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Office Hours: M-Th 8:30AM-4:00PM

Quarterly Connection

Ponderings of the President

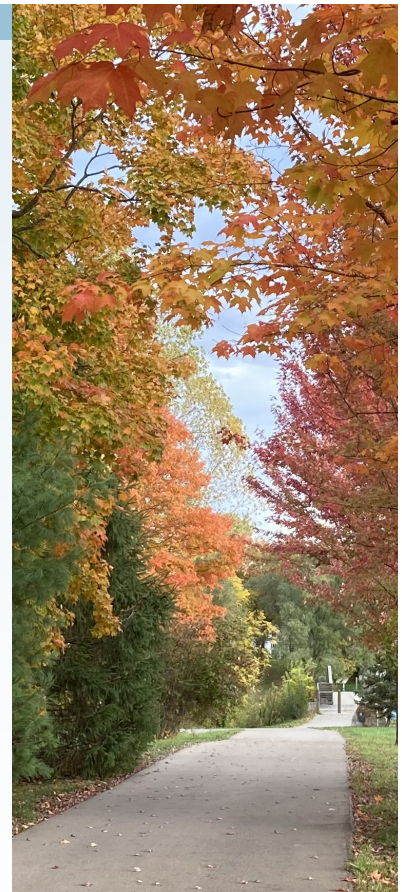
Where has this year gone? 2020 has been a roller coaster ride and looks like it will continue on that path for the foreseeable future. Certainly, the pandemic has brought its fair share of challenges, but don't discount the positive things going on in our community. For instance, the #ChesaningStrong campaign started by Rehmann's has promoted community unity and positivity, as well as being a catalyst for establishing our new Chamber Foundation. We anticipate and celebrate several new businesses and expansions this year, including the new Creative Passion's Quilt Shop, Riverfront Grille's new coffee shop, Top Coat Nail Studio, Perx and Pastries, and more to come. In keeping with this positive direction for our community, your board voted at our September meeting to adopt a new Chamber slogan: "Chesaning-Come Grow With Us".

We are already seeing signs of the upcoming holiday season and have heard about many exciting things happening locally including the return of the Village's Battle of the Bulbs, Riverfront Grille's Tree Lighting Extravaganza (including a new Golf Cart Light Parade!) and other projects and events in the works. A group of motivated citizens is even working to bring the Candlelight Walk back to life. We are hoping that community will find opportunities to get involved in making this a memorable holiday season. If you would like to volunteer to help make Chesaning sparkle, the Chamber is once again organizing the lighting of the boulevard and downtown trees... please let us know if your business or organization would like to be a part of this endeavor.

I personally am looking forward to the holidays this year. Let's get back to what matters most and make the season special for each other.

Yours in business,

Greg Bruff, 989-280-4938
Board of Directors President



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Event Report

- Members of the chamber Board of Directors celebrated a new business ribbon-cutting at Top Coat Nail Studio with owner Mariah Going and her family on October 5th!
- The 25th Annual Chamber Scholarship Golf Outing, held September 20 was a huge success, ensuring 2021 scholarships for CHS seniors. See story on page 3!

#ChesaningStrong Update

Chesaning Strong t-shirts are still available for purchase online at www.edrehmanns.com! Proceeds will be ear-marked for projects benefitting our business community. Help us share #ChesaningStrong pride by snapping a photo wearing your shirt at your business or around town; email it to the chamber office and we will share your photo on Facebook!

Member & Community News

- Creative Passions LLC has expanded again, opening a brand new Quilt Shop housed at 710 W. Broad Street in their Retreat Center. Hours are Tuesday-Saturday, 11am-5pm. Be sure to stop by during their open house week, Nov. 17-21! We are planning a Chamber ribbon cutting for 8am on Tuesday, Nov. 17... all are welcome to join in the fun!
- Welcome to two new businesses in Chesaning: Perx & Pastries (sharing the Frosty's location) and Top Coat Nail Studio (located at 805 W. Broad Street, Unit #2).
- **Thank you to these public servants:** Departing the Chesaning Village Council are Joseph Sedlar after 20 years (10 years as president) and Mike Cicalo after 12 years. Ken and Darlene Valentine will step down as Village Treasurer and Deputy Treasurer having served since 1992! At the Township, Frances Kukulis is leaving her position as Clerk after 8 years. Finally, Bob Corrin has stepped down as township supervisor after 23 years. Thank you to these dedicated citizens for their contributions to Chesaning!

"Talk is cheap, voting is free; take it to the polls." ~ Nanette L. Avery

Celebrating Milestones

This quarter, we acknowledge the achievements of these chamber members:

35 YEARS - 1985

Agnew Graphics, Signs & Promotions - "Building Brands since 1985" - Agnew is a full service commercial sign company including graphic design, printing services and more!

40 YEARS - 1980

The State Bank - "Find Your Better State!" 40 years ago, the local Chesaning branch of The State Bank got it's start as Community State Bank.

Fall and Winter Events

These Events and More Can Be Found on MyChesaningCalendar.com!

