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First Quarter 2012



From the desk of the Executive Director...

As we ring in the New Year, the Chamber Board of Directors and myself would like to wish everyone a bright and prosperous 2012. If your business is celebrating a special event, workshop, or anniversary - please notify the chamber office. We will help spread the word for you!

2011 Awards Winners Announced



L to R: Janis Kemper, Bob Pawloski, Scott Marlett, Josh Hoekstra, Paul Walker & Denise Behm

On December 8th, the Chamber celebrated its Annual Awards Ceremony at Bay Pointe Inn & Restaurant.

Chemical Bank was granted the Community Service Award. Bob Pawloski, Manager of Chemical Bank in Wayland accepted the award on their behalf. Chemical Bank has shown a true commitment to the City of Wayland and surrounding areas in a multitude of ways

including involvement or sponsorships with the Wayland Main Street program, Kiwanis Club of Wayland, Wayland Area Chamber of Commerce, Wayland Union Schools, and more.

The Business of the Year Award was presented to Peerebooms Garden Center & Greenhouse. Peereboom's Manager, Josh Hoekstra was present to accept this award. During 2011, Peerebooms Garden Center & Greenhouse contributed to the growth of the chamber's Annual Business Expo by securing two of the four speakers in the newly offered educational presentations, assisting in booth set up and decor for the Chamber, putting other members in the forefront by loaning their products for Expo decor and setting up a booth to raise money for Paws With A Cause.

The President's Choice Award was awarded to Scott Marlett, General Manager of Bay Pointe Inn. Chamber President Janis Kemper explained how Marlett has exhibited leadership in many ways. As a newly appointed board member, Marlett became actively involved before their first board meeting. Marlett is dependable and takes his position with great pride. He is faithfully committed and devoted to his responsibility of being a chamber board member and continuously exceeds any expectations set before him.

2012

Chamber Board

President: Janis Kemper
Northern Physical Therapy

Vice President: Paul Walker
Inn at Mill Pond

Treasurer: Bob Pawloski
Chemical Bank

Secretary: Stacie Johnson
Bay Valley Foods

Trustee: Patty Koval
Koval Properties

Trustee: Hope Wassenaar
SON-Life Camp & Retreat Center

Trustee: Scott Marlett
Bay Pointe Inn

Trustee: Rob McDermott
Gun Lake Casino

Trustee: Karyn Boyd
ITC

Ex-Officio: Bill Melching
Wayland Union Schools



**Yankee Springs
Golf Course
Announcements**

This winter, Yankee Springs Golf Course will offer FREE daily Cross Country Skiing. In addition, Yankee Springs Golf Course is a staging area for the West Michigan Snowmobile Association. Their restaurant is also open during the winter months on Fridays and Saturdays from 4:00pm-9:00 PM. During snowmobile season, the dining room will also be open during the day on Saturdays.

Community Fitness Center Grand Opening!!



The Community Fitness Center is now open to the public. The facility, which is housed in the old auditorium space in the high school, was renovated as part of the 2008 bond project. It is managed and staffed by Northern Physical Therapy of Wayland with Jason Smits as the new director.

The fitness center is equipped with treadmills, elliptical machines, and stationary bikes for cardio. Pin-selectorized equipment, plate-loaded machines, dumb-bells, and fully loaded platform racks are available for a total body workout.

The pool at the high school is also open and will be managed by Northern Physical Therapy. Pool memberships are available for purchase inside the fitness center. Hours and rates are listed below.

Memberships must be purchased at the center. Those interested in joining must enroll and complete an orientation session. Email Jason Smits at smitsj@wayland.k12.mi.us, or call 269-792-0011 for more questions.

2012 Fitness Center & Pool Rates			
Wayland Union District Residents		Non-Resident	
Adult \$15/month	\$15/month	Adult \$30/month	\$30/month
Senior Citizen (55 & over)	\$10/month	\$10/month	Senior Citizen (55 & over) \$20/month
			\$20/month

Daily Use Rates: Adult \$3/day, Senior Citizen (55 & over) \$2/day, Non-Resident Students (gds. 7-12) \$2/day

Fitness Center Hours of Operation	Pool Hours of Operation
Mon-Thurs. 5:30am-7:30am; 4:00pm-8:00pm	Open Swim Mon/Wed 7:00-8:30pm
Friday 5:30am-7:30am; 4:00pm-6:00pm	Adult Lap Swim Mon/Wed/Fri 6:00-7:20am; Saturday
Saturday 8:00am-Noon Sunday -closed	8:00-9:30am



Considering New Employees? Consider MI WORKS!

Are you currently hiring or planning to hire new employees in the new year? Let Michigan Works! of Allegan County soften the impact of hiring and training new employees. We currently have On-the-Job Training funds available to qualified individuals.

