

Small town. Natural Wonders. Endless Opportunity.

Grand Ledge

Area Chamber of Commerce

Volume 7 Issue 7
July, 2013



PLAYMAKER'S FUN RUN AT FITZGERALD PARK

Grand Ledge. Fitzgerald Park has been selected to be a site for the Playmaker's Fun Run series to be hosted on July 30, according to Eaton County Parks Director John Greenslit. North Face and Playmakers will present the free Fun Run at 6:00 p.m. with food, entertainment and displays. The motor vehicle entrance fee has been reduced to \$3 for attendees.

For more details, check out www.playmakers.com.

Artist of the Month at Ledge Craft Lane

Barbara Barnes-Ladisky is the featured Artist of the Month for July at Ledge Craft Lane, 121 S. Bridge St., Grand Ledge. Her work may be seen Wednesday-Saturday 10 am to 5 pm..

The public is invited to meet the artist on Saturday, July 13 from 2-4 pm at her Artist Reception in the Gallery at Ledge Craft Lane.

Barbara became interested in art during high school and dabbled with painting, sketching, making wooden bowls and jewelry. She became serious about painting when she started taking classes from Carol Basso in 1995 and continues with Kim Conklin at Ledge Craft Lane.

Her favorite medium is acrylics and she likes to paint whimsical, Christmas and Halloween items. Recently Barb has stepped out of her comfort zone and is having fun with cats, birds, sunflowers and daisies. She paints on wooden cigar boxes, furniture and other found items as well.

Barb and her daughter have been attending the Heart of Ohio Tole Painters Convention since 2004 where they hve met lots of designers and are exposed to what is new in Decorative Painting.

Summer Painting Classes

Drop in for some summer painting at Ledge Craft Lane, 121 S. Bridge St., Grand Ledge. Finish up a project you have already started or start a new one in Oils, Acrylics or Watercolor. All skills welcome. The date is Tuesday, July 16, 10 am - 2 pm and 6 - 10 pm. Pre-register by calling Kimberly Conklin at [517-712-5076](tel:517-712-5076).



Welcome New Members

Darren Vilminot
13579 Lawson Road
Grand Ledge, MI 48837
(517) 819-9092

Kalamazoo Wings
Ryan Stankus
3600 Vanrick Drive
Kalamazoo, MI 49001
(269) 760-3622

FOX PARK OBSERVATORY – STAR PARTY AUGUST 1-4

Pottersville. The Friends of Eaton County Parks is sponsoring a Star Party Thursday, August 1, through Sunday, August 4, at the Fox Park Observatory. The Star Party is for amateur and advanced astronomers alike who love to observe and mingle with other astronomers while enjoying dark sky observing. Telescopes and binoculars of all types and sizes are welcome. Plan to spend the night observing astronomical objects including planets, comets, stars, and deep sky objects. Astrophotography and CCD imaging opportunities will be available throughout the weekend. During the daytime, there are many activities to keep you busy including some practical and interesting talks scheduled to enhance your weekend experience. Cost: one night, individual \$15/family \$20; two nights, individual \$25/family \$35; three nights, individual \$30/family \$40. For additional information, please contact Fox Star Party Coordinator Jason Blaschka at jb.foxpark@gmail.com. Registration form is available at

www.eatoncountyparks.org. **EATON COUNTY PARKS – A Memorable Outdoor Experience**

ECP SUMMER 2013 ENVIRONMENTAL YOUTH PROGRAMS

Children ages 7 to 14 are invited to join Eaton County Parks Naturalist Jackie Blanc for a summer of fun and adventure with our 2013 Environmental Youth Programs. **MSU Days (two day session)** Dates: July 30 and 31 Time: 8:30 am to 5:00 pm Fee: \$75 - We'll spend two days on campus experiencing the past and present at the MSU Museum, touring the Recycling Center, exploring the 4-H Children's Garden, and discovering insect adaptations at the Bug House. **Jr. Ranger—Live and Local (three day session)** Dates: August 6-8 Time: 8:30 am to 2:00 pm Fee: \$75 - Participants will learn about our rich natural resources during three days of exploration of the habitats and animals that call Lincoln Brick Park home. Activities will include live animal encounters and trying your hand at outdoor living skills such as finding your way using a compass or gps unit and campfire safety. **Hazel Ridge Farm Experience (one day field trip)** Date: August 15 Time: 8:30 am to 5:00 pm Fee: \$30 - We will hike through 40 acres of habitat with Robbyn Smith-Van Frankenhuyzen (author) at Hazel Ridge Farm in Bath using our five senses to explore nature and experience a painting session with Gijsbert (Nick) Van Frankenhuyzen (artist) in his art studio. are limited to 15 participants and will be filled on a first come, first serve basis. Advance registration is required. More information and registration forms are available at www.eatoncountyparks.org. Please call the Park office at [517-627-7351](tel:517-627-7351) to confirm space is available before sending in registration forms.

