



THE ST. CLAIR TOWNSHIP BEACON



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MAY 2024

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PLEASE
continue to
support your
local food bank.
YOUR
donations
make a
positive
difference
all year long.

Sacred windows cast last light



Bonnie Stevenson photo

Christ Church Anglican in Corunna was recently demolished, but its beautiful stained glass windows have not perished with it. Before the church building came down, handy Moore Museum volunteers, like Joe Doherty shown above, used their skills delicately to liberate the fragile glass panes from their frames. The windows now reside at Moore Museum where they will be repurposed. See *Heritage Corner*, page 10.



MUNICIPAL NOTES

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.

Upcoming council meetings will be:

Monday, May 6 at 3 p.m. and

Tuesday, May 21 at 6 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.

Courtright church building to house child care

St. Andrew's United Church has a new owner. The church, and a child care provider associated with Kiddie Korner Coop, will now become tenants. Kiddie Korner, a registered non-profit that has been in operation in Petrolia for over 50 years, is also associated with the child care facility that began operation in Brigden last year.

Ross George, one of the owners of the Brigden facility, and now the co-owner of the Courtright church building, says concerns over parking at the new facility will not be an issue because the building has its own paved parking lot where children can be dropped off and picked up. He also assured council all play equipment and the fence that will protect the children while they are outside will be removable. The only permanent structure required by the child care operation will be a shed to house the removable items.

At the final public meeting concerning the township's Official Plan, the subject of child care and the need for more licensed spaces was addressed. The plan includes updated policies that allow child care facilities in most areas of the township excluding hazardous or natural heritage sites. They are broadly permitted and can be regulated as to the size, scale, and location through the zoning bylaw.

Official plan final meeting highlights

During a presentation by Mary Lou Tanner of HPG Planning Solutions Inc., major changes to the St. Clair Township Official Plan were presented to council.

Mrs. Tanner's summary covered topics including second dwelling units, short term vacation rentals, prime agricultural lot size, and areas within the township targeted for urban settlement expansion.

More Municipal Notes page 3

St. Clair Township 2024 Final Property Tax Due Dates

Thursday, July 25

Thursday, September 26

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

Please be courteous to Township staff

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

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



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, page 3

MORE MUNICIPAL NOTES

Continued from page 2

The new Green Energy Objectives policy was outlined. Mrs. Tanner explained that historically, the province made the decisions and set legislation regarding green energy, but in 2018-2019 the role was handed over to municipalities. "Green Energy projects will require rezoning. It is your decision," she said. "We have identified a criterion to assess any such (rezoning) application...It's important to have that provision in the official plan, also the criteria for managing green energy projects."

Councillor Langstaff cited the existing township policy that makes the municipality an "unwilling host" to wind turbine developments. He asked that the proposal wording be revised to direct potential projects away from prime agricultural land.

Regarding short term rentals, Mrs. Tanner said, "They are increasingly an issue in just about every community we've worked in. The Official Plan is providing clear direction that short term vacation rentals will be three guest bedrooms maximum and the owner is to reside on site. Anything greater than three bedrooms requires a zoning bylaw amendment application."

She pointed out short term vacation rentals that accommodate large groups "tend to become party houses." She added there are areas in the township where these short term vacation rentals are inappropriate, and they can be

prohibited through the zoning bylaw.

To increase future residential developments, Deputy Mayor Steve Miller and Councillor Pat Brown supported the adjustments to urban settlement areas but reasoned that such developments should be built on sustainable areas that are serviced or can be extended sustainably.

The draft official plan includes a policy regarding cannabis facilities, which can be directed to either an industrial or agricultural designation. Municipalities cannot prohibit land uses, but these facilities can be directed to areas that are least offensive.

Heritage St. Clair Chair Tracy Kingston requested clarification regarding proposed heritage policies and was assured by Mrs. Tanner that the township would not be forced to designate properties as *Heritage*. Council was reminded they recently took the position that Heritage St. Clair could not designate any properties. Should that decision be changed, Council would need to reconsider it and inform the committee.

St. Clair's Official Plan proposes the lot size for an agricultural parcel be set at 30 hectares. It is currently 40 hectares in the Lambton County Official Plan, but through work with the Province of Ontario, it is agreed that 30

More Municipal Notes page 4

Moore Community & Recreation Foundation Grant Deadline

The Moore Community & Recreational Foundation was established to enable those who wish to really make a difference in their community.

The Foundation is a non-profit charitable organization dedicated to an improving quality of life in this area and an ever-increasing pride in their community by its citizens. The Foundation is independently administered by a Board of Directors.

The deadline for applying for the Moore Community & Recreation Foundation grants is May 31.

Should you require further information please contact George Lozon, Treasurer at 519-867-2024, Ext. 1244 or 1-800-809-0301.

For forms and further information go to stclairtownship.ca, click on RESIDENTS and then Moore Community & Recreational Foundation.

Does your canine companion have a 2024 dog tag?

Please make sure your dog(s) has a 2024 St. Clair Township tag. Application forms are available online at: stclairtownship.ca or tags can be obtained at the St. Clair Township Civic Centre, 1155 Emily Street, Mooretown. If there are changes/errors on your renewal notice, please call the township immediately at 519-867-2021.



Reporting a loose dog?
St. Clair Township now has a 24/7 dog catching line! Please call 519-312-

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.

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.

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MORE MUNICIPAL NOTES

hectares will be appropriate for St. Clair Township. "Agriculture must continue to be the principal use of the property and needs to be limited in size; there are provincial guidelines that help applicants look at "limited in size" and what that means," said Mrs. Tanner. "It is important to provide flexibility to farmers in terms of how they look at what products and crops they want to grow and how they develop their businesses, making sure we provide opportunities for innovation as well."

The financial growth of the township and future growth for residential areas is also covered by the Official Plan. "We're in a situation where St. Clair is growing quickly and there are areas that have potential for future growth," said Mrs. Tanner. "The county is going to be doing an updated growth management study, so through the official plan work we've identified this as an important priority in this community."

She noted that as the work is reviewed at the county level and returned to council for future updates, there will be opportunities for St. Clair Township to grow.

"We've put this policy in place to allow you, in our opinion, to have a faster update after the county updates its official plan," said Mrs. Tanner.

Note: These are just highlights of the Official Plan. Many other topics are included in the complete OP, which must be approved by Lambton County Council.

Amendments denied for Pt. Lambton development

Amendments for a proposed development for property located at Indian Road and St. Clair Parkway have been denied. Official Plan Amendment 28 and Rezoning Application R19-23 were denied as the application is requesting too many deviations from development standards. Council agreed this type of development is not consistent or compatible with existing development in the area, and the high-density encroachment into an Environmental Protection zone poses adverse environmental threats and creates an irreversible precedent. A recorded vote on the motion to deny the amendments was requested by Mayor Agar and the motion was carried unanimously.



