

Small town. Natural Wonders. Endless Opportunity.

Grand Ledge

Area Chamber of Commerce

Volume 5, Issue 5

May, 2011

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Celebrate Michigan

May 14-28



From the President's Desk

What's Happening?



There is an old saying:

There are three kinds of people-

those who make things happen

those who watch things happen

those who wonder what happened.

Do you know what's happening in Grand Ledge? Community events and festivals are listed in every issue of the Chamber newsletter and on the Chamber website. Grand Ledge offers a wide variety of activities for all ages. Take a few minutes to check out the calendar on the back page. Then plan to participate in some of the special happenings that are offered.

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

(517) 626-8008 wk, (517) 749-4979 cell, email: miriverboat@aol.com

Michigan Facts and Trivia

- ~The state stone is the Petoskey Stone, found along the shores of Lake Michigan.
- ~The city of Novi was named from its designation as Stagecoach Stop #6 or No.VI
- ~ The painted turtle is Michigan's state reptile.
- ~Michigan has the longest freshwater shoreline in the world.
- ~Michigan has more than 11,000 inland lakes and more than 36,000 miles of streams
- ~Michigan has 116 lighthouses and navigational lights
- ~Isle Royale Park shelters one of the largest moose herds remaining in the US
- ~Michigan State University has the largest single campus student body of any Michigan university. It is the largest institution of higher learning in the state and one of the largest in the country.
- ~In 1817 the University of Michigan was the first university established by any of the states. Originally named Catholepistemiun and located in Detroit, the name was changed in 1821 and moved to Ann Arbor in 1841.
- ~Michigan is the only place in the world with a floating post office. The JW Westcott II is the only boat in the world that delivers mail to ships while they are still underway. They have been operating for 125 years.
- ~Four flags have flown over Michigan-French, English, Spanish, and US
- ~Michigan was the first state to provide in its constitution for the establishment of public libraries

Victorian Day—May 7—10am to 5pm

This week already! Lots of activities starting with a surprise Opening Ceremony at 10am. You won't want to miss a carriage ride with Crystal Falls Horse and Carriage Co. (\$5.00). They will also be escorting the bride and groom down main street after the 4pm Victorian wedding at the Wedding Chapel. Call 627-9843 to reserve space for your 3-7 year olds at the Ledge Craft Lane 3pm Teddy Bear Tea, followed by a May Pole Dance at 4pm. Put on your best duds and come to the High Tea, 1:30pm at the Opera House Terrace Level. Plan to see Susan B. Anthony, 10am at the Wedding Chapel. Don't forget to bring your extra plants to trade and garden accessories you would like to sell on consignment at May Pole Park. Your homemade pie for judging and auction are due at Imagine This at 10:30am. Pick up a copy of the Gazeater newspaper at local businesses for more information or visit www.victoriandays.org.
Marilyn Smith 627-5170

Chamber Corner

~Since the Chamber moved into our new building in January, we have been very busy. As Spring and Summer approach, so do many of our events. On May 15th the Chamber will host the second annual Fashion Show. This event will be held at the Opera House from 2-4pm. The cost is \$7.00. Five different stores will be showcasing their new fashions for spring. We have 20 vendors displaying and selling their products. Refreshments and Drawings will make for a fun filled afternoon. Last year's show was a sell out. Tickets may be purchased at the Chamber office or at the door.

~Coming right on the heels of the Fashion Show will be Yankee Doodle Days. This year the dates are June 16, 17, and 18. We have tried to expand the events so there will be something for everyone. Thursday night will be the Entertainment/Beer Tent. That night will feature a Battle of the Bands, featuring five bands. Friday night will be fun under the BIG tent featuring "Global Village Band". On Saturday, the morning will start with a 5K run, high heel race, parade, duck race, craft show, skate board demo, pig roast, Touch-A-Truck, motorcycle ride/display, and face painting. Saturday night under the BIG tent will feature the band "The Usual Suspects". The day will conclude with fireworks. We are accepting applications for crafters. If you would like to participate, call the Chamber office (517) 627-2383 or visit www.grandledgechamber.com

~The Chamber hosted a Food Drive on the Saturday before Easter. What a great success it was. We had lots of food donations as well as money donations for the Grand Ledge Food Bank.

~Once again this year the Chamber is proud to display the flags over the bridge. What a beautiful site to drive across the bridge and see the flag display in honor of our veterans.

~A financial review has been completed by MTM Bookkeeping and Accounting. That review determined that the accounting procedures that the Chamber has in place is in compliance with accepted accounting procedures and that we have check s and balances in place.

~As the summer and fall approach we will be continuing with our annual golf outing, Color Cruise and Island Festival, another food drive, Back to School supplies drive for needy children, ribbon cuttings and winter coat/clothing drive for the Grand Ledge Food Bank.

~The Chamber continues to sponsor events and festivals to bring awareness to our community and support for our businesses. We continue our community service with food and clothing drives, flag display on the bridge, river clean up projects, ribbon cuttings, hosting the German students, and hosting tax forum meetings.

~When you are downtown, we invite you to stop in and visit the new Chamber office.

Susan Sasse 290-3933

Help Wanted

We need your help!!!!

>Yankee Doodle Days is having a craft show on Saturday, June 18th. If you are a crafter or know of one, please pass the word along that we are looking for lots of crafters. The application is on the Chamber website: www.grandledgechamber.com or call (517) 627-2383.

>We are inviting all motorcyclists to join in our parade at 11am on Saturday, June 18th and then display your bike and enjoy conversation with fellow bikers.

>We are encouraging children to decorate their bikes and ride in the parade as well. Children should line up on the corner of Scott St and Bridge St.

>Color Cruise and Island Festival needs a 15-20 foot trailer to use as an on site office. If you have one you would be willing to loan or know of one, please call the Chamber office.

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: 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: 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.

Heritage Day

Sunday, May 22, 2-4pm at the Museum, 118 W Lincoln St. "Revisiting the Main 4 Corners". Tour the exhibit, then share your memories with businesses through the years. Members of the Western Auto Earl family, the Ewing family, Rexall Drug store owners and employees, Willis, Maguire and Nott family members along with others will be on hand to share their stories and experiences. Come share your memories in an informal setting. Refreshments will be served.

SMALL TOWN. NATURAL WONDERS. ENDLESS OPPORTUNITY.

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

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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?

May, 2011

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—Thank The Troops Picnic, Fitzgerald Park
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, 7:30 PM, Opera House
May 17—Mayors Exchange Day — City delegates will visit Mason
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 22—Heritage Day —Tour the Museum

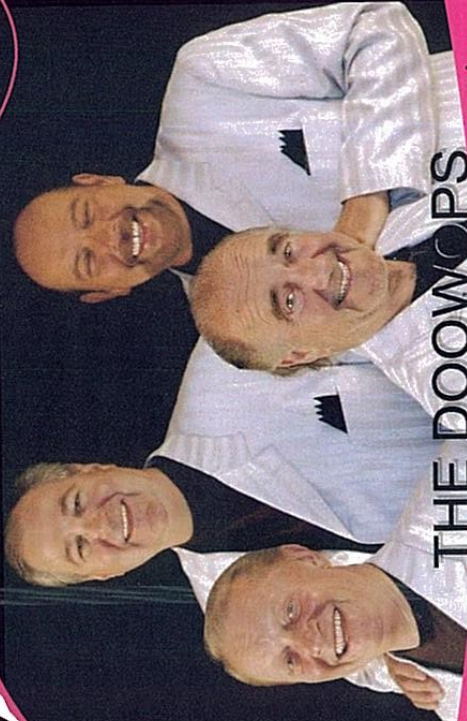
May 23—Youth Art Day, Art Show by Grand Ledge students, 10am-7pm, Opera House
May 24—Keep Grand Ledge Beautiful Day, Grand Ledge Garden Club, 3pm, St. Michaels Church for memorial tree dedication
May 26—Senior Health and Wellness Day—hosted by Independence Village, open to the public, all day
May 26—Mayor's Walk
May 27—GLHS Bands & Community Band "Concert on the Grand", 6pm, Opera House
May 28—Memorial Day Parade

June, 2011

June 10-11— Public Viewing Night, Fox Park Observatory, 9:30-11:30pm
June 16-18—Yankee Doodle Days-various activities and locations
June 23-24—31st Annual Mudge's Follies- Fabulous 50's
June 24-25— Astrophotography Imaging Night, 9pm-1am, Fox Park Observatory
June 26—8th Annual Garden Tour

Benefit for

Ledges Playhouse



THE DOOWOPS

Featuring songs from the 50's and 60's

Saturday, May 21 7:00 p.m.

Ledge's Playhouse in Fitzgerald Park
133 Fitzgerald Park Dr., Grand Ledge (W. Jefferson)

\$10.00 Pre sale \$12.00 At The Door

Tickets Available at The Grand Ledge Opera House, MacDowell's Floral & Fireplace, Ace Hardware or Jim Jones Salon located at the Michigan Athletic Club, 2900 Hannah Blvd., East Lansing.
For more information, call 517-627-5170 or 517-333-6677.

Sponsored by Ledge's Playhouse Restoration Committee.

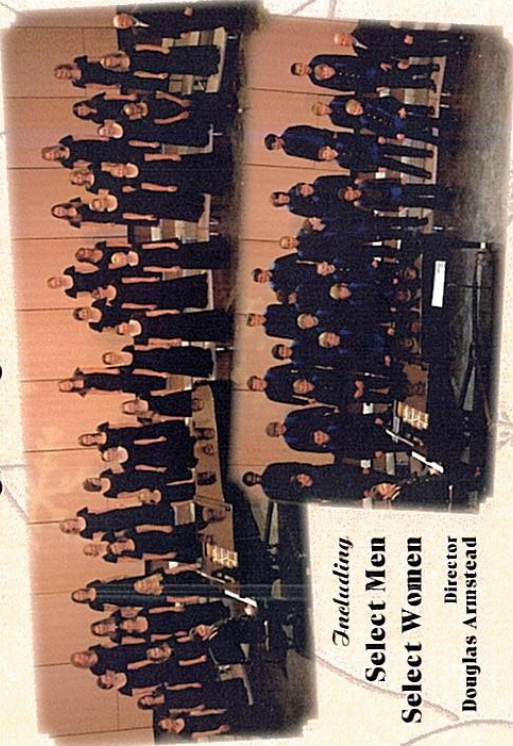


Grand Ledge
Opera House of Grand Ledge

The Grand Ledge Opera House Presents

Hayes Vocal Ensembles in Concert

Monday, May 16 7:30 p.m.



Including
Select Men
Select Women
Director
Douglas Armstead

THE
O P E R A H O U S E
G R A N D L E D G E
121 S. Bridge Street
(Corner of Bridge and River Streets)

Tickets Available at

The Grand Ledge Opera House,
MacDowell's Floral & Fireplace, and Ace Hardware.
\$5.00 Adults \$12.00 Family

For more information,
call 517-627-1445 or 517-627-5170.

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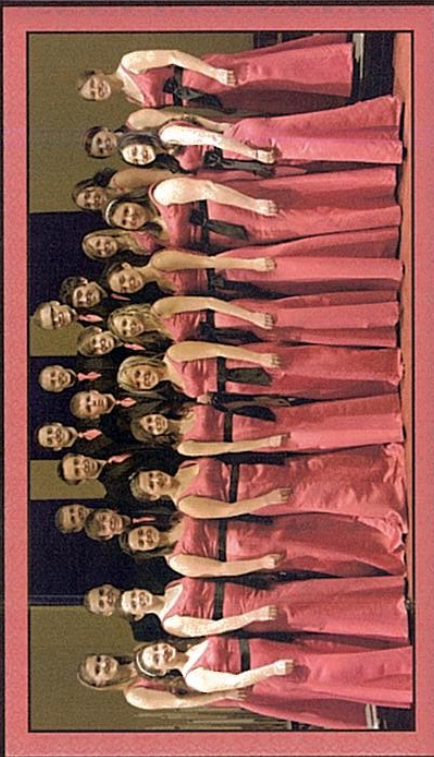
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Friends of the Opera House Benefit

The Grand Ledge Opera House Presents

"An Evening with the Madrigals"

featuring Grand Ledge High School Madrigal Singers
Conducted by Sheri Tulloch

Tuesday, May 10 7:30 p.m.



THE
OPERA HOUSE
GRAND LEDGE

121 S. Bridge Street, Corner of Bridge and River Streets

Tickets for this fundraiser Adults \$8.00 ~ Students \$6.00

Available at The Grand Ledge Opera House, MacDowell's Floral & Fireplace, and Ace Hardware.
For more information, call 517-627-1443 or 517-627-8973. Visit www.gloperahouse.com

Supported by Eaton Federal Savings Bank, a corporate sponsor. Friends of the Opera House Benefit

Friday
May 17
2011
6:00 p.m.



Memorial Day Concert On The Grand

presented by
Grand Ledge High School Bands
Directed by Christopher Blackmer
Grand Ledge Community Band
Directed by Matt Zerman

On the Opera House Commons
Bring a chair or blanket
Hot Dog supper concessions

For more information
call 627-1443 or 627-5170
www.gloperahouse.com

THE
OPERA HOUSE
GRAND LEDGE

121 S. Bridge Street

FREE Concert FREE Concert FREE Concert!

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