

April 15, 2008 - Tax Day!

## MASON IN MOTION UPDATE

Mid-Month Supplement to the Monthly "Mason in Motion" Newsletter

**Mason Area Chamber of Commerce**

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**GOOD MORNING MASON IS THURSDAY, APRIL 24** -- Be there on Thursday morning, April 24<sup>th</sup> at the **Ingham County Fairgrounds** Community Building, 700 E. Ash Street in Mason at 7:15 AM for our next Good Morning, Mason! If you've never attended before, here's what happens: community leaders like you gather to hear two-minute reports on up to ten topics of interest. Businesses, government agencies and community organizations are represented by those attending. New business and housing developments, local services, and community economic needs are often highlighted. Occasionally, more time is given to topics, such as the programs that **Mason Elevator Company** does to support young people, which will be discussed at the next meeting. Sponsored and supported by **Dart Bank** since the very beginning, Good Morning Mason! is also the Chamber's most popular networking event. Attendees have the opportunity to meet and greet each other before they sit down to hear the news snippets. Often, those new to GMM introduce themselves as part of the program in case they missed meeting anyone earlier. We'll be revealing details of our Mason Values campaign and the 2008 MACC Raffle and Party.

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**MACC RIBBON CUTTINGS** -- Join us for the **Mason Area Historical Museum's** 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary Celebration with a MACC Ribbon Cutting at 5:30 PM sharp and an Open House following until 7:30 PM this Thursday, April 17<sup>th</sup>. Come by for guided tours, refreshments, prize drawings, and more. The next scheduled MACC Ribbon Cutting is for **The Trellis** at their new location 103 E. Maple on Thursday, May 1<sup>st</sup> at 11 AM sharp. Then, the next one is on Friday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> at 5:10 PM sharp on Maple Street between Barnes and Maple Streets for the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the **Mason State Bank 5K** that benefits the **Mason Public Schools Foundation** -- and then another one at 5:15 PM sharp to mark the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Spring Fling. We may have a few more in the next few weeks also, but you'll certainly want to be at the MACC Ribbon Cutting on Friday, May 16<sup>th</sup> at 3 PM sharp for the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of **Kean's Store Company**.

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**THE 25<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY SPRING FLING IS MAGIC!** -- We're getting closer to full up on vendors for our 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary show. We can still take a few reservations for craft vendors -- we have about 15 spots left. A limited number of \$100 sponsorship opportunities are also available for Spring Fling. Thursday Night Live \$100 program sponsorships are also still available. Get those in ASAP! Enclosed in the last paper newsletter (also available online at our website) are application forms for each event.

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**MAP CONCERNS AND OPPORTUNITIES** -- The Mason area is now one of the many communities across the nation whose local businesses are raising concerns about phone calls from marketing companies going under various names. The companies have been calling Mason Area Chamber of Commerce members and soliciting them by looking at the last chamber-authorized community maps and then asking people to buy an ad in their own rival publication that is not authorized by the Chamber. This is perfectly legal, but does not help the Chamber. Unfortunately for the Mason Chamber, these marketing companies picked a bad time to begin soliciting for their rival maps, which are not sponsored or authorized by the Chamber. Authorized **Village Profile** advertising representatives are now contacting Chamber members and other businesses about ads for the approved Chamber map which is scheduled to be out in the next several months. "Whenever we do any kind of joint advertising promotion, we send out notices to members prior to salespeople hitting the phones or the streets to announce our project," says Doug Klein, executive director of the Mason Chamber. "We just did so last week for our Chamber map." He adds that "if anybody gets a call about an ad and they're not sure if it's for the Chamber's map, they should just pick up the phone and ask us."

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**CABLE CHANNEL SLIDES ON WEBSITE** -- If you don't get Mason's **Broadstripe** Cable Channel 21, don't despair! You can view the City Channel's community event and announcement slides right on our website [www.masonchamber.org](http://www.masonchamber.org). They change each week!

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**RE-STORE COMING TO MASON** -- **Habitat for Humanity of Greater Ingham County** will be opening a Habitat Re-store on Cedar Street in the old Felpausch Express soon. They need help on projects, etc., including activities with young people at the **Ingham County Fairgrounds** the next two days. Call their volunteer coordinator John at Habitat for Humanity in Williamston, (517) 655-1872.

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**GET READY TODAY FOR OPRAH'S BIG GIVE WHEN IT COMES TO MASON THURSDAY, APRIL 17 --** **Gorsline Runciman** is sponsoring a horse-drawn milk wagon to appear on City streets on Thursday, April 17<sup>th</sup> from 11 AM to 1 PM to solicit donations for the Greater Lansing Food Bank. While Oprah Winfrey's national program will provide milk for the food bank (hence the milk wagon), **Gorsline Runciman** is collecting cash and food donations to accompany the milk distributions. Mason businesses and offices are to get ready to load money and non-perishable food donations when the wagon rolls by.

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**MASONIC CENTER RELAY FOR LIFE SPAGHETTI DINNER FUNDRAISER IS FRIDAY, APRIL 18 --** The **Masonic Center** will hold a spaghetti dinner fundraiser for the **American Cancer Society's** Relay for Life on Friday, April 18<sup>th</sup> from 5 PM to 7 PM. The menu is spaghetti with meatball sauce or meatless sauce, breadsticks, salad, beverage, and dessert. Ticket cost is \$6, children 3 and under are free. There will be entertainment provided. The **Masonic Center** is at 840 E. Columbia Street in Mason. Any questions, contact Pat Hall 676-1360.

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**"SPRUCE UP SYCAMORE CREEK" SCHEDULED FOR APRIL 26 --** Spring is here, and for many of us, that means saying goodbye to the last remnants of winter and doing a little spring cleaning. Once you have finished dusting your shelves and vacuuming your carpet, **Barb Byrum** would love for you to join her for a different kind of spring cleaning. On Saturday, April 26<sup>th</sup>, **Barb Byrum** and members of the **Mason Rotary Club** will be picking up trash and litter along the Sycamore Creek and Hayhoe Riverwalk trail in Mason. She will be providing gloves and refreshments for everyone who comes out. Our rivers, creeks and other water sources play a vital role in our quality of life here in Michigan. We need to keep them clean and healthy so our children and grandchildren can continue to enjoy them. Also, we need to be looking good before the **Rotary's** Duck Race on May 3<sup>rd</sup> at noon! If you are interested in joining the group, please call **Barb Byrum's** office at (517) 373-0587. They'll be meeting at 10 a.m. at Lee Austin Park.

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**JOE'S FARM SUPPER ON SUNDAY, APRIL 27 --** A popular annual fundraiser for the **Mason Area Historical Society** is Joe's Farm Supper. This year it will be on Sunday, April 27<sup>th</sup> at the First United Methodist Church, 201 W. Ash Street. Tickets are \$10 and only 80 are available. To reserve tickets, call Joe Bement at (517) 628-2103.

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**WEEKLY M-36 MEETINGS START APRIL 21 --** Beginning April 21 and every Monday thereafter through the season, MDOT will hold 9:00 AM meetings in the City Hall basement (201 W. Ash) about the road construction on M-36. Remember that surviving and even thriving during this road construction is the topic of a new booklet from your Chamber of Commerce. The M-36 reconstruction project taking place in Mason this year is the focal point for the booklet entitled: "Mason is Open for Business! Tips for Businesses Affected By the 2008 Reconstruction of M-36 in Mason, Michigan -- Hometown U.S.A." Free copies are available at the Chamber office at 148 E. Ash Street, open 9 AM to 3 PM, Monday through Friday. Sections of the booklet cover topics like becoming informed on the project, how businesses can help reduce unnecessary traffic, keeping customers informed, and how businesses can keep the customers coming. The information is designed to help business owners and managers brainstorm for innovative ideas to promote their business and to communicate with customers.

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**PRINTED CHAMBER DIRECTORIES ARE AT THE OFFICE --** The combined business directory from the Lansing Regional Chamber, which includes our Chamber and several others, is now available from our office. We're open 9 to 3, Monday through Friday, so just stop in! Last year, these were mailed to all our members, but we've gone back to having you pick them up to save us about \$300 in postage. While you're here, check out our visitors center and see how you can be a part of that program.

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**UPCOMING MACC COMMITTEE MEETINGS --** The **Ambassadors Committee** meeting will be Tuesday, April 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 AM. The **Hometown USA Committee** meeting will also be Tuesday, April 15<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 AM. The **Economic Development Committee** meeting is Thursday, April 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 AM. The **Membership Services Committee** meeting is Thursday, April 17<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 AM. The **MACC Golf Classic Committee** will meet on Friday, April 18<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 AM. The **Thursday Night Live Committee** will meet Monday, April 28<sup>th</sup> at 6 PM. The **Housing Committee**, the **Spring Fling/DHD Committee**, the **Independence Day Celebration Committee**, and the **MACC Raffle Committee** will all meet again soon, but call us for exact dates and times. The **Executive Committee** will meet on Wednesday, May 7<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 AM. The **MACC Board of Directors** will meet on Friday, May 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 AM. Call the Chamber office for more information at 676-1046. All meetings are held in the Chamber office. **JOIN US!**

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FOR THE LAST MONTH'S "MASON IN MOTION" NEWSLETTER  
AND OTHER MASON AREA COMMUNITY INFORMATION,  
GO ONLINE AT [WWW.MASONCHAMBER.ORG](http://WWW.MASONCHAMBER.ORG)