



# The St. Clair Township BEACON



Issue 12

Volume 16

December 2023



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**Best wishes to all for a  
Merry Christmas and a New Year  
blessed with peace and happiness**  
*~St. Clair Township Council and Staff*

## **Corunna Legion Craft Sale attracts elves from North Pole**



Two elves from the North Pole, in Corunna checking out the Santa Claus Parade route for Santa's visit, recently stopped by the Corunna Legion Craft Sale with some samples of their own wares. They were overheard discussing the lack of snow on the ground. Apparently, Santa just had flashy new alloy racing runners installed on his sleigh and he'll be disappointed if he has to put the old wheels back on instead. (It was later discovered the elves were actually Sombra residents John and Sandra Hyland. John is a 25-year member of the Royal Canadian Legion Leslie Sutherland Br. 447 Corunna.)

*Bonnie Stevenson photo*

**PUBLISHING DEADLINE NOTICE: EARLY DEADLINE FOR THE  
JANUARY 2024 BEACON will be Monday, December 11 by noon.**



# MUNICIPAL NOTES

## Official Plan update public meeting

At the November 20 meeting of St. Clair Township Council, the fourth step in a five-step assessment process was taken to bring the township's official plan into conformance with the official plan of the County of Lambton.

During a public meeting, Kenneth Melanson, Manager of Planning and Development Services for Lambton County, explained how the functions of all three tiers of government must agree. "Everything in your official planning act has to conform with the Planning Act, the provincial planning statements, and the County Official Plan as well as other acts of legislation in the province," he said. He added that's why the current effort to update the township's official plan is being done.

"There have been a lot of changes made to the official planning act...there have been three changes so far this year and more are lined up for next year," he said. "We're never going to get ahead because as soon as we get ahead, we're behind again, but we do our best to keep it up to date."

To clarify the need for an official plan, Mr. Melanson described the *planning horizon*, which is now set to 25 years in the future. "It's where you want to see industrial, residential, economic policies, and urban design policies, where buildings are being placed on land - it's a bunch of different things," he said. "Quite simply, it's what you want to be when you grow up at the end of your planning horizon if all things play out equally."

One of the areas the new official plan must address is the unexpected level of growth that has happened in 11 Lambton County municipalities, including St. Clair Township. This could have potential impacts on land supply.

Mr. Melanson says when the last land supply analysis was done, using a formula incorporating statistics gathered from the most recent census results and other factors, Lambton County was not growing. "When the County plan was done, we were in a low-growth scenario," he said.

The original population range established in the Official Plan for St. Clair Township was between 12,536 to 16,876. But when the 2021 census was done, the actual population count was well beyond the high end of that

*See more Official Plan update, page 3*

### 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, please remember they must adhere to these by-laws and decisions when trying to assist you.

Please be courteous to them. Remember that they are doing their job, even if the answers you receive in the course of your interaction are not satisfactory to you. Instead, ask them politely who would be able to help them and how to contact them.

*Please treat our staff the way you would like to be treated.*



## 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](http://www.stclairtownship.ca).

Upcoming council meetings will be: Monday, Monday, Dec. 4 at 3 p.m. and Monday, Dec. 18 at 6 p.m. First meeting in 2024 is Monday, Jan. 15 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 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, 2024. 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.



## Pheasant/rabbit hunting licenses

The Township of St. Clair pheasant/rabbit hunting licences are now on sale. They will be available at the following locations: Corunna Home Hardware, Corunna; Brigden Feed Mill; and St. Clair Civic Centre, Mooretown. The fees will be \$5.00 for a resident license and \$8.00 for a non-resident license. They will be on sale until Feb. 28, 2024. Applicants must apply in person and multiple licenses will not be issued.

Jeff Baranek  
RPP Director of Administration/Clerk Deputy C.A.O

*More Municipal Notes, page 3*



The St. Clair Township Beacon is issued monthly by St. Clair Township as a public service to township residents. Production by Bonnie Stevenson.







## MORE MUNICIPAL NOTES

*Continued from page 2*

projection. And with the expanding population came the need for more dwelling units, which the Official Plan had set at 55 units per year. This was not sufficient to accommodate the actual population growth, so more units were needed. Addressing council, Mr. Melanson said, "I can tell you the township is still batting above that 55 number. That takes your land supply down over the planning horizon."

Referring to the unforeseen growth, Mr. Melanson said, "This is growth that has never been anticipated, so now, we need to reassess those numbers, then take them and figure out the actual land supply we need for each municipality. The question becomes, is that draw-down enough that you suddenly need expansion or not?"

The disparity between the projected population growth and projected dwelling unit count, and the actual population and dwelling numbers, will be considered before a decision can be made as to whether or not a boundary expansion is needed.

"Even though population expectations are exceeded, and dwelling units exceeded, it may not be enough land supply within the planning horizon to warrant expansion," said Mr. Melanson. "That's what the County Official Plan is going to look at and assess," he said. "It depends on what the output is through the formula established by the province."

Mr. Melanson noted that once the County Official Plan has been developed, it must receive provincial approval. "Any County Official Plan update has to go to the minister," he said. "It typically takes nine to 14 months to get approval." He added that estimate was based on the current processing rate.

During the meeting, concern was raised regarding the potential threat of expansion into woodlots. It should be noted Lambton County currently has a woodlands conservation by-law in place.

"If expansion was needed, we would only move the boundary line to the developable area and protect those woodlots," said Mr. Melanson.

He assured meeting attendees that any issues concerning St. Clair Township would be brought to council for discussion. Boundary expansion will be determined through the County Official Plan update; an expansion is not guaranteed.

During the meeting, Corunna resident John Flesher cited the comfortable feel he and his family experienced in Corunna, but he had noticed the growth the town had already experienced had made it less safe. As an example, he cited the speeding traffic along residential streets.

A member of the Heritage St. Clair Committee, Tracy Kingston, commented that some members of the committee are concerned about possible additional responsibilities the plan may assign to them. They feel they may not be able to efficiently accommodate those responsibilities.

Zoom presenter Karina DeLorey, calling on behalf of a couple in their 80s who are waiting to have a property issue resolved, asked if the issue could be expedited. Mr. Melanson responded that a resolution to the issue will be a lengthy process that cannot be rushed.

