

Small town. Natural Wonders. Endless Opportunity.

Grand Ledge

Area Chamber of Commerce

Volume 7 Issue 3
March, 2013



News from Consumers Energy

With spring storms just around the corner, I would like to get the word out about our new online outage map (<http://www.consumersenergy.com/outagemap>) as well as storm preparedness for small businesses. Please check out the attached article and fact sheet on the new outage map. I also have a PowerPoint presentation on storm preparedness that I could give.

Chris Thelen (517) 374-2235

Children's Program and Sing Along at the Opera House

Come to the Opera House on Sunday, March 10 at 3:00 pm for an afternoon of family fun. Join Rachel Schroeder and Steve Paxton, a Father-Daughter duo, for a Children's Program and Sing Along featuring original songs and children's favorites. When Rachel is not busy at Paxton's Countertops and Showers, she offers her vocal and guitar talent to Singers on the Grand, Mudge's Follies and Holiday Wishes. Her talented father, Steve Paxton, joins her with his guitar at the Log Jam, and for this event and other benefits. They will be joined by Kelly Waterman with her ukulele and harmonica. Kelly sings for Mudge's Follies, Rally in the Alley and area benefits. Rich Peterson, vocal and bass guitar and Pete Farnum, drummer for Singers on the

Grand round out this talented group. They will be doing a special tribute to Shel Silverstein of "Where The Sidewalk Ends" fame. Tickets for this fun program are \$5 for adults, \$3 for children, \$15 for immediate family and are available at the Opera House, MacDowell's Hearth and Flowers, TrueValue Hardware and Paxton's Countertops. Chris Fata, owner of the Log Jam, has invited everyone to the backroom of the Log Jam after the show. He will feature a children's menu and free ice cream for the kids. For further information, call (517) 627-1443, (517) 627-8594 or visit www.gloperahouse.com



Tri-County Office on Aging

For the first time in years, there is a severe shortage of volunteers who help deliver *Meals on Wheels*. The Tri-County Office on Aging program provides more than 450,000 hot, nutritious meals annually in Clinton, Eaton and Ingham counties to older adults and people with disabilities. At least 170 more volunteers are currently needed to deliver either daily, weekly or once a month. Training takes less than an hour. You can deliver as often as your schedule allows. Most routes can be done on a lunch hour. Many companies adopt a *Meals on Wheels* route or volunteer, but working individuals, retirees, stay-at-home parents, religious and community organizations can all adopt a route or volunteer. For more information call Eaton County (517) 541-2330, Clinton County (989) 224-3600, Ingham (517) 676-2775 or Greater Lansing (517) 887-1460.



Welcome New Members

Image Projections
 Ron and Carol Nichols
 222 South Bridge
 Grand Ledge, MI 48837
 (517) 627-2159
 info@imageprojections.com

MTM Bookkeeping & Tax Services
 Ron Glover
 850 E. Saginaw
 Grand Ledge, MI 48837
 (517) 627-8390
 rex@lansingtax.com

Baker Builders, Inc
 Jim Heinowski
 PO Box 155
 Jackson, MI 49204
 (517) 240-3746
 JimH@bakerbuilders.net

American Cancer Society-Great Lakes Division
 Cassandra Puskala
 1755 Abbey Road
 East Lansing, MI 48823
 (517) 332-3300
 cassandra.puskala@cancer.org

People Matters, LLC
 Jodi Raymond
 11569 Stone Bluff Drive
 Grand Ledge, MI 48837
 (517) 925-8257
 Jodi@people-mattershr.com

FOX PARK OBSERVATORY PUBLIC VIEWING NIGHTS

If the sky is sufficiently clear, the Fox Park Observatory will open its doors for public observing this spring on the Saturday nights listed below:

March 23 and 30, 8:00 p.m.—11:00 p.m. *Jupiter and the Winter Milky Way set in the west as Saturn and the spring galaxies rise in the east.*

April 20 and 27, 8:30 p.m.—11:00 p.m. *Jupiter and the Moon show off with Saturn joining them as the night progresses.*