Spring fire safety tips from St. Clair Fire

Andrew McMillan, Deputy Fire Chief, Fire Prevention

With the arrival of warmer weather, it's time to start spring cleaning. And while you're making out your to-do list, add these fire safety tips to ensure your home is safe from fire hazards. By following these simple tips, you will reduce the risk of a fire breaking out in your home.

- *First, cleaning your grill is crucial. After months of not being used, it's important to inspect it for any damage and clean out any debris. In addition, make sure to position your grill away from your house and any combustible materials.
- *Another important tip is to clean out your clothes dryer. Regularly clean your clothes dryer's lint trap. Lint is highly combustible and can ignite a fire if not removed. Also, clean your dryer vent and hoses once a year to prevent any excess lint buildup or blockages.
- *Make sure your address number is visible from the road to help first responders locate your home easily. Remove any foliage or debris that could obstruct the view.
- *Check and test your smoke and carbon monoxide (CO) alarms regularly. Replace batteries immediately if they are dead or the alarm is chirping. Smoke alarms more than 10 years old and CO alarms more than 5 to 7 years old are required to be replaced.
- *Finally, it's important to practice your home escape plan so everyone in the household knows what to do if the smoke or CO alarm sounds.

Emergency preparedness starts with you
be prepared



make a plan



build a kit



stay informed

ontario.ca/beprepared



Volunteers needed!

The St. Clair Region Conservation Authority is looking for volunteers to run fundraising Bingos that will help fund local environmental initiatives. The games will be held at Riverview Gaming/Jackpot Time in Chatham Kent. Volunteers must be: age 18 and over; live in or near Chatham; trained or willing to complete training from CGCK (<https://cgamingck.ca/training>); able to commit to two to three two-hour sessions per month; and willing to abide by the Riverview Gaming Compliance Policy and Code of Conduct. Initiatives funded by the bingos include: outdoor environmental programming; the monitoring and safeguarding of vital species at risk in our watershed; and other important projects.

For more information or to volunteer, please contact Ashley Fletcher at: afletcher@scrc.ca



Public Works Department

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

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

After Hours Emergency 1-888-441-4204

(519) 867-2993 (T)

(519) 867-3886 (F)

stclairpw@stclairtownship.ca

www.stclairtownship.ca

<http://fb.com/stclairwppw>

Water utility appointments require 48 hours notice

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

Clear the Road

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

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

Hydrant Flushing

Public Works will be undertaking annual flushing of fire hydrants connected to the St. Clair Township Water Distribution system, during the hours of:

7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
April 2024 – November 2024

During this maintenance procedure you may notice some water discolouration using your taps, flushing toilets, doing laundry etc., as some sediment may be drawn into your residence. We recommend that you run the cold water tap for a few minutes or until the discolouration disappears.

Sewer Main Flushing

Public Works will be flushing sewer mains connected to the St. Clair Township Sewer System, during the hours of:

7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
April 2024 – November 2024

During this maintenance procedure, you may notice some gurgling noises in your drains. If conditions Persist after 24-48 hours of normal use, please notify Public Works at 519-867-2993

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, and click on "Customer Service" section.
- For further recycling issues / concerns residents may also contact "Circular Materials" by email at: customerservice@circularmaterials.ca



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

A SHORT RINSE GOES A LONG WAY

Rinsing food residue from containers prepares them to be recycled.



Learn more: circularmaterials.ca/ON

See More Works Department, page 6

From page 5

Public Works Department

New Where to Recycle website

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

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

RPRa (Resource Productivity & Recovery Authority) - RPRa’s ‘Where to Recycle’ map displays locations across

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

Yard Waste

Yard Waste Collection:

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

*Yard waste collection (leaves, grass, etc.) will be collected for the spring season between April 22 and June 19, and again for the fall season between Oct. 2 and Nov. 20.

*Christmas tree collection will remain the same for Jan. 6, 2025.

Suggested locations to take brush: (All locations require a fee)

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

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

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

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

NOTE: Call ahead to confirm hours and fees which are all are subject to change.



Clothes and textiles can disrupt the recycling process. Consider donating instead.

Learn more: circularmaterials.ca/ON



DIG SAFE! Contact OntarioOneCall first!

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



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>

Composting made quick and easy? See page 7

Public Works Department

From page 6



FOODCYCLER







St. Clair Township continues to offer the Food Cycler Appliances (food waste processing units) at subsidized rates including the new larger Maestro Unit.

The FC 30 unit is priced at \$175.00, while the larger Maestro unit, priced at \$325.00, boasts more than double the bucket capacity of the original FC30.

The Maestro Food Cycler is equipped with a single, larger filter that utilizes the same carbon pellets as those utilized in the smaller FC-30 filters, and each product includes additional filters.

What is a FoodCycler?

-  Closed-loop indoor compost alternative, which speeds up the natural decomposition process.
-  It dries and grinds food waste into a dry, odourless, nutrient-dense by-product in 4-8 hours.
-  Use the byproducts as a fertilizer and add it to your garden, lawn or existing composting system.
-  Odourless, easy to use and energy efficient alternative



The purpose of the FoodCycler™ is to measure the viability of onsite food waste processing technology as a method of waste diversion. By reducing food waste at home, you support your municipality’s environmental goals, reduce your household’s carbon footprint and extend the life of your community’s local landfill.

Composting Easy as 1-2-3

- Step 1 - Add Scrap
- Step 2 - Press Start
- Step 3 - Fertilize

The FoodCycler is a compact counter-top recycler which transforms food waste to fertilizer within hours. Odorless and quiet, the unit comes with a removeable waste bucket for easy loading, and an intuitive carbon filtration system (1st set of filters are already installed).

Reduce Food Waste

The FoodCycler pulverizes and aerates nearly all types of food waste, breaking them down to a tenth of their original volume. Use the by-product as fertilizer to thoroughly mix into your soil.

Fits Almost Anywhere

The FoodCycler is similar in size to a bread machine. It should fit almost anywhere you have - about one cubic foot of space with a power outlet. Keep the bucket in the kitchen, under the sink, or by the trash can, and store the FoodCycler in the garage, in a closet, or on a counter.

Don't Wait

Traditional composting can take weeks, if not months, to transform food waste into garden-ready fertilizer. Because of the FoodCycler’s intense aeration, heating and pulverization, this process is sped up and completed within 3 to 8 hours.

Perfect for Indoor Use

Outdoor composting systems require a minimum temperature to break down organics, making it difficult in colder months. Since the FoodCycler is odorless, you can run it indoors and reduce food waste year round, regardless of the outside temperature.

