

Small town. Natural Wonders. Endless Opportunity.

Grand Ledge

Area Chamber of Commerce

Volume 4, Issue 3

March, 2010

What's Happening in Grand Ledge?

BIG 6
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March

03/12-13—7th Annual St. Patrick's Day Celebration

03/20—GBGL Pancake Breakfast, 8:30 – 11:30 am at Masonic Temple

03/28—Clarinet Connexions Concert, 3pm @ Opera House

April—2010

04/3—GBGL Easter Egg Hunt, 1pm, Opera House Commons "Make-It, Take-It" at Ledge Craft Lane 11am-2pm

04/12—Ledge's Playhouse Spaghetti Benefit, 11am—8pm, A & W

04/17—GBGL Pancake Breakfast, 8:30-11:30am at Masonic Temple

04/18—Pops Concert with Clark Wilson, organist, 3pm @ Opera House

04/27—Hayes MS Vocal Ensembles Concert, 7:30pm @ Opera House

May—2010

05/01—15th Annual Victorian Day

05/07—DooWops Benefit Concert, 7pm at Ledge's Playhouse

05/11—GLHS Madrigal Concert, 7:30pm @ Opera House

05/15—Food Drive for Grand Ledge Food Bank at Felpausch

05/15—GBGL Pancake Breakfast, 8:30-11:30am at Masonic Temple

05/15—7th Annual Thank The Troops Picnic in the Park

05/23-29—Michigan Week

05/28—GLHS Bands & Community Band "Concert on the Grand", 6pm @ Opera House

June—2010

06/11—World Premier of "Mr. Sims Will See You", Ledge's Playhouse

06/17-19—27th Annual Yankee Doodle Days

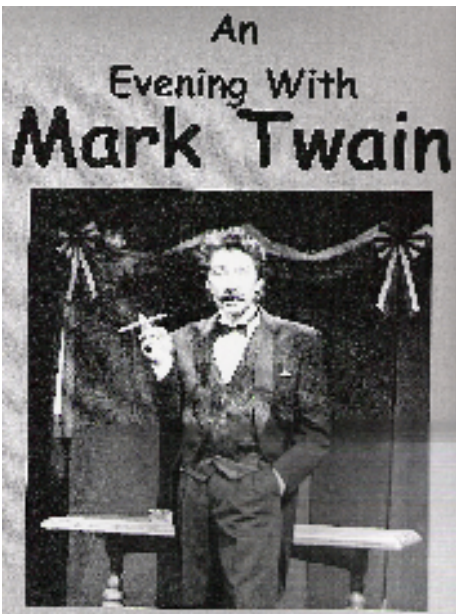
06/24—"An Evening with Mark Twain", on the Michigan Princess Riverboat

06/25-26—30th Annual Mudge's Follies "Back To Broadway" 7pm, Grand High School Auditorium

06/27—7th Annual Garden Tour

100th Anniversary of Mark Twain's Death Observed on Boat

Well-known and beloved author and humorist Samuel L. Clemens, better known as Mark Twain, will treat his audience to an evening of stories as told by the master himself. Presented by the Lansing Historical Society, Kevin Burnham will take the stage as Mark Twain for "An Evening with Mark Twain". Perhaps he may even relate some points from "Mark Twain's Lansing Lecture on Roughing It". This remarkable performance will take place on Thursday, June 24 on board the Michigan Princess Riverboat in Lansing. Tickets include a dinner buffet and cruise. For more information or tickets, call (517) 627-2154 or visit www.michiganprincess.com.



Eaton County Parks Events

CROSS COUNTRY SKI AND SNOWSHOE RENTALS AT FITZGERALD PARK- Eaton County Parks is again offering cross-country ski and snowshoe rentals at Fitzgerald Park in Grand Ledge this winter season. The park office is open for rentals daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. (weather permitting). Cost to rent equipment is \$5 per hour, \$15 per day, or \$50 for a weekend (weekend rate is from Friday afternoon to Monday noon). Cross-country ski rental includes skis, poles, and boots. A picture ID is required for rentals. Rental equipment is available in both children and adult sizes. Mastercard, Visa, and Discover cards accepted.

SNOWSHOEING THROUGH THE WINTER WONDERLAND- Eaton County Parks invites everyone to bring their snowshoes and join the Parks Naturalist at Fox Park for a walk through the winter wonderland looking for tracks and making a few of your own. A series of Nature at Night walks will be held on the following weekends (weather permitting): Friday, February 19, and Saturday, February 20.

All night hikes begin at 6:00 p.m. Interested participants should meet at the new comfort station at Fox Park in Potterville. This program is suitable for all ages. Program cost is \$2 per person with your own equipment or \$5 per person if you need to rent snowshoes. Program fee will be collected on site and exact change is appreciated. A reduced youth group rate is available. Advanced registration is required. The Fox Park Observatory will be open for public viewing from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. (weather permitting) on the dates listed above.

FOX PARK OBSERVATORY - PUBLIC VIEWING DATES-If the sky is sufficiently clear, the Fox Park Observatory will open its doors for public observing on selected astronomical objects during the months of February and March, 2010. Please see dates and times below.

> March 12—13, Starts at 7:30 p.m., Messier All Night Marathon, \$5/person.