May 4, 9:00 p.m.—Midnight *Spring galaxies and globular clusters fill the sky as Jupiter sets in the west and Saturn rises in the east.*

June 1, 15, 22, and 29, 9:00 p.m.—Midnight *Saturn, spring galaxies, globular clusters, and the moon will be featured.*

Observation 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. Public observation nights are suitable for people of all ages. Program fee is \$2 per person or \$5 per family, payable on site. Motor vehicle entry fee waived for this program. The Observatory, located at 3979 E. Gresham Hwy., Potterville, MI 48876, is an open air observatory. Please dress appropriately for the weather and wear sturdy shoes or boots for the 200 yard walk to the observatory. Local area astronomers, Kevin Keys and/or Jason Blaschka, will be on hand to answer questions about the night sky. For more information, please visit our website at www.eatoncountyparks.org or call the Park office at [517-627-7351](tel:517-627-7351).

The Spring 2013 Eaton County Parks newsletter is now available for viewing on the Park website at [http://www.eatoncounty.org/images/Departments/Parks%20Department/Newsletters and Brochures/ECP Spring 2013 Newsletter.pdf](http://www.eatoncounty.org/images/Departments/Parks%20Department/Newsletters%20and%20Brochures/ECP_Spring_2013_Newsletter.pdf).

Ledge Craft Lane—Art Aid Party

Ledge Craft Lane is holding a raffle and silent auction to benefit and help continue artisan crafts as well as fine art in the greater Grand Ledge area. Ledge Craft is a non-profit organization which helps keep sewing, pottery, painting, jewelry, etc alive and well at 120 South Bridge Street, Grand Ledge. Ledge Craft Lane also gives the artist of these works an outlet to the public for purchase as well as classes. To purchase a ticket to the Art Aid Party or to obtain raffle tickets call Darlene Matthews (517) 627-9843.

Grand Ledge Historical Society and Museum

“Things of Beauty: Decorative Arts” is the focus of the new Museum exhibit which opened Sunday, March 3rd at the Museum in Grand Ledge at 118 W. Lincoln St and runs until mid-December. The Museum is open each Sunday 2-4pm, festival days 12-4pm and by appointment. Featured in the exhibit are artistic artifacts including an 1845 handwoven coverlet, an 1890’s watercolor of Sandstone Creek by Cliff Stark, a large collection of Grand Ledge Clay Folk Art and several special Grand Ledge Chair Company decorative chairs. Over 30 paintings by Grand Ledge artists from the 1800’s to the present are shown. The artists include Betty Jones with early Produce Company buildings, Carol Basso with Fitzgerald Park scenes, Rutgers Alexandere “Angles”, Sally LaFontzee “Poppies”, Tamara Harrod impressionist and “Jonas Sawdon” by nationally known Marilyn Bendell. Photographs of Grand Ledge by Marratt, Bill Gibbons and Ernst Floeter can be seen. A variety of quilts from the 1800’s to the 1986 sesquicentennial quilt by the Stitchery Guild are included along with weavings by Ethel Alexander, Barbara Floeter and Nellie Floeter. See beautiful needlepoint, tatting and bobbin lace. Don’t miss “Weary Willie”, the six foot handcarved Emmett Kelly clown by well-known woodcarver Burr Parker, handturned bowls by Bill Cushing and the bronze cast replica statue of “One World” by Agnes Russell McLean. Beautiful clothing includes the wedding dresses of Hazel Sawdon, Jane Butterick and Lucy Robinson. We also feature a hand crocheted child’s dress and c.1900 ballgown worn by Mary Campbell. The above mentioned “Things of Beauty” are just a sampling of the many items included in this exhibit. For further information call (517) 627-5170 or (517) 627-8594.

Congratulations!

Chamber members Home Helpers of Grand Ledge recently received the 2013 “Best of Home Care” award qualifying in 10 of the 12 possible categories. Local owners Dorothy and Preston Childs are running a successful business of helping loved ones stay in their homes independently for longer periods of time. In addition, Home Helpers also offers local transportation, light housekeeping, meal preparation, medication reminders and bathing. Congratulations Dorothy and Preston.