FOODCYCLER

PRODUCTS—MEET THE NEW MAESTRO



\$175.00 + tax

FC-30



\$325.00 + tax

MAESTRO

SPECS	FC-30	MAESTRO
BUCKET CAPACITY	2L	5L
UNIT VOLUME	30.5L	28.9L
DIMENSIONS (IN ")	(H) 14 X (W) 11 X (D) 10.3	(H) 13.8 X (W) 13.8 X (D) 10.3
PROGRESS INDICATORS	3-PHASE LED	PROGRESS TRACKING LEDS
PROCESSING TIME	4-8 HOURS (OVERNIGHT)	6-8 HOURS
POWER CONSUMPTION	<0.40KWH/L	< 0.35 KWH/LITER
FILTRATION	2 REUSABLE FILTERS	1 REUSABLE FILTER
VENT LOCATION	BACK	TOP
TRANSMISSION TORQUE	12 FT LBS (MAX)	24 FT. LBS MAX

The FoodCycler Product Family offers closed-loop solutions to food waste, with zero emissions or odours. This sustainable process reduces your organic waste to a tenth of its original volume. Small and compact, FoodCycler products can fit anywhere! FoodCycler products operate quietly and efficiently, using little energy. All units come with Amazon 6A certification and a protective over box as well as additional filters to use.

To learn more about the program, please contact Public Works at:

stclairpw@stclairtownship.ca
519-867-2993

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



DIG SAFE campaign encourages safe excavation practices



DIG SAFE flag ready for launch

Attending the DIG SAFE flag raising on April 10 are, from left: St. Clair Township Deputy Mayor Steve Miller, Councillor Pat Brown, Director of Public Works Brian Black, Councillor Cathy Langis, Enbridge Utility Operator Jay Moore, Mayor Jeff Agar, and Doug Lapp, President/CEO Ontario Regional Common Ground Alliance (ORCGA). *B. Stevenson photo*

The DIG SAFE campaign recently had its local awareness event at the St. Clair Township Civic Centre. The campaign is held annually to warn property owners, contractors, and anyone planning to put a shovel in the ground of the hazards they face.

Whether it's a simple tree planting in the front yard, putting up a fence, installing a pool, or disturbing the ground in any way for any purpose, be sure you contact **ONTARIO ONE CALL** first at: on1call.com or call 1-800-400 2255.

Damage to underground services can have serious consequences, from personal injury to the loss of essential services, and to the creation of a safety risk to others. **Damage to underground infrastructure** can also lead to costly financial penalties. Even a familiar site may be unsafe to dig due to construction alterations, relocations, additions, and natural erosion.

ONTARIO ONE CALL recommends that if you

have hired a contractor, they should obtain locates in their own name for the work being done in their name.

The need to know in advance the existence of buried utilities and infrastructure is clearly shown in the *ORCGA Dirt Report*, issued in 2021 using data compiled between 2019 and 2021. The report shows substantial reductions in damage events were registered in several areas across Ontario, including the Sarnia Geographic Area, where they were reduced by 28%.

"Damage is caused because people do not call for a locator," said ORCGA President Doug Lapp. (The ORCGA Dirt Report is available online at orcga.com).

CALL OR CLICK BEFORE YOU DIG! Contact: on1call.com or call 1-800-400-2255



Lambton Public Health warns—TEST YOUR WELL WATER SUPPLY

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

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

HERITAGE CORNER

1950 railroad crash rocks Corunna: crews escape harm

On the evening of Saturday, November 11, 1950, the peaceful community of Corunna was rocked by the sounds of two trains colliding. While searching for more information on this story at the Sarnia Library, Heritage St. Clair member Dave Taylor came across a Sarnia Observer account of it, along with the photo **shown right**. This is the condensed version of what happened.

According to the story, Chesapeake and Ohio (C & O) Engine No. 750, pulling about 50 cars and Sarnia-bound, was pulling off on a siding at the Corunna junction to allow C & O Engine No. 751, pulling 14 cars and southbound to Chatham, to pass.

Unfortunately, No. 750 had not cleared the main track when No. 751 reached the junction and the trains collided. Three cars were derailed and Engine No. 751 left the track, burrowing several feet into the dirt. The front of the engine was left with a massive gash. (*The site of the crash is now the railway crossing on Hill Street at St. George's Square parkette in Corunna*). Although damage to the trains was substantial, there was no loss of life. Aside from a sprained ankle and a few burnt hands, both train crews survived the crash. A Steward's ambulance was ordered but it was not necessary.

The task of clearing the tracks became the first order of business once the crew was secured. Two cranes were summoned to the crash site to clear the rubble, and 30 railwaymen were brought in to help untangle and clear the rails to speed the resumption of rail service. One of the factors that had to be considered for the safety of the work crew was the presence of high



Above: In this photo from the Sarnia Observer, a front view of north-bound Engine No. 751 shows the massive breach that was created during its collision with the tank cars of the second train. Workmen are seen beginning the task of untangling the wrecks so rail service can resume.

octane gasoline in several of the rail cars.

The work proceeded quickly and by Sunday night, the rails were cleared. Regular service resumed shortly after.

The estimated cost of the damage done to the railway equipment was not mentioned in the story, but a railway official said two of the damaged cars could be repaired for \$300.

Precious windows from Christ Church being preserved by museum

The little white church on the corner of Hill and Lyndoch Streets is now a cherished memory, but the public hasn't seen the last of its beautiful stained glass windows. Moore Museum volunteers have rescued them. The men have rescued a total of 16 stained glass windows in the past two years; 12 from Christ Church and four from St. Stephens Anglican Church in Courtright in 2023.

Dave Pattenden, Vice-chair of the Moore Museum Advisory Committee, says the glass may be used to create bi-fold doors that could be used as room dividers or items to adorn special events; there are several projects that might be considered. In the meantime, there are other projects that need to be done. "The options are limitless," he said. "They'll be one of our winter projects."

During the window rescue, a train bell bearing the date 1871 was discovered in the church attic. It has also found a home at the museum. Based on the date and structure of the bell, the museum historians believe it could possibly be a bell that once sounded aboard a British war ship during the Lord Nelson era.

Museum volunteer Tony Doyle carefully wields a pry bar to free a triangular pane from the window



Museum volunteer Tom Walter admires two of the rescued church windows.

Long-time Moore Museum staffer retires

Please join us in congratulating Linda Woods on her retirement after over 34 years at Moore Museum. Linda has been a dedicated and passionate employee, and she will be missed. The museum staff and volunteers wish her the best of luck in this new chapter.

~From all of Linda's friends at Moore Museum and St. Clair Township



HERITAGE CORNER

From page 10

Abraham Cabin protective pavilion underway

A humble little cabin at the Sombra Museum has been the recipient of its own protective roof. The 195 year-old Abraham Smith log cabin is the oldest building in Sombra. It resides on the Sombra Museum site where visitors can usually get a close look at it.

But over the years, time and the weather has taken its toll on the structure to the point where action had to be taken to prevent irreparable damage.

A pavilion over the cabin presented the most practical solution to the problem.

The pavilion project began on December 11, 2023 and was completed in mid-March. It was generously funded through grants from the Judith and Norman Alix Foundation and the Moore Community and Recreation Foundation.

Kailyn Shepley, Curator of the Sombra Museum, said, "Finishing details, preservation work on the cabin, and the installation of accompanying outdoor displays will progress over the spring and summer."

FUN FACT: This original "tiny house", built in 1829 as a temporary home and later used as a milk house, leaves the visitor marveling at how a family could possibly have survived in such close quarters. Check it out this summer.



Above: The new pavilion under construction.

Inset right: The huge auger that sank the foundation support posts.

Sombra museum photos

Sombra Museum plans exhibition to honour Lambton County's 175th anniversary

To celebrate the 175th anniversary of the County of Lambton, Sombra Museum is planning an exhibition of paintings, drawings, and photographs by local artists of locations, homes, and events from around St. Clair Township. The museum would like to borrow these items until approximately Nov. 30, 2024 for display in the exhibit. Examples of items sought include, but are not limited to, paintings by folk artist Stan Norris, photographs or paintings of landmarks or villages, or fond childhood memories. If you would like to have your items featured, please contact Sombra Museum by Saturday, June 1.

Contact Sombra Museum: Call 519-892-3982, email: www.sombramuseum.ca,

VOLUNTEERS SOUGHT for the Advisory Committee and the Tuesday Group

The Moore Museum is looking for anyone who would be interested in joining the **Advisory Committee**. We meet at the museum once a month (with a few exceptions), at 7 p.m. on the first Wednesday. We discuss all matters concerning the museum, including upcoming events, maintenance needs, the accepting of large donations/artifacts, etc.. Anyone with an interest in the Museum or local history would be welcome to join!

The Moore Museum is also looking for volunteers who may enjoy being part of the **Tuesday Group** on Tuesday mornings. The group comes to do general maintenance around the grounds, such as painting or building shelving or display mounts, etc. and they enjoy the camaraderie of working together. They usually stay until early afternoon.

Beacon Bits

"Volunteerism is the voice of the people put into action. These actions shape and mold the present into a future of which we can all be proud."

-Helen Dyer, biochemist and cancer researcher

SLEP announces \$5000 grant plus support for small business



The Sarnia-Lambton Economic Partnership and Business Enterprise Centre of Sarnia-Lambton have announced a total

of 10 grants will be available through the Starter Company Plus Program. Up to \$5,000 in grant funding, plus one-on-one business advisory support, will be awarded to successful applicants who want to start a new company, expand an existing company, or buy a business in Ontario.

Entrepreneurs and business owners in Sarnia-Lambton have the opportunity to access grant funding, coaching, and peer support from other small business owners through the Starter Company Plus program. The aim of this program is to foster economic development and job creation in Sarnia-Lambton.

Applications are being accepted until June 1, 2024. More information/application forms can be obtained online at: www.sarnialambton.on.ca/starter-company or by contacting the Business Enterprise Centre of Sarnia-Lambton.

New GoCrops.ca website consolidates four previous websites



The Ontario Corn Committee (OCC), the Ontario Cereal Crops Committee (OCCC), the Ontario Pulse Crop Committee (OPCC), and the Ontario Soybean and Canola Committee (OSACC) recently launched GoCrops.ca, a new website that will consolidate all four previous sites.

The new website brings together: www.gocorn.net; www.gocereals.ca; www.gobeans.ca; and www.gosoy.ca under one cohesive banner.

The legacy websites for each of the crop committees were active for many years and had unique navigation and structures that made the user experience different for each site. The committees agreed that a more cohesive structure would make

it easier for the agricultural community to find information and to intuitively use a single site for access to all the information across crops.

Ontario Corn Committee Chair Ben Rosser cited a two-fold advantage to creating the GoCrops website.

GoCrops.ca was funded in part by the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, Grain Farmers of Ontario, and the Ontario Pulse Crop Committee.

The Ontario Corn Committee, Ontario Cereal Crops Committee, Ontario Pulse Committee, and Ontario Soybean and Canola Committee were instrumental in the development of GoCrops.ca.



Lambton County celebrates 175th anniversary

The 175th anniversary of Lambton County will be marked in several ways this year. One of them has already been launched in the form of a new online database of photos and historical materials from county museums and archives.

The collections of three different institutions have been compiled in this database. Visitors to the website can search material from Lambton Heritage Museum in Grand Bend, the Oil Museum of Canada in Oil Springs, and the Lambton County Archives in Wyoming. All three institutions are owned and operated by The Corporation of the County of Lambton.

Containing the digital records of more than 8,000 historical artifacts, photographs, and archival documents, the new database offers patrons the ability to search records from all three institutions at once. The current available records represent material from each institution's collection, with plans to continue adding records as cultural services staff digitize and upload them.

Anyone interested in viewing non-digitized materials or artifacts is encouraged to contact the

institution directly to arrange for research or an in-person viewing.

This digital collection is always growing and being updated, so visitors should check the website regularly for new material. The three institutions can be reached for more information regarding research at our facilities and to arrange in-person appointments by using the links in the webpage footer.

The site can be found at: lambtonmuseums.pastperfectonline.com

Other special activities will include a celebration planned for the Wednesday, June 5 Lambton County Council meeting. To physically mark the occasion, 175 trees will be planted at the Oil Museum of Canada in Oil Springs and free admission will be in effect there, as well as the Lambton County Archives and the Lambton Heritage Museum.

The popular *Doors Open* event will be reintroduced in the fall and a meeting room at the Lambton Shared Services Centre will be renamed the Ottissippi Room to recognize traditional indigenous place names. Ottissippi translates as "clear water".



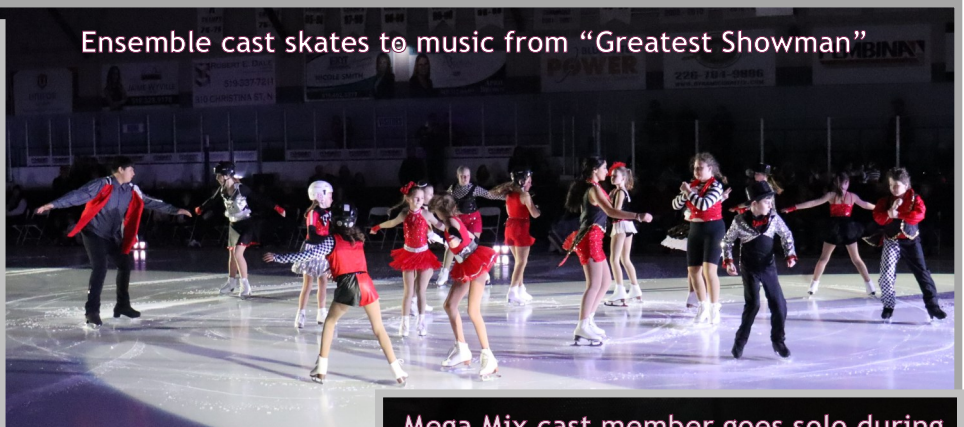
Power Outage/Emergency Line
1-800-434-1235 (operates 24/7)

