

Depot to Depot Muskegon County fall color tour scheduled

(Submitted by the Muskegon Area Chamber of Commerce)

Travel on one of Michigan's most beautiful scenic drives as you drive or bike this self-guided touring route. This is the fifth annual Depot to Depot fall color tour. You're invited to take this route on Saturday, October 17, 2009 at your leisure between the hours of 10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Experience the colors of the woods, dunes, and water, visit historic sites, and enjoy nature and the glorious colors of the region.

The event is sponsored by the Muskegon Area and White Lake Area Chambers of Commerce and the Muskegon County Convention and Visitors Bureau to bring attention to the beautiful surroundings of the region as well as the opportunity to learn about historic attractions.

You can begin your tour at either the Muskegon Train Depot at 610 West Western Avenue or the White Lake Train Depot at 124 West Hanson. You will receive complete tour information along with a goodie bag including a disposable camera, map, and passes and coupons to area businesses and attractions.

Participation is just \$5 and the first 50 children will receive a small pumpkin to decorate.

When you get your card stamped at each destination on the tour and drop it off at either train depot, you can qualify to win two round-trip tickets aboard the Lake Express Car Ferry.

Take advantage of this opportunity to experience a fun fall event right here on Michigan's west coast!•

Special tours set for Hackley and Hume homes

(Submitted by the Lakeshore Museum Center)

The evenings of October 15, 16 and 17 promise to offer a unique opportunity to tour the Hackley and Hume historic sites in downtown Muskegon. Beginning at 5 p.m. (last tour begins at 7 p.m.), the walk-through tours will take visitors through the lower levels of both houses. The event is by reservation only.

Volunteers will be assigned to specific stations as visitors in groups of 10 will move from station to station, learning about the carvings and the various superstitions displayed. A special visit to the Hackley basement will include the mysterious tunnels.

The superstition part of the tour will take place on the first floor of the Hume house.

The special tours are designed for visitors ages 10 and older. The cost is \$4 for guests 13 and older; \$2 for those under 13.

Please call (231) 722-0278 to register.•



The Fruitport Automotive/Napa 7th Annual car show took place on September 12, 2009. A 15% discount on store items was offered to thank loyal customers and community.

West Michigan brands their quality-made goods

(Submitted by the Muskegon Area Chamber of Commerce)

During this challenging economic transition, many people have lost sight of the quality of the products that are made in Michigan, specifically in West Michigan. The chambers of commerce in West Michigan are promoting an initiative that will shine a positive light on West Michigan. The promotion is called, "Quality Made in West Michigan."

A local manufacturer, taking pride in its West Michigan location, suggested this unique promotional idea to the Muskegon Area Chamber of Commerce. The Chamber has developed a simple, yet attractive logo that says "Quality Made in West Michigan, USA." This logo was designed to be used in brochures and on product packaging. "We send out products all over the United States," says J.R. Duncan, President of Harborfront Interiors. "Why not include a message about West Michigan and send it to all of our customers?"

"If just 100 West Michigan manufacturers participate in this program, for virtually no cost, it will send a strong message around the world about the quality of manufacturing here," according to Cindy Larson, president of the Muskegon Area Chamber of Commerce.

The Muskegon Area Chamber of Commerce chamber is coordinating the effort to make the logo package available to chambers of commerce throughout West Michigan.

The "Quality Made in West Michigan, USA" logo is currently available on the Muskegon Area Chamber of Commerce website, www.muskegon.org.•

Fruitport Area News • September 2009 • Page 21

Noah Project seeks animal lovers

(Submitted by Noah Project)

Noah Project, the no-kill animal rescue at 5205 Airline Road, is looking for volunteers to help our homeless animals find their new forever families.

Many volunteering opportunities are available from animal care to building/grounds maintenance and helping at fundraising events. Financial donations are also welcome as the shelter is currently involved in a building project.

