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Grand Ledge

Area Chamber of Commerce

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From the President's Desk



Remember The California Raisins and their hit song "I Heard It Through The Grapevine"? They may be old, but I've got news for you. The "grapevine" is alive and well in Grand Ledge. And just what is the grapevine? It's the questions, conversation or comments made to another person about a topic or decision that you might not agree with or just plain dislike or that implies wrongdoing, but the same comments are not shared with a person that can answer your questions, explain the reasoning behind a decision or just listen to your concerns. Do you know that you can talk with anyone on the Board of Directors about any issue that affects the Chamber? Do you know who is on the Board of Directors? Sometimes an explanation is as simple as a misunderstood word. Sometimes it's not knowing all the facts. Talking on the street, the golf course or at lunch doesn't solve anything. If you have comments or suggestions, call a Board member. And remember, I would be glad to meet with you to discuss your comments or ideas. Or you may contact me by phone or email.

Karla Chamberlain, President

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Chamber News

~Spring is in the air. Check out the windows of the Chamber office. Along with spring comes many events.

~A Food Drive has been scheduled for April 23rd from 9am-4pm at the Family Fare Food Store (formerly Felpausch). The proceeds will go to the Grand Ledge Food Bank.

~Second Annual Fashion Show: The fashion show will be held on May 15th from 2-4pm at the Opera House. The models will strut their stuff with fashions from Younkers, K2 Boutique, Dress Barn, and Jacobson's Alumni Group. The Grand Hall will be filled with many vendors including Bridge Water Salon, jewelry, Tastefully Simple, Mische Purses, Arbonne Skin Care, summer purses, Mary Kay and many more. The fashion show will be emceed by Lauren Evans from Channel 10 News. There will be lots of give-aways, discounts and drawings. Hors d'oeuvres and wine will be available. Pre-sale tickets can be purchased at the Chamber Office for \$7.00 or at the door. Get your tickets early. Last year the Opera House was completely filled.

~Yankee Doodle Days will be right on the heels of the Fashion Show. The dates for Yankee Doodle Days are June 16, 17 and 18th. This year the festival has been expanded to have something for everyone. 5K race, High Heel Race (proceeds will go to the YES House), parade, pig roast, motor cycle judging, duck race, skate board demonstration, face painting, helicopter rides, crafters, car display, beer tent, Battle of the Bands and fireworks. This festival is a three day event and will require many, many volunteers. If you can extend a helping hand, please call the Chamber office. We have many areas that need help. If you would like to be in the parade on Saturday, please go to the website: www.grandledgemi.com and fill out an application. We are encouraging children to decorate their bikes and ride in the parade. We are taking applications for crafters. Applications are also on the website or you may call the Chamber office. We haven't had a craft show for many years so we are hoping that it will be a big success this year.

~I'm sure by now that you have noticed the beautiful display of American flags on the bridge. We have had so many calls telling us how nice it is to see those flags flying over the bridge honoring our veterans. All new flags were purchased and the flags were installed in March.

~Our new Chamber office has space for rent. The area available would make a great beauty/nail salon, insurance office, attorney's office, or computer repair office. The parking lot is at the door step.

~Your Chamber is continuously sponsoring festivals and events to bring awareness to our community and our businesses. These are just a few of the events that the Chamber sponsors to support the community: Food Drives (twice a year), Annual Dinner, Fashion Show, Yankee Doodle Days, Annual Golf Outing, Color Cruise and Island Festival, Winter Coat Drive, Christmas Parade, River Clean-up, install and maintain flags on the bridge, tax forums, ribbon cuttings, hosting German students, Michigan Week, collection of school supplies for children in need. We continue to add events that will add value to our members and bring awareness to our community.

~If you know of a business that is not a Chamber member, encourage them to join the Chamber and support our community.

~As always, we welcome your suggestions and comments. Please feel free to call the Chamber office.

Susan Sasse, Treasurer

**The Capitol City
Chordsmen**
proudly present:



**Saturday,
May 21st, 2011
7:30 pm**

Let's Get Away

Wharton Center for
Performing Arts
East Lansing,
Michigan

From It All

Also featuring:

Featuring:
~ **Resisting
-A-Rest**

2010 International Senior
Champions

Also featuring Chapter quartets:
~ **The Patch Chords**
2006 Pioneer District
Senior Champions

~ **Singular**

~ **Olde Thyme**



**The Great
Lakes
Harmony
Brigade**

All seats reserved.
Make checks payable to:
Lansing Chapter,

Capital City Chorus Concert

The Capital City Chorus (Lansing Chapter, SPEB-SQSA) will be presenting their annual concert on Saturday, May 21, 2011, 7:30pm at Wharton Center. If you enjoy good harmony, this is for you. Tickets are \$25.00 per person and can be purchased from Charlie Martin (517) 449-6301 or email Charlie at: hospitalhopper@yahoo.com

Eaton County Parks

Calling All Crafters— The Friends of Eaton County Parks are looking for people interested in exhibiting their crafts at the 22nd Annual Ledges Classic Auto and Craft Show on Saturday, July 9, 2011, from 9am to 4pm. More information and a registration form are available on the website.

Annual Park Passes on Sale Now— An annual 2011 park pass would make an ideal gift for the dog walker, hiker, or nature lover. Resident annual pass is \$20 (\$15 for senior citizens); non-resident \$25 (\$20 for senior citizens). Annual passes are valid from January 1—December 31, 2011.

