoom meetings due to COVID. (The district border reaches as far south as Walpole Island, east to Bothwell, and north to Grand Bend.)

In addition to the election of a new executive and reports from GFO departments, a special guest speaker was on hand to talk about an exciting new opportunity that will open up for local grain farmers in 2025.

Jan Westcott, president of Spirits Canada, attended the general meeting to talk about a new Crown Royal whisky distillery planned for St. Clair Township. He emphasized the mutual benefit that will be gained by building the distillery in close proximity to grain growers.

"You need two things when you're in our business," he said. "You need water and you need grain...We need what you produce and we're proud of the fact that 100 per cent of the grain we use to produce our product in Ontario comes from Ontario farmers...We principally buy corn, wheat and rye."

Royal Crown's current distillery operation is in Gimley, Manitoba. Since the company bought the brand from Seagram's, the Gimley facility has been expanded several times to accommodate the growth of the brand, and there is no further space to do so.

The \$245 million distillery will be the first one built in over 50 years and Mr. Westcott believes the move to Ontario will have several advantages. "We're a lot closer to the United States here and you get more heat days here than in Manitoba...When you look at the

starch levels and other kinds of things, the grain you grow represents a distinct advantage over Manitoba. It's a pretty big vote of confidence for this area...this is a significant historic decision," he said.

Mr. Westcott pointed out that 75 per cent of the spirits his company produces is exported, much of it to the U.S. "Crown Royal, in 2019, was the number one selling whisky in the United States. It only beat Jack Daniels by a little bit, and it goes back and forth, but it's very popular with American consumers," he said. In addition, he quoted global sales findings that placed Canadian whisky among the top five recognized whiskys in the world, along with Bourbon, Scotch, Irish whisky, and increasingly, Japanese.

A sidebar to Mr. Westcott's presentation was a story about the origin of the Crown Royal brand. He said the brand was created by Sam Bronfman, then a patron of Seagrams and later, its owner. He was a chemist who set out to create a whisky in honour of the first visit of a reigning monarch to Canada - in this case, King George VI. Aiming for a "luscious, velvety" mouth feel, he added corn to the recipe. When the resulting whisky was approved, Crown Royal was launched in 1939.

Work on the St. Clair Township distillery project will soon be in progress, with actual operation to begin in 2025. However, product from that facility will need time to age for a period of at least 5 years before it is released.

Spirits Canada is a subsidiary of Diageo, a multinational alcoholic beverage company headquartered in London, England. The company operates from 132 sites around the world, and it is a major distributor of Scotch whisky and other spirits.



Spirits Canada President Jan Westcott speaks at GFO general meeting.

Grain Farmers of Ontario, District 3, elect 2023 executive

The new executive for District 3 of the Grain Farmers of Ontario (GFO) was elected on Thursday, Jan. 19 during the annual meeting at the Wyoming Fairgrounds Hall. The 2023 executive includes: Julie Maw, Emery Huszka, Ryan Hall, Brad Langstaff, Jeff Lassaline, Jonathan McRae, Brad Podolinsky, Tom Wilson, Brian Eves, Sarah Butler, and Matt Lennon.

More Municipal Notes

From page 3

sponse services and/or face charges for activities that lead to the fire.

The Ontario Fire Code provides for the prohibition of open air burning unless approved or unless this fire involves the use of a barbecue to cook food and its use is supervised at all times.

PLEASE NOTE: This by-law includes specific provisions for open burning, including the need for a permit under certain conditions. Anyone planning to hold recreational fires, burn yard debris or field waste, or act in contravention to this by-law in any way should become familiar with and obey this by-law or check with Fire Chief Richard Boyes. Failure to take this simple step could prove costly if your open fire results in the need for fire department response and/or the loss of property or life.

By-Law FYI By-Law #12 of 2017

This is a by-law to accept and adopt an Emergency Management Program for the protection of pub-

lic safety, health, the environment, the critical infrastructure and property for the Township of St. Clair.

This by-law was enacted at the direction of the Province of Ontario. It requires that the municipality develop an emergency response plan. It also requires the Head of Council to declare an emergency and implement the municipality's emergency response plan if or when one arises, as well as the designation of one or more members of council who will have authority to act for the Head of Council in his/her absence or if he/she is unable to act.

An emergency plan is in place for St. Clair Township as directed under the Province of Ontario Emergency Management Act.

Please keep walkways and doorways clear

For safety's sake, please keep snow off sidewalks and door entries around your business or property, and use an ice treatment to ensure safe footing for yourself and others.



SLEP Digital Main Street program revitalized to help small business



Local businesses looking to grow in Sarnia-Lambton have some great news; the Digital

Main Street program is back! Main Street program is back! The Digital Main Street (DMS) program provides businesses in Sarnia-Lambton an opportunity to grow their business by implementing free digital tools and technologies to help make them the most tech-savvy and competitive businesses in the province.

Main Street program is back!

The Digital Main Street (DMS) program provides businesses in Sarnia-Lambton an opportunity to grow their business by implementing free digital tools and technologies to help make them the most tech-savvy and competitive businesses in the province.