As updates to the respective official plans are considered and developed, Mr. Melanson says there may be 'firsts' arising from them. "Part of it is going to be that when we're doing these site-by-site considerations, for the first time in the County Official Plan, put some policy in the Plan that will then flow down to yours," he

said. An example of a 'first' he gave involved a scenario where the County's expectations, when presented to council, do not go ahead if council is uncomfortable with those expectations. "We're going to treat everybody independently," he said.

Mr. Melanson informed those present at the meeting and those watching via Zoom, that notes were being taken regarding comments and concerns raised by the public, whether in person or in written form.

The final step in the official plan process, which began in September with the draft official plan policies and mapping, is expected to take place in December with the adoption of the Official Plan.

### Diageo Crown Royal project moves ahead

A request for a conditional building permit, submitted by Diageo Canada, the group that owns the Crown Royal whiskey brand, was considered by council at the Nov. 20 meeting. The request was made to allow the project to proceed while the details of a design revision are being finalized.

The design revision involves a 30 per cent reduction to the gross floor area of the distillery building, a reduction that will address operational and functional requirements that have recently emerged. The company assured council the distillery redesign does not impact or change the surrounding layout as it was proposed in the original submitted site plan.

Council approved the conditional permit, which will apply to the first barrel warehouse building. If all goes as planned, the permit will allow the construction process to begin around March, 2024.



Above: The lobby of the St. Clair Township Civic Centre became a display floor for the Nov. 6 Official Plan Open House. Visitors were able to view changes of the updated official plan and discuss and clarify them with St. Clair Township Council members and staff. Topics discussed at the open house were later reviewed and considered during the follow-up public meeting held on Nov. 20 during the regular council meeting. Kenneth Melanson, Manager, Lambton County Planning and Development Services, attended the meeting to present the 'journey' the official plan had taken to date and what was to come.



## MORE MUNICIPAL NOTES



### Ontario Public Library Week includes everybody

A special guest reader recently took on story time duties at the Corunna library during *Ontario Public Library Week*. On behalf of Lambton County Council, St. Clair Township Mayor Jeff Agar read some Toddler Tales to the "Littles". At the conclusion of the story, Mayor Jeff and Librarian Tim Hough enjoyed sharing playtime with the young audience, who showed their appreciation with a drum and maraca concert.

Ontario Public Library Week is an annual event to raise awareness of the valuable role libraries play in the lives of the people of Ontario, regardless of their age.

**Your Lambton County Library branch has more than just books. Check it out and be amazed.**

*Susan Agar photo*



### Age-Friendly helps adults 55+ access services

Challenges faced by older adults are often difficult to handle, both for themselves and for those who care about them. Aging at home is a preference for many, but self-sufficiency issues can make that choice impossible.

The goal of *Age-Friendly Sarnia-Lambton*, for adults age 55+, is to make access to community supports and health services easier. It's a con-

venient, easy one-stop access point for finding over 600 social and health supports in Lambton County.

For more information about *Age-Friendly Sarnia-Lambton*, go online to: [agefriendly.sarnialambton.ca](https://agefriendly.sarnialambton.ca)

For those who prefer to speak to someone about local supports, please call: **The Older Adult Care Pathway**, or 519-336-3600 or 1-888-347-8737.



### NOTICE - ZION CEMETERY

St. Clair Township has submitted by-laws to the Registrar of the Funeral, Burial, and Cremation Services Act, 2002. Any interested parties may contact Jeff Baranek at (519) 862-2021 for information, or to make copies. By-laws or amendments may be reviewed or copied at 1155 Emily St. Mooretown.

These by-laws are subject to the approval of the Registrar, Funeral, Burial, and Cremation Services Act, 2002. Telephone: Bereavement Authority of Ontario, 647-483-2645 or 1-844-493-6356.



### NOTICE - BRADSHAW CEMETERY

St. Clair Township has submitted by-laws to the Registrar of the Funeral, Burial, and Cremation Services Act, 2002. Any interested parties may contact Jeff Baranek at Tel: (519) 862-2021 for information, or to make copies. By-laws or amendments may be reviewed or copied at 1155 Emily St. Mooretown.

These by-laws are subject to the approval of the Registrar, Funeral, Burial, and Cremation Services Act, 2002. Telephone: Bereavement Authority of Ontario, 647-483-2645 or 1-844-493-6356.



## Please keep fire safety in mind this holiday season



For many of us, the holidays involve friends, family, festivities, and food. However, these celebrations can pose some fire risks at home. While fire can happen anywhere, at any time, it most often strikes when we let our guard down - when we're distracted by the hustle and bustle of the holidays, by our cellphones, by the kids, or by the doorbell.

All it takes is for a pot to be left on the stove, or a candle left burning unattended, and a family's holiday celebrations can turn into tragedy.

Enjoy a fire-safe holiday season by following these tips:

- Always stay in the kitchen when something is cooking on the stove.
- Place lit candles away from anything that can burn and out of the reach of children and pets where they cannot be knocked over. Remember to snuff out candles before leaving the room or going to bed. Consider using battery-operated or electric flameless candles.
- Drink responsibly. Attempting to cook or smoke while under the influence of alcohol is too often a contributing factor in fatal fires.
- If you have a real Christmas tree, be sure the base of its trunk is always immersed in water to prevent it from getting too dry.

- Check all sets of decorative lights before putting them up and discard any sets that are damaged.
- Test your smoke and CO alarms every month and install new batteries if needed.
- Develop and practice a home fire escape plan so that everyone in your home knows what to do if the smoke or CO alarms sound.

~Deputy Chief Andrew McMillan

*The St. Clair Fire Department firefighters wish everyone a safe and happy holiday*



## Recent report identifies farmer mental health crisis in Canada

Bonnie Stevenson

A report, co-released recently by the National Farmers Union (NFU) and the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives (CCPA), identifies factors affecting the mental health of many farmers. The report was developed through the use of interviews with agricultural producers and surveys in which they participated.

*Field Notes: Looking Upstream at the Farmer Mental Health Crisis in Canada* identifies several factors that contribute to this crisis, such as the precarious nature of farming and the pervasive economic uncertainty farmers face due to challenging weather conditions brought on by climate change. The report says, "Farmers are on the front line of the climate change and it's exhausting and traumatizing at times." The lack of economic stability and the imbalance in revenue between farmers and large corporations is also noted. The report says "All of the risks of producing food is put on the farmers, while all of the protection and profits go to large corporations. It makes the hard

*work feel futile some days."*

The report makes six recommendations that could help decrease the severity of the stressors agricultural producers face.

