

CHAMBER CHATTER



Note:

We are in search of our projector screen. If you have it please contact our office at 613-257-1976.

Thanks!

Message from the President

As I take time to sit down and write this month's article I can't help but hope that the damp weather of July is transformed into a sunny August for all.

Even though it is summer, there are many issues the Chamber continues to monitor. The new Accessibility legislation, EI reform, a Graffiti removal by-law, and issues relating to the economy are all items on our radar.

During the summer a number of stakeholders met to discuss the revitalization of Carleton Place's downtown. The first meeting included representatives from the BIA, downtown merchants, the Chamber, and members of council. The group gathered and discussed different issues such as business attraction and retention, consistency of store hours and other concerns affecting our downtown core. It was gratifying to realize how much interest there is in working together to revitalize the heart of Carleton Place.

At the next meeting, Rob Probert, on behalf of the Community Development Committee, invited representatives from OMAFRA to explain their Main Street Program. This program provides selected communities with \$150,000 over a 3 year timeframe for the purpose of downtown revitalization. The Economic Development Officer from Gananoque was also in attendance to provide insight into his town's experience with this program.

Attendance at the second meeting was even greater than the first, so there appears to be a groundswell of support to move forward in supporting the downtown in a positive way. It was heartening to learn of Gananoque's efforts and realize that Carleton Place has already undertaken a number of similar initiatives:

- our BIA actively works with its members and Valley Heartland to promote Façade Improvement and interest-free loans
- Cross-walks to make pedestrian traffic safer in the downtown core are in place
- BIA members and town partners have prioritized which improvements will have the most effect, visually

The Community Development Committee will be sharing their findings with council. Watch future editions for updates and if you wish to be involved in future discussions please let me know and I will pass your name along to the appropriate person. Just send an email to cindy@cpchamber.com

Happy Summer—finally!



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Chamber Office Report

Now that we're unpacked, life is starting to settle into a routine at the new Chamber of-fices.

The students are greeting visitors and attending events, Julie is managing various events while Heather is creating materials and planning for next year's tourism strategy. Marion is constantly looking for money to keep things running smoothly and I stay busy attending committee meetings, tracking the finances and coordinating everyone's activities.

The Eastern Ontario Economic Showcase, featuring guest speaker Donald Trump, will take place at the Ottawa Civic Centre on September 24th and tickets start at \$99. Exhibitor spaces start at \$1750, plus GST.

Here's what their website has to say: "Join Donald J. Trump, Terri Matthews (Mitel), Brett Wilson (Dragon's Den), Don Drummond (TD Bank) and other industry and political leaders for this exclusive business development event.

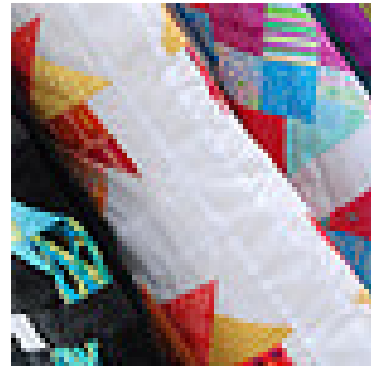
Learn of existing economic development opportunities in Eastern Ontario. Gain valuable insight from renowned experts on: Accessing Capital, Innovation, Strategy and Managing Change."

For more information visit www.ocri.ca/showcase.

With respect to our retail space, Carleton Place golf shirts are now available at the office! The Chamber is gradually adding to our inventory of local products, along with those available through Arts Carleton Place. We've been approved to sell postage stamps, and will soon have those available as well!

Here's an interesting fact, just in: canoe paddlers from the Ontario Team will be training in Carleton Place the week of August 16th, prior to participating in the Canada Summer Games! Let's welcome them to Carleton Place!

sharyl@cpchamber.com



Member News:

If you have an event that you want the members to know such as an anniversary or special discount for Chamber Members, please let us know!

Tourism Update—Meet Me On The Mississippi!

Wow! Where has the summer gone...or has it just arrived?

Have you ever taken a tour of the Victoria School Museum? If not, it's definitely worth a visit and worth recommending to guests and newcomers! The knowledge and enthusiasm of the Museum's students, who provide individual and group guidance, is remarkable. I was personally impressed by the size of the Museum's collection, and the thought and care behind each heritage exhibit.

The Chamber has been working with various levels of government to secure directional signage to the Visitors Centre and Gallery. We now have a couple of signs on Highway 7, and are about to obtain some for Highway 15, and within town.

We've designed and published a series of ads in the Canadian Gazette promoting local attractions and events like the Bridge Street Bazaar in a seven-week spread on Lanark County's Seven Wonders. Other promotional items include postcard hand-outs listing upcoming events—one of these was included in the Riverside Jambags.

Our Tourism Ambassadors are welcoming more and more people to the Visitors Centre and Gallery, and we're busy developing a strategic tourism plan for the coming year. We're constantly building our image database of Carleton Place attractions and events, and the students are busy researching ways to promote the Trans Canada Trail, and creating a Local Attractions binder.

Active participation in local events such as the Canada Day celebrations, the Bridge Street Bazaar, the Lambsdawn Park Festival, the Farmers Market grand opening, our own grand opening and providing tourism material for other events have kept us hopping.

