



# LAKESHORE CHAMBER

Your source for business and tourism information.

## Chamber Mixer to Include Food, Drink and Company

In a quest to bring a better value to its members, the Board of Directors has chosen to pursue holding the after hours program, in lieu of the regular lunchtime meetings. Our September 23 mixer will take place at the office of Janka Financial in Stevensville from 5pm until 7:30pm. The office is located at 5825 Red Arrow Highway, across the street from Grand Mere Inn. The event is sponsored by Janka Financial and Tabor Hill Winery and will include a delicious selection of cheese and Tabor Hill wine. Janka Financial owner, Duane Janka, explained that he is "excited about the event" and looks forward to meeting many other Chamber members. Stop by and enjoy the food, drink and company.

## Education is Featured

The Park Inn Conference Center hosted Lakeshore Chambers Quarterly Meeting on April 28 featuring an education focused message. Don Frank, Superintendent of Lakeshore Public Schools and Dr. Robert Harrison, President of Lake Michigan College were our keynote speakers. Each spoke of the unique challenges and opportunities facing their respective educational institutions in this economy. The audience was allowed to ask questions and some misconceptions about how tax money is designated to schools were cleared up. Thank you Don and Bob for sharing your time and knowledge with us.

The Chamber is in the process of restructuring our program format. At publication date, the Board of Directors has not finalized plans on this. Stay tuned for announcements about our upcoming meetings and mixers.

## Lincoln Township Public Library

### 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration 1959-2009

May 17, 2009 marked the 50-year celebration of the Lincoln Township Public Library reflected on the humble beginning in a 12-foot square area of the Township Hall on St. Joseph Avenue in Stevensville to the present size of 25,000 square feet located on John Beers Road. The dedicated service from many volunteers, board members, and library personnel was recognized.



Caroline Stanley, the first Library Director, was honored along with special awards to Jack Greendonner, longest-time board member, and Bernice Tretheway (pictured on left) who has been active since the Library's Inception. Special appreciation was expressed to the

residents of Lincoln Charter Township, Royalton Township, and Baroda Township for their support. The celebration program was presented by the Friends of the Library who prepared a printed detailed 50-year history which is available for viewing at the library. The Lincoln Charter Township Board had proclaimed May 17, 2009 as an official Lincoln Township Library Day.

## Baroda Township Park Playground

A ribbon cutting ceremony was held in May for the new Playground at the Baroda Township Park at Hess Lake. The new playground equipment, designed for ages 5 to 12+, includes traditional swings sets, with two full bucket seats for younger children. The main attraction is an innovative and complex spherical climbing set, which includes hemisphere, o-zone, helix net, and ring tangle climbers, a slalom glider, noodle pods, swiggle stix, a gyro twister and wobble pods. To reach the park, take Lemon Creek Road east from Baroda. There is also a walking trail and boating access to Hess Lake.



## Reason to Celebrate

This year Diane Mensinger was given a wonderful honor for all her hard work as Baroda Village Clerk. From a pool of approximately 900 clerks that are members of the Michigan Association of Municipal Clerks, Diane was chosen as the Village Clerk of the Year! Diane has been Baroda Village's clerk since March 2003. She is currently a resident of Baroda Village and has been for the past 25 years along with her husband, Doug and son, Adam. Diane was presented with a beautiful crystal award at the annual conference in Frankenmuth. Her husband, son, mother, Margaret Rolston, along with Village President, Bob Getz and his wife, Chris were able to attend to see her receive this award. Diane said that, "Receiving this award is such an honor and I am humbled by it, especially to be in the company of Terri Bennett (Township Clerk of the Year) and Mary Kotowak (City Clerk of the Year). I have strived to lead by example, to help the new clerks in our county, to be a dedicated community servant and to make a difference in our village and county." Many will agree that Diane is well deserving of this award! Pictured to the right is from the Michigan Association of Municipal Clerks, Clerk of the Year Award Banquet. Pictured with Diane is Baroda Village President, Bob Getz.



## New Member Spotlight

Welcome new Lakeshore Chamber members:

**Jeffrey Rasor, CJ's Quick Mart & Deli** -- located on 1169 Lemon Creek Road in Baroda, this grocery and homemade deli is family owned providing friendly and outgoing customer service, grocery items and a deli with fresh sandwiches and homemade pizza. An excellent selection of ice cold beer and local wine is also available. CJ's have a wide variety of grocery items that line their shelves giving their customers the most choices possible for a small convenience store. At CJ's you are able to get a Hot Pizza, Ice Cold Beverages and a Warm, Friendly Smile from their small staff of dedicated employees. CJ's is also proud to offer a variety of Beer and Wine with the wines purchased locally from the wineries in the area. These wines are produced from the grapes grown right here in Southwest Michigan. They have daily specials so come on in and see them! Call CJ's direct for hours of operation via 269.422.2443.

**Duane Janka, Janka Financial Group, Inc.** -- established this year, Janka Financial Group, Inc. is affiliated with the independent brokerage firm of LPL Financial and offers financial planning services, mutual funds, stocks, bonds, insurance, annuities and managed investment accounts. This Stevensville located company was established in 2009 by Duane Janka. Duane is a graduate of Bethel College, in Mishawaka and a Certified Financial Planner. The goal of Janka Financial Group is to provide a comprehensive, tailored and objective approach to meeting the financial goals of individual investors. Visit Janka's website for additional information via [www.JankaFinancialGroup.com](http://www.JankaFinancialGroup.com).

**Timothy Janda, The Wooden Sign Company** -- The Wooden Sign Company specializes in the custom design and construction of sandblasted signs. They work with a variety of mediums, including wood, glass, marble, and granite. However, they are more than just sandblasted signs. The company also creates menu boards, golf course markers, directories, design logos, and build front and back bars. Their technique utilizes sculpture, three dimensional design, hand carving, gold-leaf lettering, and engraving. Since 1972, the Wooden Sign Company has been a part of Chicago, supplying their neighborhoods and outlying areas with quality and excellence. They will take your ideas or help you generate ideas for a sign that will enhance any business. Visit them on the web [www.woodensignco.com](http://www.woodensignco.com).

**Andrew Zachary, Pure Living Concepts** -- Pure Living Concepts is an Authorized Independent Distributor of EcoQuest International right here in Stevensville Michigan. They have over 40 different Space Certified Technologies to purify indoor air and water. They have GREEN Technologies to help you save money and to help save our environment as well. Pure Living Concepts pride themselves in knowing they can provide

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their customers with the very best state of the art technologies to help clean indoor environments not only in homes but at the work place too. Their proprietary technology called ActivePure not only cleans the air but sanitizes all environmental surfaces as well. They know this because of the extensive scientific testing and peer reviewed studies that have been done. For example: 100% kill rate on MRSA Staph in just 24hrs., Avian Influenza H5N8 100% kill rate on surfaces in just 12hrs. They have been given NASA and The Space Foundation "Space Certified Technology" certification.

They've recently added a 6th division to their company in the form of Whole Home Energy Management. The patented technology they call EcoPower4 can not only provide total surge and spike protection, it provides harmonic noise filtration and power factor correction as well, resulting in possibly saving money up to 25% on ones electric bill! The company has testimonials from many different individuals, companies, organizations that praise the results they have experienced with Pure Living Concepts product line. Their slogan is "We Send the Solution to the Pollution." To learn more about ActivePure Technology, please visit [www.activepure.com](http://www.activepure.com); for more info on EcoPower4, visit [www.ecotrusterenergy.com](http://www.ecotrusterenergy.com).

### Lakeshore Chamber of Commerce

#### Board of Directors

Griffin Ott – President  
Jessica Kehrer – 1st Vice President  
Amber Topp – 2nd Vice President  
Paul Roy – Secretary  
Nancy Adams – Treasurer  
Diane Mensinger – Past President

Nancy Adams - Chemical Bank  
Wendy Bedell - Net Designs  
Doug deBest - Michigan Community Blood Center  
Regina Ciaravino - Cornerstone Chamber of Commerce  
Don Frank - Lakeshore Public Schools  
Beverly Gough - Great Lakes Insurance Management  
Jessica Kehrer - 1st Source Bank  
Marilyn Lauer - CrownPointe Senior Living Community  
Diane Mensinger - Village of Baroda  
Griffin Ott - Ott Insurance Agency, Inc.  
Michelle Pingel - Metal Processors, Inc.  
Stacy Loar-Porter - Lincoln Charter Township  
Kim Richardson - 1st Source Bank  
Paul Roy- Lakeshore Tai Chi  
Bernice Tretheway - Retired Registrar of Deeds  
Amber Topp - Concept to Promotion  
Kristine Williams - Chemical Bank Shoreline  
Bret Witkowski - Berrien County Treasurer  
Larry Wozniak - The Park Inn

#### Contact Us.

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Stevensville, MI 49127

E-mail: [information@lakeshorechamber.org](mailto:information@lakeshorechamber.org)

[www.lakeshorechamber.org](http://www.lakeshorechamber.org)

## New Member Spotlight Continues

**Representative John Proos, Michigan House District 79** -- Proos was elected to the Michigan House in November 2004 to represent the 79th district in northern Berrien County. He has been appointed to the House Appropriations Committee for the 2009-2010 Legislative Session. He is serving as Minority Vice Chair of the Corrections and Human Services Subcommittees and is a member of the Joint Capital Outlay Committee and House Energy and Technology Committee. Rep. Proos is active in many southwestern Michigan groups including the Rotary Club of St. Joseph/Benton Harbor and the United Way of Southwest Michigan. He is a board member of the Berrien Community Foundation.

### What is LEF?

Most people know Lakeshore Schools are excellent because of the students, the teachers, and the administrators. But did you know there is another organization which adds even more? The Lakeshore Excellence Foundation (LEF) is an all volunteer, non-profit organization that operates in collaboration with the Lakeshore Public Schools and Board of Education. Although state funding provides for basic educational needs, additional enrichment opportunities are provided through the efforts of the LEF.

The foundation provided professional direction and master classes for the production of *Beauty and the Beast*, new landscaping, the electronic sign, classroom visits by a science fiction author, a band trip to Washington for the WWII Memorial Dedication, a drum building workshop, local beach cleanup, a Breakfast Speaker Series, and many other projects.

Would you like to participate? A major fundraising even for LEF is the Annual Lakeshore Excellence Foundation Golf Outing. For more information, visit the LEF website at [www.l-e-f.org](http://www.l-e-f.org).

### Baroda is Barking Up a New Program

The Baroda-Lake Township Police Department drug dog project is moving right along. Officer John Hopkins is scheduled to pick out his dog on August 24<sup>th</sup>. John will then begin a five-week training program with his dog starting August 31<sup>st</sup>. The department has raised, to this point, approximately \$6,800 from donations and raffle proceeds. A warm "thank you" goes out to the Lakeshore Chamber of Commerce for their very generous donation of \$300.00 to the department. The team is continuing to look at ways to raise money so they can reach their goal of \$12,700. If you would like to make an individual donation, you may do so by sending a check to:

Baroda-Lake Township Police Department  
P.O. Box 187  
Baroda, MI 49101-0187

## And the Scholarship Winner Is...

The Chamber held a quarterly meeting on Tuesday, April 28 at the Stevensville Inn (formerly Park Inn) Conference Center. The noontime meeting was well attended and was a special time for the Chamber. In past years, the Chamber has awarded their annual Lake Michigan College Scholarship at the annual meeting in January. Due to changes in how the scholarship is administrated, the award presentation was moved to April. This year's scholarship recipient is Brittany Bly, a graduating Senior from Lakeshore High School. Brittany earned a 3.67 grade point average while participating in many extra-curricular activities. She has two horses and showed them in competitions with the Equestrian Team. Brittany also competed in the Miss Stevensville pageant. Miss Bly will be attending Lake Michigan College in the fall and will be studying radiology. It is active students like Brittany that make the Lakeshore Community a better place to live. Congratulations!



### Board of Directors Warm Welcome

The Chamber welcomes Mike Gilbert to the BOD's. Mike is part of the State Farm Insurance team serving the Unitex States and Canada as the largest Auto Insurer in the Nation. As is Mike's mission as well, State Farm helps people manage the risks of every day life, recover from the unexpected and realize their dreams. Mike is also a long-time resident of Berrien County and is actively involved in the community. He is a member of the Lakeshore Rotary, and has been involved with the 911 Elementary School Programs, sponsor of Youth Soccer and Lakeshore Cheerleading for several years.

### The Barodafest is Coming!

Mark you calendars for Saturday, September 12<sup>th</sup> from 7am to 11pm. This annual festival is filled with fun for the whole family. Start your day with a delicious pancake breakfast following with a variety of activities for all ages including a 5KRun/Walk, children's games, parade, car and motorcycle show, horseshoe tournament, tractor pull, laser tag and rock climbing wall, arts and crafts, baked goods, just to name a few. The live musical entertainment starts at 10am and continues throughout the day, ending with an evening of music and dancing under the stars. For a complete schedule, registration forms and other information, please go to [www.barodavillage.org](http://www.barodavillage.org) and click on Barodafest or call 422-1779. Hope to see you there!



**Lakeshore Chamber of Commerce**  
4290 Red Arrow Hwy.  
P.O. Box 93  
Stevensville, MI 49127



**Return Service Requested**

### **Top 12 Reasons to Join the Chamber**

- Increased Visibility in the Community
- Free Participation in Tourism & Visitor Welcome Packet
- Free Directory Listing & Receipt of Quarterly Newsletter
- Numerous Educational Opportunities
- Naming of Lakeshore Chamber Business of the Year Award
- Local Festival and Event Support
- Chamber Website Referrals and Promotion
- Special Event Advertising
- Networking at General Membership Meetings
- Bulk Mailing Permit Permission
- Inclusion in the New Member Spotlight
- Ribbon Cutting Ceremonies

Visit the Lakeshore Chamber Website  
[www.lakeshorechamber.org](http://www.lakeshorechamber.org) for Up-to-Date Information and Events



### **Give Blood**

The Michigan Blood Center Drive will be at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Baroda on October 22 (3-7pm). Please stop by and support your local community blood drive.

### **Appreciation**

The Chamber would like to thank all the volunteers at CrownPointe Senior Living Community for helping in the folding and labeling of our newsletter

### **Member2Member Discounts**

Off Insurance 8-10% discount on personal lines  
12-14% discount on commercial policies

Park Inn 20% discount on rooms reserved by a member for themselves, friends, or their family

Anytime Fitness 10% off regular rates for chamber members

### **Mark Your Calendars**

**General Quarterly Meetings**  
Tuesday, September 23 at 5pm – Janka Financial  
Sponsored by Janka Financial and Tabor Hill Winery

Tuesday, November 24 at 12 noon – Park Inn

**Chamber Booth at Barodafest**  
Saturday, September 12 (7am - 11pm)

**Chamber Booth at Cornerstone Chamber of Commerce Trade Show**  
Tuesday, October 6 (4-7pm)

