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November 2016

Feature Business:
**Zeeland Lumber
and Supply**



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Letter from Jane Clark

President, Michigan West Coast Chamber of Commerce



The City of Zeeland's website suggests that to feel the "Zeel," one should take a stroll down main street and visit any shop or diner where stories are made and shared, and also look to the Fortune 500 companies that call Zeeland home. I would add, "Stop by the West Coast Chamber offices on Main Avenue and say hello!" While the Chamber office in downtown Zeeland has been a fixture for over 20 years, these days it is bustling with even more activity as the entire West Coast Chamber staff has moved in on a full time basis while the downtown Holland office undergoes a "robust renovation," scheduled to be completed in March of 2017.

It's the perfect time to take up residence in downtown Zeeland, as fall and holiday community events gear up, and we have a front row seat. It's also the perfect location to spend quality time with our Zeeland members, who are now just "around the corner." The successes of our featured business, Zeeland Lumber & Supply, downtown businesses such as Board Chair, Doug Vos' stores, corporate neighbors such as Gentex, and our economic development partners at Lakeshore Advantage, demonstrate how the business "Zeel" is thriving in this community. The Chamber prides itself on collaborating to make and share their stories. That's why we're here.

Drop by and see us anytime, and say "hi" when you see us out and about, enjoying the good food and shopping along Main Avenue. We're truly celebrating the "Zeel."

Best Regards,
Jane Clark



Vision:

Building successful businesses that lead to a thriving community.

Mission:

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Feature Business:

ZEELAND LUMBER AND SUPPLY

By Chelsea Hall



Pictured from left to right:
 Chris Heyduk – Marketing Manager
 Mike Dykstra – CEO/President
 AJ Konynebelt – Director of Sales
 Mark VandenBosch – VP Business Development
 Rob Groothuis – CFO
 Chris-Ann Martini – Director of Human Resources

Photography by deVries Photography

History

In 1947, founder of Zeeland Lumber and Supply John VandenBosch started a business with the goal of building pallets and shipping crates for the rebuilding efforts in Europe post World War II. When the rebuilding efforts ended, the facility and lumber were repurposed into a retail lumberyard.

The company has changed and evolved over the span of almost 70 years, most recently in the wake of the recession. Through it all, one thing has remained constant: their mission to build trust in the construction industry through knowledgeable service, innovative solutions and exceptional value.

President/CEO Mike Dykstra began working at Zeeland Lumber and Supply in 1994. “John VandenBosch was my wife’s great-grandfather, who began this business,” he said. “My father-in-law, Herk VandenBosch, was the previous President/CEO.” With a bit of construction knowledge from jobsite experience, Mike felt it was a good opportunity and a good industry to be involved with. He recalled, “I had no idea where this journey would take me; I am grateful and thankful for the opportunity to serve as a leader in this business, and now have ‘sawdust in my veins.’”

The majority of Zeeland Lumber and Supply’s business when Mike came on was lumber packages. “My primary goal was to build the teams, product lines, facilities and equipment to promote and grow our ‘other than lumber’ building materials, including roofing, siding, decking, windows, doors, interior trim and cabinets.”

Today, the company is definitely more than lumber. “Our supply chain partnerships with Andersen windows, Therma-tru doors, Trex decking, Certainteed roofing, James Hardie siding, Kraftmaid cabinets, Louisiana-Pacific, among others, have proven to be successful,” Mike said.

Service

“Our goal is to provide solutions in the construction industry, including lumber and building materials, material estimates and delivery to the jobsite, truss and wall panel component design and manufacturing and labor and material solutions. Our customer segments served include single family and multi-family construction, commercial, agricultural, remodeler and homeowner. It is our goal to add value utilizing the technical expertise of our amazing people to help our customers’ building and remodeling projects be successful. We believe in listening to our customers, and continually improving in all aspects of our business.”
 – Mike Dykstra

Adapt

Like so many businesses across the country, Zeeland Lumber and Supply was affected by the recession, and had to change to survive. “From 2006-2009, our market decreased by roughly 80% in new home construction,” explained Mike. “Because of that, we are a different company now than what we were before the recession.”

