**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: January 23, 2018**

**Gratiot Area Chamber Celebrates Businesses**

Gratiot County, Michigan

The Gratiot Area Chamber of Commerce held its annual Good Morning Gratiot breakfast on Friday, January 19. The event celebrates and recognizes business investment in Gratiot County. A total of 33 New Business Awards, 27 Business Improvement Awards, and 3 Industry Awards were distributed. In conjunction with the Gratiot Area Chamber, the New Business and Business Improvement Awards were presented by the Alma Action Association, the Ithaca Promotional Committee, and the Middle of the Mitten Association (St. Louis) based on where the business is located. The Breckenridge Area Action Committee presented Gold Brick Awards for those businesses completing a full year in business. Greater Gratiot Development, Inc. presented Industry Awards to various industrial companies for their significant investments in Gratiot County. Businesses receiving awards are as follows:

Alma Action Association—New Business/New Owner Awards: Belleza Hair Designs, Carolyn’s Cakes and Confectionary, Century 21, Chasing Fireflies Children and Women’s Boutique, Gratiot Psychological Services, Ken’s Culligan, Mortar Crossfit by BRICKK Fitness, Muffler Man, Night Owl Tattoo, Studio 9, and Treasures. Business Improvement Awards: Alma Barber Shop/Hair Studio, Alma College, Alma Community Art Center, Alma Heritage Dentistry, Alma Realty Company, Avalon & Tahoe Manufacturing, Inc., Commercial Bank, Consumers Energy, GLD Properties, Katie Tobias—State Farm Insurance, Lalonde Hair Studio, Little Caesars Pizza-Alma, Masonic Pathways, Mercantile Bank of Michigan, MidMichigan Medical Center-Gratiot, MidMichigan Medical Center-Gratiot 2017 Growth Project Volunteers, Pizza 1 One, Sky Convenience Store, and Wendy’s of Alma.

Breckenridge Area Action Committee-Gold Brick Awards: Bart Stoneman—Farm Bureau Insurance Agency, Bradey Neitzke—Gratiot Outdoor Equipment, Cupcake Creations, Dollar General, and Faith’s Treasure Box.

Ithaca Promotional Committee—New Business/New Owner Awards: Aleck & Jenkins Law Office, Classy Kids Closet, The Hearthstone Oven, Ithaca Animal Hospital, The Keg, Ramm-Tac Group, and Unique Boutiques Loft. Business Improvement Awards: City of Ithaca, Gratiot County Drain Commission, and The Hardwoods Bowling and Banquet Center.

St. Louis Middle of the Mitten Association—New Business/New Owner Awards: All the Right Junk Urban Market, Blue Moon Boutique & Alterations, The Car Salon, Energy Plus Home Improvements, MAC TV, Mandi & Sarah Photography, River View Place Senior Apartments, Sweet Rickedy Redos, Tease Hair Salon & Boutique, and The Shop Graphics & Design. Pride (Business Improvement) Awards: Chemical Bank, Granger, Hidden Oaks Golf Course, MAC TV, Recovery Unlimited, and Sweet Rickedy Redos.

Greater Gratiot Development, Inc. Industry Awards: Apex Marine, Inc. (St. Louis), Avalon & Tahoe Manufacturing, Inc. (Alma), and ZFS Ithaca, LLC (Ithaca).

For more information, please contact the Gratiot Area Chamber of Commerce at (989) 463-5525.

Enclosed: Group photos of award recipients by: Alma Business Improvement, Alma New Business Awards, Ithaca Business Improvement, Ithaca New Business Awards, St. Louis Business Improvement, St. Louis New Business Awards, Breckenridge Gold Brick Awards, and Greater Gratiot Industry Awards.

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