

THE LANSING JOURNAL

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UNIQUE TO LANSING Good Neighbor Day Parade is one-of-a-kind



1968



1976



1992



2017

BY CARRIE STEINWEG

LANSING, Ill. (April 28, 2018) - It's exciting when your hometown has something that you don't find in other places. That's what Lansing's Good Neighbor Day Parade is. The day was designated as a special event decades ago to promote local

businesses, encourage gathering with others in the community, and celebrate good neighbors—and it was all accomplished with a hometown parade.

A PARADE LIKE NO OTHER

Other communities in the region, the Midwest, and across the country hold parades in celebration of Independence Day and Memorial Day and Labor Day. Some have evening parades with floats covered in lights, or parades to celebrate Santa Claus or Thanksgiving.

But there's only one Good Neighbor Day Parade. It's always the first Saturday in May.

ORIGINS OF THE LANSING PARADE

The parade was originally called the Lansing Spring Parade. In 1967 as the annual Memorial Day Parade approached, it was during a somber time in the country and in the community. Two young men from Lansing had died a month before while serving in Vietnam. The April 27, 1967, issue

of the Lansing Journal included an announcement about the parade, stating, "Memorial Day, is, of course, a day of remembrance, and therefore celebrating or commercialization are not necessarily desirable... There are no stringent rules to follow except to play up patriotism and play down commercialism and assemble at 9 a.m."

The following year, officials at the Chamber of Commerce, worried about business declining due to the new River Oaks Mall in Calumet City, looked for a way to showcase businesses without commercializing Memorial Day. They planned the Lansing Spring Parade, which took place in May 1968.

In 1970, Good Neighbor Day was introduced, and the parade name was changed to the Good Neighbor Day Parade. Jackie Protsman, owner of the Fashionette and former Chamber of Commerce president, remembers when residents voted for "Mr. and Mrs. Lansing," and the winner led the parade. She also remembers that following the early parades there was always a lively gathering at Itchy Lange's restaurant and tavern.

In 1971 a three-day Good Neighbor Week sale began, and in 1972 a "Friendliest Merchant" contest was added.

According to an April 25, 1968, article in the Lansing Journal, Jim Klebs was chairman of the first parade. "12 floats and about 40 units will highlight the parade, giving everyone an opportunity to view the many fine services, products and shopping areas available in the village," it read. "Marching bands, motorcycle corps, Shriners, drum and bugle corps, the Meister Brau Beer Wagon, fire equipment and a host of floats will be featured."

MEMORIES OF MARCHING

Lansing Historical Society curator

See "Parade," page 2



2017

Understanding Cinco de Mayo (It's not Mexican Independence Day)

BY KATIE ARVIA

LANSING, Ill. (April 27, 2018) – Cinco de Mayo is an annual celebration to commemorate the Mexican Army's victory at the Battle of Puebla. The battle, fought against the French Empire, was an unlikely win for Mexico. On May 5, 1862, General Ignacio Zaragoza led his troops into battle.

This heroic victory is not what immediately comes to mind when one thinks of Cinco de Mayo though.

In America, Cinco de Mayo is commonly mistaken for Mexican Independence Day, which is observed on

September 16 and is the most important national holiday in Mexico. This day marks Mexico's independence from Spain.

In fact, over time, Cinco de Mayo celebrations have become more significant in the United States than in Mexico. Typically, the holiday is celebrated with parades, music, dancing, and food. However, there are differing opinions among Lansing residents regarding the holiday.

"In my opinion, Cinco de Mayo is an American holiday

See "Cinco de Mayo," page 13

FAST FACTS about the 2018 Good Neighbor Day Parade

THEME

Lansing's 125th Anniversary
1893 to 2018
and everything in between

1893 TO 2018
AND
Everything
IN BETWEEN

DATE AND TIME

Saturday, May 5, 2:00pm

ROUTE

The parade kicks off at Wentworth Avenue and Ridge Road and proceeds west on Ridge to Torrence, north on Torrence to 178th Street, and then east on 178th, ending at Lan-Oak Park.

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Inside this issue—
Record numbers turn out for
Clean-up Day (page 3)

Special Mother's Day
announcements (page 5)
Aerial Park opens May 5
(page 23)

Six Lansing residents share
"Why I applied for the Human
Relations Commission"
(page 10)

Parade, continued from page 1

Barb Dust believes the idea for Good Neighbor Day stems back to the 1954 Centennial celebration. During the week-long festivities, Good Neighbor Day was held on August 18, and residents were encouraged to "enjoy good fellowship with

neighbors—invite neighbors for lunch at home or at Lan-Oak Park," as stated in a promotional schedule.

Dust recalls marching in many parades as a Girl Scout leader when her three daughters were younger. She later watched her daughters participate with marching band. "One year I marched with my Brownie troop—and it snowed!"

she said. "But we did it, and we marched, and I think we all got sick afterwards."

Dust noted that the parade originally ran in the opposite direction, starting on Torrence Avenue and heading south and then east on Ridge Road, and ending in downtown Lansing.

51 YEARS LATER

Over the years, the parade has grown, and this year Chamber President Amy Todd said that roughly 100 entries are expected. "We do have a lot of new people in the parade that we haven't had before, so that's good to see," she said. "For our theme, we are celebrating Lansing with the 125th anniversary of the incorporation. Some are planning to decorate for the decade that their business or school opened or came into existence."

Protsman, who was once a hospital clown who would visit with sick children, hires her clown friends to participate in the parade with

the Fashionette float. "They were always the first ones in the parade after all the dignitaries and fire engines," she said. "The length of the parade keeps increasing and it's wonderful to know that so many people would like to be in it."

In recent years, Todd said parade entries had moved away from floats and more toward decorated cars. Last year, however, there was an increase in the number of floats. "We are hoping to see more of that again this year," she said.

"People really look forward to the parade," she said. "People are looking for the theme of next year's parade in the fall so they have time to think about decorating."

For more information, contact the Lansing Area Chamber of Commerce at 708-474-4170.

Photo credits: Parade photos from 2017 were taken by Carrie Steinweg. All other parade photos were provided by the Lansing Historical Society and used with permission.

PARADE THEMES
through the years

- 1968 Lansing Loves A Parade
- 1979 Clowning Around
- 1990 Nations Around the World
- 1992 25 Years of Good Neighbor Memories
- 1993 Lansing's Centennial
- 1996 Music, Music, Music
- 1999 Fabulous Fifties
- 2000 Millennium Magic
- 2001 Howdy Neighbor
- 2002 Red, White & Blue and Neighbors, Too
- 2003 A Tribute to Lansing's Working Families
- 2004 Music Makes the World Go Round
- 2005 Seasons of Fun for Everyone
- 2006 Let the Spirit of Lansing Soar (Tri-motor year)
- 2007 Celebrating the 40th Anniversary of the parade
- 2008 Frontier Days
- 2009 200 Years of Abe Lincoln
- 2010 Rock Around the Clock
- 2011 Fun & Games
- 2012 There's No Place Like Home
- 2013 Lansing's 3 Hour Tour
- 2014 Renaissance Lansing
- 2015 Lansing Alive with Music
- 2016 Hats Off to Lansing
- 2017 50 Parades

SPECIAL GUESTS
in Lansing's early parades

- 1972 Anne Henning, Olympic Gold Medalist (speed skating)
- 1973 Carolyn Kay Paulus, Miss Illinois
- 1968 The Meister Brau Clydesdale Horses (pictured)



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MARY BETH PALKA
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THE
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Record numbers turn out for Clean-up Day

Good publicity, good examples, and good weather inspire 360 volunteers to make a visible difference

PHOTOS AND TEXT BY MELANIE JONGSMA

LANSING, Ill. (April 28, 2018) – Bright skies, brisk temperatures, and blustery winds greeting the 360 volunteers who participated in Lansing’s ninth annual Community Clean-up Day. Organizer Vivian Payne called it the most successful ever. News articles, social media posts, and an impromptu clean-up effort led by Mayor Eidam and Village employees on Friday, April 13, inspired dozens of new registrations in the final week leading up to the event.

Payne organized the volunteers into groups, equipped them with garbage bags and recycling bags, and sent them to 28 locations around the village, some of which were known litter sites and others that had been specifically requested by residents. For two hours, the groups picked up trash and recyclables along roadways, around railroad tracks, and throughout empty fields. After depositing their filled bags at the side of a road—where they would be collected by Public Works—the volunteers convened at the First Church pavilion, where grilled hot dogs and hamburgers awaited them.



Above: “We have great hope for Lansing’s future,” said Tiffany Wells (left), “and we know we have to be a part of it.” “We also want to teach our kids to serve,” added Michelle Smith (black cap). They and others from Living Word Church cleaned along Torrence.



Left, in the distance: Lynn Kazmierowski and Kerry and Art Czarobski were part of a group of neighbors who cleaned up the entire stretch of 186th Street.

Below: Following the clean-up, Art Czarobski refueled with a hot dog at First Church.



Right: Building Commissioner Zoran Savic (with rake) and various Village employees, including Mayor Eidam (not pictured), spent the morning cleaning up around businesses along Bernice Road and Oak Avenue. Savic took advantage of the opportunity to remind business owners that Lansing ordinances require them to keep their property clean. “The Mayor shouldn’t have to be cleaning up after you!” he told them.



360 volunteers | 28 locations | 2 hours | 46 degrees

Below left: For the second year in a row, the Southtowne Stallions—a local youth football and cheer program—cleaned up Erfert Park. This year’s troop of trash collectors included Brandon Terry Jr., Fred Ridley III, Trenton Walker, Brandi Terry, Brandon Terry, Fred Ridley Jr., and Travaughn Howse. Below: Chanta Manson and Debra Ridley showed up just in time to take credit for the clean-up.