2009- Zeeland Lumber and Supply merged with Hamilton Lumber and Truss (now CHS). This strategic merger made them stronger together by combining sales, consolidating operations and merging the value add truss business model.

2010- Mike was promoted to President by the Board of Directors, and the leadership team was restructured.

2011 - The company purchased property in Grand Rapids and moved the truss operation from Hamilton for added capacity.

2012 - Re-branded the company with a new mission statement, core values, logos and the “Build.Trust” tagline.

2012 - Mike was promoted to President/CEO, succeeding his father-in-law, Herk VandenBosch.

2013 - Purchased property in Elkhart, Indiana for added lumberyard and truss operations.

2014 - Purchased property in Waterford, Michigan for more lumberyard and building material capacity and growth.

2014 - Zeeland Lumber and Supply’s 40,000 square foot building and office in Grand Rapids was leveled by a tornado; they rebuilt.

2015 - Expanded to Mishawaka, Indiana.

Thrive

Before the recession, Zeeland Lumber and Supply had one location in Zeeland, with the sole business operation focused on selling and servicing lumber and building materials. “Today, we have five locations and three divisions, including Zeeland Truss and Components and Zeeland Contractor Services,” Mike proudly said. “We have grown from 120 team members in 2009 to over 300 team members currently, with 150 people working in our Zeeland location.” The Zeeland Lumber and Supply locations are in Zeeland, Grand Rapids and Waterford, Michigan, as well as in Elkhart and Mishawaka, Indiana.

Mike shared a story that illustrates how the willingness to be innovative and nimble and respond to customer needs in business is an invaluable asset. “In the depth of the recession, my father-in-law and I were leaving a customer meeting, and developed the strategy on the drive home that turned into our labor division,” he recalled. “We didn’t have all the details worked out, but the concept was there.” Mike credits the company’s growth to listening and responding to customer needs, and having a mindset open to change, to meet the changing market.

Community

“West Michigan is a uniquely collaborative community, where business, non-profit, government and educational institutions are willing to get together and solve problems. We have a great culture and work ethic in West Michigan, which makes it a great place to lead a business. As we have branched out to various other communities, I realize how blessed we are to live, work, learn, and play in West Michigan. When suppliers from around the country visit us, they are always impressed by the Holland/Zeeland area.” — Mike Dykstra

Giving back to the community that has supported them is a priority for Zeeland Lumber and Supply. “We make charitable gifts including money, material donations and time to several charitable organizations,” shared Mike “Building community is one of our core values and we do this internally as well as in the greater community.”

Strengthening and giving back to their team members through company activities is part of the Zeeland Lumber and Supply culture. “We build community through fun outings such as golf and bowling events, West Michigan White Caps games, Grand Rapids Griffins games and others,” Mike said.



Zeeland Lumber and Supply CEO/President
Mike Dykstra



Continued on page 6

Feature Business:
ZEELAND LUMBER AND SUPPLY

Team

"The business has given me the opportunity to learn and network with an amazing group of people. Our leadership team and all of our team members are talented, inspiring, and the reason for our success. It is my job to inspire a vision, and then support that vision by providing resources and taking away hurdles." —Mike Dykstra

Transforming lives and communities through business has been Mike's biggest inspiration. "In many ways, we are able to improve the lives of our employees through opportunity, training, development, promotion and learning," he said. "I feel called to make a positive difference in the lives of our employees, customers, suppliers, shareholders, community and all the stakeholders. This business as a mission has inspired me."

Chamber

"Currently, I serve on the Board of Directors for the West Coast Chamber. I am a proponent of the many services offered by the Chamber and have utilized the networking and educational opportunities provided. Being involved with the Chamber has had a positive impact on Zeeland Lumber and Supply by helping our leadership team be more connected in the community and by increasing our learning with the educational opportunities." —Mike Dykstra

Today

Zeeland Lumber and Supply currently sells everything from siding, doors and roofing materials to windows, cabinets and millwork, and provides services from design and manufacturing to delivery and installation. Said Mike, "We desire to continue the growth of our company throughout the Midwest."

