

MASON *in Motion*

CHAMBER HOLIDAY PARTY MIXER IS ON DECEMBER 1ST

The Mason Area Chamber's biggest member mixer event, our annual Holiday Party, is on Thursday, December 1st and is again at the **Ingham County Fairgrounds** Community Building from 5 to 8 PM. As in past years, it is a great time to greet all your friends and neighbors in the community and wish them the happiest of holidays. Admission is just \$7 per person for members and \$10 per person for non-members.

Chamber Ambassadors and other volunteers have worked hard again this year to bring you a Holiday Party brimming with good food, live music, door prizes, auction items, and a whole lot of fun. The fundraising event is presented by **Origami Brain Injury Rehabilitation Center**. Other sponsors are **Fat Cat Productions** and Mason area restaurants and caterers. The mixer committee members Nichole Dorr, Jeff Haueter, Jim Hyde, Jon Grocki, Robin King-Fuller, **Tom Husby**, Karla Spoor, and our other volunteers have planned a great evening.

You'll again enjoy the delightful live holiday music of Kelly Yoakam and Kay Rinker-O'Neil. You'll enjoy door prize drawings throughout the evening. You'll enjoy the 50/50 raffle. But you'll especially enjoy the wonderful food



of the "Taste of Mason," area restaurants and caterers (invited): **Mason A&W, Darb's Tavern, Daily Scoop, Merindorf Meats, City Limits, Big Boy, Gordon's Food Service, Nairda's, Baja Grill, The Vault Deli,**



Darrell's, Westside Deli, Biggy Coffee, Wendy's, and Bestsellers Books & Coffee Co. We thank them for their sponsorship.

Don't forget to bring your holiday gift buying money with you! This is an important fundraising event for the Chamber and we need your support to help GROW MASON! Inside this newsletter you'll find a catalog of the auction items we have received to date. Most items are available through a silent auction, but some will be auctioned live at the party. For your convenience, items can be paid for with cash, check, VISA or MasterCard.

Please note those who provided auction and door prize items. Our thanks go to them for their support and we hope you'll patronize their businesses throughout the coming year. Come to the party and get some really great gifts in exchange for your contribution to the Chamber's community events fund.

If you can't make the Holiday Party, call the Chamber office before the party to bid on the silent auction items. You don't need to be present if you're the highest bidder. All winners who are not at the party when the silent auction closes at 7 PM will be notified on Monday, December 5.

A publication of the



Mason Area
Chamber of Commerce

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Mason, Michigan 48854

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December 2011

WHAT'S IN THIS ISSUE?

- Don't Miss the December Mixer Holiday Party on December 1st
- MACC Gift Certificates Make Great Gifts During This Season
- News From Our Chamber Members
- New Directors Elected to Board
- It's A Wonderful Chamber! *Revisited*
- Inserts: December Mason Values & MACC Holiday Party Auction Catalog

NEW DIRECTORS CERTIFIED AT MACC ANNUAL MEETING

The 13-member board of directors of the Mason Area Chamber of Commerce will have five brand-new members this coming year. At the October Annual Meeting, the membership certified the election of Andrew Sarratelli of **Dart Container Corporation**, Shireen Luther of **Tomco Asphalt**, and Jeff Oesterle of **Little Creeks Cattle & Grain** for three-year terms. Doug Klein of **Star Associates** and Elaine Ferris of the **City of Mason** were certified for two-year terms. Current Board members Brian Vicary of **Dart Bank** and Nichole Dorr of **Independent Bank** were also certified for full three-year terms.

Neil Kentner of **Wynsmoor Manor**, Robin Manno of **Dart Container**, Aaron Fiedler of **Fiedler Insurance Agency**, and Chris Iott of **Ace Hardware** will be retiring from the Board at the end of this year.

Other Chamber board members continuing in 2012 are Jamie Robinson of **Darrell's Market & Bestsellers**, Pam Bullen of **Bullen's Wellness**, Sue Burgess of **B-Dry Systems**, Liz Luttrell-Wilson of **Mason State Bank**, Brent Forsberg of **T.A. Forsberg Inc.**, and Mark Dillingham of **Mason Public Schools**.

