

Happy Friday from downtown in the best little city ever! I hope you all enjoyed your week and were able to get out and visit our local businesses. There was a Greatest 4<sup>th</sup> Committee meeting last week, we talked about the annual raffle and had Todd Pedlar attend our meeting to discuss our options for this year as you all know we partner with Classic Chevrolet every year and give away a new vehicle. Interesting fact we learned, while all of Camaro winners are very excited to take ownership, there are a lot who end up calling back to the dealership about selling it back. So, that raised the question. Would folks rather win a more year-round vehicle? Considering our terrain, we know that either a 4WD or AWD are pretty much a must around here, would something along those lines be a more practical prize for someone and could we sweeten the deal by throwing in a few kayaks and rack on top? Now, we have not made any final decision and are just in the thought process right now, as always, we welcome your feedback on the matter. We will be releasing sponsorship & advertising opportunities for our GFITN19 celebration as well as sending out letters to area organizations, churches, clubs, etc. in the next few weeks, if you have an event planned from July 3<sup>rd</sup> through July 7<sup>th</sup> this year please contact the Chamber and we will list your event in this year's Program Guide. There is already quite an interest coming in from potential sponsors (so exciting!) so if you are interested, please let us know asap so you don't miss out!

Today is Taylor's last day as our intern here at the Chamber. Wow! These last 30 weeks sure have gone by fast and I am sorry to see him go and we will miss him for sure. Although I hope he will continue to work with us on a volunteer level at our events as he settles into the area (there's your callout Taylor-now you have to do it). Best of wishes to this wonderful young man on his future endeavors! I am hopeful we can continue to work with Central Michigan University and keep an intern in the office half of the year, I have made a great connection there since having Taylor on board, so it's very promising! It's Steak O tomorrow at the Eagle's! From 2p-4p you can play BINGO, but you win steaks! On Mondays the club does burgers for only \$2 from 530p-730p. Free Pool on Sundays (with a Coney Special), free pool Wednesday (wing special). They have started Karaoke on Saturday nights too! Will happen on the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of the month with your host JT's DJ Service. Fish Fry next Friday (25<sup>th</sup>) from 530p-730p. The club is located Just east of Lake City on M55 at 4154 W. Houghton Lake Road.

There will be a Painting and Vine class tomorrow at the Legion starting at 1p. Cost is \$35 and includes your supplies and instruction. You do not need to register and can just show up! The Post is hosting their Annual Super Bowl Party on February 3<sup>rd</sup>! This event raises money for programs to support our local veterans and families. If you can donate an item for the auction or help you can contact Commander John Brown at (734) 634-7733. Steak Fry will be next Saturday (26<sup>th</sup>) and happens the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of every month. The price of the Steak Fry has increased a tad, Adults \$11 and kids 10 & under are \$6. Remember that all food events are open to the public and you are encouraged to attend.

This Monday (January 21<sup>st</sup>) at Culver's in Cadillac, our Missaukee Humane Society will be receiving 10% of all sales between the hours of 5p-8p. Grab dinner and support our local animals in need!

The Library is hosting a Knitter's Night on Mondays (5p-7p) through the end of the month. George Gruenberg playing piano on Thursdays (2p). Our Conservation District is partnering with the library for a Wildlife in my Backyard event! Starting on February 1<sup>st</sup> (10a) for a Preschool Story Time, then again February 20<sup>th</sup> (330p) an after-school activity called "Who's Track Is It?" and lastly, February 22<sup>nd</sup> (10a) another Preschool Story Time with "Footprints in the Snow".

Upcoming events to get on your calendars: Countryside Grill hosting a Breakfast Workshop on February 9<sup>th</sup>. Kids can make a Valentine Magnet (not intended for those under age 3), follow their FB page for updates. Easter Eggstravangansa will take place on April 20<sup>th</sup> at Lake Township Hall by our Lake City Fire Departments. If you have something you would like me to share, just contact us at the office!

Donations are now being accepted & appreciated for the Flowers on Main Street project, if you have some dollars to spare to help keep those gorgeous hanging baskets up in the summertime, it is greatly appreciated. You can drop off a check or cash right here at the Chamber office.