October Community Events

Ludington Optimist Pastry Sale in October, 231-845-7150
1-2 Rocktober Festival @ Lewis Farm Market, 231-861-5730
6 Fall History in Action Day @ Historic White Pine Village, 231-843-4808
7-8 CPL Class, Finandfeatherclub.org
10 Oktoberfest Pub Crawl in Downtown Ludington, 6:00pm - 11:00pm, downtownludington.org
11 Oktoberfest Craft Beer & Music Festival in Downtown Ludington, downtownludington.org
11-12 Books Unlimited @ Spectrum Health Ludington Hospital, 8:00am - 5:00pm, 231-845-3633
13 Shakespeare Reading Group @ Ludington Area Center for the Arts, 7:00pm - 9:00pm, 231-794-1235
13-14 Fall History in Action Day @ Historic White Pine Village, 231-843-4808
15 Historic White Pine Village Closes for the Season, 231-843-4808
15-16 Fall Fling Festival @ Lewis Farm Market, 11:00am - 6:00pm, 231-861-5730
17-18 Scottville Candidate Forum @ Scottville Senior Center, 5:30pm
18-19 Haunted Village @ Historic White Pine Village, 231-843-4808
20 Dancing with the Local Stars @ Lincoln Hills Golf Club, 231-843-4666
21-22 Sportsman’s Banquet @ Scottville Optimist Hall, 6:00pm
22-23 Spooktacular @ Mason County Fairgrounds, 231-843-2280
23-24 Candidate Forum @ Ludington Area Center for the Arts, 6:00pm
25 Chamber of Commerce Business After Hours @ Maker’s Market 5:00pm - 7:00pm, 231-845-0324
26 3rd Annual Halloween Potluck @ Scottville Senior Center, 4:30pm-7:30pm
27 28-29 Great Pumpkin Festival @ Lewis Farm Market, 231-861-5730
30 Big Sable Lighthouse Closed for Season, 231-845-7417
31 Photography by Sue Brown Halloween Spooktacular @ Photography by Sue Brown Studio, 1:00pm - 6:00pm, 231-757-9800
31 Happy Halloween - Trick or Treat, 6:00pm - 8:00pm

Tune in to Chamber 30 on Wednesdays at 12:30 on WLDN 98.7 for a half hour of conversation with the Chamber and Chamber Members. Find out what is going on, how you can benefit from your membership, and how to get involved in what is going on with the Chamber and our partners.

STAFF DIRECTORY

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Welcome Fall!

October 2016

CHAMBER ticker

KandyLandy Dairy wins as First and Only Grade A-Licensed Goat Creamery in Michigan. One of Five Finalists in Second Annual Momentum Business Plan Competition

A small dairy goat farmer from Scottville received a big gift Friday, Sept. 23. Kandy Potter of KandyLand Dairy won $50,000 in the Momentum Business Plan Competition, where she and four other finalists pitched their business ideas to a panel of judges and live audience in a "Shark Tank"-style format at West Shore Community College’s Center Stage Theater that was full to capacity.

The pitch night was the culmination of a rigorous process for finalists in the Momentum Business Plan Competition, now in its second year of awarding one entrepreneur $50,000 to start or relocate an early-stage business in Mason County. Eligible contestants submitted business plans by July 31, after which they were short-listed to five finalists who presented to a panel of judges last Friday. Contestants were each given five minutes to highlight their plans, followed by seven minutes of questions from the judges. The competition’s board of directors served as the judges, who also are Presidents/CEOs of Mason County businesses: John Wilson of Western Land Services, Jim Scatena of FloraCraft, Kathy Maclean of the Ludington & Scottville Area Chamber of Commerce, Tom Paine of Metalworks and Ray Biggs of West Bay Bank. Andy Thomas, 2015 Momentum Competition winner and owner of Starving Artist Brewing Co., served as a sixth judge.

"This is a fantastic community event that highlights the spirit of local businesses," said Ray Biggs, President and CEO of West Shore Bank and Momentum board member. "It is a wonderful opportunity for each contestant to share their stories of passions and sacrifice to get their business ideas this far, not only with the judges, but the community audience that came to listen and support them. It is hard work being an entrepreneur, and there is a great spirit of support in Mason County."

KandyLandy Dairy Takes the Prize

Kandy Potter of Scottville, the third presenter of the evening determined through a random drawing, pitched the judges on Scottville goat dairy farm KandyLand Dairy, which she co-owns with her fiancé, Steve Volkers. A fourth-generation Michigan farmer, Potter started making cheese and yogurt for family and friends in 2008 with just three rescue goats, which has expanded to a herd of 100 goats today. In 2010, Zingerman’s of Ann Arbor contacted her to buy her goat milk in bulk for processing into their cheese, which she sold to them until 2013.

Visit www.ludington.org/events/calendar for a complete listing of community events.
NEW MEMBERS

Please support our members with your patronage and let them know you appreciate their community involvement through the Chamber of Commerce.

Brad's Stump Grinding
989-309-0105
bradstumpsgmail.com
bradstumps.com
A small operation with high tech equipment with the desire to get the job done right. Brad's Stump Grinding offers free estimates and turns your ugly stumps into a pile of dust without damaging your yard.

Lakeshore Carpet Care
Ludington
231-625-4663
Whatever the event you would probably love to have your carpets beautifully soft, fresh and clean for the occasion. Experience Lakeshore Carpet Care’s fast, friendly and efficient service and be amazed by the results.

Ludington Window Cleaning
Ludington
231-233-6250
ludingtonwindowcleaning@yahoo.com
Window and screen cleaning to help you see all the beauty of God’s creation. Gutters and pressure washing too! 8am-9pm, after hours please leave a message.