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

Skaters transport audience to *A Night at the Movies*



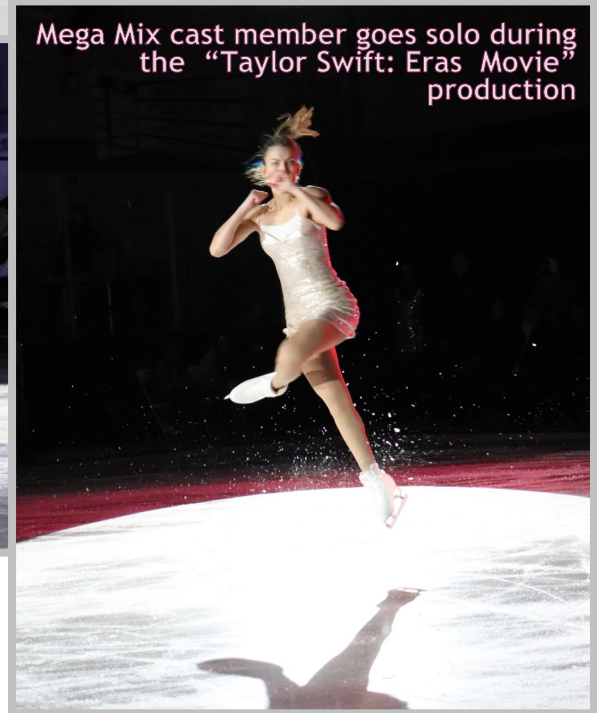
Priya Rawana spins to "Never Enough" from "Greatest Showman"



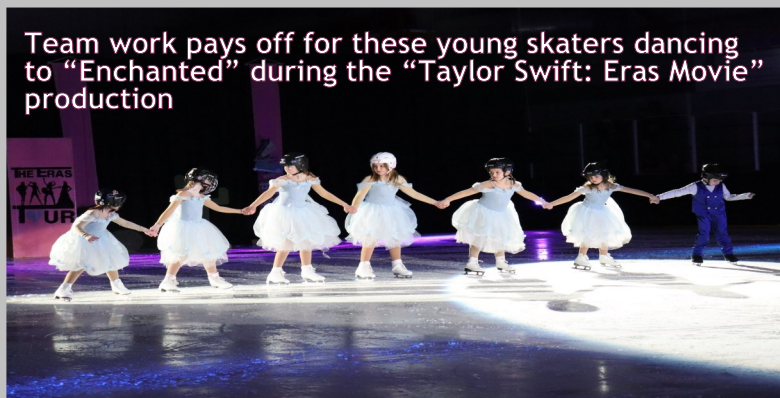
Ensemble cast skates to music from "Greatest Showman"



Colourful ensemble skates to "We Are Family" from the Trolls movie



Mega Mix cast member goes solo during the "Taylor Swift: Eras Movie" production



Team work pays off for these young skaters dancing to "Enchanted" during the "Taylor Swift: Eras Movie" production

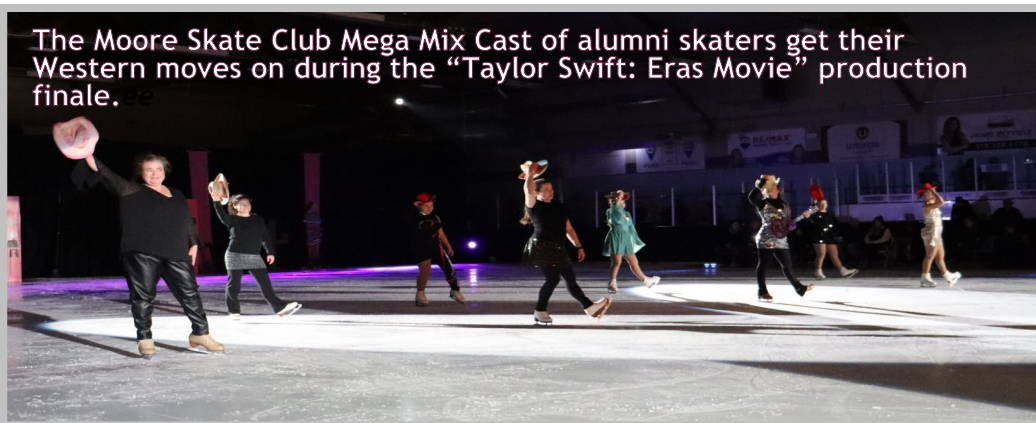
Note of Thanks from Moore Skating Club President

I want to thank our Board of Directors all the parents, grandparents and aunts and uncles and alumni who stepped up to help our small board of directors make the show happen.

Special thanks to Karolyn LaPier.

She has produced 21 shows with us since our 25th anniversary show even though she has no children in the club. Without her expertise in production, music and costume design we would be lost! She is the heart of the show!

~Marianne LaPier-Gignac
President, Moore Skating Club



The Moore Skate Club Mega Mix Cast of alumni skaters get their Western moves on during the "Taylor Swift: Eras Movie" production finale.

COMMUNITY CONTACT

FOOD BANKS NEED OUR HELP

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

The food bank at St. Andrew's Church on Colborne Street in Corunna is open every Wednesday evening from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. and every Thursday morning from 9 a.m. to noon. The food bank serves those in need, offering a variety of food products to help people eat healthily, including dairy products, bread, and meat, as well as daily requirements like household cleaning supplies, hygiene products, and baby needs. The fresh food supplied at the food bank costs approximately \$75 per week to purchase. Anyone wishing to make a financial donation to the food bank can do so through Food Bank, C/O St. Andrews Presbyterian Church, 437 Colborne Drive, Corunna, Ontario, N0N 1G0. Gift cards to Foodland and No Frills are also welcome.

Sombra Optimist Clubs welcome new members



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



Lambton County Junior Optimist Club invites new members to get involved

The Lambton County Junior Optimist Club invites youth from age 10 through 18 to join and discover

the fantastic feeling of volunteering in the community. 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.

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 and resources

Recovery International, a self-help group for those who struggle with mental health issues, meets on Wednesdays at 7 p.m. For more information about support options, contact Rita at 519-867-2932. More mental health resources include: Lambton Mental Health Distress Line, 519-336-3445 or 1-800-307-4319; Lambton Public Health mental health and addiction line, 519-464-4400, ext. 5370. For those who face the mental health or addiction challenges, the 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.

NOTICE RE: GROUPS THAT WISH TO HAVE RECURRING NOTICES IN *Community Contact*. Please let us know when the notices need to be altered or deleted.

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://nlchc.com/services/wellness_programs/

Be sure to specify which program you are registering for on the top of the form.

