

Gratiot County: Explore Where You Live

2017 Monthly Calendar



39 Years of Serving the Gratiot Community!



**Greater Gratiot
Development, Inc.**

136 South Main, Ithaca, MI 48847

Ph: (989) 875-2083

www.gratiot.org



ZFS Ithaca, LLC

Ithaca, Michigan

ZFS Ithaca, LLC recently announced plans for a soybean processing plant with grain receiving, grain storage, and feed ingredients transloading capabilities.

Expected jobs: 74 full-time jobs

Expected investment: \$129 million

Expected operation date: Late 2018 / Early 2019



www.zfsinc.com



Zeeland Farm Services, Inc. in Zeeland (right) is currently the only soybean processing facility in the state and handles 10 million bushels per year (10% of Michigan's soybean production). ZFS Ithaca will be built on a 435-acre site (above) to process 40 million bushels per year.



- Positive local effects:
- Job opportunities
 - Higher commodity prices for producers
 - Lower cost livestock feed
 - Increased tax base
 - Strengthened utility services (electric, gas)
 - Potential to attract complementary businesses

The following organizations have assisted in the development of this project: the City of Ithaca, North Star Township, Gratiot County, Greater Gratiot Development, Inc., Gratiot County Road Commission, Gratiot County Drain Commissioner, Michigan Department of Transportation, Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, Michigan Works!, Michigan Economic Development Corporation, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Consumers Energy, and Great Lakes Central Railroad.

January 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 New Year's Day Kwanzaa ends Hanukkah ends	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	1	2	3	4

Collaborating to shape the Gratiot Community....



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Notes:



Redevelopment and Reuse: St. Louis City Hall

Before



Completed in 2015, the new St. Louis City Hall is a prime example of an adaptive reuse project. The building, which now houses the St. Louis City Offices, Police Department, and Community Center, was renovated from a vacant grocery store. The old City Hall had numerous issues, so the City planned for this transition for years. The total project cost was \$2.5 million: 35% from City savings & 65% from a USDA Rural Development low-interest loan. The Gratiot County Community Foundation contributed funding for tables, chairs, and appliances for the Community Center.

The City also addressed the need for a grocery store by transferring ownership of another City-owned building to new grocery store owners. The Corner Market now fills the community's needs. Additionally, The Bakers Dozen located downtown to supplement the grocery store's offerings. Finally, the St. Louis Area Fire Department (formerly housed in the old City Hall) was able to develop a new facility thanks to community and grant support. See the month of May for more information on the St. Louis Area Fire Department project.



After



February 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14 Valentine's Day	15	16	17	18
19	20 Presidents' Day	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	1	2	3	4

Collaborating to shape the Gratiot Community....



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Notes:

INTEGRITY

FAB & MACHINE INC.

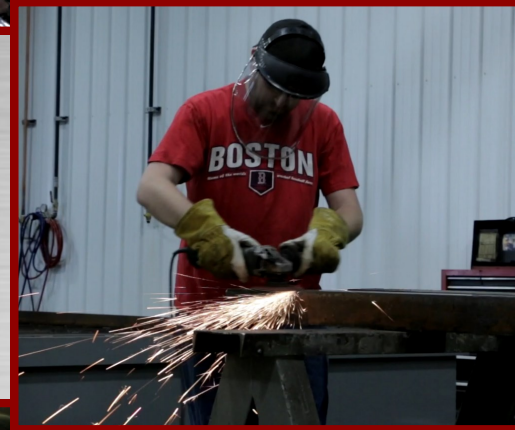
Breckenridge, MI (Breckenridge Industrial, Technology and Agribusiness Park)

Employees: 64

Established: 2007

Integrity Fab offers a wide variety of fabricating, welding, and machining capabilities.

2016 Project: \$1.8 million dollar expansion project including new equipment and a 34,950 square foot addition to manufacturing and office space.



"In Gratiot County, the collaborative efforts from educational systems, government entities, private businesses, and community banks truly make a difference for business development. We would not have been able to locate and expand our plant in Breckenridge without the joint efforts of Isabella Bank, the Small Business Administration, the Village of Breckenridge, and Greater Gratiot Development, Inc."

