



Monthly Business Connection

989-845-3055

Email: info@chesaningchamber.org

Web: www.chesaningchamber.org

December 2018

*Chesaning
Chamber of Commerce
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President's Corner: Reflecting on 2018

2018 is almost over and as I think about the year, I am pleased with how much our chamber has been able to accomplish. Most recently, we enjoyed another successful Christmas Candlelight Walk thanks to the dedicated efforts of the many volunteers and the generosity of our sponsors. Our retail members who stayed open during the event and restaurants enjoyed a nice boost in sales to kick off the holiday season, and the visitors and residents who came out for the festivities had many positive comments and smiles.

Another great success in 2018 is our partnership with the Chesaning School District to foster relationships between our business community and the school staff and students. After kicking off the school year with great conversations at the "Mentoring Chesaning's Youth" Networking Night, we are seeing more involvement of our membership in preparing students for post high school career training. Many conducted mock interviews for the students, providing feedback to help them prepare for "the real thing". Local employers also acted as judges for the Senior Integrated Project presentations. The new Chesaning Career Exploration program is bringing students out of the classrooms and into businesses for hands-on experience; even the chamber office is enjoying the chance to mentor a young lady who is interested in marketing and accounting. Our chamber members are also looking forward to participating in a career fair

open to all students in the high school to share the opportunities and education requirements of their industries. You are all truly helping to mentor our future leaders in Chesaning!

Of course, the biggest change for us has been our partnership with the Village of Chesaning resulting in the expansion of the original chamber office to create the new Community Services Building. Already, we are reaping the rewards financially as we see a great reduction in our overhead expenses which will free up more of our budget for marketing our members and the Chesaning area. Our membership brochure project is an great example and will be completed soon. In addition, increased communication between the village and chamber is also leading to new ideas and future goals; we are operating more like a team for the benefit of our community.

I feel like we have great momentum as we transition from 2018 into the new year and am excited to see what we can accomplish as a chamber in 2019. I hope that the holidays bring you time to enjoy with family and friends, to rest and reflect on the past year, and to energize for a great year ahead!

Wishing you and yours a very Merry Christmas~

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

- Don't forget to support the Chesaning Area United Appeal! Make your donation payable to CAUA and mail to P.O. Box 88, Chesaning MI 48616. Your donations support many area non-profit services including the Rehmann Health Center, CAER Center, Chesaning Senior Center, River Rapids District Library and Chesaning Area Community Food Program.
- The State Bank announced a record year for its Change for Kids program. The program supports the needs of low to moderate income children and families in twelve local school districts, including Linden, Fenton, Holly, Grand Blanc, Lake Fenton, Brighton, New Lothrop, Chesaning, Montrose, St. Charles, Birch Run and Swan Valley. Read the complete story on our webpage ([click here!](#))
- United Financial Credit Union announces UFirst Financial. UFirst Financial is a new service offered between United Financial Credit Union, Michigan Valley Insurance Agency and RichMark Private Wealth Management. With this new relationship, the Credit Union is now able to offer their members a full range of additional Wealth Management, Investment and Insurance products and services. For more details, [click here!](#)
- Congratulations to Angie Meder for her recognition as the Millionth Hour Volunteer by Memorial Healthcare! She has been a public safety ambassador and high-risk registered volunteer at Memorial, logging 1700 hours in the past 5 years! We benefit from Angie's good works in the community here at the chamber, too!

November Chamber Statistics:
We received
117 Phone Calls,
426 Emails &
81 Visitors

Don't forget... Please submit your 2019 Events to the Community Calendar as soon as possible!