Through a recession, merger and even a tornado, Zeeland Lumber has not only survived but thrived, proving that they can push through adversity. "All of our growth has been a result of going where our customers need us," said Mike, "and striving to be different and better than our competition, and relevant to our customers."

Zeeland Lumber and Supply is located at 146 East Washington Avenue in Zeeland. Reach them by calling 888-772-2119 or visiting www.zeelandlumber.com.

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Feeling Comfortable with Life Insurance

By Andy Spears, Farm Bureau Insurance

Life insurance is not a topic you use to strike up casual conversation. Any discussion about life insurance can involve topics that most people are unfamiliar with, might be a little complicated, or make us uncomfortable. But by not talking about it with your trusted insurance agent and taking time to plan, many families are left vulnerable financially if their breadwinner or caregiver passes away. Consider these facts:

- One in three households would have **immediate trouble paying living expenses** if the primary wage earner died
- Forty-eight percent of households need more life insurance
- 40% haven't bought life insurance or more of it because they're unsure of how much or what type to buy.
- More than 30 million Generation X and Y households said they needed more life insurance in 2012.
- One-third of wives own no life insurance at all.

(Source: LIMRA, 2016)

Many people don't purchase enough life insurance to cover their needs. Of those who do, many end up making critical mistakes by purchasing insurance that is not ideal for them. How can you decide if you need life insurance or what type of coverage is right for you?

Do you need life insurance? If you are young and without dependents, you may not need life insurance. If you plan on having dependents, it is a good idea to buy insurance when you are young and healthy. By doing so, you guarantee your insurability and lock in coverage at the lowest rate. On the other hand, you may also not need life insurance if you're older, have no dependents any longer, have enough

money saved for retirement already, or don't plan on leaving any financial legacy behind after your death. If you don't need life insurance, that's great. If you do, how much do you need?

The appropriate amount: Most of the time, the appropriate level of life insurance coverage is calculated based on two things: 1) specific need or 2) income replacement. A needs-based approach examines the specific impact your death will have on your family (Does your spouse have a job? How many dependents do you have? Is there enough for their education costs in the future? Do you have a mortgage?). These and other factors can help you determine the unique amount of life insurance you may need. Another common way to initially approach your life insurance need is to base it on your income. If, for example, you want to provide a legacy of 10 years of income, you multiply your annual income x 10, it's that simple. (You may also wish to account for inflation, too).

Type of insurance: The two basic types of insurance are term and whole life. On term insurance, you just decide how much coverage you need and the period of time you want that coverage to remain in effect. For example, if you've decided you want \$250,000 of coverage for 10 years. You simply buy a policy for the amount of coverage and span of time you want it. Term insurance has lower premiums than whole life insurance so you're able to purchase the most amount of coverage for the lowest price, knowing it will be gone when the term ends. Some term insurance is convertible. This means you can convert the policy to permanent insurance, without any medical underwriting, so no matter what happens to your health, you can have a permanent policy to protect your family.

Whole life is permanent insurance and comes in many varieties. The greatest advantage of whole life insurance is that it's permanent, and the policy builds cash value and dividends. You also have the option of purchasing whole life insurance with a single payment. The cash values of a whole life policy are available to the policy owner via policy loans or if the policy is surrendered by the policy owner. With its strong guarantees, whole life insurance is good for the person who wants to be sure the policy is there, regardless of when death occurs..

