

March 15, 2007

MASON IN MOTION UPDATE

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

Mason Area Chamber of Commerce

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HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY!

Market Break Workshop Next Week – The Hometown USA Committee is sponsoring a series of small workshops on marketing topics called "Market Breaks" during 2007. The first was on the topic of **niche marketing** in January and the second will be on the topic of **sales promotion** and will be on Thursday, March 22nd from 7:30 to 9 AM in the Chamber office. Reservations are required, as there is a strict limit of 12 people. Five of the 12 spots are already taken! The only cost is a small optional donation for the bagels, juice & coffee, which are provided. Talk this up and call or e-mail reservations to us.

Welcome New Members -- Extend welcome to the following new Chamber members! We have six new members since the March "Mason In Motion" Newsletter was published. **CP Federal Credit Union, Dynamic Professional Cleaning Service, Steven Owens Family Practice, Paul Davis Restoration & Remodeling, Mason/Lansing Safe Storage, and Roxanne Blaser – Arbonne International** have just joined. Details will be in April's newsletter.

Good Morning, Mason is April 26 – We're looking for a business or organization to co-sponsor our next Good Morning, Mason! news and networking meeting from 7:30 a.m. to 8:15 a.m. on Thursday, April 26 at the Ingham County Fairgrounds Community Building, 700 E. Ash Street. The co-sponsors (\$50) get 5 minutes on the agenda to talk about their businesses or organizations. Admission at the door is now \$5 for members and \$7 for non-members and includes an expanded continental breakfast and other additions. Good Morning, Mason! is sponsored by Dart Bank. For more information, e-mail masonchamber@masonchamber.org or call 676-1046.

Request From a Member – Laura Camann, a 6th grade teacher at **Mason Middle School** has two students that she has nominated that are interested in attending a program in Washington, D.C. this summer. It's an excellent opportunity, but it is costly. She is looking for full or partial scholarships to assist them and was wondering if any members would be able to help them out. Feel free to check out the link to see more about the conference you would be helping them to attend: <http://www.cylc.org/jrnylc/> -- or if you have any other suggestions for Laura about where to look for money, those would also be greatly appreciated. You may e-mail her at the school at lcamann@mason.k12.mi.us.

Member Business Name Changes and Staff Changes – Skynet Amusement Company has changed its name to **Captain Pinball** and Daniel Schlattman CPA PC now prefers the use of their DBA **Freedom Tax Services**. Long-time Chamber volunteer Liz Hogg is now working for member **Habitat for Humanity of Greater Ingham County**. Ron Rhoades of the **Dart Bank** of Mason has announced his retirement. Ron has been with the bank for 33 years, beginning in his early days as Holt Office Manager, and ending his career as President, CEO and Chairman of the Board. The **Dart Bank** Board of Directors is pleased to announce the promotion of Richard Cheney to Chairman of the Board. Richard has been on the Board of Directors since 1987. He is a semi-retired farmer and life-long Mason resident. Their Board of Directors is also pleased to announce the appointment of Peter Kubacki to the position of President and CEO. Peter has been in banking since 1977, serving in various lending positions, and is a former President of Greenville Community Bank. Peter has been very active in community activities including Boy Scouts of America Board Member, Rotary Club Board Member, and Monroe Downtown Development Authority. Peter has a Bachelor's of Science degree in Finance from Indiana University, and has attended National Commercial Lending School.

Barb Byrum Coffee Hour – Our State Representative for District 67 (and Chamber member) **Barb Byrum** will be at the **Bestsellers Books and Coffee Co.** store in downtown Mason for an informal "Coffee Hour" discussion on Thursday, March 29th from 7:30-8:30 AM. Everyone is welcome! For information, contact her office at (517) 373-0587 or check the website at <http://067.housedems.com>.

Habitat Benefit in Williamston – **Habitat for Humanity** will be the beneficiary of a Williamston Kiwanis Club Spagetti Dinner on Saturday, March 24th from 4 to 6:30 PM at the St. Mary's Community Center at 157 High Street in Williamston. There is no charge for the dinners, but donations are requested at the door. Call for more information to **Habitat for Humanity of Greater Ingham County** at (517) 655-1872.

Big Honor for D&G Founder – Elden Gustafson has been named the Greater Lansing Business Monthly's "Master Entrepreneur" for 2007. The award was presented at a dinner and ceremony on March 8th at the Lansing Radisson. He is an owner of **D&G Equipment, Inc.** at 710 North Cedar Street in Mason. The award was presented at a dinner and ceremony on March 8th at the Lansing Radisson. He received another award that evening as the 2007 Retailing Entrepreneur. Besides the store in Mason, **D&G** has stores in Williamston, Rives Junction, Charlotte, Corunna, Highland, and Howell.

First News on 2007 MACC Corvette Raffle – Last week, the MACC Corvette Raffle Committee decided on getting a sporty 1989 white convertible from **Holt Auto Sales** as the best available local Corvette for our price range. It was purchased last Friday and more information will be available soon. We have to get our raffle license from the State of Michigan before we start selling tickets – so we can't say much until April – then look out for a lot more information!

"See Your Name in Lights" and Spring Fling -- The end of this week is the deadline for streetlight banner choice for 2007-2009 and for Spring Fling show location choice. Please get your reservations in if you haven't already. We'll still take reservations after March 16th for both programs, but people will have more limited choices on location. Thursday Night Live concert sponsorships are also going fast, so choice will also be limited there! Get those in ASAP! Let us know if you need another copy of the information or application forms.

LRCofC Offers New BC/BS Deal – This morning, the Lansing Regional Chamber offered to waive any further monthly fees for MACC members to participate in their Blue Cross/Blue Shield health care insurance group! (Last year it was \$10 per month.) More information will be coming soon! In the meantime, they are presenting a Bottom Line Breakfast on "Health Care Trends in 2007" presented by: Aaron MacDonald from Blue Cross Blue Shield & Blue Care Network of Michigan. Come and hear the latest industry trends towards healthy living and consumerism and how your Chamber membership affords access to products designed with these concepts in mind. Find out why small businesses choose BCBSM & Blue Care Network for their healthcare coverage. The program is on Thursday, March 29 from 7:30 AM to 9 AM at the Michigan Chamber of Commerce, 600 S. Walnut St., Lansing. \$10 members (be sure to tell them you are from LRCofC member Mason Area Chamber of Commerce -- if your business or organization *isn't* a member of the Lansing Chamber, but you *are* a member of the Mason Chamber), \$15 ACCESS, \$20 nonmember. Includes continental breakfast. RSVP is required. Sponsored by: Brogan, Reed, Van Gorder & Associates. For more information or to reserve your spot, contact Cynthia Tarrant at (517) 853-6467 or via e-mail ctarrant@lansingchamber.org.

MACC Distributes Eighth E-mail Bulletin – This "Mason in Motion Update" bulletin is being sent to those who have e-mail addresses registered with the Mason Area Chamber of Commerce as Chamber members, associates of Chamber members, and select Chamber stakeholders. To be removed from this list, do NOT reply to this e-mail. Instead, please send a new e-mail with the word "unsubscribe" in the subject line to masonchamber@masonchamber.org. If you know of anyone who should get one, also let us know.

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