

# THE LEDGER

Eaton County's Museum at Courthouse Square & The Eaton County Historical Commission

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

*Brian Myrkle and Julie Kimmer proudly show off the approved Historical Markers which can be purchased & displayed on historical homes and businesses in Charlotte!*



Charlotte's participation in Governor Snyder's Project of Rising Tide initiative offered the opportunity for downtown Charlotte to nominate local homes and buildings for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, a program operated by the National Parks Service. Can Do chairperson, Greg Geuetschow, said "The history and architecture of Charlotte tells a unique and fascinating story.

The National Register of Historic Places is the Nation's official listing of cultural resources worthy of preservation. Authorized under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, The National Register is part of a national program to coordinate and support public and private efforts to identify, evaluate and protect our historic and archeological resources. Properties listed in the Register include districts, sites, buildings and structures.

*If you would like a sign for your historic home or business that is featured on the National Registry, but is listed as non contributing, please contact us at [csamuseum@yahoo.com](mailto:csamuseum@yahoo.com) or call 517-543-6999 to find our more information.*

# LOOK WHAT'S HAPPENING IN CHARLOTTE

## Summer Concerts on the Square!



Plans are once again underway for Charlotte's "Summer Concerts on the Square" and we hope everyone is planning to attend this year. The schedule of concerts will begin Thursday, July 12th at 6:30 and continue on Thursdays through August 16th. Be sure to visit the Charlotte Artisan and Farmer's Market, also operating on the Courthouse Square Thursday afternoons from 3:00 pm until 7:00 pm. Bring your picnic blanket, lawn chairs, family and friends to enjoy a great time on the Square!

### 2018 SUMMER CONCERT LINE UP

- 7/12/18 TBA
- 7/19/18 Billy Mack & Juke Joint Johnnies with Car Show
- 7/26/18 Brenda Loomis Band ( Country Music Night)
- 8/02/18 Life Support
- 8/09/18 Lady Luck
- 8/16/18 Ezy Street Band with Taste of Charlotte

## 2018 Courthouse Square Golf Scramble



Saturday, July 21, 2018  
 Centennial Acres  
 Sunfield Michigan

If interested in joining us contact  
 Rod Weaver at 517-899-7589

## "Made on Mainstreet"

Hosted by ....

#CharlotteRising  
*Revitalizing OUR Community*



National Main Street  
 Center  
 a subsidiary of the  
 National Trust for Historic Preservation



Saturday August 4, 2018

2:00 pm to 6:00 pm

On the afternoon of Saturday August 4th, Eaton County 's Museum at Courthouse Square will be the center of activity as we celebrate the City of Charlotte's and Charlotte Rising's Pocket Park project! Excitingly, the Pocket Park earned support from the "Made on Main Street" grant program, administered by the National Main Street Center, Inc. and is funded by OneMain Financial. The Pocket Park exemplifies a community transformation and OneMain Financial, in conjunction with many other local partners, is throwing Charlotte a celebration party for the project! Make sure to mark you calendar. You won't want to miss the local music, free food (while supplies last) engaging activities and all around family fun right in the heart of our community.

See you there! #Charlotte Rising

### Mark Your Calendars!

July 12, 2018 - August 16, 2018  
 Every Thursday 6:30 for Concerts on the Square

July 21, 2018

2018 Courthouse Square Golf Scramble

August 4, 2018

Made on Main Street on the Courthouse Lawn

October 20, 2018

Motor City Ghost Hunters  
 8:00pm -9:00pm & 10:00 pm

October 26 & 27th

Haunted Courthouse

December 1, 2018

Annual Christmas Cuisine



# 2018 CHS SENIORS CELEBRATE LAST DAY OF SCHOOL



The 2018 CHS Senior class celebrated their last day of school on Thursday May 24th! They began the day with a tour of the Elementary, School and Middle school buildings, giving them the opportunity to thank the CPS staff members that have inspired them the most and continue to serve as role models for our younger Orioles. The day concluded with a wonderful picnic on the Courthouse Square. The Courthouse Square Association wishes all the graduates the best of luck in their bright future.

## Meet Summer CSA Intern Sara Herbruck



Courthouse Square is excited to have Western Michigan University student, Sara Herbruck, interning with us this summer. Sara's first project during her internship is the organization of National Historical Register of Historic Places plaques for local businesses and homes.

A Lansing native, Sara is currently a senior at Western Michigan University, majoring in Public History. She has always enjoyed going to historical sites and museums. Her hobbies include working out, reading and watching movies.

# OFFICE SPACE AVAILABLE

Downtown Charlotte

*Call*

Julie at 517-543-6999



The office suite is on the upper floor of the 1873 Sheriff's residence located adjacent to the 1885 Courthouse. The 2 room office suite would be ideal office space for your small business.

