

*Chesaning  
 Chamber of Commerce  
 Board of Directors*

**Randy Stoddard,**  
 President  
 Stoddard Homes

**Greg Bruff,**  
 Vice President  
 Waddell & Reed

**Jessie Woods,**  
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 Sovis Insurance

**Steve Keck,**  
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 H&R Block

**Ron Ebenhoeh**  
 Metro Mortgage

**Tom Lavery**  
 CenturyLink

**Bobbi McIntyre**  
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**Jami Meyer**  
 Meyer Electric Inc

**Ron Poyer**  
 H&R Block

**Shawn Sloan**  
 Sloan's Septic Service

**Anne Swartzmiller**  
 Swartzmiller Lumber

**Cindy Tejkl**  
 Community State Bank

**Kate Weber**  
 Executive Director

## The President's Corner

We are half way through July and the grass is burnt to a crisp. Eileen and I traveled up into the thumb, north east of Cass City, to play at a venue called "The Octagon Barn" yesterday. Again, classic small-town-Michigan, rural living at its finest. Rows and rows of the deepest green cornfields. Acres of golden fields of wheat being harvested. Neighbors gathering together for a picnic and music in one of Michigan's most unique venues, an octagon barn built in the early 1900's; clearly not the most user friendly building, just UNIQUE. Nearly one of a kind. Playing on the center stage in that old barn was extremely unique as well. Some guy, "Dan", was sitting behind a maze of knobs and slides making sure we sounded "as good as possible", which that was a feat in itself. I took a few minutes to sit down with the sound man and ask him if he went to school to learn his trade? This guy was good. He went on to tell his story that he had worked in his field for well over 30 years, perfecting his trade to an art form, in my opinion. I was made to come full circle in my conversation with him.

We who have small businesses in our own amazingly unique community have all developed our field of exper-

tise one little turn-of-a-knob or push-of-a-slide at a time. Many for several years, tweaking our business into what our own vision of what our business should be. Just like my new friend, Dan, with his sound system at the barn, we all have an "ear" to what our business climate is! Also, like Dan, our climate can be found in the mood of our employees and/or customers. And must be "tuned" accordingly to hook-up our customers with our products. Oh, to be more like Dan, in tune with his customers' wants and needs, and adjust our products to meet those very needs.

Have a great rest of July and I hope to see you out at the fair next month.

*Randy*

Randall D. Stoddard, President  
 Chesaning Chamber of Commerce  
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### CHESANING CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MISSION STATEMENT

**"TO ACTIVELY FOSTER BUSINESS GROWTH,  
 MEMBER SERVICES AND A UNITED COMMUNITY"**



*Randall D. Stoddard,  
 President*

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## What the Chamber is Working On For You

Thank you to the 22 Chamber member businesses who participated in the Bridge Construction Give Away! We look forward to seeing how the 22 winners spend their \$20 gift certificates around town.

The July 7 Fireworks Show was a spectacular kickoff to the many events in both Showboat Park and downtown Chesaning for the July 8-10 weekend. We appreciate the efforts of our Fireworks Committee and volunteers who ensured a great show for everyone to enjoy. Thank you, also, to the 10 businesses who allowed us to collect change in our donation bins to help support the Fireworks: Ace Hardware, Broad Street Pharmacy, Community State Bank, Ed Rehmann & Sons Clothing, Gewirtz Hardware, Malt Shop,

Pintown Pizza, Sovis Insurance, Studio 124 and Swartzmiller Lumber. Thank you, also, to our business sponsors: H&R Block, Sovis Insurance and the Malt Shop.

Our next Chamber fundraiser will be launching soon; the popular Football Frenzy tickets will be on sale in mid-August with a new twist... buy two tickets, register online to receive a third one free! Also, keep an eye on next month's newsletter for details about our next Owosso Poker Room fundraiser scheduled for September 3-6.

The Candlelight Walk Committee is hard at work planning another festive Thanksgiving weekend for Chesaning. National Honor Society students have been enjoying wrapping Christmas gifts in July to help out!

## Welcome, New Members: Chesaning Church of Christ

We've added a new Associate member to the Chesaning Chamber of Commerce directory: Chesaning Church of Christ! The church is located "east of the curve" at 9996 W. Peet Road (M-57) and offers Sunday Morning Bible Study at 10am, Worship at 11am and Wednesday Bible Study at 6:00pm. Church pastor, Pavel Mendlik, describes the church as being a Christian, Bible-based house of worship, stating "We're silent when the Bible is silent; we speak when the Bible speaks".

