

Perth And District Chamber Of Commerce April 2011 Newsletter



This Year's Festival Is Extra Sweet!!!!

For many years the Perth and District Chamber of Commerce and its Festival of the Maples committee have been wishing to enhance this already successful event. The Chamber's Event Coordinator, Jordan Kennie has spearheaded the following weekend package, enticing those visiting Perth during the Festival of the Maples to see what Perth and the entire district has to offer.....

Reservations Now Available! Sweet and Sticky/Festival Dinner at the Stone Cellar 5 Course Maple Themed Dinner with Wine Pairings \$75 per person 613-267-0200

The dinner at the Stone Cellar is being offered as part of our Sweet and Sticky package, but is also open to anyone in Perth and District who wants to savour the deliciousness of Lanark's finest Maple Syrup. Chef Jamie has been working overtime to dream up delicious ways to weave syrup into every course!

"Sweet and Sticky" Weekend in Perth

We are so excited to announce that Nevis Estate and Drummond House in Perth, and The Rothwell Stone Cottage and The Roberts House in Westport, along with the Stone Cellar Restaurant are coming together to provide a fabulous weekend package for those coming in from out of town! Thousands of people come to Perth for this one day event. We would love to see them stay a little longer, and experience the delicious food and the warm hospitality that Perth and district has to offer, as well as get a chance to check out some of our local merchants in a more relaxed atmosphere the next day.

Want To Help With The Sweet and Sticky Weekend?

We are going to be providing welcome packages to all who book at one of the B&Bs ... if you think you have something that would be perfect in the **Welcome Package**, let us know, we'd love to include it! 613 267-3200 or email us at: welcome@perthchamber.com.

Thank You To Those Who Have Already Donated To Our Welcome Packages

- Mill Store, Perth Inc.
- The Beach House Massage and Body Works
- Ground Waves
- Classic Theatre Festival

35th Annual Festival of the Maples Sponsorship Opportunities

This year marks the **35th Annual**, and the committee is hoping to make it the best Festival of the Maples yet!

Sponsorship Packages:

This year, we are looking at finding new ways to provide our generous sponsors with even more value for their sponsorship dollars. **Every level of sponsorship helps!**

Our new sponsorship categories are:

Grade A -- \$500 + hst

Grade B -- \$300 + hst

Grade C -- \$200 + hst

Increasing our sponsorship dollars means that we are more able to promote our local businesses as well as our fabulous location to a broader audience, and it also allows us to make a great festival even better!

All sponsorship levels will include your logo and/or business name in local print media as well as in the entertainment flyer distributed throughout the Ottawa valley, stage announcements throughout the day, and signage depending on sponsorship level at the Festival itself.

If you are interested in becoming a sponsor don't wait for us to call you! Call Jordan at the Perth & District Chamber of Commerce (613)267-3200.

We Thank All Those Who Have Already So Generously Become Sponsors Of This Year's Festival

EMC Performance Printing	Scotiabank	Perth Courier/Metroland Media
A & B Ford Sales Limited	Mike Fair Chevrolet Buick GMC Cadillac Ltd	Rivington Rally Honda
Town and Country Chrysler	Crain's Construction Limited	3M Canada Inc
Perth Portable Toilet Rental	Crain & Schooley Insurance Brokers Ltd. & Financial Corporation	Lake 88.1 Brown Shoe Company of Canada Inc.
Cogeco Cable	Tackaberry Sand & Stone Ltd	Finnegan Insurance Brokers Ltd/ Aviva Insurance Company
Ryan Communications	Lanark Leeds Homebuilder's Association	Jade Transportation Services
Rideau Heights Inn	Lyle's Old Fashioned Fudge	Barnabe's Your Independent Grocer
Canadian Tire	Don McAdoo Construction Ltd.	Albany International Canada Corporation

Volunteers Needed for Festival of the Maples on April 30th

With the Perth Festival of the Maples quickly approaching, the organization of the event is well underway and details are starting to fall into place. In its 35th year, The Festival of the Maples would not be as successful as it is without the assistance of **VOLUNTEERS**. Each year, the Festival committee is appreciative of anyone who is interested in helping on the day of the event. You don't need to give up your entire day; only a couple of hours to help make this year's Festival as fantastic as years past. Greg Hallam is organizing the volunteers for the Festival this year and would be grateful to anyone offering a couple of hours of his/her day. Please give Greg a call at 613-267-7029 or email Greg at greg@summitsecurity.ca

Check Out Storefront Window at Shadowfax Soon! Downtown Tourism Kiosk Getting Closer!