**\$200 per month rent includes all utilities and availability of fiber optics!**

## CHARLOTTE MICHIGAN HISTORICAL HOMES

a book written by Pat Campion  
*Watch for it on Amazon!*

As you drive around Charlotte, have you ever, who lived in certain homes, what they did for a living and who they were related to and who lives there now?

Pat Campion's book, Charlotte Michigan Historical Homes, People and Business will be published soon through Amazon Kindle and can answer some of those questions. This historical book examines over 200 homes and businesses explaining the architecture, but more importantly, the people who lived there and how they contributed to the growth of Charlotte. Each featured house includes most of the following: location, architectural

description, residents who have lived there, family that lived there along with their parents and children, occupation and business location of residents, and where they are buried. Pictures, pictures, pictures! A picture is worth a thousand words! Portraits, original pictures, maps, old advertisements, headstones, and current photos will tell you stories of the wonderful

ancestors of Charlotte. The information came from history books on Charlotte, numerous City Directories and extensive ancestry research on over 40 families. Steve Latchaw, Bill Rutter, and many other community people shared information and stories. For more information, questions or stories to share, email [pcamp05@yahoo.com](mailto:pcamp05@yahoo.com)



*Thank you to our Sponsors*



241 S. Cochran Suite #1  
 Charlotte MI 48813

Phone: 517-543-1099  
 Fax: 517-543-1993

DAILY DELIVERY TO

- \*Charlotte
- \*Bellevue
- \*Vermontville
- \*Mulliken
- \*Olivet
- \*Potterville
- \*Sunfield
- \*Eaton Rapids

**Charles L. Green**  
 Director/Owner/Manager

**Burkhead-Green  
 Funeral Home**

*Your friends  
 across the Square*

206 W. Lawrence Ave.  
 Charlotte, MI 48813  
 Phone (517) 543-3160

**Kiwanis of  
 Charlotte**



*Proudly Serving our  
 Community*

430 S. Cochran Ave.  
 Charlotte, MI 48813  
 517-543-6794

**Kiwanis is a global organization of  
 volunteers dedicated to improving  
 the world One child and One  
 community at a time.**

**FULTON LUMBER  
 COMPANY**



316 N. Washington  
 Charlotte, MI 48813

*"We are pleased and proud  
 to be members of the Court-  
 house Square Association"*



**CHARLOTTE  
 LIONS CLUB**

100 W. Lawrence, Suite B  
 Charlotte, MI 48813

517-543-4240 or email  
[Charlottelionsclub@gmail.com](mailto:Charlottelionsclub@gmail.com)

*Lions meet the needs of local  
 communities and the world every-  
 day because they share core belief  
 to serve their community."*

## 1885 COURTHOUSE ELEVATOR PROJECT UPDATE

Since April, the Elevator Committee has initiated research to consider the feasibility of installing an elevator or other form of barrier-free access to the second and third floors of the 1885 Courthouse

. The research was conducted by visiting other historic courthouses in southern lower Michigan that have had elevators installed, meeting with two elevator manufacturing companies and examination of an exterior handicap ramp.

Site visits were made to Barry, Ionia and Livingston County Courthouses, all of which had elevators installed between the late-1970's and mid-1990's. In all three cases the elevators were added with extensive remodels to modernize the courthouse buildings. millages were passed to support the multi-million dollar renovations. The elevators were installed in the interior of the buildings either near an exterior entrance or in the corner of the building. In all three cases, the elevator shaft took the place of aligned offices or storage vaults. All three were conventional commercial elevators with a typical annual maintenance fee of approximately \$7,000 per year.

Meetings were held with Otis Elevator and A4 Access/Wright-Flippis. Otis is the industry leader in conventional elevators, while A4 provides "Limited Use/Limited Application" elevators (LULA). The approximate cost of an Otis elevator installed would be approximately \$400,000. The cost includes \$150,000 for the elevator itself, \$20,000 design & engineering, \$20,000 modification to add a three phase electrical system and \$200,000 building modifications. Further the building modifications would be significant to build a hoistway inside or outside of the existing building footprint.

The LULA is a smaller elevator requiring less space and could be installed with an approximate cost of \$200,000. The cost includes \$70,000 for the elevator itself, \$20,000 design and engineering, \$5,000 modification of existing electrical system (three phase not required), and \$100,000 building modifications.

A4 also provided information for a wheelchair lift system that could provide service from the west end of the building up to the second floor over the existing exterior steps.