Local business owners who have already received help from the program are excited about the way it will help grow their business. Cat Cabajar said, "With the help of the Digital Service Squad, I was able to receive help through all of Digital Main Street's available programs. The Digital Transformation Grant I was awarded will provide funds that will go towards improving my online presence."

Sarnia-Lambton Economic Partnership (SLEP) is excited to be revitalizing the Digital Main Street program. To keep up with the demand for the services and training offered through the program, two new Service Squad members have been added to help boost Sarnia-Lambton's local businesses.

CEO Dan Taylor noted, "This is a fantastic program to help businesses grow their business through the enhanced use of digital tools. Through this offering, our goal is to make our businesses more efficient, effective, and fo-

cused on what they do best. We are thrilled to add additional team members to get out in the community and provide business owners with this free support."

New Digital Main Street Service Squad members Tahreem Fatima and Kaila Borne will be visiting local businesses to bring awareness to the program, offering free one-on-one training and an assessment of your business's digital needs.

Services and training offered are:

• 360 Photos for Google Business Profiles

- Google Analytics
- Social media
- E-Commerce
- ShopHERE
- Grants

For more information about this program and how to access it, visit the DMS website at: www.sarnialambton.on.ca/dms or call 519-332-1820.

The Sarnia-Lambton Economic Partnership (SLEP) is the lead economic development agency for the Sarnia-Lambton area. Funded by the County of Lambton, the focus of SLEP is to promote the distinct advantages offered to companies and residents by Sarnia-Lambton. For more information about the Digital Main Street program, go online to: www.digitalmainstreet.ca/ontario

Clash of the Classrooms reading challenge aims to strengthen students' love of reading



Lambton County and Chatham-Kent elementary and secondary school classes and homeschool groups are invited to participate in the *Clash of the Classrooms Reading Challenge*, hosted by Lambton County Library, in partnership with Chatham-Kent Public Library (CKPL). Through this program, CKPL and Lambton County Library aim to strengthen students' love of reading.

Online registration for *Clash of the Classrooms* opened in January. Educators can register their classes

and groups for the challenge through *Beanstack*, a web-based reading tracking service that enables individuals and groups to easily track their reading progress. Until March 10, educators can use *Beanstack* to report their classes' reading progress. Classes will earn badges for reaching reading milestones and completing activities. Any time students spend reading in and outside of class during the challenge can be added to class reading totals.

Two elementary classes and one high school class from each municipality will win a pizza party for the most minutes read. In addition, one elementary school, one high school, and one homeschool group from each municipality will win a cash prize for most collective minutes read.

It's never too late to sign up! For more information on *Clash of the Classrooms* visit lclibrary.ca

Lambton County Library branches offer much more than books

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.



The latest paper edition of *The Beacon* is available at your local St. Clair Township library!



Royal Canadian Legion Corunna Branch 447 welcomes New Year with old-school levee



The Sarnia Legion Pipe Band kept spirits bright during the Corunna Legion's New Years Day levee. The afternoon party welcomed friends and neighbours to the Legion hall on Albert Street to begin 2023 in style, with a scrumptious table of munchies and beverages, and entertainment.

Right: Young Silas Belet, sporting a dashing green kilt and a sporran, plus hearing-protective ear muffs, stood with his mother to watch the pipe band play with special attention to his uncle, a piper with the band.

Left: Elleke Burke dances to the sound of a solitary piper, who just happened to be her brother, William Belet. Elleke, who took up Highland dancing when she was five, says Scottish music and dancing is a family passion.



Bonnie Stevenson photos

Local businesses eligible for grants to increase digital presence



Applications for the \$2,500 Digital Transformation Grant 4.0 are now open. This grant will help local small businesses adopt new technologies and increase their digital presence.

Local brick-and-mortar businesses can leverage this grant to increase their digital marketing, website development or improvements, new software, digital training, and hardware.

Some requirements for eligibility include being a brick-and-mortar establishment in Ontario, employing 1-50 employees and a registered business in Ontario. Additional requirements and application process can be found at sarnialambton.on.ca/dms.

These \$2,500 grants are administered by the Ontario BIA Association through the Digital Main Street program, which is run locally. Digital service advisors, Tahreem Fatima and Kaila Bourne, are leading this program locally.

Business owners who seek additional information or assistance are encouraged to reach out.

"These Digital Transformation Grants are a great program for our Sarnia-Lambton businesses to increase their digital presence and stay current," said Dan Taylor, Sarnia-Lambton Economic Partnership CEO. "It's exciting to see these businesses given the opportunity to make improvements to set them up for success in the future."

Businesses looking to participate in this program are encouraged to visit sarnialambton.on.ca/dms or call Tahreem and Kaila at Sarnia-Lambton Economic Partnership at 519-332-1820.

ABOUT Sarnia-Lambton Economic Partnership

The Sarnia-Lambton Economic Partnership (SLEP) is the lead economic development agency for the Sarnia-Lambton area. Funded by the County of Lambton, we have a focus on promoting the distinct advantages that Sarnia-Lambton proudly offers companies and residents.

