



LBA Biz-Buzz

Editor: Ed Buskirk

www.laingsburg.biz

January/February 2007 Issue

From The President's Desk:

Happy New Year! I know that sounds a little odd at the tail end of February but since this is the Jan/Feb newsletter, I thought it appropriate. ☺

First of all, I want to welcome Dale Snider and Andrew Semrau to your Board of Directors. They are already diving in and becoming quite involved. We look forward to their participation at the Board.

For informational purposes, both By-Laws amendments passed at our Annual Meeting in January.

Speaking of that, I want to again thank Dale Snider for volunteering to host the Annual Meeting at the Looking Glass River Sportsman's Club. It was a fun evening including a great meal with lots of fellowship and euchre at the end! Hopefully, we'll be invited back???? ☺

Lots of information in this month's newsletter so be sure to read it all, and also check out our website for more information. We try to keep it as timely as possible.

We'll be starting our planning for this year's annual Pancake Breakfast in the near future so watch for more information on this as well. We'll need lots of help downtown that day so be prepared to volunteer!

Eric

A Little Humor

When an employee asked his boss for a day off of work, his boss looked him squarely in the eyes and said "I'd love to give you the day off but, if I let you have the day off, I'll have to give a day off to every employee whose wife has just given birth to triplets!"

And

Reporter interviewing a 104 year-old woman:

"And what do you think is the best thing about being 104?" the reporter asked.

"No peer pressure," said the woman.

March & April Meetings & Events

Board meeting, 7:30 a.m. on the 1st Wednesday at the Dee's Grand River Realty.

General Membership meeting, 8 a.m. on the 2nd Wednesday at Jordano's Restaurant. Networking from 7:30 a.m. till 8:00 a.m. **NOTE: The March meeting will be held at City Hall due to Jordano's being unavailable.**

Website Information

Our website currently has 3,325 hits compared to last issue's 3,129 hits which is an increase of 196!! People are regularly checking it out for new and useful information pertaining to "the burg".

2007 Membership Drive Coming Soon!

Vice President and Membership Drive Chair Andrew Semrau is working hard on attaining our goal of 100 members for this year.

Dues statements were recently mailed out, and there are some other interesting things going on concerning recruitment of new members as well.

Remember, it's only \$35 a year and your discounts around town reimburse you that and more!

Also, one does NOT need to be a business to be a member. Individuals can now become members and avail themselves of the great benefits of membership in the LBA.

New Shirts/Sweaters Still Available!

If you have got your LBA shirt/sweater yet, you still can. Check out www.sewingloft.com where you can order it. The price is right, and they look good.

2007 Officers Elected

Officers for the 2007 year were elected at the February Board meeting. They are Eric Schuman, President; Andrew Semrau, Vice President; Carolyn Kirkby, Treasurer; Ed Buskirk, Secretary.

Your officer team is working hard to make this the best year yet for the LBA. If there's anything you'd like to see the Board discuss, talk to them.

TownAround Town

THOMAS INSURANCE AGENCY – The Thomas Insurance Agency is in the process of remodeling the recently vacated Laingsburg Video store on W. Grand River, and will move into the larger space once work is completed.

VISION REAL ESTATE – New LBA member Kristen Brown, realtor with Vision Real Estate, Inc. will open an office in the former Thomas Insurance office as soon as the Thomases move into their new offices. Ms. Brown says she hopes to be in the new location by early March.

FAMILY DOLLAR – Work continues on the new Laingsburg Family Dollar store located on Woodbury Road, across from the Laingsburg Town Plaza. Plans call for the store to be open for business by May 1.

The store will anchor a four-unit commercial/office/retail development, according to Shawn O'Brien of Alliance Commercial Group. Plans call for a 6,000 sq. ft. expansion to the north of Family Dollar that would house three more businesses. While no leases have been finalized yet, O'Brien indicated preliminary talks have already taken place with a bank interested in putting a drive-through branch at the location, and a restaurant with drive-through service.

Potential lessees interested in locating in the new development may contact O'Brien at (517) 853-0800.

Rural Enterprise Group Meeting

The second monthly meeting of the newly formed Rural Enterprise Innovators & Entrepreneurs Group will be held at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 28, at the House in the Woods Bed and Breakfast, 10875 Bond Rd., DeWitt. (Just north off Round Lake Rd., west of Chandler Rd.)

The purpose of the group is to connect rural enterprise business people in the area with each other, and with resources to help start and promote existing or new businesses. Approximately 50 Clinton and Shiawassee County residents attended the first meeting.

Stuff the Bus Oct. 28

Stuff the Bus, the annual event sponsored by Laingsburg Community Schools teachers to aid the Laingsburg Area Food Bank will be held from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 28, in the parking lot of Mark's IGA.

Dues Are Due!

Bills should go out this week for 2007 LBA dues. Be sure to pay your renewal promptly so you can be included in the next edition of the LBA Business Directory.

And help us reach our goal of 100 members by telling your friends about the advantages of joining the LBA. The discounts offered to members by some businesses alone would more than offset the \$35 annual membership fee. Remember, LBA members don't have to be businesspeople – just area residents who are interested in promoting the community and the business environment here.

March Meeting Moved

In case you missed it on the first page, the March 14 meeting of the LBA will **NOT** be held at Jordano's Restaurant, due Jordano's owners Jeff and Karen Harings' absence (They will be roughing it in Aruba for a few weeks.)

Tentative plans call for the meeting to be held at Laingsburg City Hall. Watch for e-mail notification and notices in the local press prior to the meeting.

The April meeting will return to Jordano's – providing Jeff and Karen return to Michigan!

Want To See Meeting Minutes?

Both our Board and General Membership Meeting minutes are posted on our website. And we even have archives pages for past minutes as well.

Simply click on the "LBA Meeting Minutes" button in the upper left corner of the homepage. That will take you to the page with the most current minutes of both the Board and General Membership meetings.

Then, at the bottom of each set of minutes, there is another link line that, when clicked, will take you to another page for viewing past minutes based on the year desired. Simply click on the year desired to see all minutes in reverse monthly order, i.e. Decemer is at the top.

Hat and Cane Committee

Anyone interesting in participating in the LBA Hat and Cane Committee, which will welcome new businesses to town and commemorate significant events at existing businesses, should contact Andrew Semrau avia email at alsemrau@ft.nylife.com so he can put you on his e-mail notification list.