1. Implement policies which enhance economic stability for farmers and farm workers.
2. Continue and enhance supports to farmers transitioning to sustainable farming practices.
3. Include food sovereignty in the federal goals for agriculture.
4. Rebuild rural infrastructure.
5. Address on-going discrimination and violence in the farming sector.
6. Expand access to mental health care for farmers and support existing farm organizations that are providing support, advocacy, and research.

The report can be found online at:

[www.nfu.ca/campaigns/mental-health/](http://www.nfu.ca/campaigns/mental-health/)

Appreciate and support our agricultural community.

### CRIME STOPPERS SARNIA-LAMBTON

Your information can be submitted by calling 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) or going online to: [www.p3tips.com](http://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.



# 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](mailto:stclairpw@stclairtownship.ca)

[www.stclairtownship.ca](http://www.stclairtownship.ca)

<http://fb.com/stclairtwppw>

## Water utility appointments require 48 hours notice

St. Clair Township By-Law 26 of 2023 requires at least 48 hours notice in advance of scheduling appointments with the Public Works department to avoid service fees.

## Attention: Changes to Yard Waste Collection

### BRUSH COLLECTION CANCELLED

Due to operational budget cuts, St. Clair Township will not be offering any brush collection for the Spring or Fall collection going forward. Christmas tree collection will remain the same for January, 2024.

## Suggested locations to take brush

Location	Address	Hours	Phone Number	Fee Required
Transco Recycling	387 McGregor Side Rd. Sarnia	Monday-Friday 7:00am-5:00pm Saturday 8:00am-12:00pm	519-332-4045	10 bags of compost \$20.00 \$2.00 per bag roughly (subject to change)
Curran Recycling	526 McGregor Side Road Sarnia	Monday-Friday 7:00am-5:00pm Saturday 8:00am-2:00pm	519-332-0849	\$65 metric ton \$20 if under 500 lbs
Waste Depot	456 McGregor Side Road Sarnia	Monday-Friday 6:00am-8:00pm Saturday 7:00am-3:00pm	519-333-8252	\$70 per metric ton (by weight)
Wallaceburg Leaf and Yard Depot	505 Water St. Wallaceburg	Monday-Saturday 8:00am-noon	519-627-8101	\$30.00 per cubic meter or \$2.00 per bag



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](http://circularmaterials.ca/ON)





## Public Works Department

### Yield Right-of-Way at Pedestrian Crossings

Drivers are required to yield the right-of-way to a pedestrian who is standing at the curb waiting to cross. When a pedestrian is crossing on the roadway within a pedestrian crosswalk, the driver of a vehicle approaching the crosswalk:

- **MUST stop** before entering the crosswalk
- **MUST not** pass another vehicle already stopped at the cross walk
- **MUST not** proceed into the crosswalk until the pedestrian is no longer on the roadway

When a vehicle is approaching a pedestrian crosswalk and is within 30 meters of it, the driver of any other vehicle approaching from the rear must not allow the front of their vehicle to pass beyond the front of the other vehicle.

Pedestrians must not leave the curb or other place of safety at a pedestrian crosswalk and walk, run, or move into the path of a vehicle that is so close that it is impossible for the driver of the vehicle to be able to safely stop.

**Failing to yield at a pedestrian crosswalk, school crossings, and crossovers is an offense that can lead to a fine of up to \$1,000 and four demerit points.**



## 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

## *No changes needed for new 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](http://emterra.ca), and click on "Customer Service" section.
- For further recycling issues and concerns, residents may also contact "Circular Materials" by email at: [customerservice@circularmaterials.ca](mailto:customerservice@circularmaterials.ca)

## **Gotta' Dig? 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 tragedy.

Contact [OntarioOneCall.ca](http://OntarioOneCall.ca) or call 1-800-400-2255 and be sure what and where the buried hazards are.







## Public Works Department

### Active Transportation Master Plan Survey requires input



St. Clair Township is developing its very first *Active Transportation Master Plan* to improve conditions for people as they walk, bike or wheel through the community. We want to hear from you! We want to learn more about how you use the Township's trails, sidewalks, and cycling routes, what types of changes you would like to see.

And how the Township and our partners can make walking, cycling and wheeling more convenient, comfortable, and enjoyable.

Complete the project survey at: [www.stclairtownship.ca/atmp](http://www.stclairtownship.ca/atmp) and sign up for project updates to stay informed as the project moves forward. Please take the survey and be part of the plan.



### Power Outage/Emergency Line

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

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

### SCRCA Seeking Landowners interested in Tree Planting and Stewardship Projects

Stewardship and tree planting specialists at the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority (SCRCA) are planning for the 2024 season and are looking to engage landowners interested in implementing projects on their properties.

"Stewardship and tree planting initiatives provide many benefits for both the environment and the property in general", said Jessica Van Zwol, Healthy Watershed Specialist at the Authority. "We can assist landowners and provide both technical and financial support for a number of different projects."

The St. Clair Region watershed consists of over 80% agricultural land. Stewardship and tree planting projects implemented on farmland not only improve habitat for many plants and animals to thrive, including Species at Risk, but can also help reduce soil erosion, protect rural water quality, increase crop yields, and potentially reduce the amount of fertilizer needed to ensure a successful harvest. The Authority supports a variety of projects including wetland creation, tree planting, cover crops, erosion control structures, and planting riparian buffers.

"The success of our tree planting and stewardship program is really due to the commitment of landowners throughout our watershed," explained Jeff Sharp, SCRCA's Conservation Services Specialist, "Since 1980, we have planted over 4 million trees and created 100 hectares of wetland

thanks to property owners taking on naturalization projects."

Interested landowners are welcome to connect with Authority staff who can help manage projects from start to finish and answer questions related to funding sources and grants that are available to offset eligible project costs. Presently, funding is available through the SCRCA for several stewardship projects including the creation of shallow wetlands, the planting of riparian buffers to separate agricultural fields from watercourses, the installation of erosion control berms and **grassed waterways** (see below) in farm fields to slow runoff, and the installation of fencing and alternative water sources to limit livestock accessibility to local waterways.