Below: Steve Payne and Mayor Eidam served hamburgers, hot dogs, chips, water, and soda to shivering volunteers. First Church PCA hosted the post-clean-up lunch in their pavilion and provided grills and picnic tables.





Now serving comfort food

Troost adds chef to staff, breakfast items to menu

BY ASHLEE DE WIT

LANSING, Ill. (April 25, 2018) – Chef Steven McCarter has joined the staff at Troost, and he brought his grandma’s biscuits and gravy recipe with him.

The Lansing coffee shop, which

Chef Steven McCarter (left) has joined the team at Troost Coffee & Tea. He was pleased to learn that *Troost* is the Dutch word for comfort, since many of his recipes are for comfort food. Specialties like grandma’s biscuits and gravy (left, and below) add to the comfortable atmosphere that McCarter first experienced as a Troost customer. (Photos: Ashlee De Wit)

opened about a year ago, recently hired McCarter and expanded its menu of baked goods to include some heartier breakfast items—the biscuits and gravy among them.

“When I heard that *troost* means ‘comfort,’ the first thing I thought of was biscuits and gravy—that’s the most comforting food I can think of,” McCarter said. “I’ve been making it since I was five, and I could do it with my eyes closed.”

It’s not his grandma’s exact recipe—he uses turkey instead of sausage and has switched out bacon fat for smoked gouda, to make it a lighter—and at least somewhat healthier—fare. The adaptation has proved quite popular so far.

The new menu also includes other breakfast standards: a breakfast burrito and oatmeal are among the options. And for the more adventurous diner, they’re serving shakshuka—an over-easy egg atop a spiced sauce of tomatoes, onions, peppers and feta cheese. It’s a popular dish in Israel and a favorite of Troost owner Renae Fentress.

“I first had it in India, made by Israelis,” she said. “In Israel, it’s a typical breakfast. People [here] are a little nervous to order it.”

But those who took a chance on it have come back to order it again, McCarter noted.

The pair worked together to create the menu, each pulling from their own experience—Fentress from her travels and her favorite meals; McCarter from his culinary education and family cookbook.

McCarter graduated college with a culinary arts degree and has worked in restaurants across Chicago, but he credits his love of cooking and most of his culinary education to the After School Matters program in Chicago. He took part in the program from ages 13–18, learning under the guidance of Gloria Hafer. He still participates today—now as an instructor.

McCarter and Fentress met by chance; he was shopping with friends, and they intended to get coffee at Grindhouse Café in Grif-fith. When they discovered it was closed that day due to snowy roads, a Google search led them to Troost.

“The first time we talked, I told her [Fentress] I really liked the place because I felt comfortable here,” McCarter said. “It was really fate that we met.”

Troost is located at 18155 Roy Street in Lansing. They are open from 7:00am–6:00pm, Monday through Friday, and 8:00am–5:00pm on Saturday. Breakfast items are available until 11:30am each day.



Lansing Journalists serve as IHSA journalism judges

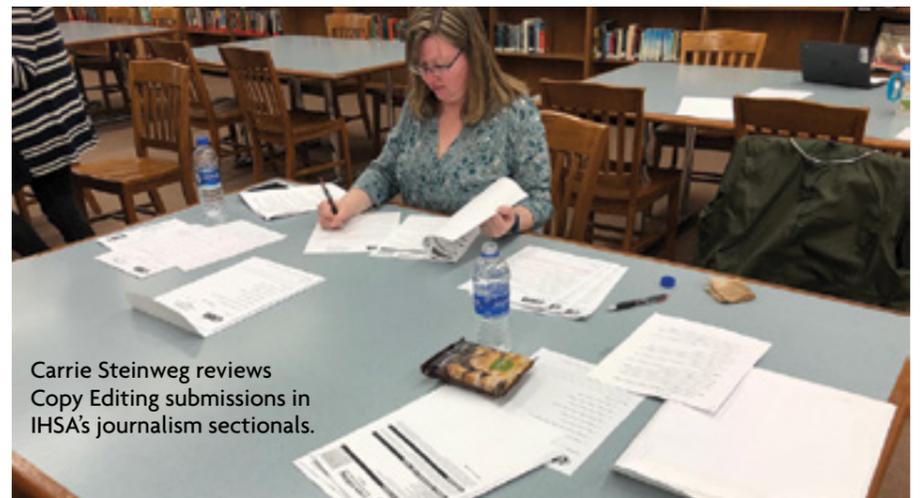
BY MELANIE JONGSMA

FLOSSMOOR, Ill. (April 21, 2018) – Carrie Steinweg and Melanie Jongsma spent a recent Saturday at Homewood-Flossmoor High School, serving as judges for the 2018 Illinois High School Association journalism sectionals.

Journalism students from 10 area high schools began around 9:00am that morning, completing assignments in a variety of competition categories—news writing, editorial writing, sports writing, photography, headlines, design, copy editing, and others. The judges began receiving those completed assignments around 11:00am, working in teams of two to rank the top three entries and provide constructive feedback on the top six.

“It was cool to see the work of the next generation of journalists,” said Steinweg at the end of a day of judging.

The three top students in each category advanced to the state competition on April 27.



Carrie Steinweg reviews Copy Editing submissions in IHSA’s journalism sectionals.

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Happy Mother's Day, Lansing moms!

Kids, here are 8 Mother's Day factoids to impress your mom with

BY KATIE ARVIA

1. Mother's Day has been celebrated in the United States since 1908. First established by Anna Jarvis at Andrews Methodist Episcopal Church in West Virginia, the original observance was a memorial ceremony for Jarvis's late mother, who had died three years prior. The ceremony was meant to honor all mothers and marked the first official celebration of Mother's Day in the US. It became an official United States holiday in

1914. The church, also known as the International Mother's Day Shrine, has been a National Historic Landmark since October 5, 1992.

2. Held on the second Sunday in May each year, Mother's Day has become one of the largest holidays in America.

3. In fact, Mother's Day is the third largest holiday for sending greeting cards in the United States and an estimated 50% of Americans send cards on Mother's Day. An estimated \$68

million is spent on greeting cards alone.

4. Traditionally, many families spend the day going to church, gifting flowers (carnations are customary to mark the occasion), and sitting down for dinner together.

5. Not only is Mother's Day an important day for families, it is also an important day for retailers. On top of the greeting cards and flowers, Mother's Day is the most popular day to dine out for US families. Jewelers also benefit, due to high demand for gifts such as customized jewelry. Phone traffic can spike by up to 37% on Mother's Day, as more phone calls are made on this day than any other.

6. Even sporting events and athletes support Mother's Day. NASCAR has held a Cup Series race every Mother's Day

weekend since 2014. Many golf tournaments are traditionally held during this weekend as well. Many professional athletes wear pink accessories to commemorate the holiday during sporting events.

7. Mother's Day has also marked launch dates for important political and feminist causes, such as Coretta Scott King's march to support underprivileged women. Women's groups celebrated Mother's Day to stress the need for equal rights and access to childcare in the 1970s.

8. Today, Mother's Day is celebrated around the world. Traditions vary from country to country; in Thailand, the holiday is celebrated in August and in Ethiopia, a multi-day celebration is held that honors motherhood. In the United States, this year we celebrate Mom on May 13.

For Mary Wiersema—



5 seeds spread out,
planted, groomed,
growing strong,
thriving, bloomed,
All you did, and all you are,
You stretched yourself
so thin, so far,
Not letting anything dishearten,
And in the end
you cultivated
a beautiful garden.

We love you, Mom!



THERE IS
NOTHING
BETTER THAN
a Mothers'
UNCONDITIONAL
Love.

Happy Mother's
Day, 143

Micaela

Happy Mother's Day!
AGNES VROOM

We love
you, Mom!
your favorite
children—
Dan, Bonnie,
and Nancy

Happy Mother's Day to Patti Jongsma!

Thanks for filling
our home with
love and laughter.

We love you, Mom.

Brenda,
Melanie,
Ken,
and Sally

HAPPY
Mothers'
DAY

PHYLLIS HENNING

Thank you for everything you've taught me about
motherhood. I still learn from your example.

Beth

We'll be offering announcements
like this for **dads and grads** in our
June 6 issue.
See ad on page 9 for details.

Bohemian Joe's says goodbye

"It was a special place," say owners Chris and Tawnee Paliga



BY MELANIE JONGSMA

LANSING, Ill. (April 28, 2018) – "The timing was right," said Chris Paliga about the sale of Bohemian Joe's, the Lansing restaurant he and his family opened in January of 2016. He had not been planning to sell, but when he was approached with a "very fair offer," he began to consider the possibility.

CHANGE OF PLANS

"It was a difficult decision," agrees Tawnee Paliga, Chris's wife. "There were so many things we enjoyed about Bohemian Joe's—lots of customers became repeat customers and actually became friends, so it's difficult to say goodbye to them. And we had lots of wonderful staff members." But both Paligas acknowledge the stress and strain of the restaurant business in general, and of Bohemian Joe's in particular because so much of their family was involved. "When you go home, or whenever you're with family, and we're all still talking about business, there's just no time when you're away from work," said Chris.

Although the family's original plans were to run Bohemian Joe's for at least a few more years, Chris said, "I like the circumstances we're leaving in." The Paligas made a lot of improvements to the building before opening two and a half years ago, and they enjoyed being involved in the Lansing community. "Lansing's been wonderful to us," said Tawnee. "It's a great community."