Retirement or Estate Tool

An existing or new life insurance policy can also serve as a tool for families or business owners who wish to augment their future retirement income, cash accumulation within the policy is tax deferred, similar to gains within a 401(k) or IRA. A life insurance policy can assure that estate owners avoid disputes by equalizing inheritances. This is especially important in blended families, where a parent might worry about providing for a spouse while leaving inheritances for children from one or more marriages. It is also important when the estate contains illiquid assets (property, valuable heirlooms or a family business) that are difficult or impossible to divide. Because life insurance proceeds pass outside probate, inheritances go directly and immediately to the named beneficiaries. This simplifies and accelerates the distribution of assets in the event of a death and can be of great financial and emotional comfort to the family.

As you can see, the purchase of life insurance can provide great emotional peace of mind and financial security. There are many options and specific considerations for each family or business situation. Many times it helps to consult with an expert or trusted advisor to go over questions, options, and discover if life insurance is an appropriate option for your family or business.

Andy Spears owns a local insurance agency in the Holland area. His passion is to serve, and provide protection and peace of mind to his clients. Andy can be reached at 616-396-3333, aspears@fbinsmi.com, or through his website, www.InsureWestMichigan.com.

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How to Spin Silicon into Gold

By Mark Kolean, Shoreline Technology Solutions



Every business I know has a back room full of some type of old technology of some type whether it happens to be old desktops, cables, routers, that old phone system or the boss's old laptop. If you are like most people, you may not be sure what to do with it, which explains why it sits in that room not doing anything. You can't throw it away because it probably is worth something. It may also have some of your precious financial data and it's bad for the environment to throw it away. Here are some suggestions on how to turn that trash into cash:

The more obscure something is the more it will be worth

This little technology gem has been the most profitable for me. Items such as old PBX phone systems or high end laptops that haven't been around for a while tend to get quite a bit more money than you would expect because parts are no longer available. Often times an office may need to keep CAD machines running with the same XP laptop that has been sitting in that dusty room for 5 years, they could be willing to pay \$300 or more for that exact one, assuming it is working. Cisco and Mitel phone system parts are also an item that can collect considerable cash on Ebay or Amazon. The key is to sell something that you know is working and has been cleaned to a factory default which may take a little research to figure out how to do. For about an hour of your time, cleaning and listing your part can turn over \$1000-\$2000 of unused backroom junk.

Laptops, tablets and phones

The trend since 2008 has been smaller is better. Someone is always looking for a good deal on one of these little gems. A great way to get value out of your old laptops, tablets, and phones is to trade them in when you upgrade, and get a credit on your account. Iphones and I pads collect the highest value and can be sold direct on the Internet or traded in. Laptops and netbooks that have a Mac OS or Windows 7 can often be traded at a local shop for credit toward another repair or purchase.

So with all of these devices collecting dust, which items are truly not worth your time? It has been my experience that some of these items may cause you more time than they are worth.

Printers

Higher end laser printers used to be a \$1500 expense but with the invention of discounted ink jet printers, fixing a printer hardly seems to be worth the cost. Getting anybody to look at a printer, much less order the gear that broke, is going to cost more than just going and buying another disposable one from the local discount store. If you have a lot of ink or toner purchased for a specific model, consider buying a working used or refurbished printer online as that may be cheaper fix than purchasing yet another set of ink or toner for a new model.

Desktop computers

Desktop PCs have been going out of style for a while now. Unless you have some Windows 7 PCs or newer your best bet is to donate them to a local computer shop to and insist that they will dispose of the data on your behalf.

Cables

It doesn't seem fair, but a \$30 cable on the shelf is complete junk when it hits the back office box. A box of used cable never seems to be something anyone but a computer tech values. With more items being wireless or using just a standard USB cable, it seems to me most of them only fit the one device they were meant to pair with. Throw them away or donate them to a local charity.

With these suggestions you should be able to make enough money to buy the office staff pizza for a month. Happy selling!