For more information and to discuss potential projects, contact Jessica Van Zwol, Healthy Watershed Specialist ([jvanzwol@scrca.on.ca](mailto:jvanzwol@scrca.on.ca); (519) 245-3710, ext. 241) or Jeff Sharp, Conservation Services Specialist ([jsharp@scrca.on.ca](mailto:jsharp@scrca.on.ca); (519) 245-3710, ext. 217).

**Grassed Waterway:** Allows for the movement of water through an agricultural field without causing soil erosion or nutrient inputs into local waterways.

SCRCA photo



### Moore Optimists host Santa and Mrs. Claus during the couple's visit



Above: At the parade muster area in the No Frills parking lot, the Jr. Mooretown Flags Under 9, Tier 2 players, with coaches Jay, Matt, and Justin, waited for their cue to hit the road.

Right: Young skaters from the Moore Skate Club enjoyed their ride in the parade.





# Corunna200 takes final bow at Corunna Clock Tower park



Above: Tracy Kingston, the mastermind behind the *Almost Canada's Capital/Corunna200* event, addresses the crowd during the dedication of historic plaques and storyboards at the Corunna Clock Tower. Visible on the clock tower wall is the commemorative Corunna200 logo plaque and the storyboard (waiting under the blue cover for its unveiling) that explains the events that resulted in Ottawa beating out Corunna and several other candidates for the position Canada's capital.



Above: The logo that became a common sight during the summer of 2023 now has a permanent place on the Corunna Clock Tower

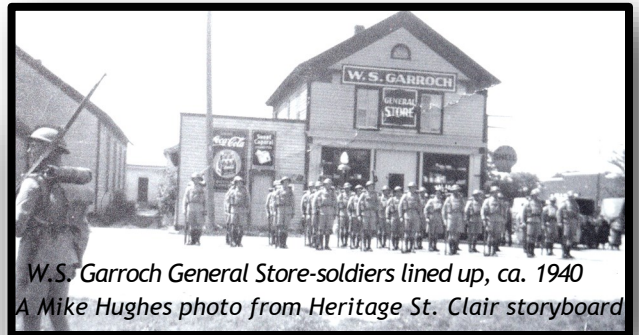


Above: Unveiling one of the photographic storyboards researched and designed by Heritage St. Clair are RBC storyboard sponsors, from left: Shelley Podolinsky, Tyler Haddon, and Jill McCallum.



The storyboards we see at intervals along the St. Clair River Trail, as well as significant places throughout St. Clair Township, are developed by the dedicated members of Heritage St. Clair. Their work introduces us to our community's past by putting the stories of significant people, events, and locations there before our eyes.

Above: Standing beside one of the new storyboards unveiled on Nov. 1 are some members of Heritage St. Clair, including, from left: Tracy Kingston, Dave Pattenden, Bob Goodearle, Dave Taylor, Jan Smith (artist assistant) and Paul Smith (graphic artist). The Smiths have been responsible for producing several of the Heritage St. Clair storyboards, including the ones at the St. George's Square parkette on Hill Street.



W.S. Garroch General Store-soldiers lined up, ca. 1940  
A Mike Hughes photo from Heritage St. Clair storyboard

Below: A large rectangular cube has been custom-designed and fabricated by CIMS and donated to Corunna200 for use as a time capsule. The rugged time traveller will be stuffed with items and images from 2023 and sealed, to be opened in 50 years. Some items have already been collected but appropriate contributions are still being accepted.

**Anyone who has a good idea about what to put into the time capsule OR has an item that represents life in 2023 and wants to donate it, should contact Tracy Kingston at: [Corunna200@gmail.com](mailto:Corunna200@gmail.com)**



CIMS Ltd. Corunna staff pose with the time capsule that will carry items into 2073.



-From Heritage St. Clair storyboard

Stag Island Pavillion, Credit: Moore Museum, Mooretown ON

Left: In Corunna, if you stood on Ferry Dock Hill and looked over at Stag Island on a warm July evening in 1928, you might have heard an orchestra playing and seen happy tourists dancing on the terrace.





Please  
show you  
care.

# CHRISTMAS CARING

Please support these Christmas efforts in your community

Yes, the time is at hand when our kids begin to dream of yuletide sweets, Santa Claus, and the goodies he might bring, while their parents dream of budget-busting shopping trips and scale-busting holiday feasting with friends and family.

But some families can only dream of a merry Christmas. The volunteers at the Sacred Heart Food Bank and Operation Christmas Tree work hard to help these families and individuals, and they are hoping the kindness and generosity their communities have shown in the past will continue this holiday season. Donations of canned and non-perishable food will be much appreciated by the following organizations.

**In St. Clair Township's Sombra Ward, the Sacred Heart Food Bank Annual Food Drive** will be collecting canned goods and non-perishable food items.

### \*Financial Donations appreciated!

**E-transfer to [Sacredheartfb2@gmail.com](mailto:Sacredheartfb2@gmail.com)** (Charitable receipt for donations over \$20. Please include your mailing address in the comment section if you qualify for one.)

**Cheques** - payable to Sacred Heart Food Bank can be mailed to Susan Moran, 4138 St. Clair Parkway, Port Lambton, ON, N0P 2B0

**\*AND DON'T MISS THE ANNUAL CHRISTMAS FOWL BINGO at the Sombra Community Centre on Monday, Dec. 4 at 7 p.m. at the Sombra Community Centre!**

Proceeds will benefit the Sacred Heart Food Bank.

For information, contact: \*Frank Johnston 519-677-5328

\*Claudette Johnston 519-677-5410

\*Susan Moran 519-677-5410

**In St. Clair Township's Moore Ward, Operation Christmas Tree (OCT)** will once more be making the holidays brighter for those in need thanks to the Optimist Club of Moore.

### FOUR WAYS TO DONATE

1. **Drop off** -Canned goods, non-perishable food and new, unwrapped toy donations can be delivered to Emergency Services Building, 392 Lyndoch St. (Hill St. entrance at northeast corner of Hill & Lyndoch Streets), Corunna from Dec. 4 to Dec. 15, 2023, Monday to Friday from 9:00am-3:00pm.
2. **E-transfer** donations can be sent to [operationchristmastree@outlook.com](mailto:operationchristmastree@outlook.com) (enter home address in message box for taxable receipt)
3. **Cheque donations** can be mailed to Operation Christmas Tree, P.O. Box 32, Corunna, N0N 1G0.
4. **OPP Donation Drive-through** event on Saturday, Dec. 2, 2023, 10:00am-2:00pm. Cash/cheque donations, toys, can goods and non-perishable food.