An additional lift would provide service from the second floor to the third floor over existing interior steps. The approximate cost would be \$105,000. The cost includes \$40,000 for the lifts themselves, \$10,000 design and engineering, \$5,000 modification of existing electrical system (three phase not required) and \$50,000 building modifications.

An exterior handicap ramp could be built on the west end or northwest corner of the building. The ramp would be very large to reach a height elevation of approximately nine feet to the second floor. Once on the second floor, a chair lift would be needed to reach the third floor. No cost estimates have been sought at this point even though Ionia County has an existing ramp that might be sold sometime in July (cost unknown). That ramp would have to be disassembled and moved to Charlotte and modified to fit the 1885 Courthouse.

*The Committee evaluated the various systems as follows:*

**Conventional Elevator** - Too expensive and too detrimental to the building.

**Chair Lifts** - Budget friendly, but the lift from the first floor to the second floor would be outside since the first to second floor interior stairway is too narrow. Maintaining an exterior wheelchair lift in the winter months would be problematic and a potential liability with ice and snow conditions.

**Conventional Wheel Chair Ramp** - Based on the required 12 inches of ramp to one inch of rise, the ramp would require over 100 feet of ramp with multiple landings. The overall size of the ramp would be huge and take over the west end of the building and grounds. Also, an exterior ramp would be difficult to maintain during the winter and be a potential liability with ice and snow conditions.

**LULA** - The committee recommendation at this point is to get more information about the LULA elevator system and get a firm quote for a design/engineering fee. Once received, the committee will come back to the CSA Board of Directors with a recommendation.



## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

### Level of Annual Giving

#### INDIVIDUALS

Docent	\$25-\$ 99
Archivist	\$100-\$499
Curator	\$500-\$999
Director	\$1,000 +



#### BUSINESS

Scholars (1)	\$250-\$ 499
Historian (2)	\$500-\$999
Conservator I (3)	\$1,000-\$2,499
Conservator II(4)	\$2,500 +

*Number in parenthesis indicates quantity of 1/4 ads in the Ledger*

I would like to ensure the future of the Courthouse Square by becoming a member of the Courthouse Square Association at the \_\_\_\_\_ Level of giving. I agree to make a contribution of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ and in return received the benefits of membership at that level.

Check here for an additional \$5 donation to the Children's summer camp scholarship fund.

### MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
First Last

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Address City, State Zip

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_  
*Please print clear*

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I would like to receive The Ledger, invitations to events and exhibits, membership reminders and other notifications via email.

Please make checks payable to and mail to  
 Courthouse Square Association, Inc.  
 P.O. Box 411 Charlotte, MI 48813

Let us help you Make your Dream of a Perfect Wedding  
Down Memory Lane become a reality!



Above is the restored Circuit Courtroom of the Historic 1885 Courthouse which is a perfect setting for a wedding! The Courtroom has a capacity for up to 180 guests as well as a dressing room for the bride. There are also other rooms available from one room to the entire building and grounds for your special event.

### RENTAL PRICING

\$250 Historic 1885 Courthouse ( Above)

\$100 Historic 1845 Courthouse ( Below)



This Historic 1845 Courthouse offers a \$100 Wedding Special ( weekend access.)

This location is in a beautiful setting located next to Bennett Park and has a capacity for up to 80 people.

Contact the CSA office today for reservations at:

**Courthouse Square Association**

100 W. Lawrence Ave. Charlotte, MI 48813 P.O. Box 411 Phone 517-5436999



**Eaton County's Museum at  
Courthouse Square**  
100 W. Lawrence Avenue  
PO Box 411  
Charlotte, MI 48813

WWW.CSAMUSEUM.NET



*Keeping History Alive on The Square!*

Courthouse Square Association is open Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday & Saturday from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. Other times can be arranged for special events and by appointment.

**Museum Admission**

\$1.00 pp  
Children 12 and under free  
CSA Members Free  
Group & Family rates available!

We are happy to make special arrangements with sufficient notice. Please call the museum office at 517-543-6999 for more information. You can always email us at [csamuseum@yahoo.com](mailto:csamuseum@yahoo.com).

## FOR YOUR INFORMATION

The Eaton County Genealogical Society is also located in the 1885 Courthouse and is open Tuesday thru Thursday from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. Call ECGS at 517-543-8792 for more information.

Other businesses located in the 1885 Courthouse include:

- ◆ *Johnson's Framing*
- ◆ *Ann Prater Attorney & Counselor at Law*
- ◆ *Alpha Video & Computer Services*

Located inside the 1873 Sheriff's Resident adjacent to the Courthouse are:

- ◆ *PotterVilla Applied Technology*
- ◆ *Courtney Emerson, LMSW*

Remember to bring your family and friends to your favorite Museum!

*Printing of this publication provided by The County Journal*