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Thinking Big and Being Great at the Chamber Annual Meeting

The “Happy” theme was everywhere at the 2016 West Coast Chamber Annual Meeting luncheon, held on Friday, September 16 at the Laketown Golf & Conference Center. From the music to the smiley face pictures in the room, this gathering of over 500 Chamber members was a happy one. It takes a village to put together an event like this, and the Chamber staff was joined by the staff at Laketown G & CC, the a/v consultants at Corporate Live, florists from Eastern Floral, printing from Schreur Printers, staff from GMB Architecture + Engineering, Ambassadors and Board Members to make the afternoon memorable.

A year of exciting changes, rooted in the focused and purposeful management philosophy of EOS, or the Entrepreneurial Operating System, took the Chamber staff on a journey to specifically identify our niche, our passion, and ultimately, our organization’s core values. With core values that include “learn, innovate and share,” and another to show “contagious energy with a positive attitude,” the Chamber was happy to officially roll out our core values with our members with a fun new video. Members will hear much more about our core values now that the program year is in full swing, and we hope you see them in action in all that we do for you.

An innovation at this year’s event was the introduction of Google Cardboard, the cardboard glasses that pair with smartphones to give the viewer a virtual reality experience. In this instance, we rolled out a 3D-VR view of the interior of the new downtown Holland Chamber offices, which are scheduled to be completed in March of 2017. Ambassadors and staff from renovation project architecture firm, GMB Architecture + Engineering, helped us demonstrate how the technology works and gave members in attendance the opportunity to experience this cool new tool. Several members remarked that they could see a use for this technology in their businesses, which is exactly what GMB said when we first brought it to them. Just some learning and sharing, compliments of the Chamber.

The building renovation was another new project we were excited to share with our members via a video walk through of renderings of both the exterior and the interior. This project has been a long time



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in the planning stages, and our Board Chair, Doug Vos, gave our members a great overview of the scope of the robust renovation.

Special guests of the event included our Business Leadership Award winning companies. Mandi Brower was in attendance to represent Quality Car Wash, and Cliff Meeuwesen accepted the award for Zeeland Farm Services. Both are family companies that make a large footprint both locally and globally in their respective fields, and are wonderful leaders in our business community. Keynote speaker Laura Vanderkam took a poll to see who was the busiest person in the room, and then proceeded to give tips to help us all get our work accomplished more efficiently to give us time to “find” extra hours in our weeks for the things that mean the most to us.

For those who joined us this year, it was a great opportunity to celebrate our business community and the people and companies that work so hard to make West Michigan a great place to live and work. We said thank you to our outgoing Board Chair, Michael Hill, and to all of our board members and sponsors, all of whom make it possible for the Chamber to connect our members to the people and resources they need to grow and succeed on a daily basis. Thanks to all of members for supporting the West Coast Chamber!



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November Calendar of Events

Tuesday, November 1
Seminar: Domestic Violence and Implications in the Workplace

@Howard Miller Community Center, Zeeland

Time 8-11am

Cost: \$45 per Chamber member (\$50 if registered after Oct 28), \$25 for each additional attendee from the same company / \$75 per non-member

Thursday, November 3
TECH Lunch

@Herrick District Library, 300 S River Ave, Holland

The Chamber is dedicated to keeping up to date with current trends in technology, and connecting our members with the experts to help apply these trends to business. It's all about efficiency, productivity, and working smart. This month we feature Windows 10, the windows you already know with great improvements you'll love. Bring along some food and make great use of your lunch break.

Time: 11:30am-1pm

Cost: Free

Tuesday, November 8
Early Bird Breakfast

@Haworth Inn & Conference Center, 225 College Ave, Holland

Don't miss the announcement of this year's Small Business Person of the Year. It's a morning well spent when you attend a Chamber Early Bird Breakfast. Network with your colleagues, meet new ones, and learn about topics that can help your business. Feel free to come even earlier. Pre-coffee networking

begins at 7am.
Time: 7:30-8:30am
Cost: \$20 per Chamber member (\$25 if registered after Nov 6) / \$35 per non-member

Thursday, November 10
Professional Lakeshore Latinas Meeting

@TBD

The Professional Lakeshore Latinas mission is fostering relationships and empowering Latinas through advocacy, service, and professional development. Beverages and light hors d'oeuvres will be provided.