The Observatory, located at 3979 E. Gresham Hwy., Potterville, MI 48876, is an open air observatory so please dress appropriately for the weather and wear sensible shoes or boots for the 200 yard walk to the observatory. Local area astronomer, 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. You may call the Observatory at 517-645-6666 during public viewing hours to check sky conditions.

For more information about any of the events or programs listed here or to register for any of the activities, please visit www.eatoncountyparks.org or call the park office at (517) 627-7351.

Pancake Breakfast



Saturday March 20
8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
At Grand Ledge Masonic Temple
(River Street across from Island Park)

Sponsored by Growing Business in Grand Ledge

Cost: **\$5.00** per adult
\$3.00 Kids 10 and under
All you can eat (pancakes)
Bring your family and friends



The Easter Bunny will visit Ledge Craft Lane at 120 South Bridge Street between 11am and 2pm on Saturday, April 3, 2010. Ledge Craft Lane will sponsor free "Make-It, Take-It" activities for children at the same time.



An Easter egg hunt for children 2-6 years old will be held on the Opera House Commons at 121 South Bridge at 1pm on Saturday, April 3. Children should gather at the Opera House parking lot to meet the Easter Bunny and prepare for the hunt. The Easter Egg Hunt is sponsored by Growing Business in Grand Ledge and the Opera House. Meijer has donated bicycles for the grand prizes.

Chamber Office

New memberships continue to come in. We are pleased to welcome Hyundai of Grand Ledge and Ramada of Lansing. The chamber office has just mailed out to the membership the Chamber plaque and window decal. Please display them in a prominent place in your office or business.

We have scheduled a food drive on May 15th at Felpausch. The collected food and money will go to the Grand Ledge Food Bank.

We are also working on a Spring Style Show. Our hope is to bring hundreds of people to our community for this event. More details will follow in next month's newsletter.

The Yankee Doodle Days committee has plans underway. Yankee Doodle Days will be June 17, 18, and 19. Mark your calendars. We need many hands to make this a success. Again this event brings thousands of people to our community.

We just completed two tax informational meetings. These were open to the public and were found to be very helpful in answering tax questions.

The chamber will sponsor the breakfast for the Michigan Week Awards Breakfast. Michigan Week is May 23-29.

As always, if you have any questions, concerns or suggestions, please call the chamber office at 627-2383.

Susan Sasse, Treasurer

Opera House

The Bridal Show attendance was up from last year. 24 of the 46 vendors were from the local area. Several have reported bookings.

Clarinet Connexions will present "Gordian Knots", a concert featuring 19 clarinets on Sunday, March 28 at 3 pm. Tickets are \$8.00 presale, \$10.00 at the door, students \$5.00.

Walt Eschtruth 627-5334

Victorian Day

Let us know if you are planning an activity or can provide a non-motorized, bicycle or walking unit for the parade. 1/3 page rack cards are available and have been distributed to Michigan travel centers, Convention Bureau, State & Women's Museums, Arts Council, the media and most businesses.

MEN— it's time to start growing your mustache and beard for the Mustache Contest. If you are a pie baker, dig out your recipes. Remember the Plant Exchange when you divide plants this spring.

Marilyn Smith 627-5170

Ledge's Playhouse Restoration Committee

Ledge's Playhouse won the "Pick a Place for Pinsonnault" Eaton County Historic vote on Channel 6 TV with 57% of the vote. Evan Pinsonnault filmed Ledge's Playhouse and historic materials at the library and we were featured on Tuesday, February 16. Good promotion for Grand Ledge & Ledge's Playhouse. Thanks to all who voted.

The DooWops will give a benefit concert at Ledge's Playhouse on Friday, May 7 at 7pm. Put the date on your calendar to hear great 50's & 60's vocals and support the painting of the playhouse.

Capital Theaterworks opens the season at Ledge's Playhouse on June 11 with "Mr. Sims Will See You". Artistic Director Kevin Burnham is excited about this world premier of a new comedy by Lansing playwright Eileen O'Leary. Let's all welcome the theater company and the playwright to Grand Ledge. Admission by donation.

Eat spaghetti at A & W on Monday, April 12 from 11am—8pm and \$2.00 of the dinner will be donated to Ledge's Playhouse restoration. Put the date on your calendar.

Marilyn Smith 627-5170

SMALL TOWN. NATURAL WONDERS. ENDLESS OPPORTUNITY.

Grand Ledge Area Chamber of Commerce
222 South Bridge Street
Grand Ledge, MI 48837

Phone: (517) 627-2383
E-mail: glacc@grandledgemi.com

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

You're Invited

THE
OPERA HOUSE
GRAND LEDGE
Presents

Sunday
March 28, 2010
3:00 p.m.

**CLARINET
CONNECTIONS**

"Gordian Knots"

Director Armand Hall



Featuring 20 Clarinets

Tickets Available at The Grand Ledge Opera House, MacDowell's Floral & Fireplace, Ace Hardware and Marshall Music.

\$8.00 Presale \$10.00 at the door \$5.00 Students

For more information, call 517-627-1443 or 517-627-8594. Visit www.gloperahouse.com

Supported by Eaton Federal Savings Bank, a corporate sponsor. Friends of the Opera House Benefit The Grand Ledge Opera House, 121 S. Bridge Street (Corner of Bridge and River Streets)