What can On-the-Job Training do for your company? Consider this example:

Cost without OJT Money	Cost with OJT Money
New employee hired at \$12.00/hour	New employee hired at \$12.00/hour
Training period = 4 weeks (first 160 hours on the job)	Training period = 4 weeks (first 160 hours on the job)
Your training costs = \$1920	Your training costs after OJT reimbursement from Michigan Works! = \$960 (50% of wages)

If you are hiring a new worker, please contact us to see if s/he is eligible for our program. Our business services team can be reached at 269.686.5346 or jcommissaris@alleganaesa.org.

Save the Date

Feb. 17th: Chamber Kick-Off, Wayland High School 12:30pm-2:00pm
 March 22: After Hours - Gun Lake Casino, 6pm-8pm
 April 10: After Hours - Sand Bar & Grill, 5pm-7pm
 May 8: After Hours - The BIB, 5pm-7pm
 June 14th: After Hours - Inn at Mill Pond, 5pm-8pm
 July: After Hours - Bay Pointe Inn & Restaurant, Date/Time TBA
 August 3: Chamber Golf Outing
 October 6: Wayland Business Expo

Member Update

Boxwebs is now BRML Enterprises, LLC (Gun Lake Online Magazine) For additional information, please view: gunlakemag.com or brmlenterprises.com



Art Clash Returns at Daily Brews Coffee Cafe in Downtown Wayland

The Third Annual Art Clash Artist Competition will run February 20th thru April 14th at Daily Brews Coffee Cafe in Downtown Wayland. Fifty Artists compete for cash prizes, winner determined by public vote. For entry forms and information contact Bruce Patrick at Daily Brews 792-2739 or Dailybrewz@yahoo.com

The High School Theater group IMPROV Anonymous performs the second Thursday each month from 5:30 to 7:30pm at Daily Brews Coffee Cafe. All are invited to this great free show.

Local Artist Book Signing at Daily Brews, February 25th from 9 to 11am. Judith Black is a Christian author from Hastings. You can learn more about her book here: <http://www.tatepublishing.com/tipsheet/book.php?key=4823>. Don Mercer is from Delton, and has written a leadership book. Here is more information on his book: <http://www.tatepublishing.com/tipsheet/book.php?key=13896>.

Penasee Globe Open House Scheduled

The "Globe Girls" will hold an open house from 2:00pm-6:00pm Tuesday, Jan. 24 at the Globe newspaper office, 206 S. Main St. in Wayland. Come enjoy free refreshments and meet new reporter Sherry Kuyt, marketing consultant Nancy Bosse, and sales assistant Nikki Meeuwenberg. An editor will be on hand to explain the new delivery schedule and to introduce our exciting online edition. Attendees will learn how to submit their own news and events right online. There will be free kids' activities, prize drawings, and ad specials. See you there!

NEW Member to Member Benefit at Snap Fitness in Wayland

Snap Fitness, 150 Pine Street in Wayland, would be happy to offer all Wayland Chamber of Commerce members free membership enrollment through the month of January. This cannot be combined with any other offers. Members are to let the staff know that they are members to obtain this special.

Godwin Aqua Systems Grand Re-Opening!

January 28th (Saturday): 10:00am-3:00pm - Godwin Aqua Systems Grand Re-Opening at Godwin Hardware and Plumbing, 3703 S. Division, Grand Rapids

Help Godwin celebrate as we become the exclusive West Michigan dealer of Aqua Systems water treatment products. We've renovated our showroom to make room for our expanded line, and invite you to join us for free food, free water tests (bring a sample from home), and a drawing for prizes!

Bay Pointe Inn Events



Live Music & Dancing returns to the Terrace Grille on Saturday, January 14th and 21st
Music: 7:00pm-11:00pm, Dinner Service 5:00pm-10:00pm
Tony Fields & Doug Decker with guest guitarist Jeff Starr playing Rhythn & Blues, Soul, Funk
Dancing, Cocktails, and Fun! ~ No Cover Charge
Reservations Accepted 269.672.5202 or 1.888.GUN.LAKE

Thursdays - Create Your Own Pasta Night!

Stop by Bay Pointe on Thursday's to create your own pasta night! Choose from six pastas, six sauces, ten meats and vegetables, four spices/oils/herbs, bread, and two desserts - All for \$15.95 per person



Sensory Systems Clinic West Occupational Therapy New Year's Special

More than a decade of clinical research on Interactive Metronome (IM) demonstrates gains in motor planning and sequencing lead to improvements in:

- Attention and Concentration
- Language Processing
- Behavior (Aggression and Impulsivity)
- Academic Performance
- Improved Timing and Accuracy for Athletes of all ages

IM treatment has undergone clinical studies that show improvements in children diagnosed with:

- Sensory Integration Disorder
- Autism Spectrum Disorder
- Cerebral Palsy
- Non-Verbal Learning Disorder
- ADD/ADHD

Visit www.sensorysystemsclinic.com for more information

Schedule your FREE assessment today at 269.792.2353. Sensory Systems Clinic West is located at 118 W Maple in Wayland.