A LEGACY OF COMMUNITY

In fact, that sense of community may be the greatest legacy of Bohemian Joe's. From the very beginning, as the family worked together to come up with the restaurant

name and brand, "Bohemian" kept bubbling to the surface. Not only does it reference the Bohemian Joe's Hotel & Tavern in Lansing along Bernice Road in the 1900s—which is where Chris's great grandparents met!—but the term also has connotations of an eclectic, optimistic mix of cultures, fashions, and tastes. That's the atmosphere the family was working for.

Chris and Tawnee believe they achieved it. Both said, "I feel like we had a place where anyone could come and feel comfortable, where everyone was welcome—all ages, all nationalities. It was a special place."

"This experience was fun," Chris added. "And I hope everyone has good memories of being here."

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

In the weeks leading up to the restaurant's April 28 closing, Chris considered printing up a t-shirt with the answers to the questions he was most frequently asked, including these:

"What will you do next?"

While Chris appreciates people's concern and interest, he admits he doesn't have a good answer to this question. "I'm just takin' a break for a while," he said. Chris brought a variety of business background and a broad sense of community to the Bohemian Joe's venture, which was a refreshing of the Popolano's restaurant his parents and brother and sister-in-law owned at the same location. The new family enterprise included wife Tawnee and daughter Dani's hospitality experience, son Topher's marketing and technology experience, son Dustin's vast knowledge of craft beers, and son-in-law Brandon's unique-but-familiar menu creations. The whole family

invested a huge amount of time and energy, and Chris is ready for a healthy break. Tawnee is looking forward to seeing Chris take care of himself for awhile instead of looking after everyone else's needs.

"What will happen to my Bohemian Joe's gift card?"

"I don't want to screw anyone," said Chris about the gift cards, so one of the first details he took care of was making sure Bohemian Joe's gift cards would be honored even after the restaurant closed. He reached out not only to the new owner, but also to Lynn Cartwright of Lynn Que's, Amy Todd of Mancino's, and Joellyn Favia of JJ Kelley's. All agreed to accept Bohemian Joe's gift cards at their establishments. The Paligas have often spoken of the camaraderie that characterizes the Lansing business community. It's one of the things they will miss most about running Bohemian Joe's.

"Are you taking your recipes with you?"

There are a few items on the Bohemian Joe's menu that were originals created by family and staff, and Chris and Tawnee are proud of the way so many people got involved and left their mark. At the same time, Chris mentioned, there is a lot of crossover among restaurant dishes. For one thing, many restaurants use the same suppliers for their ingredients. For another, it's not uncommon for chefs and cooks to move from one kitchen to another. So Chris predicts that Lansing residents will find something to love about the new menu once the restaurant changes hands.

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Sunday Worship10:30am



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Why Lansing Public Library went fine-free

BY MELANIE JONGSMA

LANSING, Ill. (May 1, 2018) - As of May 1, 2018, the Lansing Public Library will no longer charge fines for overdue materials. Library Director Debbie Albrecht shared the reasoning behind that decision, and dismantled some commonly held misunderstandings about libraries and fines:

- 1. Libraries are about providing access to information.** Fines create barriers to information. Albrecht cites an example of people who are looking for a job— "If they have overdue book fines, they are blocked from using the computers to job search. If your money is already limited, late fees just compound your problems." Albrecht's philosophy is that the library should be a resource to anyone who needs it.
- 2. Fines actually prevent people from returning materials.** Albrecht knows that once an overdue fine reaches a certain level, she is not likely to ever see that book again: "People don't return it because they do not want to deal with overdue fines!" By wiping away late fees, she explains, the stigma is removed and the materials are returned and made accessible to other patrons. "Some traditionalists will argue that without

fines there is no incentive to return a book on time," says Albrecht. But she counters, "Yes there is—you appeal to people's good side."

- 3. Fines are not an important source of library revenue.** Lansing Public Library has seen decreased revenue from fines over the years, and Albrecht believes it will not be a hardship to replace that revenue. In fact, she already received notification that the library will receive \$35,414 in per capita grant funds this year, which is about a \$14,000 increase from the previous year. That plus an anticipated increase in revenue from printing and copying done by library patrons will more than make up for the revenue from fines.

FINE-FREE IS ANGST-FREE

But to Albrecht, going fine-free is less about revenue and more about the culture she wants to create at the Lansing library. When staff have to spend time tracking fines and sending notices and having tense conversations with patrons, they aren't doing the things that make the library *feel* like a resource.

Without fines, she says, "We will be able to say, 'Yes' more. Time can be spent making the library a more welcoming place. I cannot quantify that but it is huge. It is about providing better service to all our patrons."

MUTUAL APPRECIATION

Albrecht believes that Lansing library patrons will appreciate the decision to be fine-free, and that they will respond in kind. "We expect to get a lot of good will from our users because we have stopped charging overdue fines. We want our patrons to know we believe they will do their best to return what they borrow—so others in their neighborhoods can have what they need too."

"We try very hard to spend our tax dollars wisely. We have not increased our levy the last two years, and we managed to update the library and equipment to give our patrons the best resources and spaces possible."

OTHER FINE-FREE LIBRARIES

Lansing Public Library is not the first in the area to do away with fines. Oak Park, Algonquin, and Addison Public Library have already eliminated fines, and others are exploring the idea.

In fact, the American Library Association promotes "the removal of all barriers to library and information services, particularly fees and overdue charges."

PUBLIC NOTICE THORNTON TOWNSHIP

The regularly scheduled Meetings of the Board of Trustees of Thornton Township, to be held on May 8, 2018 and May 22, 2018 have been canceled.

The next scheduled meeting for the Board of Trustees, will be held May 15, 2018, at 8:00 p.m. in the Thornton Township Zap II Building located at 16910 Westview, in South Holland, Illinois.

Jacqueline E. Davis-Rivera
Thornton Township Clerk



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ISAC offers money management tips to help students reduce costs and debt

INFORMATION PROVIDED BY THE ILLINOIS STUDENT ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

CHICAGO, Ill. (April 18, 2018) – With the rising costs of college tuition, getting to and through college is as much about finances as it is about academics. The Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC) participated in the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago's annual Money Smart Week® (April 21–28) by highlighting free resources to help students make smart money choices about college. Students and their families can use ISAC's online tools, participate in free college and financial aid workshops, or get one-on-one help to help reduce college costs and student loan debt.

"By understanding college costs and being able to assess their individual financial circumstances," said Eric Zarnikow, executive director of ISAC, "students can better identify affordable, high-quality college

options that will meet their interests, skills, and financial means."

ISAC offers the following tips:

- 1. Compare financial aid awards.** Use ISAC's online Financial Aid Comparison Worksheet to compare financial aid offers you receive from colleges to help you determine which will be most affordable for you.
- 2. Look for scholarships.** College Greenlight is a free resource with a huge database of scholarships, grants, and merit-aid opportunities. Also be sure to check for institutional scholarships offered by the colleges to which you have been admitted.
- 3. Consider a community college.** Tuition at community colleges is typically lower than public colleges and universities. There are many Illinois community colleges that offer a range of affordable degrees, certificates, and training programs. Moreover, if you are interested in a four-year degree but

the costs are too high, consider taking a year or two of your degree requirements at a local community college. Be sure to work with a counselor to ensure that the credits you take will be transferable to the four-year college of your choice in your planned major.

- 4. Rent or borrow college textbooks rather than buying new or even used.** Save money by renting textbooks, or by borrowing your books from an I-Share Library, which is a consortium of Illinois colleges, universities, and libraries.
- 5. Understand how much you will actually owe in student loans.** Check out the Loan Repayment Calculator on the ISAC website so you have a real sense of the total cost of your potential debt.
- 6. Learn about student loan repayment options.** If you already have student loans, understand your options for paying them back, including income-based

ed.gov/sa/repay-loans for information. The ISAC Call Center can also answer general questions about student loans at 800-899-ISAC (4722).

- 7. Beware of student loan debt relief scams.** If a company charges an upfront fee to help you manage your loans or promises to reduce your debt, it is likely a scam. If you feel you have been the victim of fraud or a scam, call the Attorney General's Student Loan Helpline: 800-455-2456 (TTY—800.964.3013).
- 8. Attend a Money Smart Week® event.** Visit moneysmartweek.org. ISAC offers college and financial aid workshops during Money Smart Week® and throughout the year in locations all over the state.

ABOUT ISAC

The mission of the Illinois Student Assistance Commission is to help make college accessible for students throughout Illinois. ISAC provides information on education and financial aid for students and their families, giving them access to the tools they need to make the educational choices that are right for them.

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Ballet Folklorico, reported August 2017



Dog park, reported November 2017



Science Fair, reported March 2018

What is Lansing news worth to you? A request to our readers

BY MELANIE JONGSMA

LANSING, Ill. (May 2, 2018) - The Lansing Journal is a newspaper that is hyper-local in its coverage: We are focused specifically on Lansing, Illinois. Yes, we include stories from surrounding towns, and Chicago, and northwest Indiana—but before we run those stories, we always ask, "Does this news impact Lansing? Would Lansing residents want to know about this?"

In an era when other newspapers are providing broader, less personal coverage, we believe our strength is in staying local.

ALL ABOUT LANSING

We shared the news about Lansing's dog park. We were at the press conference featuring LPD and the 26 lives they saved. We listed the science fair winners and named their projects. We let you know why you can't put pizza boxes in your recycling bin.

How much is that kind of news worth to you?

YOUR FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS

When Micaela Smith was appointed to the Park Board, when Ballet Folklorico performed at Memorial

Junior High School, when local residents started a Food Swap, and when the Legion Riders brought two Korean war veterans home—you read about it in The Lansing Journal.

Who else is writing about your friends, your neighbors, your kids?