Summer Programs continued on next page

FOX PARK OBSERVATORY - ASTROPHOTOGRAPHY IMAGING NIGHTS

Potterville. Eaton County Parks invites everyone to join us at the Fox Park Public Observatory from 8 p.m. to midnight on July 27 and August 17 and 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. on September 28 for Astrophotography Imaging Nights this summer. Bring your camera and work with experienced photographers to capture photos of the beautiful night sky. If the cloud cover does not permit sky viewing, theme based work sessions and PowerPoint presentations will be held instead. The Observatory, located at 3979 E. Gresham Hwy. just north of Potterville, is an open air facility, so please dress appropriately for the weather, bring mosquito protection, and wear sensible footwear for the 200 yard walk to the Observatory. Program fee is \$5 per person, payable on site. For more information or to register, please e-mail Jason Blaschka at jb.foxpark@gmail.com. For more information on Eaton County Parks programs, please visit our website at www.eatoncountyparks.org or call the park office at [517-627-7351](tel:517-627-7351).

FOX PARK OBSERVATORY – SUMMER VIEWING DATES

Eaton

County Parks invites everyone to join us this summer at the Fox Park Observatory for public viewing nights on the following Saturdays - July 6, 13, and 20, 9:30 p.m.—Midnight; August 10 and 24, 9:00 p.m.—Midnight; and September 7, 14, and 21, 8:00 p.m.—11:00 p.m. Local area astronomers will be on hand to answer questions about the night sky. Public viewing nights are suitable for people of all ages. Program fee is \$2 per person or \$5 per family, payable on site. Public viewing nights will not be held on nights with more than 30% cloud cover. You may call the Observatory at [517-645-6666](tel:517-645-6666) during public viewing hours to check sky conditions. The Observatory, located at 3979 E. Gresham Hwy., Potterville, MI 48876, is an open air observatory so please dress appropriately for the weather, bring mosquito protection, and wear sensible footwear for the 200 yard walk to the observatory. For more information, please visit our website at www.eatoncountyparks.org or call the Eaton County Parks office at [517-627-7351](tel:517-627-7351).

Summer Programs Continued....

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Conservation Journey Back In Time (three day session) Dates: August 27-29 Time: 8:30 am to 5:00 pm
Fee: \$100 - Spend two days at the Nokomis Learning Center and one day at the Meridian Historic Village in Okemos. Through a personal and interactive educational approach using hands-on materials, games and crafts, discover the cultural beliefs of the “people of the three fires”, their relationships with plants and animals and their conservation practices. Explore how families in the 19th century differed in their conservation beliefs in contrast to today’s families by reenacting daily life in the school house and helping with farm and household chores as students explore what life was like in Meridian Village. All programs begin and end at the Interpretive Center at Lincoln Brick Park just north of Grand Ledge. Programs are limited to 15 participants and will be filled on a first come, first serve basis. Advance registration is required. More information and registration forms are available at www.eatoncountyparks.org. Please call the Park office at [517-627-7351](tel:517-627-7351) to confirm space is available before sending in registration forms.

SMALL TOWN. NATURAL WONDERS. ENDLESS OPPORTUNITY.

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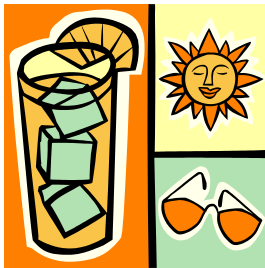
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GRAND LEDGE'S FINEST RETIREMENT LIVING COMMUNITY

What's Happening in Grand Ledge?



July, 2013

July 13—24th Annual Ledge's Classic Auto & Craft Show
July 18— Music in the Park, 7:30pm, Maypole Park, The Backwoods Band, they bring a new dimension to the music scene, guaranteed to rock the dance floor. Bring your lawn chairs.
July 25— Hazel Ridge Farm Experience one day field trip, 8:30am-5pm, for children 7-14, for more info www.eatoncountyparks.org
July 25— Music in the Park, 7:30pm, Maypole Park, Jen Sygit, album of the year, nominated for 2 Jammie Awards. Bring your lawn chairs.
July 30— Playmakers Fun Run at Fitzgerald Park
July 30 & 31— MSU Days (2 day session), 8:30am-5pm, MSU Campus, for more info: eatoncountyparks.org

August, 2013

Aug. 1— Music in the Park, 7:30pm, Maypole Park, Showdown, 70s & 80s tribute to Earth, Wind & Fire, Marvin Gaye, Def Leopard, Journey, Bob Seger, Styx, Foreigner, Hall & Oates, Rick James, Bon Jovi, Kc & The Sunshine Band, The Temptations & Steely Dan and more. Bring your lawn chairs.
Aug. 3— 40th Annual Island Art Fair
Aug. 6-8 (3 day session), 8:30am-2pm, Jr. Ranger-Live and Local, Lincoln Brick Park, for more info: eatoncountyparks.org
Aug. 20 & 21 (2 day session), 8:30am-5pm, Potter Park Zoo, for more info: eatoncountyparks.org

September, 2013

Sept. 12— Chamber Golf Outing
Sept. 26— Opera House 20th Anniversary Dinner & Fundraiser aboard the Michigan Princess Riverboat

October, 2013

Oct. 11-13—Color Cruise and Island Festival, 10am-5pm, Island Park
Oct. 11- Opera House & Chamber present a "Craft Beer and Wine Tasting", evening