In Person Programs

***Coffee Time Social Drop-in:** Join us for coffee and conversation, free of charge! Anyone is welcome to attend! To register, call 519-344-3017 ext. 237 or email:

reveraert@nlchc.com

Brigden:** Thursdays at 10:45a.m. at Brigden United Church, 2420 Jane Street, Brigden. We will be meeting in the lower hall. The church has an elevator, so is accessible for all. *NEW LOCATION**

***Sarnia:** Fridays at 10:45am (@ West Lambton CHC). Please do **NOT** arrive prior to 10:45 a.m. as we have other programming happening and the Coffee Time volunteers need adequate time to set up.

***Cooking Classes for Adult Trans Support (18+):** May 22 from 5 p.m.-7 p.m. (at West Lambton CHC). This is a monthly cooking class for adults in partnership with DiversityED. Space is limited. To register, go to: www.nlchc.com.

***Garden Fresh Box:** The Garden-Fresh Box is an inexpensive monthly food buying program for anyone who wants fresh vegetables and fruit all year round. For info, call 519-344-3017, ext. 237 or email:

reveraert@nlchc.com. Orders are accepted in person with payment. Cash ONLY

***Line Dancing:** Mondays April 8 - May 13 at 1:30 p.m. Emmanuel Presbyterian Church—120 Russell St S. (formerly Paterson Memorial). Everyone is welcome, space is limited! To register, please call 519-344-3017 ext. 237 or email:

reveraert@nlchc.com

***Low Impact Exercise:** Low impact exercises performed using body weight and resistance bands. All abilities welcome. To register, call 519-344-3017 ext. 237 or email: reveraert@nlchc.com

***Sarnia Low Impact (LHCRC):** Fridays 9:30 am (at Living Hope Christian Reformed Church-1281 Exmouth St)

****NO CLASS ON THE LAST FRIDAY OF EACH MONTH**

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

Virtual Programs

***Body & Mind Inspired Class:** May 28 (Zoom) at noon-1

p.m. This BMI group is health and wellness support group that is led by 2 registered Dietitians focusing on nutrition. This program is offered bi-monthly.

This month's focus is all about coffee. To register, call 519-786-4545 ext. 302 or email: bvanbree@nlchc.com

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

***Feeding Your Infant Class:** May 15 at 1:30 p.m.-3 p.m. Learn about up-to-date guidelines, how to progress texture modifications, baby led weaning, healthy meal and snack ideas and much more! To register, email: EarlyON@nlchildcare.ca

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

***Managing Your Mood Workshop:** May 13 at 2:30 p.m. Ever wonder why you experience emotions? Join us to learn how to identify your emotions and their purpose. To register, call 519-344-3017, ext. 277 or email: mhyatt@nlchc.com

***Shibashi/Sit or Stand Combo:** Fridays at 10:15 a.m.-75 min. class. A combination of movements used in Shibashi and Sit or Stand classes. Shibashi Tai chi/qigong is a practice of aligning breath and movement for exercise and health. Shibashi consists of 18 simple steps. It is easy to learn and perfect for beginners. Sit or Stand is performed with the options of either standing or seated in a chair. Resistance bands are used. All exercise abilities are welcome. To register, call 519-344-3017, ext. 237 or email: reveraert@nlchc.com

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

CLOSED ON VICTORIA DAY

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.

PLEASE DO NOT DISPOSE OF USED BATTERIES IN HOUSEHOLD TRASH

Beacon Bits

“There are three kinds of people: Those who make things happen; those who watch things happen; and those who say, “What happened?”

Baseball Hall of Famer Casey Stengel

From page 18

MORE AROUND THE TOWNSHIP

Greenhill Garden now managed by SCRCF

Greenhill Garden, the remarkable little horticultural gem near Wilkesport, is now in the care of the St. Clair Region Conservation Foundation (SCRCF). The garden, as well as a 19 acre woodlot and 74 acre agricultural land, was recently donated to the SCRCF by the Robson family, former owners of the land.

The SCRCF is a registered, charitable organization that raises funds to support the conservation programs of the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority (SCRCA). Donations are gladly accepted by the SCRCF to support a number of initiatives including: conservation education; tree planting; the protection of wetlands, soils, and forests; and upgrades to conservation area facilities and amenities.

Greenhill Gardens will be available to rent for special occasions and functions, (i.e. weddings, anniversaries, group photos) with rental fees being used to ensure the on-going maintenance of the property.

**For more information, contact
Tim Payne, SCRCA Manager of Forests,
519-245-3710, ext. 224
or email: tpayne@scrca.on.ca**



Lambton County Library / Huron Shores Area Transit introduce bus service using Smart Card



Lambton County Library cardholders can now borrow Smart Card library passes that will provide unlimited travel fare for up to five days on Huron Shores Area Transit, an inter-community public transit service linking Lambton Shores, South Huron, North Middlesex, Bluewater, and Kettle & Stony Point First Nation with each other and Sarnia, London, Goderich, and Strathroy.

The pass can be borrowed by any Lambton County Library cardholder from the following library locations: Sarnia, Arkona, Forest, Grand Bend, Port Franks, and Thedford.

"This collaboration with Huron Shores Area Transit will allow new transportation options to area residents," said Darlene Coke, Manager of Library Services. "Lambton County Library is committed to serving the diverse needs of our community and by providing access to both transportation and library resources, we are fostering greater opportunities for exploration, learning, and connection."

Huron Shores Area Transit was launched in 2020 and is a fully accessible public transit service funded by an Ontario Community Transportation Grant. Information about routes, schedules and fares is available at HuronShoresAreaTransit.ca.

Lambton County Library cards are free to anyone who lives, works, studies, or owns property in Lambton County, or is a resident of any First Nations Community in Ontario. To obtain a Lambton County Library card and access the Smart Card Library Pass, individuals can visit any of Lambton County Library's 25 locations.

Further details regarding Library locations, services, and hours of operation can be found at lclibrary.ca.

Literacy Lambton Baby Bookworms project continues



The Baby Bookworms project will continue through 2024. Every new baby born at Bluewater Health (1,100-1,200 annually in Lambton County) is greeted with a literacy welcome. Waiting in each crib is a handmade tote with new books, 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten keepsake log encouraging new parents to read right from birth and track books read, and connections to programs and services every new parents needs to know.

Are you a sewist or belong to a guild or sewing circle? Want to be part of the Baby Bookworms project? Consider joining the Literacy Lambton Sewing Army infantry unit and sew totes to welcome these new babies. For more information contact Tracy at: info@literacylambton.org



CRIME STOPPERS SARNIA-LAMBTON

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

Mooretown Sports Complex-What's happening?

For more information or to register for any of these programs contact the Mooretown Sports Complex at 519-867-2651

Check out our schedule at:
stclairtownshipcommunityservices.ca

National Lifeguard Service Recertification Date: May 26, from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Fee: \$90.00

Lifesaving Society Instructor Course Date: May 10,11,12 p.m. on Friday from 5 p.m. - 9:30 p.m., Saturday & Sunday: from 8:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. Fee: \$160 (plus manuals).

Swim Instructor Course Date: May 3,4,5, on Friday: 5 p.m. - 9:30 p.m., Saturday & Sunday from 8:30am - 6 p.m. Fee: \$160 (plus manuals).

