

Perth and District Chamber of Commerce May 2010 Newsletter

Festival Of The Maples Celebrates 34 Years!

Hard to believe the Festival of the Maples has been in existence for 34 years, celebrating the arrival of spring and the sweetness of maple syrup.

This year's celebration was an exceptional event! The weather was perfect; sunny and warm and downtown Perth was packed! We couldn't have asked for a better day!

We would like to once again thank our many sponsors who help make this event possible. As well, thank you to all who donate products, time or talent, helping make the Festival a success. Thank you to the Festival of the Maples Committee for all their hard work. Starting in October, this committee works until April, making the Festival come to life.

Many thanks to our Corporate Sponsors!

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Chamber Appreciates Help From Lanark Leeds Home Builders Association

As you all know, the Festival would not exist without the assistance of volunteers. It takes a team of dedicated individuals to make this event run smoothly, year after year. Along with several volunteers working on the committee from October to April, we also have a number of volunteers on the day of the event. Thank you to everyone who comes out to help on the day of the event!

One group of volunteers that we would like to thank is the group of individuals from the Lanark Leeds Home Builders Association, (LLHBA). This group is at the Festival by 5:30 a.m. helping put together the Main Entertainment Stage. They look after levelling the stage, putting up all the sponsor signs, hooking up the electricity and moving bleachers, along with several other duties. At the end of the day, the LLHBA returns to tear everything down.

Thank you to Darwin Code, Code Construction for taking the lead in making everything come together this year. Thank you to your team of individuals who attended the Festival. As you know, the Festival greatly appreciates all that you do!!

Here's An Event For Children Of All Ages As Well As For You!!

The Chamber's Bike Rodeo on May 16, 2010 including Olympian Triathlete As Our Guest Speaker!

The Chamber's Cycling Committee has been working diligently for the past 4 months, to bring a Bike Rodeo to the community.

The event will take place at Conlon Farm on May 16th between 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

This **FREE** event will include:

- Bike Skills Course
- Treasure Hunt by bike
- Bike Raffle
- Door Prizes
- BBQ
- Healthy Living Displays

AND at 2:00 p.m., 2000 Olympian Triathlete Sharon Donnelly Will Be Speaking.

Clean Air Champion, Sharon Donnelly represented Canada in over 45 World Cups, travelling around the globe during her 9 years on the National Triathlon Team. Canadian Champion 3 times over, she won Gold at the 1999 Pan Am Games and competed in the 2000 Olympic Games in Sydney. Sharon uses her experiences to motivate others to never give up and love sport for what it is, because winning is rare, but the experiences of striving last a lifetime!

Sharon is now a mother, triathlon coach and a motivational speaker.

Hope to see you there!!!!

We would like to thank our partners; Leeds, Grenville & Lanark District Health Unit, Perth Police, Perth Fire Department Association, Town of Perth, Road Safety Challenge/Ministry of Transportation, SportX and Tay Valley Township.

The Chamber's Cycling Committee and Fall River Pub and Grill Appearing On The A Channel On May 11th

Members of the Chamber's Cycling Committee as well as Fall River Pub and Grill will be appearing on the A Channel's Morning Show on May 11th, promoting cycling in Perth and the surrounding county. Along with promoting cycling, Michele and her gang from the Fall River Pub and Grill will be enticing cyclists to stay in the Perth area for more than a day, to experience the fine restaurants and fabulous accommodations. Good Luck Shawn, Greg and Michele. We'll be tuning in that morning!!

Let's Remember Our Businesses On Wilson Street

With the construction on Wilson Street well underway, it takes a bit more effort to get to some of the businesses on Wilson Street. As the Chamber of Commerce and the voice of business, we are urging everyone to make that extra effort to patronize those businesses on Wilson Street that may need your support over the next several months. Thank you!

Classic Theatre and The Civitan Club Fundraiser – May 14

The Classic Theatre Festival and the Civitan Club present:

"Begin the Beguine: A Big Band Extravaganza,"

featuring the Big Band sounds of "Standing Room Only," on Friday, May 14th starting at 7:30pm. Tickets are only \$25.00 and include a swing dance lesson. The Dance will be held at the Civitan Club, 6787 County Road 43 in Perth. Tickets are available at 1-877-283-1283 or at "Tickets Please" at Jo's Clothes, 39 Foster St. in Perth. Buy early - limited tickets available!

Classic Theatre Festival Needs Billets This Summer

The Festival needs billets for their actors who are coming from Montreal and Toronto for the summer. Given that the actors are "starving artists" and have to keep their apartments in their home town while staying in Perth, the company is hoping that they can be billeted with local Perth residents. All they need is a bedroom, access to a kitchen and a washroom.