Member News:

Cops & Doughnuts Ludington Precinct are having a Grand Opening Tuesday Oct 11th at 11am. They will be doing a Police Ribbon cutting and have the building blessed by Pastor Dennis Bromley

Vanderwal, Spratto & Richards, P.C., a Certified Public Accounting Firm announced the opening of a Ludington Office at: 201 N Rowe Street in Ludington, 231-425-4960

ROADWAY OF HOPE MISSION SERVICES

7500 West US 10, Ludington MI 49431 • 845-0324
www.ludington.org

OCTOBER MEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Thank you to all of our members, both new and established for their continued support of our wonderful business community through their investment in the Chamber of Commerce and the Ludington & Scottville Area.

10/30/1981 - Benedict Shilander Collision Center Inc.
10/27/1987 - Lakeshore Golf Course
10/27/1987 - Mason County Transit Mix, Inc.
10/9/1989 - P.M. Steamers
10/1/1991 - ludingtondentists.com - Dr. ’s King & Aloe
10/14/1992 - Fifth Third Bank
10/24/1992 - FiveCap, Inc.
10/5/1994 - Crystal Lake Campground
10/1/1997 - David F. Betz, Attorney-at-Law
10/31/1997 - Ludington Concrete Products
10/9/2002 - Silver Creek RV Resort
10/23/2003 - Village Manor of Ludington
10/23/2003 - West Shore Eye Care
10/24/2004 - Lighthouse Group
10/4/2005 - U-Win Motorsports LLC
10/10/2006 - Mason County District Library
10/27/2008 - Lighthouse Realty - Debbie Stevenson
10/27/2008 - Exit Real Estate of Ludington-Robin Koikas
10/14/2010 - Owens Soft Water, Inc.
10/27/2010 - Muskegon County Airport
10/19/2012 - Connie M Tewes CPA, LLC
10/17/2012-Waddell & Reed Investments
10/14/2012 - Our Johnny’s Inc.
10/2/2013- Max’s Small Engine Repair
10/8/2013- Surface Expressions
10/10/2013- Maurice’s
10/1/2014- Hope Network
10/3/2014- Love Wines, LLC
10/21/2014-Lake Michigan CPA Services
10/28/2014- Fox Barn Market & Winery
10/28/2014- Pere Point Village Condo Association
10/6/2015- Great Lakes Pet Fencing
10/9/2015- PIERROT HAIR DESIGN
10/16/2015 - Local Automotive Sales
10/16/2015 - Benedict’s Auto Center
10/16/2015 - Walter’s Fisheries
10/23/2015 - Your Franchise Success

WHAT IS THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE?

At the heart of the local economy and the backbone of virtually every great community you’ll find a chamber of commerce celebrating and promoting the diversity of uniqueness of their community. Chambers of Commerce help form the fabric of America. Their efforts result in business attraction, job creation, improved education, beautification and more. Despite all of this, the question is still often asked, “What is the Chamber of Commerce?”

Technically, chambers of commerce are business associations generally incorporated as a 501(c)(6), that work diligently to improve the economic, cultural, and overall business climate for the areas they serve. They are typically private, not-for-profit corporations. Chambers are governed by a volunteer board of directors and employ professional staff to accomplish their mission. While that is impressive, it is the daily work of chambers that moves communities, the state and this nation forward.

Today’s chambers of commerce focus on a broad range of activities and support for both business and the community at large. From community and workforce development initiatives to information dissemination and legislative advocacy, chamber professionals and members work with other talented leaders in business, community and government to create a positive environment and to make the community a better place to work, live and play.

The beauty of chambers of commerce is that they truly embody the spirit of entrepreneurship, ingenuity and innovation of their communities and the businesses they represent; therefore, specific programs, products and services vary by chamber and are tailored specifically to the needs of the local community.

These programs often include:

- Business development and growth programs for large and small businesses
- Custom research, local/regional economic forecasts, or other analysis
- One-stop shops for information or services related to starting a business, getting elected to public office or finding a job
- Fighting for pro-business as well as important community relevant legislation and to form public and private alliances

This list goes on. Whether it is economic development, tourism, community events, or those mentioned above the chamber of commerce is the “go to” resource for information. It is the convener of people and a place where things get done. In short, chambers of commerce provide the community leadership necessary to develop the economic well-being of their region.

As you see, chambers of commerce are involved in many facets of the community (sometimes quietly) to help create places we call home. October is Chamber of Commerce month in Michigan. This month is set aside annually to reflect and show our appreciation for the work of many dedicated individuals and organizations across the state.

Now that you have a better sense of what the chamber is, you can better understand the role they play in your community. With this new knowledge, take a moment to stop in and meet your chamber of commerce staff and learn more about the powerful work they do and the contributions they make on behalf of you, local businesses and the community.

If you already know them (and chances are you do), drop in, say thanks and tell them how much you appreciate them for their work!

Written by: Bob Thomas, Michigan Association of Chamber Executives

LEADS Networking Group

Promoting strategic partnerships within the business community.

Meets: The 2nd & 4th Wednesday of the month at lunch from 12:00pm - 1:30pm
at
5300 W. US Hwy 10 in Ludington
October 12th & 26th, 2016

Contact Nicole for more info: n.thaler@safetydecals.com

BUSINESS AFTER HOURS

October 26
at
Maker’s Market
227 W. Ludington Ave, Ludington
5:00pm - 7:00pm

“Nov. & Dec. - No Event

2017 Dates To Be Announced...
Stay Tuned.”