

THE LANSING JOURNAL

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DISTRICT 158 is Looking for a swift solution

BY MELANIE JONGSMA

LANSING, Ill. (June 2018) – Outgoing Superintendent Ceal Heiberger was surprised to learn about the large colony of chimney swifts that has been nesting at Coolidge Elementary School for 20 years or more. It was only after construction plans were well underway that the birds' migratory patterns became an issue.

Avian Wildlife Rehabilitator (and former Memorial Junior High teacher)

Kat Podgorski is the Lansing resident who alerted Heiberger to the situation. Podgorski has lived across the street from Coolidge for 15 years, and the swifts' summer return to the large chimney is something she notices and enjoys each year.

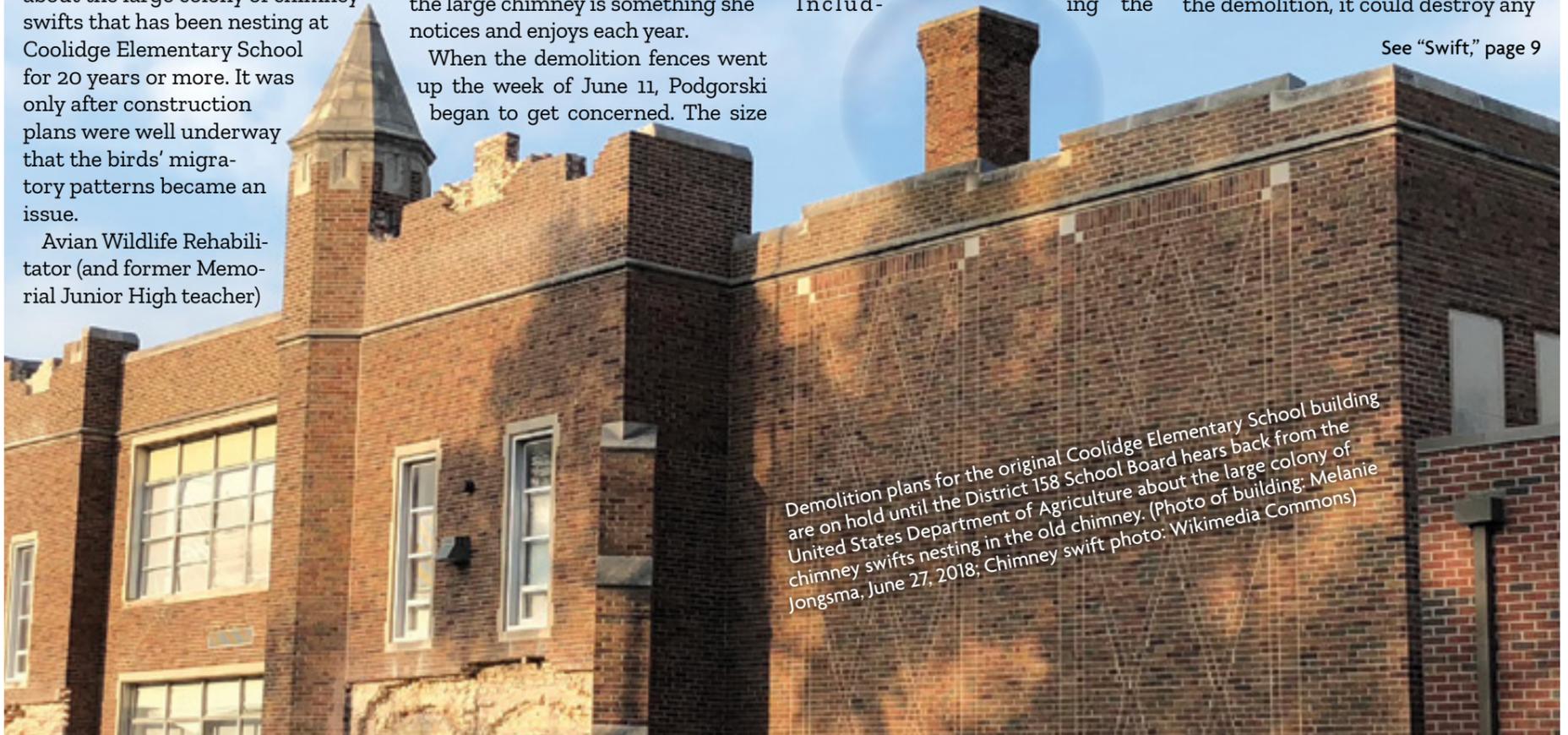
When the demolition fences went up the week of June 11, Podgorski began to get concerned. The size

of the old brick chimney allows it to accommodate hundreds of swifts. By comparison, an uncapped residential chimney might become home to a single pair of swifts. Including the

Coolidge chimney in the demolition of the old school building would leave more than 300 birds without a home.

And depending on the timing of the demolition, it could destroy any

See "Swift," page 9



Demolition plans for the original Coolidge Elementary School building are on hold until the District 158 School Board hears back from the United States Department of Agriculture about the large colony of chimney swifts nesting in the old chimney. (Photo of building: Melanie Jongsma, June 27, 2018; Chimney swift photo: Wikimedia Commons)

Building blocks

one neighborhood's experience using a block party to build community

BY ADAM BARKER

LANSING, Ill. (June 29, 2018) – Early this year, my wife Alli and I began thinking about a block party—what a great way to build relationships with neighbors we've lived next to for years but have never met! Having never organized a block party before, we learned a lot along the way. This article will share our experience in the hope of inspiring similar community-building efforts throughout Lansing.

THE INITIAL SPARK

We knew that for this to be a true community event, the community needed to have ownership of it, so we approached a few neighbors with the idea. Mike and Alissa, good friends two blocks down from us, were the first to get on board. Denarius and Alex, who live next door to us, and Maria and Paul, a few houses down, were happy to be involved. Colleen joined us a bit later, and this became our planning group.

Over the course of four months we met in each other's homes five or six times to plan the event. For some neighborhoods it might not be necessary to have this many planning meetings, but we found them to be helpful because



The Oakley Avenue Community—as they are now calling themselves—had their first block party on June 23. They are already planning more neighborhood events and get-togethers. (Photo: Melanie Jongsma)

they allowed us to have multiple voices involved in the process. Just as important, the meetings gave us an opportunity to get to know each other. We learned that we all want deeper, richer community in our neighborhood, and it was fun to talk about ways to make that happen. When the day of our block party arrived, deeper community was already developing among the nine of

See "Blocks," page 4

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Summer photos

First submission received

COHASSET, Minn. (June 4, 2018) - Leroy Jansma was the first to respond to our request for photos depicting Lansing residents vacationing outside of Lansing. At Bass Lake in Cohasset, Minnesota, this photo was taken by David Olen. Congratulations, Leroy!

INSTRUCTIONS

The summer photo fun is not over. We are looking for photos of LANSING RESIDENTS on vacation somewhere OUTSIDE OF LANSING.

Email your photos to mjongsma@thelansingjournal.com. Include:

- The name of the person (or people) in the photo
- The name of the person who took the photo
- The location where the photo was taken

GETTING CHOSEN

Three hints for increasing the likelihood that your photo will be chosen for an upcoming print issue of The Lansing Journal:

- Include a copy of The Lansing Journal in the photo. (We love that!)
- Travel somewhere far away—we'll probably give a shout-out to the Lansing resident who traveled the farthest this summer.
- Include all the information we ask for above.

You do NOT need to be a professional photographer. We are looking for variety, diversity, and creativity. We'll choose as many as we can fit into a photo spread in an upcoming issue. Have fun!

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THE
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The Lansing Journal, P.O. Box 742, Lansing, IL 60438
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TheLansingJournal.com

PUBLISHED BY

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The Lansing Journal is a community newspaper. We need help making sure our full community is represented in all its demographic diversity. If you have story ideas, photos, or articles you'd like to send us, email info@thelansingjournal.com.

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Congratulations correction

LANSING, Ill. (June 19, 2018) – In the June 6 print issue of The Lansing Journal, we printed a short note of congratulations on page 14—and one of the names was wrong. Congratulations should go to Zachary (not Jacob) Furmanek, along with Brandon Witvliet and Sara Bosman. They won a scholarship from the Lansing Old Timers.

Thank you, Debbie Furmanek, for making us aware of the error and giving us the opportunity to correct it.



(Photo: Melanie Jongsma)

Tomatoes, sweet corn, and more

VanDerGriend family's "Red Barn" farm stand has supplied local produce for more than six decades

BY CARRIE STEINWEG

LANSING, Ill. (June 27, 2018) – The next time you stop by VanDerGriend's Farm Stand for some sweet corn or veggies, keep this in mind: it's there because of an

entrepreneurial six-year-old.

About 61 years ago, the site was a large farm where tomatoes were grown and supplied to Libby's canning factory. What is now the Oakwood Estates subdivision was once hundreds of acres of farmland

where tomatoes were produced by the VanDerGriend family. The farmer's six-year-old daughter, Bonnie, one day decided to set up a table at the roadside and sell tomatoes herself. Soon people were returning on a regular basis for tomatoes and suggesting that they sell other vegetables as well.

Bonnie's little table got so busy that her mom would have to go out and help. The next year Bonnie's father planted sweet corn. The little roadside stand continued to grow, and the family quit supplying tomatoes to Libby's and started focusing on growing to sell for themselves.

"My grandma saw an opportunity and started the farm stand," said Scott VanDerGriend, who now owns the farm stand with his parents, Bob (Bonnie's little brother) and Jean. That little table of tomatoes moved into the recognizable big red barn where locals still stop for their summer sweet corn, tomatoes, and more.

There's now a fourth generation working in the family business—Scott VanDerGriend's two oldest children, ages 16 and 14. At least one has expressed interest in taking over the business one day, so future generations in Lansing will likely also be able to enjoy the pleasure of getting fresh locally-grown sweet corn for years to come.

The farmhouse and former horse

barn have been there for about 160 years, according to VanDerGriend. Aside from adding a cement floor and awning, the rest of the barn is still original. It's been in VanDerGriend's family since 1939 when his grandfather purchased the property.

As a seasonal business, they open in May to sell flowers and then close up for the month of June to get ready for vegetable sales. Depending on the weather and how crops are affected, opening day varies. Some years the red barn open in early July, and other years it opens mid-month. VanDerGriend said that the recent hot spell helped the corn progress, so he anticipates opening around July 8. The business has a Facebook page that can be followed for updates.

"We used to be open in June, but we are pretty known for our sweet corn. People would come in looking for it and say they'd just come back when the corn was ready," said VanDerGriend.

The farm remains open through the summer and early fall, transitioning to pumpkins, corn stalks, and fall decorations. The last day of business each season is October 31.

After his father sold the farm land for development of Oakwood Estates, the family purchased farm land in Beecher, and that's where the majority of the produce sold at the stand is grown. No fruit is grown on the farm. Items like bananas are purchased by Scott at the central market in Chicago, and his father makes frequent trips to Michigan for blueberries and peaches.

