

OKTOBERFEST WEST MICHIGAN

MEDIA ALERT FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

OKTOBERFEST WEST MICHIGAN

SEPTEMBER 28 & 29, 2012

WHO: The Edelweiss Club of Grand Rapids will host

Oktoberfest West Michigan

Proceeds benefit the **Kids Food Basket** charity of Grand Rapids.

WHAT: *Oktoberfest West Michigan* is a German Heritage Festival of food, beverage and music celebrating the unique culture of Bavarian Germany. Locally produced German foods and **Imported German Beers** pair with the best German bands available. Styled after Old World festivals, this event takes place at John Ball Park in Grand Rapids on **September 28 & 29, 2012**. **Free Admission** and **free parking**, with children's activities, and food and music for all ages. Come eat, play and dance! For more information please go to www.oktoberfestwestmichigan.com

MUSICAL GUESTS

- 1) **Squeeze Box** brings the best in accordion band music from Ohio, played with a contemporary spin. Always a crowd favorite and sure to get your polka on! For more info and schedules, check out www.squeezebox.com
- 2) **Ein Prosit** returns Saturday afternoon. A group of 30+ musicians who love to play German music, they feature the largest group of Alphorns in the United States. The Alphorns will also open festivities on Friday at 5:30. www.einprosit.us
- 3) **The Eschelons** are a 50's-60's local Grand Rapids band. They play upbeat, danceable music for Oktoberfest guests. www.eschelons.com
- 4) **Der Gut German Band** from Conklin, MI entertains with fine time-honored German songs. Pure traditional favorites, played by a delightfully experienced band. This music will make you sentimental for the "old country".
- 5) The **Grand Rapids Accordion Ensemble** keeps things lively with traditional American and German music. This group recently produced a well crafted CD of musical favorites, including popular tunes as well as a medley of Patriotic tunes and traditional Polkas. CDs available.
- 6) Our very own **Edelweiss Choir** leads the singing of many traditional German tavern sing along songs.

~ Visit our website www.oktoberfestwestmichigan.com for complete music schedule ~

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CHILDREN'S BOUNCE AREA

Oktoberfest will feature the **BOUNCER'S AND MORE** children's play area. Five fantastic bounce play features are open from **5 - 10:00 PM Friday and Noon to 10:00PM Saturday**. Reasonable wristband prices for all day fun! Kids love it!

WHERE:

John Ball Park Picnic Area - look for the big tents (**FREE** parking & **FREE** admission)
1300 W. Fulton St
Grand Rapids, MI 49501
Phone: 616.336.4301 Email: info@johnballzoosociety.org

** Dash Bus TBA normally runs from GR Lot #9 to John Ball Park 6-11 FRI, 5-11 SAT

WHEN: Friday and Saturday, September 28 & 29, 2012 Noon to 11:00 PM

Opening Ceremonies ~ Traditional Bavarian Alpenhorns Friday at 5:30 PM

WHY: The Edelweiss Club of Grand Rapids combines historical Oktoberfest activities and entertainment with the beauty of the fall season, showcased at John Ball Park. A large portion of the proceeds benefits **Kids Food Basket**, which provides food assistance to needy children in the Grand Rapids Area Schools. In 2011, the Edelweiss Club presented a check for \$4000 to the Kids Food Basket charity.

CONTACT: Edelweiss German Club of Grand Rapids
P.O. Box 1681, Grand Rapids, MI 49501
On Facebook: **Oktoberfest West Michigan**
Email oktoberfestwestmichigan@yahoo.com

John Ball Park info:
1300 W. Fulton St
Grand Rapids, MI 49501
Phone: 616.336.4301 Email: info@johnballzoosociety.org

For additional information visit :

www.edelweissclubgr.com or www.oktoberfestwestmichigan.com



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