Victorian Day Committee

The Victorian Day Committee is sponsoring a Bake Sale on Saturday, March 16 from 1-3pm in front of the Chamber of Commerce office at 22 S Bridge St. The St. Patrick’s Day Parade is at 2pm. St. Patrick’s specials. The Log Jam is sponsoring a fundraiser for the Victorian Day Committee on Wednesday, March 13 from 4-8pm. A percentage of all meals during that time period will be donated to help support the activities of Victorian Days on May 4 and 5. For more information call (517) 285-2864.

Outage Map



► Consumers Energy has launched an online, interactive outage map that can be accessed on our website or with these addresses:

www.ConsumersEnergy.com/outagemap
www.ConsumersEnergy.com/outagecenter

► With mobile-enhanced viewing, you can also access the map on your smartphone or tablet. This new webpage complements our existing mobile website, which lets you report outages and obtain restoration information.

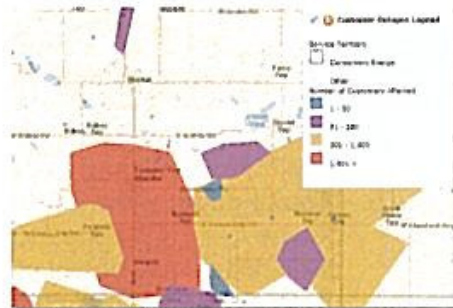
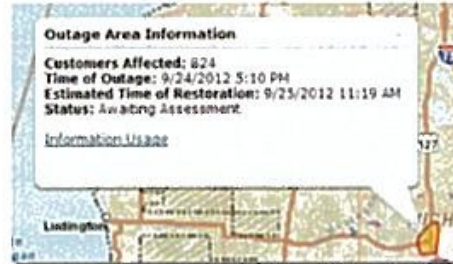
► With our outage map, you can get 24/7 outage information displayed geographically to show communities affected by power outages across our electric service territory. You can also view outage and restoration information for a specific area by entering a Michigan address, city, township or ZIP code.

► In addition to showing the location of outages, the outage map provides:

- Number of customers affected
- Time of outage
- Estimated time of restoration
- Status of the outage

► Customer outages are displayed as colored polygons of varying sizes to indicate the approximate area and scale of an outage. You can also select different map views, including both a street map and satellite map. Additional outage information is available for viewing at city or county levels.

► The outage numbers shown in the detail are estimates and may change as Consumers Energy gathers more information and responds to a particular outage.



15 Tips to Help Your Business Weather a Storm

By Consumers Energy

At Consumers Energy, we want you to be prepared to safely weather any Michigan storm or emergency. These tips will help you and your business so you're not in the dark during a power outage. For more information, visit us at www.ConsumersEnergy.com/outagecenter.

Be Prepared

1. Understand your businesses' priorities following a power outage or disaster and make plans that address immediate (first few hours), near-term (first day or two) and long-term (week or longer) needs and actions.
2. Develop plans to ensure critical business processes can continue during a power outage or emergency.
3. If you have equipment that cannot be disrupted even for short periods, such as a computer or sump pump, install a battery back-up system or generator.
4. When using a generator, make sure it is properly installed by a licensed electrician, for the safety of lineworkers and other emergency responders who may come near power lines. Never use your generator in a basement, breezeway, and attached garage or near any fresh-air intakes, windows or doors to prevent deadly carbon monoxide from entering your home or business.
5. Develop a communications plan for employees, customers and suppliers. Think about how you would serve your customers and coordinate with your employees and suppliers even if your facilities were closed or you cannot get to work.
6. Keep adequate emergency supplies at work, such as battery powered flashlights, radios, extra batteries and first aid kits.
7. Encourage your employees to be prepared at home. Employees who feel their families are unprepared are unlikely to report to work to help the business respond or recover.
8. Visit www.Ready.Gov for more information on developing business continuity plans that can help your business be prepared for any disaster.