Pastor Mendlik noted that the Church of Christ is currently collecting boxes of pasta and pasta sauces to donate to Schultz-Lewis, a Catholic charity organization. Donations will be accepted through the beginning of August and pick-up can be arranged by calling the pastor at 989-529-8966 or emailing him at pmendlik@mathesongas.com.

Thank you, Chesaning Church of Christ, for supporting the Chesaning Chamber of Commerce with your membership!

## Corky the Construction Cone, Coming to You!

As these months of bridge and road construction drag on, your chamber marketing team has been brain-storming ways to keep our members' spirits up as well as promote Chesaning as a great place to shop and play despite the inconveniences of rerouted traffic and construction barrels. As a result, we'd like to offer you the chance for some **free** marketing as a perk of your membership dues! Please let us introduce... Corky the Construction Cone!

Starting July 18 until the bridge construction is completed, Corky will be visiting Chamber member businesses throughout

Chesaning and the surrounding area. Each business is invited to clothe or decorate Corky with their products or marketing logos. Your Chamber Director, Kate Weber, will take a picture of Corky to be shared on the Chamber FaceBook page along with information about your business. You can also "share" the post to your own FaceBook or web page.

Feel free to contact the office to schedule Corky's visit to your business. He will be making 2-3 day stays at each location and may even pop up at some of the landmarks around town to highlight all that Chesaning has to offer.

June

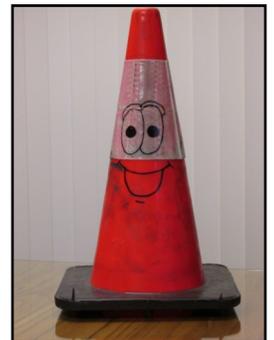
Chamber Statistics:

We received

166 Phone Calls,

388 Emails &

125 Visitors



*"It's not about ideas; it's about making ideas happen." ~ unknown*

## Happy 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, Family Insurance Services!

Celebrating 40 years of commitment to their hometown customers, Family Insurance Services is an independent insurance agency representing numerous insurance companies including Allied (Nationwide), Allstate, AAA, Progressive and more.

Bob Schulte has been a part of the agency since its beginning in 1976 and his sister, Linda Vitous, joined the business shortly after. The brother and sister duo now run the agency together as business partners, along with receptionist Stephanie Braeutigan, who has been part of the staff for more than 20 years, and Bob's son, Lance Schulte, who joined the team in 2013. True to their business name, "We are family taking care of family", states Bob. They take pride in serving their community and do all they can to help their clients.

The business moved to its current location on Broad Street near the intersection with Front Street in February 2014. "We really enjoy being located in the heart of the business community", they commented.

When asked for a memorable event during their 40 years in business, Bob and Linda recalled the tornado of 1997. Although it was



# FAMILY INSURANCE

## SERVICES

a frightening and destructive event, Bob noted that it was good to see the community pull together with neighbors helping each other to trim trees and clear debris from roadways and lawns. "Even now you can see the efforts made by Chesaning to repair the damage from the storm; just drive through Showboat Park and notice the new trees that have been planted!" Bob also commented that he was very pleased with the response of the insurance companies and their proactive response to the tornado emergency. Family Insurance Services was even able to house an insurance adjuster within their offices to give the insurance company better access to help their clients.

The Chesaning Chamber of Commerce wishes to thank Bob, Linda and their staff for their continued commitment to both the Chamber and the community. Congratulations for 40 successful years in business!

## LaClair Sales Inc Celebrates 40 years with the Chamber!

Over 40 years ago, Joe LaClair purchased the Chevy-Buick-Pontiac-Oldsmobile dealership from Jim Stuart. The original dealership was located where PinTown Lanes is now housed. Two years later, Joe built a new facility at LaClair's current location on M-57 west of the village. Over the years, the dealership has undergone two extensive renovations with the most recent happening just three years ago, resulting in the beautiful, completely remodeled dealership that you see today.

