

Visit us online at www.downtownstthomas.com

JULY & AUGUST 2008 ISSUE

EVENTS COMING UP!!!

JULY EVENTS

July 11th thru to the 31st

Trillium House Fine Art Gallery located at 563 Talbot Street is having an Open House to show off their new printing services which they now offer. They now have a 44" large format colour printer, a 24" colour printer and a large format cold press laminator. They are also able to do high quality art prints, art cards, posters, signs etc. All work is done on site. Please come and join them at their Open House.

July 18, 19, 20, 25, 26, 27th

Thomas the Tank Engine is returning. Once again this year it will be held at the Memorial Arena. The Elgin County Railway Museum is supporting this event for two weekends in July after an overwhelming success last year. This event brought over 25,000 visitors to St. Thomas last from all over the world.

The Downtown Development Board will be at the arena handing out maps and brochures to ensure that the visitors are aware of our stores, restaurants and galleries in our downtown area. This would be a great time to have a sidewalk

sale for this event for all the visitors and locals.

AUGUST EVENTS

August 21, 22 23 & 24th

The Iron Horse Festival is one of St. Thomas and Elgin County's largest community events attracting visitors from across the region. Many visit because of the free entertainment and to experience the showcase of booths, stores and restaurants that are located in Downtown St. Thomas. This event is a key component in the revitalization of our downtown.

The Iron Horse Festival attracts an average of 20,000—25,000 people over the four days of events. Which means with the festival being located Downtown, our streets will be busy with tourists and so will our stores, restaurants, banks and services. The Downtown Business community have the opportunity to showcase their business and actively participate in this event.

KEEP US INFORMED

We're here to communicate the news about our downtown, so we would love to hear what is new at your business: special events, a new staff person, a change in ownership, a new service...Give us a call at 519-633-5248 or email us at info@downtownstthomas.com so that we can share the news.

St. Thomas downtown

DEVELOPMENT BOARD

DDB MEETINGS

Board Meetings

Board Meetings take place on the first Wednesday of the month at 8am in room 204, City Hall.

- July 2, 2008
- August 6, 2008
- September 6, 2008
- October 2, 2008

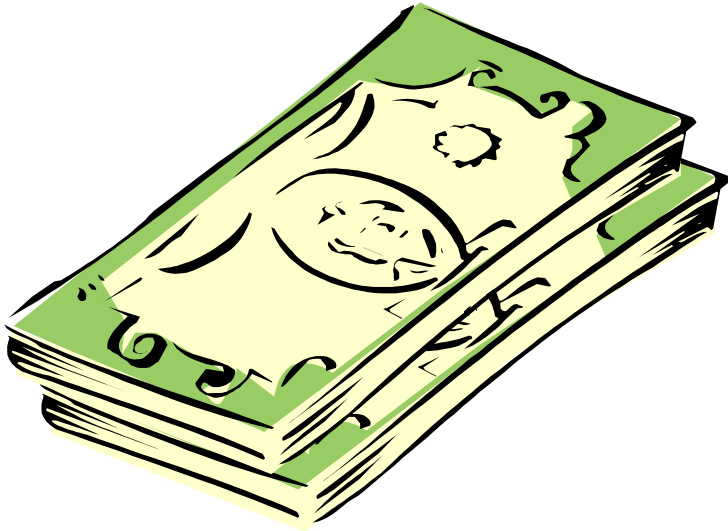
DDB OFFICE

Karen Gordon Administrator
Open Monday to Friday
8:30am - 4:30pm
(Unless otherwise posted)
City Hall, Main Level
545 Talbot St. P.O. Box 520
St. Thomas, On N5P 3V7
Tel 519-633-5248

SHERRY'S GIFTS

567 Talbot Street

Sherry's Gifts is now a Bradford Exchange Dealer as well as carry Ashton-Drake Dolls. These are great heirloom gifts for all occasions. Please stop by to see the variety of memorabilia that they also carry. With bridal shower's, weddings, birthday's etc, Sherry has something for everyone.



Downtown Dollars..What's in it for you!

The Downtown Development Board (DDB) offers prizes and incentives to various organizations and events in the form of DDB Dollars. This program promotes Downtown St. Thomas to shoppers throughout the community and area. By placing spendable cash in their hands, we get them inside your door. After that, it's up to you! These \$5.00 coupons entitle the bearer to this amount towards the purchase of merchandise at any retail or service outlet in the Downtown BIA area. When you receive these coupons ensure that the back of the coupons are filled out completely. We are trying to do a marketing survey on the value of the Downtown dollars. You can assist by filling out the back of the dollars where it states Merchant Information completely. What we would like to see is the total amount purchased spent by the customer using the Downtown dollars. Ex. Coupon is worth \$5.00 but the customer spent \$20.00. That would advise us that the customer spent \$15.00. If you receive the coupons, just give the office a call @519-633-5248 and you will be reimbursed for the full face value of all the DDB dollars returned.

DDB'S WEBSITE

www.downtownstthomas.com

The DDB board have been working on our website making updates and changes. We had mainly focused our energy on the "What's Happening" part of the website. Since this has become so successful we have decided to put our energy into changing another area of our website to benefit the members of the BIA area.

We are now in the process of changing our business directory. We are going to add to our website on the "Business Directory" advertisement for each of the businesses downtown BIA member at **NO COST**. When you click on the business name it will produce a business card full of information about your business and a picture. With this said we will be coming to each business owner to gather the information that is needed to complete this. We are hoping to have this completed by the end of summer.

You can also assist by either emailing the office or stopping by to pick up the necessary form to fill out and complete to speed up the process. This is a very exciting next step for our website. Just a FYI in regards to our website we have more than 100,000 hits since January 2008 from visitors and people interested in obtaining information about our beautiful downtown area. Phone number for the office is 519-633-5248 or email info@downtownstthomas.com

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Monty Fordham, George Wilson
Charles Gratton, Michael Richardson
Grace Northcott,

Council Representatives:

Alderman Lori Baldwin-Sands

Board Advisors:

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Sean Dyke, *Economic Development*
Ross Tucker, *Parks Department*