

Ten years ago, Spectrum Health - South Pavilion opened it's doors to the community. As the Director of the Pavilion, I felt it was important to become involved with the community. Therefore, soon after our doors opened, I joined the Cutlerville Business Association. There were probably forty members, tops. We struggled to keep the association alive.

I stayed involved with the business association and then was part of its transformation to the Cutlerville Chamber of Commerce. Ten years later, we can now proudly say there are over 120 members with the chamber and we are still growing! That growth is because the members believe in the Cutlerville Community and are committed to safeguarding Cutlerville as the place to live, work, and raise a family. I look forward to serving the Cutlerville Chamber as the President this year and I look forward to working with all of you, because together, *we will continue to make a difference.*

Cindy Simons
President

Cutlerville Chamber Charity Auction Saturday, March 26

You won't want to miss it... This fun community event will once again be held at the Gaines Township Hall Community Room on Saturday, March 26, 2005. Each year, you, our community businesses help make this event a success. Through donations of services and products and spreading the word, money is raised to support our Scholarship Fund, hang seasonal banners along Division Avenue, put up Christmas Lights, and fund other community projects throughout the year. If you'd like to donate or have flyers delivered to your business, Call 890-1378 or e-mail at info@cutlervillechamber.org.

Special Chamber Event

Wednesday, March 9, 2005,
11:30 am or 6:30 pm
Gaines Twp Hall, Community Room

Mike Cousineau, who returned from Iraq in December 2004 as part of the UN detachment of engineers, will be speaking about his triumphs in Iraq and the misconceptions presented by the media. This special event is sponsored by Edward Jones Investments,

“Person of the Year” Nominations

Each year the Cutlerville Chamber of Commerce honors someone who lives or works in the Cutlerville community and has made a significant impact to better Cutlerville. Nominations are open through February 24 and may be submitted to the CCC, 80 - 68th Street, SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49548 or info@cutlervillechamber.org. The Board of Directors will review nominations and the nominations and winner will be listed in the March Newsletter.

FEBRUARY AFTER HOURS

The Comfort Suites (76th & 131) will be hosting the Cutlerville Chamber's February "After Hours" Event, Thursday, February 17, from 4:30 pm to 6:30 pm. Please join fellow chamber members to mingle, munch, and meander through the Comfort Suites. This themed evening offers the fun twist of a "Monte Carlo Night" and you might win the "Whirlpool Suite" prize package by having the most Comfort Suite \$\$ at the end of the evening. Make plans to attend and bring along an associate or guest. Don't forget to bring along your business cards!

Highlight on CUSTOMUSIC

Ever wondered if you could stop into CUSTOMUSIC at 6540 S. Division Avenue and pick up the latest CD? Well, you can stop in and you'll receive a warm welcome from Jane or Mary, but you won't find your CD. The word CUSTOMUSIC was the name of a background music library developed by Canteen Corp, and was made at the AMI jukebox company in Grand Rapids, MI.

Ken Wieringa, the owner of Customusic Service Co, began at Canteen in the 1960's and worked with the Sound Division for 18 years. In 1979, Canteen sold the Sound Division to Ken. The primary business of Customusic is supplying background music via the satellite to businesses throughout Michigan. They serve a large variety of businesses which include banks, office, department stores, hotels, and gas stations, both fine dining and fast food restaurants. Their service involves music, sound systems, paging systems, drive thru intercom systems, closed circuit television systems, in-store messaging, music-on-hold, video monitoring and telephone systems. Whew...

Ken and Mary Wieringa shared that they are committed to growing their business through customer referrals, maintaining an excellent reputation, offering top-of-the-line equipment, competing with fair pricing, and number one... customer satisfaction! Building long-term relationships with their customers is very important to them. Ken also shared that a priority for them – integrity...from office personnel, sales personnel, to the installing technicians.

Customusic Service Company is a family owned business with Ken, wife Mary, and son Tim all involved. They are long-time residents of Cutlerville as well. Each year in June, Ken is up on poles installing sound equipment for the Brian Diemer/Amerikam 5K Race and the music stage for Cutlerville Days. We appreciate their giving back to the Cutlerville Community. Mary repeated... "stop in to learn more about Customusic or just to say hello, you are always welcome".

Mark your calendars now... Annual Cutlerville Fire Safety Day is scheduled for Saturday, May 7, 2005! Also, on Friday, Spectrum Health South Pavilion along with CarStar will be sponsoring a car seat check on Friday, May 6, 2004!

Streetscape Update

As many of you know, your CCC has been working with Kent County Road Commission to repair the Division Avenue corridor between 60th Street and 76th Street. In addition, a committee has been working for a few years to bring about streetscape (tree and flower plantings, benches, decorative lighting, decorative paving for sidewalks, etc.) along with this project. The CCC has hired RJM Landscape Architects to prepare conceptual design master plan documents/drawings that will be presented to the CCC members at our April 21 General Membership Meeting. We are also excited to be working with Roger Belknap from KCRC on enhancement grants and community grants in order to make these plans a reality. Plan now to attend and see these drawings and hear the latest updates on this project. Your Cutlerville Chamber of Commerce, working for you and our community!

MEMBERS ONLY...

The Chamber of Commerce has been working on website development and the first week in February, the Cutlerville Chamber of Commerce website will be up and running. If you have a website and would like it linked... please notify our office as soon as possible. This is a great way to help network your business to our community and beyond.

Welcome New Members

TerryTown Travel
Tom Selvius
7145 S. Division Ave
445-5590

Rustic Market
Thrift Store
Carrie Vandenberg
389 68th Street SE
455-2522

Integrity Motors LLC
Glen Brinks
7590 S. Division Ave
971-0010

Dates to Remember:

After Hours Event
Comfort Suites
Thursday, Feb. 17th
4:30 – 6:30 pm

Mike Cousineau
Special Event
Wednesday, March 9

Charity Auction
Saturday, March 26
6 pm
Gaines Township Hall

