



Monthly Business Connection

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March 2018

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What Will You DO With Your Membership?

Now that we are well past the new year and your membership dues are paid for another year, have you stopped to think about what you will DO with your chamber membership this year? Some members join for the obvious benefits, like being able to accept our popular Chamber Gift Certificates (well over \$11,000 worth redeemed last year by our members!), use of the marquee sign by the post office, and marketing opportunities through sponsorships. Some join simply because they feel that "it's the right thing to do" and is a way of supporting our community. Whatever reason enticed you to join or continue your chamber membership this year, I want to encourage to USE your membership to your advantage.

We all are stretched in many different directions with personal and professional responsibilities placing demands upon our time and resources; however I promise that the effort that you put into your chamber membership directly impacts the value that you receive back. Look beyond the obvious "automatic" benefits and seek out opportunities to receive the most *bang for your buck*, so to speak. For example... Gold Business Members: did you know that you have free use of the Chamber Board Room and are allowed to place one free marketing flyer in the newsletter each year? For Silver business members, the cost to use the board room is only \$25 and a flyer in the newsletter is only \$30! We also

offer very reasonable member rates for advertising space on the Chamber website home page; our Chamber webpage is currently receiving over 2,600 views per week!

If you are a non-profit group, be sure to check out our next Non-Profit Networking Night on Monday, March 19, 5:30pm at the Lions Club Hall. These meetings are a great place to idea-share and coordinate efforts between our many volunteer groups. Also, Chesaning Nursing and Rehabilitation Center is excited to host State Representative Ben Frederick for his office hours from 4:30pm-6pm on April 16. More Networking Nights for our members and community are in the works for the rest of the year. Plan to attend a few to be informed about issues that impact our area.

A simple way to get the most from your membership is to make sure that you keep your events, promotions and print marketing materials current with the Chamber office. You make Kate's job easier to do when she doesn't have to chase the information to help market your business or organization. We love to share about our members with our 1,260 followers on Facebook!

Make use of your investment with the Chamber! Stay informed, get involved and reap the rewards!

Gregory C. Bruff

Board of Directors President
 989-845-7699-work or 989-280-4838-cell



*Greg Bruff,
 President*

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Member News & Community Highlights

- River Provisioning and the Chamber Board of Directors invite you to join them for their official chamber member Ribbon Cutting Ceremony! Wish them well as they celebrate their new business in the former Dollar Daze building located at 101 N. Front Street. We will gather at noon on Tuesday, March 20 at the front of the building for introductions and photos.
- The CHESANING AMERICAN LEGION POST 212 is proud to announce that the prestigious military award, "The Congressional Medal of Honor," earned by St Charles native and WWII veteran, SSgt Jessie R. Dowley, will be on display at the Sunday, May 6 breakfast from 7:30 - 11:30 a.m. The Michigan Military Museum will also display additional uniforms and medals for public viewing earned by the following individuals: Chesaning American Legion



member and WWII Veteran, Sgt. Clay W. Reeves; Saginaw native and Korean Veteran, Sgt. Thomas E. Railing, and Saginaw native and WWII & Korean Veteran SGT Major, Kenneth V. Rice. Representatives from the museum will be on hand to answer questions and share their stories. We hope you can make it to the breakfast and view these awesome displays.

- Another American Legion note: Their April Sunday breakfast date has been moved back a week to Sunday, Mar 25 from 7:30am-11:30am due to Easter!
- Be sure to stop by Showboat Restaurant through Easter Sunday, April 1st, to wish Claude a happy retirement! He has served our community countless meals for many years and is looking forward to a well-deserved rest!

February Chamber Statistics:
We received
91 Phone Calls,
325 Emails &
63 Visitors

April 2018



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 	2 CHAMBER OFFICE CLOSED	3 CHAMBER OFFICE CLOSED 7:30pm Village Council	4 8am Chamber Marketing Meeting	5 Chesaning Township Board Meeting 7:30pm	6 Last K of C Fish Fry-Carry Out Only 5-8pm	7 Chamber Scrapbook Crop 9am-9pm Family Movie Day at Library 11am-1pm
8	9 6:30pm School Board Meeting	10 5:45pm Candlewalk Meeting	11 Noon Chamber Raffle 6pm DDA Meeting	12 8am Chamber Board Meeting	13	14 Free Community Supper at Trinity 5-7pm
15	16 State Rep. Frederick office hours 4:30-6pm at Ches. Nursing & Rehab	17 7:30pm Village Council	18 5-7pm K of C Hamburg/ Social Night 7pm Book Club at Library	19	20 CHAMBER OFFICE CLOSED	21 4th Annual Kids Sucker Tournament 11am-2pm
22 	23	24 7:30am Task Force Meeting	25 Noon Chamber Raffle	26	27	28 Chesaning Area Walleye Fishing Contest 6am-4pm
29	30	<u>Repeating Meetings/Events:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rotary Club meets at noon on Tuesdays, Riverfront Grille • Am. Legion Queen of Hearts Raffle is on Tuesdays at 8pm, Pintown • Kiwanis Meets at 7am on Wednesdays except on 3rd week when they meet at 7pm, Riverfront Grille 				