Great Lakes Energy Helping the Community

Youth Leadership Summit

Great Lakes Energy (GLE) announces their annual Youth Leadership Summit (YLS) will take place April 18-20, 2012 at the 4H Kettunen Center in Tustin. High school sophomores and juniors whose parents/guardians are GLE members should apply by March 16. Nine GLE teens selected from among applicants will join approximately 25 students from other Michigan electric co-ops to learn about different types of electric utilities, safety, and current issues facing the electric co-op industry. Students get to stretch their leadership and teamwork wings with specially-designed exercises on co-op governance. They have the chance to don lineworker's gear and learn to climb a power pole. They also learn how power is purchased and dispatched, plus visit a working green-energy wind farm. YLS participants are automatically considered for a free trip to the national Rural Youth Tour in Washington, D.C. in June. Interested candidates can find out more and fill out an online application at <http://www.gtlakes.com/youth-programs/teen-trips/michigan-teen-days/>. Additional information on both events can also be found at <http://www.miyls.com/>.

Power Line Safety Demonstrations

Great Lakes Energy (GLE) uses power line safety demonstrations to look out for its members and the general public. The demonstrations—free to eligible schools and organizations within GLE's service territory—teach observers to respect electricity, whether it be a 7,200 volt power line or 120 volt power in the home. Retired lineworkers use actual lines and poles mounted on a portable trailer they bring on site to show what happens when common objects contact a live power line. As schedule allows, GLE may also offer its Energy Bike for the demonstrations. The Energy Bike shows riders the physical effort it takes to light rows of incandescent light bulbs versus more energy-efficient bulbs (CFLs and LEDs). Groups that want to find out if they qualify for GLE's free safety demonstration should email safety@glenergy.com or contact Linda Kotzian at 888-485-2537 ext. 8174.

Volunteers Needed for Junior Achievement

Junior Achievement is looking for volunteers in the Wayland area to be presenters at Steeby and Pine Street Elementary. Volunteers are needed for 3rd and 5th grades. ALL materials are furnished and lessons are scripted for you. Volunteers are needed at both buildings and Jody would be glad to speak with a prospective volunteer at any time. For additional information, please contact Jody Pratt at prattgji@hughes.net or call 269.792.0481.



Vibrant Grains Announces NEW Events

January 21st, is "Student Music Night", including acoustic, vocals, strings, reeds, percussion, and horns. Vibrant Grains owner Virgil Gleason stated, "Basically anything, that is not highly amplified." The Headliner will start at 7:30pm and follow a similar format as the Folk Gatherings (headliner starts the event followed by open mic, and open jam), however please watch the Vibrant Grains Bakery & Restaurant FaceBook page for confirmation of times and format.

On January 28th, the Headliner will be Wayland community favorite, The Otsego Jazz Ensemble who will begin at 7:30pm. This band is well known in the area and many people enjoy swing dancing to their tunes. If you are looking for some great local entertainment, a delicious dinner, and a chance to show off, learn, or watch couples swing dancing, this is your chance. The band will play for about 45 minutes, take a break, and then play a second set.

Folk Night at Vibrant Grains, otherwise known as "Rabbit River Folk Gathering," has been hosted by J.D. Gonzales and his music partner Phil. Folk Night has been very fun and successful for musicians, patrons, and employees of Vibrant Grains and will continue on the first Saturday of each month. Look for announcements on Vibrant Grains FaceBook page regarding the February Headliner. In addition, J.D. is planning the second Rabbit River Folk Fest in our city park this summer. For additional information on either of these events, please contact J.D. at jgonzville@yahoo.com.

Vibrant Grains is located in Downtown Wayland at 142 South Main.



United Bank Welcomes Kara Vugteveen

United Bank in Wayland recently welcomed Kara Vugteveen as their new Branch Manager. Though Kara may be new in Wayland, she brings with her over 8 years of United Bank experience, serving most recently as Manager of United Bank's Cascade branch. Kara is excited to be part of the Wayland community and looks forward to getting to meet the fantastic people in the area.



Better Way Imports News and Updates

Better Way Imports, supports victims and survivors of slavery and human trafficking by creating a market for their beautiful handmade products. January is National Slavery and Human Trafficking Awareness Month, so please take time to remember those that are still trapped. Also remember those who are now free and thriving in freedom. For the entire month of January, spend at least \$30 in product (not including tax and shipping) and receive 10% off your entire order!



Better Way Imports has announced that they will be attending the Women's Expo in Grand Rapids on March 9, 10, and 11th at The Devos Place, Grand Rapids. Please be sure to stop by and say hi and check out their great products.

In addition, Better Way has a new hostess program. This incredible new program allows hostesses to earn free products, 1/2 off products and up to \$100 in credit towards their purchases. If you have been thinking about hosting your own Awareness Event, now is the time to it! For more information on what Better Way Imports offers, please contact local representative Melanie Suk, Freedom Fighter, at 616.214.1901, or view her Facebook page or website www.betterwayimports.com.