Besides growing vegetables for their farm stand, the VanDerGriends also supply several area restaurants with produce and also sell their items at the Calumet City Farmer's Market held on Fridays from mid-July through October. In addition to co-owning the farm stand with his parents, VanDerGriend is also co-owner of Windmill Brewing in Dyer, which opened in August of 2015.

VanDerGriend's Farm Stand is located at 2812 Glenwood-Lansing Road in Lansing. They are open 8:00am–6:00pm Monday–Friday, and 8:00am–5:00pm on Saturday. VanDerGriend's is closed Sundays and closed on Labor Day. Call 708-474-1255 for more information.



The flag depository is located on the south side of the Lansing Municipal Center and can be accessed any time. (Photo: Melanie Jongsma)

Lansing's flag depository offers respectful disposal of old flags

BY MELANIE JONGSMA, WITH INFORMATION GATHERED BY WILL FARLOW

LANSING, Ill. (June 26, 2018) – Proper flag etiquette dictates that a flag that has become faded, torn, or stained should be disposed of properly. Lansing residents have access to a flag depository where they can place American flags that are ready for retirement.

The depository is located on the south side of the Lansing Municipal Center (3141 Ridge Road). It is outside the building, so flags can be deposited there 24 hours a day.

Fire Prevention Officer Keith Zigterman stops at the depository every Friday to remove any flags that have been deposited throughout the week. Holidays such as Flag Day, Veterans Day, and Independence Day often result in higher use of the depository, so on those occasions, Zigterman often checks twice a week.

Though even a torn, faded American flag deserves a respectful disposal, Zigterman says the depository often contains flags that are balled up or bagged rather than being folded properly and placed in the receptacle. Still, Zigterman appreciates the opportunity to receive flags in any condition so that the Lansing Fire Department can dispose of them properly.

"Our department's duty crews take care of the burning of the flags at Station 29, near the Lansing airport," said Zigterman. The department places the flags in a 55-gallon steel drum for burning, and there is no specific ceremony surrounding the disposal.

Zigterman has worked with the Lansing Fire Department in collecting and properly disposing of flags for approximately 10 years.



The old round table full of corn is a familiar summer sight at VanDerGriend's Red Barn. (Photo: Carrie Steinweg)



Left: Frank Somodi, Alissa Bolz, and Gloria Chavez-Gomez greet neighbors and make new friends at the block party welcome table. Right: Everyone was encouraged to contribute side dishes, desserts, and drinks, while the planning committee grilled hot dogs and hamburgers for all. (Photos: Adam Barker)

Blocks, from page 1

us, meaning that even if the party was a flop, it couldn't be a failure. Its purpose had already been achieved in the planning!

THE NECESSARY APPROVAL

We were thrilled to find out that the village makes it very easy for residents to throw a block party. The instructions were readily available on the village website (type "Block Party Forms" in the search field), and all that was required of us was to have at least half of the neighbors on the block sign a petition (also available online) granting us permission to use the street.

THE NEIGHBORS' RESPONSE

In fact, we were very encouraged that not only our block, but our entire neighborhood, was excited about the party. As we distributed invitations door-to-door (something we recommend doing), again and again our neighbors expressed excitement. Several commented that in the years they've lived here, nothing like this has happened, and they were thrilled that it finally was!

THE BIG DAY

On Saturday, June 23, dozens of



neighbors came out and enjoyed a beautiful day together. We learned one another's names, heard one another's stories, and become

one another's friends. Our planning group provided hot dogs and hamburgers while the rest of the neighborhood brought sides dishes, desserts, and drinks. We couldn't have imagined our first neighborhood event going any better! We've already planned the next one, and

we are excited for what the summer holds in what we're calling the "Oakley Avenue Community."

BUILDING COMMUNITY

One thing that became clear throughout our experience is that great neighborhoods are made up of great neighbors. Community is built by people in the community. It can't be outsourced or delegated—the responsibility and opportunity is ours.

So if you are wondering why your neighborhood has never had a block party—it could be that your neighborhood is waiting for you to start planning it!

Wentworth Walgreens adds safe medication disposal

Lansing location now one of 1,000 kiosks nationwide



(Photo: Melanie Jongsma)

BY MELANIE JONGSMA

DEERFIELD, Ill. (June 11, 2018) – Walgreens announced it has reached 1,000 safe medication disposal kiosk installations at its drugstores nationwide. The milestone was marked at a Las Vegas, Nevada, store.

Walgreens kiosks allow the safe and convenient disposal of unwanted, unused, or expired prescriptions, controlled substances, and over-the-counter medications year-round at no cost. The kiosks are available during regular pharmacy hours. At the Lansing Walgreens located on Wentworth and Ridge, the pharmacy is open 8:00am–midnight, seven days a week.

Walgreens' president of operations, Richard Ashworth, said Walgreens is proud to provide a solution for getting unwanted medications out of homes and away from landfills. The kiosk program began in 2016 and has already collected and safely disposed of more than 270 tons of medications. To learn more about safe medication disposal visit Walgreens.com/combatdrugabuse.

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Carol, it is with sincere gratitude that we thank you for the contributions you make to the success of our organization. Please know that we truly appreciate the ideas, hard work and contributions that you invest every day in our success. Your example is an inspiration to us all! We look forward to working with you for many more years to come.

Sincerely,
Todd Botma



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Fireworks: Park District, Village both want what's best for Lansing (and a quality display isn't cheap)

BY KATIE ARVIA

LANSING, Ill. (June 28, 2018) – For many years, the Lan-Oak Park District partnered with the Village to put on the Grande Ole Fourth fireworks celebration. However, 2018 provided an opportunity to review the partnership. As Sharon Desjardins, Senior Superintendent of Strategy & Operations for the Lansing Park District, explained, Lansing's contract with the fireworks provider ended with this year's display.

This gave the Village an opportunity to evaluate their role. "For us, it's about looking at what makes sense financially [that] we can contribute

under our community relations budget," said Ken Reynolds, Communications Director for Lansing. Putting on a quality fireworks display costs approximately \$17,000 each year, and the Village is considering whether they should be using those dollars to get even more bang for their buck, so to speak.

This budget reevaluation does not mean, however, that the Village would withdraw completely from the Fourth of July celebration. Reynolds believes that the park district has done an excellent job of putting on a quality show for Lansing residents. He stated that the Village "definitely wants to be a part

of the Fourth of July."

In the past, the Village not only paid for most of the fireworks, but also provided services such as the police department, fire department, and public works.

"The park district pays for a small portion of the fireworks and music, organizes the food vendors, pays for the attractions, organizes and runs the family games, and provides staff for all of those functions," Desjardins said, who has been with the park district for the past 15 years.

With the possibility of a smaller financial backing from the Village, Desjardins said the park district will look for new sponsors for the annual celebration, though they plan on "shouldering the cost alone if necessary."

Whatever the future holds, Reynolds stressed the importance of working together to provide for the Lansing community.

"We've had a very good relationship, a very open relationship with the park district. We definitely believe that the two municipal forms of government need to work

as closely as possible to provide quality services to our residents," Reynolds said.

Desjardins believes that most Lansing residents will not notice a difference at next year's Fourth of July celebration. The park district signed a new three-year contract with fireworks provider Melrose Pyrotechnics. "We had the option of shortening the display for the coming three years in order to save money [but] chose not to," Desjardins said. "Our community deserves the finest display we can give them."

Despite the significant cost of the Fourth of July celebration, Desjardins stressed the importance of carrying on a long-standing Lansing tradition.

"The Lansing community has come together to celebrate in a spectacular way for decades," Desjardins said. "Events such as the Grande Ole Fourth make family memories that last a lifetime. Can you really put a price on that? The park district doesn't think you should and will carry on this important Lansing tradition, hopefully for years to come."

Village budget process continues

2019 Budget must be finalized by July 17

BY MELANIE JONGSMA

LANSING, Ill. (June 11, 2018) – At the June 5 Committee of the Whole meeting, Finance Chair Jerry Zeldenrust encouraged his fellow Trustees to "be diligent" about reviewing the preliminary copies of the 2019 Budget they had received two weeks previous. Zeldenrust commended Village Treasurer Arlette Frye on her expertise at balancing the needs and resources of the various Village departments, and he directed the Board to bring any concerns or questions to Frye's attention.

Zeldenrust had already reviewed the document himself, and one item he pointed out is that the 2019 Budget should reflect additional costs associated with Boards and Commissions, because the Village is adding a new commission this year—the Human Relations Commission.

Treasurer Frye is hoping other Trustees will let her know their questions or concerns as soon as possible.

Treasurer Frye confirmed that, by statute, the budget must be approved by the end of July. In addition, the budget must be available for public inspection at least 10 days prior to approval. The only July Board meeting is scheduled for July 17, so if the Board plans to approve the budget at that meeting, it must be shared with the public by July 7. Typically this is done by making a copy available for viewing at the Municipal Center. The latest draft of the budget will be

made available, but the Village may make changes to the budget even after it is posted for the public.

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Three Lansing businesses celebrate 30 years together

BY MATTHEW J SPLANT

LANSING, Ill. (June 13, 2018) – Many things have changed in Lansing over the past 30 years, but three businesses have managed to remain strong. In 1988, local restaurant JJ Kelley's, insurance agent Joe LaBella, and ornamental iron makers Chicago's Finest Ironworks all opened their doors. Each one has their own story to tell, and together as members of the business community they have helped shape Lansing over the years.

JJ KELLEY'S: "OFF THE BEATEN PATH"

JoEllyn and Vince Kelley, husband and wife owners of JJ Kelley's, opened their doors in the summer of 1988. Each had a background in running restaurants and bars in other towns. When it came to selecting a location, Vince was certain the spot in Lansing would be excellent. One or two other restaurants had been there over the years. However, not being familiar with Lansing, JoEllyn had doubts about the location that her husband talked her into selecting. She said it was "off the beaten path" and "you couldn't find it if you had a map." Time went on and people were able to find the restaurant. It was about 10 to 15 years ago when JJ Kelley's started giving back to the community. It is something they still do to this day. One area of interest to them is the military. They have a wall honoring veterans and those still in active service.

JOE LABELLA: FROM HARVEY TO SOUTH HOLLAND TO LANSING

For Joe LaBella, opening his State Farm Insurance Agency in Lansing was a relatively easy decision. He was born and raised here. In his own words, "I knew everybody; everybody knew me. It felt like a good fit." On April 1, 1988, LaBella opened his agency in Lansing. Prior to Lansing, his agency was in South Holland, and prior to that it was in Harvey. Insurance wasn't LaBella's first occupation. His background was as a TF South business teacher from 1981 to 1988. His decision to change careers stemmed from one too many lay-offs from the school. Thirty years later, LaBella's business success allows him to be generous back to the community—by supporting youth sport leagues, for example. Kids walking around in Lansing can often be seen wearing Joe LaBella State Farm t-shirts. And as Joe says, they wear it like a "badge of honor."

