

Small town. Natural Wonders. Endless Opportunity.

# Grand Ledge

Area Chamber of Commerce

Volume 4, Issue 5

May, 2010

## What's Happening in Grand Ledge?

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### May, 2010

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

05/12—Wildflower Walk, 6pm, Fitzgerald Park

05/13—Wildflower Walk, 6pm, Fox Memorial Park

05/15—Food Drive for Grand Ledge Food Bank at Felpausch, 10am-4pm

05/15—Breakfast with the Birds, 7:30am-10am, Lincoln Brick Park

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

05/15—Beading Workshop, 10:30am-12:30pm, Lincoln Brick Park

05/15—Wildflower Walk, 1:30pm, Lincoln Brick Park

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

06/12—River Clean-up, 9am

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

06/19— Community Wide Garage Sale, Island

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



Chamber members enjoyed a trip to Detroit and a dinner and entertainment cruise on the four deck Detroit Princess Riverboat, arranged by Chamber members John and Karla Chamberlain.

## Eaton County Parks Events

**WILDFLOWER WALKS**—You're invited to join Eaton County Parks Naturalist Jackie Blanc to explore the wonders of nature as you wander through the woods in search of wildflowers on the following dates:

Saturday, May 15, 1:30pm at Lincoln Brick Park on Tallman Road in Grand Ledge. Participants should meet at the Interpretive Center.

Walks are suitable for all ages. Program fee is \$2 per person or \$5 per family. A reduced youth group rate is available.

**FOX PARK OBSERVATORY - SPRING VIEWING DATES**—If the sky is sufficiently clear, the Fox Park Observatory will open its doors for public observing on selected astronomical objects on the Friday and Saturday nights listed below.

> June 4-5, 9:30pm-11pm

The Observatory, located at 3979 E. Gresham Hwy., Potterville, MI 48876, is an open air observatory so please dress for the outdoors and bring your family out to explore the universe. Interested participants will need to park in the main parking lot and wear sensible shoes or boots for the 200 yard walk to the observatory. Program fee is \$1 per person or \$5 per family payable at the donation box on site. Friends of Eaton County Parks and local astronomers, Jason Blaschka and/or Kevin Keys, 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) - For 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 15, from 7:30am to 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 AT LINCOLN BRICK PARK**—Eaton County Parks invites you to join us for a Beading Workshop on Saturday, May 15, from 10:30am to 12:30pm at the Lincoln Brick Park Interpretive Center in Grand Ledge. 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 space is limited. Registration deadline is Wednesday, May 12th.

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](http://www.eatoncountyparks.org) or call the park office at (517) 627-7351

### Opera House

Friends of the Opera House have sent out renewal notices and are looking to increase membership at any of these three annual tax-deductible levels: Blake Room Level- \$18.84, Terrace Level—\$50.00, Grand Hall Level—\$100.00. This year we have added a Corporate Level at an annual membership of \$1,000.00. For information on membership benefits, contact Melanie May (517) 627-1443 or email: [gloh@gloperahouse.com](mailto:gloh@gloperahouse.com), or click on "Friends" on [www.gloperahouse.com](http://www.gloperahouse.com). The yearly Friends of the Opera House dinner is scheduled for Thursday, September 23 in the Grand Hall. The support of our friends is important to maintaining and enhancing the operation of the Opera House, a downtown Grand Ledge gem. The Opera House was the winner in the May "Pick a Place for Pinsonnault", a WLNS promotion for places to visit on his early morning TV program. The Opera House was featured on TV on Tuesday, May 11. The Opera House won over the Country Club of Lansing and Traveler's Tuba Museum. Thanks to those who voted for the Opera House—over 70%. For more information about the Opera House, visit [www.gloperahouse.com](http://www.gloperahouse.com). Become a fan of the Opera House on Facebook.com.

Walt Eschtruth, 627,7554

### Ledges Playhouse Restoration Committee

Thank you to the 48 people who ate spaghetti. We raised \$96.00 for paint. There are 22 quart paint cans with a playhouse picture in various businesses around town. Please encourage people to make donations. We have also had a couple who have bought several gallons of paint. If you wish to do that please make your check payable to "Grand Ledge Area Historical Society", a non-profit corporation under IRS Code 501 (c) (3) who serves as the fiscal agent for the committee. Mail to Norm Smith, Treasurer of GLAHS, 7284 Willow Hwy., Grand Ledge, MI 48837. Our goal is to raise an additional \$3,000.00 so we can paint the playhouse this summer. Don't forget the benefit 50's & 60's DooWops concert "A Tribute to Our Mothers" on Friday, May 7, 7pm at the playhouse in Fitzgerald Park. Tickets \$10.00 presale at the Opera House, MacDowell's and ACE Hardware or \$12.00 at the door.

