



# Monthly Business Connection

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 Email: info@chesaningchamber.org  
 Web: www.chesaningchamber.org

November 2017

*Chesaning  
 Chamber of Commerce  
 Board of Directors*

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**Ron Ebenhoeh**  
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 Metro Mortgage

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 Stoddard Classic Cars

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**Kate Weber**  
 Executive Director

## The Gift of Time

*Written for the "Chalk Talk" section of the Tri-County Citizen by  
 Chamber Director, Kate Weber*

Isn't it a wonderful blessing to live, work or attend school in Chesaning during the holiday season? Our community lights up with festive seasonal decor, and the warmth and generosity of our close-knit village and surrounding townships are evident in the many events that take place between Thanksgiving and Christmas. But look deeper than the abundance of activities on our Chesaning Community Calendar and you will find the true gift that is given year after year by our residents, businesses and students: hundreds of volunteer hours.

By definition, a volunteer is a person who performs a service willingly and without pay. Volunteers are the vital ingredient to any event, making possible what most budgets would deem impossible if a paid staff had to be hired to do the same amount of work. The Chamber's Christmas Candlelight Walk alone requires hundreds, if not thousands of volunteer hours every year, with tasks ranging from the simple, such as wrapping gifts, to as difficult as braving freezing temperatures to change light bulbs on the tops of downtown buildings from a truck with a boom lift. It takes an army of willing, unpaid volunteers to accomplish not only Candlelight Walk, but also Santa's Village at the Saginaw County Fairgrounds, several holiday craft bazaars including the Chesaning Music Boosters and St. Peter Parish craft shows on Thanksgiving weekend, the Greg Wirgau's 5ers 5K Run-Walk-

Crawl, breakfasts with Santa, toy drives, food distributions and more. Stop to think how much would be lost if so many people were unwilling to donate their time so abundantly.

Encouraging volunteerism in our youth is vital not only to the continuation of our traditional events but also to the future of the non-profit organizations that enhance our community in many untold ways. The Chamber has been delighted to be on the receiving end of endless support from many youth organizations, including the Chesaning High School National Honor Society, Middle School Builders Club (a Kiwanis program), local Cub Scouts and AFS Intercultural Exchange, to name just a few. Even the younger students in our public and private schools get involved by decorating dozens of gingerbread houses that adorn our Broad Street businesses for the Candlelight Walk with encore appearances at Santa's Village. We commend our local educators for developing the hearts of volunteers in our youth, a lesson that teaches not only how to give back to their community but also instills work ethic, selflessness, and pride in their home town.

As you enjoy the sights and sounds of the holidays in Chesaning and the surrounding communities in November and December, be sure to take a moment to thank a volunteer for making it all possible. Truly, they are the unsung heroes of the season.



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## Member Memos

- 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.
- The Chesaning Rotary Club has been delivering dictionaries to local elementary schools and atlases to the middle schools an annual project that the students remember for years to come! Great job, Rotarians!
- Registrations for the Thanksgiving morning 5er's 5k Turkey Trot can be made at <https://racesonline.com/events/5ers5k>. Proceeds benefit the Greg Wirgau Scholarship Fund.
- Holiday Shopping is here! Don't forget to support our local business with your holiday shopping dollars on Small Business Saturday! The annual Music Boosters Craft Show at Chesaning Middle and High

Welcome new business member,  
**Chabut State Farm**  
 located at 148 S. Chapman Street next to Dollar General! Thank you for supporting the Chesaning Chamber of Commerce with your membership and we look forward to celebrating your new business with a ribbon cutting ceremony on **Tuesday, November 21 at 10am!**

schools and St. Peter's Parish craft bazaar will be in full swing on Thanksgiving weekend, Friday from 10am until 5pm and Saturday from 10am until 4pm, also!

- The elves at Santa's Village have been hard at work preparing for their opening day at North Pole USA (Saginaw County Fairgrounds) on Saturday, Nov. 25. Visit them online: [santa.saginawcountyfair.org](http://santa.saginawcountyfair.org)

**October Chamber Statistics:**  
**We received**  
**102 Phone Calls,**  
**382 Emails &**  
**107 Visitors**



## December 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 Santa's Village Noon-7pm
3 American Legion Breakfast 7:30-11:30am  Santa's Village Noon-7pm	4	5 Rotary Club Noon 7:30pm Village Council  8pm Queen of Hearts	6 Kiwanis Club 7am  8am Chamber Marketing Meeting	7 Chesaning Twp Board Meeting 7:30pm	8 TBA CAPA Christmas Spectacular (Date and Time not finalized)	9 Santa's Village Noon-7p  9am Post Prom Breakfast w/Santa  Trinity Free Supper 5-7pm
10 Santa's Village Noon-7pm	11 Chesaning Board of Education Meeting 6:30pm	12 Rotary Club Noon  8pm Queen of Hearts	13 Kiwanis Club 7am  Noon Chamber Raffle  DDA Meeting 6pm	14 8am Chamber Board of Directors Meeting	15	16 Santa's Village Noon-7pm
17 Santa's Village Noon-7pm	18	19 Rotary Club Noon 7:30pm Village Council  8pm Queen of Hearts	20 5-7pm K of C Hamburg/Social Night  7pm Library Book Club  Kiwanis Club 7pm	21	22	23
24  New Year's Eve 31	25 Chamber Closed  	26  8pm Queen of Hearts	27 Kiwanis Club 7am  Noon Chamber Raffle	28	29	30