ABOUT Digital Main Street

Digital Main Street is a program that helps businesses achieve digital transformation. The program is built around an online learning platform, structured training programs, and our Digital Service Squad, a team of street-level team members who help businesses grow and manage their operations through technology. Digital Main Street was created by the Toronto Association on Business Improvement Areas (TABIA) with direct support from the City of Toronto. DMS is also supported by a group of strategic business partners including: Google, Mastercard, Shopify, Microsoft, Facebook, Intuit QuickBooks, and Square. For further information, go online to: www.digitalmainstreet.ca/ontario

Beacon Bits

"You cannot get through a single day without having an impact on the world around you. What you do makes a difference, and you have to decide what kind of difference you want to make."

— Jane Goodall, primatologist, anthropologist, & activist

Firefighters reveal motivations/rewards of emergency response



By Bonnie Stevenson

Little girls are fortunate these days. Their gender is no longer limited to traditional female careers like secretarial, nursing, and teaching.

Non-traditional roles are being filled by women with ever-increasing frequency and the three women in this story personify the good sense behind this trend.

Jen Zoller, Madison Dupuis, and Savana Palominos are firefighters with the St. Clair Township Fire Department. Jen and Madison are also accredited EMS responders.

Each of these women view their career as not just a job, but a calling.

Jen, who has been with the department for 17 years, says in her teen years, she had been searching for a way to help the community and couldn't seem to settle on anything. Her neighbour was a firefighter whose children she looked after when he was called out to an emergency. "I got involved," she said. "I asked him a lot of questions and after high school, I took Police Foundations at Lambton College and joined the fire hall when I turned 18. I fell in love with it. After being with the fire department for a few years, one of my captains told me I should go back to school to become a paramedic." She took her captain's advice and is now a trained paramedic. "It was the best decision I ever made," she said. And around the station house, she is now Deputy Chief Jen Zoller of the St. Clair Township Courtright fire station as well as a full time paramedic.

Savana Palominos, the youngest of the three, says as a child she volunteered in the community and was fascinated by her father's job; he was a firefighter with the Tiverton fire department. "That's when I learned I liked to help people," she said. After moving to Mooretown, she got involved with swimming and became a lifeguard and swimming teacher who taught water safety. She was also a lifeguard at Canatara beach and was part of several life-saving efforts. "I was looking for more ways to help and firefighting ticked all the boxes for me."

At first she volunteered with the St. Clair Township Fire Department but after one year of training and six months with a pager as a member of the department, she now attends calls and also teaches fire safety.

Madison Dupuis grew up in a family that knew the full extent of the firefighter's life. To her, it seemed like her father, a 30-year veteran of the Tilbury Fire Department, was always out on calls, even during special occasions and holidays. As a child, she resented her father's job. "I didn't see it as helping the community," she said. "I saw it as taking him away from his family."

Her change of heart came during a ride on the fire truck with her dad, a practice that has since been discontinued. "I overheard a call I shouldn't have," she said. Her father received a call that a car was on fire and he had to quickly decide whether to respond and expose his daughter to a potentially horrifying scene, or take her back to the fire hall.

He took the time to drop her off at the fire hall before he responded. She was old enough to realize her dad cared deeply about her and that, to help others, he had to make difficult choices sometimes. "I knew he was just more than a hero, and I knew, in some capacity, I had to help people on

their worst day," she said. After high school, Madison joined the fire department and eventually returned to school to become a paramedic as well. "My goal was to do both. Being a paramedic has made me a better firefighter, and being a firefighter has made me a better paramedic," she said.

During the interview, the women considered what it took to do the job they were so passionate about. They agreed that a person can watch a lot of videos and have all the information in the world, but you have no idea how it will make you feel when you see the real thing. Informed commitment and eyes wide open are necessary to handle the job effectively.

The firefighters also agree a person must become a firefighter for the right reasons and remember who they're doing it for. Women may encounter the occasional push-back from a less enlightened colleague, but that's when it helps to keep your eye on the goal of helping people.

Back in the fire hall, the camaraderie is not just a superficial bond between workmates, it goes deep into the hearts of every firefighter. "Firefighting is one of the few careers where, even if you don't know each other going in, once you're here, you're family," said Madison.

Jen noted how being in the thick of an emergency created a special dynamic between firefighters. "I like the brotherhood of it; everyone comes together," she said.

To Savana, the magnetic effect of emergency response seems to create a bond any sports team would be proud of. "We're able to come together as a team," she said.

If you know a firefighter or an emergency service responder, don't forget to thank him or her for the good work they do. You're one of the people they work hard and train hard to help during your worst day.

The St. Clair Township Fire Department is always looking for new recruits. If you believe you have the drive to make a positive difference in your community, call the office at 519-481-0111 to obtain information about what it takes to become a firefighter.

Firefighters encourage mental health through Bell Let's Talk Day

Bell's annual Let's Talk Day has shone a spotlight on the growing need for mental health services and change since 2011. The St. Clair Township Fire Department observes this day to help support and inspire others to join the movement to create positive change and reduce the stigma presented by mental health issues.



The St. Clair Township Fire Department

is currently recruiting men and women to join our team

All training, clothing, and equipment is provided; paid on-call firefighting and training; WSIB and insurance coverage, and AD & D insurance; Employee Assistance Program; and available Rec Club membership.