A FAIR PRICE

A nearby paper in another state charges \$9.99/month for their digital subscription. That's not a bad price, and many Lansing residents are willing to pay it—even though that newspaper has said they are "reducing coverage in Illinois significantly."

We are hoping that some of our readers will be willing to pay that much for Lansing news. We've set up Support options on our website (thelansingjournal.com/news/support) to accommodate monthly contributions.

BUSINESSES TOO

Businesses, we've covered your grand openings, your ribbon-cuttings, your expansions and remodels. We've encouraged people to shop local. We've shared the histories of established Lansing businesses and celebrated the arrival of new ventures.

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news source that builds community by providing balanced, accurate, timely reporting.

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We believe that Lansing residents, businesses, schools, and elected officials have important stories to share. And we are working hard to share those stories. The response from readers has been amazing—almost every day we receive emails or Facebook comments or personal affirmations about how much people appreciate The Lansing Journal.

That is encouraging, and we are grateful. Financial and advertising support in the same measure would help ensure the sustainability of this venture.

Businesses and residents, if you are able to financially express your appreciation for Lansing news, please do! We make giving as convenient as possible:

1. Visit our website—thelansingjournal.com—and look for the orange Quick Click button in the sidebar. Clicking that will take you to an easy form where you can **pay online using PayPal**.
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‘Why I applied for the Human Relations Commission’

Six applicants share their thoughts

BY MELANIE JONGSMA

LANSING, Ill. (April 30, 2018) – For the first time in 21 years, Lansing is forming a new Commission—and it’s a Commission with a particularly difficult assignment. The Human Relations Commission will be tasked with helping Lansing develop a culture that embraces diversity, promotes inclusion, inspires

involvement, and develops civic pride among all Lansing residents.

In presentations at Village Board meetings, Village Communications Director Ken Reynolds has shared some of the qualities the Village is looking for in Human Relations Commissioners, as recommended by the Department of Justice:

- Committed to a philosophy of

inclusion, equal opportunity, and fair treatment

- Representative of the entire community
- Trusted and active in the community
- Sensitive to historical, social, economic, and cultural dynamics of the community

Reynolds was impressed with the

quality and variety and number of applications that came in—by the April 30 cutoff date he had received resumés and applications from 29 Lansing residents.

Six of those applicants, shown here, were willing to share with the community some thoughts about their decision to apply for such a unique role in the Village of Lansing.



DOLPHIN HARRIS

“I have asked myself, ‘Why don’t more people involve themselves in our community?’ The answer seems to be they feel they do not belong, so they wonder what is the point. That is precisely why the Human Relations Commission is needed. Changes you feel are needed will not happen without your presence and voice. We’re not going to change things overnight, but we can leave a good footprint.”



JEFF WHITE

“When I heard about this Commission, I thought, ‘This is a good thing.’ It provides another layer of voices who might be able to share vision—and concerns—that the Village Board might not see or hear about, just because of the different circles we travel in. The strength of our village, the strength of our community, is in the relationships of the people. The Human Relations Commission is about strengthening those relationships.”

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MARILYN FREEMAN

“What really convinced me to apply for the Human Relations Commission was when I attended the Citizens Police Academy—being able to be in that class with a whole group of people I didn’t know were my neighbors, and getting to know the officers, getting to know people personally. You know, we were all different types of people, but we all had the same concerns. We became a community in that group. As a Commissioner, I will be asking people, ‘What can we do together to make Lansing better?’ Even if I go through the application process and don’t get chosen, I will still be active. I will still be making a difference. I will be a supporter of the Commission—and the community—no matter what.”

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LEO VALENCIA

"This is something we need to do because we are a diverse community. This Commission is just another tool in our tool box that every diverse community should have. Forming a group that is going to work to educate our community and help in situations where there might be tensions—that's a good idea. I'm always up for helping, for being involved. But if I don't get chosen for the Human Relations Commission, that means there are other folks out there who were the best candidates—and that's ok too."



VALERIE MCDANIELS

"Human relationships—that's what this Commission is about, whether it's students and teachers, police and community, neighbor to neighbor. The Human Relations Commission can make this a place where people believe that Lansing is their home, and help build the future for our young adults. We have to reinvest into our community. We can't give up. Diversity comes in all walks of life and various knowledge and experiences. This Commission has to be a diverse

team of folks who really want to work together, not one-sided. There may be some disagreements, but we must be in one accord for the good of Lansing."



BOBB WRIGHT

"I extend my support and my enthusiasm and dedication to making a difference for all citizens of the Village of Lansing. My primary focus as a member of this Commission would be advocacy for veterans, seniors, the disabled, youth, and the homeless. I am concerned with ensuring that the diversity of these protected groups will receive fair and equitable treatment in an inclusive atmosphere which caters to the individual needs of each population. I look forward to opportunities to foster a positive, inclusive environment for all residents of the Village of Lansing!"

Next steps in forming the Commission

The names and faces listed here might not ultimately be selected for the Human Relations Commission—the draft ordinance scheduled to be voted on at the May 1 Village Board meeting proposes that the Commission be composed of nine members. But these applicants all want the best people—and the right combination of people—even if it doesn't include themselves.

Mayor Eidam and her administration will next begin scheduling interviews with candidates, in a process designed by the Mayor and the administration. Once she has selected a slate of Human Relations Commissioners, she will present them to the Board at a Committee of the Whole meeting, where Trustees can ask questions about the candidates and the process before voting.

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'An Evening for Illiana' gives constituents opportunity to say farewell to Lansing building

BY MELANIE JONGSMA WITH KYLIE BOSS, ILLIANA JOURNALISM STUDENT

LANSING, Ill. (April 24, 2018) - With tours of the 1948 building and the 1967 addition, and acknowledgment of past and present Illiana teachers, and the opening of a 1948 time capsule, Illiana friends and families had a chance to relive memories of the high school's 70-year history in Lansing. "An Evening for Illiana" is an annual dinner and fundraising event for the school. This year the organizers also made it a farewell to the old building. Starting this fall, the Illiana campus will be located in Dyer, Indiana.

Toward the end of the April 24 dinner, Principal Peter Boonstra opened a time capsule that had been planted in January of 1948. The sealed metal box had to be cut open with a power saw; amid its contents was a copy of a 1948 Lansing Journal whose front page story announced the dedication ceremonies for the then-new building. "School To Fill Community Need For Christian Ed.," read the subhead.

Boonstra affirmed that Illiana will continue to serve families from Lansing, South Holland, Highland, and other towns, just as they always have. "We just felt we needed a different location to do that from,"



he said. "Unfortunately for the people of Lansing, that's not going to be in their town anymore. But hopefully they'll still think of us as a school in their area."

A ribbon-cutting is scheduled at the new campus on August 20, and a dedication of the new campus has been scheduled for September 15.

The new campus address is 10920 Calumet Avenue, Dyer, Indiana 46311.

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Cinco de Mayo, continued from page 1

that culturally appropriates Mexican heritage," said Michael Martinez, a long-time Lansing resident. "I think the biggest issue I observe is when people use Cinco de Mayo as an excuse to drink and eat traditional Mexican food in an exaggerated way. There's nothing wrong with this, but I think people have forgotten the true meaning of the holiday."

Martinez said he does not celebrate Cinco de Mayo and will often stay home unless he has been invited out to dinner or other festivities. He likened American celebrations of Cinco de Mayo to the Fourth of July, wherein revelries often include stereotypical American food such as hot dogs or hamburgers and extravagant fireworks displays. He pointed out the fact that sometimes the true meaning of Independence Day is lost due to celebrations.

"I have mixed feelings about Cinco de Mayo," said Isabel Garcia, who grew up in Lansing. "I'm not saying it's not an important part of history, because it is. It's just that I

usually hear the misconception that Cinco de Mayo is Mexico's Independence Day [and that] gets me on edge because it's not."

Garcia also said she does nothing special to celebrate Cinco de Mayo.

Despite the general misconceptions surrounding Cinco de Mayo, both Martinez and Garcia agree that it is okay to celebrate, if it is for the right reasons.

"I do appreciate when [people] take the time to learn about our culture but to not stereotype it and be offensive in any way," Garcia said. "There's a right and wrong way to celebrate other cultures and you have to take the time to know the difference and not to be offensive."

"At the end of the day, it does bring me a sense of gratitude when I see my friends celebrate," Martinez added. "Reiterating the meaning [of Cinco de Mayo] is important, but sometimes all you need is an ice-cold margarita and a toast to good times."