Fox Park Public Observatory—Everyone is invited to join us this winter at the Fox Park Observatory for public viewing nights on the following dates: April 8-9, 9-11pm; May 20-21, 9:30-11:30pm; June 10-11, 9:30-11:30pm. Local amateur astronomers Kevin Keys and/or Jason Blaschka will be on hand to answer questions about the night sky. Observation nights will not be held on nights with more than 30% cloud cover. Program fee is \$2 per person or \$5 per family payable at donation box on site. You may call the Observatory at (517) 645-6666 during public viewing hours to check sky conditions.

Breakfast With The Birds— Bring your family and friends to learn the basics of bird watching and bird identification during Breakfast with the Birds Saturday, May 14, 7:30am-10am at Lincoln Brick Park, just north of Grand Ledge. A continental breakfast will be provided by the Friends of Eaton County Parks for all participants. Sturdy walking shoes, field guides and binoculars are recommended. Program cost is \$4 per person and advance registration is required.

Beading Workshop—Come join us for a Beading Workshop Saturday, May 14, 10:30am-12:30pm at the Lincoln Brick Park Interpretive Center. Participants will have the option to make either a beaded bracelet or a beaded necklace for themselves or as a gift for a loved one! Program is appropriate for adults and children. Young children (ages 3-6) may need some assistance from a parent. Cost is \$6 per bracelet/necklace and advance registration is required.

Wildflower Walks— Come explore the wonders of nature as you wander through the woods in search of wildflowers with Park Naturalist Jackie Blanc on the following dates: April 30, 1:30pm, Fox Park Pavilion #2; May 4, 6pm, Lincoln Brick Interpretive Center; May 12, 6pm, meet at Fitzgerald Park Nature Center; May 17, 6pm, Bennett Park Ranger Station. Walks are suitable for all ages. Program fee is \$2 per person or \$5 per family. A reduced youth rate is available.

Spring Splash Canoe Trip—Load up your canoe or kayak and join the Park Naturalist Sunday, May 15, for a three hour excursion down the Grand River from Delta Mills Park to Fitzgerald Park while taking in the sights and sounds of spring. Participants will meet and launch at 1pm. Individuals are encouraged to bring snacks, water and warm clothes. The crew will be arriving at Fitzgerald Park at approximately 4pm and will have the opportunity to tour the Fitzgerald Park Nature Center while waiting for a shuttle back to the launch point at Delta Mills Park for those who need it. The Parks Department has a limited supply of canoes available for use at a cost of \$10 per person. Program fee is \$5 per person with your own canoe or kayak. Advanced registration is required.

2011 Summer Environmental Youth Programs —Join Eaton County Parks Naturalist Jackie Blanc for an exciting, educational summer of fun and adventure. Activities range from one to five day adventures as well as an overnight field trip. Each adventure will begin at the Interpretive Center at Lincoln Brick Park except for the African Safari overnight field trip to Binder Park Zoo. Registration deadline is May 1, 2011.

Hazel Ridge Farm Experience—one day field trip, June 15, July 21, August 22; Wildlife Rehabilitation—one day field trip, July 11, July 20; Binder Park Zoo-African Safari— two day overnight field trip, June 17-18, July 22-23, August 12-13; US Forest Service-Jr. Ranger Program—three day sessions, June 28-30, August 9-11; Go Green-Sustainability Weeks— four to five days sessions, June 20-24, July 5-8, August 1-5.

For more information, times, fees or to register for a program, please visit www.eatoncountyparks.org or call the park office at (517) 627-7351.

Museum Exhibit

“Revisiting The Main 4 Corners”- the history of the businesses on the 4 corners of South Bridge Street and Jefferson Street. Open now through December Sundays, 2-4pm, festival days 12-4pm and by appointment at The Museum, 118 W Lincoln Street.

SMALL TOWN. NATURAL WONDERS. ENDLESS OPPORTUNITY.

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This newsletter is a publication of the Grand Ledge Area Chamber of Commerce Public Relations Committee and brought to you courtesy of:



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GRAND LEDGE'S FINEST RETIREMENT LIVING COMMUNITY

What's Happening in Grand Ledge?

April, 2011

April 8-9 Public Viewing Night, Fox Park Observatory, 9-11 pm
April 10- "The Art of the Composer", 3pm, Opera House, Mark Herman, Organist
April 23- Chamber sponsored Food Drive for Grand Ledge Food Bank, 9am -4pm, Family Food Fare (old Felpausch)
April 29-30—Astrophotography Imaging Nights, 10pm-12 mid, Fox Observatory
April 30- Wildflower Walk, 1:30pm, Fox Park Pavilion #2

May, 2011

May 4 - Wildflower Walk, 6pm, Lincoln Brick Interpretive Center
May 6-7 - Astrophotography Imaging Night, 8:30pm-12 mid, Fox Park Observatory
May 7—16th Annual Victorian Day
May 10- GLHS Madrigal Concert, 7:30pm, Opera House
May 12—Wildflower Walk, 6pm, Fitzgerald Park, Nature Center
May 14- Breakfast With The Birds, 7:30—10am, Lincoln Brick Park
May 14- Beading Workshop, 10:30am-12:30pm, Lincoln

Brick Park Interpretive Center

May 15, 2011- Chamber Spring Fashion Show at Opera House , 2-4 pm
May 15- Spring Splash Canoe Trip, 1pm, Delta Mills Park
May 16—Hayes Vocal Ensemble
May 17—Wildflower Walk, 6pm, Bennett Park Ranger Station
May 20-21- Public Viewing Night, Fox Public Observatory, 9:30-11:30pm
May 21— The Doowops, 7 pm, Ledges Playhouse, benefit concert
May 27—GLHS Bands & Community Band "Concert on the Grand", 6pm, Opera House

June, 2011

June 10-11- Public Viewing Night, Fox Park Observatory, 9:30-11:30pm
June 24-25- Astrophotography Imaging Night, 9pm-1am, Fox Park Observatory