
MASON *in Motion*

MASON'S 39TH ANNUAL DOWN HOME DAYS FESTIVAL IS SEPTEMBER 13 -16



Mason's 39th annual Down Home Days community festival will be held Thursday through Sunday, on September 13 through 16. Go to www.masonchamber.org and click on the Community Events Calendar for the latest information. With a smartphone, you can connect to the Calendar using the QR tag at left.



Down Home Days starts off on Thursday, September 13 with the last concert in the eighth season of the Mason Area Chamber of Commerce's "Thursday Night Live" Courthouse Concert series sponsored by **Independent Bank**. This free concert on the lawn of the **Ingham County Courthouse** starts at 6:00 p.m. and is sponsored by **CP Federal Credit Union**. It features the **Mason High School Band and Cheer Squad**. To benefit youth programs, the **Mason Optimist Club** will be selling hotdogs, chips and pop before and during the concert.



On Friday, September 14, everyone is encouraged to take advantage of a fundraiser dinner. The **Mason Kiwanis** Chicken Sandwich Dinner at the Mason Fire Station, 221 W. Ash Street, will start at 4:30 PM. Tickets are \$5 in advance at Bestsellers or \$7 at the door. The **VFW Ladies Auxiliary** will hold a Swiss Steak Dinner at 1243 Hull Road, south of Mason, as a fundraiser for cancer research starting at 5 PM that's \$7 for adults and \$6 for kids 5-12.

Jeff Oesterle for State Representative is sponsoring a Friday family football fun night with a DHD giveaway. The big game starts at 7 PM as

the Mason Bulldogs varsity football team takes on the team from Romulus at the **MHS** stadium, 1001 S. Barnes Street.

The signature event of Down Home Days begins the morning of Saturday, September 15, with the 39th annual Courthouse Show in downtown Mason, sponsored by **Mason Auto Body Repair** and other area businesses. Ingrid Nova of the **City of Mason** and chair of the Mason Area Chamber of Commerce's Down Home Days festival events, says that "our estimates are that between 4,000 and 6,000 people attend the show each year." She added that "the show features a mix of arts and crafts, flea market, food vendors, entertainment, and community group booths." The show runs from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Saturday only. Entertainment will be on Maple Street with the Fading World band starting at 9:30 AM, and Ukulele Mania by MMUGGS at 12:30 PM. **American Legion Post 148** members will be out with poppies to exchange for contributions.

Also, early Saturday morning, the **Mason Firefighters Association** will hold their pancake breakfast at the Mason Fire Station at 221 W. Ash Street, at \$7 for adults, \$6 seniors, \$4 kids, \$20 family, and under 2 free. The

Mason First United Methodist Church will have a luncheon fundraiser from 11 AM to 2 PM at 201 W. Ash Street. Church members will



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Mason Area
Chamber of Commerce

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September 2012

WHAT'S IN THIS ISSUE?

- 39th Down Home Days Events
- Chamber Volunteer of the Month
- News From Chamber Members
- MACC 11th Raffle Information
- Welcome New MACC Members
- Mason Cares Day on September 11
- Inserts: MACC Raffle Reservation Form, DHD Festival, Mason Holidays Celebration Parade Form, BC/BS Information

serve a lunch of hot dog or brat, soup choice (includes bean), dessert, and beverage with proceeds going to mission projects.

Elaine Ferris, MACC board member and the market master for the **Mason Farmers Market**, says that "the produce market will take place as it usually does every Saturday morning this time of year on Maple Street." She adds that "some vendors stay later than noon to continue selling during the afternoon hours."

Rummage sales will abound on Saturday, with the ninth annual "Treasures" Sale by the Mason College Club starting at 9 AM in the pavilion by Lee Austin Park, near the corner of Ash and Lansing Streets in Mason.

Also on Saturday, the **Mason Area Historical Society** will have their delicious Pie Sale at **Mason Area Historical Museum**, 200 E. Oak Street in Mason, starting at 10 a.m. The **Friends of the Mason Library** will begin their book sale at the **Mason Library** at the same time.

Mason churches welcome you for Sunday services. Also on Sunday, September 16, a free concert by the Mason Brass will be held at the **City of Mason's** Griffin Park gazebo on S. Jefferson Street at 4 PM. Bring your blankets and lawn chairs for this final event of Down Home Days 2012.

ST. JAMES THANKS FEST DONORS

St. James Church would like to thank all the local businesses who donated items to the St. James Community Festival live and silent auction that took place in August:

Mason Area Chamber of Commerce Members donating items for the Live Auction: BlueGrass Lawn and Landscaping, Hampton Inn of Okemos, Holiday Inn Express of Okemos, Spartan Speedway, Gulick and Gulick, Knights of Columbus, Knight's Angels, and St. James Women's Club

Mason Area Chamber of Commerce Members donating items for the Silent Auction: Salon 130, City Limits Bowling Center, City Limits Sports Grill, American Legion of Mason, Big Boy Restaurant of Mason, Maple Street Mall, A & W Restaurant of Mason, Baja Grille, Snap Fitness of Mason, D & G Equipment, and Body Reflections.

Mason Values Neighbors donating items for the Live Auction: Captain Bill's Charters, North Winds Heating & Cooling, Little River Casino, Soaring Eagle Casino, Great Lakes Soft Water, The English Inn, Tim Williams - Attorney, Swab Collision, McDonald's of Mason, Mason Martial Arts, and Mark Leyko Snow Removal.

Mason Values Neighbors donating items for the Silent Auction: Funtime of Okemos, Blondie's of Lansing, Kroger's of Holt, Wheaton's Gallery, Sweet Sensations of Holt, Great Lakes Soft Water, Sam's Club of South Lansing, Golden Shear, Ruff Cuts Pet Grooming, Salon Infinity, Pampered Chef - Mary Schraft, Lia Sofia Jewelry, Sweet Perfections - Pat & Paul Lange, and Mary Kay - Chris Harrison.

Mason Area Chamber of Commerce members encourage area businesses and organizations that are Mason Values Neighbors and Grow Mason Neighbors to consider joining their fellow businesses and organization in the Chamber. Information is at the www.masonchamber.org/memberbenefits.html website.

CHAMBER VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION CONTINUES



Elaine Ferris of the **City of Mason** and **Mason Farmers Market Association** was the most recent winner in our Chamber Volunteer Recognition Program. Elaine's volunteer service on the Hometown USA Committee was drawn from the fishbowl in the Chamber office. Elaine won a \$25 MACC Gift Certificate good at any Mason area business. The gift certificate this month was sponsored by **Darrell's Market and Hardware**. **EAA Chapter 55** is sponsoring the one for October, but your business or organization can sponsor the next one -- just call us to reserve.

10TH ANNUAL MASON CARES DAY ON SEPTEMBER 11, 2012

Dart Bank has again organized the annual "Mason Cares" event for Tuesday, September 11, 2012 from 1 to 7 PM at the **James M. Pelton Memorial Fire Station** at 221 W. Ash Street in Mason. This event honors the memory of the individuals who lost their lives ten years ago in the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001 by assisting our local police and fire departments in a variety of tasks.

Groups of volunteers from the community will lend a hand in jobs like washing and waxing fire trucks and police cars, cleaning up the fire station, and putting together information packets. A special 9/11 memorial service will take place at the station starting at 7 PM.

Now is the time for you to put together a team to help. Contact Colleen Briggs at cbriggs@dartbank.com or (517) 244-4421 to volunteer. If you can't be there that Tuesday afternoon, other items needed include food and beverages for the volunteers, cleaning products, bottled water, tire protectant, chrome polish, etc. Colleen Briggs has a full list of items that are needed, so contact her as soon as possible.



WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

Please welcome the following new Chamber members:

BAKER COLLEGE OF JACKSON

2800 Springport Road - Jackson, MI 49202

Phone: (517) 841-4521 - Fax: (517) 789-6333

www.baker.edu - Shannon Price

shannon.price@baker.edu



Baker College of Jackson is a unique educational environment that stimulates achievement— and has state-of-the-art classrooms, labs, and other specialized facilities that allow students to experience real-world working conditions and challenges and fully prepare to excel in a career.

TWISTED FIBER ART

406 S. Jefferson, Suite B - P.O. Box 721 - Mason, MI 48854

(inside of Kean's Store on the lower level)

anne.bohl@twistedfiberart.com - www.twistedfiberart.com

Anne Bohl

Twisted Fiber Art offers hand-dyed artisan yarn and roving. Visit the website at www.twistedfiberart.com to see available colors and projects knit with **Twisted Fiber Art** yarn.



DIAMONDS-IN-THE-RUFF

475 Vaughn Road - Leslie, MI 49251

Phone: (517) 589-0477

bethspanski@diamonds-in-the-ruff.com

www.diamonds-in-the-ruff.com - Beth Spanski

Diamonds in the Ruff Pet Dog Training offers private lessons and group classes for all levels and topics for dog owners and their pets. 30 years of experience with all breeds.

...and the renewal of a former MACC member:

FOR BETTER INDEPENDENCE ASSISTANCE DOGS

475 Vaughn Road - Leslie, MI 49251

Phone: (517) 589-0477

info@fbidogs.org - www.fbidogs.org - Beth Spanski



FBI Assistance Dogs is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit that provides service dogs for the disabled and also provides therapy dogs for schools, hospitals and other institutions.

...and a new DBA to replace Meadowland Marketing:

HOME TOWN APPS

P.O. Box 733 - Mason, MI 48854

Phone: (517) 618-0607 - Fax: (517) 489-4292

support@hometownapps.net - www.hometownapps.net

Craig Hardman



Home Town Apps brings businesses, new movers, residents, and visitors together using mobile applications and co-op marketing.

...and the renewal of a MACC charter member:

DAIRY HILL

601 E. Ash St. - Mason, MI 48854

Phone: (517) 676-4193

rdroscha@att.net

www.dairyhill.com

Ruben and Jon Droscha



Dairy Hill features super soft-serve treats that are a Mason tradition. Also serving good, fast sandwiches.

...and a change of address for a MACC member:

Payee Resource Inc. is now located at 700 N. Cedar St., Suite B in Mason. They're next to **Leo's Bail Bonds**.

11TH ANNUAL MACC RAFFLE DRAWING ON OCTOBER 11



Don't miss this one! For the eleventh year in a row, the Mason Area Chamber of Commerce will hold its community raffle, with the drawing this year on Thursday, October 11, 2012. The drawing event will begin at 5:00 p.m., but the top prize drawing won't be until about 8:00 p.m. This year, the drawing will be at **Extra!**, next to **Bestsellers Books & Coffee Company** at 356 S. Jefferson in downtown Mason. A grand prize of up to \$15,000 cash will go to the lucky holder of the winning \$20 ticket in the annual MACC raffle (ML#R17440),

sponsored by **LAFCU - "Your Credit Union for Life."**

Net proceeds of the raffle will benefit the Mason Area Chamber of Commerce's "Hometown U.S.A." fund for community identity and improvement programs, which create so much value for the community. The fund helps provide new street lamp Christmas decorations of illuminated candle wreaths for North Cedar Street at the northwest entrance to Mason off U.S. 127.

"Everyone in the community can afford to participate in this important fundraising effort," says MACC president Andrew Serratelli of **Dart Container Corporation**. "The chance of winning up to \$15,000 cash is also a great incentive for making a small \$20 personal investment in the Mason area."

This fundraiser is the only time that the Mason Area Chamber actively solicits individuals for contributions. Usually, the Chamber's projects are supported by businesses and organizations in the community.

Tickets are available from Chamber volunteers throughout the Mason community. MACC raffle tickets are also available, while they last, at the Chamber office, which is at 148 E. Ash Street in downtown Mason, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. weekdays.

If at least 1500 of the 2000 available tickets are sold, the prize will be \$15,000 maximum. If less than 1500 are sold in advance of the drawing, the raffle reverts to a "50/50 basis," with a minimum prize of \$3,000. As always, applicable taxes are the responsibility of the winner. You need not be present to win the top prizes.



The drawing event is on Thursday, October 11, 2012 at Extra! The doors open at 5:00 p.m. for cash bar and snacks. Dinner

will not be provided, but hors d'oeuvres, snacks and soft drinks will be served. A cash bar will be available. Entertainment will be provided by regular drawings for door prizes and a gradual unveiling of the artwork submitted for the Mason Area Sesquicentennial logo in the recent contest. The logo winners will be unveiled that evening between the hours of 5:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.

You must be present for the drawings for ten door prizes, which will also take place before the grand prize drawing at 8:00 p.m. There will also be a first prize of an i-Pad, second prize of a 40" HD TV, and a third prize of a \$100 Meijer gift card, with no need to be present to win.

All regular ticket holders are entered into the grand prize raffle drawing. There will be no draw down. No other cash prizes, except for the grand prize, will be awarded. All ticket holders and guests must be at least 18 years old.



2011 Raffle Winner Lori DeYoung is congratulated by Aaron Fiedler.

The final event of the evening is the grand prize drawing to win between \$3,000 and \$15,000 cash. The winner does not need to be present to win. If any MACC raffle tickets remain unsold before October 13, they will be available at the door from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. MACC raffle ticket sales will end one hour before the grand prize

"This year we're taking all net raffle proceeds money to buy more Christmas decorations for the streetlight poles on North Cedar Street," says Neil Kentner. "We have two wreaths to go up this year, but they cost about \$500 each. We just put more banners up on North Cedar last year, and would like to do more year-around to provide a visible welcome from that entrance to the city for our visitors and residents."

NEWS OF OUR MEMBERS:

Finding it a bit challenging to decipher all of the changes in health care related to Reform? Need help knowing what the Affordable Care Act means for your business and our community? Visit the special Reform page on **Allegiance Health's** website www.AllegianceHealth.org/Reform for insights from their President and CEO, Georgia Fojtasek, along with links to recommended bipartisan resources. Encourage your friends and family to visit www.AllegianceHealth.org/Reform too.

Event: Liberty Seminar on Saturday, September 15.

Description: The Mackinac Center for Public Policy invites you to join them in exploring how the principles of liberty and prosperity stack up to Michigan ballot proposals this coming November. The Liberty Seminar features keynote speaker Clifford W. Taylor, retired chief justice of the Michigan Supreme Court who joins Mackinac Center policy analysts in considering Michigan's 2012 ballot proposals in light of our country's founding principles of personal and economic liberty. *Schedule:* 8:00 a.m.-9:00 a.m. Registration and Continental Breakfast, 9:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m. Keynote Address by Clifford W. Taylor, 10:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m. Program Sessions, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Lunch, 12:30 p.m.-3:30 p.m. Program Sessions. *Includes:* Access to the event and breakout sessions, continental breakfast, lunch, full *We The People* curriculum to keep. *Where:* Lexington Lansing Hotel - 925 South Creyts Road, Lansing, MI 48917. *Cost:* \$30 per person, \$15 for students (available only by phone registration). *To Register or for Info:* Call the Mackinac Center at (989) 631-0900 or visit their <http://www.mackinac.org/17348> event website.

MACC GIFT CERTIFICATE PROGRAM WORKS FOR YOU

The Mason Area Chamber of Commerce gift certificate program provides value to your business. It's simple and easy. The Chamber markets and sells chamber gift certificates that are good at all participating Mason area retailers, restaurants, hotels, and more. The goal of the program is to keep money local and drive new business your way! Here are some key benefits of the Mason Area Chamber gift certificate program:

- Increases sales and acquires new customers.
- Customers with these gift certificates spend more locally.
- Complements your own in-store gift card or certificate program.
- Additional visibility for your business through the program.
- Gift certificates are easily available through the Chamber office
- Receive a gift certificate poster for customer awareness.

It's simple! Here is how it works:

- Accept these gift certificates for the full face amount.
- Mail them in or deliver them to the Chamber office.
- You get a check from the Chamber for the full face amount.
- No service fee or percentage will be charged to anyone.

Chamber members are automatically enrolled, and again, there is no cost for your participation! When you redeem a gift certificate, just send it to the Chamber office and we'll send you a check for the full face value. Request a poster to improve the visibility of your participation in the program. Just contact the Chamber office and we'll get a poster to you right away. You have everything to gain and nothing to lose – this is yet another program that brings more value to Chamber membership. Both the MACC gift certificate and Member Value Card programs are smart ways to make our local economy even stronger.

2012 Board of Directors

Andrew Serratelli.....	President	Pam Bullen.....	<i>Bullen's Weight Loss</i>
<i>Dart Container Corporation</i>		Sue Burgess.....	<i>B-Dry System of S. Central Michigan</i>
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		Liz Luttrell-Wilson.....	<i>Mason State Bank</i>
		Doug Klein.....	Executive Director
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Mason Area
Chamber of Commerce

148 E. Ash Street
Mason, Michigan 48854

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