CHICAGO'S FINEST IRONWORKS: "MODERN-DAY BLACKSMITHS"

Chicago's Finest Ironworks was started by Brian Hardy, Village of Lansing Trustee, and John Micun on October 30, 1988. Originally located on Washington Street, in Lansing, in one building, they quickly grew and expanded to a second building on Washington Street. In 1996 they purchased the building on Chicago Avenue, which is their current location. When choosing Lansing they found the location to be "geographically best," says Hardy. It allows them to get to places like the north suburbs, Chicago, northwest Indiana, and up to New Buffalo, Michigan. These "modern-day blacksmiths,"



From left: Joe LaBella, JoEllyn Kelley, and Brian Hardy (Photo: Matthew J. Splant)

as Hardy calls himself and his crews, can recreate or create almost anything requested of them. Everything is custom-made, and they can accommodate almost any size project. But, it's the little things that they also do for people that make Chicago's Finest a unique blacksmith. To this day, people will bring things by like snowblowers, BMX bikes, lawn mowers. They all need to have something that a modern-day blacksmith can fix.

The owners of these businesses know each other. They also speak very well of each other. This is not surprising given the quality of the products each business produces. Throughout the Village of Lansing, residents will tell you how delicious the food is at JJ Kelley's, how respectable and honest Joe LaBella is, or how beautiful the quality products being manufactured are at Chicago's Finest. They even use each other for their services. JJ Kelley's and Chicago's Finest both use Joe LaBella State Farm for their insurance. JJ Kelley's is used to taking employees to group functions by the other two businesses. Chicago's Finest recently did some work for JJ Kelly's. And one business owner's wife works for Joe LaBella.

- JJ Kelley's is located at 2455 Bernice Avenue in Lansing. Call 708-474-9977 for more information.
- Joe LaBella State Farm Agency is located at 3436 Ridge Road in Lansing. Call 708-895-8900 to learn more.
- Chicago's Finest Ironworks is located at 17564 Chicago Avenue in Lansing. Call 708-895-4484 for services and pricing.

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Unity Christian Academy hires Head of School

Loukisha Smart-Pennix brings social service, community, and early learning experience to high school start-up

INFORMATION PROVIDED BY UNITY CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

SOUTH HOLLAND, Ill. (June 18, 2018) – The Board of Directors of Unity Christian Academy (UCA) announced today that it has hired Loukisha Smart-Pennix as its Head of School.

According to UCA Board President Steve Blom, "We knew when we started our search over two years ago that it was going to be a challenge to find the person who was deeply committed to the unique vision for Christian education the Board has proposed, who was willing to take on the professional risk of a start-up school, and who possesses the skills we were looking for, especially in the areas of organizational leadership and networking. We thank God we have found that person in Loukisha Smart-Pennix. Her experience in leading educational organizations with significant structures and personnel is overshadowed only by her faith in Christ and the desire to see this affect every aspect of the learning culture at Unity Christian Academy."

Smart-Pennix is a graduate of National Louis University with a Bachelor of Arts in Applied Behavioral Science and a Master of Science in Human Services Administration, as well as an Associate of Arts Degree from City Colleges of Chicago with a concentration in Social Service. She served for more than a decade as the Director of Children Services at the Chicago Department of Family Support Services followed by jobs in multiple capacities with the City of Chicago, including Support Service Coordinator and Assistant Director of Children Services. In 2014 she

joined Illinois Action for Children as Vice President for Early Learning Programs, and was responsible for developing early learning programs and strengthening community systems in the suburbs of Cook County.

She is eagerly embracing the UCA challenge. "This position will allow me the opportunity to merge all of my passions into one," she said. "My faith and relationship in God, my love for engaging parents and community and my love for education are all crucial aspects of this job. UCA's commitment to 'doing High School differently' aligns with my philosophy that young minds need to learn how to live in the world around them, not be afraid to profess their love for Christ and to make an impact on the world using the education that UCA will provide them through service and learning."

The Head of School is tasked to lead UCA effectively, ensuring high standards of academic excellence in well-rounded and holistic education programs. Smart-Pennix will be responsible for inspiring a Christ-centered community of lifelong learners through leadership and management of staff as well as growth and financial sustainability of the campus. The Head of School is the chief executive officer and supervises either directly or indirectly all employees of the school.

UCA is an ecumenical Christian High School which will be opening its doors to its first ninth-grade



Loukisha Smart-Pennix

class on August 15, 2018. For its first year it will be located on the campus of Calvary Community Church, 16341 South Park Avenue in South Holland, Illinois. The school is still accepting enrollment for the 2018–2019 academic year. Further information can be found at www.WeAreUCA.org or by calling 708-980-1040.

Lansing Municipal Airport interfund loan eliminated

Village Board approves accounting adjustment

BY MELANIE JONGSMA

LANSING, Ill. (June 20, 2018) – At the June 19 Village Board meeting, Administrator Dan Podgorski requested a motion recommending the "approval of a transfer for the purpose of eliminating an interfund loan from the general fund to the airport fund as of April 30, 2018, in the amount of \$3,956,496.73."

Podgorski had explained at the June 5 Committee of the Whole meeting that the main source of airport income is user fees from people who rent hangar space at Lansing Municipal Airport. That type of income qualifies to be categorized as an "enterprise fund." Because of that categorization, when expenses exceeded income, the Village was covering those expenses with an interfund loan. At the June 19 Village Board meeting Podgorski acknowledged again that the airport's user fees will likely never be enough of an income source to cover all the expenses associated with the airport—building maintenance, property maintenance, staff salaries and benefits, etc. So under the current accounting system, the Village would always have unpaid loans on its books, which has a negative impact on the Village's bond rating.

The accounting adjustment allows the Lansing Municipal Airport budget to be funded by the general fund in the same way that other department budgets are funded.

Trustee Tony Delaurentis moved to accept the recommendation of the Village auditors and Finance Department and essentially forgive the interfund loan. Trustee Jerry Zeldenrust seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

With an improved bond rating the Village of Lansing can qualify for better interest rates when loans are needed for large projects.

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Marian Catholic Honor Roll

Fourth Quarter includes 28 Lansing students

INFORMATION PROVIDED BY MARIAN CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

CHICAGO HEIGHTS, Ill. (June 21) – Marian Catholic High School released the following list of Lansing students who are included in the Fourth Quarter Honor Roll:

- David Bell
- Leandra Cabrales
- Danae' Conigan
- Melina Duda
- NinaRose Duda
- Kandis Fletcher
- Camille Fulks
- Yesenia Garcia
- Richard Garcia Jr.
- Alyssa Gorski
- Charles Gray
- Theodore Gray
- Gabriela Herrera
- Breion Hill
- Christina Javorka
- Blessing Lockwood
- Aidan McSwiggan
- Joseph Musharbash
- Andrea Roa
- Ethan Roberts
- John Roe
- Molly Roe
- Haley Taylor
- Nasira Watts
- Samantha Wood
- Sydney Wood
- Ryann Young
- Alexis Zamudio

Marian Catholic High School is located at 700 Ashland Avenue in Chicago Heights, Illinois.

Lansing Lions install new officers

Incoming President Eric Himmel encourages hands-on involvement in community

BY MELANIE JONGSMA

DYER, Ind. (June 23, 2018) – “We’re not a bunch of old guys,” Eric Himmel reminded the group. “And I say this respectfully to all my seniors in this room—we’re not bunch of old guys. We’re a bunch of people of all

ages—men and women—who want to get out there and make an impact in our local community.”

Himmel was addressing a group of about 30 people, including Lions and their significant others, who had gathered at Gino’s Steakhouse

to welcome new Lions and install new officers for the 2018–2019 year. Himmel, who had served as President once before, was given the gavel again.

His goal this time, as he explained, is to encourage his fellow Lions to do more than simply raise money for good causes, as they have done throughout their history, benefiting LARC, Meals on Wheels, the Lansing Food Pantry, Camp Quality, and other charitable organizations. Himmel wants to see Lansing Lions actually involved in the Lansing community—hosting new events, meeting new people, having a new impact.

Himmel appointed the club’s

newest Lion—Larry Thomas—to chair a newly formed Lions Stadium Committee. That committee will generate ideas such as having Trustees compete in a base-running contest, or organizing a community Home Run Derby. “We’re not sure what type of activities the committee will come up with,” said Himmel, “but I’m really excited to have Lion Larry be heading that committee.”

The Lansing Lions hold a Board meeting on the first Tuesday of each month and a dinner meeting on the fourth Tuesday of the month. For more information, mail the Lansing Lions at P.O. Box 421 in Lansing.

ATHENA nominations requested

INFORMATION PROVIDED BY THE LANSING BUSINESS WOMEN’S ASSOCIATION

LANSING, Ill. (July 1, 2018) – The Lansing Business Women’s Association is accepting nominations for the 2018 ATHENA Award, which honors leaders and leadership styles in the Lansing business and professional community. The ATHENA award is given to an exceptional individual (man or woman) who:

1. Demonstrates excellence, creativity, and initiative in his or her profession
2. Provides valuable service by contributing time and energy to the community
3. Assists women in reaching their full leadership potential

Nomination forms will be available on July 21, 2018, at:

- Fashionette (3334 Ridge Road)
- Lansing Area Chamber of Commerce (18155 Roy Street, Unit #3)
- Ridge Animal Clinic (3667 Ridge Road)
- Schultz Insurance (18119 Torrence Avenue)
- Lansing Municipal Center (3141 Ridge Road)
- Water’s Edge Gift, Garden & Pond Center (18418 Wentworth Avenue)

The recipient will be selected by a diverse group of community leaders based on the criteria above.

ABOUT THE ATHENA AWARD

The ATHENA Award is an international award that was first presented in 1982 in Lansing, Michigan, and has grown to include presentations to more than 7,000 individuals in over 500 communities and 8 countries. The award takes the form of a hand-cast bronze sculpture symbolizing the strength, courage, and wisdom of the recipient.

The ATHENA award is provided by financial sponsorship from Schultz Insurance, Schroeder-Lauer Funeral Home, and Mayor Patty Eidam. The award will be presented at the Lansing Volunteer Recognition “Evening of Thanks” Dinner on Friday, November 9, 2018, at the Serbian Social Center.

For more information, contact Carol Ann Surufka of the Lansing Business Women’s Association:

- Email carolann@surufka.com
- Call 708-767-9894



Larry Thomas (left), sponsored by Eric Himmel (right), joined the Lansing Lions and received his Lion pin. Thomas will chair a new Lions Stadium Committee. (Photo: Melanie Jongsma)

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Swift, from page 1

eggs and fledglings inside.

CHIMNEY SWIFTS 101

Chimney swifts are a migratory species of bird native to Peru. Swifts migrate north for the summer, lay eggs, and raise their young, giving them time to become strong enough to migrate back to Peru around October. A typical clutch is 4–5 eggs, and the eggs hatch after 19–20 days. During summers in Lansing, the adult swifts leave the chimney each morning to feed and gather. At dusk they return home, swarming the chimney and chirping their arrival to the young inside.

Because of the design of their feet, swifts do not perch on horizontal surfaces as most other bird species do. Instead, they grip vertical surfaces when necessary, though most of their daily life happens on the wing. The birds originally nested in hollow trees along their migratory path, but now chimneys and other man-made structures are more available. There are other colonies of swifts in Lansing—commonly in churches—but the Coolidge colony is the largest.



