

October 17, 2008

MASON IN MOTION UPDATE

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

Mason Area Chamber of Commerce

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Raffle Party this Saturday -- Tickets are available at the door for the seventh year in a row, the biggest annual community party in Mason will be held at the Community Building at the **Ingham County Fairgrounds** on Saturday October 18, 2008. Raffle tickets are just \$50 and you must have a ticket to be admitted. The doors will open at 4 PM and the party will continue into the evening until a \$15,000 voucher, to be used for a vehicle purchase at a participating dealer, or \$10,000 cash is given away. Participating dealers include **Andrews Chevrolet, Kelly Buick/GMC, and Holt Auto Sales**. The grand prize winner will choose either the car voucher to use at one of the dealers or the cash. This Raffle is licensed event MLR#95979. Proceeds benefit the Chamber's "Hometown USA" community identity and improvement programs and provide partial funding for our visitors center, street banners, flower plantings, parades, celebrations, community advertising, downtown concerts, and community promotional materials.

Welcome New Members -- Extend welcome to a couple of new Chamber members who joined since the October "Mason in Motion" printed newsletter was published. **KBM Marketing**, an agent of United First Financial, and the **Mason First Church of the Nazarene** are both new members. More details will be in November's MIM newsletter. Remind non-members that there is no financial advantage to waiting until the first of the year to join the Chamber. Everyone gets credit for a full 12 months of membership when they join!

Optimists Donate to Angel House Van Fund -- The **Mason Breakfast Optimist Club** recently donated \$250 to **Child & Family Services' Angel House**. The money will be used to purchase a van for transporting children who are staying at the house. "Mason has been so incredibly supportive of our **Angel House** program," says **Child & Family Services** Director of Fund Development Mary Kay Reed. "We are grateful for the community's continued support. The **Optimists** learned of our desire to purchase a van for **Angel House** from one of their members: Shirley Grieve (MACC Citizen of the Year)." A program of **Child & Family Services, Capital Area, Angel House** is an emergency shelter and assessment center for children in crisis. The program opened in 2006, and has served more than 1,100 kids since then. **Child & Family Services** was founded in 1911 as the Ingham County Branch of the Michigan Children's Aid Society. Agency services include foster care, special needs adoption, mental health counseling, adolescent substance abuse treatment, and **Angel House**. Donations to **Angel House** should be directed to the Development Office, **Child & Family Services**, 4287 Five Oaks Dr., Lansing, MI 48911. For more information, call Mary Reed at (517) 882-4000 ext. 126.

Volunteer For The Hometown Holidays Celebration Committee -- The Holiday season is closer than you think! On Friday, November 28th, the Mason Area Chamber of Commerce hosts the annual Mason Hometown Holidays Celebration. Events will take place at the Mason Historical Museum, the Cobblestone Event Center, and downtown. Santa Claus will be the featured celebrity at the end of the dazzling lighted parade passing through the city streets. The parade will be preceded by the annual lighting of the Christmas tree on the Courthouse square by the Mason Citizen of the Year. Cookies and hot chocolate, musical entertainment, and other attractions promise happy holiday fun for everyone. Some businesses and groups need lead time to hold meetings, get volunteers, etc., so it is time to start organizing. It takes more than Santa's elves to pull it all together, so the Hometown Holidays Celebration team is looking for volunteers. If you would like to join the committee this year, you may contact the Chamber office at (517) 676-1046 by phone or at masonchamber@masonchamber.org by e-mail.

High Speed Internet at Your Doorstep -- Mason residents and businesses now have an alternative for high speed internet access. A local Mason company, **Central Solutions**, is offering high speed wireless internet access for most areas in Mason, Leslie, Aurelius and Vevay Townships. Wireless internet is a new technology that allows people to connect to the internet using radio waves instead of phone or cable lines. The program offers a cost effective alternative to cable and telephone company providers in addition to reaching areas not serviced by other providers. To use wireless internet, an antenna is required to connect your computer at your house or building and transmit signals to a tower. The signal is then sent out to the internet from the tower. The information from the internet is then sent back to the tower and sent back to your antenna to your computer. Wireless internet is very fast and can transmit information hundreds of times faster than a dial-up account. Access speeds start at 256K and go up to 1Mb per second. For more information on wireless internet access in your area call (517) 676-4787 or email sales@centralsolutionsinc.org.