The Board encourages any and all individuals who are employees, principals, or associates of Chamber members to consider serving on one or more of the Chamber's many committees. Doing so is probably the best preparation for any new Board member.

THANKS FOR 2011 MASON HOLIDAYS CELEBRATION

The Mason Area Chamber of Commerce's Mason Holidays Celebration Committee would like to thank all our sponsors, volunteers, partners, participants, and all those involved in making our Mason Holidays Celebration on Friday, November 25, 2011 such a success.

Thanks go to presenting sponsor **Dart Container Corporation**; parade marshals **American Legion Browne/Cavender Post 148** members; and our event sponsors **Mason Area Historical Society, LAFUCU, Fat Cat productions, Mason RailTime Adventures, Cobblestone Events Center** in the **Mason Antiques District**, and the **Mason A&W Restaurant**. Also we thank our partners: **Eden United Brethren Church, Mason Optimist Club, Supreme Rental, Mason Girl Scouts, Granger Container Service, Ingham County Facilities, Lear Corporation**, and the **City of Mason's** police, fire, public works and administration departments.

We appreciate the afternoon entertainment contributions of **Krag Ryal, Inspired Events, Bestsellers Books & Coffee Co., Mason Girl Scouts**, and local volunteers. Thanks also for the great assistance of the **Mason High School** Santa Band directed by **Beth Bousfield, City of Mason** Mayor **Leon Clark**, and the family of **Margaret Doolittle**, our 2011 Citizen of the Year, during the Christmas tree lighting, sponsored by **Fiedler Insurance Agency**.

We also appreciate each of the participants in the eleventh annual lighted parade not listed above. Some of the others are listed here: **Gordon's Food**

Service, Bluegrass Landscaping, Gordon's Food, Kelly Automotive, Kiwanis Club, MAHS, Mason Masonic Center, Ingham County Animal Control, Two Men and a Truck, Rapid Refill Ink, CP Federal Credit Union, TomCo Asphalt, and many other local floats and lighted units.

The 2011 committee was chaired by **Aleasha Wood** and members were **Ed Hude, Terry Fobbs, Jeff Haueter, Tim McElhone, Paul Ciucci, Jamie Robinson, Vickie Vandenberg, Mike Hughes, and Elaine Wright**. The committee is looking for help in planning the 2012 Mason Holidays Celebration that will be held on Friday, November 23, 2012. Call the Chamber office at (517) 676-1046 -- or you can e-mail the Chamber at masonchamber@masonchamber.org to volunteer.



MI-SBTDC PRESENTS TRAININGS:

Fundamentals of Starting a Business

Wednesday, December 7, 2011

9:00 AM to 11:00 AM

This course is designed for individuals who are considering self-employment or are at the beginning stages of starting their business. Delivered in a workshop format, this introductory session helps aspiring entrepreneurs assess their abilities to lead and manage a company as well as evaluate market and sales potential for their products/services. The basics of business ownership are introduced, along with resources available to help launch new ventures in Michigan.

Speaker: *Kellie Hanford, Certified Business Consultant*

Location: *MI-SBTDC Capitol Region Office, (309 N. Washington Square, Lansing) -*

Cost: *FREE - To Register: Visit website at www.misbtcd.org/training, or call (517) 483-1921.*

Social Media Networking

Thursday, December 8, 2011

12:00 PM to 2:00 PM

Learn the basics and etiquette of social networking for your small business. Content will include how to leverage social networks to help grow your business while reducing your marketing costs. Benefits, disadvantages and tricks of the major social networks (Facebook, Twitter, and Linked-In) will be discussed. It is optional if you would like to bring your own laptop to follow along. Pre-registration is required.

Speaker: *Connie Sweet, Connections Graphics*

Location: *MI-SBTDC Capitol Region Office, (309 N. Washington Square, Lansing)*

Cost: *\$25.00 - To Register: Call (517) 483-9853. Pre registration is required.*

NEWS OF OUR MEMBERS

Teri Sand of **Ingham Intermediate School District** and **Capital Area Michigan Works!** requests your assistance on Tuesday, December 13, 2011. The **Capital Area Career Center** in Mason will be holding a mock job fair for its high school students to learn how to prepare for real job fairs that day. 30-40 volunteers are needed for each shift (7:30 - 10:30 AM or 11:30 AM - 2:30 PM). There are a variety of tasks that volunteers can do, so there is likely "something for everyone". If you are available for a shift, please let Teri know at tsand@camw.net by e-mail.

Col. Terry Fobbs of **American Legion Post 148** won our \$25 MACC gift certificate this month for volunteer leadership on Mason Holidays Committee. The certificate was sponsored this month by **Ace Hardware of Mason**. Thank them for their support!

Meals on Wheels is in need of volunteers to deliver meals in the Mason, Holt, Onondaga and Williamston areas. MOW provides hot nutritious meals Monday through Friday. The meals are delivered between 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Volunteers must be 18 years of age, have a car, a valid driver's license and good references. MOW does not accept volunteers with a criminal record. Training is provided and you may be reimbursed for mileage. To volunteer, call the Meals on Wheels office in Mason at (517) 676-2775.

Dart Bank is collecting non-perishable food items for local food banks, personal hygiene items, such as feminine products, deodorant, shaving cream, bars of soap, shampoo and conditioner, diapers, toothpaste and toothbrushes, for the Salvation Army, and Toys for Tots in their Mason lobby through December 9. **Independent Bank** is also collecting for Toys for Tots, as is the Chamber office.

Since 1991, the Michigan Sportsmen Against Hunger (MSAH) have been working to create linkages between donors, wild-game processors, and charities that feed needy individuals. The Mid-Michigan Food Bank is a recipient again this year. **Merindorf Meats and More** of Mason is involved in the program. Michigan leads the nation in hunting license sales. Thanks to participating processors, in a recent hunting season MSAH helped facilitate the processing of more than 32,800 pounds of venison into nutritious meals for needy families all across Michigan.

The clothing bank at **First United Methodist Church of Mason** is a valuable local resource. Operating since 1967, it currently is open from 1-3:30 p.m. the first Tuesday of each month at the church, located at 201 E. Ash Street. Church members and non-members may donate clothes (hours are 9 a.m.-3 p.m. weekdays). Brand-new children's clothes (with the tags still attached) are taken by the volunteers at the clothing bank to **Angel House**, a children's advocacy center and shelter for teen mothers in Mason.

The **Mason Optimist Club** is conducting their annual Chuck Brandell Toy Drive. Drop off new, unwrapped toys to the **Mason A&W Restaurant**, 628 N. Cedar Street in Mason. Toys are distributed right here in Mason by **Capital Area Community Services**.

The **Mason Optimist Club** is collecting unused band instruments in good condition for incoming band members at **Mason Middle School**. Call Don Kill at (517) 676-2945 to arrange pick-up or you may drop the instrument off at the Mason Barber Shop.

The Mason Orchestral Society's Holiday Concert

on Friday, December 16th at 7:30 p.m.

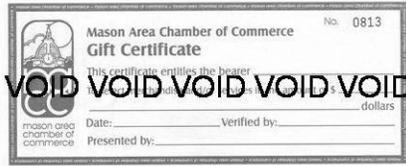
Okemos High School,
2800 Jolly Road in Okemos

Join the Symphony and Philharmonic Orchestras
for a Classic Christmas Concert. Admission is free,
but tax-deductible donations are encouraged.



MACC GIFT CERTIFICATES MAKE GREAT HOLIDAY GIFTS

Does your spouse, parent, or adult child expect a special gift and you can never seem to pick the right thing? Have a friend that you need to buy something for and you just don't know what to get? Want to purchase a gift certificate for someone, but you can't decide on just one place to buy it from? Are you an employer trying to decide what to buy your employees?



If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, the Mason Area Chamber of Commerce has the perfect solution for your gift giving needs! Mason Area Chamber of Commerce gift certificates offer the gift recipient the option to choose what they want, instead of settling for a gift they don't really like or receiving a gift certificate only redeemable at a single place. From restaurants to entertainment; from office supplies to specialty shops; from automobile repair to retail items – a MACC gift certificate offers you a truly unique gift that is right for everybody.

Mason Area Chamber of Commerce gift certificates are a great way to promote "Mason Values" and the importance of buying locally. Give the gift of choice – MACC gift certificates may be accepted at any Mason area business. Give the gift of variety – choose any denomination, it is a gift that fits any budget! Give the gift of convenience – certificates can be purchased at the Chamber office, they never expire or lose value, and may be redeemed by any Mason area business at the Chamber at full value.

For more details, please contact the staff at your Chamber office at (517) 676-1046 by phone or masonchamber@masonchamber.org by e-mail.

IT'S A WONDERFUL CHAMBER! revisited

Remember the Jimmy Stewart film "It's a Wonderful Life?" This time of year, it's always a popular movie. While Mason isn't Bedford Falls (although comparisons have been made and we DID use it for our Raffle theme), did you ever wonder what it would be like with no Mason Area Chamber of Commerce?

- If there were no Chamber of Commerce, made up of 270 members willing to invest in the future of our community, who would host a visitors center open 30 hours a week and a website covering almost everything including tourism and relocation information, a local business directory, shopping, demographics, and community event information?
- If there were no Chamber of Commerce, who would answer the thousands of questions about our community coming in from residents, tourists, prospective residents, and new businesses? Who would represent our community to the region and direct people to our stores and restaurants?
- If there were no Chamber of Commerce, who would pursue opportunities to make our area a better place to both live and make a living, by promoting Mason Values and buying locally? Who would lead the effort to GROW MASON!?
- If there were no Chamber of Commerce, who would put on major community events giving businesses an opportunity to sponsor and support the things that make Mason, Michigan Hometown U.S.A.?

Rest easy though, because the Chamber has been here since 1972 and is doing those very things and much more. By the way, maybe that's part of why we really do have a pretty wonderful life around here!

WELCOME OUR NEW MACC MEMBER

Please welcome the following new Chamber member:

Elliott's Amusements

P.O. Box 236

Mason, MI 48854

Phone: (517) 244-0929

www.elliottsamusements.com

debelliott01@yahoo.com

Debbie Elliott



Elliott's Amusements is a 20-ride amusement company. They offer rides, games, and food concessions. They book fairs, festivals, civic, and corporate events.

ARE YOU USING SOCIAL MEDIA IN YOUR BUSINESS OR ORGANIZATION YET?

The Chamber maintains a "Mason Area Chamber of Commerce" group and a "Shop Mason Values" group on Facebook. Please "like" our groups the next time you go on Facebook. If you're not yet on Facebook, consider these facts from a business perspective:

- In the US, there are 149 million active Facebook users, 70% log in once a day – *Ogilvy & BuddyMedia*
- Social media accounts for ~ 25% of all time spent online over 35 minutes per hour – *Nielsen*
- Facebook accounts for 8.93% of all website visits in the US. All of Google's properties including YouTube, Gmail, Google account for 9.85% – *Experian Hitwise*
- 64% of Facebook users have liked a brand on Facebook – *ExactTarget*
- By 2012, half of the world's Internet users, 1 billion people, will have a Facebook account – *TIME*
- Facebook's fastest growing demographic is 17-35 year olds – *TIME*
- 43% of Facebook users who "unlike" a brand do so because of too much push marketing – *Exact Target*
- 46% of Internet users worldwide interact with social media on a daily basis – *TNS*
- 25% of social media users are more likely to look into a brand advertising on social media – *Adology*
- 15% of these users are more likely to purchase from social media advertisers – *Adology*
- 38% of small businesses would use social media more if they had more time or a convenient management solution – *Vistaprint*
- 46% of small business owners utilize social media – *Vistaprint*
- \$4.26 billion will be spent on social media marketing globally in 2011 – *eMarketer*
- Ford's 2011 Explorer launch on Facebook generated a 200% greater return than a Super Bowl ad – *Social Media Case Studies*

GOOD MORNING, MASON!

Thursday, December 8, 2011 ~ Sponsored by Dart Bank
and Co-Sponsored by Bestsellers Books & Coffee Company

This coupon entitles the bearer to one free admission to the Thursday, December 8, 2011 Good Morning, Mason! at the Ingham County Fairgrounds Community Building, 700 E. Ash St. at 7:15 AM -- provided the bearer hasn't attended GMM! in the past year. Regular admission (with continental breakfast) is \$5 for members and \$7 for nonmembers at the door.

2011 Board of Directors

Jamie Robinson.....	President	Pam Bullen.....	<i>Bullen's Weight Loss</i>
<i>Darrell's Market / Bestsellers Books & Coffee Co.</i>		Sue Burgess.....	<i>B-Dry System of S. Central Michigan</i>
George Hayhoe.....	Vice-President	Mark Dillingham.....	<i>Mason Public Schools</i>
<i>CAPEX Land Company</i>		Nichole Dorr.....	<i>Independent Bank</i>
Aaron Fiedler.....	Treasurer	Brent Forsberg.....	<i>T.A. Forsberg</i>
<i>Fiedler Insurance Agency</i>		Chris Iott.....	<i>Ace Hardware</i>
Neil Kentner.....	Past President	Liz Luttrell-Wilson.....	<i>Mason State Bank</i>
<i>Wynsmoor Manor</i>		Robin Manno.....	<i>Dart Container Corporation</i>
		Brian Vicary.....	<i>Dart Bank</i>
		Doug Klein.....	Executive Director
		Bonnie Root.....	Administrative Assistant
		Aleasha Wood.....	Program Assistant



Mason Area
Chamber of Commerce

148 E. Ash Street
Mason, Michigan 48854

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Mason Area Chamber of Commerce December Member Mixer **Annual Holiday Party**

Thursday, December 1, 2011 ~ 5:00 - 8:00 PM

Community Building ~ Ingham County Fairgrounds ~ Admission \$7 members & \$10 nonmembers



presented by



A Taste of Mason

(Invited)

A & W Restaurant
Baja Grille
Bestsellers Books & Coffee Company
Bigby Coffee
City Limits Sports Grill
The Daily Scoop
Darb's Tavern & Eatery
Darrell's Market
Gordon's Food Service
Mason Big Boy
Merindorf Meats
Nairda's Catering
The Vault Deli
Wendy's
Westside Deli

Thanks to all for your sponsorships!

Live Auctions

begin at 7:00 PM with Auctioneer

Jim Hyde

Silent Auctions from 5 to 7 PM

Music by

Kelly Yoakam & Kay Rinker-O'Neil

Sound by

Fat Cat Productions

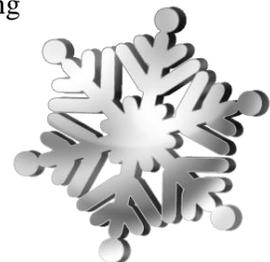
50/50 Drawing

A Visit from Santa

Live Auction Items through 11/18/11

- you'll be tailgating in style with this Weber portable gas grill valued at \$149 from **Ace Hardware**
- one-night stay in a room valued at \$145 from Okemos **Hampton Inn & Suites** (two available)
- it will look perfect on your wall -- a beautiful Mark Wolgamott photograph entitled "Pink Lily," professionally matted and framed, valued at \$100 from **Independent Bank**
- pretty as a picture -- a Mark Wolgamott photograph entitled "Grand Haven Light," professionally matted, valued at \$50 from **Independent Bank**
- great photos in great frames from a great guy -- "Rapid Kalkaska" and "Seasonal Courthouse" valued at \$75 each by and from Jeff Haueter of **A&W Restaurant**
- Sleep in comfort -- with a certificate for one night in a standard room valued at \$109 at the Okemos **Comfort Inn**
- keep it clean with a certificate for VIP car care detailing valued at \$169 from **Mason Auto Body Repair**
- read Jacqueline Kennedy's book with 8 CDs from **Bestsellers** valued at \$60 from **Fiedler Insurance Agency**
- may the force be with your Star Wars boxed set of all 6 Blu-ray movies from **Bestsellers** valued at \$139 from **Fiedler Insurance Agency**
- stay warm with an MSU granny-square afghan valued at \$125 or a MSU or a U of M afghan valued at \$100 each from a friend of MACC
- step up to the plate with a Lugnuts baseball package for 10 people in the Dan Henry Distributing suite with drinks & food included, valued at \$400 from **Darrell's Market & Hardware**

(lots more of our silent auction items and door prizes are listed on the other side)



Silent Auction Items

through 11/18/11

- a \$15 i-tunes gift card from **Skip & Phyllis Mustaine**
- a round of golf - 18 holes with a cart for two - valued at \$39 from **Eldorado Golf Course**
- a \$50 gift certificate for and from **Maple Street Mall**
- a 70-piece professional socket set valued at \$60 from **Carquest - The Parts Place**
- a Ford Mustang model valued at \$20 from **Carquest - The Parts Place** (two available)
- a 4-piece Vise-Grip tool set valued at \$24 from **Carquest - The Parts Place**
- a Coca-Cola chrome wall clock valued at \$50 from **Carquest - The Parts Place**
- a 10-inch poinsettia with about 20 blossoms valued at \$50 from **Dart Container Corporation** (two available)
- a lube, oil & filter certificate from **Parson's Service** valued at \$30 (two available)
- a package of twelve custom screen printed T-shirts valued at \$158 from **JP Signs & Graphics**
- a Pollack Glass mirror valued at \$70 from **Tom & Peggy Husby**
- a framed balloon puzzle poster valued at \$20 from **Joe Watkins** (two available)
- a Mark Wolgamott "Coneflower" photograph, valued at \$50 from **Independent Bank**
- a 30-minute massage with gift bag valued \$50 at from **Orthopedic Rehab Specialists** (two available)
- a coolant flush valued at \$98 from **Family Quick Lube**
- a 3-foot blossoming poinsettia tree valued at \$80 from **Dart Container Corporation**
- a Homedics foot massager valued at \$25 from **Heartland Home Health Care & Hospice**
- a hair care/salon gift bag valued at \$70 from **Salon 130**
- a certificate for driveway asphalt sealcoating valued at \$275 from **TomCo Asphalt**
- a set of three candles with brass reindeer holders valued at \$25 from a friend of MACC
- a 24" nutcracker valued at \$30 from a friend of MACC
- a 4-wheel alignment at Cline Tire valued at \$70 from **Tom Husby**
- a gift basket from **Mason A&W Restaurant** valued at \$125
- an insulated lunch kit valued at \$20 from **Independent Bank** (two available)
- a decorative globe valued at \$18 from a friend of MACC
- a Polar-Pack insulated can cooler valued at \$15 from a friend of MACC
- a snowman cocoa canister set valued at \$15 from a friend of MACC
- a snowman cookie jar valued at \$15 from a friend of MACC
- a House of S'mores mugs & fixins' valued at \$15 from a friend of MACC
- a quilted cosmetic and tote set valued at \$25 from **Star Associates**
- a 35 oz. thermos bottle valued at \$20 from **Independent Bank**
- a large Mason woven throw valued at \$40 from **Star Associates**

Door Prizes

through 11/18/11

- a music box carousel from a friend of MACC
- iridescent cherub from a friend of MACC
- musical rocking horse from a friend of MACC
- two Wonderfile work stations from **Star Associates**
- a cordless wet/dry shaver from **Star Associates**
- a double-sided money clip from **Star Associates**
- six First Due baseball caps from **First Due**
- a Slap Chop from **Star Associates**
- Porta Book laptop stand from **Star Associates**
- over door hat organizer from **Star Associates**
- box of 24 thank you cards from **Star Associates**
- Hometown USA tote bag from **Star Associates**
- Mason Values tote bag from **JP Signs & Graphics**
- five extra-large white Mason 2011 T-shirts from MACC
- four large white Mason 2011 T-shirts from MACC
- set of two Rayner Park mugs from **Mason Rotary**
- large green mug from **Wolverine Engineers**
- large blue mug from **Independent Bank**
- two snowman figurines from **Star Associates**
- classic John Deere mug from **D&G Equipment**

Terms and Conditions: All purchases must be paid for in U.S. funds the evening of the auction. Cash, MasterCard/Visa or good personal checks are accepted. No item is to be removed from the displayed location until full settlement arrangements have been made. There are reserves on some silent auction items stated as minimum bids. Contributors/ consignors of those items not meeting the reserve are consulted as to disposition of their items, but only after the event. All items are sold as is and where is -- with all faults and without warranty expressed or implied. MACC and/or contributors/consignors are not responsible for accidents after items are sold. Please inspect all items to your own satisfaction. All sales are final -- no refunds. Any and all announcements on the auction evening will take precedence over any and all printed material. Not responsible for accidents on the auction evening or accidents involving items after sold. Items must be removed the evening of the auction or picked up in the Chamber office by December 9th.

**Thank you
for buying locally.**

**Here are a few
of the things
you just did:**

MASON

HOMETOWN U.S.A.

VALUES



Mason Area
Chamber of Commerce
Mason, Michigan

- 1. YOU KEPT DOLLARS IN OUR LOCAL ECONOMY**
For every \$100 you spend at one of our locally-owned businesses, \$68 will stay in the community. A Michigan-based business keeps \$54 working for us. A nationally-owned business keeps \$43 in our community. It pays us all to buy locally!
- 2. YOU EMBRACED WHAT MAKES US UNIQUE**
You wouldn't want your house to look like everyone else's in the country. So why would you want your community's stores to be the same as everywhere else? How boring!
- 3. YOU CREATED LOCAL JOBS**
Local businesses are by and large better at creating higher-paying jobs for our neighbors. Small businesses help GROW MASON!
- 4. YOU HELPED THE ENVIRONMENT**
Buying from a local business conserves energy and resources in the form of less fuel for transportation, less packaging, and you get products that you know are safe and well made, because someone local stands behind them.
- 5. YOU NURTURED COMMUNITY**
We know you, and you know us. Studies have shown that local businesses donate to community causes at more than twice the rate of other businesses. Many are members of the Mason Area Chamber of Commerce and support our community events and programs.
- 6. YOU CONSERVED YOUR TAX DOLLARS**
Shopping in a local business district means more money available to beautify our community. Also, spending locally instead of online ensures that your sales taxes are reinvested where they belong—right here in Michigan!
- 7. YOU CREATED MORE CHOICE**
Businesses provide you with products and services based on what they know you like and want. Local businesses carry a wider array of unique products because they buy for our own local market.
- 8. YOU TOOK ADVANTAGE OF OUR EXPERTISE**
Local people are our friends and neighbors, and have a vested interest in knowing how to serve you. They're passionate about what they do. Why not take advantage of that?
- 9. YOU INVESTED IN ENTREPRENEURSHIP**
Creativity and entrepreneurship are what the American economy is founded upon. Nurturing local business ensures a stronger local community and more local jobs.
- 10. YOU MADE US A DESTINATION**
The more interesting and unique we are as a community, the more we will attract new neighbors, visitors and guests. This benefits everyone!



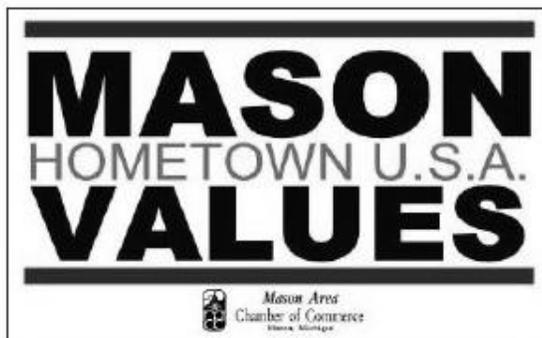
This year, give a gift to Mason.

www.masonchamber.org

Every dollar you spend at a local business creates 3-1/2 times more local economic benefit than a dollar spent at a business outside our area or online.

Shop Mason Values!

www.masonchamber.org



Business to Consumer



Business to Business