



Chamber News

EATON RAPIDS AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Volume IV, Issue VI

November 2010

www.eatonrapidschamber.com

RESTROOM RESTORATION PROJECT



Pictured from L to R: Don Colestock (Lions Club), Cheri Sharp (GFWC ER Women's Club); David Price (Kiwanis Club); Sean Cotter (Rotary Club); Diane Hayter and Nancy Smith (BPW); Bill Botti (ERACC President); and Don Wyckoff (ERACC ED).

lition accepted the ERACC's check, along with other civic group leaders at the TGID event. They were all very appreciative of this donation from the ERACC.

As a side note, Don Wyckoff, Executive Director of the ERACC facilitated a "Coffee and Dessert" event at Evelyn Bay Coffee Company during this event. The property

During the "Thank Goodness It's Done (TGID) Chili Cook-Off" event held to celebrate the new Hamlin Court on Saturday, November 6th, the Eaton Rapids Chamber of Commerce (ERACC) proudly made a \$1,000.00 pledge toward the Hamlin Street Restroom Restoration Project which is located at the Island. This restroom is a very important part of downtown and has been long overlooked.

Civic groups from the community gathered to form an Eaton Rapids Service Club Coalition with one main goal—to raise funds for the Hamlin Street Restroom Restoration Project. This Coalition has held many fundraisers this year including bake sales, the chili cook-off and other events.

The City of Eaton Rapids coordinated the TGID Chili Cook-Off event and they generated \$500.00 towards this project.

Sean Cotter, representative from the Coa-

owners who allowed the ERACC to post "Burma Shave" signs on their property during the "Shop Local During Construction" campaign were recognized during this event at Evelyn Bay.

This community has really come together when there is a need—we need to renovate this restroom for the benefit of the entire community.

If we pull together as a community, we will be able to start construction on this restroom project in the Spring of 2011.

Donations for this project can be forwarded to Sean Cotter at Eaton Federal Savings Bank or to any civic group in our community. Checks can be made payable to the *Hamlin Street Restroom Restoration Project.*

Shop ER
Eaton Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce

2010-11 ERACC BOARD

OFFICERS:

President—Bill Botti, Clinton Trail Tree Farm, Inc.

President Elect—Sean Cotter, Eaton Federal Savings Bank

Past President—Mari Lin Pettit, Pettit Hardware

Treasurer—Bob Dickins, SSB Bank

Secretary—Terri Rhoads, Eaton Rapids Medical Center

DIRECTORS:

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Cindy Colson, LAFCU

Fred Puffenberger

Jill Skinner, Skinner Funeral Home

Doug Stevenson, Downtown Development Authority

Brenda Stohr, Eaton Rapids Public Schools

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:

Don Wyckoff

NEWSLETTER EDITOR:

Terri Rhoads

NEWSLETTER PRINTER:

Mergener's Printing & More
7250 S. Clinton Trail, ER
517-663-4631
mprint@dishmail.net

CHAMBER BOARD MEETINGS

All Chamber members are welcome to attend monthly Chamber Board meeting. We appreciate input and participation from Chamber members and the community to plan and coordinate Chamber events and services.

If you are interested in attending a Chamber Board meeting and would like to discuss an event or idea, please contact the Chamber Secretary in advance to be placed on the agenda. Our Chamber Secretary is Terri Rhoads, she can be reached at 517-663-9415 or email to rhoads@ermhealth.org.

The Chamber Board meets the 3rd Thursday of each month at 7:30 a.m. at the Eaton Rapids Medical Center main conference room.

Join us any month of the year, except December and share your ideas and visions for the future of Eaton Rapids and the Chamber. Please note, the Chamber Board does not meet in December. 🌲

HOMETOWN FAMILY CHRISTMAS

The 2010 Hometown Family Christmas is scheduled for Saturday, December 4th. This event brings many residents and civic groups together for an evening of holiday activities.



Photo of the 2007 Parade.

It also brings thousands of people to Eaton Rapids every year to spend the day attending all the activities and light parade.

This is a family event and many activities are planned for the children, including a fun-filled parade, which is a very important part of

this event because this is when “Santa Claus comes to town.”

Please refer to the insert for detailed information on the events planned. Detailed information has also been published in various local newspapers. You may also visit the Chamber website for detailed information on this event.

This will be our first parade on our new streets in downtown Eaton Rapids. The downtown district will be simply charming with the lights in the trees and the new period street lights. We hope the community will join in on the fun. 🌲



Holiday photo of the Island Park in 2007.

www.eatonrapidschamber.com



The Eaton Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce (ERACC) and the Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce (LRCC) have entered into a *partnership* in an effort to increase member benefits to our members. Chamber members will be included in the 2011 LRCC Annual Membership Directory. Also a full page ad will be included for the Eaton Rapids Chamber in this Directory for added exposure to our members and Chamber. 🌲

Visit the ERACC website if interested in advertising in the 2011 Lansing Chamber membership directory.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT



Don Wyckoff

I hope you have a very Happy Thanksgiving. That means that Christmas is right around the corner. To kick-off the holidays, I am proud to be a part of the Home-town Family Christmas event scheduled for Saturday, December 4th in downtown Eaton Rapids. Downtown businesses have endured difficult times during construction. Construction is over, we have a beautiful downtown, businesses are open, I encourage our members and the community to "Shop ER" this holiday season!

In these tough economic times, it is very important to stand together and help each other—united we stand, divided we fall.

We've seen new businesses open and close in the same year simply be-

cause they could not get local residents to shop in their stores. We do not want to have empty storefronts downtown, we want to have a vibrant downtown with businesses thriving not just surviving.

Keep in mind, the Eaton Rapids Chamber will gladly host a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for new and existing businesses with new owners/locations at no cost—for both members and non members. The Eaton Rapids Chamber schedules the ceremony and provides promotional photos for insertion in local newspapers.

If you require assistance from the Eaton Rapids Chamber, please do not hesitate to contact me. For updated information on events and services available through the Eaton Rapids Chamber, please visit the website. Hope to see you downtown!

Don Wyckoff
Executive Director

CHAMBER CONTACT INFORMATION

Don Wyckoff, Executive Director
P.O. Box 420, Eaton Rapids, MI 48827
(Phone) 517-663-6480
(Email) info@eatonrapidschamber.com
(Website) www.eatonrapidschamber.com

MISSION STATEMENT: To promote and advance the general welfare and prosperity of the Eaton Rapids area so that it's citizens and all areas of it's business, civic, cultural, educational and farming community shall prosper.

BUSINESS ROUNDTABLE TOPICS

The ERACC is in the process of scheduling the 2011 Business Roundtables which are held in the Eaton Rapids Medical Center main conference room. We would like to know what topics you would like us to pursue. We have had topics such as legal advise, tax law updates, to name a few. If you are interested in presenting at a Business Roundtable or have topics to suggest, please contact Doug Stevenson, Business Roundtable Chairperson at 517-663-8118, Ext. 8101.

Our first Roundtable is scheduled for **Thursday, January 20, 2011 at noon** with **Gary Vittoz** who will be providing information on **Website Designs**. More details to follow.

2010 CRG DIRECTORIES— EATON RAPIDS AREA AVAILABLE ONLINE!

Chamber members receive a bold listing along with the Chamber logo by their listing in the CRG Directories—Eaton Rapids area.



"THANK YOU CRG Directories for your continued support of the Chamber!"

To view this directory online, visit:

www.crgdirectories.com

CHAMBER WEBSITE ADVERTISING OPPORTUNITY

WEBSITE AD RATE FOR ONE YEAR

Member Rate: \$120.00

Non-Member Rate: \$200.00

Put your advertising dollars to work 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days per year by advertising your business or organization on our Chamber website. Your ad will be visible to website visitors looking for activities scheduled in our community. Your one year contract would be effective for 12 months from the date your ad first appears on our website. You can design your own ad conforming to our ad policy or our web specialist can design an ad for you at an additional charge. Our convenient *Ad Purchase Request Form* allows you to send content, links, and graphics to be used in your ad. Please visit our Chamber website to complete this form.

WEB SPECIALIST:

Contact Gary Vittoz by calling 517-543-5361 or email your ad to gvittoz@vcconsulting.com. Visit the Chamber website for more ad details.

www.eatonrapidschamber.com

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE AND MAIL TO:

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Eaton Rapids, MI 48827

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AN ADDED MEMBER BENEFIT

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