



Monthly Business Connection

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January 2019

*Chesaning
Chamber of Commerce
Board of Directors*

Greg Bruff,
President
Waddell & Reed

Ron Ebenhoeh
Vice President
Metro Mortgage

Jessie Stewart,
Secretary
Sovis Insurance

Steve Keck,
Treasurer
H&R Block

Lori Austerberry
Chesaning Realty

Jeri Birchmeier
Chesaning Nursing &
Rehabilitation Center

Stephanie Domina
The State Bank

Tom Lavery
CenturyLink

Bobbi McIntyre
Studio 124

Ron Poyer
H&R Block

Nick Stoddard
Stoddard Classic Cars

Christopher Theile
Swartzmiller Lumber

Kate Weber
Executive Director

President's Corner

Another well-attended Annual Dinner and Awards has come and gone and 2019 is underway. Thank you to everyone who celebrated our award-winning chamber members and enjoyed the evening with us!

2018 was a busy and transformative year for the Chesaning Chamber of Commerce. Our biggest achievement was joining forces with the village offices in our new Community Services Building this past fall. The construction project lasted for only a portion of the year but created life-long benefit for the chamber and our community.

Our membership continues to stay strong. I am pleased to report that we added 8 new chamber members in 2018!

Last year, we continued to build on our great partnership with Chesaning Union Schools. We kicked off the school year with a networking night that resulted in increased involvement of our members in high school happenings such as the Senior Integrated Projects, Mock Interviews, a new Career Fair and student career exploration.

I am looking forward to seeing what 2019 will bring! With the new Community Services Building directly impacting our budget in a positive way, your Chamber board and marketing committee will be focusing our efforts on promoting our members and community. We are very excited to present our 2019 membership marketing brochure later this winter. This handy pamphlet will be distributed state-wide later this spring to 9 Welcome Centers, included in relocation packages for new residents and be made available to visitors during local events.

I am looking forward to our second annual Comedy Night coming up on March 16... we hope to see you all there! Wishing you success in 2019~

Gregory C. Bruff

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



*Greg Bruff,
President*



Congratulations, Award Winners!

Inside this issue:

Member News February Calendar	2
Award-Winning Members	3
2019 Anniversaries Gift Certificate Recap	4
Local Events	5
Benefits Review Raffle Winners	6

Member News & Community Highlights

Our local banks have been in the news lately with several press releases! Here are the highlights... you can see the full stories on our webpage under the "Our Members" tab!

- [United Financial Credit Union Offers Relief Options For Government Employees](#)
- [The State Bank Will Offer Assistance To Federal Employees During Shutdown](#)
- [United Financial Credit Union Offers Free Seminar: Better Your Business Lunch and Learn, Feb. 26, Noon—1pm, Saginaw.](#)
- [The State Bank announces Aeron-James Grigg as an Officer in their Commercial Lending division for the Great Lakes Bay Region.](#)
- **Self-Serve Lumber & Home Center** is now a Penske Truck rental facility! They rent 12' 16' 22' and 26' vans and trucks and serve individuals and businesses.

- Did you know that you or your business could potentially have unclaimed property waiting for you with the State of Michigan? A recent search revealed a few local businesses who had properties in their name held by the state. Be sure to check out the [Michigan Unclaimed Property website](#) to start your search!
- The Chamber and several area businesses have been enjoying having students for an hour or so each school day to learn about their industries and help with tasks in their offices. The next class of students is seeking placements beginning March 11 through the end of the school year. If your business is interested in becoming a **Chesaning Career Exploration Partner** for the third trimester, please contact Erica Birkmeier at ebirkmeier@chesaning.k12.mi.us.

December Chamber Statistics:
We received
66 Phone Calls,
350 Emails &
62 Visitors

February 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>Weekly Meetings/Events:</p> <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 					1	2
		Chamber Poker Room Fundraiser—Jan. 31-Feb. 2, 2019				
3 Am. Legion Breakfast 7:30-11:30am	4	5 7:30pm Village Council	6 Chamber Marketing Meeting 8:00am	7 Zion Luth. Mornings with Mommy-10:30am Chesaning Twp Board 7:30pm	8 Zion Luth. Mornings with Mommy-10:30am	9 In-Stitches Knitting @ Library 11am Trinity Comm. Supper 5pm
10	11	12	13 Noon Chamber Raffle 6pm DDA Meeting	14 Chamber Board of Directors Meeting 8am ♥HAPPY Valentine's DAY♥	15	16 River Rapids Library Emoji Family Fun Day 11am-1pm
17	18  RESIDENTS DAY	19 7:30pm Village Council	20 K of C Hamburg Night 5-7pm 7pm Library Book Club 7pm Sports Boosters	21 Zion Luth. Mornings with Mommy-10:30am	22 Zion Luth. Mornings with Mommy-10:30am	23
24	25	26	27 Noon Chamber Raffle	28		

"What the world really needs is more love and less paperwork." – Pearl Bailey, Actress

Our Chamber Members Are Award-Winning!

One of the highlights of the Annual Dinner and Meeting is the announcement of the recipients of our annual awards honoring the outstanding contributions of business owners, employees and citizens of the community of Chesaning. Nominations for these coveted awards were collected in December from our Chesaning Chamber members.

After reviewing the very competitive submissions this year, the selection committee was pleased to present the following awards to the winners:

Star Employee Award - Tamara Wenzel of Creative Passions Crop & Quilt Retreats. Presenting the award was Laura Greenfelder and Selena Meder.

Volunteer of the Year - Bobbi McIntyre of Studio 124. Presenting the award was Greg Bruff, Chamber Board of Directors President.

Distinguished Business Person Award - Ron Stewart of Sovis Insurance Agency. Presenting the award was Jessie Stewart.

Lifetime Achievement Awards - Ric, Rob & Nancy Rehmann of Ed Rehmann & Sons Clothing and Shoes. Presenting the award was Marc Rehmann.

President's Award - Greg Bruff of Waddell & Reed Financial Advisors Inc. - Presenting the award was Ron Ebenhoeh.

Thank you to everyone who took time to submit a nomination this year! And congratulations to the recipients!



Celebrating 2018 Member Anniversaries

Throughout the year, the Chamber wishes a "Happy Anniversary" to businesses celebrating a 5-year increment milestone by sharing their stories in our Newsletter and on social media. Certificates of achievement were presented this year to:

- 5 Years - Possum's Party Store & St. Peter Parish
- 10 Years – HJV Equipment & Union Court Assisted Living
- 15 Years - Hungry Howie's
- 20 Years - Metro Mortgage, Subway, Parson Investment Group of Wells Fargo Advisors & Wildwood Veterinary Clinic
- 25 Years - ZCI Feed Sales Inc
- 35 Years - Patricia Rehmann-Attorney at Law & Tri-County Citizen
- 40 Years - Advanced Eyecare & Contact Lens Center
- 45 Years - Village Sales & Service
- 50 Years - Parshallburg Campers/Carlton Camping Center & Trinity United Methodist Church
- 55 Years - Chesaning Manufacturing
- 80 Years - Harris Insurance Agency
- 100 Years - American Legion - Post 212
- 105 Years - Saginaw County Fair
- 130 Years - Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church
- 150 Years - Easton Church of Christ

Is your business or organization celebrating a 5-year milestone in 2019? Please be sure that you are listed on page 4 or call the Chamber office to update your information!

Meet Your 2019 Chamber Board of Directors

- ◆ President **Greg Bruff** of Waddell & Reed
- ◆ Vice President **Ron Ebenhoeh** of Metro Mortgage
- ◆ Treasurer **Steve Keck** of H&R Block
- ◆ Secretary **Jessie Stewart** of Sovis Insurance
- ◆ **Lori Austerberry** of Chesaning Realty
- ◆ **Jeri Birchmeier** of Chesaning Nursing & Rehabilitation Center
- ◆ **Stephanie Domina** of The State Bank
- ◆ **Tom Lavery** of CenturyLink
- ◆ **Bobbie McIntyre** of Studio 124
- ◆ **Ron Poyer** of H&R Block
- ◆ **Nick Stoddard** of Stoddard Classic Cars
- ◆ **Chris Theile** of Swartzmiller Lumber

(Not pictured: Jeri Birchmeier & Stephanie Domina)



Check the List—Do You Have An Anniversary in 2019?

We love to celebrate the milestones achieved by our members! This year, we have a long list of businesses and organizations celebrating and we look forward to highlighting them in upcoming newsletters! Of note...3 business members are looking forward to century-mark and older birthdays... outstanding! And our own Chamber of Commerce will be celebrating it's 95th Birthday this year... sounds like a great excuse for cake to me! Years of hard work, great ideas and bold investments have led us here! Give yourself a pat on the back!

Please take a peek below and make sure that our information is correct! Here's what we have on file for 2019 five-year increment member anniversaries—let us know if we've missed you or if our information is incorrect!

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 Years A-1 Site Development
Broad Street Events • 10 Years Riverfront Grille • 15 Years Broad Street Pharmacy
Re/Max Tri-County • 20 Years Self-Serve Lumber
Tri-County Appraisal Co Inc | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 25 Years Mobile Medical Response • 30 Years Heritage Tire & Service
Center • 40 Years Mel Ervin Ford Inc • 45 Years Mid-MI Old Gas Tractor
Association • 50 Years H & R Block of Chesaning • 55 Years United Financial Credit
Union
Chesaning Pools & Spas
Sobak's Home Medical • 80 Years Misiuk Funeral Home
Schultz Central Pharmacy
Chesaning Rotary Club • 85 Years Citizens Bank • 95 Years Chesaning Chamber of
Commerce • 100 Years Animal Health Care
Ed Rehmann & Sons
Clothing & Shoes • 110 Years CenturyLink |
|---|---|

Members Love Chamber Gifts Certificates

Chesaning Chamber Gift Certificates continue to be a great way to support our local businesses by encouraging customers to shop locally. This year was no different and we'd like to thank all of our members who participated in the Gift Certificate program.

In case you've never checked into our Chamber Gift Certificates, they are available in \$20, \$10 and \$5 denominations and are valid for five years. They may be purchased at the Chamber office or at Ed Rehmann and Sons Clothing. Every gift certificate recipient receives a listing of all participating chamber member businesses.

Chamber merchants whose dues are current may accept gift certificates from their customers for payment and bring them to the Chamber for reimbursement. PNC Bank will also credit the accounts of businesses who bank with them for the gift certificates.

We would like to extend a big "Thank You" to the **Chesaning/Brady Fire Department** for purchasing a large amount of gift certificates this month! Many Chamber businesses will benefit! Please keep the certificates in mind for gifts, employee recognition and prizes; email your large orders to the chamber in advance for faster processing.

Give a round of applause to our **Top 5 Merchants** of the 31 businesses who redeemed **\$9,935.00** in Chamber Gift Certificates in 2018:

- ◆ **Ed Rehmann & Sons Clothing** **\$940**
- ◆ **Showboat Restaurant** **\$840**
- ◆ **Riverfront Grille** **\$690**
- ◆ **Heritage Tire & Service** **\$620**
- ◆ **Pintown Pizza & Lanes** **\$495**

Honorable mentions go to **Paxson Oil/ Marathon and Broad Street Pharmacy** for redeeming over **\$450** in certificates in 2018!



**In 2018
\$5,300 Gift
Certificates were
sold! The most
popular are the \$20
denominations at
\$4320, followed by
\$10 at \$730 and
\$5 at \$250.**

"Every life a legacy, every small business a school." ~ Michael Gerber

The Pit's SUPERBOWL

Tailgate Special

Jumbo Wings
25 pc for
\$29.95

Pulled Pork
\$12/lb

Mike's Chilli
\$10/Qt

Wing Sauce or BBQ Sauce
\$4 (16 OZ)

Call Pitmaster Mike
(989) 928-4947

Order NOW!
Pick up on Saturday FEBRUARY 2nd

Save The Date ~ Saturday, March 16 ~ Time TBA
2nd Annual Chamber Comedy Night ~ Riverfront Grille

OWOSSO POKER Room

Chamber Fundraiser For Fireworks!
Try your luck at a tournament or cash table!
January 31 – February 2, Thursday-Saturday.

Poker Room hours are 5pm-2am;
Call 989-472-3338 for details!

EMOJI FAMILY
FUN DAY

IT'S SATURDAY
FEBRUARY 16TH
FROM 11 - 1PM

GAMES!
CRAFTS!
SNACKS!