-Kirk Smith, President

www.ifabm.com

March 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12 Daylight Saving Time (Start)	13	14	15	16	17 St. Patrick's Day	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	1

Collaborating to shape the Gratiot Community....



**Greater Gratiot
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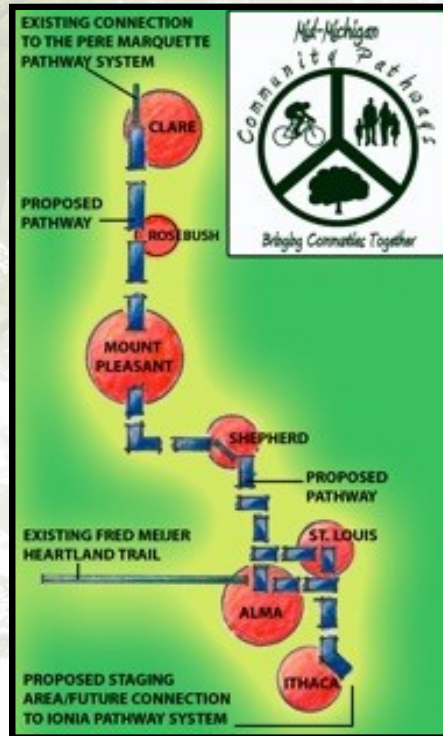
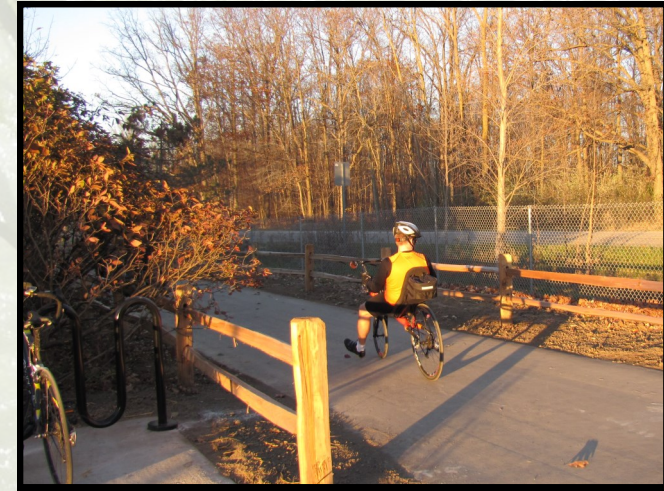
136 South Main, Ithaca, MI 48847
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Notes:



The US Highway-127 Bike Trail, completed in 2016, is a paved 6.6-mile non-motorized pathway that runs along the east side of the freeway from Ithaca to Alma. This trail is part of the efforts of Mid-Michigan Community Pathways, a group that seeks to establish a cohesive non-motorized route from Ithaca to Clare. The path was made possible with construction costs (\$2.1 million) funded by a grant from the Michigan Department of Transportation's Transportation Alternatives Program and engineering costs (\$150,000) funded by the cities of Alma, Ithaca, and St. Louis, the townships of Arcada, Fulton, and Pine River, Gratiot County, Gratiot County Parks & Recreation, Gratiot County Community Foundation, and Dick Allen.

www.midmichpathways.org



April 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11 First Day of Passover	12	13	14 Good Friday	15
16 Easter	17	18 Passover ends	19	20	21	22 Earth Day
23	24	25	26 Administrative Professionals' Day	27	28	29
30	1	2	3	4	5	6

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Notes:



In 2016, the St. Louis Area Fire Department completed construction of a 9,000 square foot facility in St. Louis. The Fire Department is unique in that it serves multiple governmental units: the City of St. Louis, Bethany Township, Jasper Township (in Midland County), and Pine River Township. The \$1.2 million project was made possible with grants from the Herbert H. and Grace A. Dow Foundation, the Rollin M. Gerstacker Foundation, the Charles J. Strosacker Foundation, the Gratiot County Community Foundation, and the collaboration and contributions of the municipal units mentioned above.