### HOW TO REGISTER TO RECEIVE SUPPORT

Register at the Operation Christmas Tree headquarters at the Emergency Services Bldg., 392 Lyndoch Street, Corunna Nov. 13 to Dec. 1, 2023, Monday to Friday from 9:00am-3:00pm. (Wheelchair accessible). Visit [www.operationchristmastree.ca](http://www.operationchristmastree.ca) for eligibility requirements.

### FUNDRAISING EVENTS FOR O.C.T.

#### \*OPP donation drive-thru

**Saturday, Dec. 2 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.**

**\*Knights of Columbus Fundraiser Breakfast**

**Sunday, Dec. 3 from 9 a.m. to noon**

**\*Nook Hair Salon to host O.C.T. fundraiser**

**Saturday, Dec. 9 from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m.**

**For these event locations see page 19**

### Note of Thanks Sacred Heart Food Bank

The Sacred Heart Food Bank wishes to thank everyone who participated in the annual Canned Food Drive.

This year's collection far exceeded previous years and was made possible through the many volunteers, along with the generous food donations and monetary donations throughout the community.

*Once again, thank you for helping those in need.*

### A Christmas Beacon Bit

What is Christmas? It is tenderness for the past, courage for the present, hope for the future. It is a wish that every cup may overflow with blessings rich and eternal, and that every path may lead to peace.

Agnes M. Pahro  
Writer/Artist

## Recycle used batteries at Lambton County Libraries

Lambton County Library has partnered with *Call2Recycle Canada, Inc.* to host battery recycling collection boxes in select Lambton County Library locations to encourage the proper disposal of used batteries.

Anyone wishing to recycle batteries must prepare them for recycling by following the *Call2Recycle* guidelines, which include bagging the battery in a provided

clear bag or taping over the battery's terminals before depositing them in the *Call2Recycle* collection boxes. Lambton County residents can drop off their used single-use and rechargeable household batteries (weighing up to 5 kg each) at the following Lambton County Library St. Clair Township locations: Brigden, Corunna, and Petrolia.



## Wilkesport autumn celebration brings community together at *Harvest Home*

The Harvest Home event in Wilkesport was a great success, with around 200 people attending the event. Event spokesperson Betty Lauwereys said, "It went very well and was a great fundraiser for the Wilkesport Community Centre, Wilkesport United Church, and the Sombra Museum's Smith log cabin preservation project." The autumn feast of beef, chicken and all the trimmings was served buffet-style with a variety of homemade pies as dessert. The event featured a silent auction and a live auction conducted by John Van Klaveren of John Van Klaveren Auctions Inc.

*Below: With a stage full of auction items, Bill Myers shows off one of the delectable pies on offer as Auctioneer John Van Klaveren encourages the bidders.*



*Right: Harvest Home is always a great place to catch up with friends and acquaintances. Doing some catching up are, clockwise from left: Sue Agar, John DeMars, Malcolm Rogers, Mayor Jeff Agar, and Janice Miller.*



## Hundreds of shoppers crowd the Corunna Legion craft sale

*Below: Over 500 shoppers descended on the Corunna Legion hall on Nov. 18 to check out the huge selection of handiwork, needlework and crafts on display. The event raised \$1,500 to help the Legion continue its valuable community support work. Right: Customer Andrew Lackie of Corunna found the Tastee Treats Bakery table irresistible and ended up with two bags full of sweet treats that were sure to please his family.*

*B. Stevenson photos*





## Eyes of the fallen watch as Corunna Legion Br. 447 colour party parades to honour them



B.Stevenson photos

**Top photo:** The faces of fallen soldiers from the area gaze down from the flags atop Corunna's street light poles as Parade Sgt.-At-Arms Bob Chambers leads the colour party down Lyndoch Street to Clock Tower Park.

**Above left:** A salute in the silence of the moment is offered by, from left: Cadet Corporal Middough; Branch 447 Veterans Services & Indigenous Veteran Shaun Osborne; Parade Sgt.-At-Arms Bob Chambers and Legion member Logie McKenzie.

**Above right:** Padre Paul Woolley leads the service in prayer and offers a solemn truth; "In war, there are no unwounded soldiers."

**Left:** Representing the people of St. Clair Township, Mayor Jeff Agar pauses before the wreath he has just placed for them at the cenotaph.





## Remembrance Banquet and Awards Ceremony recognizes those who choose to serve



**Bob Churchill receives Lifetime Membership**

At the Nov. 4 Remembrance and Awards Banquet held by the Royal Canadian Legion Leslie Sutherland Br. 447, several of their members were recognized for their years of service and acts of distinction. Presentations of the Years of Service awards revealed the heartening fact that the choice to serve the community is a long-lasting notion for many people. Awards varied widely, from five years to 50 years, an inspiring benchmark three Legion members achieved this year.

One of the three, Bob Churchill, not only received a commendation for his readiness to turn his hand to any task, he was also awarded the title of Lifetime Member.

Bob was surrounded by family members who shared the happy event, although a few were unavoidably absent.

**Left: Bob displays his Life Member plaque and his 50 year membership certificate. Joining him for a group photo, clockwise from his right side: Rosemary Churchill, Bob's wife; Susan, Dan, Meghan, Dylan, Addison and Jeff Peters.**

### Dignitaries gather at Remembrance and Awards Banquet

The head table at the Nov. 4 banquet was lined with dignitaries from government and from Royal Canadian Legion leadership. Among the guests who attended the event were veterans from several theatres of conflict, including Viet Nam and Afghanistan.

A piper led the Br. 447 Colour Guard into the hall to mark the beginning of the event and the evening was filled with speakers who reminded those present that there is no glory in war, just broken spirits and broken lives.



### Media Award presented to *Beacon Bonnie*

During the Nov. 4 Remembrance Banquet at Royal Canadian Legion Leslie Sutherland Branch 447 in Corunna, St. Clair Township Beacon Editor Bonnie Stevenson, (aka. *Beacon Bonnie*.) was recognized for the editorial support the publication has offered the branch for the past 17 years.

On her way to the front of the room to receive the award, and dumbfounded by the honour, Stevenson's brain became a rapidly-revolving bingo cage full of colliding word balls, none of which came to rest in her mouth. The best she could do was express her heartfelt gratitude and dash back to her seat.

Editor's Note: *Had the "word balls" coalesced into a coherent statement, Beacon Bonnie would have said, "Receiving this Media Award is one of the singular moments of my life and a treasured validation of the work I do. On the job, I make fantastic friends like the ones I see here in this room and I enjoy the sense of acceptance and purpose The Beacon and my writing bring to my life. This plaque and the words upon it mean the world to me."*

**Left: Vanessa Barnes, Br. 447 Secretary and Public Relations Officer, with Bonnie Stevenson.**

*Photo by Tracy Kingston*



## Community in action all year 'round

### SEW CRAZIES USE THEIR SKILLS FOR THE *BABY BOOKWORMS* PILOT PROJECT



Literacy Lambton, along with community sponsors including Shell Sarnia Manufacturing, Bluewater Power, Rotary of Sarnia-Bluewater, and several others, engaged in a pilot literacy project in 2023. The Baby Bookworms

Project ensures that every baby born at Bluewater Health receives a literacy welcome. Thanks to a large group of sewing enthusiasts, including our local **Sew Crazies group**, shown left, each baby is gifted with a beautiful handmade bag that holds board books, a *1,000 Books Before Kindergarten* keepsake log, and information on how to contact local resources new parents need. So far, 1,200 bags have been made, with Sew Crazies contributing almost 100 of them. *The Sew Crazies were featured in a previous Christmas Beacon for their donation of expertly made children's winter pajamas to Operation Christmas Tree.*

The Baby Bookworm pilot project has been so successful that it will continued in 2024 with the help of Bluewater Power, Sarnia Community Foundation, and the 100 Women Who Care Sarnia-Lambton group.

**Any individual or group wanting to sew bags for the 2024 project can contact Tracy Pound at Literacy Lambton, [info@literacylambton.org](mailto:info@literacylambton.org) or by calling 519-332-4876.**

*Submitted photo*

### Thompson Gardens garage sale brings in \$800 for St. Andrew's food bank

The Christmas spirit got an early start at Thompson Gardens when a group of the residents, led by Jean Pretty, decided to raise some money for St. Andrew's Food Bank.

Their efforts, which included a garage sale, a hot dog sale, and a gift basket raffle, were rewarded with an \$800 pay day.

A cheque for that amount was recently presented to food bank volunteer and St. Clair Township Councillor Holly Foster. The money will be used to buy grocery gift cards.

Holly expressed appreciation for the assistance the food bank receives from a volunteer called Daisy. This special helper is a woman who had a difficult start in life and who has had the courage to lift herself up with the assistance of community friends and organizations. She now volunteers at the food bank as a way to show her appreciation for that assistance and to help others who are experiencing similar challenges.

**Photo right: Several Thompson Gardens fundraisers including, from left, John and Jean Pretty, and Beth Nutt, right, present St. Andrew Food Bank volunteer Holly Foster with a cheque for \$800.**

*B. Stevenson photo*



### Corunna Legion lunch benefits *Operation Christmas Tree*

The annual Corunna Legion Br. 447 lunch to benefit Operation Christmas Tree (OCT) yielded \$3,500 in donations. The money will be used toward the preparation of Christmas hampers of food and toys for the families and individuals in St. Clair Township who are struggling to make ends meet.

Optimist Stan Marsh, President of Operation Christmas Tree, says about 50 people attended the lunch of hot dogs, beans, and dessert squares. He acknowledged Foodland for supplying the food, the Auxiliary kitchen staff that prepared it, and the Corunna Legion for donating the hall for the event.

**Left:** Legion President Shawn MacNeil presents a cheque for \$1,000 OCT President Stan Marsh.

**Right:** OCT President Stan Marsh receives a donation from Maureen McKellar on behalf of the Knox Moore Church Ladies Aid group.

*Donations are still being gladly received until Dec. 15, Monday to Friday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at OCT's collection space in the St. Clair Township Emergency Services Building in Corunna (corner of Lyndoch and Hill Streets) The hampers will be delivered the morning of Dec. 16.*

**See page 11 for more information**



# COMMUNITY CONTACT

## FOOD BANKS NEED OUR HELP

**Please remember others this Christmas**

### Sacred Heart food bank helps community thrive

The Sacred Heart Food Bank continues to aid the community address 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.

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

#### Operation Christmas Tree/ Food Bank

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 fund-raise 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.

### 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 7 p.m. The cost per game is \$3 per person.

### Mental health group & 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 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.

## 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.

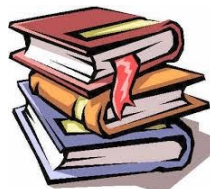
**\*Courtright** 519-867-2712): Tuesday, Saturday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.; Thursday, 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.

**\*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.



*Get your copy of the **ST. CLAIR TOWNSHIP BEACON** at your local library!*



## 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](mailto:adinell@nlchc.com) to register and/or receive the Zoom link.

### West Lambton CHC Health Promotion Calendar In Person Programs

**Brigden Low Impact:** This class is held Tuesdays and Thursdays at 9:30 a.m. at the Brigden Fair Grounds, 2976 Brigden Rd, Brigden.

**Mooretown Low Impact:** This class is held on Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. at the Mooretown Sports Complex, 1166 Emily Street in Mooretown.

**Anger Management:** This class is full, but names are being accepted for future programs. \*This class runs every Thursday night from 6-7:30 p.m. at West Lambton CHC. Identify your anger triggers, patterns, and practice positive & effective anger management skills. To register for the next session, call 519- 344-3017. ext. 237 or email [adinell@nlchc.com](mailto:adinell@nlchc.com) .

**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. For information, call 519-344-3017, ext. 237 or email [adinell@nlchc.com](mailto:adinell@nlchc.com). Orders are accepted in person with payment. Cash ONLY please.