Marilyn Smith 627-5170

## Chamber Show a Fashionable Success!



The models from the Spring Fashion Show gather for the finale on the runway.

The Grand Ledge Area Chamber of Commerce held its first Spring Fashion Show and WOW— what a “fashion Statement” it was. The Opera House was full of new fashion seekers. Fashions were provided by Coldwater Creek, Younkers, White House/Black Market, Janine’s Consignment Boutique and Etcetera. The vendors that provided items/products available for purchase were Mary Kay Cosmetics, Tastefully Simple, Miche Purses, Organic Spa Girl, Lia Sophia Jewelry, Bridgewater Salon, H & H Jewelry, Delta flowers and Summer Purses by Teresa Wells. Music and refreshments were provided. The comment from everyone was “What a great event. Hope you make this an annual event.” And that is the plan. A thank you to all that participated. It takes many to make an event like this be successful. A “Very Special Thanks” to the committee that put it all together: Kelli Ellsworth-Etchison, Karen Archer, Julie Templin and Susan Sasse.

### Chamber News

BUSY, BUSY, BUSY is what we have been. We are so happy to say that our First Spring Fashion Show was a very Fashionable Success. Wow! We filled the Opera House. But now we must move on to our next events. A FOOD DRIVE will be held on Saturday, May 15th from 10am-4pm at the Felpausch Food Center. Please stop by and make a donation of food or money. The need in our community is great. The RIVER CLEAN-UP will be held on Saturday, June 12th. Meeting areas will be the boat launch on River Street and at Fitzgerald Park. The clean up will start at 9am and should be completed by noon. Bring some gloves. We will provide trash bags. Help us clean the Grand River. Yankee Doodle Days will be held on June 17, 18, and 19th. This year (first time ever) we will be having a Community Wide Garage Sale on the Island. An 8 ft spot will be offered for \$15.00 and you can bring your garage items sale to sell. Hundreds of people will stroll the Island to view and buy your items. You must complete an application and pay the fee to hold your space. (Applications are on line or call the Chamber office for one to be mailed to you.) The applications for the Yankee Doodle Days parade are also on line. Get your application in for your parade entry. You must submit an application in order to be in the line-up. You can fax, mail or email your application to the Chamber office (fax 627-9213). We are in need of volunteers for Yankee Doodle Days. If you can work a few hours, please contact Susan Sasse 290-3933. It’s fun and a golden opportunity to network. Yankee Doodle Days is one of our biggest events of the year. If you have any questions about any of the coming events, call Susan Sasse 290-3933.

**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 IS FINEST RETIREMENT LIVING COMMUNITY

### Chamber Celebrates Ribbon Cuttings at Two Local Businesses



Computer Troubleshooters has opened an office in Grand Ledge. They are located at 850 East Saginaw Hwy, Grand Ledge, in the Doty Insurance Company building. Mark Mitchell has been in the computer business for many years. He can be reached at (517) 853-1942. His e-mail address is [mmitchell@comptroub.com](mailto:mmitchell@comptroub.com) and his web site is [www.cctlansing.com](http://www.cctlansing.com). Mark's hours are 9am to 5pm and by appointment. There is a drop off location at the office for people who would prefer to bring their computers to the office. Mark also makes house calls. Mark is a member of the Board of Directors for the Grand Ledge Area Chamber of Commerce. He is very involved in our community and volunteers for many of the events.

The name has changed by the faces stay the same. The Grand Ledge Area Chamber of Commerce held a ribbon cutting for PNC Bank. The National City name is gone, but the faces and great service are the same. PNC has new opportunities for their customers. Stop by and see what new services are available. This branch employs 8 individuals from the surrounding areas. PNC is based out of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania and the 5th largest bank in deposits in the US. PNC is committed to our community. They are Chamber members and sponsor the International ATHENA Award given every year by the Chamber at the annual dinner.