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**DIRECTOR'S CORNER**

~ Executive Director - Norman Snyder - 627-2383

Again this year the community of Grand Ledge had two Volunteer Leadership Award recipients during Michigan Week. One of the two honorees is Karla Chamberlain, and the second was the YES House. Congratulations to both and thank you for your continued support to our community.

We are in the final stages of preparing to offer Blue Cross & Blue Shield to our membership. In the next few days our website will have the details for members choosing to enroll in our healthcare program. I would like to thank Bill Atkin, Cathy Andrews, Pamela O'Berry, Jon Bayless, and Karl Lothschutz in their support of helping us obtain a healthcare program for our membership. We will keep you advised of changes and updates as we roll out our healthcare plan.

I want to share with you another program which will be available to our entire membership - our Member To Member Value Program. You will be able to access our web site or obtain applications from our office to enroll in this new program. This program provides every member an opportunity to share in membership value. I truly hope our membership will take an active role in our Member To Member Value Program. What better way to shop in your community!

I want to share with you we are making a number of changes to our web site. In making these changes we are continuing to provide more and more information about the Chamber and its membership. When you get a minute, take a look at our web site – [www.grandledgemi.com](http://www.grandledgemi.com). We have a link on the Festivals and Events web page for Yankee Doodle Days (which we try to keep updated weekly). Shortly we will have our Ambassador page, Award page, and Member To Member Value page up on our web site. Our hits on the web site continue to increase month by month - which I believe is excellent! A big thank you Lisa Vickers who is our webmaster.

We have a number of projects underway, and we can always use volunteers. Please give us a call if you are interested (627-2383).

In closing let's take a few moments to remember the men and women who are serving our country this coming Independence Day. Also, let's not forget our veterans who have served in the past. On behalf of our membership, *Thank You* to the men and women who have served and are serving!

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**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

~ Chair - Bill Atkin - 627-2531

I had the pleasure of hosting the first of our 12 "Sharing a Vision" (business after hours). Many thanks to those who attended! There was plenty of good food and good networking. I encourage anyone looking for an opportunity to gather with fellow business people in an enjoyable atmosphere to join us. You won't be sorry... Please make a point of visiting the Chamber website for information on the newly formed "President's Circle" and "Member to Member Value Program" now offered by the Chamber. I welcome those with ideas on how to make our Chamber a better value to its members. Please feel free to call me anytime at 290-1954.

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**MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE**

~ Chair – Staci Holmes - 627-6085

We would like to extend a BIG welcome to our new Chamber members! Please stop by and personally welcome them to the Chamber.

- BreakFree Laser
- Ledges Printing
- Self Defense America

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**GRAND LEDGE OPERA HOUSE**

~ Co-Chairs - Walt Eschtruth - 627-7554 and Bill Ferrigan - 627-8431

The Opera House Board held its annual meeting with the Chamber of Commerce Executive Board on June 7 to update the new board members on Opera House operations and to discuss mutual concerns. The Friends of the Opera House will hold the Annual Dinner on Thursday, September 29. Opera House staff and volunteers, under the direction of Harlan MacDowell, have been busy planting flowers and working on the grounds. The Opera House board is hoping to hear about the state grant applied for through the City no later than this fall.

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**AMBASSADORS**

~ Chair - Sheila Laing - 627-3882

Next meeting: Wednesday, June 29 - 7:30 AM - Blake Room - Opera House. We welcome new prospective members to join us! A ribbon cutting for Self Defense America of Michigan will be held at 5:30 PM on June 15 at their location of 312 S. Bridge Street. Another ribbon cutting is scheduled at Dart Bank of Grand Ledge at 5:30 PM on June 23 at their location on Charlevoix Drive. Please join us in welcoming them to Grand Ledge and the Chamber!

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**YANKEE DOODLE DAYS ~ JUN 23-26**

~ Chair - Ron Maguire - 627-3267

Please check out the Chamber's web site for a complete listing of events.

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**ANNUAL GOLF OUTING ~ SEP 8**

~ Chair - Chad Lake – 622-8552

A date for this year's Golf Outing has been set for September 8 at Centennial Acres Golf Course. More information will be forthcoming.

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**COLOR CRUISE & ISLAND FESTIVAL ~ OCT 7-9**

~ Chair - Marilyn Smith - 627-5170

Next meeting: Tuesday, June 14 - 12:00 noon - Opera House. Most of the pioneer displayers and craftsmen have committed to attend.