Tourism information in the downtown core is getting closer to being available at the touch of a finger! The Through Glass Interactive Touch Screen Kiosk should be ready to go by mid-April. Ed Fortin, Fortin Consulting has received the last piece of the unit and installation can now be completed. The Corporate Image Committee of the Chamber and the Chamber's webmaster, Shelley Montreuil of Strategic Media Solutions is currently working on the final enhancements to the website prior to installation. The BIA will be installing signage to direct tourists to the kiosk. The unit will be located at **Shadowfax, 67 Foster Street**. Local residents and tourists will be able to search through the Chamber's website, peruse local events and visit our member's sites 24/7! We will keep you posted!

Town Of Perth's 200th Anniversary Committee Looking For Chamber Volunteer

The Town of Perth has started planning for the 200th Anniversary of Perth which will occur in 2016. To date, the logo has been developed, a website has been secured, and a mandate has been established. The organizing panel is now ready to embark on 5 specific projects including a Legacy Project, 200 Events, Marketing and Advertising, Community Engagement and Fundraising. Much work is yet to be done and the town needs support from its community partners. The town is requesting that someone from the Chamber be an active working volunteer on this committee. If you are interested in becoming part of this committee, please contact the Chamber office; 613 267-3200 or email at welcome@perthchamber.com.

Algonquin College Open House

Please join Algonquin College staff and students at the Perth Campus Open House on Saturday, April 9, between 10:00 and 2:00. This is an opportunity to learn about the programs offered now and those that will be offered in the future.

Seniors and Mental Health – May 4

This **FREE** event is being held at Smith Falls Collegiate Institute, 7 – 8:30 p.m.

Keynote Speaker: Dr. Bev Goodwin – Geriatric Psychiatry

Panel: Alzheimer Society, Dementia Care Network, Hospice, and OPP.

Sponsor: Lanark County Mental Health

Nominations Are Needed For the 2011 Perth Medal

Do you know someone who is always helping others, gives many hours of volunteer time and consistently works for the good of the community? If you do, then why not nominate him/her for the **2011 Perth Medal**?

The **Perth Medal** is awarded annually by the Town of Perth to a person who has shown the greatest distinction in a number of endeavours to benefit the Perth community as a whole, with no monetary gain to themselves. This may be in the fields of community work, fundraising, voluntary work, etc.

Nominees must be residents of Perth or the surrounding townships. The activity being recognized must be totally and singularly related to achievements within the town of Perth. No person elected to public office may be nominated, nor may the award be presented posthumously.

Submissions required in writing by **noon
Friday May 6th, 2011.**

Submissions will not be considered after this date.

Please send or deliver nominations to:
Carol Quattrocchi, Co-manager
Perth & District Chamber of Commerce
34 Herriott Street,
Perth, ON K7H 1T2
613-267-3200 Fax: 613.267.6797
email to: welcome@perthchamber.com

Coming Soon – Enhancing The Event and Festival Listings On The Chamber Website

The Chamber is currently undertaking an event listing audit with the goal of summarizing the list to provide the public with one website they can use to obtain information on everything that is happening in Perth and area. With the number of consumers using websites to research destinations and events it is imperative that Perth and District is at the forefront of this trend by ensuring the information is easily available; current events are listed amongst a number of different websites that vary in ease of use and location. Going forward we kindly ask that you keep the Chamber updated on your upcoming events and festivals so that we can keep the listing fresh and up to date. Working together will benefit consumers, tourists and local business by increasing awareness of what we have to offer thereby increasing the number of visitors.