When asked what the secret to success at LaClair Sales in Chesaning is, Joe states that it is really as simple as one-two-three:

1. They sell some of the best products that GM has ever built.
2. They enjoy the greatest customer base a dealer could ever desire.
3. They have great employees dedicated to customer satisfaction.



As reported by the Tri-County Citizen, Joe had a unique opportunity last December to sell a brand-new 2016 Chevrolet Impala to previous GM employee, Lloyd Henige and his wife Marjorie, who drove their 1916 Chevrolet 490 Roadster to pick up their new vehicle... Now that's brand loyalty!

Over the years, LaClair Sales has been a great supporter of the Chesaning Chamber of Commerce and community, sponsoring many events in the area. The Chamber wishes them many more years of success and thank them for 40 years of membership and support!

*"You can't have a million dollar dream with a minimum wage work ethic" ~ unknown*

## MI Vietnam Veteran Memorial at Saginaw County Fair

The Michigan Vietnam Veterans Traveling Memorial will be on display in the main Exhibition Hall during the Saginaw County Fair (Aug. 2 – 6). This traveling memorial contains the 2,654 names of Michigan veterans who were killed in action or are still missing in action. We still have over 1,600 soldiers missing from Vietnam, 49 from Michigan. The memorial is dedicated to the men and women from Michigan who lost their lives in the Vietnam War. It is a message saying, "We will not forget."

Along with this place of honor are books containing photos and biographies of all the names on the memorial. These books are incomplete and the organizers are asking for photos of veterans who did not come home that are not yet in the books.

Saginaw County Fair is proud to present this moving tribute saluting our Brothers and Sisters who have received the Flag as the words "on behalf of a proud and grateful nation," have been spoken. We hope it will bring

honor and healing to those who visit it.

**The American Legion Riders will escort the Michigan Vietnam Traveling Memorial into Chesaning around 8:15am, on Tuesday, Aug. 2nd. They will travel through downtown and turn left onto Frandsche Rd. If you are near the route at that time, please take a moment to give them your attention and welcome them.**

There is no charge to bring the memorial to Chesaning; but there are expenses in housing and feeding the veterans who travel with the memorial and staff it during exhibition times. If you would like to support the Saginaw County Fair's efforts to bring this special Michigan Vietnam Veterans tribute to Chesaning, please make your check out to Saginaw County Fair and mail it to 11350 Peet Rd. Chesaning, MI 48616 with a memo Vietnam Memorial. Any funds collected in excess of expenses will be donated to a worthy veterans organization getting veterans the help that they need.

**Thank you to the Stoddard family, Greg Bruff, Chesaning High School National Honor Society and community service volunteers for their work at the Chamber office and along the river bank in June and July! We appreciate all that you do for the Chamber!**



## August 2016



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 7:30pm Village Council 8pm Queen of Hearts	3 8 am Chamber Marketing Committee Meeting	4 7:30pm Chesaning Twp Board Meeting	5	6 9am-1pm Market Off Broad 1-4pm Historical Museum
<b>Saginaw County Fair - Tuesday-Saturday, August 2-6, 2016</b>						
7	8	9 8pm Queen of Hearts	10 Noon-Chamber Raffle 6pm DDA Meeting	11 8am Chamber Board Meeting	12	13 9am-1pm Market Off Broad 5-7pm Free UMC Dinner 9am-1am Big Joe's Layton Corner Bar - Groverfest
14 7:30pm Movies On Broad: Turbo	15 5:30pm Candlewalk Committee Meeting	16 7:30pm Village Council 8pm Queen of Hearts	17 5pm K of C Hamburg Nite 7pm River Rapids Library Book Discussion	18	19	20 9am-1pm Market Off Broad
<b>Mid-Michigan Old Gas Tractor -</b>						
21 <b>42<sup>nd</sup> Show</b>	22	23 7:30am Task Force 8pm Queen of Hearts	24 Noon- Chamber Raffle	25 First Day of School— New Lothrop	26	27 9am—1pm Market Off Broad
28	29	30 8pm Queen of Hearts	31			

## Upcoming Community Events!



Every Saturday, July 23-October 15  
9:00am-1:00pm  
On S. Chapman St. at Broad St.

Check out the Chamber Community Calendar on our website for these events and more!

[Www.Chesaningchamber.Org](http://www.chesaningchamber.org)

### Local Rising Stars at the Chesaning Amphitheater, July 21st, 7pm!

Admission is \$5 at the gate. All proceeds benefit maintenance of the amphitheater.

Invited artists include: Destinee Anderson, Matsumiya's & Emmendorfer's, Molly Kennelly & Riley Swartzmiller, B'z N' E's rock band (Brandon Martin, Evan Wendling, Ely Weiss and Michael Beeckman), Scott and Christine Sawyer, and Matt Canfield & the Jenkinson's.

**OAKLEY BIKE RUN ASSOCIATION & OAKLEY COMMUNITY CHURCH Proudly Present**

**18<sup>th</sup> Annual Bike Run**

**BACK TO BASICS**

**Saturday, July 23, 2016**

Held at the Oakley Village Hall 205 Marshall Street, Oakley Michigan **Rain or Shine!**

- Registration 8 am to 10 am at the Oakley Village Hall
- 100 - Mile Run
- \$5.00 entry fee person - all proceeds to benefit OBRA
- Last Bike in no later than 4 pm
- Breakfast available from 7 am to 10 am with all proceeds to benefit the Oakley Community Church Compassionate Ministries Program
- Afternoon meal available from 1 pm to 5 pm with all proceeds to benefit the Oakley Community Church Compassionate Ministries Program
- OBRA t-shirts will be available to purchase in limited quantity with all proceeds to benefit OBRA.
- Community and Family welcome to attend!
- FAMILY FRIENDLY!

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:**  
 President Frog 989-666-7842    Vice President Wheels 989-666-3366    Treasurer Carol 989-529-8017  
 Secretary Brandee 989-323-0742    Director David 989-272-6206

**Movies On Broad Presents:**

**Friday, July 29 at Dusk**

**The Goonies (PG)**



Movie Screen located on the side of Ace Hardware; bring a chair!  
Run Time: 1 hour 54 minutes  
Ice cream social starts at 7:30pm!

### 12th Annual Groverfest Big Joe's Layton Corners Bar Saturday, August 13, 2016

Breakfast Burritos & Bloody Mary's  
9am-noon

Bike Run Registration  
10:30am - noon (\$10 per hand)

BBQ Pork Buffet 4-8pm

Live Entertainment: Pole Barn Rebels  
9pm-1am

**Raffle Winners:****June 22****Carolyn Rehmann**Drawn by NHS student,  
Stacy Podhorsky**July 13****Rob Angst**Drawn by  
Steve Keck  
of H&R Block**A Letter to MDOT from Your Chamber President**

*We would like to share a letter sent to Jack Hofweber, MDOT-TSC Manager, as well as State Representative Ben Glardon and State Senator Ken Horn on Friday, July 15:*

Dear Mr. Hofweber:

I am Randy Stoddard, president of the local Chamber of Commerce. I represent 135 businesses in and around Chesaning, Michigan. The issue I am writing to you about does not pertain to all 135 businesses, but a good number of our constituents are drastically affected by the road construction being done in our village.

Our concern is regarding the flow of traffic through town. At the outset of the Shiawassee River bridge project, we were assured there would be at least one lane of traffic through town throughout the project. As of Monday, July 11, 2016, Broad Street is completely shut off for the Deer Creek Culvert project. Businesses on Broad Street have lost revenue by upwards of 80%, and this morning we were told by our Village Administrator, Troy Feltman, that the bridge project is currently two weeks behind! Mr. Feltman was advised that if the construction was delayed, the contractor could be fined per day. That does nothing to alleviate the damage

being done to our local businesses.

The question is do our businesses have to suffer for the two weeks plus any other delays that may occur, whether for the bridge or the culvert? This hardship, on top of the challenges already faced by small businesses, may be insurmountable.

On Wednesday, July 13, 2016, Mr. Feltman met with onsite supervisors of the construction project. At that meeting, he suggested possible changes to the detours to ensure some traffic flow past our downtown businesses. These minor changes to traffic patterns could achieve this goal. He has yet to be contacted by anyone from upper management regarding this request.

If at all possible, could your office see that this meeting takes place soon to re-establish some traffic flow and provide some relief to our suffering businesses?

It is not my job, or position to be in the middle of this situation. However, as an elected official representing the businesses in this community, I feel compelled to urge you to respond to our dilemma.

Looking forward to a speedy response,  
Randall D. Stoddard, President



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