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**PUBLIC RELATIONS**

~ Chair - Deb Pozega-Osburn - 380-1900

Meetings: Third Thursday of each month - 12:00 PM - Image Projections (special meeting location this month). We discussed an offer from Comcast for advertising. Committee members are to come to the next meeting with slogan ideas. We will also be discussing new procedures about collecting information for the newsletter.

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**DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**

~ Director - Mark Sullivan - 622-5256

Meetings: Second Wednesday of each month - 6:00 PM - City Hall.

## GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

~ Chairs - Jon Bayless - 627-2149

Next meeting: Third Tuesday of each month - 7:30 AM - A&W

## RETAIL COMMITTEE

~ Chair - Judy Walters - 622-0727

GLAR Meetings: Every Wednesday - 8:30 AM - Opera House (welcome to all Grand Ledge Area retailers). Thanks to Bill Atkin for providing music for the May Night Owl Shopping. June 17's Night Owl Shopping theme is "Celebrating Music & Art", featuring "What's Left Over of the River City Boys" from 8-10 PM at the sidewalk cafe by Ledge Craft Lane. The group includes Bill Brooks (banjo), Joe Lombardo (piano), and Karl Lothschutz (guitar). There will be an Artist of the Month reception for Ron Nichols' "Virtual Photography" exhibit at Ledge Craft Lane from 7-9 PM. Welcome packets have been delivered to Newberry Apartment complex. They will soon be given out at City Hall to all residents who come in to have their water turned on. GLAR is working on ways for businesses to promote other Grand Ledge businesses by cross promoting with each other - join GLAR on June 13 at 7 PM at the Opera House in the Blake Room to be a part of the planning.

## SPOTLIGHT ON THE SPOTLIGHT

~ Chair - Cheri Locker - 627-8600

Meetings: First Tuesday of each month - either 8 AM or 4 PM - Opera House. We have gotten approval from the city to re-do the bathrooms at Ledges Playhouse! The Spotlight Actors will be starting their schedule in June, and we also have David Songer on August 11 and The Doowops on September 15. Tickets are now available for the David Songer performance (\$10 pre-sale and \$12 at the door). Last time David performed at Ledges Playhouse it sold out prior to the performance! For more information about the performances, please call the Chamber or Cheri Locker.

## CHAMBER'S MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

~ Susan Sasse - 627-1052 and Lisa Vickers - 627-4743

If you received a hard copy of this newsletter and would prefer to receive an online version, please send an email to [adde@mail@grandledgemi.com](mailto:adde@mail@grandledgemi.com) with the name of your business, and we will add it to the Chamber's database.

## SHARING A VISION, AFTER HOURS

~ Executive Director - Norman Snyder - 627-2383

The Chamber's Sharing A Vision, After Hours will start at 5:30 PM and go until 7:00 PM or whenever. They promise to be excellent evenings for networking and promoting your business among the Chamber membership. Refreshments, beverages, and entertainment will be provided.

June 22, 2005	Piece of Mine Pottery Studio	Judy Walters
July 20, 2005	Dart Bank	Craig Goble
August 24, 2005	Barrington Woods Condominiums	Matthew Moyer
September 21, 2005	Image Projections, Inc.	Ron Nichols
October 19, 2005	Key Realty	Leo & Ronald Maquire
November 23, 2005	Four Season Gift Shop	Kenneth Black
December 21, 2005	Loursel Day Spa	Sheila Laing

## UPCOMING FESTIVALS AND EVENTS

~ Please visit the [www.grandledgemi.com](http://www.grandledgemi.com) for more detailed information

- Jun 17 ~ Night Owl Shopping
- Jun 22 ~ Sharing a Vision, After Hours @ Piece of Mine Pottery Studio
- Jun 23-26 ~ 25th Annual Yankee Doodle Days
- Jun 24-25 ~ 25th Annual Mudge's Follies Musical Revue
- Jun 25 ~ 25th Annual Yankee Doodle Days
- Jul 9 ~ Ledges Classic Auto Show @ Fitzgerald Park
- Jul 15 ~ Night Owl Shopping
- Jul 20 ~ Sharing a Vision, After Hours @ Dart Bank
- Aug 6 ~ 32nd Annual Island Art Fair @ Island Park
- Sep 8 ~ Annual Chamber Golf Outing @ Centennial Acres Golf Course
- Oct 7-9 ~ Color Cruise & Island Festival @ Island Park
- Dec 2 ~ 7pm Santa Parade
- Dec 3-4 ~ Festival of Trees @ Opera House



# Grand Ledge

Area Chamber of Commerce

121 S. Bridge Street  
Grand Ledge, MI 48837  
[www.grandledgemi.com](http://www.grandledgemi.com)