"May your walls know joy, may every room hold laughter, and every window open to great possibility." ~ Mary Anne Radmacher

## Giesken's Cabinetry & Floor Covering Proudly Celebrates 65 Years

In 1952, a young Chesaning native, Len, and his wife, Ann, founded Len Giesken Improvement Co., serving Saginaw County by resurfacing hot tar roofs on commercial buildings. What started from those humble beginnings has since grown into Chesaning's own Giesken's Cabinetry & Floor Covering — a family owned-and-operated business built on a 65-year commitment to quality products and hometown, personalized service.

In 1967, after 15 years in operation, Giesken's began a new journey in their current showroom at 104 Pine Street, just 1 block north of the light in Downtown Chesaning. Since then, the building has undergone several remodels, including a large remodel and expansion to help Giesken's better serve its loyal, local customers.

After working alongside his father, Len, Phil Giesken took the reigns of his family's business in 1985 alongside his wife, Sheila. With over 40 years of experience and expertise, Phil has since shaped Giesken's into a

full-service home interiors business, offering everything from cabinetry to countertops, floor coverings to window coverings.

Today, Giesken's proudly serves Chesaning and its surrounding communities with a full line of affordable and on-trend cabinetry from top manufacturers like Showplace and Woodland, stunning, solid surface countertops like Cambria Quartz, window fashions from industry leaders like Hunter Douglas, and a wide variety of floor coverings, ranging from affordable laminates and lush carpets to timeless hardwoods and luxurious tiles.

Whether you're tackling that DIY project that's been sitting on your to-do list for years or leaning on the time-honored and trusted service of Giesken's to complete your installation, Giesken's Cabinetry & Floor Covering is proud to provide the products and services to give new life to your space. Alongside Phil, the talented team of interior designers at Giesken's — Sara, Morgan, and Ashley — are

*Continued on page 6...*



## Happy 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, Waddell & Reed Financial Advisors

Offering financial planning since 1937, Waddell & Reed is celebrating 80 years of serving the needs of families, individuals and businesses. The firm, one of the oldest in the United States, was founded by two World War I veterans, Chauncey Waddell and Cameron Reed, who began a legacy of dedicated service to achieve their clients goals.

Since their beginnings, Waddell & Reed has navigated many market changes, evolving and growing to meet the needs of communities around the nation, now with over 160 registered offices offering a variety of investment products and services. Currently, the firm is embarking on a multi-year, multi-million dollar investment named Project E which focuses on Excellence, Evolution and Endurability, positioning the company to offer enhancements in technology, reporting and business processes.

Locally, the Chesaning office of Waddell & Reed boasts 3 of the company's top 250 financial advisors, Martin P. Maier, CMFC, Gerald Morse, CMFC, and Gregory Bruff, who have all been named to Waddell & Reed's

Advisor Medalist Program.\* "The Advisor Medalist honor reflects the advisor's steadfast dedication to their clients, their community and the Waddell & Reed family," said Tom Butch, chairman and president of Waddell & Reed, Inc. A new addition to the Chesaning team is Alecia Agnew, licensed advisor assistant.

We have witnessed first-hand Waddell & Reed's commitment to our community through their unending support of the Chesaning Chamber of Commerce, DDA, Parks and Recreation and many other service organizations and events.\*\* Just a few weeks ago, Greg and Marty spent an entire day hanging garland and holiday banners down Broad Street to prepare for Chesaning's Candlelight Walk. And, of course we must mention Greg's service to the Chamber as the president of our Board of Directors. Thank you for your dedication to Chesaning, Waddell & Reed Financial Advisors! We wish you continued success!



*\*Awards are presented annually by the firm and are based on an analysis of investments, insurance and financial planning sales generated by the advisor. For more information regarding the awards and dates received, please contact the advisors at 989-845-7699. \*\*Waddell & Reed is not affiliated with any other entities referenced herein. Member SIPC (11/17)*

## Christmas Candlelight Walk—Generations of Fun

### A CHESANING TRADITION CONTINUES

34 years ago, this month the Chamber of Commerce held its first Candlelight Walk. The purpose of the walk was to get people into our downtown business' and show them what our small town had to offer. The unique charm and the great customer service they received from Chesaning put us on the map. People would come to take in the old fashion feel of Christmas and family. Many would shop that weekend and many would return to the village to shop before Christmas to purchase their finds. Our town was one of the first communities to offer this kind of festival. The first year there were no candles lit. In 1984 they added about 1000 candles to the event. Where else could you walk down the streets by candlelight, hop on a horse drawn carriage, smell roasting chestnuts, warm by an open fire, shop, eat and hear Christmas carols, all while you do your holi-day shopping?