After



To construct the new facility, a former transmission shop was demolished, and the under-utilized site was redeveloped. The attractive building includes modern updates to address the need for space to house equipment and to increase energy efficiency.



Before



May 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14 Mother's Day	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26 Alma Highland Festival	27 Alma Highland Festival First Day of Ramadan
28 Alma Highland Festival	29 Memorial Day	30	31	1	2	3

Collaborating to shape the Gratiot Community....



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Notes:



MidMichigan Health
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN HEALTH SYSTEM

Gratiot Family Medicine Residency Program

**MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY**
College of Human Medicine

The MSU/MidMichigan Medical Center—Gratiot Family Medicine Residency Program, located in Alma, Michigan, is focused on rural, community-based hospital and clinical practice. Each year, the program will welcome four new residents as they begin a 36-month educational journey that will guide them to the start of their family medicine careers. Resident physicians are recent medical school graduates with the most up-to-date training and will serve patients of all ages at the Family Practice Center in Alma and inpatients at MidMichigan Medical Center—Gratiot. This program is important to Gratiot County. The need for family physicians is greater than ever, especially in rural areas.



MidMichigan Medical Center—Gratiot



Family Practice Center—Alma



The first four residents of the 2016 Program.

Residents in top picture (left to right):

- Nayab Qureshi, M.D.
- Robina Ahmad, M.D.
- Abigail Ducheine, M.D.
- Robert Reichmann, M.D.



www.midmichigan.org

June 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28	29 Memorial Day	30	31	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18 Father's Day	19	20	21	22	23	24
25 Ramadan ends	26	27	28	29	30	1

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Notes:

Celebrating Agriculture: Rural Urban Day

Rural Urban Day is an annual community picnic that has been held in Gratiot County for over 40 years. At the event, over 1,000 people come together to celebrate the inherent bond that exists between the rural and urban communities in Gratiot County. In addition to the delicious steak fry dinner, attendees can also enjoy live music, a petting zoo, and a classic car & tractor show. Annual awards for Farm Family of the Year and Agribusiness of the Year are also celebrated at this event. For more information, contact the Gratiot Area Chamber.



July 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
25 Ramadan ends	26	27	28	29	30	1
2	3	4 Independence Day	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20 Rural Urban Day	21	22
23 Parents' Day	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31	1	2	3	4	5

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Notes:

Alma College Hogan Center

Alma College recently completed a 12,000 sq. ft. expansion to the Hogan Athletic Center that will provide additional strength and conditioning space for all students and multi-functional practice space for the wrestling team. The \$3.5 million project was funded entirely by donor contributions, including \$1 million each from alumni and Board of Trustee members Greg Hatcher ('83) and Michael Sherman ('74).



The expansion is a visually appealing two-story glass structure that faces the Fred Meijer Heartland Trail and Wright Avenue.



The renovations also included a new Integrative Physiology and Health Science lab, practice space for the Cheer/STUNT program, and updated locker rooms.

Nearly 40% of Alma's students participate in at least one of the 25 varsity sports offered at Alma!



A

Go Scots!

August 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31	1	2

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Notes:



The Agri-Fit Challenge is a 5K obstacle course and trail run held annually by the Gratiot Area Chamber of Commerce. The event involves agriculture-related obstacles for children and adults:

- Bale Out (climbing over round hay bales)
- Mud Crawl
- Pipe Dream (crawling in drainage tube)
- Tractor Pull (pulling tractor tires)
- Traction Torture (running through a loaded semi)
- Ladder Up (climbing over pod boxes)
- Pack Mule (carrying seed bags)
- Ring of Fire (jumping over fire)

For more information, visit
www.gratiot.org



September 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
3	4 Labor Day	5	6	7	8	9
10 Grandparents' Day	11 Patriot Day	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21 First Day of Rosh Hashanah	22 Rosh Hashanah ends	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

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Notes:



Gratiot County Quilt Trail

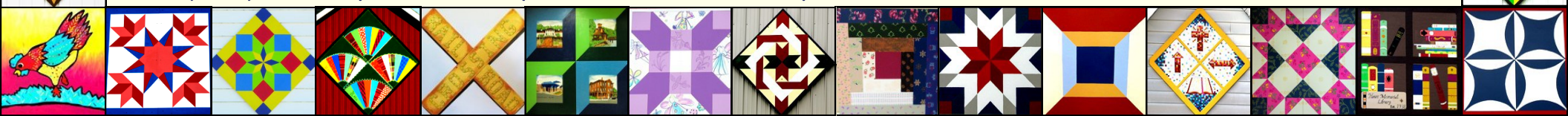
Est. 2015

The Gratiot County Quilt Trail consists of over 50 unique quilt squares hung on local farms, homes, and businesses around the County. The tourist attraction encourages tourists to explore the countywide trail and support local businesses along the way. Each square is individually designed for the establishment it represents, and these descriptions are available on the website. For more information about touring or joining the Quilt Trail, visit

www.gratiotcountyquilttrail.com



*All 50 quilt squares are represented on this page (either on the border or in photos). Photos courtesy of Becky Dickman.



October 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9 Columbus Day	10	11	12	13	14
15	16 National Boss's Day	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30 Yom Kippur	31 Halloween	1	2	3	4

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Notes:

GARR TOOL

High Performance Carbide Cutting Tools

Pine River Township, Michigan

Employees: 138

Established: 1944

Garr Tool manufactures high performance solid carbide cutting tools around the globe.

2016 Project: 28,000 sq. ft. building expansion to enhance packaging, shipping, and receiving capabilities.



Garr Tool's facility is now over 200,000 sq. ft.!

"As we are growing our global market and have recently expanded our facility, we continue to appreciate the friendly business atmosphere and professional services available here in Gratiot County."

-John C. Leppien, President

www.garrtool.com

November 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29	30 Yom Kippur	31 Halloween	1	2	3	4
5 Daylight Saving Time (End)	6	7	8	9	10	11 Veterans Day
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23 Thanksgiving	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	1	2

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Notes:



Support the Downtowns of Gratiot County

Gratiot County downtown areas in Alma, Ashley, Breckenridge, Ithaca, and St. Louis are festive environments that offer everything needed to make the holiday season magical: picturesque seasonal decorations, appetizing dining options, unique shopping opportunities, & merry holiday celebrations.

Come Home to Alma for the Holidays



www.ci.alma.mi.us

Ithaca's Hometown Christmas



www.ithacami.com

St. Louis Small Town Family Christmas



www.downtownstlouismi.com

Christmas in the Village of Breckenridge



www.breckenridgemi.com

Ashley Country Christmas



www.ashleyvillage.org

December 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28	29	30	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13 First Day of Hanukkah	14	15	16
17	18	19	20 Hanukkah ends	21	22	23
24 Christmas Eve	25 Christmas Day	26 Kwanzaa begins	27	28	29	30
31 New Year's Eve	1 New Year's Day Kwanzaa ends	2	3	4	5	6

Collaborating to shape the Gratiot Community....



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Notes:

Michigan Certified Business Parks

Business development projects are only possible if sufficient appropriate land is available. Gratiot County boasts five Michigan Certified Business Parks. Certified Business Parks are typically government-owned and have readily available municipal services and aesthetically pleasing features. These combined factors make for a streamlined development process. Certified Business Parks are promoted internationally by the Michigan Economic Developers Association and the Michigan Economic Development Corporation.

Alma Industrial Park
 Breckenridge Industrial, Technology and Agribusiness Park
 Ithaca Industrial Park
 St. Louis Woodside Industrial Centre
 South Ithaca Industrial Park



MICHIGAN CERTIFIED BUSINESS PARK

For map downloads, scan the smartphone QR code or visit www.gratiot.org



Alma Industrial Park

Alma, Gratiot County, Michigan, USA | Updated: August 2016

For more information on available properties or current companies, click on the available parcel or company logo.