(Image: Wikimedia Commons)

The chimney swift population is in decline because of generations of urban development and widespread use of insecticides. Chimney swifts throughout the U.S. are protected by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918, which makes it illegal to kill them and which grants protection to eggs and nests.

PHOTO EVIDENCE

At the recommendation of the USDA Wildlife Services, Heiberger contacted the Lansing Fire Department to ask for assistance getting photos of the inside of the Coolidge chimney. Using their high-bucket ladder, a licensed wildlife specialist took photos from the top of the chimney as well as from openings

near the bottom that are used as clean-outs. Although nests and fledgling chimney swifts can be difficult to spot along the interior walls of a chimney, the specialist did confirm at least one nest with two eggs located about eight feet below the top of the chimney. The photos were forwarded to the USDA, and Heiberger informed the District 158 School Board at their June 20 meeting, "We're just awaiting their instruction. We'll take it a day at a time." As



This photo from a June 28 gathering is representative of the Swiftie set, which has at various times included Marilyn Aiken, Bob and Judy Alderden, Miriam and Bill Bales, Nancy Bales, Julie Blackwood, Susan Bohanan, Dan and Sue Bovino, Debbie Bushor, Gloria Chavez-Gomez, Elly Clausing and her sister Teresa, Marlene Cook, Barbara Dust, Mike Fish, Tina Funchion, Rebecca Furlong, Patty Grigutis, Terry Hartog, Jim and Joanne Kijewski, Mitzi Krucina, Rich and Diane Lund, Bonnie Lyzenga, Larry and Marianne Lyzenga, Joyce Mulder, Rebecca Murtaugh-Thomas, Kristen Newberry, Patty Oliver, Moira Peterson, Dave and Laura Price, Rosalie Putignano, Marilyn Raymond, Rita Rosalez, Paul and Carol Schultz, Stephen and Laura Serba, Logan Stockdreher, Alex Stockdreher, Lynn Teller, Pam Van Austin, Therese Vanderbilt, and Jerri Villa, as well as others. Swifties have come from Lansing, Lynwood, Munster, Dyer, and even New York State and Florida. (Photo: Dan Bovino)

of June 28, the USDA had not responded regarding next steps.

SWIFTS AND SWIFTIES

In the meantime, community interest is growing—in the form of a group of "Swifties." They are Lansing residents and out-of-town friends who congregate at Coolidge at dusk to watch the chimney swifts return home. Some bring lawn chairs. Some bring cameras or binoculars. Many did not know each other before the chimney swift phenomenon, but a sense of community forms as they gather and chat and share what they've learned about the birds. A few of the Swifties have shown up every night since mid-June, though most attend meetings more randomly.

A HOPE FOR CO-HABITATION

While relocating the adult birds is one option under discussion, Kat Podgorski is daring to hope that somehow the old Coolidge chimney can be incorporated into the new plans for the Coolidge campus. "Losing the chimney would mean they lose their home," she said via email. "It would also bring a silent spring without

their chatter filling the skies. This is something I hope with all my heart we don't see happen."

School Board President Robert Bonifazi indicated that the Board is open to considering all options, but it would be premature to make plans before receiving direction from the federal agencies.

Before retiring, Heiberger too expressed a desire to find the right solution. "How do we continue to be a place for them to call home," she wondered aloud, while also considering the construction schedule the Coolidge constituency is on. When large, detailed plans have been invested in and set in motion, it is no small task to stop and consider new vision. Any change of plans would have a domino effect on timelines, budgets, and results.

So for now, the Coolidge chimney swifts continue to chirp and nest, School Board 158 continues to wait for the USDA, and the Swiftie community continues to gather each evening at dusk to see Lansing's largest colony of chimney swifts while they still can.

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Understanding Lansing

What does the Lansing Fire Department do?

BY ASHLEE DE WIT

LANSING, Ill. (June 29, 2018) – In our latest installment of the Understanding Lansing series, we learn that the Lansing Fire Department does much more than put out fires. In fact, that's not even their most common task.

"About 70-80 percent of our work is the ambulance service," Fire Chief Ken Verkaik said. "We are getting more than 12 calls a day."

This includes responding to calls on the expressway, requiring not only an ambulance, but also a fire truck to block traffic and protect the staff.

SPECIAL SERVICES

The Lansing Fire Department also has a dive team and a number of members with other special training—such as fire investigation and hazardous materials response. They offer blood pressure checks and CPR classes to the public. And the Lansing Fire Department works alongside other local departments as part of their mutual aid efforts.

"We train every day but Sunday," Verkaik said. "We're very busy, and we work hard at our craft."

LOCATIONS AND OPERATIONS

LFD operates out of three stations, located at 193rd Street and Burnham

Avenue, at Chicago Avenue and 183rd Street, and at the police department on 170th Street.

Lansing currently employs 34 firefighters: along with Verkaik and Deputy Chief Mike Tempelman, there are 25 full-time staff and four others who serve part-time. The department also includes a fire prevention bureau with a full-time lieutenant and two part-time inspectors.

Verkaik has served the department for 31 years and was appointed chief in 2015. He reports directly to Village Administrator Dan Podgorski.

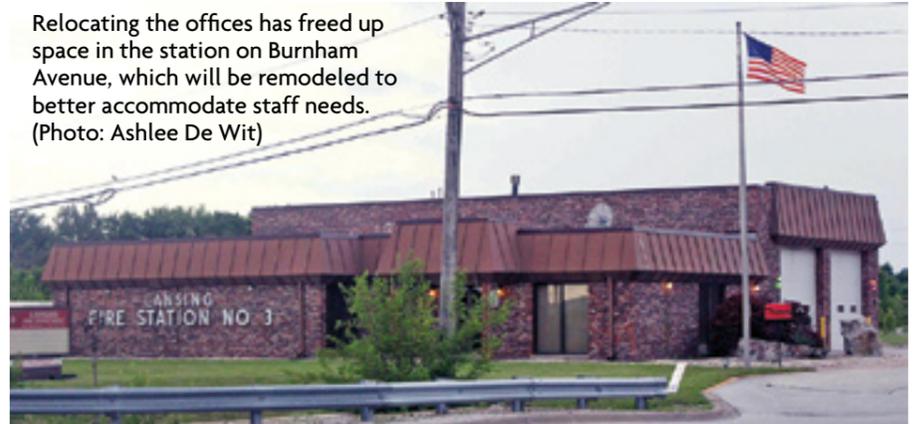
LOCATIONS AND RENOVATIONS

The latest change at the fire department is a new location for the administrative offices—the first step in the process of some much-needed renovations. As of May 18, they are now located in the former Village Municipal Center on Ridge Road and Chicago Avenue.

This move opens up a lot of space in the station on Burnham, where the offices were previously located—enough space for a workout room, kitchen, bathrooms, and sleeping quarters for full-time staff. The station on Chicago Avenue currently houses these staff members, but the building is not ideal for that purpose.



LFD's administrative offices are now located in the former Village Hall, on Ridge Road. (Photo: Melanie Jongsma)



Relocating the offices has freed up space in the station on Burnham Avenue, which will be remodeled to better accommodate staff needs. (Photo: Ashlee De Wit)

"That station was old when I started more than 30 years ago," Verkaik said. "It was not designed for people to sleep in. We outgrew it decades ago."

Verkaik hopes to fund the renovations at the Burnham station with grant money from the Illinois

Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity. He is working with a committee of firefighters, representing every shift, to design the new space to meet their needs.

To learn more, contact LFD staff at their new office: 708-895-7400.



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First Baptist Church changes name, renews vision

BY MELANIE JONGSMA

LANSING, Ill. (July 1, 2018) – For nearly 75 years, the building on the corner of 178th and William—and the people who gather there—have been known as First Baptist Church of Lansing. In August, that will change. The church will be renamed Cornerstone.

This change does not represent a new direction, but rather a next step in fulfilling its vision as a true community church. First Baptist/Cornerstone Church intentionally reflects the demographics of Lansing—the congregation is about 50 percent Caucasian, 40 percent African American, and 10 percent Hispanic/Middle Eastern. Beginning already in 2016, church leadership began to have conversations about how to proactively maintain that mix. As a multi-ethnic group of believers, they wanted to remove any barriers that might prevent people from visiting and feeling welcome.

Two main barriers were identified—outdated facilities and a misunderstood name.

NAME CHANGE

Church member and Campaign Chair Saad Abbasy explained further, “We are seeking to communicate that we want to be a regionally-minded church, opening up the beauty of this diverse community to neighboring towns. There are people in Munster, Highland, Dyer,



The people of First Baptist Church of Lansing have been meeting at 178th and William for nearly 75 years. (Photo: Melanie Jongsma)

Homewood, Lynwood, and all the surrounding region who are looking for this type of multi-ethnic unity. Additionally, while we retain our Baptist affiliation, we want to communicate clearly that we welcome visitors who do not have a Baptist background, or who might have negative preconceptions of what it means to be Baptist.”

Through a process of prayer and discussion, the church family chose the name Cornerstone from the Apostle Paul’s letter to the Ephesian Christians, in which Paul reminds a multi-ethnic church that they have Christ in common. “You’re no longer strangers or outsiders,” Paul writes.

“You belong here, with as much right to the name Christian as anyone. God is building a home. He’s using us all—irrespective of how we got here—in what he is building. He used the apostles and prophets for the foundation. Now he’s using you, fitting you in brick by brick, stone by stone, with Christ Jesus as the cornerstone that holds all the parts together.” (Ephesians 2:19–21, MSG)

PHYSICAL CHANGES

Changing their name is only a small part of the church’s renewed vision. Cornerstone Church is unrolling plans for using social media to engage the community,

upgrading their technology to livestream Sunday services, enhancing the sanctuary, enlarging the bathrooms, reconfiguring the children and youth areas, improving signage throughout the building, and remodeling their fellowship hall. All these investments will help the church offer more services that are relevant to a wider variety of people.

CELEBRATING THE FIRST STEP

The remodeled fellowship hall—now known as The Gathering Place—is the first visible step in the visioning fulfillment process. The Cornerstone family held a ribbon-cutting ceremony for The Gathering Place on Sunday, July 1, after their 10:30am worship service. The Gathering Place is fully ADA accessible, and it will eventually become the main entrance to the building. It will also be used for weeknight concerts and Sunday morning coffee as well as children’s events and family parties.

THE PAST AND THE FUTURE

Pastor Michael Eberly appreciates the church’s history of community involvement, and he believes that history has well prepared church members to embrace changes that are necessary for continued growth. In a letter to the congregation, he praised the church’s longevity and faithfulness, and affirmed their current condition: “Not only are

See “First Baptist,” page 20

Below: Parishioners were invited to gather in the old fellowship hall for one last cake-and-coffee farewell event before the remodeling began. They shared memories of past celebrations. (Photo provided) Right: The remodeled fellowship hall is now known as The Gathering Place, designed for updated comfort and conversation. The new space was dedicated with a ribbon-cutting ceremony and communion on Sunday, July 1. (Photo: Melanie Jongsma)



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Lansing investigating change in honeybee ordinance

BY CARRIE STEINWEG

LANSING, Ill. (July 1, 2018) – Honeybees are vital to the survival of agriculture. It's estimated that one-third of our global food supply is pollinated by bees, yet the population of honeybees has dwindled in recent years and sits at about half the number that existed at the end of World War II.