REVIEW THE RECRUITMENT GUIDE AND POSTING ON:

www.stclairtownship.ca



HERITAGE CORNER

200 YEARS IN THE MAKING: Corunna was *Almost Canada's Capital!*

Heritage St. Clair breaking news: From the dusty halls of history to 2023, we bring you a story that will amaze and amuse you. Did you know that Corunna was once chosen to be Canada's new capital city? Read on...

...In 1823, Lord William Carr Beresford of England and his survey party arrived in awe of a mighty forest on the eastern shore of the St. Clair River, to survey a suitable location for the Capital of Canada. Beresford named this site Corunna to commemorate the Napoleonic battle of La Coruña, a seaport in northwestern Spain, where his commanding officer Sir John Moore met his demise. From the 1823 survey, the streets were laid out in a pattern similar to that of the British flag, the Union Jack. The British army officers under the command of Sir John Moore provided the names for Corunna's streets. Hill and Lyndoch Streets were to be the main thoroughfares of Canada's capital, which accounts for their extra width, still seen today. The diagonal street design from the 1823 survey converged in the centre of a ten acre open area which was named St. George's Square, in honor of the Patron Saint of England. This is where the government buildings of the United Provinces of Upper Canada (now Ontario) and Lower Canada (now Quebec) would have been built. Corunna was surveyed again in 1836. The diagonal design from the 1823 and the 1836 surveys were rejected, so another survey was ordered for 1837. The area was then designed in the style of the current town layout, a square street pattern. Building lots were then put up for sale and settlement of the town began. The village boasted two shoemakers, two harness-makers, three blacksmiths, one cabinet maker, a tin smith, a grist mill, a ship builder, and two general stores. Five hotels were also built along with two on Stag Island. In 1852 the post office was established. Since marine shipping was the main mode of transportation at the time, many docks were built to handle exports of timber, grain and potash. A railway, the Erie and Huron railway, now known as CSX, was built passing through Corunna in 1886. This railway linked Corunna with Lake Huron, Sarnia and as far south as Lake Erie,

greatly adding to Corunna's prosperity. Sadly, the proposal of Corunna as the Canada's capital was rejected, along with Toronto (York) and Kingston, because of its close proximity to the United States. However, Corunna has now become a thriving community that people continue to call home.

This year, Corunna will celebrate 200 years since Corunna was "capital of Canada" for a couple of days. A special committee has been formed to discuss ways to commemorate this brush with greatness. So far, a special logo is being designed and banners bearing that design will be posted on 36 Lyndoch Street streetlight poles to raise public awareness. A family-friendly community event plus associated activities and commemo-



The Corunna 200 Committee holds its inaugural meeting to figure out how to celebrate Corunna's near-miss to be capital of Canada. From left to right around the table: Chairman Tracy Kingston; Nicole Smith; Steve Pilke; Melissa Atyeo; Myka Barnes; Dean Esser; Ashley Ward-Robbins; Randi Rogers.

Can you reunite this adorable pair of dolls?

The Moore Museum is searching for *Bonnie*, the adorable little dolly in this picture. She's shown here with her brother, *Ronnie*, in the happy days before she went missing.

The museum would like to reunite the twins so they can be included in the museum's toy shop display.

The dollies are made from molded plastic rubber and were originally sold in pairs by the Viceroy Manufacturing Company of Toronto. The company factory on Dupont Street began producing the molded rubber toys, which were known for their bright colours, in 1930. In addition to dolls, the product line included: bath toys, balls, sand and beach toys, small cars and trucks.

If you have a *Bonnie* doll, or if you know someone who has, please reunite the twins by emailing: lwoods@stclairtownship.ca



Riverside Cemetery Board Annual Meeting

The Riverside Cemetery Board Annual Meeting will be held on Wednesday, Feb. 8 at 10 a.m. at Nautical Hills (formerly Pick & Pay Variety). Lot holders and interested parties are encouraged to attend. For more information, please contact Dennis Robinson at 519-892-3316.

HERITAGE CORNER

From page 12

A Family Day throw-back to days gone through portraits

Moore Museum Curator Fiona Doherty

Monday, February 20th is Family Day. As a newer holiday, first observed in Ontario in 2008, there are few traditions associated with Family Day; however, the tradition of taking family portraits is one that has been increasingly popular for hundreds of years.

Before the invention of photography, having a family portrait meant sitting to have one painted, an expensive and lengthy process that was out of reach for most people. Working class families might have had a silhouette of their profile cut out of black paper and mounted instead; while those slightly more fortunate might have been able to acquire a miniature of watercolours. Only the rich were able to commission their portraits in oils. Fortunately, this changed in the early 19th century. The first known photograph was taken by Joseph Nicéphore Niépce, a French inventor, in the late 1820's. The next several decades would see the development of the process of photography, from expensive and time consuming to more affordable and accessible to the average family.

The popularity of family portraits is sometimes attributed to Queen Victoria, who was passionate about photography and used it to document her life and family. The public, often looking to mimic the practices of the royal family, also embraced photography and sat for family portraits, which soon became not only a way to immortalize the family group, but also a symbol of status. As such, these pictures were taken to portray an idealized version of the sitter. Everything from the pose of the subject, their gaze and dress, accessories held or displayed around them, the painted backdrop and even the event prompting the photograph to be taken, were all carefully chosen to ensure that the portrait would reveal the subject's best features.

Although hard to believe now given the frequency with which we take photos, a family portrait would be a rare treat: cherished by the family, displayed a safe but noticeable place, and passed down through generations.

The portraits above were created with different processes.

(1) Photos like this one, mounted on hard card stock, were called **cabinet cards**. They became popular in the 1870s. Prior to this, a **carte de visite**, a smaller photograph the size of a visiting card, was often popular to trade and collect amongst friends when visiting. Cabinet cards measured 4 1/2" x 6 1/2" and declined in use in the early 1900s as personal and candid photography became more common. The photo is signed J. M. White of 938 Military Street, Port Huron.

Photos and information from Moore Museum archives

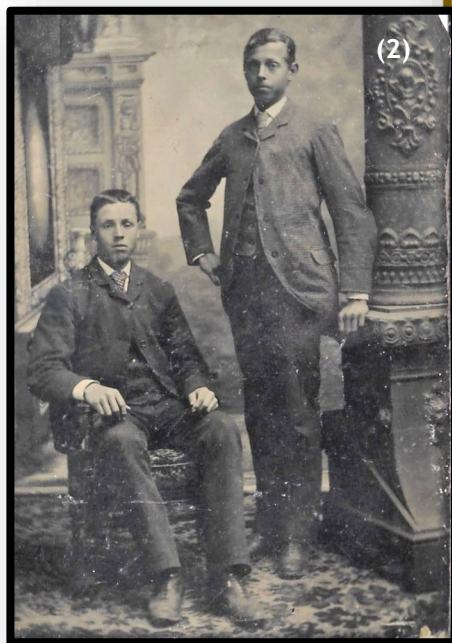
Museum train room receives donations

Curator Fiona Doherty

This past year the Moore Museum's train room was very fortunate to receive several generous donation. Two of the donations, in particular, have allowed us to plan some new exciting features for this year's Train Show on July 2/23. One of the scales modeled in the train room is "G" scale. "G", known as Garden Scale, is the largest scale operating at the Moore Museum. These trains can run inside or out, even in the rain or snow. One of the generous donations was "G" scale train and track supplies. This has allowed the Museum the opportunity to add another train

route in the Shaw Building, near the Train Room. The second donation is an impressive collection of 14 large scale models. The donation includes models of naval vessels, military rail equipment and aviation/ aerospace items. We plan to use these models as the nucleus of a new model display. In addition to Museum member's model collections, this year's Train Room and Train Show should be the best yet. So mark July 2 on your calendar for a visit to Moore Museum's annual Train Show for some new and exciting exhibits. Don't forget, you can always visit the Museum, March through to December, to tour the Train Room and the rest of this wonderful Museum.

More Heritage, page 14



From page 13

HERITAGE CORNER

Sombra Museum project will celebrate historic local barns

The preservation of old barns in
Sombra Township
By Darrell Randall

The Sombra Museum is looking at the barns again. Twenty-two years ago, a millennium project to photograph the barns still standing in the township was completed. By that time, many of the old large barns, built with beams that were likely harvested from the property owners own bush, were beginning to disappear. Modern agriculture had changed from the mixed livestock base to more intensified production of either crops or livestock. The simple explanation is that those old barns became less practical as farming changed, but they were vitally important to the agricultural process that made change possible.

The Sombra Museum is undertaking a project for 2023 that will involve a review of the year 2000 photographs and the selection of some of the barns that are still standing to be photographed again to include in a calendar for 2024. A plan is in the works to host an opportunity to visit a historic old barn, learn how it has been used in the past, and see what has been done to re-purpose the building. There will also be a presentation and discussion at the Sombra Museum's lecture series in the fall.

Some of the old barns have been modified or had additions to continue service in ways very different from the original purpose.

Many barns were simply left idle for too long; they had deteriorated to a point where there was no option left but to remove the building. It is perfectly understandable as there can be significant costs to re-roof an old barn, or to paint it, or do foundation repairs. If the owner has no use for the barn, it is not going to last. It is not an easy call to keep up a building that is no longer in use.

In the millennium year, we believe there were 240 old barns in Sombra Township. We are not including the modern livestock barns, but we do include the old barns that have had additions built because that is part of the repurposing, and it preserves the original structure.

Within the former Sombra Township over the past twenty-two years, 87 barns were demolished. Without doing a close inspection, we rated the condition of the existing barns from the car window as poor if we could see that parts of the roof or siding were missing. At the time, 35 barns were listed in poor condition of the 153 still standing. We could not see the backs of the barns or get a look at their foundations, so the estimate for barns in poor condition is likely higher than 35.

We are always impressed with the architecture of barns that are 100 years old or over. The barns had to store hay and grain to feed the horses and cattle, as well as straw to provide bedding for the animals, and all that made it necessary to construct these large buildings. A vast amount of space was required in the mow to store hay and that affected the barn size and design. It is unbelievable to think that all this was done with hand tools, horses, and the help of many neighbours.

The old barn photographs taken around the millennium year have provided us with an incredible archive for the future. We are fortunate our muse-

um volunteers had the foresight to document this important architectural history to demonstrate their importance to early farming in Sombra, because it is inevitable that the number of old barns in the township will continue to decline.

However, we are pleased to report that some barn owners are maintaining their buildings and even undertaking renovation projects and finding new ways to continue using the barns. Examples of this type of construction will remain for the near future, but will certainly not exist on every farmstead, as it once did.



Above: A community barn-raising brought neighbours and their carpentry tools to the building site. It was understood that helping one's neighbour was a way of ensuring that, if you needed their help with a build some day, you'd have a crew to help you do it.

These barns were often built without the use of nails. Stout timber frames were joined using techniques like mortis-and-tenon, tongue-in-groove, and dovetail joints, and fastened in place with long, thick wooden pegs to ensure that the barn would stand for many decades.

A: The supportive skeleton of a barn wall is raised into position during a barn-raising.

B: With the supporting frame in place, the "pre-fab" roof frame is prepared for placement.

**Don't miss any of the upcoming
Sombra Museum events.
See Around the Township, page 20,
for more information.**

Courtright Friendship Club back in action with new executive



The Courtright Friendship Club is back in operation after a long pause due to the pandemic. The group recently chose a new executive to handle club business. **Above, from left:** President Joyce Brock; Vice-president Sue Jones; Secretary Chris Lapuise; Treasurer Marilyn Johnson; and Second Vice-president Vicki McNaughton.

The Courtright Friendship Club membership meets the first Thursday of every month at 1533 Fourth Street in Courtright. Annual membership is \$10, but non-members are welcome to come out and enjoy the group's weekly card games: Euchre is played on Wednesdays at 1 p.m. and Pepper is played on Fridays at 7 p.m. at a cost of \$3 per person. Newcomers are always welcome.

Bonnie Stevenson photo

Optimist Club of Moore thanks community for success of 2022 Operation Christmas Tree

The Optimist Club of Moore and the **2022 Operation Christmas Tree** organizing committee would like to thank local individuals, groups, schools, corporations and businesses for their generous support toward our 2022 program.

Community donations, school food drives and fundraisers enabled us to deliver over 115 food and toy hampers to families with young children, ensuring they had food on the table and gifts under the tree on Christmas morning. The hamper deliveries helped to make a brighter holiday season for over 150 children, and as well, 20 full carloads of food went to our local food bank. Specific thanks to the Knights of Columbus and the Corunna Legion

for sponsoring fundraising breakfasts and luncheons, the Corunna OPP for hosting their annual donation drive-through, volunteer firefighters for their delivery assistance and fundraising, and to local schools and parents for their overwhelming food and toy donations.

On behalf of the Operation Christmas Tree organizing committee, and the recipients of the hampers and toys, we thank you for your valuable contributions this year and look forward to a successful 2023 campaign.

*Stan Marsh, President,
Operation Christmas Tree*

New Year gives birth to Baby Bookworms literacy program

The New Year gave birth to a new literacy program that will equip the parents of every new baby born at Bluewater Health with a literacy welcome gift from the community through a new literacy program: *Baby Bookworms*. Bluewater Health's Maternal Infant Child unit will be greeting each new little one with a handmade *Baby Bookworm bag* that contains:

- Tips for parents on ways to encourage their baby's pre-literacy and pre-language development
- A reading log that encourages reading right from birth towards the goal of 1000 books before kindergarten
- Resources that will connect new parents to local supports

Baby Bookworms has been made possible by the generous support of program sponsors: Shell Manufacturing Sarnia, Bluewater Power, Rotary Club of Sarnia Bluewaterland, Lambton Public Health, Lambton County Library, and Sarnia Charitable Gaming/ Jackpot City.

Program partners include: Bluewater Health, St. Clair Child and Youth Services, Pathways Centre for Children, Family Counselling Centre, EarlyON Child and Family Centres, and Lambton Learns.

Between 1,100 and 1,200 babies are born in Lambton County each year at Bluewater Health, and every child will receive this head-start to literacy and a love of reading.

Parents are their child's first and most important teacher. Reading right from birth - even just 20 minutes a day - strengthens parent-child bonds with a welcome daily routine. Reading aloud together builds a strong foundation for school-age success.



Above: One of the first new births to receive a *Baby Bookworms* bag was little Luke McVittie, son of Erika and Kyle McVittie.

Bluewater Health photo



2023 Listing of Events

Ice Derby (No Rain Date)	February 18
Hatchery Open House	March 18 - 19
General Membership Meeting	April 11
Club Spring Derby	April 22
Bluewater Anglers Salmon Derby	April 28 - May 7
Bluewater Anglers Salmon Derby Awards Night	May 17
Kids Training Day <i>Registration Required</i>	May 27
General Membership Meeting	June 13
Shoreline Cleanup	June 17
Family Fun Fishing Derby	July 8
Walleye Derby	July 28 - 29
General Membership Meeting	September 12
Next Year's 1st General Membership Meeting	January 9, 2024

All events are open to the public.
Visit our website for details on all events.