Legend
 Available building
 Available site
 Park boundaries
 Established lot line
 Combination lot line



City of Alma (989) 463-0336
 525 E. Superior St.
 Alma, MI 48802
www.ci.alma.mi.us

Greater Gratiot Development, Inc.
 136 South Main, Ithaca, MI 48847
 Ph: (989) 875-2083
www.gratiot.org

For more information on Gratiot County's 5 Certified Business Parks, visit www.gratiot.org or Scan this Smartphone QR Code:

WOLVERINE
 989-866-1500
 By: Wolverine Engineers & Surveyors, Inc.

Ithaca Industrial Park

Ithaca, Gratiot County, Michigan, USA | Updated: August 2015

For more information on available properties or current companies, click on the available parcel or company logo.

Legend
 Available building
 Available site
 Park boundaries
 Established lot line
 Combination lot line



City of Ithaca (989) 875-3200
 129 W. Emerson St.
 Ithaca, MI 48847
www.ithacami.com

Greater Gratiot Development, Inc.
 136 South Main, Ithaca, MI 48847
 Ph: (989) 875-2083
www.gratiot.org

For more information on Gratiot County's 5 Certified Business Parks, visit www.gratiot.org or Scan this Smartphone QR Code:

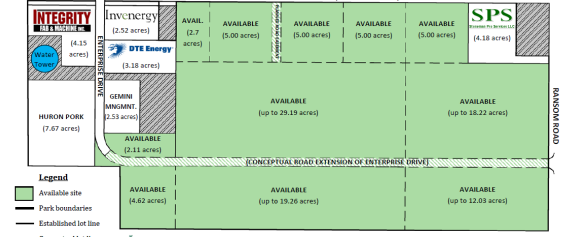
WOLVERINE
 989-866-1500
 By: Wolverine Engineers & Surveyors, Inc.

Breckenridge Industrial, Technology & Agribusiness Park

Breckenridge, Gratiot County, Michigan, USA | Updated: August 2015

For more information on available properties or current companies, click on the available parcel or company logo.

Legend
 Available site
 Park boundaries
 Established lot line
 Conceptual lot line



City of Breckenridge (989) 842-3109
 204 E. Saginaw St.
 Breckenridge, MI 48815
www.breckenridgemi.com

Greater Gratiot Development, Inc.
 136 South Main, Ithaca, MI 48847
 Ph: (989) 875-2083
www.gratiot.org

For more information on Gratiot County's 5 Certified Business Parks, visit www.gratiot.org or Scan this Smartphone QR Code:

WOLVERINE
 989-866-1500
 By: Wolverine Engineers & Surveyors, Inc.

St. Louis Woodside Industrial Centre

St. Louis, Gratiot County, Michigan, USA | Updated: December 2016

For more information on available properties or current companies, click on the available parcel or company logo.

Legend
 Available site
 Available building
 Park boundaries
 Established lot line
 Combination lot line
 Conceptual lot line



City of St. Louis (989) 682-2137
 300 N. Main St.
 St. Louis, MI 48880
www.stlouismi.com

Greater Gratiot Development, Inc.
 136 South Main, Ithaca, MI 48847
 Ph: (989) 875-2083
www.gratiot.org

For more information on Gratiot County's 5 Certified Business Parks, visit www.gratiot.org or Scan this Smartphone QR Code:


WOLVERINE
 989-866-1500
 By: Wolverine Engineers & Surveyors, Inc.

South Ithaca Industrial Park

Ithaca, Gratiot County, Michigan, USA | Updated: August 2015

For more information on available properties or current companies, click on the available parcel or company logo.

Legend
 Available site
 Park boundaries
 Established lot line
 Combination lot line
 Conceptual lot line



City of Ithaca (989) 875-3200
 129 W. Emerson St.
 Ithaca, MI 48847
www.ithacami.com

Greater Gratiot Development, Inc.
 136 South Main, Ithaca, MI 48847
 Ph: (989) 875-2083
www.gratiot.org

For more information on Gratiot County's 5 Certified Business Parks, visit www.gratiot.org or Scan this Smartphone QR Code:

WOLVERINE
 989-866-1500
 By: Wolverine Engineers & Surveyors, Inc.