They need room for the following:

- 1 person from mid-June to end of Aug.
- 7 people from June 20th to Aug. 2nd
- 3 people from July 18 to Aug. 29
- 1 person from July 18 to Aug. 9

Anyone who billets will receive two season passes to our upcoming summer theatre season.

They would very much appreciate your help!!

Jewels is Coming To Perth

Well, the rumors are true! Big Brothers Big Sisters' very popular thrift store, Jewels Gently Used Clothing is planning to open a second location in Perth by June 1st. Having a Thrift Store helps Big Brothers Big Sisters offset programming costs, as the organization is **NOT** funded by the government.

The store is undergoing some renovations. If anyone is able to give Big Brothers Big Sisters some help, they would greatly appreciate it.

For further information about the new store or if you would like to help them set up, please contact Jennifer Miller at jmiller@bigbrothersbigsisterslanark.ca.

CHEERING STATIONS FOR KILT RUN (written and submitted by the Kilt Run organizing committee)

The Perth Kilt Run Committee is demonstrating its commitment to the community by instituting “**Cheering Stations**” for Perth’s World Record Kilt Run on June 26, 2010.

The recognition comes with a \$500 bursary to invest in a community project for registered cheering stations.

They challenge all the friends, family and neighbours of not-for-profit organizations in Lanark County to get more involved in the race by making their cheering station into a community event. Volunteers need to get to their cheering stations before 6pm., get organized with music, noisemakers and costumes and stay in place until the last runner has passed.

“A lot of people don’t realize the impact of having people lining the course and cheering runners on,” says Pam Fergusson, Cheering Station Co-ordinator for the Perth Kilt Run and beginner runner. “Having groups like this show their support for the Scottish 5 mile run makes a great impression on the runners coming from outside of Perth. It shows how much the town welcomes the event and the participants.”

Cheering Stations are an important element in any run, but this one is especially worthy as so many have been inspired to train or have signed up for the Learn-to-Run Program at The Running Goat just because of this run. Once they hit the 3 mile mark and start wondering “how much further” is the time that these encouragers and supporters are going to spurn them on! Race bibs will also have the runners name on them so the cheering will be even more significant.

We have a panel of judges who pass by all the registered cheering stations and they then determine who had the best cheering station. They judge based on loudest, most Scottish, originality, number of volunteers and ability to serve water as they will be responsible for the water station as well.

Any non-profit group in Lanark County is welcome to register. Cheering locations will be allocated on a first come, first serve basis – so it’s important to act quickly –all forms must be in by May 15th. Registration forms are available at The Running Goat.

Members’ Corner *(Please note: This is a paid advertisement. This space is available to any member wishing to place an advertisement. Please contact Chamber office for details.)*

Camp IAWAH is holding its third annual **OPEN HOUSE** on Saturday, May 22nd
10:30am to 4:30pm

Come and see what **IAWAH** has to offer for children, youth, families and groups. Tours provided.

Camp activity areas will be open; including indoor wall climbing, archery, canoeing and more.
A great outing for families.

A free beach BBQ will be served at 12:30. IAWAH is located 15 minutes west of Westport on Wolfe Lake.

Further information and directions can be found at www.iawah.com or by phoning 613-273-5621

Business Of The Month



Big Brothers Big Sisters of Lanark County

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Lanark County was founded in 1973 as part of a National movement to provide adult mentors to children in need. It is our mandate to work with volunteers to offer unconditional one on one friendship to children throughout the county. Most of the children we serve come from single parent families.

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Lanark County is a not for profit organization that receives no direct or sustainable government funding. We are a proud United Way member agency, but count on the community to obtain most of our operating money.

Each volunteer that offers to work with a child through our agency is carefully screened and evaluated for the safety of the children. Thorough background checks are conducted, along with interviewing and training. Children are also given safety training, and go through an interview process, along with their families, to ensure that each match is set up to be successful. Matches are then monitored closely to ensure its success, and the safety and well being of the child. A fully trained Case Worker is on staff to conduct this work. National Standards are followed throughout the process. This level of care and concern costs money. Each match costs approximately \$2500.00 a year to set up and monitor.

Almost 6 years ago the agency opened a second hand clothing store called Jewels Gently Used Clothing in Smiths Falls to try to offset programming costs. It has been a great success, and we are pleased to announce that on June 1st we will be opening a second location of our popular store, this one on Foster Street in Perth. A small agency office will be part of our new store.

For more information, to volunteer as a mentor, or to offer your help with our new Perth location, please call 613-283-0570 or visit www.bigbrothersbigsisterslanark.ca

We Welcome Our Newest Member

Graycott Alpacas

737 Upper Scotch Line, RR#3

Perth, Ontario

Contact: John and Karen Southcott

613 267-6204

Alpaca farm and store. Experience Alpacas and Alpaca products

Hope to see you and your family at the Bike Rodeo on May 16th.

Madeline and Carol