

Just the Fax

MORDEN AND DISTRICT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

www.mordenchamber.com

Edition CCLX

August 8, 2008

CHAMBER FARMERS' MARKET KEEPS GROWING

The **Morden Chamber of Commerce Farmers' Market** opened on Thursday June 19th with eight vendors. In the past seven weeks that number has grown to over thirty and new vendors are applying for entry every week.

Customers start lining up thirty minutes before the scheduled opening time of 4:00 and often vendors are sold out before closing time (6:30). To show appreciation, the vendors award a gift basket of miscellaneous items sold at the Market as a prize for a monthly draw to any customers spending \$10 or more at any booth.

The Chamber of Commerce encourages our downtown Merchants to take advantage of this extra activity on Thursday afternoons. These crowds are your potential customers too – be open, attract them with merchandise on the sidewalk outside your store, music, maybe some contests or games. They are there, they have money in their pockets, invite them in.

VOLUNTEERS KEEPING THE TOURIST INFO CENTRE OPEN

Thank you to our Volunteers, **Harold Bollenbach, Kathy Forness and Laverne Wiebe** who have helped to increase the number of hours that the Tourist Information Centre is open to the traveling public this summer.

The Chamber of Commerce from Membership dues, seasonally hires a university student to work in the Centre from May to the end of August and applies for a federal student employment grant to hire a high school student for July and August. As previously reported the Chamber of Commerce, for the first time in over 25 years, was denied this funding so with only one employee was forced to cut back the Centre hours from 70 to 35 hours per week.

We are pleased to announce that with our summer Coordinator **Ashley Klassen** and the help of our faithful volunteers, the Centre has been open approximately 50 hours each week during most of July and we expect to be able to maintain those hours during August as well.

This is good news for Morden businesses as visitors to our community find the Centre open when they arrive. They expect and get a friendly greeting, accurate directions and referrals to local shopping, food, accommodations and much, much more. Without this service, many travellers would keep on going and would not consider stopping and spending any money in Morden.

PEMBINA THRESHERMAN'S MUSEUM LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS

If you like sharing your knowledge of "days gone by", why not volunteer at the 40th anniversary (annual) **Pembina Thresherman's Museum Reunion Days Friday & Saturday, September 5 & 6, 2008?**

Administrator, **Lois Dudgeon** is looking for people to be in the various buildings to welcome visitors during Reunion Days. Come & help keep our heritage alive!

For more information call **Lois Dudgeon** at **325-7497** before August 22 or after Sep 1st.

COMING EVENTS

1. Aug – 20th Anniversary Exhibition – Art Gallery
2. **Aug 14/28 – Farmers' Market – corner 8th & Stephen**
3. Aug 8 – Reception 20th Anniversary Exhibition – Art Gallery
4. Aug 16 -Unveil Mosasaur Mural–Marathon Pizza 1:00 pm
5. Aug 16 – Unveiling Legion Mural – Legion following
6. Aug 16 – Unveil Chautauqua Spirit Mural–Friendship Ctr following
7. Aug 18 – Town Council Meeting – Civic Centre
8. **Aug 22-24 – Morden Corn and Apple Festival**
9. **Aug 29-31 – Pembina Valley Amazing Race**
10. Sep 3-4 – Sports & Leisure Registration – Rec. Centre
11. **Sep 4/11/18/25 – Farmers' Market– corner 8th & Stephen**
12. Sep 5-6 – Pembina Thresherman's Reunion – PT Museum
13. Sep 6-7 – Pembina Valley Artists' Studio Tour – Art Gallery
14. Sep 8 & 22 – Town Council Meetings – Civic Centre
15. **Sep 9 – Chamber Executive Meeting–Morden Motor Inn**
16. Sep 11-13 – MB Old Time Dance Jamboree – Rec. Centre
17. **Sep 13 – The Event – Downtown Morden**
18. Sep 13 – An Evening With David Rabinovitch – Art Gallery
19. Sep 26-28 – Chautauqua Celebration Festival – Rec Ctr

SPORTS AND LEISURE ACTIVITIES REGISTRATION

The **Morden Community Services Department** is again hosting the **Sports and Leisure Registration** (formerly Community Services Expo) on **September 3 and 4th**. All sports and leisure groups who wish to exhibit their programs for which community members may register are invited to participate. Simply fill out a booking form or call **Linda Kirk** at the Recreation Centre **822-5431**. There is no charge for this event and you can choose to attend for one or both evenings. The **deadline for registration is Wednesday, August 27th**.

In addition, **Community Resources Officer Carol Wilkinson** is reminding community event organizers to add their events, activities and meetings to the Morden Website at **www.mordenmb.com**. An early compilation of events would eliminate many of the scheduling conflicts that now exist and will make information available for the Morden Visitors' Guide and various regional, provincial and national publications.

To submit your event, complete the e-form available on the Morden website or contact **Carol Wilkinson** at **822-4434** or email **cwilkinson@mordenmb.com**.

OF MEMBERS AND MORE

Have you taken any photographs of **Morden Roses** of which you are particularly proud? Please enter them in the **Pictorial Celebration of Morden Roses Photo Competition**.

Application forms are available at the **Art Gallery** or online at **www.chautauquaspirit.com**. Deadline is **August 16th**.

Curves of Morden will be holding their **Open House** on Tuesday and Wednesday **August 26th and 27th**. All ladies are welcome.

Be sure to register to participate in the **Pembina Valley Amazing Race**. Teams choose the tasks they would like to try and points are allocated depending on difficulty and length. The winning team shares \$1,000. Enter today!