

Dear Friends and Colleagues:

As our fiscal year closed at the end of August, and a new year began in September for the Cutlerville Chamber of Commerce, this also marks the end of my tenure with the Chamber. I have been associated with the CCC since 1996. There has been tremendous growth and expansion of services over those years. This year has been the highest in business membership, the highest number of runners in the Brian Diemer Race, and Cutlerville Days was bigger and better than ever. I am proud to say that I have served on the Chamber Board for six of the eight years and was truly honored to serve as President this past year. Join me in welcoming your new incoming Chamber President, Cindy Varney from Macatawa Bank – Gaines Branch. I am confident the Chamber will continue to grow, not only in membership, but in success and influence in the South Kent area!

I will miss you all, God's Blessings, Cindy Simons

## Chamber Businesses Active in offerings

Your local chamber businesses are very involved in our community as a whole and liberal in offering a variety of business helps for other local businesses and the community. Just last week, Andy Cove at **Edward Jones Investments** offered a video seminar "Growing Your Business in a Wal-Mart World". This presentation spelled out the POCKETS strategies of Michael Bergdahl.

A group of volunteer students from **Cutlerville Christian School** recently completed the Adopt-A-Road Clean Up Project in September. They worked on the mile of Division Avenue between 60<sup>th</sup> and 68<sup>th</sup> Street. Good Job everyone! You really made a difference! Thank you very much!

At the recent CCD Fireworks on September 17, the gals from **Macatawa Bank, Gaines Branch**, served concession goodies with the profit going to support the CCC Christmas Giving Project for 2005. Thanks Macatawa!

**Fifth Third Bank** is a donation center for helping the victims of Hurricane Katrina. If you haven't given to this much needed cause, consider stopping by on Division Avenue or on 68<sup>th</sup> Street to contribute today!

Did you know that the **South Christian High School** Sports Park is now the home field for the DAVENPORT University's soccer team? Working together...

Don't miss your opportunity to be a part of the 7000 copies of the **2006 Cutlerville Community Directory**. Contact Dawn today at [info@cutlervillechamber.org](mailto:info@cutlervillechamber.org).

## BUSINESS PROMOTION...

Part of the member benefits for our members is that the CCC promotes your business as often as possible in a variety of venues. You might want to take advantage of the following opportunities:

Monday, October 24 – The CCC will be giving away goodie bags to participants of a health screening open all day at the Gaines Township Hall.

Monday – October 31 – The CCC will be promoting your business once again through goodie bags to people who come for the flu clinic at Gaines Township between 10 am and noon.

Tuesday, November 8 – The CCC will have a table and information at the Community Open House from 6 – 8 pm at Spectrum Health – South Pavilion.

If you would like to be involved by donating a give away for the goodie bag, copies of flyers or coupons; please let me know as soon as possible. I would ask for a minimum of 200 of your information or give-away.

[Do you ever wonder](#) what the Chamber does with the business cards you put in the 50/50 jar at meetings? Well, Dawn Baker, the Director, keeps them with her as she visits chamber members and prospective member businesses and shares them as conversations leads. Yet another way your Cutlerville Chamber of Commerce membership works for you!

**Insurance discounts...** The ISO rating is a rating system which the insurance companies use to set the premiums they charge you for your homeowners insurance. Did you know that the Dutton Fire Department response area has been lowered to an ISO rating of 5? *That means your insurance premiums should be going down this year.* Thanks to their participation in the South Metro Coalition and other important factors, Dutton Fire is one of only 5 in the state to receive such a low rating when the majority of their response area does not have hydrants. A great big THANK YOU to all the firemen and their tireless efforts to make their department the best it can possibly be. Call your agent and ask him to check the ISO rating for your home. If you are within 5 miles of the Dutton Fire Station, your premiums should be lower. Again, Thank you, guys!

Thanks to these businesses the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual CCC Golf Outing in September was a success!  
**Beukema Insurance**  
**Byron Bank**  
**Byron Insurance Agency**  
**Culligan**  
**Dan Charles Agency**  
**Edward Jones Investments**  
**Pine Rest**  
**Quick Pack Office Products**  
**Spectrum Health South Pavilion**  
**Stroo Funeral Home**  
 Next year's date: 9/8/06

**CARSTAR 76 COLLISION** was started by Jim AARDEMA & Steve Schoon in 2001 based on a need we saw in the Byron and Gaines Township area for a Collision center which focused on Quality Collision Service, local community support and service which accommodates the busy schedules of our neighbors. We strive to be involved in the community and support the schools, chamber activities and ministry projects both locally and internationally.

Our philosophy is "helping" people who have had their lives disrupted by the unfortunate circumstances that result from having an auto accident. We do this by providing loaner or rental cars, extended hours, 24/7 availability through our 1-800-CARSTAR call center, and personal attention to our clients' needs. CARSTAR 76 COLLISION is an independently owned franchise of CARSTAR which has over 250 locations across the United States. We offer a lifetime warranty of our repairs, a 90 day same as cash credit program, and many other features to support our clients.

Since we opened the store in December of 2001, we have repaired over 3,000 vehicles and have a nationally acclaimed customer satisfaction rate of 98.7 %. this places us in the top 5 % collision repair facilities.

Our community involvement has included Rotary, Ambucs, CUTLERVILLE and Byron Center Chambers, Cutlerville Christian Schools, participation in school career days and several foundations which give back to the local community.

## Welcome New Members

Al's Auto Service  
 Allen Vander Molen  
 60 Roth SE  
 Grand Rapids, MI 49548  
 616-292-7978 or 455-2500  
 Fax: 455-0220  
 Automotive Repair

Flagstar Bank  
 Jamie Liby  
 1801 Market Place Drive  
 Caledonia, MI 49316  
 616-698-2584  
 Fax 616-698-8827  
[www.flagstar.com](http://www.flagstar.com)

Mark's Body Shop  
 Mark De Hoek  
 6503 S. Division Avenue  
 Grand Rapids, MI 49548  
 616-455-3025  
 Fax 616-455-3788  
 Auto body repair and  
 emergency vehicle equipment

Hometown Sunoco  
 And Convenience Store  
 Tom and Mary Niewiek  
 7061 S. Division Avenue  
 Cutlerville, MI  
 High Performance Fuels  
 And convenience store items

## Streetscape Update

Maybe you read about this great news in the GR Press this week, but just in case you haven't heard, the "Vision for Division" project is moving ahead like a freight train gaining speed. The KCRC will be reconstructing Division Avenue between 60<sup>th</sup> and 68<sup>th</sup> Streets in 2006 and between 68<sup>th</sup> and 76<sup>th</sup> Streets in 2007. In coordination with the road construction, the CCC has been working on the streetscape project. We are working towards a 5 lane reconstruction and most of the needed easements on the Gaines Township side have been obtained. The CCC is now working to gain easements from businesses on the Byron Township side. In addition, both Gaines Township and Byron Township have donated a \$5,000 gift and made the decision to be the guarantor of the needed funding. They will be the recipients of the needed grant monies since they qualify as a governmental agency. The first grant we are seeking is an MDOT Enhancement Grant for 600,000 (2 phases of \$300,000). In addition, the CCC is seeking additional grants from over 20 various sources. There will also be opportunities in the future for the community and businesses to participate by purchasing benches and other amenities for the project. If you have any additional questions about the project or would like to get involved – contact Dawn at CCC 890-1378.

## Dates to Remember:

GROW luncheon  
 Wednesday, Oct. 19  
 Noon, Country Kitchen  
 RSVP ASAP