

November 23rd, 2018

CHAMBER CORNER

By: Heather Harris Jensen

I hope you all enjoyed your Thanksgiving holiday with your loved ones and that some of you (like me) are enjoying a long weekend. The Chamber office will be closed through Monday – we will be back on Tuesday. Tomorrow is Small Business Saturday, please find a space in your shopping list to purchase locally not just during the holidays, but all year long. You can find some of the most amazing gifts from right here in our area, these businesses work hard to keep their doors open and depend on all of our support for this.

Congratulations to our Varsity Football team on another amazing season! We are all so proud of you! A job well done to our Cheerleaders and Marching Band members, your dedication and Trojan pride also deserves recognition for braving *every* game and never giving up on your team, lastly, parents – your children succeed because of you, you share in all of their victories and sadly, their defeats too. It has been heart warming to say the least watching our little community rally and support one another, my holiday hope is that spirit carries us through in our days to come and never stops!

The Chamber welcomes our newest member, Missaukee County 4H Program! Kids involved in 4H complete hands-on projects in area like health, science, agriculture, & citizenship in a positive environment to benefit not only their community, but themselves. If you have children that may be interested in joining 4H or you can maybe lend some of your worldly experience & talents to help a child in our area, the program is always looking for support and help, interested? You can contact their amazing Program Coordinator Laura Quist (she's really a great lady) by phone at (231) 839-5848 or email quistla1@msu.edu. We are hopeful to collaborate in our upcoming 2019 events & the future!

We have had some really great suggestions so far regarding GFITN19! But there is still time to cast your vote! Please feel free to comment on our FB post or send an email if you have an idea to share (info@lakecitymich.com). We will be narrowing down the list of theme suggestions and will be posting more info & the finals on our Facebook pages, both the Chamber and the Greatest 4th in the North. We are also working to build our event volunteer force, if you have some time to spare (it's only a few hours guys!) during the celebration, call us! There is literally something for everyone, we do not discriminate and believe we all have the ability to contribute, so, don't be shy! We want you! Plus, giving back to your community feels really, really good.

I love the fact that our Eagles club sends me a list of their upcoming events on every Monday, it really helps keep me in the loop so I can best promote them! Remember that Sunday is free pool with Coney specials, Wednesdays offer free pool & a wing special. Monday is Burger Night from 5:30 to 7:30p. Just \$2! There will be a Fish Fry on next Friday, November 30th from 530p-730 & the next Steak O will be next Saturday, December 1st from 2p-4p. The club is located Just east of Lake City on M55 at 4154 W. Houghton Lake Road.

Geers Farms will be hosting a Holiday Open House tomorrow from 10a-3p, please visit their FB page or website for further details. 5600 W. Geers Road (just outside of McBain).

The 2nd Annual Lighting will take place on December 1, starting with a holiday story at the Library - 3p. There are a lot of fun activities planned throughout our downtown and this is a free family fun event! Be sure the follow the FB page for updates and happenings all leading up to a community lighting of our Christmas tree in the downtown City Park. Maple Leaf Farm is also hosting their Christmas Open House on December 1st from 10a-4p. Lots of samples will be available and they will be decorated for the Holiday! 3060 S. 9 Mile Road, Falmouth.

Remember our Holiday Business After 5 on Monday, December 3rd at Countryside Grill from 5p-7p. Cost is \$5 for members and \$7 for non-member, the public is welcome! Please join area business owners for some socializing, networking, & connecting! Special thanks to our event partners: AdvisaCare, Countryside Grill, EXIT Realty Land & Lakes, Forest Area Credit Union, & Main Street Spectacles.

The Missaukee Historical Society has 2019 Calendar's for sale. Cost is \$5, & the Lake City Sesquicentennial books are for sale for \$10 – makes a great Christmas gift! The Calendars are for sale at A&L Trading Post, Arletta's, The Missaukee Sentinel, Lake City Area Chamber, and the Ardis Missaukee District Library. The Sesquicentennial books are for sale at The Missaukee Sentinel, Lake City Area Chamber of Commerce and the Ardis Missaukee District Library. You can also mail a check directly to the Missaukee Historical Society, P.O. Box 93, Lake City, MI 49651.

Remember to do some shopping local tomorrow and for the entire holiday season, did you know that 68% of what you spend local stays here, so do your part & support!