Bonnie Ebenhoeh, was one of the founders of the Candlelight Walk, and part of the boulevard association. Along with a small committee they came up with some great ideas for our walk. It takes many numerous volunteers to make this event work: Business owners, residents, schools, students, service groups, local officials, and churches. This free event provides entertainment for many residents and tourists. The lights and music sets the mood for the Christmas season.

Changes have come and gone with the Candlelight Walk. Trying to keep it fresh calls for new things and retiring some things. Does everyone remember the Victorian carolers walking the streets, the Ferris wheel, Light



Magic, donuts and cider, boulevard shops, Market Street Square, scavenger hunt, Shop Local stamps, pub crawl, penguin bowling, home tours, Gingerbread Lane, bell ringers and Santa? Yes, many of the stores are gone, but the atmosphere of Christmas still exists in the heart and soul of Chesaning. Go back in time and remember a simpler life and the true meaning of Christmas.

I will always remember coming here for the first time when I was in high school, bringing my kids when they were little and looking forward to sharing it with my grand-kids. Tradition starts with your home town, family and love. Let's keep the love and the heart of Christmas in Chesaning.

~Bobbi McIntyre, Birthday Celebration Committee and Candlelight Walk Committee Chairperson

### Candlelight Walk Schedule

Decorating the Public House for Festival of Trees will happen Saturday, Nov. 18 from 2-6pm and Sunday, Nov. 19 from 10am-6pm. Be sure to drop off all trees and wreathes by Sunday evening because....

Monday, November 20: WNEM morning news will visit the Festival of Trees, 5-7am!

### Candlelight Walk Days:

Friday and Saturday, Nov. 24 & 25 with Festival of Trees open noon-9pm and activities along Broad Street and at First Church of the Nazarene from 5-9pm



**THANK YOU to everyone who has put so many volunteer hours into decorating our village and assisting with the behind-the-scenes preparations to make this year's event a success!**





# NOMINATION FORM FOR ANNUAL AWARDS

The Chesaning Chamber of Commerce is continues 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 20, 2017. 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: December 31, 2017

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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!

Please return to the Chamber at P.O. Box 83, Chesaning, MI 48616, email at [info@chesaningchamber.org](mailto:info@chesaningchamber.org) or Fax to 989-845-6006 -  
Deadline is December 31, 2017

**Raffle Winners:**

**October 25**

**Sherry Adelberg**

Drawn by

**Shaina Schneider**

**(Sovis Insurance)**

**November 8**

**Pat Bitterman**

Drawn by

**Sara Jensen**

**(Giesken's Cabinetry & Floor Covering)**

**2018 Chamber Raffle**

**Tickets are now available**

**and make great**

**stocking stuffers! Call**

**the Chamber office for**

**more information**

**Chamber News: Preparing for 2018**

If you haven't received your 2018 Chamber membership renewal packet in the mail or from a member of the board of directors, please contact the Chamber office ASAP. We want our business members to have the opportunity to take advantage of the early renewal discounts available to you. We thank all of our members for their continued support and look forward to another great year!

**Action Items:** Save the date—our Annual Dinner & Meeting comes quickly after the dust from Candlewalk settles... plan to

join us on **Saturday, January 20** for a celebration of 2017. Don't forget to submit your nominations for our annual awards with the form on page 5. Is your business interested in sponsoring a table with "party favors"? Let Kate know you'd like to participate!

We are currently accepting nominations for 4 board positions with 3 year terms. Positions are also available on our planning committees for various events and marketing... any member is welcome to join. Call the office to get involved!

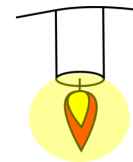
*...Continued from page 3—Giesken's Celebrates 65 years* here to help bring your vision to life, crafting a space you'll live in and love for years and years to come.

"Part of our 65-year tradition of custom, quality service means taking the guesswork out of putting the perfect touches on a new space or revitalizing an old one," says Phil, proud owner of Giesken's. "From day one, we'll get to know you — your style, your favorite colors, how you need your space to function for you and you family. After that, we'll custom measure, produce digital designs of your dream space, and help you select amazing and affordable options to bring it to life. And after your selections are made, we're still here to support you every step of



the way, coordinating a convenient delivery and seamless installation with our network of trusted, efficient installers & contractors. Stop in to see us today... we can't wait to get you one step closer to your dream home!"

The Chesaning Chamber congratulates Phil Giesken and his staff for their many years of success and we thank you for your support of our community! Well done!



*Chesaning Christmas  
Candlelight Walk  
& Festival of Trees  
Friday and Saturday,  
November 24 & 25*

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