

Visit us online at [www.downtownstthomas.com](http://www.downtownstthomas.com)

## MAY/JUNE 2009 ISSUE

### **Thanks to All of YOU, Our Downtown is Clean & Green!**

On April 22nd, the City of St. Thomas received a clean sweep with the help of volunteers and various community groups. Clean Up efforts took place all over the City, including one in the Downtown which saw volunteers sweeping sidewalks, picking up litter and showing a great deal of community pride!

This community clean up would not have been possible without the hard work of the students from Arthur Voaden Secondary School and their teacher Jill Dora, Reith and Associates, Tommy Whites Source for Sports, Pitch-In-Canada for their donation of garbage bags, the Parks Department, and of course all the volunteers that came out to make St. Thomas a truly Clean & Green community!

### HORTON FARMER'S MARKET

The Horton Farmer's Market is on it's way to opening it's doors for the 2009 season. They have hired their new manager - Trisha Hubert. The opening day will be **Saturday May 9th**. Please support your local producers by coming out to shop and to have fun at the Horton Farmer's Market on Saturday mornings!

### UP COMING EVENTS FOR 2009

Need to mark your calendars for this years events!!

**May 9** - Opening Day at Horton Farmer's Market

**June 20-21** - Lions Club Autofest  
- Wings & Wheels2

**July 17, 18, 19, 24, 25, 26** - Thomas the Tank

**August 20, 21, 22, 23** - Iron Horse Festival

**August 29, 30, 31** - Fire Muster, Men's Fastball Competition

**November 20** - Tree Lighting Event

**November 21** - Santa Claus Parade

### 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](mailto:info@downtownstthomas.com) so that we can share the news.

**St. Thomas**  
**downtown**  
DEVELOPMENT BOARD

#### **DDB MEETINGS**

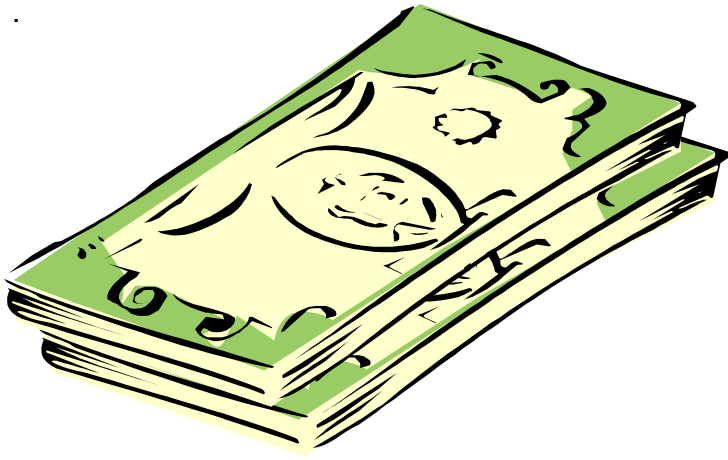
##### **Board Meetings**

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

- May 6, 2009
- June 3, 2009
- July 8, 2009
- August 5, 2009

#### **DDB OFFICE**

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



## **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](http://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 486,000!!! 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](mailto:info@downtownstthomas.com)

# **SOLD OUT!**

## **Elgin Business To Consumer Expo**

### **Something NEW! Going GREEN!**

**Buying local, staying local** has a whole new meaning. The Elgin Business Resource Centre (ECFDC) presents the Elgin Business to Consumer Expo. This expo gives businesses the opportunity to show consumers what is available right here in Elgin County. The date is Sunday May 3, 2009 at the St. Anne's Centre in St. Thomas from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; admission will be free to the public. Goodwill donations will be accepted in support of Elgin/St. Thomas United Way and the Caring Cupboard. Check out their website at [www.eeevents.ca](http://www.eeevents.ca) for new weekly updates from entertainment to door prizes and a **pre-registration section to get an extra chance to win a door prize.** This event is being sponsored by St. Thomas Energy Inc., County of Elgin, Raven and Shaw Accounting, St. Thomas & District Chamber of Commerce, McBain Signs and Graphic Inc., St. Thomas/Elgin Super Shopper, Metro, Downtown Development Board and wireless Internet sponsorship for the show is done by Blue Sky I.T. Strategies. Look for ballots in the St. Thomas Energy monthly billing and the Super Shopper this month to win great prizes!!! Come out and support your community and get tasty treats from Boston Pizza and Kathy's Catering with specialty "cocktails" from Here's to you Bartending and our on site water sponsor is Elgin Pure Water.

**Still want to be a part of the show?** We have created a pamphlet/business card section for those businesses who would still like to be a part of this event. Limited availability and the cost is only \$75.00!!

Contact Adrian at 519-639-2336 for more information.

## **New Businesses to Downtown!**

The Downtown Development Board would like to welcome New Businesses to the Downtown!

### **CLINIC 217**

West Village  
217 Talbot St., Tel: 519-631-9040

### **CASH STORE**

East Village  
15 Arthur Ave., Tel: 519-631-5887

### **POSTNET**

East Village  
15 Arthur Ave., Tel: 519-631-6555

### **PRO OIL CHANGE**

East Village  
1009 Talbot St., Tel: 519-637-88887

**If you see a new business opening, a current business relocating, or even one closing, be sure to give us a call so we can mention it in this column! DDB Office 519-633-5248**

### **DID YOU KNOW....**

**Tommy White's Source For Sports** has added a new department! They are now in the Promotional Products Business. Mark Gilchirst who has over 10 years experience in this field has been hired to head this up. Mark can be reached either on his cell 519-494-3147 or by contacting the store.

### **Tommy White's Source For Sports**

581 Talbot St.  
Tel: 519-631-5460



## **Your Board of Directors**

Mark Cosens, *Chairman*  
Monty Fordham, *Vice Chairman*  
Brian Dempsey, *Secretary-Treasurer*  
Terry Ranta-Hall, Richard Hodgkinson  
Kathy Easton, Andy Lericos,  
Shelley Holmes, Glenn Thorel,  
Jennifer Copland

### **Council Representatives:**

Alderman Lori Baldwin-Sands  
Alderman Heather Chapman

### **Board Advisors:**

Bob Allen, *Bob Allen Horticultural*  
Sean Dyke, *Economic Development*  
Bob Hammerlsey, *Chamber of Commerce*  
Ross Tucker, *Parks Department*

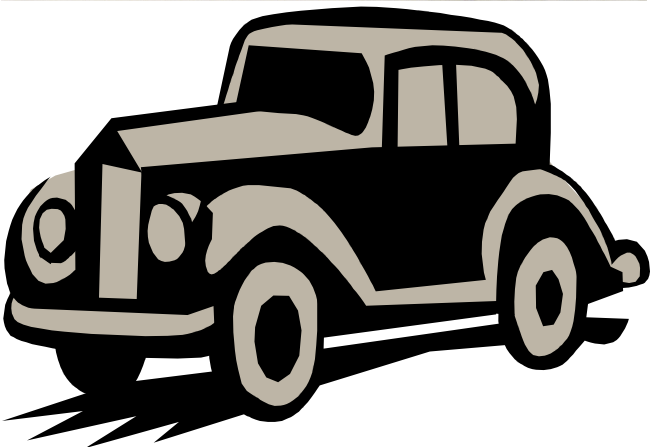
***It's almost time for..  
Wings & Wheels***

Please mark your calendars for **June 20-21**. The 2009 show will include Canada's Premier jet pilots - the Snowbirds, also The Skyhawk's parachute team, Bill Carter's stunt plane and so much to see in The air and on the ground.

This year will mark the 100th anniversary Of power flight in Canada. Celebrate by Coming out and revisiting the historic Machinery. The Lions Club will be the "Wheels" in this event which means that there will be many classic cars to be seen.

Wings & Wheels only arrives in St. Thomas once every two years to keep The suspense and thrill of attending this Event. It's a must see and you can obtain More information on the website for Wings and Wheels at **[www.wingsnwheels.ca](http://www.wingsnwheels.ca)**

Look forward to see you there!



**Wind'n Willow is inviting you to  
"Let's Celebrate Mother's Day" Event**

On **Saturday May 9th**, Wind'N Willow will be holding a Mother's Day Event, for the first 50 Moms they will receive a free flower, the other specials going on are: they will be serving brunch and snacks all day, there will also be promotional sales going on along with Triple loyalty points!! Door prizes and much more! Come out and visit the Wind'N Willow, 435 Talbot St., on May 9th.

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**Elgin Business Resource Centre  
Invites you to attend**

***Beyond the Crisis:  
South-Western Ontario's Next Economy***

With

Norman Debono  
Senior Business Reporter, London Free Press

Wednesday April 29, 2009

5:30 - 8:30 pm

300 S. Edgeware Road  
St. Thomas, Ontario

Cost : \$20.00

Registration in Advance

By phone : 519-633-7597, ex 38  
Or by email: [lcastrogiovanni@elgincfdc.ca](mailto:lcastrogiovanni@elgincfdc.ca)

Deadline: April 27, 2009

Refreshments Served During Networking

Norman lives in London and has been at the London Free Press for 15 years. He covers all business issues with an emphasis on automotive and manufacturing. The focus of Norman's talk will be on the state of the business union, where we are heading and where we have to position ourselves for the future. You will also get the opportunity to ask Norman any automotive or news related questions.