

Grand Ledge

Area Chamber of Commerce

February 2014



Linda Winters was Teacher of the Year

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Thank You

2014 "All In" Event Sponsors:



An Evening with Friends, Colleagues and Honored Guests

The Chamber of Commerce recently held their Annual Dinner at the Opera House. Guests enjoyed a wonderful meal and were entertained by the musical talents of Chip Christy. The Board thanked Mark Mitchell for his year of service as President and welcomed Dr. Ethan Childs as the 2014 Board President. The theme for the evening was "Express Yourself" and as Dr. Childs stated, his daughter Easton came up with the idea that "it matters who you are, what you want to be and what you do within your community." Well said!

The highlight of the evening was the presentation of awards to three exceptional individuals. The Teacher of the Year was presented to beloved teacher music teacher, Linda Winters. Linda was nominated by Francie Skarritt, Beth Johnston, and Cortney Smith for her "30+ years of dedication, knowledge and skill in reaching and teaching her students." The Community Business Person of the Year was awarded to Dr. Ethan Childs of Ledges Chiropractic. Ethan was nominated by Tammy Beson of LSJ Media for "his active role in the community, not only as a business person but also as a dedicated volunteer within the community."

The prestigious ATHENA International Sculpture was sponsored by PNC Bank and was presented to Melanie Dart of Dart Bank. Melanie was nominated by Maris Brennan of Snap Fitness who stated, "Melanie is a big advocate of small towns and is an active member and volunteer in numerous organizations within the community. Melanie mentors, inspires, encourages and supports the advancement of men and women in her field."

Congratulations to all our Award Winners for a Job Well Done.



Incoming Chamber President Dr. Ethan Childs

City Hall Dedication & Ribbon Cutting

All are invited to attend the Celebration and Dedication of the new offices of City Hall and the Grand Ledge Police Department on Tuesday, February 18 at 2:00 pm. The office building is the former Greenwood School and entrance to City Hall is from N. Clinton Street and the entrance to the Police Department is from Main Street. Mayor Kalmin Smith states "The City left a building that was converted from a deconsecrated Catholic Church and dedicated as the Grand Ledge City Hall on October 31, 1970. Prior to 1970, the city offices were located at what is now Ledge Craft Lane at the corner of S. Bridge and W. River Streets. That building was first occupied in 1886 and served as the city center until 1970."



Welcome New Members:

Righter's Auto Repair

**Spectacular Lives -
Mike & Karyn Harrison**

Roderick & Susan Donaldson

C. Duane & Carol Zwick





Sunday, February 16th
11:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.

Grand Ledge Opera House
121 S. Bridge Street, Grand Ledge, Michigan

Admission \$4.00

Tuxedos • Caterers • Cakes • Floral
Decorators • Photographers • Music
Bridal Gifts • Beauty & More

*For more information,
please call 517-627-1443
www.gloperahouse.com*

FUN ON THE ROCKS Winterfest... Rocked It Out!!

The events began on Thursday with "The Voice" Grand Ledge style at the Opera House. Fourteen talented participants performed their song in front of Celebrity Judges which included Donnie Brown of the band The Verve Pipe, Jonathan Sayles who has worked in artist development with RCA Records and Show Dog Nashville and local talent Rachel Paxton-Schroeder. At the end of the night the judges chose the top 3 musical performances and the winners were announced. Michelle Biggs took 3rd place and a cash prize of \$100.00, Rachael Curtis took 2nd place with a cash prize of \$200.00 and taking the top honor of first place was Katie Mears who received \$300.00 in prize money for her rendition of "Terrified by Katherine McPhee". Thank you to J & K Steamboat for Sponsoring the cash prizes for these very gifted individuals. Over 100 people enjoyed the talent of our local community and Shawn VanSteeland of Audio Logic DJ states "This was a great event. We were amazed at the local talent and could not be happier with the crowd we had. We are looking forward to possibly doing this again during Yankee Doodle Days in June."

On Saturday, a little snow didn't stop anyone from attending the High Flying Pancake Breakfast at the Opera House. Over 300 people came out for breakfast and had fun catching their pancakes in mid-air. Watch for the return of the High-Flying Pancake Show for Yankee Doodle Days!

The Cardboard Adventure Downhill Sled Race was a hit and we had winners in several categories. For Fastest Sled 12 & Under - Robert G, for ages 13 to 17 - William W. and 18 years and up - Kevin G. The Best Design went to Jackson and Mason L., Judges Choice to Duane J. and the Best Wipe Out to Sara W.

GLOBAL VILLAGE put on a show stopping performance in the heated Entertainment Tent. Close to 300 came out to listen to this local favorite as they put on their Energetic and Rockin show!