In 2015, President Obama established a Pollinator Health Task Force and announced incentives to farmers and ranchers who established new honeybee habitats. Efforts have also been made by hobbyists and small beekeeping entrepreneurs who keep hives to produce honey or to raise queens and bees to sell to farmers.

Lansing resident Diane Lund began considering beekeeping as a hobby after her retirement. But she learned that owning a beehive is prohibited by Lansing village ordinances.

THE ANIMAL ORDINANCE

Chapter 10 of Lansing's Municipal Code of Ordinances is all about animals. Section 10-2 defines what a "wild animal" is and says specifically, "Chickens, ducks, geese, pigeons, guinea hens, honeybees and turkeys shall also be considered wild animals."

Additionally, Section 10-4 then states, "It shall be unlawful for anyone to own, harbor, or permit at large any exotic or wild animal."

Lund is hoping to convince village officials to remove honeybees from

Lansing ordinances currently prevent Diane Lund (pictured) from pursuing beekeeping as a hobby, but she does what she can to attract them to her half-acre yard. *Monarda* or "bee balm" is a good source of nectar for bees. (Photo: Melanie Jongsma)

the "wild animal" designation. Doing so would allow her to place a hive on her half-acre property in Lansing. "I retired as a middle school librarian from Heritage Middle School in Lansing and wanted to explore beekeeping," she said. "I'm an avid gardener and my yard is a Certified Natural Habitat by the National Wildlife Federation." She also built gardens at Heritage, including a Certified Natural Habitat designed to attract monarch butterflies.

"The current ordinance is not just restrictive, but is an outright ban," said Lund. "Bees should not be listed as a wild animal." She attended Village Board meetings in March and April to express her concerns and request a revision of the ordinance.

Lund is also a member of Lansing's Beautification Committee and finds it ironic that the Village would prohibit bees, while also promoting the planting of flowers, which depend on bees.

INVESTING IN CHANGE

Lund has done extensive research on beekeeping, has a beekeeping suit, and has joined the Northwest Indiana Beekeepers Association with hopes of being able to be a beekeeper.

She noted that neighboring towns



Calumet City, South Holland, and Lynwood do not have restrictions on honeybees. There's even a Lynwood church that she said has beekeepers and sells their honey to parishioners. "Recently Hammond also developed a beekeeping ordinance that limits homeowners to two hives on a property," she said. "In Chicago you can have five beehives per property." In Chicago, rooftop beehives have also become popular in recent years, situated on high-rise commercial buildings, restaurants, hospitals—and even City Hall.

Village of Lansing Director of Communications Ken Reynolds said that Administrator Dan Podgorski is in the process of trying to develop a

formal policy, following input from Lansing's Animal Control Officer and additional animal and wildlife experts. "All of that would hopefully lead to some wording on a possible policy. The earliest it would be in place would be at our July board meeting on July 17, where it could possibly be on the Committee of the Whole agenda. Or, depending on the progress and how much information he is able to get from some of these other individuals, it might not be until the August meeting," said Reynolds.

After being introduced at a Committee of the Whole meeting, a change in ordinance could be voted on as early as the next regular Village Board meeting.



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Tickets on sale for August 2 Bloom Township Senior Picnic in Glenwood

BY MELANIE JONGSMA

GLENWOOD, Ill. (July 1, 2018) – Tickets went on sale today for the August 2 Bloom Township Senior Picnic, which will be held at Veterans Memorial Park in Glenwood. The closing date for ticket sales is July 27; no tickets will be sold at the picnic. In addition, township personnel warn, attendees must bring their tickets to the picnic in order to receive a lunch. Without a ticket, an additional \$5.00 must be paid.

The box lunch includes hot chicken, roasted potatoes, corn on the cob, coleslaw, and rolls. Beverages will be provided free of charge.

Picnic day begins at 9:00am with information and giveaways from senior services providers from throughout the southland area. Music, games, and caricatures will also be part of the morning celebration.

Box lunches will be served at noon, and live music will fill the afternoon. Dancing is encouraged.

Attendees will receive a free gift from Bloom Township Supervisor TJ Somer and the Bloom Township Board of Trustees.

The Bloom Township Senior Lunch is for senior citizens only. No children will be allowed to participate. Seniors who need transportation to the picnic can call Bloom Township Senior Wheels: 708-754-8200. The ride service is free for Bloom Township residents.

Veterans Memorial Park is located at 19101 Halsted Street in Glenwood, Illinois. Further details about what to bring and plans in case of rain are available at thelansingjournal.com/news. Type "Bloom Township Senior Picnic" in the search field at the site.

The Village of Lansing **2018 Property Beautification Contest**

Nominate a residential property owner or business for their gardening and landscaping talent!

Owners of the five most attractive residential properties will each receive a \$50 Ace Hardware gift card, a yard sign, and a certificate—and of course, bragging rights!

In addition, three Lansing businesses will be chosen for awards, and each will receive a certificate and a window sign commemorating their achievement.



Properties will be judged on
 • Landscaping • Flowers • Curb Appeal
 Nominations will be accepted through July 31st, 2018.
 Awards will be presented at the August 21st Village Board Meeting.

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Dog park area staked out: Anticipated completion by July 31

BY MELANIE JONGSMA

LANSING, Ill. (June 19, 2018) – The area that will become Lansing’s dog park is now marked by wooden stakes and surrounded with silk fencing. Landscape Architect Planning Resources Inc arrived at Bock Park on Monday, June 18, to mark the area in preparation for

breaking ground.

The dog park has been given the name Paws ‘n Play. It is more than an acre in size. The silk fence indicates the work area; the stakes inside the fence mark the actual boundaries of the dog park.

To give a sense of the scale of the dog park, it takes about four minutes to walk around the perimeter

at a casually brisk pace.

Most of the “construction” involved in a dog park involves fencing, landscape features, electricity for the key card scanning system, and water, as well as installation of features such as benches, shade structures, water fountains, and waste receptacles. (Those specific features have not yet been

chosen.) Planning Resources Inc. anticipates Paws ‘n Play will be ready for doggy visitors no later than July 31, 2018.

Paws ‘n Play dog park is located within Bock Park, which is located between Chicago Avenue and Lorenz Avenue, south of 175th Street.



Cook County Forest Preserves now offer bikesharing

First ride using HOPR bikeshare app to “Bike the Preserves” is free for limited time

BY MELANIE JONGSMA

COOK COUNTY, Ill. (June 26, 2018) – As reported on The Lansing Journal Facebook page on June 24, bikesharing is now available in Cook County Forest Preserves. The Forest Preserves of Cook County (FPCC) released an announcement about the pilot program they launched in partnership with HOPR and Bike and Roll Chicago, with a goal of “making it even easier to enjoy more than 300 miles of paths and trails.”

The program provides 500 dockless bikes to share, and 50 hubs planned throughout the FPCC’s 70,000 acres. The Lansing Woods Forest Preserve on 186th Street is one of those hubs.

The Lansing Woods Forest Preserve on 186th Street is one of Cook County’s dockless bikesharing hubs. (Photo: Melanie Jongsma)

THERE’S AN APP FOR THAT

To access the bikes, visitors download the “HOPR” app to their smartphone or tablet. The app enables users to unlock and re-park bikes from any of the hubs, using their smartphone or tablet. The cost is \$2.50 per trip for 30-minute rides, or bikers can purchase a \$60 seasonal membership for 90 minutes of ride time per day through November 2018. Bike and Roll Chicago is responsible for ensuring that bikes in the Forest Preserves are properly maintained and kept in peak condition.

To experience dockless bikes in the Forest Preserves of Cook County, first-time HOPR app users can enjoy one complimentary 30-minute ride. The offer will be

pre-loaded onto the app, and is available for a limited time.

OTHER HUBS

Dockless bikes are currently available at approximately half of the proposed hub locations throughout the Forest Preserves of Cook County. In addition to Lansing

Woods, bikes are located at stations along the North Branch Trail, and at Cermak Woods, Dan Ryan Woods Central, Whistler Woods, and Glenwood Woods North. All hubs are slated to be completed in the next few weeks.



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Thornton Township brings 'Days in the Park' to Lan-Oak Park

Food, music, and fun bring neighbors together

BY ERNST LAMOTHE JR.

LANSING, Ill. (June 28, 2018) – Holding her 16-month-old daughter, Lanna, and dancing to the live music, Loren Willard was soaking up the entire event. Between all the activities and options around her, she couldn't believe her choices as a first-time attendee of the Thornton Township Days in the Park in Lansing's Lan-Oak Park, 180th and Arcadia.

"I really do absolutely love everything about this event," said Willard, of Lansing, who attended with her mother, Pat, and her nephew, Cameron, age 4. "There was something for everyone, whether you were a kid, an adult, a senior, or disabled. It was just a great time for all of us to enjoy each other's company and realize that we have so many things in common that we should all get along much better."

Thornton Township hosts a different picnic at least once a week in all 17 municipalities throughout the summer. Days in the Park was the brainchild of Thornton Township Supervisor Frank M. Zuccarelli, who saw an opportunity that was needed.



Above and below, right: Days in the Park events feature free food, live music, and family-friendly activities. Top right: Cameron (left), Pat (center), and Lanna enjoyed Thornton Township's Days in the Park event at Lan-Oak Park. It was their first time attending. (Photos: Ernst Lamothe)

"We started this event more than a decade ago because we saw a need to bring people together. Our lives can be so busy that we don't take a moment to just sit down and talk to our neighbors as much as we used to. We believe by bringing people into their neighborhood park to sit, talk, and eat, it would begin to bring

back that greater sense of community," said Zuccarelli.

The event features free food, live music, and family-friendly activities. "Days in the Park allows residents to come together as a community and enjoy each other's company. It is also an opportunity to just celebrate some of the beautiful parks that we have within Thornton Township," said India Riley, who helps coordinate the event.

Sharon Gonzalez, of Lansing, brought her sister Michelle Arteaga, of Chicago, and she was impressed. "We don't do these kinds of neighborhood things in Chicago," said Arteaga. "This is such a great event. I'm jealous!" "People get excited when we bring the event to their specific community. It's just a wonderful opportunity to fellowship, get to know people you didn't know before, get together with friends, or just reacquaint with someone that



you haven't seen in some time," said Larry Lawrence, who coordinates and hosts every Days in the Park event.

Thornton Township Days in the Park continues through mid-August.



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The Village of Lansing 

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In addition, three Lansing businesses will each receive a certificate and a window sign commemorating their achievement.

Nominations will be accepted through July 31st, 2018. Awards will be presented at the August 21st Village Board Meeting.

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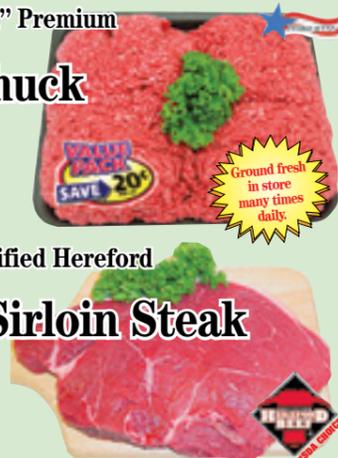
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Quality Painting & Scraping Service. Interior and Exterior. Power washing, stain decks, re-glaze windows, strip wallpaper, etc. Free estimates. Call Normand 708-596-2170

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Plumbing

J.E.M. Plumbing & Sewer, Drain Cleaning Specialist, water lines, pumps, water heater, faucets, toilets, same day service. 219-845-7589 or 708-896-0500

Call The Plumber. Sewers, drains, rodding, water heaters, sump pumps, low water pressure, flood control valves. Drain Experts. 708-259-9721, 219-614-7283

Tree Service

Maggy's Tree Service. Tree's Topped, Trimmed, Removed, Bush Removal, Stump Removal. Also Insured Bonded. Free estimates. 708-200-8078

Help Wanted

Help Wanted: Roll-off Drivers, Warehouse/driver Building Supplies, Lumber, Roll-off, and Crane Deliveries. Apply in person: Midway Building Supply, 16850 S. State Street, South Holland, IL. 60473. M-F(7-3p), Sat.(7-11a). 708-210-9977

Help Wanted: Inter Model Class A CDL Driver wanted. Home everyday, working out of Harvey, IL. Pay \$1000 per week. Ask for John. 708-646-3141

Help Wanted: Like sales! Like helping people! Need second income! Be your own BOSS! This is the opportunity for you. Call. 708-935-6920

Help Wanted: Need part-time sales caller. Cash daily. South Holland area. Transportation provided. Call only 8a-9a. 708-799-2363

Help Wanted: Diesel truck mechanic for truck dealership in South Chicago Heights, IL. Day shift, benefits. Email: pozsoil94@gmail.com. Call. 708-755-8500

Garage Sales in South Holland

July 5-6, 9-4; 7th, 8-12. 16625 Elm St., So. Holland. Women's plus/juniors clothes, shoes, bags, toys, hshld. items, office equipment, lawnmowers, books.

Garage Sales in Lansing

July 5-6, 9-3. 19210 Sherman St., Lansing. Multi-family sale. Clothing, furniture, tools, housewares, Holiday decorations, gardening tools, much more.

Garage Sales Outlying Illinois

July 5-6, 8-2:30; 7th, 6a-9a. 1077 Country Ct., Crete, IL. Huge Estate sale. Furniture, pictures, patio furniture. Everything must go.

Garage Sales in St John

July 5-6, 8-4; 7th, 8-1. 9642 Claremont Dr., St. John, IN.

Rec. Room set, bedroom set, (full size bed), clothes, children/adult, household decor, dethatcher, electronics, linens.

Apartments For Rent

Apts. for rent: Lansing, 1 & 2 bedrooms. Units refurbished, great location, utilities included. Call John. 708-280-1773

Homes For Rent

Home for rent: 2bdrm in Lansing, full basement, 2 car garage, appliances, including washer/dryer. 1 blk. from TF South High School. Section 8 ok, \$1400/mo. 219-477-9305 or 219-477-9306

Home for rent: South Holland, 147th/Riverside area. 4bdrm., 1bath, full unfinished basement, close to schools/transportation. No pets, off-street parking, section 8 ok. \$2200/mo. + sec. 708-528-8975

Home for rent: 3 Bedroom, 2 bath brick home in Calumet City. Full bsmt, fenced back yard on quiet street. Appliances included. \$1,375/month, pets allowed. 708-979-4879

Condos/Townhomes/Duplexes For Rent

Townhome for rent: in Calumet City, 2 bdrm. Full basement. Includes appliances, \$1,100 + security. Call for information. 312-656-2421

Lansing 2bdrm Condo for rent, parking, appliances, storage, balcony & laundry, availability by 7/15/2018. credit check, security deposit. 312-835-4777

Rooms For Rent

Room for rent: Large room in my house. Clean, quiet, fully furnished. In room TV with cable, electric, gas included. Full kitchen, laundry, 3 baths. Public transportation at each end of street. \$115 per week. 708-382-1335

Lost & Found



Lost: Brown Tiger cat, domestic short hair, female, declawed. 12yrs. old Lost Ridgewood Ave., Lansing. February 26th. Reward offered. Please call. 708-895-0641 or 708-642-1306



Lost/Stolen Cat: Calumet City. Cheyenne 5 yrs. Calico, white, black, rust, beige, beige heart around mouth. Miss her please return. 708-801-9442

Wanted

Wanted: Diabetic Test Strips Freestyle Lite One Touch Accu-Chek Contour and Others, Must be sealed, unopened, unexpired, unused boxes. 708-474-3941

Wanted: Don't throw it away! I am buying old stuff. Toys, signs, advertising, oil cans, and much more. Please call or text Doug. 219-616-9342

Wanted: All glass jars, including mason, Ball, Kerr, canning jars. 708-474-4964

Wanted: 8mm movie projector bulb model DFC or DFN 150 watt. 708-837-9814

Wanted: strap welder dent repair kit. 708-532-8337

wanted a self propelled gas lawn mower under \$75 for a retired older person 219-730-3370

wanted power converter for 110 V foreign electric plugs 219-730-3370

Wanted new or like new entrance steel garage door 219-730 3370

Auto Recovery

WE BUY JUNK CARS. Title or no title. Tow and Recovery, Lock-outs, battery service, tire service. 24hr. service. 708-850-5692

Automobiles



For sale: 2011 Red Chevy Cruze. 89,600 miles. Clean car in very good condition. Only asking \$6,000/obo. Call 708-574-4317.

For sale: 2014 Chevy Equinox LT AWD Tan \$18,987. Call Bob 855-949-6000

For sale: 2016 Chevy Cruze Limited Tungsten Metallic \$12,987. Call Bob 855-949-6000

For sale: 2017 Chevy Spark LS CVT Nightfall, Gray Metallic, \$11,987. Call Bob 855-949-6000

For sale: 2016 Chevy Corvette Stingray Z51, shark gray metallic \$55,987. Call Bob 855-949-6000

For sale: 2013 Chevy Cruze LS Auto, \$7,987. Black. Call Bob 855-949-6000

Truck for sale: 2003 Chevy Avalanche, original owner, loaded, well maintained. 119,000 miles / some rust. Lots of new parts. \$5,000 OBO Call John. 708-243-6677

For sale: 2003 Dodge Ram Van 2500. 111,000 miles, blue. \$3,000 obo. In working condition, runs smooth. 708-275-3850

For sale: 1984 300 ZX. new seats, dash and much more. \$5800. 630-926-5674

For sale: 2011 Lincoln MKT \$8500; 2007 Nissan Verse \$3800; 2002 Chrysler Sebring loaded, \$2500; 2003 VW Jetta, loaded \$2600; 2002 Kia Rio, loaded, \$1900. 708-474-0957

For Sale: 2015 Chevy Impala LT Black, \$19,987. Call Bob 855-949-6000

For Sale: 2012 Jeep Grand Cherokee Limited 4WD, Brilliant Black Crystal Pearl Coat, \$17,987. Call Bob 855-949-6000

For Sale: 2014 Nissan Altima 2.5 SL Storm Blue \$14,987. Call Bob 855-949-6000

For Sale: 2013 Chevy Malibu LTZ, Silver Ice Metallic \$9,987. Call Bob 855-949-6000

For Sale: 2008 Chevy Cobalt LS Imperial Blue Metallic \$4,987. Call BOB 855-949-6000

For sale: 1995 Chevy 1/2 ton Pickup. 146K miles, runs needs some work, \$1500 obo. Call Thursday/Friday only 7a-9a. 708-271-5477

For sale: 1998 Mercury Village Van. Black, durable, \$1400. Call Jesse. 708-715-9405

For sale: 2007 Buick Rendezvous FWD CXL Platinum metallic, original owner, well maintained. 136,000 miles. Asking \$3200. Call Al or Dawn. 708-642-3021

Auto Parts

4 Kumho tires P235/65R17 \$75 firm. 708-474-6525

Boats

Boat Motor for sale: 2007 Evinrude E-Tec 75 hp outboard Engine. Exc. cond., \$3,500. Includes controls, propeller and gauges. Also Eagle boat trailer fits up to 17 ft boat. New & spare tires are \$500 in good cond. James Williams. 708-841-4669

Campers/Motorhomes

For sale: 1989 Class C Motorhome 27' Travelcraft. 1-owner. Beautifully maintained. Inside winter storage. Sleeps 8. 161K miles. \$9500 OBO. 708-331-1379

Miscellaneous Items For Sale

Factory Discount Store. Mattresses, \$79, \$89, \$129. Bunk beds, futons, daybeds, adj. beds w/mattress, special. Furniture for all rooms. EZ Credit to \$3,000. EZ Layaway. 708-371-3737, www.factorybeddingfurniture.com Like us on facebook

Elvis Presley Coin Collection. Book, pictures, '9 pictured coins, 12 silver coins, 11 gold coins, 16 Troy Ozs. .999 fine silver bars, William & Kate wedding coins. Appraisal \$2,932, dealers price \$2,675, my price \$2,280. Mike 708-613-1665

For sale: 55 gallon BBQ grill, asking \$75 or less offer. Call 708-224-5216

For sale: Kenmore washer/dryer; bathroom vanity cabinet, complete; oval bathroom mirror medicine cabinet; 2-ladders, very tall; Ridgid sump pump, shovel; wheelbarrow; garden tools, and more. 773-226-4968

For sale: Piano \$250; dining room set, \$500; bedroom set, \$200; stuffed chair, \$50; Twin bed, \$25; 1 twin steel frame, \$10; 1 twin mattress, \$10; cash and carry. 708-638-8118

For sale: Beautiful living room furniture, from Art Vans, clean and soft. Must sale, moving out of state. Asking \$450. 708-710-8721

Floatman device for kids, 50-90 lbs, \$10; large covered cat litter box w/extras \$15; wine glasses, 4 sets, boxed \$15. 708-460-8308

Large tomato plants 8/\$1; car w/shield sun shade, \$8; gal. car soap, \$5; purple car soap, 1/2 gal. \$3.708-460-8308

New Disney bank from FLA, \$10; solid wood elongated toilet seat, \$25; new 5" brass hose nozzle \$5. 708-460-8308

WD-40 smart straw \$6; 20W-50 racing motor oil \$5 ea; qt. graphite motor oil \$2 ea; 2 gal. steel gas can \$4. 708-460-8308

20 NEW books, such as: "From Overwhelmed to Organized", "The Power Nutrient Solution". Please call for full list. 219-484-5660

For sale: two spring garage doors, new. 708-418-5433

Maguina eortar zaratge moy buena usada sanos garantia \$200; camara sacar pelielas Conpro VCR. 708-418-1098

Beautiful cottage furniture, 7 years old, from Art Vans for sale. Clean and asking good price, \$400. 708-710-8721

Console table with 6 woven rattan basket drawers, solid pine frames, exc. cond., must see! Will sacrifice for only \$50. 219-617-8583

FREE: Regulation basketball hoop and backboard, must remove. 708-448-5672

Beautiful Berne matching sofa (80L, 34H, 36W) and love seat (60L, 34H, 36W) in dark green, like new, hardly used. Matching lime green love seat (60L) and sofa (84L) must see to appreciate. 708-448-5672

JVC vintage 4 channel quad fm-am receiver, model 4VR-5406 \$60 obo. 708-837-9814

Fishing pole/ski container for car roof, expensive Thule brand, paid \$400, sell for \$200. 708-418-0725

Plat surveys for Chicago buildings, years 1912 to 1924 with seal \$15 ea obo. 708-890-9234

Cabbage Pail cards, Star Wars cards, Wacky pack cards, wrestling cards, 1990. Best offer. 708-890-9234

Beanie babies, great shape with tags, \$1 to \$15 ea; McDonalds beanies \$1 ea obo; baseball bambeonos top names, Sosa, Bonds, Jones, etc. best offer. 708-890-0234

Autographed pictures from Beverly Hillbillies, also Ted Kennedy, Adam West, also have many small collectables from 1960s, too much to list, best offer, must see. 708-890-9234

Basketball and baseball autographed pictures; metal cards; plaques; Sports Illustrated watches; starting lineups; mini baseball helmets, \$1 to \$10 ea. 708-890-9234

Lots of unopened pks. of baseball cards from 1980s and 90s. I do have lots of collectibles, some from 1960s. Call for information. 708-890-9234

1959 World Series programs, some have a little writing on them; also have 1958 year book and early 60s score books, \$10 ea obo. 708-890-9234

Chicago White Sox used tickets and used ticket stubs from 1967 to 1991, \$10 obo. 708-890-9234

Michael Jordan watch, never used \$25 obo with #23 case. 708-890-9234

Auto repair manuals 1970 Ford, 1972-74 Chevy, 1976 Chevy, 1982 Pont, 1985 Chevy, 1982-96 Haynes manual \$10 ea obo. 708-837-9814

End tables Ethan Allen \$40 ea obo; electric hedge trimmer \$15 obo. 708-754-0462

A&W root beer large mug \$5; rare small baby size A&W root beer mug \$5. 708-837-9814

Fishing poles with close face reels, several to choose from \$10 ea obo. 708-754-0462

Welding torch Purox W-200 \$100 obo; air acetylene torch \$60, both with extra tips. 708-837-9814

Power washer Craftsman 3 1/2 HP 1800 PSI with extra tips \$125 obo. 708-754-0462

Dryer for sale, runs good, \$50; twin bed, 3 built in drawers w/mattress, \$75. 708-692-0794

Three reasons to go to Cruise Night July 14

BY MELANIE JONGSMA

LANSING, Ill. (July 1, 2018) - Cruise Nights in Lansing are all about community, and the July 14 Cruise Night offers three unique opportunities for neighbors to get together downtown.

CARS

If you are into cars—or motorcycles—Cruise Night is an occasion to walk, look, and talk to fellow enthusiasts. Ridge Road is an easy stroll, with plenty of places to stop and sit or grab a bite to eat.

ICE CREAM

State Representative Marcus Evans and Lansing Mayor Patty Eidam will be hosting an Ice Cream Social from 6:00–8:00pm at Gayety's Chocolates & Ice Cream (3306 Ridge Road). Evans and Eidam will scoop free ice cream cones while supplies last—but even more important, residents will be treated to an opportunity to discuss in person whatever issues are important to them.

CELEBRATION

Mancino's Pizza & Grinders has been in Lansing for 20 years—and they're hosting a Cruise Night Block Party to celebrate. They promise food, giveaways, and music—Cadillac Groove will be performing.

Cruise Night runs from 6:00–10:00pm on Saturday, July 14, and is sponsored by Brought to you by Phillips Chevrolet, Lansing Association for Community Events, Hagerty Insurance, and Thunder Road Productions. The final Lansing Cruise Night is scheduled for August 4.

Lansing's CAP Squadron undergoes change of command

INFORMATION PROVIDED BY CIVIL AIR PATROL

LANSING, Ill. (June 30, 2018) - At the June 6 meeting of Civil Air Patrol's Thunder Composite Squadron IL-317, the Change of Command Ceremony took place during the monthly promotional meeting transferring command of the squadron from Major Gary Sprigg to Major Barbara Buckner.

Major Buckner began her CAP career as a cadet at what is now Magnus Composite Squadron. As a senior member, Major Buckner has served at all levels, from squadron Deputy Commander of Cadets, to Group, Wing, and National level positions. She also brings with her outside contacts with the Women in Aviation group and other industry aviation contacts.

Major Gary Sprigg, a veteran of the Canadian Air Force has served CAP for 10 years and was Commander of Thunder Squadron for the past 3 1/2 years.

Thunder Composite Squadron is nearing its 33rd anniversary. The squadron was chartered on July 8, 1985 at Jones Memorial Center in Chicago Heights as a way to help the youth in the area (who were primarily being raised in poor, single-mother homes), and was named after the founder's dog, Thunder.

In her new role, Major Buckner's goals include continuation of growth in membership of what is the second largest unit in Group 2 and the 7th largest Wing-wide, recruitment of additional senior members, additional emergency services training opportunities and expanding of aerospace education and STEM programs.

Also attending the ceremony were several special guests, including Lansing Mayor Patty Eidam, Illinois Wing Group 2 Commander Major Michael Larson, and Lt Col Al Reynoso, former Illinois Wing Group 2 Commander.

Also part of that evening's meeting were the following promotions: Thunder's Cadet Commander, Lucas Vanderwoude, completed the second milestone in the cadet program and was promoted to Second Lieutenant.

C/SSgt Brendon Gilb promoted to cadet Staff Sergeant, Hugo Recio Jr was promoted to cadet Senior Airman, and Ian Steinweg was promoted to cadet Master Sergeant. In addition, Jomareun Richardson completed his final achievement to be able to now test to become a cadet Second Lieutenant.

The Civil Air Patrol Cadet Program aims to teach today's youth to become tomorrow's leaders. It opens the door to a variety of experiences that cadets can then use when they go on to college or enter the job market. Cadets are given the opportunity to learn more about aviation, which includes hands-on flight instruction in a CAP Cessna aircraft. They are also encouraged to take part in additional training opportunities provided, such as First Air/CPR certification, so that they can assist the organization in Emergency Services missions and know how to react and assist their family, friends and the community. Civil Air Patrol is a auxiliary program of the United States Air Force and is open to youths age 12–21.

Thunder Composite Squadron meets every Wednesday from 6:30-9:00pm at Heritage Middle School in Lansing, with members from surrounding communities such as Calumet City, Mokena, Lynwood, Dyer, Munster, and Schererville.

To learn more, visit: www.gocivilairpatrol.com and follow "CAP Thunder Composite Squadron" on Facebook.

OBITUARIES

ROHM

A funeral service for Thomas F. Rohm was held Saturday, June 30, 2018 at Smits, DeYoung-Vroegh Funeral Home in South Holland, IL.

Mr. Rohm was born October 26, 1944 and passed away June 28, 2018. Husband of Patricia Rohm (nee Christ). Father of Theresa (Jim) Fritzsche and Christina Rohm (Scott Lefurgy). Grandfather of 2. Brother of Carol (late Jimmy) Perell, Mark (late Vicki) Rohm, Mary (Mel) Snyder, late Phillip Q. (Angene) Rohm III.

Interment was at Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery, Elwood, IL. Arrangements entrusted to Smits, DeYoung-

Vroegh Funeral Home, South Holland, IL.

SIMALE

A Funeral Mass for Roger J. Simale was offered from Holy Ghost Church on June 30, 2018 with Rev. Anthony Talarico officiating.

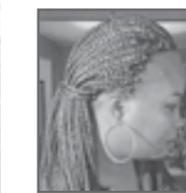
Mr. Simale was born July 20, 1948 and died June 26, 2018. He was the husband of Judy (nee Worobec); father of Rodney Simale and Jordan (Alicia) Simale; grandfather of Sophia; brother of Randy (Jan) Simale.

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

HANNAH'S AFRICAN DESIGN AND HAIR BRAIDING



Customer Appreciation Days!
July 5th-30th
10% - 50% Off



Koch Plaza
525 N. Chicago Road,
Thornton IL
Shop 708-469-8212
Cell 708-271-5475

SUMMER COLORS



Affordable Fashions
Sizes 8 to 3x

Hours:
Tue-Fri 9:30-4:30;
Sat. 9:30-3:00
Closed Sun & Mon

Fashionette
3334 Ridge Road
Lansing, Illinois
708-474-0349

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 **July 11, 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 Name	Unit #	Tenant Name	Unit #	Tenant Name
A1008	Gordon, Sydney	B1301	Ellis-Mcgee, Rosalind	B1390	Beasley, Charles
A1021	Jagielski, Jeremy	B1304	Cox, Julia	B1463	Green, Chris
B1080	Anderson, Loretta	B1388	Leonard, Ermon		

We're THAT Good!

\$2 OFF
your order of \$20 or more

\$3 OFF
your order of \$25 or more

\$4 OFF
your order of \$30 or more

AURELIO'S PIZZA
416 Ridge Road, Munster
219-836-2336

OPEN DAILY AT 4PM

\$2 OFF

any large 16" pizza

OR \$3 OFF

any super 18" pizza

YOU LOVE IT. YOU WANT IT. YOU GOTTA HAVE IT.

Must mention coupon when ordering. Not good with any other offer. Expires 8/4/18

3651 Ridge Road, Lansing 708-895-2630 • 219-972-2630

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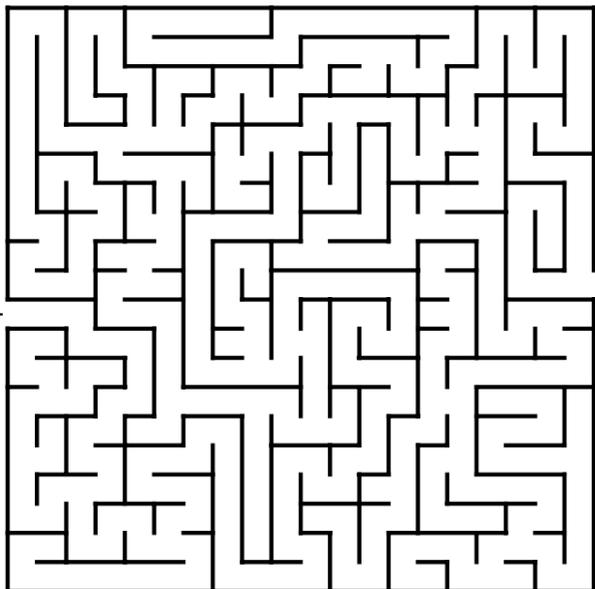
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Music to My Ears

A Capella	Folk	House	Progressive
Baroque	Funk	Industrial	Punk
Blues	Fusion	Jazz	Reggae
Classical	Garage	Jungle	Rock'n Roll
Country	Gospel	Movie Soundtrack	Show Tunes
Dance	Gregorian Chant	New Age	Soul
Disco	Grunge	Opera	Swing
Dubstep	Heavy Metal	Orchestra	Techno
Easy Listening	Hip Hop	Pop	World

SOLVE THE MAZE



CROSSWORD

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Across

- Son or daughter by marriage
10. Laboring engine sound
14. Retired with benefits
15. Print made with aluminum plate
17. Intended to regulate monopolies
18. Blend
19. Toni Morrison's "___ Baby"
20. Beany sign
21. Iris part
22. Wading birds, such as herons or storks
24. Without concern
26. "Smart" ones
28. Atoll protector
29. 20-20, e.g.
30. Landlocked African country
32. Tropical fish with thick lips
35. Morgue, for one
36. "I" problem
37. Watergate, e.g.
41. Skyscraper, e.g.
45. Apprentice
46. Beach bird
48. Twangy, as a voice
49. Spacecraft protective covering (2 wds)
53. Fizzy drink
54. Specks in the sea
55. Competed
57. Back muscle, familiarly
58. Backgammon piece
59. Be naughty
61. Parsonage
62. Elevation instrument
63. Merlin, e.g.
64. Furniture refinishers

Down

- Like some relationships
- Defensible
- Competitors
- Telekinesis, e.g.
- Commend
- Romanian round dance
- Within the womb (2 wds)
- Rent payer
- "Silent Spring" subject (abbrev.)
- County ____, Ireland
- Conceals
- Maximums
- Camouflage ___ suit
- Some daisies
- ___ Hitchcock
- Disdain
- Drops on blades
- Fastener
- Moors
- Not "fer"
- Chesterfields, e.g.
- Separation into factions
- Ridges transitioning from a gentle slope to a cliff
- Marine rock-clinger
- "Fantasy Island" prop
- Joins the military
- Cut off
- Dead body
- Beetles
- Bad-mouth
- Perfect, e.g.
- Animal in a roundup
- Ledger entry
- Audition tape
- Fold, spindle or mutilate
- "___ Town Too" (1981 hit)

Turn of Phrase

Charley Horse - In the U.S., we call a sudden severe leg cramp a Charley Horse. It's reported that pitcher Charley Radbourne, nicknamed Old Hoss, got cramp during a baseball game in the early 1880s. By 1887, a Charley Horse was any ailment that befell a baseball player. Over time it has come to specifically refer to a leg cramp.

On This Date: July 5

1687 - Isaac Newton publishes PRINCIPIA, outlining his laws of motion and gravity • 1830 - France invades Algeria; it takes 40 years to conquer the country • 1841 - Thomas Cook opens the first travel agency • 1852 - Frederick Douglass calls Independence Day a sham because of slavery • 1865 - Great Britain enacts world's 1st speed limit law • 1865 - US Secret Service created, under the Treasury Department • 1937 - Joe DiMaggio's first grand slam • 1937 Spam (canned meat) is introduced by Hormel • 1946 - the bikini swimsuit debuts at Paris fashion show • 1950 - Israel passes the Law of Return, guaranteeing all Jews the right to live in Israel • 1962 - Algeria gains independence after 132 years of French rule • 1966 - Saturn I rocket launched at Cape Kennedy • 1994 - Amazon.com is founded by Jeff Bezos

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.

Voice actors needed for next play at South Suburban College

Open auditions July 11 and 12; Lansing's Sandra Wagner to direct

INFORMATION PROVIDED BY SOUTH SUBURBAN COLLEGE

SOUTH HOLLAND, Ill. (June 9, 2018) – The PAC Rats Theatre Company of South Suburban College will hold open auditions for *Vintage Hitchcock: A Live Radio Play* on July 11 and 12, beginning at 7:00pm. Readings will be held in the Kindig Performing Arts Center on the main campus at 15800 S. State Street in South Holland.

Playwright Joe Landry has adapted three of Alfred Hitchcock's earlier films into suspenseful dramas in the style of a 1940s radio broadcast. The *Lodger*, *Sabotage*, and *The 39 Steps*

form a triple feature that recreates a daring train chase, a serial killer's ominous presence, and a devastating explosion complete with live sound effects performed on stage.

"We're looking for good speaking voices for the many characters in the three stories," says Director Sandra Wagner of Lansing. "Some characters have one or two lines each, some are main characters. Actors could play more than one role, so the ability to do multiple voices or dialects is a plus, but not a must."

Wagner is planning evening rehearsals. Performances are scheduled for September 21 and 28 at 7:30

pm, and September 22, 29, and 30 at 2:00pm.

In addition to acting talent, the PAC Rats are also seeking volunteers to create the many live sound effects or to build and paint scenery.

Auditions are open to all community members as well as South Suburban College students age 18 or older. Appointments and prepared audition materials are not necessary. Auditioners will read from scenes, which will be available at the time of auditions. Copies of the script are on reserve in the SSC library. Everyone is welcome



to attend both auditions. Be prepared to list all conflicts with the rehearsal schedule.

For character descriptions, rehearsal schedule, and more information, visit the Kindig Performing Arts Center website or email ssctheatre@ssc.edu.

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ROLLING IT ALL OUT

In preparation for the official name change in August, First Baptist/Cornerstone Church is in the process of designing logos, getting new signs, and creating a new website. As one way of keeping the surrounding community up-to-date on the roll-out, the church is planning a series of free community events. Vacation Bible School has been a longstanding community program, and this year's VBS begins on July 9 for kids between 3 years old and 5th grade. In addition, the community is invited to a family movie night on July 27 and a "fall bash" in October.

First Baptist/Cornerstone Church is at 3440 178th Street in Lansing.

Lions Park movie night rescheduled

Heat warning prompts Park District to change showing to August 10



BY MELANIE JONGSMA

LANSING, Ill. (June 29, 2018) – The second film of Lan-Oak Park District's series of outdoor movies—*Wonder Woman*, at Lions Park—has been rescheduled. Senior Superintendent Sharon Desjardins made the decision upon receiving the National Weather Service's Extreme Heat Warning, which advised that everyone—particularly small children and the elderly—stay indoors.

The Lions Park movie is rescheduled for August 10. The party—with music, bounce house, caricature artist, video game truck, and refreshments for purchase—will start at 6:30pm, and *Wonder Woman* will follow at 8:30pm.

The updated schedule of movies in Lansing parks is:

- Friday, July 13—*Coco*, at Schultz Park (Schultz and Ada)
- Friday, July 20—*Star Wars: The Last Jedi*, at Rotary Park (193rd and Sherman)
- Friday, August 3—*Jumanji: Welcome to the Jungle*, at Lan-Oak Park (180th and Arcadia)
- Friday, August 10—*Wonder Woman*, at Lions Park (177th and Bernadine)
- Friday, August 17—*A Wrinkle in Time*, at Potts Park (172nd West of Oakwood Avenue)

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NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF AUDIT REPORT OF THORNTON TOWNSHIP

Thornton Township hereby provides public notice that an audit of its funds for the period of March 1, 2017, through February 28, 2018, for General Fund, General Assistance Fund and Road & Bridge Fund has been made, and that a report of such audit dated June 6, 2018 has been filed with the County Clerk of Cook County, in accordance with 30 ILCS 15/0.01 et seq. The full report of the audit is available for public inspection at 900 E. 162nd Street, South Holland, IL 60473 during regular business hours between 9am and 4pm, Monday through Friday, except for holidays

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More than a journalism exhibit

Phil Potempa's "Making Headlines" shows connections between people who made headlines and people who wrote them

BY MELANIE JONGSMA

MUNSTER, Ind. (June 29, 2018) – If you grew up with Ann Landers columns taped to your refrigerator, you'll want to see *The Lady With All The Answers* at Munster's Theatre at the Center. And you should arrive at least an hour early to take in the companion exhibit in the atrium—"Making Headlines: From Ann Landers to Walter Winchell." The exhibit is an impressive display of photographs, autographs, and personal effects once owned by advice columnist Ann Landers, radio commentator Walter Winchell, Hollywood gossip columnist Hedda Hopper, newspaper tycoon William Randolph Hearst, and a vast variety of celebrities.

All the pieces are from the personal collection of Phil Potempa, journalist, columnist, author, and now Marketing Director for the Center for Visual and Performing Arts.

A CONNECTION COLLECTION

Potempa met Ann Landers toward the end of her life, and she kept up a correspondence with him. "She was very, very nice," he remembers.

After Landers' death in 2002, her daughter decided to sell parts of the estate. Potempa purchased items

that were meaningful to him—her typewriter, and part of her collection of "keys to the city" she had been honored with throughout her career.

Potempa loves pointing out how interconnected all the exhibit items are. A display of Barbara Hutton clippings includes a photo of third husband Cary Grant, who also appears in the Howard Hughes display. And Hutton's fifth husband, Porfirio Rubirosa, dallied with Zsa Zsa Gabor, who appears on the cover of a society magazine in the Elsa Maxwell section of the exhibit. With hyperlinks that exist as physical objects rather than clickable words, "Making Headlines" is a web of collected connections, and Potempa is connected to them all.

FAMILY FRIENDS

When you realize all these items are from one man's personal collection, it's natural to wonder, "Where does he keep all this stuff?" But Potempa explains, "Think about it, I mean, if you took off all the paintings and things from all your walls, the bedrooms and living rooms, and everywhere—it would look like about this much. So it's not really that much. Just, instead of other stuff on the walls, I have these things." Potempa has a personal

connection to the people represented by the pieces, so it makes sense for him to have them hanging throughout his home.

For example, he says, Phyllis Diller "was just someone who felt like family to us." She was his first celebrity interview, and "over the years, she would always stay in touch." When she was performing in the area, Potempa and his family would come see her show, and she would invite them backstage afterward. "She was just very nice and down-to-earth, a good person through and through—not at all like her stage persona, with the cigarette holder and the jokes about being a terrible housewife!"

ENJOYING THE EXHIBIT

"Making Headlines" is more than a journalism exhibit. Potempa sums up the theme as, "People who made headlines, and people who wrote them." The items are displayed in logical groupings, and the groupings surround the atrium. Visitors can start anywhere, working their way around the circumference, or hopping from one section to another. A Charles Dickens grouping is closest to the main entrance to the Center, and the Hugh Hefner display is farthest, in the hallway to the right of the main theater entrance.

But Ann Landers is the anchor of the exhibit, not only because she is someone Potempa considered a friend, but also because she represents the power of the written word and responsible journalism. Potempa recalls that Landers was once ranked the most influential woman in America. "She could change public opinion," he says. "If she put something in her column saying 'write your congressman,' bags of mail would come in. Laws would get changed because of what she wrote."

SOMETHING TO LOOK FOR

Among the dozens of celebrity signatures included throughout the Making Headlines exhibit are only three from people who are still alive today—Hollywood film actress Olivia de Havilland (who is 102 years old), entertainer Ann-Margret (who is 77), and writer Margo Howard (78), who is Ann Landers' only daughter.

ABOUT THE EXHIBIT

"Making Headlines: From Ann Landers to Walter Winchell" is a free exhibit running in conjunction with Theatre at the Center's summer run of *The Lady with all the Answers*, a play about the life of syndicated advice columnist Ann Landers. