

Visit us online at www.downtownstthomas.com

SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER 2009 ISSUE

FIRE MUSTER SIDEWALK SALE

On **Saturday September 5th** is the most important day of the long weekend as we will have a sidewalk sale taking place as well as a **FREE SHUTTLE BUS** to move people from one event to the next. The shuttle will take the visitors, residents from the Fire Muster at Pinafore Park to downtown St. Thomas and to The Men's Fastball Championship at Doug Tarry's ball diamond from **10am thru to 4pm**. The shuttle will be **FREE**, but donations welcome and will be given to the Caring Cupboard.

We highly encourage spreading the word of this wonderful event. This will help to promote the downtown area and we know as downtown retailers and restaurant owners that we need to promote to bring customers and sales our way. With a collective effort such as this would certainly do just that!

Events in the downtown core are a must in relation to having shoppers on our doorsteps. A weekend of Sidewalk Sales and a Tastefest on Talbot Street would be a great way to do jus that! We believe we have lots to offer to the visitors and residents of St, Thomas and these

events would certainly be one way to bring people to the downtown core.

Please **RSVP** the Downtown Development Board of your interest to participate in this sale and Tastefest! The DDB's phone number is **519-633-5248** ore email us at info@downtownstthomas.com

We look forward to hearing from YOU!!

UP COMING EVENTS FOR 2009

Need to mark your calendars for this years events!!

August 30, 31,- Men's Fastball Competition
September 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 - Men's Fastball Competition
September 5 - Fire Muster Sidewalk Sale
September 5, 6 - St. Thomas Fire Muster
October - 17,18 Doors Opened
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 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.

- September 2, 2009
- October 7, 2009
- November 4, 2009
- December 2, 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



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 4, 2009

THE TREWS AND THORNLEY SET TO ROCK DOWNTOWN ST. THOMAS

ST. THOMAS, ON – The North America Railway Hall of Fame and the Downtown Development Board are introducing the **Summer Blast** concert series to St. Thomas. On Friday, September 11th Downtown St. Thomas will be rocked by BOBNOXIOUS and THORNLEY followed by the TREWS, with some surprise bands (to be announced closer to the date) on Saturday, September, 12th.

Friday night will feature THORNLEY performing songs from the new album "TINY PICTURES" including the hit single "MAKE BELIEVE". Opening will be the wildly popular BOBNOXIOUS with such hits as "Rockaholics" and "Big Cannons".

Saturday night the TREWS will rock the **Summer Blast** stage with their hits such as "Hold Me In Your Arms", "Not Ready to Go", "So She's Leaving" and many more.

Weekend passes are \$50 each, Friday only \$27.50, or Saturday only \$37.50 plus service charges and GST.

Tickets and information available through **Summer Blast** website at www.summerblast.ca and www.ticketbreak.com. Make sure to visit **Summer Blast's** website for a special offer.

More bands are being booked daily so follow **Summer Blast** on Facebook and Twitter for the most up-to-date information.

The Canada Southern Railway Station is both the beneficiary of the concert and will serve as the back drop to the event, taking place at 750 Talbot Street. Proceeds from the concert will go towards the restoration of the station.

For more information contact;

Kate Burns
Marketing and Promotions
519-495-6059
burnskate@hotmail.com or info@summerblast.ca

DOORS OPEN St. Thomas

*A Collaborative Initiative \$ St. Thomas Municipal Heritage Committee
North America Railway Hall of Fame \$ St. Thomas Downtown Development Board*

What is Doors Open St. Thomas?

Doors Open St. Thomas is a two day-long celebration of the architectural heritage of St. Thomas. Its purpose is to showcase to the community 12 or more of the municipality's most historic and/or architecturally significant buildings, some of which are not normally open to the public.

What is the History of Doors Open St. Thomas?

The first area *Doors Open* event was that of *Port Stanley-Sparta*, launched in 2005 to increase awareness of Central Elgin's architectural and historical heritage and to promote tourism beyond the busy summer season. After losing a valuable piece of our built heritage in 2008, the St. Thomas Municipal Heritage Committee and partners including the North America Railway Hall of Fame and the St. Thomas Downtown Development Board joined together to highlight the architectural heritage of this municipality. One of the main reasons for the past success of *Doors Open* events in Ontario has been the enthusiasm and hard work of volunteers who have served as tour guides, greeters, counters, researchers, sign crew, photographers and more.

Doors Open Ontario is an Ontario Heritage Trust province-wide initiative that was launched in 2002 to celebrate community heritage. *Doors Open Ontario* is building on the success of similar heritage awareness programs in over 40 European countries as well as *Doors Open Toronto* which was launched in 2001. The intent of *Doors Open Ontario* is similar to that of *Doors Open St. Thomas*, namely to build awareness of built, cultural and natural heritage among community residents and visitors by providing free access to buildings and properties of architectural and historical value.

When is Doors Open St. Thomas 2009?

The 2009 event will take place on **Saturday, October 17, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday, October 18, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.** Many buildings will be open for both days of this event.

Who is presenting Doors Open St. Thomas 2009?

For 2009 the St. Thomas Municipal Heritage Committee, will be taking the lead with support from the Downtown Development Board, the North America Railway Hall of Fame, Elgin County Museum and several other organizations as partners. A Steering Committee and sub-committees comprised of members of all partner organizations are overseeing the planning and implementation of the event.

The St. Thomas Municipal Heritage Committee is an advisory body to St. Thomas City Council on a wide range of heritage matters, including identification of local properties that have heritage value, the recommendation of properties for designation under the Ontario Heritage Act, and the review of planning matters involving issues of heritage conservation.

Who is Funding Doors Open St. Thomas 2009?

The presenting partners are contributing in the form of significant in-kind support for the project. The City of St. Thomas, through the Municipal Heritage Committee is contributing financial support. The Downtown Development Board is also contributing financial support to the event. Funding is also being sought from corporate sponsorships, donations and in-kind support from community businesses.

What Buildings will be open for Doors Open St. Thomas 2009?

The list of buildings that will be open for the 2009 event will offer an intriguing mix of public buildings, churches, institutions, businesses, parks and private homes. A brochure highlighting all featured sites will be printed in advance and distributed widely in the community and beyond. Information will also be posted on the *Doors Open St. Thomas* website as well as on the *Doors Open Ontario* website.

Where can one get More Information?

Contact: City of St. Thomas, Clerk's Office

545 Talbot Street, Box 520, St. Thomas, ON N5P 3V7

Phone: 519-631-1680 Fax: 519-633-9019 Email: hchapman@city.st-thomas.on.ca www.city.st-thomas.on.ca

MAJOR MOVE!! ESTHC COMING TO THE DOWNTOWN!!

The Elgin & St. Thomas Housing Corporation (ESTHC) is joining the "downtown" crowd!! They have moved in to Unit #5 at 9 Princess Avenue, effective August 19, 2009, and are open for business starting today, August 24th.

ESTHC administers and manages 512 geared-to-income housing units (326 adult apartment units and 186 family units) for low to moderate income households. The units are located in St. Thomas, Aylmer, West Lorne and Rodney.

ESTHC is governed by a Board of Directors (eight non-paid members of the community) and is funded through their sole shareholder, The City of St. Thomas. The Chair of ESTHC is Bob Allen of Bob Allen Horticultural Services.

For more information and applications for subsidized housing may be obtained by calling (519) 631-4580 or at the new office location.

PLEASE DO YOUR PART IN KEEPING DOWNTOWN BEAUTIFUL!

Please keep your entranceways swept and free of litter. If you happen to see some garbage on the streets, please pick it up and dispose of it in one of the garbage cans that are located throughout the downtown area. If we all pitch in, our downtown will stay fresh, and clean and

New Businesses to Downtown!

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

ELGIN & ST. THOMAS HOUSING CORPORATION (ESTHC)

Talbot Centre
9 Princess Ave., Unit #5
Tel: 519-631-4580

IDEAL TOYS & AUTOS

West Village
260 Talbot St.,
Tel: 519-857-7575

PURE TRANQUILITY DAY SPA

West Village
255 Talbot St.,
Tel: 519-633-9100

SPICE SPA

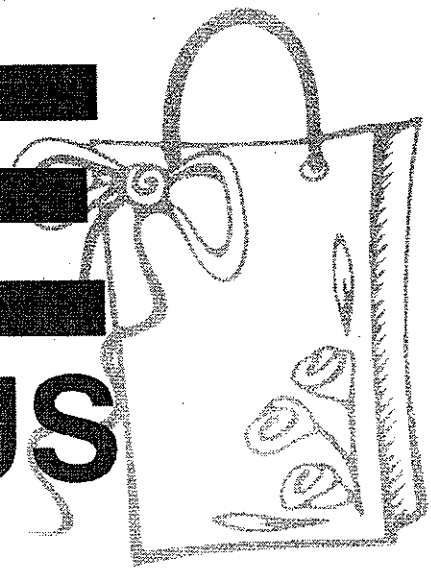
West Village
10 George St. Side,
Tel: 519-633-6119

**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**

Your Board of Directors

Mark Cosens, *Chairman*
Monty Fordham, *Vice Chairman*
Brian Dempsey, *Secretary-Treasurer*
Terry Ranta-Hall, Richard Hodgkinson, Kathy Easton,
Andy Lerikos, 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*

FREE SHUTTLE BUS SERVICE



**Every 45 minutes
to and from**

**Fire Muster
Pinafore Park**

**Mens Fastball Championship
Doug Tarry Park**

**Downtown Sidewalk Sale
Downtown St. Thomas**

Saturday September 5, 2009

Service Provided by: St. Thomas DDB

