

## News from Your Board of Directors

At its regular November meeting the Board of Directors of the Greater Albion Chamber of Commerce unanimously adopted the following policy, effective immediately, regarding the newsletter:

“The Greater Albion Chamber of Commerce strives to foster and promote a prosperous business environment in the greater Albion area. One of the benefits of membership is a monthly newsletter, the Greater Albion Business News, which publishes information about member businesses and community events through a column entitled “Member Happenings” and through inserts from member businesses and organizations. The Chamber strongly encourages members to share information about what is going on in their business.

**Appropriate items for Member Happenings are:** member business news items; anniversaries, employee of the month/year; announcements of new products and services, not including sales or price information; new employees, employee promotions; community events and sponsorships; awards and recognitions; open houses, groundbreaking ceremonies, and business expansions

**Appropriate items for inserts are:** open houses; seminars and

classes; community events. **Inappropriate items for inclusion in the Greater Albion Business News are:** display advertisements (newspaper/magazine style ads with pricing information); sale of particular goods or services coupons; specials with price information; political literature; religious literature; and information regarding the sale of particular goods or services.

Based on these guidelines, Chamber staff will make the final determination about the appropriateness of information provided for inclusion in the newsletter. We reserve the right to edit any posting for spelling, typographical errors, formatting errors, and the like.”

In other actions, the Board declared duly elected for three year terms beginning January 1, 2007 and ending December 31, 2009: Retail—Sandi Pfeffer (**Bob Frahm Chevrolet Buick Pontiac**); Manufacturing—Bernard Konkle I (**Decker Manufacturing**); Services—Ron Rice (**Albion Insurance Agency**); Professional—Mike Olma (**Tidd-Williams Funeral Chapels**); and At-Large—Randy Fisher (**Gordon Martin Builder**). Also, declared duly elected for a two year term beginning January 1, 2007 and end-

ing December 31, 2008 was: At Large—Richard Noll (**Pamida**).

In an effort to save money and time, the Board also decided to publish the newsletter electronically and subsequently will have a new look. The official launch date will be the February newsletter, but this newsletter and the January issue will also be online. So, it is critical to fill out the enclosed questionnaire and provide us with your e-mail address. Those members who prefer to receive a hard copy of the newsletter will also continue to have that opportunity.

The Board is also very interested in recruiting new committee members and so the questionnaire also addresses that issue.

And last, but certainly not least, the Board agreed to continue to the organization and management of the Festival of the Forks for another five years. Four years ago, the Board had agreed to organize the 2004, 2005, and 2006 Festivals with a review at the end of three years. Given the increasing success and improvement of the Festival and its high impact on the community, the Board enthusiastically agreed that the Festival of the Forks will be one of its primary goals for the next five years..

## Member Happenings *(continued from page 3)*

ment, etc.) or decide which format you would like your gift to be in, such as video (VHS and DVD), audio (audiocassette or CD), or that all-time favorite-the book! Donors may choose to remain anonymous or have a bookplate attached to items purchased with their donations. Donations in any amount are gladly accepted. Please call (517) 629-3993 for more information.

Medicare D sign up is available every Friday at the **Forks Senior Center**. Please call for an appointment. On Friday, December 8th the **Center** will hold its first Christmas bazaar and bake sale from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. at Tennant Hall (First United Methodist Church). Lunch will be available from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Lunch will consist of four different soups and sandwiches. There will be a variety of desserts and drinks available. The cost is \$5.00. Take-outs will be available. This event is open to the public. On Monday, December 19th, the **Center** will hold its Christmas potluck at 5:30 p.m. Meat, potatoes, gravy and drinks will be furnished. Attendees are asked to bring a dish to pass and table service. There will be a \$5.00 gift exchange for those interested. On Monday, December 12 at 11:30 a.m. there will be a cookie exchange for the cooking club. Participants are asked to bring a dozen of their favorite Christmas cookies.

