

Have you seen it? Some of the new streetlights are in, the brick pavers are being installed, and soon trees and shrubs will be popping up along our Division Avenue business corridor. Isn't it exciting to watch this transformation? It wouldn't have happened if the Cutlerville Chamber of Commerce hadn't put forth the first efforts in this project. Division Avenue is becoming a beautiful place to work, live, and shop!

We are the first area to work so closely with the Kent County Road Commission in such an endeavor. They have been great! Their help in the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) Enhancement Grant Request (which will contribute half of the needed funds) and right-of-way issues has been invaluable. Their willingness to listen to our comments and suggestions has been wonderful. The townships', both Byron and Gaines, willingness to partner in this project has guaranteed that the Vision for Division will be completed. Without that support, there would be no project. The businesses that have contributed and committed to contribute to the project will make it possible to add the amenities of park benches, flowering planters, landscaping and waste receptacles (see donor listing next month). We are so thankful to all who have worked on the project, given to the project and helped us envision the outcome. Thank you to all and to The VISION FOR DIVISION Committee – Linda Pieters (Gaines Twp); Joel Hondorp (Byron Township); Roger Belknap, Steve Roon, and LR Cole (all from KCRC); Brent Diemer & Brian Diemer (both with Everett's Landscape); and Dawn Baker (Cutlerville Chamber of Commerce).

Help raise money for Legacy Christian Schools

You can help Legacy Christian Schools and South Christian High School through the TRIP program. It's easy! All you need to do is plan ahead by stopping at Legacy Christian School's Middle School building Thursday between 7:45 and 10 am to purchase TRIP (Tuition Reduced Incentive Program) to pick up a variety of gift cards for gas, restaurants, groceries, appliances, services, clothing, etc. and a percentage will in turn go to help Legacy Christian Schools. You are guaranteed to pay exactly the same for all the products or services you would have purchased by cash when visiting these businesses. The participating businesses donate a percentage of the sales of TRIP to each school. Each school also has a more lengthy list of businesses that you can order TRIP for any Monday, and pick up the TRIP on that Thursday. There is a simple order form available at each school, include your check, and your TRIP will be waiting for you. Some of the CCC Members you can purchase TRIP for include: **Anchor Car Wash, Family Fare, and Russ'.**

Informational/Open House Meeting for the Vision for Division Project from 68th to 76th Streets. KCRC is our host on Thursday November 2, from 5 – 7 pm at the Spectrum Health South Pavilion Community Meeting Room. Come check out the plans.

Community Involvement

The week of September 19, **over 14 bags of debris and trash** were once again picked up along South Division between 68th and 60th Streets. **In addition, the CCC has also now adopted the section of Division Avenue between 76th and 68th Streets.** A very special thank you to each one who made a difference and lent a helping hand...

Jacob Wynsma (Stehouwers Auto)
Lee Goodfellow & family (Cutlerville Eyecare), Dan & Kathy Buist (Danny's Barber Shop) and Sally Pols. In addition, a special thank you to Kathy Buist for coordinating our Adopt – A-Road program. **Thank you!**

Safe Trick or Treating is offered each year at **Spectrum Health - South Pavilion.** On Tuesday, October 31, from 3:30 - 5 pm, there will be lots of fun and treats available to anyone in the community. Staff are dressed in non-scary appropriate costumes and fun is had by all!

**Annual Chamber
Charity Auction
Saturday, October 21, 2006**

Plan to be there!

Doors open at 6 pm

Free dessert buffet

Silent Auction open 'till 7 pm

Live Auction begins at 7 pm

Each year this auction raises needed funding for our scholarship fund and other community chamber projects.

Just a few items that may entice you...

Scooter, movie tickets, dinner certificates, lawn care and garden items, golf certificates, hotel packages, baked goods and treats, handmade crafts and items, hair and spa services, teeth whitening certificates, gift baskets, season tickets for sporting events. Something for everyone, come and see!

MDOT – Thank you

Many of our members over the last 2 years have asked the chamber to become involved and actively pursue the possibility of getting an exit ramp off M-6 west bound to Division Avenue. The Cutlerville Chamber suggests that you send an e-mail to the following address, leaving your positive and constructive comments.

[MDOT-2006-](mailto:MDOT-2006-2010FiveYearProgramComment@michigan.gov)

2010FiveYearProgramComment@michigan.gov

Also make sure to thank them for their support of the Vision for Division Project. Then let the CCC know that you contacted MDOT. The next step after MDOT hears from many of you regarding this issue, is that we would like to ask MDOT to give us a public forum regarding this exit and have a meeting in the coming months. Again, you taking steps makes the difference!

New Members:

**Byron Center Historical Society
Adele Roblin, Director
878-0888 / 2506 Prescott
Byron Center, MI 49315**

**Welcome to New Chamber Members:
Byron Center Historical Society & Museum**

The Byron Center Historical Society has a mission statement that states their conviction and dedication... **“We have dedicated ourselves to the preservation of the History of the Grand River Valley, particularly the Byron Center and Cutlerville areas”**. We also welcome their new Director, Adele Roblin. There are many new programs being offered and improvements being made currently at the museum in order to better serve the community. **Some things you won't want to miss:**

Christmas Home Tour: *The Elegant 'James Lane Home' circa 1863 (Formerly known as the Haunted House) is open for tours on December 9th, 2006 from 4-7PM. The cost is \$10 at the door; and proceeds benefit the Byron Center Museum renovation.*

Also, Look for the 'Historic Home Series' on BCTV in November!

“Christmas 1863 Civil War Homecoming”: *Please join us as we celebrate Christmas with Bruce Butgereit & Co, .National Patriotic Instructor, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War 'Bedrolls and Bonnets'. This Open House presentation at the Byron Center Museum will follow the Christmas Parade on December 2nd, 2006. Admission is free, although donations are appreciated. Refreshments provided.*

The Byron Center Historical Society operates from the **'The Old Town Hall'** at 2506 Prescott, SW, Byron Center, Michigan. You can visit the Museum from 9 am – 5 pm, Monday through Friday. Membership dues are only \$10 for the year! In addition, they are always looking for volunteers who share their passion to preserve history and are currently expanding the Board of Directors. If you are interested in joining them, please contact Adele Roblin at: **616-878-0888 or byronmuseum@sbcglobal.net**. Again, welcome to the CCC!

Upcoming Cutlerville Chamber Events:

Annual Chamber Auction on Saturday, October 21, 2006
Doors open at 6 pm...Free Dessert Buffet, Live & Silent Auctions
Join us at the Gaines Township Community Room (corner of Kazoo Ave & 84th)

“After Hours” Event, Thursday, November 16, from 5 – 6:30 pm
Stop in and see the newly remodeled branch of Byron Bank as
Well as celebrate the Vision for Division Project.

Nothing But Noodles Night... Join us on Monday, December 4, 2006
At Nothing But Noodles (mall at 60th & Kalamazoo) for dinner.
10% of the proceeds for the evening
Go back to the Cutlerville Chamber of Commerce.

Special Wine & Cheese Holiday “After Hours” Event
Crystal Springs Country Club
Thursday, December 14, 2006 7 pm – 9 pm
Wrap up event for our annual Christmas Giving Project
Sponsored by select fellow chamber of commerce members
Call Andy Cove at 656-3242 for additional info