**Meditation:** Wednesdays from 10-11 a.m. at West Lambton CHC. Increase self-esteem, improve concentration, lower blood pressure, reduce stress & anxiety, emotional balance. To register, call 519-344-3017, ext. 237 or email [adinell@nlchc.com](mailto:adinell@nlchc.com) .

### Virtual Programs

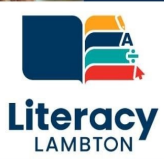
**Eat Well, Live Healthy Wellness Workshop:** Virtual discussion with our Registered Dietitian to discuss healthy eating, nutrition tools, resources and more! For more information about dates/time and to register, call 519-786- 4545, ext. 307.

**Heart Healthy Living:** Virtual discussion with our Registered Dietitian to discuss 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:** Tuesdays & Fridays at 10:15 a.m. for a 75 min class. A combination of movements used in Shibashi and Sit or Stand classes. Shibashi, a combination of 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. It can be performed with the options of either standing or sitting in a chair. Resistance bands are used. All exercise abilities are welcome. To register, call 519-344-3017, ext. 237 or email [adinell@nlchc.com](mailto:adinell@nlchc.com)



A book  
is a gift  
you can open  
again  
and  
again.



# GIVE-A-BOOK

## Campaign 2023

Donations of new unwrapped books accepted at:

- Coles (Lambton Mall)
- The Book Keeper (Northgate Plaza)
- Literacy Lambton (180 N. College Ave.)

Or help us buy books in needed age-groups by making a donation @ [www.literacylambton.org](http://www.literacylambton.org)

Help us to share the love of reading with thousands of children in our community.

## November 1- December 11



The *Trees of Remembrance*, planted in 2014 by the Bluewater Area of Scouts Canada to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the beginning of WWI, blaze with autumn colour. This poignant aerial drone photo was captured by photographer Shaun Antle. A tree will be planted to represent every person from the community who dies in the line of military service.



From page 19

## MORE AROUND TOWNSHIP



*Brigden*  
**Winter**  
**Brigden Fairgrounds Exhibition Hall**  
**Market**  
**Saturday Dec 9th 2023**  
**10am - 3pm**

## Hockey Canada's National Women's Team takes on United States in Sarnia

**GO, CANADA, GO!**

Hockey Canada's National Women's Team will play against USA Hockey Women's Team at the Progressive Auto Sales Arena (Home of the Sarnia Sting) on Saturday, Dec. 16 at 5 p.m. Sarnia is on the seven-game **2023-24 Rivalry series** tour that includes other Canadian locations including Kitchener, Saskatoon and Regina. Tickets for the Dec. 16 game are now on sale online at: [HockeyCanada.ca/Tickets](https://HockeyCanada.ca/Tickets) at a cost of \$30 per ticket.




**LEO**  
**Wallaceburg Delivery Opportunity**  
**Help others stay in their homes!**  
**Deliver Meals on Wheels**

<b>You Give:</b>	<b>You Get:</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A few hours a week</li> <li>• Reliable commitment</li> <li>• A friendly smile.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Joy in helping others</li> <li>• New friendships</li> <li>• Schedules that meet you where you are able.</li> <li>• Small reimbursement</li> </ul>

**Interested:**

- 519-845-1353 ext 301
- [volunteer@leohelps.ca](mailto:volunteer@leohelps.ca)



**COME, ENJOY TIME TOGETHER**  
**LEO**  
**New Diner's Clubs**  
**2nd Tuesday - Sombra**  
**3rd Wednesday - Corunna**  
**Both events will be from:**  
**11:30 to 1:30**  
**including soup and sandwich lunch**  
**Guest Speakers, Games, and More**

**CONTACT: DELLA**  
**519-845-1353 EXT 301**  
**REGISTER AT LEAST ONE WEEK BEFORE THE EVENT.**  
**See below to register**

### Lambton Elderly Outreach (LEO) offers seniors Diner's Club

Lambton Elderly Outreach (LEO) Diner's Club offers a hot meal and entertainment in Corunna at Wellings from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. once each month at a cost of \$17 per person. In Sombra, the Diner's Club offers a monthly light lunch and entertainment from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. for \$12 at the Sombra Museum Cultural Centre hall. **REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED TO ATTEND.**

**To register for lunch or for more information, contact Della at 519-845-1353, ext. 301 or email: [dcroxford@lambtonelderlyoutreach.org](mailto:dcroxford@lambtonelderlyoutreach.org)**



**Moore Sports Complex—What's happening?**  
**Check out our schedule at:**  
**[stclairtownshipcommunityservices.ca](https://stclairtownshipcommunityservices.ca)**  
**for more information about: aquatic; health and fitness adult programs; children/youth recreational programs; school programs; and much more!**



**MORE AROUND THE TOWNSHIP**

From page 20

**Annual Sacred Heart Food Bank Fowl Bingo**

The **FOWL BINGO** to benefit the Sacred Heart Food Bank will be held on Monday, Dec. 4 at 7 p.m. at the Sombra Community Centre, 152 Smith Street. Admission is \$5 to participate in 15 regular rounds for chicken and 3 Special rounds for turkey. Come and enjoy this evening to help the Sacred Heart Food Bank.

The Sacred Heart Food Bank operates year 'round and donations are always appreciated to help meet the community's needs. Donations of food and money are still being accepted for the food bank's Christmas efforts. Frank Johnston, a volunteer who oversees this seasonal collection, says food can be dropped off on the porch of his house at 426 Broadway Street in Port Lambton. Cheques can be made out to: Sacred Heart Food Bank and sent to: P.O. Box 65, Port Lambton, ON. N0P 2B0. Please include your name and full address so that a receipt can be sent to you.

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

**Operation Christmas Tree fundraisers****OPP DONATION DRIVE-THROUGH**

OPP (Corunna Detachment) Emergency Services Building, 392 Lyndoch St., Corunna, Saturday, Dec. 2, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. (Santa and Mayor Jeff will be there!)

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FUNDRAISER BREAKFAST**

(Eat-In or Take-Out) Sunday, Dec. 3, from 9 a.m.-Noon at St. Joseph's Parish Hall, 346 Beresford Street, Corunna. (To order call 519-862-5785).

**NOOK HAIR SALON TO HOST O.C.T.BENEFIT**

The Nook Hair Salon in the Corunna Pharmacy building will hold a grand opening on Saturday, Dec. 9 from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. Donations to Operation Christmas Tree will get visitors a draw ticket for prizes and proceeds will go to Operation Christmas Tree or Corunna Food Bank.