On Sunday, approximately 165 people came out to Fitzgerald Park. The morning began with the Walking Event and the

MI State Police SWAT team demo was outstanding. Smokey the Bear was big hit for photo's and Larry the (Grand Ledge) Lion was also a welcome addition. Parks Commissioner Jerry Roe welcomed guests and each adult received a packet with CAHA flyer, Playmakers walking log form, Grand Ledge and Fitzgerald Park maps, special Tee shirt, 4H water bottle, key chain, bottled water and a Friends of the Parks brochure. Walking participants also received a Certification of Participation from Gov. Council on Fitness signed by Gov. Rick Snyder and a Winter Walk program flyer. Honorary Chair Judi Brown Clarke arrived early and stayed late greeting families, posing for photos and joining in on the guided Walk with Naturalist Jackie Blanc.



We'd like to give a hearty
"THANK YOU"
to all of our sponsors!



Paxton Countertops & Showers
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A Walk in the Park

Grand Ledge. The Eaton County Parks will host the second of eleven monthly special "Walk in the Park" programs. The walk is scheduled at Lincoln Brick Park, 13991 Tallman Road, in Grand Ledge, on Sunday, March 2 at 9:00 a.m. Chairing this Walk will be State Senator Rick Jones, with a special invited guest Lt. Governor Brian Calley.

The family walk will feature the Friends of Eaton County Parks greeters and showcase the Lion's Den/Natural Resources Museum. Smokey Bear will meet kids of all ages from 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

Lincoln Brick Park enjoys a heavily wooded trail system just North of the Grand River, directly across the River from Fitzgerald Park. Once again, kids will receive a free bottle from the Eaton County 4H. The first 25 adult walkers will receive a FREE Walking Society tee shirt. Michigan State Police troopers have indicated they will return for another demonstration. The Capitol Area Health Alliance is the primary sponsor of the monthly series, with financial support of the Grand Ledge Lions Club.

The Walk is free to all participants.

The February 2nd event had nearly 160 walkers, sledders, cross-country skiers and kids of all ages including Grand Marshall Judi Brown Clarke, the 1983 Silver medalist in the 400 Hurdles at the Los Angeles Games.

For additional information:
Eaton County Parks,
517-627-7351.



The Singing Valentines

Have a Barbershop Quartet sing to your Sweetie for only \$40! Dressed in tuxedos with a box of chocolates in hand, these gentleman will travel to your Valentine's place of work, school or home and deliver two heart-felt songs and present a personalized card from you! Travel area includes Grand Ledge, surrounding communities, and the greater Lansing area.

Deadline to reserve one of several quartets is Tuesday, February 11. Call Charlie Martin at 517-449-6301 or Larry at 517-372-7464 with the recipients name, address and choice of two different time frames. Surprise your Valentine and be the talk of the town for weeks to come!!

FREE Quit Smoking Workshops

The Barry-Eaton District Health Department now offers Quit Smoking Workshops for employers and their employees in the Barry and Eaton County area.

- This FREE program is a no-pressure, one-time workshop that shows your employees how they can be smoke-free.
- Participants are given tools they will need to be successful when they are ready to quit smoking.
- Participants will find ways to make it easier with helpful tips, information on medications, strategies, and what help is available.
- Participants will learn the secrets of being free from nicotine addiction!

For more information or to schedule a Quit Smoking Workshop at your business or organization contact:
Jill Sambaer at 517-541-2610 or email jsambaer@bedhd.org

- *Tobacco use is the single most preventable cause of disease, disability and death in the State of Michigan.*
- *Tobacco costs our state over \$3.4 Billion in health care costs and \$3.9 Billion in lost productivity each year.*
- *Smoking related illnesses include but are not limited to: lung cancer, ischemic heart disease, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) and stroke.*

**Support your business and keep your employees healthier
This workshop can be offered as a "Lunch and Learn", or after hours



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What's Happening in Grand Ledge

February

- Feb 9 David Kollar, Children's Magic Show
- Feb 16 Opera House Bridal Show
- Feb 18 City Hall Dedication and Ribbon Cutting Ceremony
- Feb 21 Pasties at the Masonic Temple
Every third Friday of the month enjoy a homemade pastie dinner
- Feb 21-22 Library Book Sale
Every third Friday and Saturday of the month, Book Sale at the Library

March

- Mar 2 Lucille Olson Combo-Big Band & 50's, 60's & 70's Music
- Mar 4 The History of Girls' Sports in Grand Ledge
- Mar 14-15 11th Annual St. Patrick's Day Celebration
- Mar 21 Pasties at the Masonic Temple
Every third Friday of the month enjoy a homemade pastie dinner
- Mar 21-22 Library Book Sale
Every third Friday and Saturday of the month, Book Sale at the Library
- Mar 30 Lansing Theater Organ Concert Presents a Gospel Concert by Steve Schlesing