Bluewater Anglers Hatchery

Pt. Edward Waterfront Park

P.O. Box #174 | Sarnia | Ontario | N7T7H9

519-344-9821 www.bluewateranglers.com

St. Joseph's Hospice welcomes donation from Corunna Foodland

St. Joseph's Hospice in Sarnia recently received a much appreciated donation of \$2,280 thanks to donations collected through a community grocery delivery program, which is supported by Corunna Foodland.

Program operator/delivery driver Chuck Mortley says 100 per cent of the donations collected are donated to local charities. The grocery delivery program has been a great success. Chuck says over \$25,000 has been donated since the program began during the pandemic. He is the only volunteer that has remained with the program and kept it operating.

Photo from left: Volunteer delivery driver Chuck Mortley; St. Joseph's Hospice Fund Developer Lesley Coene; and Foodland representative Julie Smith.

Photo submitted



COMMUNITY CONTACT

Sacred Heart food bank - help your community thrive

The Sacred Heart Food Bank continues to aid the community all year. 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. Food bank shelves need to be replenished on a regular basis.

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. 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.

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.

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. 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.

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.

For those who face the mental health or addiction challenges, the Sarnia-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.

One Book Lambton featured author chosen

One Book Lambton, an initiative aimed at uniting people around Lambton County by reading the same book, is returning for another year with an engaging Canadian mystery. Lambton County Library recently announced *Still Life* by Louise Penny as the *One Book Lambton* selection for 2023.

Penny, a Canadian author living in Quebec, is known for her New York Times and Globe and Mail bestselling Chief Inspector Armand Gamache series. Her novel, *Still Life* has won multiple literary awards including the Barry Award for Best First Novel (2007), Anthony Award for Best First Novel (2007), CWA New Blood Dagger Award (2006), and the Dilys Award (2007). Since *Still Life* was published, Penny has won awards for others that followed in the series.

Still Life is a fictional traditional mystery novel following Chief Inspector Armand Gamache of the Surêté du Québec and his team of investigators who are called in to the scene of a suspicious death in a rural village south of Montreal. The locals are certain it is a tragic hunting accident and nothing more, but Gamache is soon certain that victim Jane Neal died at the hands of someone much more sinister than a careless bowhunter.

Still Life is available to borrow by using the online catalogue at lclibrary.ca, through the Iguana Library app, or by calling or visiting a Lambton County Library location to reserve a copy. eBooks are also available to borrow through Libby using your Lambton County Library card.

One Book Lambton encourages residents of Lambton County to read the book and participate in programs and events that explore themes of the book until April.

For more information visit:

onebooklambton.ca or @LCLibraryca on Facebook or Twitter to stay up to date on upcoming programs and events.

West Lambton Community Health Centre programs

-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.

****All programs will start January 9. ****

In Person-Low Impact Exercise:

Low impact exercises performed using body weight and resistance bands. All abilities welcome.

Brigden Low Impact: Tuesdays at 9:30 a.m. (at Brigden Fair Grounds, 2976 Brigden Road, Brigden)

Mooretown Low Impact: Thursdays at 9 a.m. (at Mooretown Sports Complex, 1166 Emily St.)

Virtual Exercise:

Virtual Low Impact Exercise: Wednesdays and Fridays (Zoom) at 9 a.m. Low impact exercises performed using body weight and resistance bands. All abilities welcome.

Virtual Shibashi: Tuesdays, (Zoom) at 11 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.

Virtual Sit or Stand Exercise: Mondays (Zoom) at 1:30 p.m. Virtual Chair Exercise: No impact exercise performed standing or seated in a chair, resistance bands are used. All exercise abilities are welcome.

Anger Management: Offered until March 2, 2023. Every Thursday night from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Identify your anger triggers, patterns, and practice positive and effective anger management skills. Registration required. **SESSION NOW FULL.**

Boosting Balance and Bone Health Held Wednesdays from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. until Feb. 15 at 460 Christina Street N. in Sarnia. This five-week exercise and education program run by an occupational therapist is designed to improve balance and strength. To register please call 519-344-3017, ext. 274.

Cooking Buddies: Children's cooking classes for ages between 6 to 12 years old. The class will focus on learning to read recipe cards, measure ingredients, try new foods, and to have fun! Classes will run monthly. **CLASSES ARE FULL AT THIS TIME!**

Coffee Time: Fridays from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. (at Cardiac Rehab Site, 460 Christina St N. Parking at the back of the building, off Maxwell). Join us for coffee and conversation, free of charge, everyone welcome! On Feb. 24, a pharmacist will speak about the 13 new RX generic brands pharmacists can now prescribe and what to do if you miss or double dose on medications.

Garden Fresh Box: The Garden-Fresh box is an inexpensive monthly food buying club for anyone who wants fresh vegetables and fruit all year round.

Line Dancing: Continues until Feb. 15 every Wednesday at Emmanuel Presbyterian Church, 120 Russel St. S. from 1p.m. to 2 p.m. All abilities welcome, no previous experience necessary. **Space is Limited!**

Master Your Health— Chronic Pain: Light exercises to improve strength and flexibility, techniques to deal with stress, pain, depression and improve sleep, fatigue management, pain medications treatments. This is 6-week virtual program began in January. Call 519-786-4545 ext. 327 for more details.

Meditation: Held Mondays 10 a.m. to 11a.m. (at West Lambton CHC). Increase self esteem, improve concentration, lower blood pressure, reduce stress and anxiety, emotional balance.

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

Virtual Caregiver Support Workshop: This workshop is set for Feb. 6 at 2:30 p.m. As a caregiver, you are well versed in what others need. Now, learn tools and resources to help take care of yourself. To register, call 519-344-3017, ext. 277 or email: revera-ert@nlchc.com.

Young Parent Prenatal: Continues until Feb. 7 from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. (at West Lambton CHC) A four-week program facilitated by Lambton Public Health learning with other young parents about labour and delivery, relationships, nutrition, caring for your baby and more! For more information or to register please call LPH at 519-383-3817.

North Lambton Community Health Centre is proud to be accredited through the Canadian Centre for Accreditation, a third-party review based on accepted organizational practices that promote ongoing quality improvement and responsive, effective community services.



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

Lambton County Developmental Services

VALENTINE CHARITY

AUCTION

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11TH 2023

5:00PM DOORS & SILENT AUCTION TABLE OPEN

6:00PM ROAST BEEF DINNER

LIVE AUCTION TO FOLLOW!

The Brigden Fairgrounds

\$40.00 PER TICKET

\$75.00 PER COUPLE

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PRO BUILDING
MATERIALS

SMM
SHELLEY MACHINE & MARINE

McCallum
Build and Renovate Inc.

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One person at a time.

**TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE AT LCDS ADMINISTRATION OFFICE
(339 CENTRE STREET, PETROLIA)
OR BY PHONE 519-882-0933**

AROUND THE TOWNSHIP

Corunna Legion to host events/activities

Royal Canadian Legion Br. 447 Corunna will host the following activities.



Legion Br.447 meetings

- *Branch 447 General Meeting, Tuesday, Feb. 7 at 7 p.m.
- *Branch 447 Ladies Auxiliary Meeting, Tuesday, Feb. 14 at 6:30 p.m.
- *Branch 447 Executive Meeting, Tuesday, Feb. 21, 7 p.m.

Regular Legion Br. 447 Activities

Every Monday is Pepper at 1 p.m.
 Every Thursday is Cribbage at 1 p.m.
 Every Friday is Bridge at 1 p.m.
 Every Saturday is Meat Raffle at 4 p.m.
 Every Friday - Fun Darts at 7 p.m.
 Monday, Feb. 6, 13, and 27 - Corn Hole at 6:30 p.m.
 Every Tuesday - SLDL Pub Darts at 7:30 p.m.

Legion Br.447 Special events

- *Saturday, Feb. 4: Barb Griffin/Twisted Sisters Ladies Dart Tournament - registration at 10 a.m. and play at 11 p.m.
- *Friday, Feb. 8: Trade Show-gold and silver appraisal.
- *Pub Night, Sunday, Feb.12 , 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. with entertainment by JST4FN
- *Saturday, Feb. 25: Open Jam Session at 3 p.m.

MAS Country Jamborees continue

Country Jamborees are back at the Brigden Fairgrounds Exhibition Hall. The next Jamborees will be held on Sunday, February 12 and on Sunday, March 12 (Daylight Sav-



ings time begins) Doors open at 12 noon and music starts at 1 p.m. Cash bar will be available. Tickets for the ham and Scalloped potato dinner at 5 p.m. with dinner will be \$15 per person at the door. A \$5 cover charge will apply for those who are just coming for an afternoon of music and fellowship. Bring your partner, your dancing shoes, and your love of music. Musicians are welcome.

Sombra Museum family fun time

On Saturday, Feb. 18 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. come out to Sombra Museum for music and fun family activities. The February Beacon will carry all the information you need to enjoy this welcome break from your winter hibernation.

Sombra Museum family activities day

The Sombra Museum will host an afternoon of music and family activities on Saturday, Feb. 18 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Cost is \$5 for ages 13+, \$3 for ages 3-12, 3 and under are free.

Sombra Museum Lecture Series speaker

The next Sombra Museum Lecture Series presentation on Tuesday, Feb. 21 at 7 p.m. will feature speaker Greg Hilliard who will tell the story of the wreck of the Manasoo and reveal its Lambton County connections. Tickets will be \$10 per person at the door.

World Day of Prayer service planned

The World Day of Prayer service will be held at Knox Moore Presbyterian Church at 1354 Rokeby Line on Friday, March 3 at 1:30 p.m. Everyone is invited to attend and learn about the women in Taiwan who have prepared the service. A time for food and fellowship will follow the service.

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 the groups weekly card games. Euchre is played on Wednesdays at 1 p.m. and Pepper is played on Fridays at 7 p.m. The cost per game is \$3 per person.

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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 via e-mail at:

beacon@stclairtownship.ca

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

EARLY DEADLINE for submissions is FRIDAY, February 17 by noon.

PLEASE NOTE: Early submissions will be greatly appreciated

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