As a service to the families of the community **Tidd-Williams Funeral Chapels** will present its seventh annual Holiday Remembrance Program, Thursday, De-

ember 7 at 7 p.m. at the Albion Chapel, 208 West Erie Street. Beverly Wilson, president and owner of Grief Matters LLC will offer information on Holiday Hope, giving ideas to get through the holidays after losing a loved one. Rev. Fred Alexander, Jr., pastor of Bethel Baptist Church will also participate in the program. Names of those being remembered will be read, and there will be special holiday musical selections, and the Yule log will be lit. "The holiday period is especially painful for those reflecting on past losses at this traditionally family time of year," said Mike Olma, Manager of **Tidd-Williams Funeral Chapels**. "Our Holiday Remembrance Program will provide coping strategies that will be useful as the holidays approach." The program will also include a time for remembrance of loved ones and refreshments will be served following the program. Admission is free, but please call **Tidd-Williams Funeral Chapels** by December 1 to make your reservation at 517-629-9155.

Girl Scouts-Irish Hills Council honored longtime supporter **Dr. Miriam Daly** recently with a tea at Bellemont Manor (**Albion College**). Friends and family filled the room and Kathryn Keersmaekers, President of the Council Board of Directors, gave a brief background of **Dr. Daly's** involvement with the organization, and read a moving tribute to **Miriam** written by a one of her former troop members, Donna Terrell, who is now a news anchor in Little Rock, Arkansas. **Dr. Daly** accepted an antique tea pot

and Girl Scout Christmas ornament as tokens of the Council's deep appreciation for her many years of service.

Patrons at the **Albion Public Library** will have an opportunity to erase their overdue fines and assist community members as well. During the month of December, "Food for Fines" will allow patrons to donate non-perishable food items to "pay" overdue fines, with proceeds going to Albion Interfaith Ministries. For more information, please call (517) 629-3993.

"The Bitter Sweet Jazz Trio" will present a mini concert and clinic on December 9 at 2 p.m. at the **Albion Public Library**. Listen to your favorite Christmas songs performed live. Songs of the season with a blended jazz flavoring...easy listening and delightful music. Ever wonder how a jazz song is put together? How does the artist develop the music for smooth jazz renderings of classic standards and traditional tunes? This clinic will remove the mystery of jazz arrangement in easy-to-understand language with examples from the Christmas song list. And afterwards at **Cas-carelli's**, the Bitter Sweet Jazz Trio will perform music not performed at the **Library** with a special vocal guest. For more information, please call 517-629-3993

Chairman of the Board Sandi Pfeffer (**Bob Frahm Chevrolet Buick Pontiac**) and her husband Mark were inadvertently omitted from the list of volunteers at the Chamber Cash Drawing Party..

## Member Happenings

The Greater Albion Chamber of Commerce encourages all members to do business with each other. The companies and individuals listed below have recently made an important investment in their business by joining or renewing their membership in the Chamber. We hope that you will consider doing business with them.

### New Member

#### **McDonald's of Albion**

Becky Brady, Store Manager  
1507 N. Eaton Street  
Albion, MI 49224  
Tel: 517-629-2092  
Fax: 517-629-5308  
Restaurant

### 1 year

#### **Albion Health Care Alliance**

### Other Renewals

#### **Calhoun County Agricultural and Industrial Society**

Miriam S. Daly

Gayle Evans—Party Lite

Harley's Antiques

The Machine Center

Russ and Dorothy Rowan

Southwest Regional Rehabilitation Hospital

Young's Pharmacy

#### **Albion Heritage Bed and**

**Breakfast** will be hosting its third annual Christmas home tour and art show on Saturday, December 9, from 10:00am to 3:00 pm. Local artists will be displaying and selling their works:

Launda Wheatley, sculptured books and candles; Sue Havens, natural stone fine jewelry; Sue Behling, pottery; Pat

Messer, note cards and water-color nature prints; Joan Larson, bright, colorful monotypes; Julie Havelka, natural soaps; Sarah Steinhauer, photographic note cards; Peggy Sterner, Victorian style scrap ornaments; Deborah Erlandson, crystal and bead jewelry, paintings, and original music CDs. Rick Crandall will be entertaining and selling his original CDs. Refreshments will be served. Albion Heritage is located at 517 E. Michigan Ave., Albion. For further information call: 517-629-3550

Huron Valley Ambulance (parent organization of **Albion Community Ambulance**) is celebrating 25 years of community service with an open house on Thursdaym December 7 from 4—7 p.m. at 1200 State Circle, Ann Arbor.