During a Storm

9. If you lose power, report it immediately:
 - a. **Web page:** www.ConsumersEnergy.com/outagecenter or www.ConsumersEnergy.com/outagemap: report outage, get estimated time of restoration (ETR) updates, view outages on outage map.
 - b. **Mobile page:** www.ConsumersEnergy.com from a smartphone: report outage, get ETR updates, view outages on outage map. While your home or business may be out of power, the outage map can also be accessed using a smartphone or tablet or at another location that has power.
 - c. **Calling Consumers Energy** at (800) 477-5050: report outage, get ETR updates.

10. Stay away from down or sagging power lines and any debris that might be entangled with power lines.
 - a. Stay at least 25 feet away from all downed wires and always assume they are "live" and potentially deadly. If you see any downed power lines, Call Consumers Energy at 1-800-477-5050 or your local law enforcement agency immediately.
 - b. Don't touch anything a power line may be touching; including trees, fences and puddles. A good rule is if you are in a safe location (like your house or car), stay there and make sure you notify Consumers Energy.
 - c. Don't attempt to remove limbs or other debris from lines.
 - d. Don't interfere with utility crews while they are working.
 - e. Keep one light "on" so you'll know when your electricity has been restored.
11. If power is lost, switch electronic devices such as cell phones to a power saving mode and keep all non-essential calls to a minimum to prolong battery life.
12. Don't travel unless necessary. If you have to leave your business, turn the main breaker off. This will reduce the chance of damage to equipment and safety problems if power is restored while you're away.

After a Storm

13. After a storm, limit non-essential travel to avoid going into hazardous areas and avoid obstructing restoration efforts.
14. Follow your company's communication and emergency plans until back to normal operations.
15. Check for damage to the mast that holds the electric service wires to your business, but do not touch any of the equipment and watch for downed wires. Consumers Energy crews will reconnect the wires to your business, but only a licensed electrician can repair or replace a mast or cable.

Be prepared. *Businesses that recover faster, help the whole community recover faster.*

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?

March, 2013

- March 9**—"Celebrate Harmony"—A Barbershop Style Tribute to the 75th Anniversary of The Barbershop Harmony Society, 7:30 pm, Wharton Center
- March 10**—Children's Program with Sing Along— Rachel Paxton-Schroeder, Steve Paxton & Guests, Opera House, 3pm
- March 13**—Fundraiser for Victorian Day Committee, 4-8pm, Log Jam
- March 15**— Panstarrs Viewing Night, Fox Observatory, 8-11pm
- March 15-16**— 10th Annual St. Patrick's Day Celebration
- March 16**—St. Patrick's Day Parade, 2pm
- March 16**—Victorian Day Committee Bake Sale, 1-3pm, in front of the Chamber office, St. Patrick's specials!
- March 22**—Ledge Craft Lane Art Aid Party, 6-8pm
- March 23 and March 30**— Fox Park Observatory Public Viewing Night

April, 2013

- April 7**—Lansing Theatre Organ Concert— Chris Elliott—back by popular demand, Opera House, 3pm

April 14— 1st Annual Grand Ledge Bridal Association Show "Wedding Destination—Grand Ledge"

April 21—Elizabeth Kune—Vocalist- "An Afternoon of Jazz with Elizabeth", Opera House, 3pm

- 11pm, Fox Park in Potterville

May, 2013

May 4 & 5—18th Annual Victorian Day

May 14— GLHS Madrigal Concert, Opera House, 7:30pm

May 18— 10th Annual Thank the Troops Event

May 22—Hayes Middle School, Select Women & Select Men Concert, Opera House, 7:30pm

May 24—Concert on the Grand, GLHS & Community Bands, Opera House Lawn, 6pm

June, 2013

June 20 -23—30th Annual Yankee Doodle Days

June 23—10th Annual Garden Tour

June 27-28—33rd Annual Mudge's Follies—Community Musical Variety Show