One Step Closer To Erecting A New Display At Barnabe's Your Independent Grocer

Last month, the Chamber asked its members for quotes from anyone interested in constructing a new display at Barnabe's Your Independent Grocer. The Chamber received one quote from **Jeff Collver, owner of Whistlewood Custom Woodworking & Design**. Jeff and the Chamber have met a couple of times over the past month, discussing the structure as well as the location within Barnabe's. We are hoping to have all details of the project finalized very soon and have the construction of the display commencing in mid April. We will continue to keep you posted.

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.)

Legacy Art Show

at

Gallery Perth

at

Code's Mill

53 Herriott Street, Perth

with

Vernissage

Sunday May 1st

2pm to 5pm

The show runs from April 22nd to May 30th

Legacy Art: A Retrospective of Significant Paintings by Canadian Watercolorist Garnet Hazard and Important New Works by Contemporary Artists - Bryce Bell, Larry Bracegirdle, Marc Brzustowski and Gordon Harrison.

Gallery Perth at Code's Mill will stage "Legacy Art" on May 1st - a retrospective of Garnet Hazard and new works by Bryce Bell, Gordon Harrison, Larry Bracegirdle and Marc Brzustowski. Masterly paintings from the past juxtapose with impressive new creations in a show inspired by the awareness of artistic merit. In small towns such as Perth, changing economic values have awakened creative resources, a trend that is being recognized and championed. Supporting artists and investing in art reaps rewards for us now and creates a legacy for the future.

"Rent To Present"

Meeting room for up to 6 persons equipped with multimedia presentation equipment and internet access.

Can be rented by the ½ day, day or week. Or you can take the show on the road with our AV equipment that is available to rent.

For information please contact Kirk at Lidbetter Solutions 613 264-6360 or info@lidbettersolutions.com

LIDBETTER SOLUTIONS (613) 264-6360
34 Gore St. W. Perth, On. K7H 2M1

Merchants Helping Merchants

Recently, a downtown merchant was approached by some tourists, advising the store owner that another store in town was unaware that her store even existed. As a result of this incident, the store owner contacted the Chamber of Commerce and the BIA to see how the Chamber, BIA and downtown merchants can work together to ensure this type of incident doesn't occur again. As desirable as it would be to have all merchants know all the other merchants and what product each sells, that is near impossible. So, what can we do?

The Chamber and the BIA are working on a possible solution. We will keep you posted.

The Chamber's Bike Rodeo Is On Sunday May 15

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

The event will take place at Conlon Farm on May 15th between 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

This **FREE** event will include:

- Bike Skills Course
- Treasure Hunt by bike by Maple Key Daycamp
- Bike Raffle - 3 bikes so far!
- Bike Tune-ups by Sport X
- Lots of amazing Door Prizes
- BBQ and healthy snacks
- FREE Spring Water - bring your refillable water bottle
- Face-painting and Balloon Animals

If you would like to donate a gift for our Prize Table as many of you did last year, please contact Kristina at 613-267-2213.

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

Volunteers Needed For Bike Rodeo – May 15th

Like any event, we need volunteers to help make the rodeo a success. If you would like to give a couple of hours of your time to help on the day of the event, please give Madeline a call at the Chamber office. 613 267-3200. **THANK YOU!**

FOODSMITHS CELEBRATES 35 years providing customers with thousands of quality local, organic and natural products from leading manufacturers and local suppliers. Foodsmiths is an award winning natural food store, well known for its local focus, dedication to community and environmental initiatives and commitments. From the barrels and bins of a rural Lanark County farmhouse to over 6,500sq feet, the company is the largest natural food store in Canada per capita, but is a very large part of the “local” business community. Foodsmiths has grown through five different locations over the past 35 years to their current location. Their customer loyalty, bright clean store and excellent service-oriented reputation is a good example of the strong sustainable business community which has been a long tradition in Perth. Working closely with the region's farmers and producers for fresh produce, Foodsmiths emphasizes local and organic products. While all products are not exclusively local and organic, they work hard to ensure wherever possible, their customers have access to the best local, fair trade and sustainably produced products. Environmental initiatives are nothing new for this ‘green’ grocery store. Their highly successful BYOB (Bring Your Own Bag) program has diverted well over 200,000 bags from landfill to-date and donated thousands of dollars to local charities. Foodsmiths also makes the extra effort to donate thousands of dollars of safe, usable food and products with close to best before dates or damaged packaging to the local foodbank, which for many large grocery stores ends up in the dumpster. Visit www.foodsmiths.com for more details.