Volunteers must be 18 years old or be supervised by a parent or guardian. Call 231-865-1264 for more information.•

MCC nursing grads surpass all state and national pass rates

(Submitted by Muskegon Community College)

Muskegon Community College nursing graduates continue to exceed all state and national NCLEX (National Council Licensure Examination) first-time pass rates, according to a report recently released by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing.

The two licensure examinations, used to test the entry-level nursing competence of candidates for licensure as registered nurses and as licensed practical/vocational nurses, are administered by a national test service.

From July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009, pass rates for MCC students were 100 percent for the practical nursing exam, compared to 94.6 percent in Michigan and 85.28 percent nationally. For the registered nurse exam, MCC was at 95.6 percent, compared to 88.20 percent in Michigan and 87.42 percent nationally.

For more information about the MCC nursing program, please visit the website, www.muskegoncc.edu/nursing. You may also call the nursing department at 231-777-0281 for specific questions.•

Strandberg baby

Angela Strandberg of Muskegon proudly announces the birth of her son, Noah.

Noah was born at 29 weeks gestation on May 3 at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Ann Arbor, Michigan. He weighed 2 pounds, 10 ounces and was 15 1/4 inches long. He spent the first 47 days of his life in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at the hospital, and is now home and doing well.

His grandparents are Mitch and Elaine Sokolowski of Muskegon and Aunt Kathy of Brighton. His great grandmothers are Elsie Bengtson of Muskegon, Betty Sokolowski of Bitely, and Betty Lenwell of Panama City, Florida.•



16th annual Lumber Barons Ball

(Submitted by the Lakeshore Museum Center)

The museum center's fall fund raising event known as the Lumber Barons Ball will be held on October 10. Proceeds support the education programs and exhibits at the museum.

The event, held at the museum center, 430 W. Clay in downtown Muskegon, will feature great food, music, dancing, and a silent auction. This year it will also include a wine and beer tasting station.

Tickets are \$65 per person. Corporate sponsorships are available for \$500, which includes admission for six guests, signage at the event, and other special recognition.

For more information about attending the event, or if you have items to donate for the silent auction, please contact Joni at (231)722-0278.•

FAN want ads \$10 for the first 15 words 20¢ each additional word

Send your ad and payment to FAN
420 N. Third • Fruitport, MI 49415
(There is an additional charge of \$2 if we need to send you a bill.)

DONATIONS NEEDED: Muskegon Rescue Mission is in desperate need of blankets, comforters, bedspreads and coats, boots, hats and mittens to give to adults and children. Drop off at 400 W. Laketon or 1691 Peck St.

FOR RENT: Werschem Community Room at the Fruitport District Library for private family events. For more information, contact Rose Dillon at the Fruitport Township Hall, or call 865-3151.

FOR RENT: Word of Hope Community Center. Seats 80 comfortably. Call (231) 865-3419.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: Food pantry volunteers needed every Monday and Thursday from 9:30 a.m. to noon. Thrift store volunteers needed to sort donations and assist customers. Please call Denise Little at 727-6090 if you can help.



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- Serger operator needed!
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- No experience necessary
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For more information please call Ann Ryke at (616) 844-4161 or stop by Monday night 6 to 9 p.m. or Wednesdays 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

GRAND VALLEY BIBLE INSTITUTE



ENROLLING STUDENTS FOR OUR FALL SEMESTER
STARTING OUR 16TH YEAR
**SEMESTER STARTS:
MONDAY SEPTEMBER 14TH**

The Institute meets at the Ottawa Center Chapel located at 8991 Leonard Road, Coopersville [corner of 88th Ave. and Leonard]. ALL classes meet on Monday Nights.

The Institute offers three core classes: Old Testament Survey, New Testament Survey and Bible Doctrine. Each semester runs 16 weeks. Cost is \$35/class plus a \$30 registration fee for new students.

You can take as many or as few classes as you desire. Please stop by and visit a class.

NOTE: Two new classes are being offered this semester: Bible Interpretation and Church History.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL:
PASTOR JOHN ROMANOSKY AT 231-788-3096**