Did you know Carleton Place is about to host it's first-ever Movies on the Mississippi—A Series of Independent Films at CP Cinemas from August 17 to 20th? For a complete movie line-up and tickets visit www.cpcinemas.com or call 613-257-8715

heather@cpchamber.com



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We are on the web!
www.cpchamber.com

Til September - Canadian Blood Services and The Canadian Golf and Country Club have teamed together to encourage people to donate blood over the summer. The Canadian Golf and Country Club will give a \$10 discount voucher to any person attending a blood donor clinic until September 30th. Donors who claim their discount will be entered in a grand prize draw to be announced later in September. Area residents, whether they are golfers or not, are encouraged to donate. Details about summer clinics can found at www.blood.ca or call 1 888 2 DONATE (1-888-236-6283) to book an appointment.

Movies on the Mississippi: A series of Independent Films... - August 17th to 20th. All proceeds from this event will be donated to the Lanark County Food Bank and the Snowsuit Fund. Tickets can be purchased at CP Cinemas!

LABOUR DAY September 7th the Chamber Office will be closed!

DRAGON BOAT—September 12th—for more information visit the DragonBoat Festival's website, www.fall400.com

SOUNDS OF DOWNTOWN—The fourth annual Arts Carleton Place fundraiser "Sounds of Downtown" co-presented with the Carleton Place BIA, is on Saturday, September 12 on Bridge Street. The featured headliner is Monkey Junk, a hot blues and roots band. Tickets can be purchased at 132 Coleman Street, Visitor's Centre & Gallery.

CHAMBER GOLF TOURNAMENT—September 14th, register your team today

TWILIGHT GALA..September 26th—Celebrating their 25th Anniversary Carleton Place Child Care Services will be hosting a Gala event. Tickets can be purchased at the Carleton Place Daycare. \$100 per person or \$150 per couple.

HERITAGE BALL - September 26th The Annual Sister Committee—Heritage Ball. Tickets can be purchased at the Town Hall \$150 each.

CP CINEMAS OPENS ITS DOORS TO INDEPENDENT FILMMAKERS

Carleton Place will be hosting it's very own star-studded indie film week from August 17th to 20th!

To quote the press release: "Small-town Canada meets metropolitan glam this August when CP Cinemas in Carleton Place hosts Movies on the Mississippi: A Series of Independent Films."

The event is sponsored by Partners Advantage GMAC Real Estate and Mortgage Alliance. Hay Family Development (Hayshore Estates) is also promoting this exciting venture.

Denise DuBarry Hay and Ernie Rowe are the driving forces behind the festival that will showcase "seven independent films" some of which are scheduled to compete at prestigious film festivals such as Sundance and the Toronto Film Festival.

Ernie Rowe is no stranger to most residents of Carleton Place. He took over CP Cinemas in 2007 and later

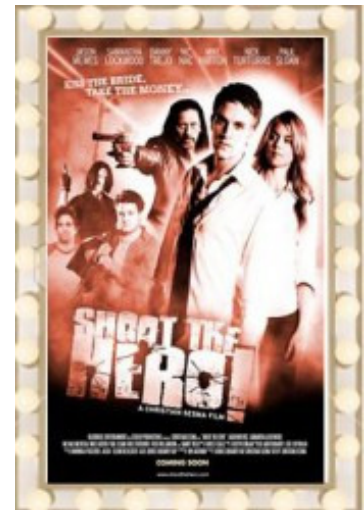
purchased the entire building, adding Ernie's Arcade as a place for local youth to gather last spring. Always civic-minded, all proceeds from this four-day event will be donated to the Food Bank and Snowsuit Fund!

Denise DuBarry Hay (of Hayshore) is Executive Producer of the Opening Night film, Shoot the Hero. The film stars Samantha Lockwood, Jason Mewes, Nick Turturro and Danny Trejo. Both Ms. DuBarry Hay and Ms. Lockwood will be present at the screening and a Q & A cocktail session afterwards, along with pre-recorded personal greetings from writer/director Christian Sesma and co-star Jason Mewes.

Denise DuBarry Hay, currently President of the Palm Springs Women in Film and Television, has a number of acting credits to her name including the movie Being There and guest spots on Charlie's Angels and Trapper John, M.D.

Samantha Lockwood's credits include Lords of Dogtown, CSI New York, and short film "That Guy".

Each 7pm screening will be followed by a Wine & Cheese Q&A session. For more information regarding tickets call 613-257-7093 or visit www.cpcinemas.com.





Golf Tournament 2009

Taking place this year on **Monday September 14, 2009** at the **Mississippi Golf Course** where the funds raised will go to support the Chamber and Juvenile Diabetes.

Regular rates for teams registering are \$125 per golfer, or \$500 per team. Fees include green fees, bbq lunch and buffet ham & beef dinner.

Prizes will be awarded for Best Dressed Team- Be creative! Be original! Have fun!

If you cannot attend the tournament or just don't play golf, please join us for dinner—the cost is just \$40.00. What a great chance to network, support the Chamber & the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation!

For registration forms and to confirm your sponsorship contact Julie@cpchamber.com.



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