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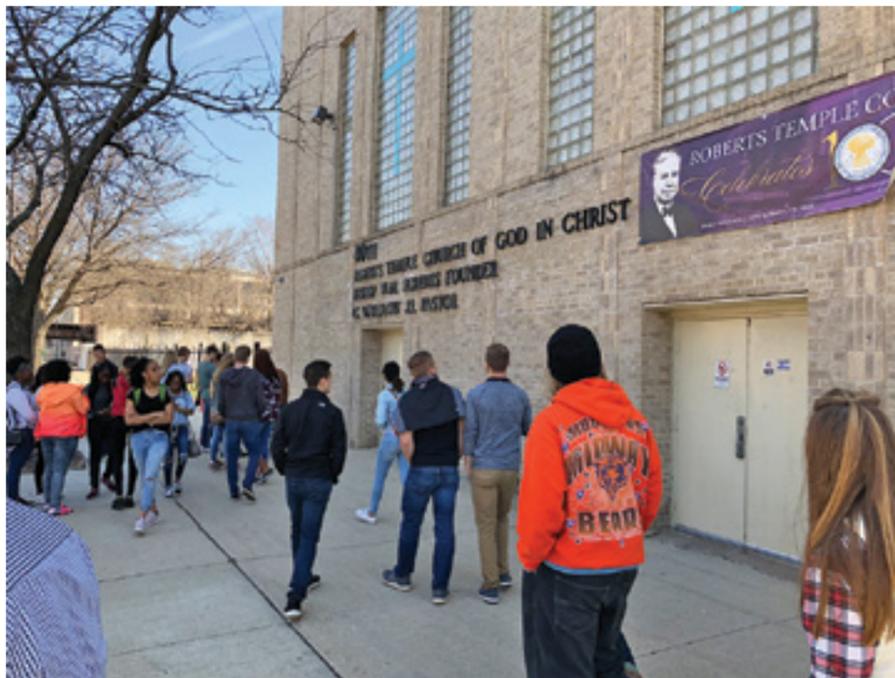
Illiana students continue Black History Month observance

History Teacher Jeff White arranges tour of significant Chicago sites

STORY AND PHOTOS BY MELANIE JONGSMA

LANSING, Ill. (April 17, 2018) – The Bishop Ford Freeway, Beaubien Woods, Pullman porters, Oakwood Cemetery, elevated trains, the stockyards, Bronzeville, Prairie Avenue, Harold Washington, Dearborn Station, Union Station, Lou Mitchell’s, the Obamas’ Hyde Park home, Valois Restaurant—these people and places are all significant parts of the story of blacks in America. History Teacher Jeff White included them all, and more, on a special tour he offered to Illiana students on April 12.

The tour was inspired by a student club called Better Illiana through Better Understanding, which is facilitated by Senior Aerial Shaffer. The club worked hard to involve the whole student body in a variety of observances of Black History Month this past February, including panel discussions, a “river mural” of meaningful quotes, and special chapel services. White’s tour was originally planned for a Saturday during Black History Month, but student sports schedules, theater rehearsals, and other commitments made it difficult to find a



Some of stops on the “Black History Tour” were related to well known historical events, while others were less familiar. White made sure all were educational. Left: The Roberts Temple Church of God in Christ building is where the funeral and visitation were held for murdered Chicago teenager Emmett Till. While relaying the brutal story, White encouraged students to take out their phones and search for images of Till’s body. “You need to see it. You need to see man’s inhumanity toward man,” he told them solemnly.

day that worked for everyone who was interested. So Principal Peter Boonstra agreed to allow the tour to be offered during a school day. So on a bright Thursday morning, 37 students and 2 teachers boarded an Illiana bus at 7:30am. They spent the next seven hours listening, observing, taking photos, and expanding their understanding of the black experience in Chicago and

See “Black History,” next page



Above: The Victory memorial honors an African-American unit that served in World War I. For blacks arriving in Chicago from the south, a monument like this would have been astonishing.

Left: White began teaching before the bus even arrived at its first destination, offering information about Civil Rights Leader Bishop Henry Ford and Beaubien Woods, which was the location of a stop on the Underground Railroad.



Above: In Bronzeville, the plaque near this sculpture by Alison Saar explains, “This bronze monument depicts a man wearing a suit made of shoe soles rising from a mound of soles. The soles, worn and full of holes, symbolize the often difficult journey from the south to the north. It commemorates all the African-American men and women who migrated to Chicago after the Civil War.”

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Black History, continued from previous page

the south suburbs.

This was the first time White had given this particular tour, and depending on student response, it may become a regular part of his tour repertoire. There were a lot of stops and a lot of information to pack into a single school day, and White hoped to debrief with the students and other teachers to find out which, if any, stops should be eliminated or shortened.

However, if Aerial Shaffer's reaction is representative of her



"This is really special," said Aerial Shaffer about the tour. "I actually know very, very little black history, so this is great."

classmates', it may be difficult to make the tour any shorter. "The trip was awesome," she said via email

the following week. "I thought it was a great way to celebrate African-American history. I learned a lot of information about the history of the area around me—from the minute we got on the bus until the end of the tour."

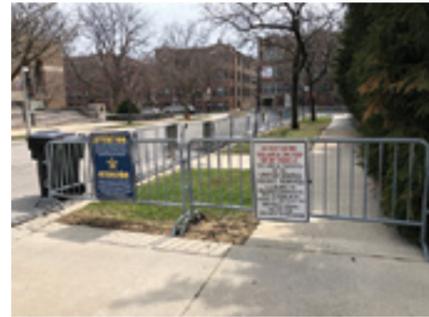


Left: "Chicago has deep connections to Mississippi in so many ways," White told the group. But Chicago Blues includes electric elements that make it distinctive from Mississippi Blues.

Below: The tour ended in Hyde Park, where the area around former President Obama's home is barricaded, but it's still possible to get a good view of the house.



White pointed out that students in the group who have family in Mississippi may have had ancestors arrive in Chicago through Dearborn Station.



Railroad Quiet Zones still in process

Permits in place; implementation dependent on weather

BY MELANIE JONGSMA

LANSING, Ill. (April 22, 2018) – As reported last November, Lansing's Railroad Quiet Zone project that has been in process for at least two years. Though progress has not been visible to the public, forward movement is happening.

Jeff Pintar, who serves as Village Engineer, confirms that Lansing has obtained the necessary IDOT permit for the installation of safety measures on state routes. Pintar is now coordinating with the railroad on the timing of the install.

Items to be completed in late April or early May include:

- Install flexible delineators at required crossings—Public Works will handle this, and the timing is being discussed
- Refresh or add new railroad striping at crossings
- Install 70' of required fence on Oakley, south of the railroad tracks—a contractor has been engaged to perform this work
- Install the required signage—Public Works will make and install these signs once other measures are complete
- Install a right-in/right-out driveway at Boggs Apartment Complex on Torrence—a contractor has been engaged to perform this work; coordination with the property owner is needed on the timing of the installation

Pintar says, "There are still many entities that have their hands in the Quiet Zone process—FRA, ICC, IDOT, and CSX—so to provide completion dates is difficult. We are still planning on work to be done in the spring and Quiet Zone implementation to follow 30 days after work is complete. We were hopeful to complete last fall but did not have full authorization to do so, and the improvements are all weather-dependent, so that leads us to where we are today."

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Eugene C. Varnado, LLC, Certified Public Accounting firm located in South Holland, Illinois announces the promotion of Valicienne Arnold, MBA, CPA, also of South Holland, as a partner in the firm. Val, 46, has been with the firm for 13 years and has functioned as manager of operations, as well as manager of accounting and auditing efforts. During the height of tax season, she also becomes involved with the firm's tax preparation efforts.

Val's broad experience and education adds depth to the operation and the promotion furthers the strategic planning of the organization. She has been a long term resident of South Holland, where she has served as President of the PTA for School District 150, and as board member of the South Suburban Small Business Association and the Southland Arts Management & Business Alliance. Val also serves in a financial advisory capacity to Habitat for Humanity, Chicago South Suburbs. She received her MBA in Accounting in 2013 from Governors State University and became a licensed CPA in May 2016.

The firm of Eugene C. Varnado, LLC was founded in 1975, and moved to the Southern Suburbs where it has been providing financial, accounting, audit and tax services since 1979 to corporations, individuals, not for profit organization and local governmental units.

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For sale: Solid oak piano bench w/storage; coffee maker \$10. \$30; queen size steel bed frame with wheels, \$15. 708-460-6035

Antique french sofa, three cushions, exc cond. 708-474-8221

6 pc.patio seating set, loveseat, 2 chairs, 2 ottomans, ckt. table with 6 cushions, very good condition, \$450 new, now \$150 obo. 219-322-5189

Mens stuff: muscle car t-shirt XL, \$15; Blackhawks black shirt, XL, \$15; black/gray new jacket, XL \$15. 708-460-8308

15 young ladies sweaters, new/used \$4 ea; new Wilsons suede girls jacket, size S, \$20; ladies hooded jacket, short, XL, \$15. 708-460-8308

Dash cam pro portable HD video audio recorder, car ready motion detector, endless loop recording, 120 degree wide angle video \$30. 708-210-1542

Battery powered wheel chair, 16 inches between arm rests, like new. 708-891-4798

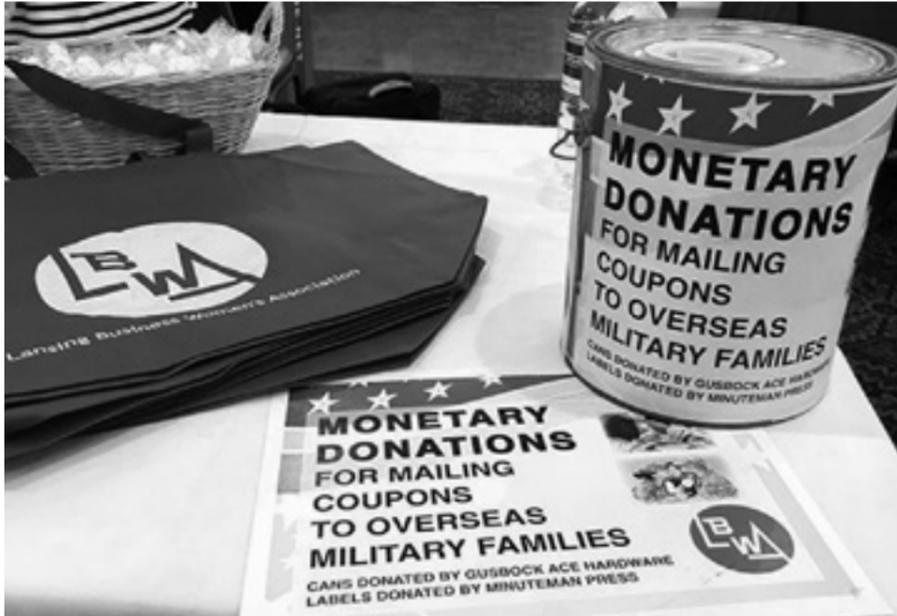
Glass 10 inch fish bowl, \$8; bunny water bottle, \$2; cat litter box, deluxe, \$15; clear duct tape \$4. 708-460-8308

Rain poncho, one size fits all \$3 ea; 2018 pocket calendars, 50 cents ea; complete guide to prevent getting scammed, 53 pages \$6. 708-460-8308

7 ft HD steel post \$6 ea; womens magazines, 50 cents ea; Japan pachinko steel balls, 6 lbs \$25; foam paint brushes, \$5. 708-460-8308

LBWA military coupon program has depleted postage fund

Donations keep the program going



BY MELANIE JONGSMA

LANSING, Ill. (April 19, 2018) – The Lansing Business Women’s Association has been collecting coupons since 2010. They mail these coupons to military bases overseas, where military families are allowed to use them up to six months past the expiration date.

The LBWA has a collection of thank-yous received from military personnel who have received coupons. “You cannot imagine the money our little family has saved and the difference these coupons have made,” wrote Heidi Duncan, an Army wife in Germany, several years ago. And in a 2018 email, Information Specialist Patrick Magruder wrote, “We just wanted to reach out and give our heartfelt thanks to the Lansing Business Women for the effort you put in to help us and the community feel more comfortable overseas. It is efforts like yours that remind the community that we have support back home and that we are never forgotten.”

Patricia Leck has been leading the LBWA’s military coupon program since the beginning. The group tries to mail three boxes of coupons per month, and each box costs just over \$20 to mail. Because LBWA mailed 6 boxes in a recent 45-day span, their postage fund is now completely depleted.

Lansing residents and businesses are welcome to make donations to replenish the military coupon program’s postage fund. Contact Patricia Leck at 708-323-5232 for details.

The Lansing Business Women’s Association meets at 8:00am on the third Wednesday of each month at the Lansing Municipal Center, 3141 Ridge Road. New members are welcome.

Notice of Public Sale

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned will sell, to satisfy lien of the owner, according to (770 ILCS 95/) Self-Service Storage Facility Act. I at public sale by competitive bidding on www.storage-treasures.com ending on **May 9, 2018 at 10:00 am** or after for units located at:

**Compass Self Storage,
2556 Bernice Rd., Lansing, IL 60438**

The personal goods stored therein by the following may include, but are not limited to general household, furniture, boxes clothes and appliances. Purchases must be made with cash only and paid at the time of sale. All goods are sold as is and must be removed at the time of purchase. Compass Self Storage reserves the right to refuse any bid. Sale is subject to adjournment.

Unit #	Tenant's Name	Unit #	Tenant's Name	Unit #	Tenant's Name
B1035	Wilson, Mequelle	B1080	Anderson, Loretta	B1282	Hall, Edward

OBITUARIES

BOEGELSACK

A Funeral Service for Richard J. Boegelsack will be held on May 5, 2018 at Thornridge Funeral Home.

Mr. Boegelsack was born December 4, 1938 and died April 27, 2018. He was the father of Sandra (Dave) Csuk, Samuel and the late Edward Hoekstra; grandfather of David, Jr. and Daniel Csuk; former husband of Barbara Barba.

Interment will be at Oak Hill Cemetery. Arrangements are entrusted to Thornridge Funeral Home (Janusz Family Funeral Service).

ELLIS

A Memorial Service for Margaret M. “Peggy” Ellis will be held at a later date.

Mrs. Ellis (nee Rohwedder) was born January 12, 1950 and died April 29, 2018. She was the wife of Ray Ellis; mother of Brenda (Greg) Irvin and Alison (John) Hendricks; step-mother of Ray Ellis Jr., Michael (Beth) Ellis and Mary (Dan) Dykshorn; grandmother of Alex, Tyler, Tristen, Norah, Austin, Dana, Nolan, and Colin; sister of Char, Judy (Larry), Lloyd (Chris) and Jennifer (John).

Interment will be private. Arrangements are entrusted to Thornridge Funeral Home (Janusz Family Funeral Service).

FOUSHI

A funeral service for Sherry A. Foushi, nee Hart, was held Saturday, April 28, 2018 at Smits, DeYoung-Vroegh Funeral Home in South Holland, IL with Rev. Edward Roman-ski officiating. Mrs. Foushi was born February 7, 1967 and passed away April 24, 2018. Wife of Thomas J. Foushi. Mother of Samantha Solt and Stephanie Solt. Daughter of Judy (Paul) Bates and the late Samuel Hart. Sister of Steven Hart, Vicky Northam and Lisa Hart. Interment Assumption Cemetery – Glenwood, IL. Arrangements entrusted to Smits, DeYoung-Vroegh Funeral Home, South Holland, IL.

GEHRIG

A memorial service for Liselotte Gehrig (nee Duttke) will be held Saturday, May 5, 2018 at Smits Funeral Home in Dyer, IN.

Mrs. Gehrig was born September 22, 1933 and passed away April 18, 2018. Wife of Gerhard N. Gehrig. Mother of Gary (Jean) Gehrig and Connie (David) Bonham. Grandmother of 4. Sister of Reinhilde (Klaus) Stenger.

Arrangements are entrusted to Smits Funeral Home, Dyer, IN.

GOLKE

A funeral service for Carole L. Golke (nee McCarthy) was held on Tuesday, May 1, 2018 at Smits, DeYoung-Vroegh Funeral Home in South Holland, IL with Rev. William Fleshman officiating.

Mrs. Golke was born June 15, 1933 and passed away April 26, 2018. Wife of the late Bernie. Mother of the late Craig A. Golke and the late Doug E. Golke. Grandmother of Eric (Kelly) Golke and Daniel Golke and great-grandmother of 4.

Inurnment was at Cedar Park Cemetery - Calumet Park, IL. Arrangements were entrusted to Smits, DeYoung-Vroegh Funeral Home, South Holland, IL.

MABON

A funeral service for Beatrice Burnett Mabon was held on Thursday, April 19, 2018 at Smits, DeYoung-Vroegh Funeral Home in South Holland, IL with Pastor Carol Gammon officiating. A memorial service will be held on Sunday, May 13, 2018 at Treasure from the Word Church in Calumet City, IL.

Mrs. Mabon was born October 16, 1930 and passed away April 17, 2018. Wife of the late Willie J. Mabon. Mother of the late Gayla (Robin) Apodaca, Michele (Jamie) Canty, Carol (Jonathon) Gammon, Tammy Mabon-Orr, Renata Mabon, and Kedric (Bridget) Mabon. Grandmother of many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Interment was at Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery, Elwood, IL. Arrangements were entrusted to Smits, DeYoung-Vroegh Funeral Home, South Holland, IL.

MCCAFFREY

A funeral service for Karen McCaffrey (nee Treinis) was held Thursday, April 26, 2018 at Smits Funeral Home in Dyer, IN.

Mrs. McCaffrey was born March 7, 1952 and passed away April 23, 2018. Wife of John K. McCaffrey. Mother of Jennifer (late Dale) Harrison and the late Thomas (Patty) McCaffrey. Grandmother of five. Sister of Steven and Richard.

Interment was private. Arrangements were entrusted to Smits Funeral Home, Dyer, IN.

MEAGHER

A private funeral service for Wayne H. Meagher was held at Thornridge Funeral Home.

Mr. Wayne H. Meagher was born September 16, 1922 and died April 26, 2018. He was the husband of Beverly nee Akenhead; father of Ross (Ann), Bruce and Gary (Diane Lassila) Meagher; grandfather of Randy and Susan; great-grandfather of 5.

Interment was private. Arrangements were entrusted to Thornridge Funeral Home (Janusz Family Funeral Service).

WILKINS

A funeral service for Barbara A. Wilkins (nee Spudich) was held Tuesday, May 1, 2018 at Smits Funeral Home in Dyer, IN.

Mrs. Wilkins was born September 13, 1954 and passed away April 27, 2018. Wife of Frank Wilkins. Mother of Julie Wilkins and Michael (Amy) Wilkins. Grandmother of 3. Sister of Denise (late Gregory) Whittam.

Interment was private. Arrangements were entrusted to Smits Funeral Home, Dyer, IN.

YOUNG

A funeral Mass for Donna L. Young (nee Maurer) was held Monday, April 30, 2018 at St. Maria Goretti Catholic Church in Dyer, IN, with Rev. Timothy McFarland officiating.

Mrs. Young was born February 16, 1942 and passed away April 25, 2018. Wife of John O. Young. Mother of Vicki (Stephen) Glinki-White, John C. Young, and Heather Young. Grandmother of 6. Sister of Diane (late Rosario) Cascone, Susan (late John) Bernard, and the late Patricia Ann Maurer.

Interment was private. Arrangements were entrusted to Smits Funeral Home, Dyer, IN.

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WORDSEARCH

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Ambasa	Coca-Cola	Inca Kola	Peartiser
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Barq's	Fantasy	Light	Surge
Beat	Fresca	Lilt	Tab
Blak	Frescolita	Limca	Thums Up
Cherry	Full Throttle	Mello Yello	Vault
Citra	Grapetiser	Mr. Pibb	Zero

Turn of Phrase

Pocketbook: As far back as 1722 a pocket-book referred to "a booklike leather folder for papers, bills, etc." By 1816 it had come to refer to a small clutch-type woman's purse.



CROSSWORD

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Across

- Frosts, as a cake
- Cleansing tub
- Deep-six
- 1/500 of the Indianapolis 500
- Arch type
- Winged
- 1415 battle with English longbowmen victors over French forces
- Offer a revised proposed price
- Suitable for feeding directly into a computer (2 wds)
- Laugh-a-minute folks
- Aggravate
- Pesky insects
- "Don't give up!"
- Brown-coated ermines
- "Aladdin" prince
- Long, long time
- Bank job
- Jeans material
- Ace
- Cab driver in "It's a Wonderful Life"
- Musical sign marking the beginning or end of a repeat
- Order between "ready" and "fire"
- Badge-earning girls' org. (acronym)
- Victory cheer
- Dumfries denial
- Greek word for goddess
- Amigo
- 1,000 kilograms
- House salesperson (3 wds)
- Pertaining to simple organisms like kelp
- Early term for locomotive (2 wds)
- Airs
- Blue books?
- Extol
- ____-cochere (carriage entrance)
- Fictitious story

Down

- Mosque V.I.P.
- Humidor item
- Educing
- Portugese Mr.
- Benefits
- Chill
- British unit of nonprofessional soldiers (2 wds)
- Subjection to the law of another
- Reddish-brown gem
- Detergent
- Browning's Ben Ezra, e.g.
- Inclined
- Technical name for feet
- Part of N.Y.C.
- Police blotter abbr.
- Segregation
- Not just "a"
- Infomercials, e.g.
- "Malcolm X" director
- Without distinction of one from others (2 wds)
- ____ boom bah!
- Oolong, for one
- Something breathed in
- ____ juice (milk)
- Harvest goddess
- Wyle of "ER"
- Neighbor of Namibia
- Bum
- Prefix with centric
- Avid
- Extra inning
- Arise
- "... or ___!"
- Plug
- "Bill & ___ Excellent Adventure"

On This Date: May 3

1845 - First African American lawyer, Macon B. Allen, admitted to the bar • 1921 - First state sales tax is enacted by West Virginia • 1933 - Nellie T. Ross becomes first female director of the US Mint • 1936 - NY Yankee Joe DiMaggio makes his major-league debut • 1937 - Margaret Mitchell wins Pulitzer Prize for *Gone With the Wind* • 1947 - Japan's new post-war constitution strips Emperor of political power • 1952 - First landing of an airplane at the North Pole • 1965 - Today Show marks first use of satellite TV • 1973 - Chicago's Sears Tower becomes the world's tallest building • 1997 - Chess champ Garry Kasparov plays against IBM supercomputer Deep Blue • 1999 - A tornado strikes Oklahoma City causing \$1 billion in damage

SOLUTIONS

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Announcements are free and run in The Shopper each week. They are accepted by e-mail at general@myshopper.biz, or at the front counter. Deadline is Friday at 4:00 p.m. for the following Thursday's edition. The Shopper reserves the right to edit all content.

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Look for dog park progress in May

BY MELANIE JONGSMA

LANSING, Ill. (April 23, 2018) - The Park Board received four bidders for the dog park project, and all four were over budget. Innovation Landscape, Inc., was the lowest bidder, so park district architect Planning Resources, Inc. reviewed each line item of their proposal and made adjustments to bring the project within budget. The Board of Commissioners then unanimously approved and awarded the bid to Innovation Landscape, Inc.

The project is still awaiting permits from the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District and the Village of Lansing. April's unpredictable weather would have made the project difficult to begin anyway, says Sharon Desjardins, Senior Superintendent of Strategy & Operations.

Visible progress will begin in mid-May, however, as the asphalt work has been ordered and is scheduled. In addition, in May the park district will build a wood fence around the maintenance yard at that location, in order to beautify the site.

Desjardins and park district staff are also working out the details for a dog park sponsorship program that will allow businesses and residents to participate in enhancing the dog park. The park district has already been contacted by one Lansing business and one Lansing resident with requests to financially participate.

Summer projects in Lansing parks

INFORMATION PROVIDED BY THE PARK DISTRICT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

LANSING, Ill. (April 23, 2018) - With the approval of the Fiscal Year 2018–2019 operating budget at their April 23 meeting, the Park Board approved funding of various projects scheduled for this summer in parks throughout Lansing, including the following:

- Renovating the softball diamond and painting the backstop at Lions Park
 - Resurfacing and repairing the basketball court at Schultz Park
 - Painting the rest room building and the backstop at Schultz Park
 - Painting the backstop at Rotary Park
 - Adding concrete bags games to the horseshoe areas at Lan-Oak Park and Schultz Park
 - Asphalt repair and new park benches at Lan-Oak Park
 - Landscaping the entry areas at Van Laten Park and Rotary Park
 - Removing dead trees at Lions Park and Rotary Park
- In addition, probably in October, the Eisenhower Fitness Center will receive new weight equipment for the weight room.

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Winterhoff Park to join Lan-Oak Park District's series of 'destination' parks

BY MELANIE JONGSMA

LANSING, Ill. (April 23, 2018) – Van Laten Park has a StoryWalk. Lions Park has pickleball. Potts Park is slated for bocce. And Bock Park will be home to Lansing's new dog park. Each of these is an example of the Lan-Oak Park District's strategy of creating "Destination Parks," with something unique about each one, rather than providing the same standard equipment in all Lansing parks.

This year, Winterhoff Park will become the destination for music lovers.

The Park Board researched options for installing outdoor musical instruments, such as those created by Freenotes Harmony Park and Rhapsody Outdoor Musical Instruments. After obtaining samples and information, staff made a recommendation to the Committee of the Whole to use Landscape Structures to provide and install a "Symphony" amenity at Winterhoff Park. That recommendation was approved at the April 23 meeting.

Symphony comprises six pieces of musical equipment—half suitable for younger children and half suitable up to adult ages. The instruments include a Goblet Drum, a Kundu Drum, a Kettle Drum, a Jingle Metallophone, an Animato Metallophone, and a Grandioso Chime. A single post shade structure will enhance the space.

The idea for bringing outdoor musical instruments to Lansing was presented to the Park Board by a resident last year. The Board liked the idea, but the budget had already been approved, so they were unable to designate any money to the concept at that time. This year a fresh budget is in place, and the Fox Pointe development has made Winterhoff a natural location for a musical feature. Winterhoff Park is located directly northeast of Fox Pointe. Visible Music College is also nearby, adding more musical possibilities to the concept.

Senior Superintendent of Strategy & Operations Sharon Desjardins said, "Symphony incorporates beautifully into the goal of the park district to offer a wide variety of recreational opportunities in our parks that address the diverse interests of our residents."



Winterhoff Park will become the "destination" park for music lovers once the park district installs outdoor musical instruments. Winterhoff is located northeast of Fox Pointe and Visible Music College, adding more musical possibilities to the concept.

Forever Plaid to open in Munster

INFORMATION PROVIDED BY
THEATRE AT THE CENTER

MUNSTER, Ind. (April 5, 2018) – Matt Edmonds in the role of Sparky, Adam LaSalle as Francis, Yando Lopez as Jinx, and Christopher Ratliff as Smudge star in Theatre at the Center’s spring musical, *Forever Plaid*. Previews begin May 3 with Opening Night May 6 and performances continuing through June 3.

THE STORY

Forever Plaid, written by Stuart Ross, is a musical revue that follows a quirky quartet of high school chums as they rehearse for the biggest performance of their lives while dreaming of becoming like their singing idols—including the Four Aces, the Four Lads, the Four Freshmen, and the Crew Cuts. Their spirited antics and comic banter weave together such hits as “Three Coins in the Fountain,” “Heart and Soul,” and “Love is a Many-Splendored Thing,” in a playful tribute to the close harmony “guy groups” of the 1950s.

THE STARS

Matt Edmonds (Sparky) was last seen at TATC as L.M. in *Pump Boys and Dinettes* and in multiple roles in *Big River*. Recent work includes *Ragtime* at Griffin Theatre, *James and the Giant Peach* at Drury Lane Oakbrook, and *Death of a Salesman* at Redtwist Theatre, which earned him a Jeff Nomination for Best Supporting Actor in a Play.

From left: Christopher Ratliff, Yando Lopez, Matt Edmonds, and Adam LaSalle star in Theatre at the Center’s production of *Forever Plaid* in Munster, Indiana. (Photo: Guy Rhodes)



Adam LaSalle (Francis) is making his TATC debut. He recently appeared Off-Broadway and in the Chicago premiere of *Forbidden Broadway’s Spamilton* playing King George, and he served as the show’s pianist and music director.

Yando Lopez (Jinx and Dance Captain) also makes his TATC debut with *Forever Plaid*. He was Jeff-nominated for his role as Lin-Manuel Miranda in *Spamilton* at the Royal George Theatre. Other credits include *The Christians* at Steppenwolf, *In the Heights* at Porchlight Music Theatre and Paramount Theatre and *Little Shop of Horrors* with American Blues Theatre.

Christopher Ratliff (Smudge) made his TATC debut as part of the ensemble in *A Wonderful Life – The Musical*. He has also appeared as Jon Snow/Jaime/Ramsay in *Thrones! The Musical Parody* at the Apollo Theatre, as Jason in *Bare: A Pop Opera* at Refuge Theatre, as Freddy in *Pygmalion* at the Rogue Theatre, and as Laurie in *Little Women* at 20% Theatre.

THE DIRECTOR

Brenda Didier is Director and Choreographer of *Forever Plaid*. Didier made her directorial and choreographic debut at TATC in 2017 with the stage hit *My Way: A Musical Tribute to Frank Sinatra*.

Her work has been seen at Mercury Theater Chicago, Bailiwick Chicago, BoHo, Theo Ubique Cabaret, and Porchlight Music Theatre. Didier has received Jeff Awards for both direction and choreography.

THE CREATIVE TEAM

The creative team for *Forever Plaid* includes Scenic Designer Jessie Howe, Lighting Designer G. “Max” Maxin, Sound Designer Michael J. Patrick, Costume Designer Brenda Winstead, Wig Design by Kevin Barthel, and Prop Design by Frank Roberts, who also serves as Assistant Director. Stage Manager is Jessica Banaszak. William Underwood is Music Director.

THE MANAGEMENT

Linda Fortunato, as TATC’s Artistic Director, is teamed with Richard Friedman as General Manager and Ann Davis as Head of Production.

SHOWTIMES AND PRICES

Performances are 2:00pm Wednesdays and Thursdays; 7:30pm Fridays; 3:00pm and 7:30pm on Saturdays; and 2:30pm on Sundays, with select Thursday and Sunday night performances.

Individual ticket prices range from \$42—\$46. To purchase individual tickets, call the Box Office at 219-836-3255 or Tickets.com at 800-511-1532. Group discounts are available for groups of 11 or more, student tickets are \$20, and gift certificates are also available.



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Adults and children alike are invited to join the fun after Lansing’s 2018 Good Neighbor Day Parade as we celebrate anniversaries for Lansing (125 years) and the State of Illinois (200 years). Attractions include:

- Food and drinks (alcohol included) available for purchase from Tacos & Burritos Rancho Grande and Lynnies Ques
- Live DJ and dancing
- 9-hole miniature golf course
- Video gaming truck
- Commemorative selfie station and historical Lansing slide show
- Photo opportunities with Lansing’s official airplane
- Miniature therapy ponies
- Other surprises!

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT SHEILA @ 708-895-7208

Sunnybrook School District prepares for third annual 5K

Saturday, May 19, 9:00am, at Heritage Middle School

INFORMATION PROVIDED BY SUNNYBROOK SCHOOL DISTRICT 171

LANSING, Ill. (April 7, 2018) – Preparations are underway for the Sunnybrook School District 171 Education Foundation’s third annual 5K Walk/Run/Bike on Saturday, May 19, at 9:00am at Heritage Middle School.

The event will not only raise money for Sunnybrook School District’s Student Growth Fund, but will also contribute to an ongoing partnership between the Lansing-Lynwood Community and Sunnybrook School District 171.

The Student Growth Fund enriches the learning of School District 171 students through various programs and scholarships.

Dr. Erika Millhouse-Pettis, co-chair of the event, said, “It is our firm belief that community engagement in the school district enriches the lives of students, helps develop community awareness, and enhances the partnership between Sunnybrook School District 171 and the communities of Lansing and Lynwood.”

Dr. Hughes B. George, Superintendent of 171, added, “The purpose of the 5K Walk/Run/Bike is to further motivate community members to become and remain active in the various programs, initiatives, and organizations that are available within the District for parents, community members, and other stakeholders.”

Mr. Gregory Cade, President of



the Education Foundation, echoed Dr. George’s sentiments: “The success of our communities depends largely on the success of our students and our schools. Therefore, in order for either one to be successful, we must work together.”

Registration for the 5K can be

found directly on the district’s website: www.sd171.org.

For additional information, contact either of the event co-chairs:

- Dr. Erika Millhouse-Pettis, 708-895-0750 or emillhouse@sd171.org
- Mr. Richard Brown, 708-895-0750 or rbrown@sd171.org

Dan Podgorski becomes Lansing Hall-of-Famer

INFORMATION PROVIDED BY THE LANSING LITTLE LEAGUE EXECUTIVE BOARD

LANSING, Ill. (April 21, 2018) - During Opening Day ceremonies for the 2018 season, Dan Podgorski was inducted into the Lansing Little League Hall of Fame.

Podgorski, who formerly served as Village President and currently serves as Village Administrator, became involved in Lansing Little League as a player in 1980, after his family moved to Lansing from Harvey, Illinois. He played for Lions Club and Coach Bill Pierce, and then played in the Babe Ruth program until his 18-year-old season. After a summer off, he became a manager in the Babe Ruth 14–15-year-old league for five years.

Podgorski transitioned out of coaching in order to raise a family. He served as Babe Ruth President from 1993–1995. During that time, he also became more involved in Lansing Old Timers, serving as Treasurer for the organization. He resumed coaching in 1996 when his oldest daughter, BreAnne, got involved in Little League and then in Lansing Girls Softball the following year. Podgorski has coached one of his kids’ teams every year since 1996, most recently with Caden in Little League and Miley in Lansing Girls Softball. Along the way, he served as Lansing Old Timers President from 1996–2011 and Concessions Manager in 2012. He began his current tenure as Lansing Old Timers President in 2013.

The Lansing Little League Executive Board said of Podgorski, “He tirelessly works to provide everything needed for youth sports to be an enjoyable experience for participants, families, and visitors—all with a spirit of humility that is contagious. His humble service is the blueprint for all who volunteer their time and efforts.”



Podgorski (center) is described as “the first person at the sports complex, and quite often the last to leave.” (Photo provided)

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Edge Adventures Aerial Park opens May 5

“Brunch is Boring” Mother’s Day special also available

INFORMATION PROVIDED BY BIG SPLASH PR

CROWN POINT, Ind. (April 18, 2018) – On Saturday, May 5, Edge Adventures Deep River Aerial Park opens for the season. The only aerial park in Northwest Indiana, Edge Adventures is a tree-to-tree adventure course that features over 50 challenging treetop obstacles and zip lines for guests at every skill level. Edge Adventures also includes a kid’s park with elements closer to the ground that are designed for children ages 4–7.

Edge Adventures Deep River Aerial Park is open weekends beginning May 5, and it will be open daily May 26 through mid-November.

Visitors can harness up and climb up into the trees to embark on adventures that include traversing across rope bridges, balancing on log beams, climbing on cargo nets, gliding on zip lines, and more. The experience is designed to expose visitors to the beauty of nature from a variety of unique vantage points.

The aerial park is positioned beside Deep River Water Park, giving visitors the opportunity to visit two major attractions in one day.

Edge Adventures provides all safety equipment—helmet, harnesses, belays, and gloves. Guests will participate in a safety briefing and practice course, and are assisted by Edge Adventures trained staff throughout each of the course routes.

Certain age, height, and weight limits apply for the larger courses. Adventurers must be at least 8 years old, with a minimum weight of 40 pounds and a maximum of 275 pounds. Hands must reach 66” high with feet flat on the ground.

In addition to the larger courses, the smaller kid’s course includes low-to-the-ground elements and zip lines. Tickets are \$10 for the one-hour kid’s



Visitors to Edge Adventures can harness up and traverse across rope bridges, balance on log beams, climb on cargo nets, glide on zip lines, and more. The park is offering a Mother’s Day promotion for adventure-loving mothers. (Photo provided)

park adventure (ages 4–7).

The two-hour adventure is \$42 for adults and \$32 for children 8–12. The three-hour adventure is \$49 adults and \$39 children 8–12. And an all-day adventure is \$79 for adults and children 8–12.

MOTHER’S DAY PROMOTION – “BRUNCH IS BORING”

On Saturday, May 12, and Sunday, May 13, when you purchase two regular-priced tickets for the two- or three-hour adventure, mom joins you for free. Edge Adventures says, “Try something different on Mother’s Day this year. Instead of another boring brunch, take mom out to Edge for some fun in the trees with her favorite fan club.” Promo code: BRUNCHISBORING

Edge Adventures Deep River Aerial Park NWI is located at 9001 E. Lincoln Highway, Crown Point, IN 46307. The park is open daily from 10:00am–6:00pm, with the last adventure beginning at 4:00pm.

Special Olympics Illinois kicks off 50th-anniversary celebration

First Special Olympics was held July 20, 1968, at Soldier Field

INFORMATION PROVIDED BY THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

CARBONDALE, Ill. (April 6, 2018) - Gov. Bruce Rauner joined athletes and volunteers for the Special Olympics Illinois 50th Anniversary Kickoff celebrations at the Touch of Nature Environmental Center in Carbondale.

“The Special Olympics has its roots in Illinois and is a major

source of pride in our state history,” said Gov. Rauner. “For the past 50 years, the Special Olympics has made the world a more compassionate and inclusive place. We thank those who laid the foundation for this life-changing organization.”

In the 1950s, Southern Illinoisan Dr. William H. Freeberg, an early leader in therapeutic recreation, started a camp for children and

adults with intellectual disabilities at what later became the Touch of Nature Environmental Center. His pioneering work provided invaluable guidance as Eunice Kennedy Shriver built out programs across the country for the special needs community through The Kennedy Foundation. Dr. Freeberg was also a consultant for Shriver and co-founder

Anne Burke as they collaborated to plan the first Special Olympics, which was held at Chicago’s Soldier Field in July of 1968.

“On that beautiful day in Soldier Field, while observing the gorgeous sunrise over Lake Michigan, 1,000 athletes from 26 states and



Canada competed in the first Special Olympics,” Illinois Supreme Court Justice Anne Burke said. “Fifty years later, the games that were ‘born in Chicago’ started earlier as seedlings at Touch of Nature Educational Center in Carbondale. Special Olympics changed the world forever by celebrating the abilities of people who have disabilities.”

“The chance to share in the history of Special Olympics is very exciting, and it is great to see so much support from Chicago and Springfield, as well as the whole state,” said Special Olympics Illinois Assistant Director Shane Bennett. “Today is also a way for us to showcase the park and facilities that Touch of Nature has to offer.”

The 2018 Special Olympics USA Games will be held in Seattle, Washington, from July 1 to July 6. The Games will host 3,500 athletes from across the country competing in 14 sports.

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