"April is a promise that May is bound to keep." ~Hal Borland

HJV EQUIPMENT LLC Celebrates A Decade of Business

(Information from <http://hivequip.com/en-us/about/>)

HJV Equipment got its start in Canada when the sons of a Dutch potato farmer named Harry Jacob Vander Zaag, the namesake of HJV, purchased an existing potato equipment dealership from Clarence Leach of Alliston, Ontario in 1991. Those sons, named Homer and David, saw the need to have a local business supplying equipment and parts for the farming industry, and added HJV Equipment to HJ Vander Zaag Farms Ltd.

Through the years additional equipment lines and locations were added to the business, and by 2007 HJV could boast four locations in Canada including Alliston, Hensall, New Brunswick and Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island as well as a full Ag Chem contract for sales, parts and services in Eastern Canada. Eventually, Homer took over ownership of HJ Vander Zaag Farms and David became sole owner of HJV Equipment.

In 2008, their operations expanded across the border to HJV Equipment LLC in

Chesaning, Michigan and HJV has grown in both countries. The Chesaning location acquired the distributorship of the Apache line of Spray Equipment in 2011. Locally, the business is managed by George Fletcher and employs 8 people and a Baker College intern.

So that's where we have come from, but it by no means completes the story on where we are going. To quote our Vision Statement, "To Become The Premier Specialized Agricultural Equipment Distributorship In The World", we continue to move forward in all aspects of business that will help us achieve this goal. The second part of our Vision is equally important: "to enhance our employees lives by providing them a challenging and rewarding work environment". This is what motivates me every day. We welcome you to be an integral part of that vision. ~ Dave Vander Zaag, President.

The Chesaning Chamber thanks HJV Equipment for their support and celebrates this milestone with them!

Happy 15th Anniversary to Chesaning Hungry Howie's

Pizza... what a life-saver for busy families everywhere! Did you know that on any given day, one out of every eight Americans will enjoy pizza? And our local Hungry Howie's restaurant has been satisfying our cravings with their signature flavor crust pizza and fast delivery for 15 years in 2018!

According to Wikipedia, Hungry Howie's Pizza & Subs, Inc., headquartered in Madison Heights, Michigan, is the 11th largest pizza chain in the United States, with over 550 locations. Their menu includes pizza, calzone-style subs, chicken wings, bread sticks, salads, and brownies.

Connie Thiel is the store manager of the Chesaning location and leads 11 employees. The franchise offers the standard menu including their new stuffed crust pizzas, as well as catering options for larger orders. Local businesses can enjoy free delivery for easy lunch-time ordering, as well!

The franchise finds many ways to give back to their communities, offering fundraising opportunities for non-profit and school

groups through their Dough-Raiser program. Also, October is Love, Hope & Pizza month at Hungry Howie's; for every pizza sold, a portion of the proceeds go to the National Breast Cancer Foundation. To date, they have raised over \$2 million and provided 350,000 women with screenings, education and funding for research! At the local level, the Chesaning location participates as a vendor at our annual Fireworks in Showboat Park and has been a generous donor of gifts for our Festival of Trees raffle during the Christmas Candlelight Walk.

Has this article made you hungry for a slice of pizza pie? Give Connie and her hard-working crew a call at 989-845-5450 or get online and use the handy Hungry Howie's website to conveniently place your order for pick-up or delivery:

<https://hungryhowies.hungerrush.com/>

Thank you, Chesaning Hungry Howie's Pizza, for your continued support of the Chamber and surrounding community! Best of luck for your continued success!




CHESANING CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Craft 'n Crop

Bring your glue, scissors, yarn, papers and more for a full day of creating!

Saturday, April 7, 2018 from 9:00 AM - 9:00 PM

Knights of Columbus Hall, 9171 Deitering Road, Chesaning



\$40 Per Person Includes:

- **Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner & Snacks!**
- **Silent Auction**
- **Trash or Treasure Table**
(Bring your extra craft supplies and swap for items that you can use with other participants)
- **Craft Consultants & Vendors**



REGISTRATION FORM

Please register by Wednesday, April 4, 2018

We do our best to seat everyone as they prefer when possible.

Payment must be submitted with registration form. One form per person.

Name			
Address			
Phone/E-Mail			
Are you attending with a group? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	If so, who would you like to sit with?		
Do you need electricity? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Other Requests?		

Make checks payable to: Chesaning Chamber of Commerce, PO Box 83, Chesaning, MI 48616
 Questions may be directed to organizers Valina James (989-326-0547), Bobbi McIntyre (989-274-2928)
 or the Chamber office (989-845-3055)

Seeking Vendors For Chamber Craft n' Crop Event

Do you have a product or service that might appeal to our creative guests at our spring Craft 'n Crop event? We have vendor space available! Plan for morning (9am-2:30pm), evening (3:30pm-9pm), or all-day registration. There is no booth fee, however lunch (\$5) and dinner (\$7) are available at an additional cost and participation requires a

donation of a door prize valued at \$25.