January 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Dec. 30	Dec. 31 Chamber Office Closed 	1 Chamber Office Closed 	2 (Chamber Marketing Meeting Canceled this month)	3 Zion Luth. Mornings with Mommy-10:30am Chesaning Twp Board 7:30pm <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; text-align: center;">Chamber Poker Room Fundraiser—January 3-6, 2019</div>	4	5
6 Am. Legion Breakfast 7:30-11:30am Poker Room Cont.	7	8	9 Noon Chamber Raffle 6pm DDA Meeting	10 Chamber Board of Directors Meeting 8am **RSVPs due for Chamber Annual Dinner! **	11	12 In-Stitches Knitting @ Library 11am Trinity Comm. Supper 5pm
13	14	15 7:30pm Village Council	16 K of C Hamburg Night 5-7pm 7pm Library Book Club 7pm Sports Boosters	17 Zion Luth. Mornings with Mommy-10:30am *Chamber Ballots Due for Board and Proposal*	18	19 Chamber Annual Dinner at The Public House 6pm
20	21 	22	23 Noon Chamber Raffle	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> Weekly Meetings/Events: <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 6pm on Tuesdays at Riverfront Grille • K of C Take-Out Fish Fry, Fridays 5-7:30pm </div>		

"For last year's words belong to last year's language, And next year's words await another voice." ~ T.S. Eliot

St. Peter Parish Celebrates 5 Years

Our Chamber anniversary series ends the year with the story of St. Peter Parish, as told by Youth Minister Katie Youmans Eichler:

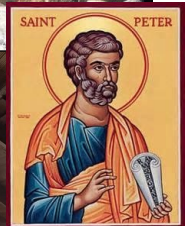
Saint Peter Parish was established on July 1, 2013. The parish was the result of the merger of Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Chesaning with Saint Michael in Oakley. St. Peter Parish formed with a new vision while holding onto the traditions and values of the past. The parish was established in the Village of Chesaning under the direction of pastor, Father Richard Bokinskie. Fr. Rick guided the newly formed parish for the first year before Father William Gruden became the new pastor on July 1, 2014. Fr. Bill continues as pastor of the parish today.

St. Peter Parish has continued to be a home to many Catholic members of the Chesaning community as well as surrounding areas. The parish community offers numerous opportunities for parishioners to grow in faith as well as spend time in fellowship. Mass is celebrated weekly at the parish (Thursday, Saturday and Sunday) as well as in the various care facilities in the community. Faith Formation is offered to children, youth and adults. Our parishioners also help outside of the church through many different organizations within the community. Parishioners help at the CAER Center and with other community service projects. Our choir shares their gifts throughout the year with concerts

at various events. Our youth serve our community as well as opportunities to grow in and share their faith locally, nationally and internationally. St. Peter Parish also hosts and organizes numerous events throughout the year including an Advent Tea, Craft Bazaar and the Giving Tree.

St. Peter Parish turned five years old this year. We are a parish community full of people of all ages and backgrounds. Although our parish is young we celebrate that we carry on the traditions of those that came before us while forging our way to the future. We hope to continue to share our love of the Catholic faith with those in our community in the coming years.

The Chesaning Chamber of Commerce celebrates this milestone with St. Peter Parish and recognizes the many contributions of its members to our community and chamber over the years. Thank you for sharing your time, talent and faith and we wish you all the best in the new year and beyond!



Seeking Candidates: Chamber Board of Directors

The end of the year heralds election time at the Chamber of Commerce. Each year, four of the twelve board member positions are up for election for three year terms. Chamber business members are eligible to run for a seat and cast the deciding votes for the candidates. The result? Together we build a team of hard-working individuals with the best interests of the Chesaning business community and citizens in mind.

Nominations are currently being accepted at the Chamber office for our 2019 election ballots which will be issued on January 3rd.

If you are interested in running for a board member position, please contact the Chamber office by January 2 or talk with a current board member for more information. We are also seeking candidates who are interested in filling a vacant board seat that has one year remaining in its term. This position will be appointed by the current board of directors at our next board meeting on January 10, so be sure to express your interest right away to be considered.

Don't forget, once you receive your ballots, they will be due in the office by Jan. 17!