Classic Theatre Festival Announces New Audience Accessibility Campaign

Perth's Classic Theatre Festival, Ottawa Valley's professional summer theatre company, has launched a new program to provide accessibility to the economically disadvantaged. While the Festival's move to the Mason Theatre (located at 13 Victoria Street) provides wheelchair accessibility, this new initiative is designed to provide another kind of access: the “Save-a-Seat” Campaign will provide complimentary tickets to those in Lanark County and area who may not be able to afford to attend the Festival's 2011 summer season. The Festival is now seeking tax-deductible donations from those who would like to contribute. Contact the Festival at info@classictheatre.ca or at 1-877-283-1283 ext. 3 for more details. The Festival also welcomes inquiries from any Lanark County and area social service agencies who have clients who would like to benefit from the Save-a-Seat Campaign.

FOODSMITHS 10TH ANNUAL EMPTY BOWLS FUNDRAISER

Saturday, April 9th from 11am to 2pm - Foodsmiths Annual Empty Bowls fundraiser will celebrate its 10th year on Saturday, April 9th, 2011. The Lanark County Food for Thought program will be the recipient of this year's fundraising event proceeds. From 11am to 2pm, Foodsmiths customers can purchase a beautiful hand-crafted pottery bowl for a \$20 donation and fill it with delicious Quinoa Grain Salad. Proceeds raised last year in the 9th Annual Foodsmiths Empty Bowls event were over \$5,600. In 2010, the Empty Bowls program distributed over \$17,000 to local food distribution programs like the Perth & District Foodbank, YAK Youth Centre and the Food for Thought Breakfast and Snack programs in Lanark County Schools.

Lanark North Leeds Enterprise Centre Spring Seminars

Creative Marketing

Designed to promote creative thinking, discovering new ways to market your business and create a user-friendly plan to sell it in. "Without structure creativity can take aim at your budget." This workshop is a great starting point to building useable marketing plans for new or existing businesses. Emphasis on creativity and wise use of finances will help you get the most out of your marketing efforts.

Speaker: Jennifer Debruin

When: May 5th, 2011

Cost: \$10.00

Budgeting Your Way To Financial Success (Part One)

Learn about budgeting, reducing costs of living, owning or renting a home, credit and debt management and getting your credit score

Speaker: Lisa Ashton, Financial Advisor

When: May 12, 2011 (6 pm to 9 pm)

Cost: \$10.00

Budgeting Your Way To Financial Success (Part Two) (2 part workshop)

Debt consolidation, saving/investing, risk/ return of different investments, finding a good advisor, identity theft & doing your own financial plan.

Speaker: Lisa Ashton, Financial Advisor

When: May 19, 2011 (6 pm to 9 pm)

Cost: \$10.00

Business Confidence

Many business owners, managers and staff believe much of a businesses' success is due to the 'technical' elements such as: pricing and location. While this is true to an extent, the fact is we must first find out what our customers truly need and want, which can only be gained through our conversing with them. We then need to successfully make the connections between the customer's needs and wants to our products and services. Without this critical information we are unable to achieve growth and long-term sustainability.

Gain the confidence you need to effectively market your business. You are the face and often the key selling point of your enterprise, make sure you are a real stand out! **Speaker:** Jennifer Debruin

When: May 26th, 2011 (9:30 am to 12:30 pm)

Cost: \$10.00

All sessions to be held at the Lanark North Leeds Enterprise Centre, unless stated otherwise. For more info on each session, or to register, please contact: cjames@LNLEC.ca or smallbusiness@LNLEC.ca or by phone at 613-283-7002 108/109

We Welcome Our Newest Members

Michael's Table

110 Gore Street East

Perth

Contact: Dawn or Penny Bell

613 267-0008

Family Dining

WSCS Consulting Inc

RR#3 Perth

Contact: Pete Wolters

613 267-7521

Health and Safety Training and Consulting

Storm Internet Services

38 Gore Street East

Perth

Contact: Dave Chiswell

613 267-3801

Internet Service Provider