Time: 5:30-7:30pm

Cost: Free

Wednesday, November 16
SMART Lunch

@Howard Miller Community Center, 14 S Church Street, Zeeland

In today's workplace, feedback plays a crucial role in developing talent, improving morale, aligning teams, solving problems and boosting the bottom line. This session will provide coaching on how to internalize feedback constructively, how to manage our resistance to it, and how to engage in feedback conversations with inquiry in order to learn from it. Presenter Mari D. Martin is one of the first consultants worldwide to be trained as a Kolbe Certified™ Consultant. This is a great opportunity to learn and share!

Time: 11:30am-1pm

Cost: Free

Friday, November 18
Public Policy Committee Meeting

@Howard Miller Community Center - East Activity Room, 14 S Church Street, Zeeland

Interested in governmental and political issues? The Public Policy Committee reviews issues of local and regional concern and makes position recommendations to the Board of Directors. Join us monthly for interesting and sometimes lively discussion about the issues that affect you and your business. If interested in more information, please contact Jane Clark.

Time: 8-9:30am

Cost: Free

Monday, November 21
Governmental Affairs Breakfast

@Alpenrose Restaurant, 4 E 8th Street, Holland

Join us for breakfast with our elected state and federal legislators. Ample time is provided for questions and answers.

Time: 7:30-8:30am

Cost: \$20 per Chamber member (\$25 if registered after Nov 18) / \$35 per non-member

Tuesday, November 22
Ambassador Committee Meeting

@Compassionate Heart Ministry, 404 Centerstone Ct., Zeeland

Become active in the West Coast Chamber by joining a committee! The Ambassador Committee develops membership involvement through an array of

events and programs.
Time: 7:50-9am
Cost: Free

Tuesday, November 29
Employer Internship Training

@Hope College, 141 E 12th St, Holland

A well run internship program can do wonderful things for your organization! West Michigan colleges and universities have teamed up with internship expert, Cindy Brown of Hello West Michigan to provide you with two free training opportunities to help your program succeed. These sessions are ideal for organizations looking to start an internship program.

Time: 8:30-10am

Cost: Free

Save the Date!

Monday, December 19
Breakfast with Bill

Mark your calendars now for our premier winter legislative event, Breakfast with Bill Huizenga. This popular event sells out fast, so be sure to register soon. Sponsorship opportunities are also available. See website for details.



For a full listing of events, visit www.westcoastchamber.org/events.

MICHIGAN WEST COAST CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Impact Award: Seeking Nominations

The impact award recognizes a business or organization who undertakes a special project or activity outside their business mission that has an outstanding positive impact on our West Coast Chamber Community.

The action could be for: beautification, trusteeship, education or a caring act. It will involve a sacrifice of time, money, resources or some other element. Tell us who you would nominate! Contact Ann Baarman at 392-2389 or ann@westcoastchamber.org.

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Compassionate Heart Ministry



Randy Lewis, Walgreens Senior Vice President and Compassionate Heart Ministry Executive Director Donna Bunce



The vision for Compassionate Heart Ministry was conceived by its Executive Director Donna Bunce. Donna watched her son Jacob, with mild autism and cognitive impairments, struggle with friendships, relationships and a lack of social opportunities, particularly when he started middle school and wasn't able to have the same fulfillment through friendships as his school peers. She dreamed of a place where people with disabilities would feel safe, valued and accepted, and when she brought her idea to the people at City on a Hill, Compassionate Heart (CH) was born.

It wasn't long before this drop-in facility at City on a Hill outgrew its original space, and as it has grown over the years, it has moved more than once, to continue to serve the needs of the community. CH has grown from serving two participants to serving 200 families throughout West Michigan, and Bunce hopes to double that number in the coming years. To make room for this expansion, a new facility was built and opened in June of 2016, celebrated with a Chamber ribbon cutting event. The new 20,000 square foot space allows for the addition of a gym and commercial kitchen, giving participants expanded programs to enjoy more physical activities and to purchase a home made meal.

