

# *FESTIVALS OF EATON COUNTY*

## JANUARY

## FEBUARY

## MARCH

St. Patrick's Day Festival - March 13 &14, 2009

- Downtown Grand Ledge
- <http://www.glstpats.org/>
- Started in 2002 by four Grand Ledge neighbors of varying Irish descent the festival has grown to 30 floats and over 3,500 in attendance. Mid Michigan's only St. Patrick's Day Parade!

## APRIL

Vermontville Maple Syrup Festival - Always the last full weekend in April

- Downtown Vermontville
- <http://vermontvillemaplesyrupfestival.org>
- For 69 years the syrup festival has had something for everyone from Mid-America rides, two parades, arts and crafts and free entertainment to Maple syrup, candy and crème.

## MAY

Victorian Days – 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday in May

- Downtown Grand Ledge and Maypole Park
- [www.victoriandays.org](http://www.victoriandays.org)

## JUNE

Gizzard Fest - June 12-14, 2009

- Downtown Potterville
- <http://www.gizzardfest.com/gizzardfest.htm>
- Krispy the chicken mascot along with all of Potterville invites you to Gizzard Fest. Three day celebrations filled with parades, amusement rides, arts, crafts, antique tractors, live entertainment and yes, even a gizzard eating contest! Fun for the whole family.

Yankee Doodle Days - June 18-20, 2009

- Downtown Grand Ledge
- (517) 627- 2383
- A wonderful three day festival in late June celebrating our Independence

Celebrate Charlotte - Always held Father's Day weekend

- Downtown Charlotte, Charlotte Airport
- Celebrate Charlotte with a Friday night car show, Saturday arts and crafts and entertainment for all ages. A Saturday night balloon glow and a Sunday AM launch accompanied by a pancake breakfast finishes off this special weekend.
- <http://www.celebratecharlotte.net>

Delta Rocks! Family Festival - 4th Saturday in June

- Sharp Park, 1401 Elmwood Road (Free shuttle from the Lansing Mall Parking lot 11am -7pm)
- (517) 323-8555 [www.deltami.gov/parks/Events/DR](http://www.deltami.gov/parks/Events/DR)
- This festival is designed to provide affordable fun for the entire family with an emphasis on children. Everything from pony rides to the Monkey Motion Quad Jumper is here for family fun

Charlotte Bluegrass Festival - June 25-27<sup>th</sup>, 2009

- Eaton County Fairgrounds
- The oldest continuous Bluegrass Festival in Michigan. Come join us for great company and music in its 37<sup>th</sup> year.

Dam Festival - June 27& 28, 2009

- 635 State St. Eaton Rapids
- (517) 663-3288
- Dam Tours, Arts and Crafts Show, Car Show, 5k run, Children's activities, Funny Boat Race, Live Music, Pedal Tractor Pull plus lots of great food and ice cream.

## JULY

Delta Township Fireworks - July 3<sup>rd</sup> (rain date July 5<sup>th</sup>)

- Sharp Park, 1401 Elmwood Rd., Delta Township
- Held for over 41 years, Delta Township's fireworks have grown to become the best display in the Greater Lansing Area.
- (517) 323-8555 [www.deltami.gov/parks](http://www.deltami.gov/parks)

Eaton County Fair - July 13<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>

- Eaton County Fairgrounds, Charlotte
- From rides and harness racing to a collection of outstanding 4H exhibits there something for everyone at the fair!
- <http://eatoncountyfair.com/>

Bellevue Athletic Boosters Car and Truck Show - 2<sup>nd</sup> weekend of July

- Downtown Bellevue
- Come enjoy historic downtown Bellevue, join a Street Dance, view a vintage Car Show and play in the local Golf Tournament
- Les Greenfield (269) 763-2247

Ledges Classic Auto and Craft Show – 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of July 9a.m. – 4 p.m.

- Car Show, Craft Show, New Car Display
- Concessions offered by the Lions Club and A&W
- [www.eatoncountyparks.org](http://www.eatoncountyparks.org)
- 517-627-7351

Dancing Cranes Pow Wow - Last weekend of July

- next to the middle school complex
- Construction in 2009 may relocate this event
- Experience an authentic Pow Wow. This outstanding event is both educational and enjoyable!
- Frankie Snyder or Lisa Boyd (269) 763-3197

Olivet Fireman's Festival - Last weekend of July

- Downtown Olivet
- Parade, Tractor, Car, Truck and Motorcycle show and much, much more!
- (269) 749-4085

## AUGUST

Island Art Fair – 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday in August

- Grand Ledge's Island Park
- Julie Beaver at (517) 944-1439 or Marilyn Smith (517) 627-9843
- The best and oldest one day Art Fair in Mid-Michigan with 130 artists and craftsmen.

Antique Engine & Machinery Show - 2<sup>nd</sup> weekend of August

- Downtown Bellevue
- Bernie Holcomb (269) 763-9324

## SEPTEMBER

- Frontier Days - Always the weekend after Labor Day
- Charlotte Downtown and Eaton County Fairgrounds
  - A Tradition for over 38 years, this celebration is Charlotte largest! The event kicks off with the Saloon ribbon cutting on Wednesday and grows from there. Over 40,000 people come for the entertainment, shopping, food, parade and the professional Rodeo!

## OCTOBER

- Color Cruise and Island Festival - October 10, 11 & 12, 2009
- Island Park and Downtown
  - (517) 627-2383
  - A wonderful three day event in early October celebrating our beautiful Michigan fall colors and activities. Located on Grand Ledge's historic Island and Downtown.

- Harvest Festival and Apple Fest - October 17<sup>th</sup>, 2009
- Miller Farm, 635 State Street, Eaton Rapids
  - (517) 663-3288
  - Eaton Rapids and Boy Scout Museum, lessons in a one room school house, music in the barn, quilt show, pumpkin painting, wood carving, petting zoo plus farm machinery and tool displays.

- Sandhill Crane and Art Festival - 2<sup>nd</sup> weekend in October
- Bakers Sanctuary, Bellevue
  - [www.bakersanctuary.org](http://www.bakersanctuary.org)

## NOVEMBER

## DECEMBER

- Charlotte Lighted Parade – November 23<sup>rd</sup>
- Come visit the lit and live parade as it travels through downtown Charlotte. Watch Santa arrive at the Historic 1885 Courthouse on a fire truck
  - [Charlottechamber-mi.org](http://Charlottechamber-mi.org)

- Grand Ledge Christmas Parade – December 4<sup>th</sup>
- Downtown Grand Ledge / Sun Theater
  - (517) 627-2383
  - Family fun to kick off the Holiday Season, including a Lighted Float Parade through town ending with Santa at the Sun Theater
  - [grandledgemi.com](http://grandledgemi.com)

Eaton Rapids Hometown Family Christmas – First Saturday in December

- Downtown Eaton Rapids/Island
- (517) 663-6480
- Come see the island alive with lights and join us for the Holiday Lights Parade
- [eatonrapidschamber.com](http://eatonrapidschamber.com)

Bellevue's Family Night with Santa – December 5<sup>th</sup>

- Choirs, a puppet show, and a parade beginning at 5:00 p.m.
- Come visit Santa in a great hometown setting at the Bellevue Hardware 5-8 pm.
- [Dblack5278@aol.com](mailto:Dblack5278@aol.com)
- 269-841-6830

\*\*\*\* Did we miss one? Please contact Julie Kimmer 517(543-6999) or [preserve@ia4u.net](mailto:preserve@ia4u.net) to add your information, Thanks!

7/03/09