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Legislative Coffee Hour Slated -- State Representative **Barb Byrum** will again be holding a coffee hour in our community. This is a great time for residents to come and share their thoughts and concerns with her. The next local informal gathering will be held Thursday, October 23rd at 8 AM at **Bestsellers Books & Coffee**, 360 S. Jefferson Street in downtown Mason.

See The Lion King with the Chamber -- As we've done before in the past, two blocks of tickets for really great seats have been purchased by the Chamber for a major Broadway show at the Wharton Center. In early 2009, they will be presenting *The Lion King*. Our two 50-seat blocks are for April 2, a Thursday evening and April 5, a Sunday evening. Our tickets sell for \$67 for both the Thursday evening and Sunday evening shows -- and that even includes the few bucks to cover both Wharton's handling costs and our mailing costs. To reserve your seats, stop by the Chamber office, look at the seating map and be ready to pay for your tickets when you select your seats. These seats are some of the best available. If you attended with us in 2006, you know how much fun this was. Come back to see it again or encourage others to attend!

One More Musical Note -- The **Mason Orchestral Society** announces their 33rd annual Fall Concert where the **Mason Symphony** and **Mason Philharmonic** will perform on Friday, October 24th at 7:30 PM at the South Lansing Christian Church, 6300 Aurelius Rd., Lansing. Come join them for "Haunting Harmonies." The **Philharmonic** will present evocative French music, including Gounod's "Funeral March for a Marionette," (better known as the theme song for *Alfred Hitchcock Presents*), and "March to the Scaffold," from Berlioz's *Symphonie Fantastique*. The **Symphony** will perform Mussorgsky's *A Night on Bald Mountain*, popularized by Disney's *Fantasia*, and will conclude the program with Beethoven's *Symphony #5*. Admission is free, but donations are greatly appreciated at the door. This concert is sponsored by **CP Federal Credit Union**. See more at their www.masonorchestras.org website.

Community Creations Montage Offered -- The Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce has announced that Community Creations is creating a montage of Greater Lansing businesses and landmarks. This "Time Capsule in Art" is brought to you by the Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce, Greater Lansing Convention & Visitors Bureau and the City of East Lansing. The montage will include approximately 100 sponsored locations. Sponsorship is on a first come, first serve basis. Each participant will have their business captured by the artist and receive a signed and standard print to recognize their contribution. Don't miss out on this exciting opportunity to showcase your business as a Greater Lansing landmark. To reserve your space on the print, contact Darla Barnes from Community Creations at 810-264-2444 or dbarnescc@earthlink.net. If you have any questions, please contact Tracey Shepard at tshepard@lansingchamber.org or 517-853-6456.

Member Directory Advertising Last Call -- The Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce is pleased to announce that production has begun on the Official 2009 Community Guide and Membership Directory, which include our Mason Area Chamber of Commerce members. Don't be left out, now is the time to reserve your spot! Advertising space is limited to Chamber members only. As a member, you will receive special member-only advertising rates and can have your ad designed for you at no additional charge. In addition to the printed guide, the book will also be available online, providing unlimited distribution to further enhance your marketing coverage, not only nationwide but worldwide as well. Advertisers will also have the option to link their online ad and membership listing directly to their website. Don't miss this opportunity to showcase your business, if this fits into your business-to-business marketing plan. Please respond ASAP, as time and space are limited. The last day to get into the book is Friday, October 31, 2008. If you are interested in securing an advertising spot in this new directory or to find out more information, please contact our advertising sales representative Jeff Zaremba at (262) 492-5006.

Angel House Benefit Coming Soon -- Join **Child & Family Services, Capital Area** in a benefit for their **Angel House** in Mason at the *Red Nose Ruckus* on Wednesday, December 10, 2008 from 6 to 10 p.m. in the heated indoor main arena at the Ingham County Fairgrounds, 700 E. Ash Street in Mason. This party is a preview of the *Winter Carnival* to be held there that weekend. Tickets are only \$20 each or 2 for \$30! Food & Drink! Carnival Rides! Silent & Live Auctions! Live Music! To purchase tickets, call (517) 882-4000 ext. 126.

MACC Now Distributes Update by E-Mail In "Constant Contact" HTML Program -- 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.