Support for this critical community resource comes in all different forms, including special

mentoring and friendship building opportunities. Bunce shared that helping young people with cognitive impairments bridge the relationship-building gap is a volunteer service in which several West Coast Chamber Ambassadors participate on a regular basis. Volunteering and serving in the CH kitchen is another way to spend time with the young clients who depend on the center for social and emotional support.

Bunce says Compassionate Heart's membership in and involvement with the West Coast Chamber has opened doors for her organization and enabled her to do things they might not have been able to do, had they not built relationships with so many businesses in the community. From Chamber friends helping her with her IT needs, to Ambassadors volunteering their time, to the Chamber holding events at the facility, awareness of CH's mission has allowed them to continue to grow. CH receives no government financial support, and is completely funded by corporate and individual donations, and being active in this thriving West Coast Chamber community has made all the difference.

Compassionate Heart Ministry is located at 404 Centerstone Court, in Zeeland. Contact them at 616-834-0501 or at www.compheart.org.



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Quality Car Wash and Zeeland Farm Services Honored with Business Leadership Award from the West Coast Chamber



Quality Car Wash and Zeeland Farm Services were honored with the West Coast Chamber’s prestigious Business Leadership Award. Quality Car Wash Chief Operation Officer, Mandi Brower, accepted one award, and Cliff Meeuwssen, President of Zeeland Farm Services, accepted the other. The award was presented at the Chamber’s Annual Meeting on September 16, before a sold-out crowd of 580 attendees. The luncheon was held at the Laketown Golf & Conference Center.

About Quality Car Wash:

Quality Car Wash is a family-owned business that began over forty years ago. It started in the late 1960s and has grown into the bustling company it is today, employing over 180 team members. Today, Quality Car Wash maintains seven locations in West Michigan.

As the number of locations grew, the need for a great supplier and industry innovations became apparent, and was something the family. When they couldn’t find a solution, they decided they would make it themselves, thus starting Tommy Car Wash Systems. This part of the business designs, manufactures and sells car wash equipment and buildings to clients internationally.

To Quality Car Wash, being a fixture in the community means giving back whenever possible, hosting on-site fundraisers, employee Missions of the Month, and the Helping Hands Program. For this family-owned business, the formula for success is simple: quality products, quality service and quality people.

About Zeeland Farm Services:

Zeeland Farm Services, Inc. is a family-owned and operated business with 65 years of service to the agricultural and transportation industries. It was founded in 1950 by Robert Meeuwssen as Meeuwssen Produce and Grain, and he sold the company to his sons Cliff, Arlen, and Robb in 1992. In 1996, Zeeland Farm Services opened the state’s first soybean processing plant, and, twenty years later, it remains the state’s largest processor.

In 2016, ZFS launched the Great Lakes Ag-Tech Business Incubator website, which provides hands-on, customized services to help farmers, entrepreneurs, and existing businesses commercialize, license, or sell their ag-technology ideas and inventions. For years, the ZFS motto has been “Our Family Working for Your Family,” and values are at the heart everything produced

there. They operate on renewable energy, build with recycled materials, and strive to benefit their customers, community, and the environment. In addition to building LEED-certified administration facilities, ZFS uses landfill gas to power their facilities, and sells the excess energy to Consumers Energy to power homes and businesses in West Michigan. The company is also involved in farmland preservation efforts in West Michigan. With over 250 employees, including 8 Meeuwssen family members, at work at ZFS, they are truly a leader in our business community, and throughout the state.

About the Business Leadership Award:

The Business Leadership award recognizes outstanding Chamber members for being great employers who give back to the community, invest in their facilities and employees, and have a positive history of job growth and retention.

Two of these prestigious awards are given each fall at the annual meeting of the West Coast Chamber. Selection of recipients is a responsibility of the Board of Directors, and winners will receive a “trophy” that is a reflection of this high honor.

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