RIVERFRONT GRILLE

EAT
drink &
BE UGLY




8 PM TO CLOSE

UGLY SWEATER PARTY

DECEMBER 22ND

DRINK SPECIALS
GAMES
FUN



*The Board of Directors of the Chesaning Chamber of Commerce
Cordially invite you to attend the*

Annual Membership Meeting & Dinner

Saturday, January 19th, 2019
The Public House
130 N. Saginaw Street, Chesaning

*Cocktails and Conversation begin at 6:00PM
Dinner at 7:00PM, Meeting & Awards to Follow
Beer & Wine provided ~ Cash Bar*

\$35.00 per person

Reserve a table of 8 for members/employees of the same business or organization for \$250

Reservations must be paid in advance - Please RSVP by January 10, 2019
(989) 845-3055 or info@chesaningchamber.org

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New Year's Fun at Pintown Pizza & Lanes!



Stop by or call for bowling package details

845-4444

THINK LOCAL.

SUPPORT YOUR NEIGHBORS



NOMINATION FORM FOR ANNUAL AWARDS

The Chesaning Chamber of Commerce is continuing our tradition of recognizing excellence in our community by celebrating businesses, employees and citizens for their service and contributions. The awards will be presented during the Annual Dinner on Saturday, January 19, 2019. We invite your nominations for consideration by our Annual Dinner Committee.

Guidelines to be observed:

1. Nominee must be a Chesaning Area Chamber of Commerce member, or the volunteer or employee of a member
2. Nominee gives generously of themselves and/or staff in time and resources to the Chamber and community.
3. All replies will be confidential.
4. Deadline for submitting entries: January 3, 2019

Please mark the award for which you are nominating the business or person:

Distinguished Business or Person **Lifetime or Outstanding Achievement** **Star Employee Award**

Nominee's Name: _____ Length of Service: _____

Contact Name of person making the nomination: _____

Email Address: _____ Phone number: _____

Business or Organization Represented: _____

Reason for Nomination: _____

Please Note Nominee's Accomplishments, Service, Leadership, etc: _____

You may use additional paper if needed!

Raffle Winners:**November 28****John Reiber****Drawn by****Kathy Crissey****Neu-Rich Jewelers****December 13****Coco Dodak****Drawn by****Sandy Anderson****ZCI Feed Sales, Inc****2019 Chamber Raffle****Tickets are now available and make great stocking stuffers!****Don't forget our Gift Certificates for your holiday giving, also!****2019 - Plan Ahead & Get Involved!**

Have you ever thought about becoming more involved with the chamber but weren't quite ready to commit to a board position? Why not serve on a committee? Or volunteer for an event? There are many opportunities to help with events and chamber functions throughout the year. Get those shiny new 2019 calendars out and plan ahead for the following Chamber events:

- Poker Room Fundraisers, scheduled for January 3-6, January 31-February 2 and October 31—November 3.
- Chamber Comedy Night, March 16
- Craft n' Crop Day. April 13
- Annual Golf Outing, May 19
- Fireworks in Showboat Park, July 3
- Marketing/Membership Committee, meets monthly at 8am on the 1st Wednesday at the Community Services Building
- Networking Nights, dates to be determined! Or maybe a lunch-and-learn? How about a morning coffee talk? Give us your ideas!

Remember: Many hands make light work! Your ideas, committee membership and volunteer hours are appreciated and needed to keep these events going. Contact Kate in the Chamber office for committee meeting and volunteer sign up information.

Thank You, Showcase Auto Sales

Showcase Auto Sales recently made a generous donation to the Chamber of an EZ Hunt & Haul pop-up hunting blind!

The trailer is currently in storage until warmer weather when the board will decide whether to sell or raffle it to the public as a fundraiser.



A video of the trailer assembly technique can be found on YouTube by searching [EZ Hunt & Haul](#); it is a clever mobile blind for an avid hunter to use on public land or their own property.

If you have any fun and creative ideas regarding this unique donation or other fundraisers to support the efforts of the chamber and future events, please talk to a board member or call/email the chamber office.