Electrical outlets are provided but extension cords and power cords are the individual's responsibility. Access to the location begins at 8:30 am on Saturday, April 7 and clean-up must be completed by 9:30 pm.

Interested in participating? Click [HERE](#) for the vendor application or call the Chamber!

Coming Attractions!

American Legion Post 212 Breakfast

7:30 AM - 11:30 AM Mar 25, 2018

*** Please note... April's monthly breakfast is being held a week early due to Easter ***

Enjoy breakfast with the American Legion!

Their delicious menu consists of: pancakes, French toast, sausage, bacon, eggs to order, hash browns, sausage gravy & biscuits, toast, juice, milk and coffee. The cost is only \$8 for adults, \$4 for children age 6-12 and free for children 0-5.



Proceeds support local youth programs and community service.

Kids Spring Sucker Tournament

Saturday, April 21st

10:30am Registration
11am-2pm Fishing

Showboat Park Shoreline

Registration Fee \$5 Per Child

Age Groups 9 & under and 10-16
Night Crawlers available \$2.00/doz.



Sponsored by
**Chesaning
Kiwanis Club**

Contact Andrew Hasse
for more information.
(989) 274-6026



& OTHER
DRAWINGS
FOLLOWING
THE
TOURNAMENT!



More Fishing Fun in Chesaning!

Chesaning Area Walleye Fishing Contest
Saturday, April 28 – sponsored by the
Chesaning Area Conservation Club!

"In the Spring, I have counted 136 different kinds of weather inside of 24 hours." – Mark Twain

Non-Profit Networking Night 2.0

Monday, March 19,
2018



5:30-7:00pm at Lions Club Hall
17200 Corunna Road, Chesaning

Open to all organizations, churches or other non-profit entities in our community. We will continue our round-table discussion including calendar sharing and best-practices to build membership and community engagement. Please call the Chamber office to RSVP so that we can have a count to plan seating. There is no cost to attend the meeting! Feel free to bring a snack or beverage.

Let's make 2018 an awesome year for all organizations!

Sponsored By:



Phone: 989-845-2055
Fax: 989-845-6006
E-mail: info@chesaningchamber.org

Plan Ahead for Dueling Pianos At Pintown's Public House!

FRIDAY, APRIL 27

6pm Arrival - 7pm Pizza Buffet—8pm Show
\$25/Ticket

Call now to reserve your seats: 845-4444

Purchase a table (8 seats) and receive a
complimentary bucket of beer!



Raffle Winners:

February 14

Jeanine Hedrich

Drawn by

Ken & Darlene

Valentine at

Valentine Mini-Storage

February 28

Deborah Meskill

Drawn by

Connie Grimshaw &

Linda Voris at

Chesaning Comfort

Care

2018 Chamber Raffle

Tickets are still

available!



Easter Events



Easter arrives early this year so we are keeping our fingers crossed that mother nature cooperates with favorable weather for the annual events that our member organizations host. Be sure to let your customers, employees and friends with young families know about these seasonal favorites:

- Join **Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church** for a morning of Easter fun with Bible stories, movie and more on Saturday, March 24 from 8:45am-11:45am.

- **Broad Street Pharmacy** hosts Free Photos with the Easter Bunny on Saturday, March 24 from 10am-1pm.
- The **Chesaning Lions Club** invites children ages 1-11 to their annual Easter Egg Hunt in Showboat Park on Saturday, March 31 at 10am.
- The **Christ Lutheran Egg Hunt** for children through 6th grade will be held at the Park next to Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church & School on Saturday, March 31 at 10:30am.

Town Wide Attic Sale: An Opportunity?

Last year, the Chamber Marketing Team determined that the expense and work effort put into producing a map to be published for the Chesaning Area Town Wide Attic Sale was not sustainable and we decided to see if the sales could continue under their own steam without too much Chamber involvement. Very little feedback was received in our office to indicate that the effort was missed, so at this point, we plan to carry on with simply a social media push for the sales, highlighting the date on the community calendar and a flyer on our website.

With that being said, this may be an opportunity for a local business or non-profit group to take the reins and try to make the

Town Wide Attic Sale an even bigger community event with possible fundraising opportunities available. Do you have the software to produce a map where participants could pay to have their sales advertised? Do you have an idea for a vendor fair to give bargain-hunters a central location to gather for retail therapy? Are you a business who would like to coordinate with other businesses to offer sidewalk sales or other shopper events?

Think creatively and try something new! The Chamber will assist any member business or organization in their Town Wide Attic Sale promotions with additional marketing support on social media and our website. Call Kate at the office with any questions!

CHESANING CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
P.O. BOX 83
CHESANING, MI 48616
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED