

June 16, 2008

MASON IN MOTION UPDATE

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

Mason Area Chamber of Commerce

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KEAN'S OLD FASHIONED SALE -- Keep celebrating the 80th anniversary year of **Kean's Store Company**, by stopping by to enjoy an "Old Fashioned Sale." They have great merchandise with up to 50% off in every department. Come join them for a hot dog, a glass of lemonade and incredible savings from Thursday, June 19th through Sunday, June 22nd.

THURSDAY NIGHT LIVE! CONTINUES -- Our fourth year of summer concerts on the **Ingham County Courthouse** lawn are again presented by **Independent Bank** on select Thursdays, weather permitting. They continue with the Rosewood Wind Quintet on Thursday, June 26th at 6 PM, sponsored by **American Legion Browne/Cavender Post 148**. Two weeks later, the young band called MayWise will perform on Thursday, July 10th at 6 PM, sponsored by **CP Federal Credit Union**. **MARK YOUR CALENDAR** for the rest on July 24, August 14, August 28 and September 18. Don't make dinner! Buy it from the **Mason Optimists** Hot Dog Fundraiser Tent or eat at a great downtown restaurant.

BOOST YOUR NETWORKING AT GOOD MORNING, MASON! -- Since 1996, the Chamber has held nearly eighty consecutive "Good Morning Mason!" news and networking programs on the last Thursdays of February, April, June, August, October -- and on the second Thursday of December. These take place at the **Ingham County Fairgrounds** Community Building, 700 E. Ash Street in Mason, now at 7:15 AM. The next one has a patriotic theme and is on June 26th. 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. Admission is just \$5 for members and \$7 for non-members. Often, a single co-sponsor has a five-minute segment to discuss their own business's products and services. This month, the **Mason Library** will co-sponsor. Introduction of everyone, especially new Chamber members is also a feature of Good Morning Mason.

FUNDRAISER SPAGHETTI DINNERS -- Upcoming dinners at the **Mason A&W Restaurant**, 628 N. Cedar Street, for the following non-profits: 6/16/08 Water Wonderland Chorus. 6/23/08 Eden United Brethren Church. These are on select Mondays from 11 AM to 9 PM, with \$5.99 for spaghetti and meatballs, salad or soup, and garlic toast. Dine in or carry out.

RECYCLE COMPUTERS AND EQUIPMENT -- Your unwanted computer deserves a better home. Simply drop off your unwanted computer at a participating **Goodwill** store or donation site. The one in the Mason Plaza is such a site. This free program reuses or recycles electronics, helping the environment and putting people to work. Your old computer is entitled to a second lease on life. For more details: go to the www.reconnectpartnership.com website.

KEEP YOUR \$600 RIGHT HERE! -- Now that your economic stimulus check has or is arriving from the federal government, the best thing to do is to spend it locally -- right here in Mason, Michigan - Hometown U.S.A. Buy locally. It's good for our community and good for our future. We know that you already have realized this -- now tell everyone else!

CABLE CHANNEL SLIDES ON WEBSITE -- If you don't get Mason's **Broadstripe** Cable Channel 21, (or it goes down like it did last week) don't despair! You can view the City Channel's community event and announcement slides right on our website www.masonchamber.org. They change each week!

MICHIGAN CHILD RESTRAINT LAW EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008 -- The **Mason Police Department** wants to remind everyone that booster seats are required for children who are both under eight years old and less than four feet nine inches tall. Current law requires children under age four to ride in a car seat. The new law extends the requirement to include older children who are also not optimally protected by seat belts alone. The new law will take effect July 1, 2008 and will be a primary law. This type of law allows officers to stop a driver for that violation alone and issue a ticket for each improperly restrained child. Violators will face a fine of up to \$65.

(OVER)

RE-STORE IS OPEN IN MASON -- Habitat for Humanity of Greater Ingham County has now opened their Habitat ReStore on Cedar Street in the old Felpausch Express. . The 14,000-square-foot store at 132 S. Cedar St. sells donated new and used items. People may donate furniture, appliances and other merchandise, such as light fixtures, sinks, paint and lumber. Proceeds help **Habitat for Humanity** build homes in Ingham County. For more information, call 676-9900. By the way, so far over 350 volunteer hours have been put in to the Mason ReStore rehabilitation. Kudos to everybody who has come out to lend a hand. You won't believe how nice the place looks now compared to how it started. Come see for yourself! They always need help at the store, on projects, etc. Call their volunteer coordinator John at **Habitat for Humanity** in Williamston, (517) 655-1872.

M-36 MEETINGS EVERY OTHER WEEK -- Today, June 16th and every other Monday thereafter through the season, MDOT will hold 9:00 AM meetings in the **Mason 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 booklet available 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.

SPEAKING ABOUT M-36... -- The **Mason Police Department** is partnering with the Michigan Department of Transportation to enforce work zone traffic violations during the M-36 project through the City of Mason. The officers' assignments are for strict enforcement of all traffic offenses committed in the work zone vicinity. Please remember, there are increased penalties for work zone violations on state highways and a ticket may be very expensive.

HOW TO BECOME A GOVERNMENT CONTRACTOR -- PTAC of South Central Michigan will have a program on "How to Become a Government Contractor. What does it take to become a successful government contractor? What services and resources are available to a small business pursuing the government market? If your company has been considering the field of government contracting, this seminar will give you the insight you need. In addition, learn about the services and continuous support the Procurement Technical Assistance Center (PTAC) has available to help your company with the contracting process. Tuesday, June 24, 2008 from 8:00 AM to 11:00 AM. Registration begins at 7:45 AM. Hosted by Lansing Regional Chamber, 500 E. Michigan Ave, Ste 200, Lansing, MI 48912. To register, please contact the Lansing Chamber at events@lansingchamber.org or 517-487-6340.

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, too. Our Ambassadors are hand-delivering some copies, but if they don't get one to you -- stop on by!

UPCOMING MACC COMMITTEE MEETINGS -- The **Housing Committee** will meet today, June 16th at 2 PM. The **Ambassadors Committee** meeting will be Tuesday, June 17th at 7:30 AM. The **Hometown USA Committee** meeting will also be Tuesday, June 17th at 8:30 AM. The **Economic Development Committee** meeting is Thursday, June 19th at 7:30 AM. The **Membership Services Committee** meeting is Thursday, June 19th at 9:30 AM. The **MACC Golf Classic Committee** will meet on Thursday, June 19th at 10:30 AM. The **Spring Fling/DHD Committee** will meet on Wednesday, June 25th at 7 PM at the **City Limits Sports Grill**. The **MACC Raffle Committee**, the **Thursday Night Live Committee**, and the **Independence Day Celebration Committee** will all meet again soon, but call us for exact dates and times. The **Executive Committee** will meet on Wednesday, July 9th at 9:30 AM. The **MACC Board of Directors** will meet on Friday, July 11th at 7:30 AM. Call the Chamber office for more information at 676-1046. All meetings are held in the Chamber office (except for the Spring Fling/DHD Committee) this month. **JOIN US!**

**FOR THE LAST MONTH'S "MASON IN MOTION" NEWSLETTER
AND OTHER MASON AREA COMMUNITY INFORMATION,
GO ONLINE AT WWW.MASONCHAMBER.ORG**