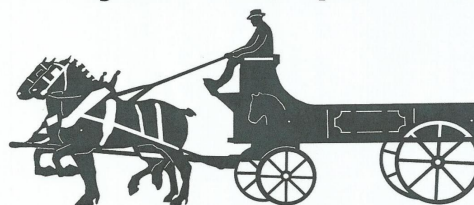
**CORUNNA LEGION**  
LESLIE SUTHERLAND  
BRANCH 447  
350 Albert Street  
Tel: (519) 862-1240

Corunna Legion Hosts a "PAY IT FORWARD" Event

**FREE WAGON RIDES**

With a food or cash donation to  
St. Andrews Church Food Bank

This is an outdoor event please dress accordingly

**Saturday Dec. 2/23 5pm – 7:30pm**

**FREE HOT CHOCOLATE,  
HOT CIDER & HOTDOG  
DONATED BY  
Nicole Smith  
Exit Realty**



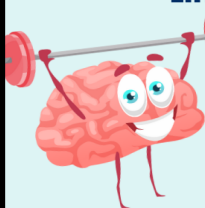
**SANTA PICTURES WITH  
CASH DONATION TO  
FOOD BANK DONATED BY  
STUDIO IN THE ATTIC**

**TRAIN YOUR BRAIN CORUNNA****Corunna Legion**

350 Albert St. Corunna

**Thursday nights 6-7:30pm**

Eight week program from Jan 18-Mar 7

**Limited spots. Don't delay!**

- FREE program for grades 3 & 4 students
- Build math and reading muscle
- Grow confidence as a learner
- Have fun

**Register online:****[www.literacylambton.org](http://www.literacylambton.org)**

Sponsored by:

**Worley**  
energy | chemicals | resources

**Legion**



**Literacy**  
LAMBTON

**The Fun-tastic Cornhole Tournament is back!**

Back by popular demand, the Royal Canadian Legion Leslie Sutherland Br. 447 at 350 Albert Street in Corunna will again host a cornhole tournament on Jan. 6, 2024. Play will start at 10 a.m. with 40 teams going head-to-head on multiple sets of boards with double elimination. Entry fee is \$40 per team (due at registration) and pre-registration is required. The event will feature cash prizes, a cash bar and food, and door prizes from local sponsors.

For more information or to register,  
contact: Russ Lloyd (519) 312-5241 or email:  
[Russlloyd94@gmail.com](mailto:Russlloyd94@gmail.com)



**LEGION**





## AROUND THE TOWNSHIP



Please support  
your local  
food bank.

**PUBLISHING DEADLINE NOTICE:** The JANUARY 2024 DEADLINE FOR THE BEACON will be early to allow for Christmas holiday business closings.



### Corunna Legion Br.447

350 Albert St., Corunna  
519-862-1240

#### SCHEDULE OF EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

**Membership is NOT necessary to enjoy the facilities.**

**Wheelchair accessible**

#### Regular Legion Br. 447 Activities

Every Monday at 1 p.m. sharp - Pepper  
Every Thursday at 1 p.m. sharp - Cribbage  
Every Friday at 1 p.m. sharp - Bridge  
Every Saturday at 4 p.m. - Meat Draw  
Every Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. - Chair Yoga  
Every Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. - Beginners Yoga  
Call the Corunna Legion to register (519) 862-1240. Arrive 15 minutes before actual start time. Wheelchair Accessible

### Legion hosts a Pay-It-Forward event

**Saturday, Dec. 2, 5 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.**

Free wagon rides with food or cash donation to St. Andrews Church Food Bank. Fun, food and pictures with Santa!

**This is an outdoor event. Please dress for the weather. See poster, page 19.**

**FB: The Royal Canadian Legion**

**Leslie Sutherland Br.447**

**All welcome! No membership required to enjoy the facilities!**

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

**Everyone is always welcome!**

Dec. 2 - No Meat Raffle  
Dec.7 - Euchre 7 p.m.  
Dec. 15 - Pool at 7 p.m.  
Dec.16 - Meat Raffle at 4:30 p.m.  
Dec. 22 - Pool  
Dec.29 - Trivia

We are open Thursday, Friday, and Saturdays from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

On meat Raffle Saturdays, we open from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. 9:00 p.m. closing only if there are no patrons.

\*\*\*\*\*

### \*Brigden Country Jamborees resume

Polish up your dancing shoes and mark your calendar to be at the Brigden fairgrounds exhibition hall **every second Sunday of the month** through April, 2024. The December Jamboree will be on Sunday, Dec. 10 with doors open at 12 noon and music starts at 1 p.m. And at 5 p.m., enjoy dinner. Dinner tickets are available at the door.

### Benefit Country Dance with Joan Spalding

Popular country entertainer Joan Spalding will headline an evening Country Dance with net proceeds to benefit St. Joseph's Hospice on Saturday, Dec. 2 from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. The event will be held at the Wyoming Legion on Erie Street in Wyoming. Admission will be \$10 per person at the door.

### Brigden Winter Market

The Brigden Winter Market at the Brigden fairgrounds exhibition hall will be held on Saturday, Dec. 9 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Have a great shopping experience finding perfect gifts for those "hard-to-buy-for" people on your list from over 30 vendors. Check out the Brigden Market Facebook page for up to date listings.

More Around the Township, page 19



### Online Subscription Available

A free subscription to  
The St. Clair Township Beacon  
is available by emailing:

[beacon@stclairtownship.ca](mailto: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](http://www.stclairtownship.ca)  
and click on The Beacon icon.

#### Items that qualify for publication

THE BEACON is open at no charge to not-for-profits in St. Clair Township (i.e. service clubs, youth/seniors groups, agricultural groups, charity initiatives, etc.) AND groups, events, or activities that will benefit and/or interest residents of St. Clair Township.

To submit information,  
photos, or a notice, email:  
[beacon@stclairtownship.ca](mailto:beacon@stclairtownship.ca)

**DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS  
EARLY JANUARY DEADLINE  
IS Monday, December 11  
by noon.**

PRINTED BEACON now available at all St. Clair Township library branches and at the St. Clair Township Civic Centre at front door.