Summer Camp - Registration opens May 8 at 9 a.m.!

Junior Summer Camp: ages 5 - 8 years. Begins July 2 to Aug. 30 from 8:30 a.m.- 4:30 pm (Early drop off (7:30 a.m.)/Late pick up (5:30 p.m.) is available for an additional fee. Fees \$45/Day, \$190 week, \$1500/summer! *Come join our Jr. Summer Camp where we have fun creative activities planned all day. We focus on building physical literacy by concentrating on a different sport or skill each day!*

Senior Summer Camp - Ages 9 - 12 years. Begins July 2to Aug. 30 from 8:30 a.m.- 4:30 p.m. (Early drop off (7:30AM)/Late pick up (5:30 p.m.) is available for an additional fee. Fees \$45/day, \$190/week, \$1500/summer! *Come try our Sr. Summer Camp where we focus on a different sport and skill each day to build physical literacy! We will also have age-appropriate activities planned every day.*

Golf Camp - Registration opens April 29 at 9 a.m.!

Junior Golf Camp: - ages 6 - 9 years. **Week 1** Begins July 15 to July 18 from 10 a.m. -1p.m. **Week 2** Begins Aug. 5 to Aug. 8 from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. **Week 3** Begins Aug. 26 to Aug. 29 from 10 a.m. -1 p.m.

Senior Golf Camp: ages 10 - 14 years. **Week 1** Begins July 8 to July 11 from 10 a.m. -1 p.m. **Week 2** Begins July 22 to July 25 from 10 a.m. -1 p.m. **Week 3** Begins Aug. 19 to Aug. 22 from 10 a.m. -1 p.m.

Fees \$225/Week *Golf is a great game to keep kids active while having fun and helps to develop new skills as well as hand eye coordination! Lunch will be included each day.*

Red Cross Babysitting Course - Min. age 11 years Date: Friday June 7 (PA Day) from 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Cost: \$80.00

Summer Swim Lessons - Registration opens June 12 at 9 a.m. Call 519-867-2651 for more information!

Spring into Fitness! Join Guns and Buns, Mat Pilates, Yoga, Tabata, Spin Aqua Fitness or Water Therapy! Check out our Brochure for more information! \$10/class (\$7/seniors) or \$70/10 visit pass!

◆ 2 Ice Pads open all Summer.

◆ *4 Seasonal Sites at Branton Cundick available. Call for more information.

Teen Photo Contest underway

The Teen Photo Contest for teens age 13-18, sponsored by the Lambton County Library and Judith and Norman Art Gallery, will be accepting photo submissions until July 7. Subject categories include: Local icons; Abstract; and Romance of Ruin. Photos can be submitted online at lclibrary.ca/teenphotocontest.

Contest entries will be judged by a panel of industry experts and 25 of them will be selected and featured alongside works by the late Canadian photographer Jane Hinton from Aug. 2 to Oct. 12, 2024.

The grand prize winner will receive their choice of

\$100 to Mainframe in Sarnia, \$100 to Carmen's Foto Source, or a virtual one-hour one-on-one session with award-winning photographer Peter Power. The three category winners and the grand prize winner will have their winning entries matted and framed.

Budding photographers from Lambton County can attend three optional hands-on workshops on: Composition-May 26; Abstract Focus-June 6; and RAAW Photography-July 2-5 at the JNA Art Gallery, 147 Lochiel Street, Sarnia.

For detailed information, contest rules, and submission instructions, please visit:

lclibrary.ca/teenphotocontest

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MORE AROUND THE TOWNSHIP

AGE-FRIENDLY EXPO PRESENTS LOCAL

RESOURCES AND SUPPORTS FOR

FREE ADMISSION LAMBTON SENIORS

Wednesday, May 1 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Point Edward Arena

To familiarize Lambton seniors with the local resources and supports at their disposal, the Age-Friendly Expo, sponsored by Wellings of Corunna, will be held May 1 at Point Edward.

Admission is free.

Age-Friendly Sarnia-Lambton has been developed to provide a one-stop support site that offers answers to the many questions and needs of people 60 and over. The not-for-profit agency also provides community support services for adults with disabilities.

The goal of Age-Friendly Sarnia-Lambton is to make it easier to access community supports and health services. It is a convenient, easy one-stop access point for finding over 600 social and health supports in Lambton County.

Age-Friendly is funded in part by On-

tario Health, the County of Lambton, and the United Way of Sarnia-Lambton. Remaining funds are acquired from client fees for service, fundraising, and donations.

For more information, go online to: agefriendly.sarnialambton.ca

To contact LEO, offices at Reece's Corners are open Monday to Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. To call: 519-845-1353 or toll free at 1-800-265-0203.

Website: www.lambtonelderlyoutreach.org



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

SOMBRA: On Tuesday, May 14, Lambton Elderly Outreach (LEO) Diner's Club will host a monthly light lunch from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at a cost of \$12 per person at the Sombra Museum Cultural Centre. Entertainment - spring craft.

CORUNNA: On Wednesday, May 15, the Diner's Club offers a monthly hot meal and entertainment from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. for \$17 at Wellings. Entertainment - St. Clair Conservation Authority.

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

COME, ENJOY TIME TOGETHER LEO New Diner's Clubs 2nd Tuesday - Sombra 4th Tuesday - Petrolia Both events will be from: 11:30 to 1:30 Tuesday, May 14....Sombra Wednesday, May 15...Corunna CONTACT: DELLA 519-845-1353 EXT 301 REGISTER AT LEAST ONE WEEK BEFORE THE EVENT.

LEO Wallaceburg Delivery Opportunity Help others stay in their homes! Deliver Meals on Wheels You Give: A few hours a week, Reliable commitment, A friendly smile. You Get: Joy in helping others, New friendships, Schedules that meet you where you are able, Small reimbursement. Interested: 519-845-1353 ext 301, volunteer@leohelps.ca

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

SOMBRA DAYS JULY 5, 6 & 7 2024 Live music, refreshment tent, co-ed two pitch, volleyball and horseshoe tournaments, inflatables, soap box races, children's craft's ETC! FUN FOR EVERYONE! Sombra Community Park 112 Smith Street, Sombra

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MORE AROUND THE TOWNSHIP

Lambton County Historical Society

The Lambton County Historical Society will hold its May meeting on Thursday, May 23 at the St. Clair Township Civic Centre in Mooretown. All are welcome.

Moore Agricultural Society

***MOTHER'S DAY BRUNCH** is slated for Sunday, May 12 from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Brigden Fairgrounds Exhibition Hall. Menu includes: pancakes, hash browns, bacon, ham, scalloped potatoes, baked beans, toast, fruit cocktail, and beverages. NO reservations are required. Admission is \$17.50 for adults, \$10 for children 6-10, and free for children 5 and under. NO reservations are required.

BRIGDEN COUNTRY CAMPOUT JAMBOREE

This annual summer event will be held from July 31 to Aug. 5. There are lots of events slated for this event, including: the Brigden Market on Saturday, Aug. 3, music, dancing, fun, fellowship, and 50/50 draws.

Please watch the Brigden Fair Facebook page and Website for this and additional events that are being planned as well as details on the above items. Details will also be found in the Around the Township column of the St. Clair Township Beacon.

Brigden Fair sponsors invited

If you've ever thought about being part of the Brigden Fair, now is the time to do it. A Homecraft sponsorship can cost as little as \$25 and livestock sponsorship is higher. Let's discuss opportunities for you and/or your company to become a class sponsor at the fair. Please call for details to discover all of the possible categories from which you can choose. Many sponsorships are available.

If you would like to sponsor a class in the Brigden Fair Prize Book, get in touch with us by May 15 so your name can be noted in the prize book. Call at 519-864-1197 to discuss opportunities or email:

info@brigdenfair.ca or michelle.evanitski@brigdenfair.ca

Students in need of volunteer hours are invited to collect them by helping with fundraising events or banquets. See contact information listed in red above.

Tickets for 2024 quilt available

Tickets will be available for the Brigden Fair Homecraft Division Annual Quilt Raffle from any Homecraft member (in person), at events such as the Downriver Craft Show at Moore Museum this autumn, at the Brigden Fair office, or Always Quilting in Brigden. They can also be purchased by e-

transfer: quiltaffle@brigdenfair.ca Let us know how many tickets you want to purchase.

Moore Ag. Society membership

Anyone interested in becoming a member of the Moore Agricultural Society, or if you wish to renew your membership, a one year membership is only \$20 per person. For more information about the membership role, contact: info@brigdenfair.ca

Victorian Tea a jolly good afternoon

The Moore Museum will host its popular Victorian Tea on Sunday, May 19 from 1 - 4 p.m. Admission will be \$7.50/ adult; \$3/child; \$2/pre-school. Tea and scones served in the Victorian era Reilley Cottage and self-guided tours around the pioneer village is a lovely way to spend an afternoon.

See website for details.



LEGION

Let Br. 447 Ladies

Auxiliary cater your special event

The special event season is coming up fast and venues are booking up even faster. Why not check out the banquet facility at the Royal Canadian Legion Br. 447 hall, 350 Albert Street in Corunna.

From weddings and sports banquets to corporate/business meetings and trade shows, Branch 447 Ladies Auxiliary Banquet Hall can comfortably accommodate up to 289 people, with plenty of parking and fully accessible.

Looking for a more intimate space? The Club Room has a capacity of 143. Both recently renovated and updated rooms have their own L.C.B.O. licensed bar facilities and share a large industrial sized kitchen where an experienced staff turns out delicious food offerings for any occasion.

For information regarding food and table information, please call Ladies Auxiliary President Denise Taylor at 519-491-5627.

For banquet hall bookings and prices, please call 519-862-1240.

Trust your special event to the
Br. 447 Ladies Auxiliary

sombratownshipoptimistclub@gmail.com

SombraTownship OptimistClub

@SOptimists

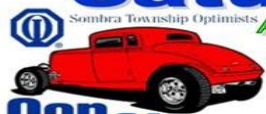
SPECTATORS FREE * BRING THE FAMILY

Saturday June 15th, 2024

At beautiful BRANDER PARK, Port Lambton, Ontario

8:00AM to 8:00PM

Pay at gate * Pick your spot * Bring completed form to Registration Tent



Car Show

18th Annual

\$10
per car



REGISTER 9AM
PRACTICE 10AM
Call Via 519-784-5912
SOAPBOX RACES



PENNY TABLE



8AM-3PM
OUR FAMOUS FOOD TENT
PEANUT & CHEESE HAMBURGS/HOTDOGS
WALKING TACO
BAGGED CHIPS
COLD DRINKS
COFFEE



L.L.B.O. **LICENCED AREA**

POSTER DESIGNED TO PRINT LEGAL SIZE- 14 x 8 1/2

AROUND THE TOWNSHIP



Corunna Legion Br.447

350 Albert St., Corunna
519-862-1240

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

Membership is NOT necessary to enjoy the facilities.

*Our hall is wheelchair accessible
ALL ARE WELCOME*

Contact: arodgers89@hotmail.com

May 8, 13, 27 - Pepper starts at 1 p.m.

May 7 - General Meeting, Executive Elections

May 14 - L.A. Meeting

May 21 - Executive Meeting

May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 - Whacky Wednesday

May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 - Chair Yoga 6:30 p.m.,
Beginner 7:30 p.m.

May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 - Cribbage - Starts at 1 p.m.

May 3, 10, 17, 23, 31 - Bridge - Starts at 1 p.m.

May 3, 17, 31 - Meat Fun Darts - Starts at 7 p.m.

Corunna Legion continued

May 4, 11, 18, 25 - Meat Draw - Starts at 4 p.m.

May 25 - Open Jam - Starts 3 p.m. - 6 p.m.

You don't have to be a Legion member to enjoy any of our facilities and functions

FB: Royal Canadian Legion, Leslie Sutherland Br 447
Hall is wheelchair accessible.

FB: The Royal Canadian Legion Leslie Sutherland Br.447

More information on the above events is available by calling (519) 862-1240

or on Facebook: The Royal Canadian Legion, Leslie Sutherland Br.447



Brigden Legion Br. 635

3021 Brigden Road, Brigden
519-864-1395

May 2-9-16-23-30 - Every Thursday is *Catch the Ace* until caught. Tickets available when the branch is open and until 6:30pm on Thursday before the draw. After the draw tickets are available for the next Thursday.

May 3 - Progressive Euchre 7pm

May 11 - Meat Raffle at 4:30

May 17 - Trivia 7pm

May 25 - Meat Raffle at 4:30

May 31 - Cards

Everyone is always welcome!

Sombra Museum coming events/activities

***Trivia Night:** Test your trivia smarts on Saturday, May 25. Teams between one and six players can register by contacting the museum by phone (519-892-3982), email (www.sombramuseum.ca), or direct message on Facebook or Instagram. Don't miss this evening of fun, facts, and light snacks! Cost per player is \$5. More details will be available soon.

***Annual Blueberry Social:** This delicious and much anticipated event is slated for Saturday, July 6 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Enjoy an afternoon of blueberry desserts, live music, and family activities. More details available soon.

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

See Heritage Corner, page 11, for more museum information.

Open house celebrates Sacred Heart expansion

Sombra Township Child Care Inc. invites past families, employees, board members, and residents of Port Lambton to



celebrate opening of Sacred Heart expansion.
Thursday, May 2, 5:30 p.m.

434 John St., Port Lambton (Sacred Heart Catholic School (West Entrance)).

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

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

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

and click on The Beacon icon.

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

DEADLINE FOR JUNE

SUBMISSIONS IS

Monday, MAY 20

Early submissions are welcome