

FESTIVALS OF EATON COUNTY

JANUARY

FEBUARY

MARCH

St. Patrick's Day Festival – Saturday before St. Patricks Day

- 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 – 1st Saturday in May

- Downtown Grand Ledge and Maypole Park
- www.victoriandays.org

JUNE

Gizzard Fest – Second weekend June

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

Yankee Doodle Days – Third weekend in June

- 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
- 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 – Last Thursday, Friday and Saturday in June

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

JULY

Delta Township Fireworks - July 3rd (rain date July 5th)

- 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

Eaton County Fair – Second full weekend in July

- 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 - 2nd 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 – 2nd 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
 - 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 – 1st Saturday in August
- Grand Ledge's Island Park
 - Julie Beiver 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 - 2nd weekend of August
- Downtown Bellevue
 - Bernie Holcomb (269) 763-9324

Dam Festival – Weekend prior to Labor Day

- 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.

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 – Second weekend in October

- 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 – 2nd weekend in October

- 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 - 2nd weekend in October

- Bakers Sanctuary, Bellevue
- www.bakersanctuary.org

NOVEMBER

Charlotte Lighted Parade – Monday prior to Thanksgiving

- 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

DECEMBER

Grand Ledge Christmas Parade – First Friday in December

- 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

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

Bellevue's Family Night with Santa – First Saturday in December

- 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
- 269-841-6830

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

7/03/09