On November 18, the Whitehouse Nature Center (**Albion College**) held a CREATE-a-Family Christmas at the First Presbyterian Church. CREATE is an environmental program for elementary students at the Whitehouse Nature Center and was developed by **Albion College** students. The event was sponsored by CREATE, the **Albion College** Student Senate, Democrats. Ecology Club and the Whitehouse Nature Center; Tractor Supply Company, **Pamida**, Albion Garden, **Lopez Taco House**, **Felpausch/Radio Shack**, Sweet Tooth, Books & More, Subway, Illusions Hair Design, Sunsations and **Kids 'N' Stuff**, with funding from

the **Albion Community Foundation**.

Marjorie Ulbrich is handling **Ismon House** "reservations". The **Ismon House**, 300 S. Slinton Street, has been open to the public since May 1. Already a wide variety of events have taken place in Albion's "Community Gathering Place". As of November 6, 31 events had been bookd through December 31 with many new reservations coming in each day. Included in the variety of functions to date are the following:

- Anniversaries
- Weddings and receptions
- Christmas parties
- Graduation parties
- Seminars
- In-service training sessions for educators
- Baby showers
- Concerts
- Masked ball
- Pre-fireworks dinner
- Prayer breakfasts
- Club meetings

Reserve your event/function at **Ismon House** by calling 517-629-8211.

"Tis the Season for Giving at the **Albion Public Library**. Are you wondering what to give that special person on your list who has everything? Consider making a donation to the **Albion Public Library** and benefit the entire community. The **Library** has many options for you to consider. Donate in memory or in honor of a loved one, specify which collection in the **Library** you would like your gift to go to (fiction, history, travel, gardening, entertain

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## Albion Aglow

Thanks to all of those who participated in the Albion Aglow parade last night. Mild weather brought out a record number of spectators, but did not dim the holiday spirit of parade participants:

### **Albion Department of Public Safety**

American Legion Post #55

Sheriff Al Ayam

Michigan State Police

### **Albion Chamber Ambassadors**

Girls Scouts (Albion/Homer troops)

### **Albion Community Ambulance**

Marengo Fire Department

### **Albion Public Schools**

Harrington Elementary

Tobacco Reduction Coalition

Wildcat Wellness Center

Albion High School Marching Band

Homecoming Court

### **Bob Frahm Chevrolet Buick Pontiac**

Calhoun County Democratic Party

Albion Youth Theatre

Calhoun County Road Commission

### **Tendercare of Albion**

### **Albion Healthcare Alliance**

Marshall Academy

Calhoun County Republicans

Citizens to Beautify Albion

St. James Episcopal Church

Family Life Radio

New Hope Worship Center

### **Albion College "British Eighth" marching band**

A Place for Your Hair and Body Salon

General Store and Hardware

LLC

### **Felpausch**

and, of course, Santa and his reindeer.

First place in the float judging contest went to Big City Styling and honorable mentions to the Calhoun County Road Commission, the Tobacco Reduction Coalition and **Bob Frahm Chevrolet Buick Pontiac**.

Special thanks to the **City of Albion, Citizens Lumbertown, Thompson's Brake Service**, Elaine Berry-Gott who on very short notice decorated Santa's float, Dwayne Bagley, and Cathy and Ray Campbell, and the **Rotary Club of Albion**.

Thanks also to all of the stores which remained open and to **Kids 'N' Stuff** and the **Albion Public Library** for the special events which followed the parade.

*Please pass along  
The Greater  
Albion Business  
News to your col-  
leagues and  
friends and en-  
courage them to  
participate in  
Chamber events  
such as Las Vegas  
night!*

## Shop Locally

The Chamber strongly encourages you to shop locally during this holiday season!

For those who have yet to give you their list, **AlbionMoney** make a perfect gift. These gift certificates support local businesses and allows the person who receives them to make their own selection in any store. Increments of \$5, \$10 and \$20 are available.

A brochure is provided with every order, so the receiver knows which stores accept the certificates.

For more information or to order **AlbionMoney**, call the Chamber office at 517-629-5533.

## Las Vegas Night

Las Vegas Night 2007 will take place on Friday, January 12 at the **Albion Elk's Lodge, M-99 South**, from 7 p.m. to 1 a.m.

Games include Dirty Queens, Let It Ride, the money wheel, and, of course, blackjack

Tickets are now available at the Chamber office and from numerous Chamber members. The cost is \$4 and there will be a drawing for \$100 in cash at midnight, but you need not be present to win.

Las Vegas Night tickets, along with **AlbionMoney**, make perfect stocking stuffers! Be sure to get yours now!