Your Team for Success

Successful economic development coordinates many activities and players within a market area to create a business-friendly environment. Long-term success depends on consistent engagement year after year.

GGDI is proud to be a partner of the Michigan Economic Development Corporation. Statewide business information may be found at www.michiganbusiness.org

GGDI is pleased to work with all local municipalities. The principal local partners working with GGDI include:



City of Alma

Phillip Moore, City Manager
pmoore@ci.alma.mi.us
Aeric Ripley, Downtown Development
aripley@ci.alma.mi.us
(989) 463-8336

Gratiot Area Chamber of Commerce

Taryn Blanshan, Executive Director
chamberdirector@gratiot.org
(989) 463-5525

Pine River Township

Kevin Beeson, Township Supervisor
supervisor@pinerivertwp.org
(989) 681-5523

Village of Ashley

Ann Paksi, Village President
ashleyvillage@bearnnet.net
(989) 847-3050

Gratiot County

Tracey Cordes, County Administrator
tcordes@gratiotmi.com
(989) 875-5261

City of St. Louis

Kurt Giles, City Manager
kgiles@stlouismi.com
Phil Hansen, Downtown Development
phansen@stlouismi.com
(989) 681-2137

Village of Breckenridge

Jeff Ostrander, Village Manager
manager@breckenridgemi.com
(989) 842-3109

City of Ithaca

Chris Yonker, City Manager
manager@ithacami.com
(989) 875-3200

**GGDI works with all local units of government as opportunities arise. Examples include countywide master planning and commercial-scale wind energy development. Both required extensive countywide coordination.*

APRIL

www.midmichigan.org

The City of Mid-Michigan is pleased to announce the completion of the new 12,000 sq. ft. Community Center. This new facility will provide a safe and secure environment for the community's youth and will provide a place for the community to gather and socialize.

Mid-Michigan Community Development is proud to announce the completion of the new 12,000 sq. ft. Community Center. This new facility will provide a safe and secure environment for the community's youth and will provide a place for the community to gather and socialize.

MARCH

www.fab.com

INTEGRITY FAB & MACHINE INC.

Completed in 2017, the new 12,000 sq. ft. Community Center is a prime example of an adaptive reuse project. The building was renovated from a vacant storefront. The old City Hall had numerous issues, so the City purchased the building for \$1 million. The old project was a 2.5 million sq. ft. building. The City also addressed the need for a grocery store by transferring ownership to a private contractor. The new building is a prime example of an adaptive reuse project.

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FEBRUARY

St. Louis City Hall

Redevelopment and Reuse:

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JANUARY

ZFS Hockel, LLC

Manufacturing

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MAY

Before

After

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JUNE

MidMichigan Health

Gratiot Family Medicine Residency Program

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JULY

Celebrating Agriculture: Rural Urban Day

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AUGUST

Alma College

Hogan Center

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SEPTEMBER

For more information visit

www.gratiot.org

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OCTOBER

Gratiot County

High Performance GARR TOOL

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NOVEMBER

Three River Township, Michigan

High Performance GARR TOOL

Completed in 2017, the new 12,000 sq. ft. Community Center is a prime example of an adaptive reuse project. The building was renovated from a vacant storefront. The old City Hall had numerous issues, so the City purchased the building for \$1 million. The old project was a 2.5 million sq. ft. building. The City also addressed the need for a grocery store by transferring ownership to a private contractor. The new building is a prime example of an adaptive reuse project.

DECEMBER

Support the Downtowns of Gratiot County

LOCAL SHOP

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The companies, organizations, and developments highlighted in this calendar are representatives of recent projects, initiatives, and services in Gratiot County. The projects and developments cross the entire county and involve almost all economic sectors. GDI focuses on projects which are of base economic significance. If you have an idea or know of a project opportunity, please contact GDI.



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