River Rapids District Library
989-845-3211
www.riverrapidslibrary.org
facebook.com/riverrapidslibrary

Chesaning Career Exploration Program

A collaboration to provide students a work based learning experience.

The Chesaning Career Exploration program provides opportunities for students to partner with local businesses for career and technical education.

The CCE's goal is to provide students a work-based learning experience that, in conjunction with their school coursework, helps students to build a viable vision for their future.

Student Benefits

Students who participate in the CCE program will have the advantage of graduating from high school with career pathway experience. Chesaning High School will work to provide students appropriate curricula with an integrated career theme. Not only will students be learning valuable job skills, they will feel engaged and connected to their schoolwork.

The CCE program will give students an opportunity to sharpen their soft skills, develop personal attributes they will need to succeed in the workplace, and understand the demands and rigors expected by employers. Soft skills include emotional awareness, self-confidence, effective communication, attendance, and adaptability. A firm implementation of soft skills will be crucial for students' career success.

CCE Partner Expectations

- Assist the student in setting realistic, obtainable goals.
- Actively engage the student in the workplace.
- Provide adequate supervision on the job site, including an appropriate and safe work environment.
- Work with the Chesaning High School administrative staff and the student to develop a career exploration plan.
- CCE partners will be expected to complete two student evaluations per trimester.

Schools Win!

Schools benefit from career exploration learning by:

- Exposing students to professional equipment, technology, and techniques
- Individualizing instruction for students
- Making education more relevant and valuable to students

Employers Win!

Employers benefit from career exploration learning by:

- Creating a pool of skilled and motivated future employees
- Involvement in the Curriculum development process
- An opportunity to provide community service

Community Wins!

The community benefits from career exploration learning by:

- Creating an environment of collaboration among the school, the employers, and the community
- Contributing to building a more productive local economy

Chesaning High School Expectations

- Chesaning High School would ensure that students who receive career exploration placements are prepared to meet the expectations of employers.
- Chesaning High School would provide additional supplies required for student participation in the Career Exploration program.

For more information contact Erica Birkmeier at ebirkmeier@chesaning.k12.mi.us

Raffle Winners:

December 26

Christopher Thiele

Drawn by

Teri Worden Hoeft,

Edward Jones

January 9

Mary Yeager

Drawn by

Lori Austerberry,

Chesaning Realty

January 23

Casey Ade

Drawn by

Tabitha Sjoberg,

Primerica

Chamber 201—Reviewing Your Member Benefits

We shared these reminders a year ago but they bear repeating... whether you've been a member of the Chamber for years or you've just recently joined, it's always a good idea to review your membership benefits to make sure you are getting the most out of your investment. Consider this:

MARKETING: Your Chamber Director, Kate, likes to joke that she is the unofficial cheerleader for the community. Take advantage of that attitude and make sure that you email your event flyers, special offers and big news to her so she can share it with the Chamber's Facebook followers, include it in newsletters and weekly updates, or post events to the Community Calendar. Don't forget... Chamber members have free use of the marquee sign next to the post office which is passed by 8000+ vehicles per day!

NETWORKING: Pay attention to Chamber events and try to attend as many as possible! Connect with other businesses and organizations to share ideas and problem-solve common issues.

DISCOUNTS: Did you know that your Chamber membership makes you eligible for discounts with certain companies, such as Insurance and financial planning? Would you like to offer a discount to fellow Chamber

members to encourage them to "keep it local"? Call the office with your ideas and we can build our benefits with your participation!

SPONSORSHIPS: Why does every three-year-old know the Golden Arches or Mickey's famous ears? Because they have been exposed to those logos countless times, even in their short lives! Do you long for that kind of brand recognition? Sponsorships are one way to get your name "out there" for high recognition with consumers.

WELCOME PACKETS: The Chamber receives a steady stream of requests for visitor information or business contact information and offerings. Please do your business or organization a favor and make sure we have up-to-date print information in our office to share with residents and visitors alike, especially with the increased foot-traffic with the Village offices sharing our building.

UPGRADE TO GOLD: Our Gold Business members enjoy enhanced benefits such as one free flyer in the Newsletter per year, a free advertisement for a month on the Chamber home page, free member mailing labels and more.

Don't hesitate to call the office to find out more about how to make your membership work for you! 845-3055