- Chesaning Nursing & Rehabilitation Center invites you to their Trunk or Treat event, featuring classic cars, emergency vehicles, snacks, music, games, prizes and more! Stop by Friday, October 30 from 5-7PM for family-friendly, ghoulishly good times!
- Be on the lookout for information coming from the Village of Chesaning about the 2nd Annual Battle of the Bulbs decorating contest for both residents and businesses. We strongly encourage all of our Chamber members to help make the Christmas season extra special this year by lighting up Chesaning with holiday spirit! Last year, Sovis Insurance Agency won the business category... who will win bragging rights this year?? The Chamber is proud to sponsor the business trophies for 2020.
- Riverfront Grille is hosting their 2nd annual Christmas Tree Lighting Extravaganza on Friday and Saturday, November 27 and 28. Highlights include a Christmas Golf Cart Parade, Tree Lighting, Visits with Santa Claus, a Home & Business Decorating Competition and Bulb Decorating. Be sure to check their Facebook event page for more information!
- A group of citizens are interested in bringing Candlelight Walk back! If you would like to help, contact Amanda Danek at awirgau@gmail.com.



Thank you once again to all of the sponsors, donors, golfers, volunteers and to Dean and staff at Twin Brooks Golf Course for making this year's outing a great success!

Golf Outing Supports Scholarships for 2021

Thanks to the generosity of our local businesses and community, the chamber was able to host a very successful 25th Annual Chamber Golf Outing on Sunday, September 20, ensuring that the Chamber's scholarship program will continue in 2021.

This year's golf outing was the largest in over a decade, attracting many teams of local golfers on a stunningly beautiful fall day. Players enjoyed fun challenges and had the opportunity to win prizes through raffles and on-the-course contests. Due to our large group of sponsors, the golf committee was also able to award \$700 in Chamber Gift Certificates to our players this year, encouraging them to shop local and support small businesses.

The Chesaning Chamber scholarship recipients are selected from Chesaning Union High School seniors who have demonstrated a commitment to their community through leadership and volunteer service. The 2020 recipients, Haylei Drope and Taylor Gross, were each awarded their \$1000 scholarships during their Senior Awards Ceremony this past spring. Scholarship forms are currently available through the high school counseling office for Class of 2021 students; the deadline to apply is just before spring break on March 26, 2021.

Please share this information with any Chesaning seniors who plan to continue their education at a college or trade school. And save Sunday, September 12, 2021 on your calendars for next year's Chamber Golf Outing!

Milestones (Continued from pg 2)

Hoerner & Geer CPAs and Business Consultants - Ryan Hoerner and Amy Geer continue a 40 year tradition of providing close, personal attention to their clients with accounting, payroll and tax services.

55 YEARS - 1965

Sloan's Septic Tank Service - Proudly serving Oakley and the surrounding areas for since 1937, Sloan's is known for timely and affordable septic pumping, cleaning, and upkeep. They are celebrating 55 years of chamber membership in 2020!

60 YEARS - 1960

Paxon Oil/Marathon Station - Paxon Oil Company is a third-generation family-owned and operated business founded by Avery and Evelyn Paxon and headquartered in Saginaw. Chesaning is just one of their 8 locations across mid-Michigan.

Twin Brooks Golf Course - Dean and his staff ensure a positive experience for golfers of all levels, offering a wide variety of services, products and fun at their beautiful location.

Frank's Supermarket - Frank's continues a tradition of quality, serving the freshest food products and unique items. Part of their success is outstanding customer care by their employees.

Chamber Mission & More

The Chesaning Chamber of Commerce works diligently to achieve its mission to actively foster business growth, member services and a united community.

REMINDER:

Are you receiving our weekly update emails every Friday?

Please make sure that you have a current email address on file with the Chamber office so that you don't miss out on important and timely news!

What's New at the Chamber

Space filled up quickly for the twelve advertising spots on our 2nd Annual Holiday Every Door Direct USPS Mailer, due to be delivered in mid-November. We are excited to more than double the mailer's reach, including the zip codes in Oakley, New Lothrop and St. Charles as well as Chesaning. Like last year, we are promoting "Keep Holiday Cheer Here" with this shop local campaign.

2021 renewal packets will be delivered during the first week of November and will include Annual Award nominations, Board of Directors nominations, and the much-anticipated 2021 Annual Raffle tickets. We appreciate your commitment to the Chamber and hope that you will "stick with us" in 2021!

We are pleased to announce the new Board of Directors for our Chesaning Chamber of Commerce Foundation: Greg Bruff, Samantha Coykendall, Louie Escamilla, Jami Hoover, Steven Keck, Bobbi McIntyre, and Ron Poyer. They will be meeting soon to determine the first projects and goals for this 501(c)(3) arm of the Chamber, designed to support our chamber mission and allow us to take advantage of new opportunities for fundraising and grants.

Chesaning - Come Grow With Us!



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Chesaning Chamber of Commerce

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**Sovis Insurance Agency
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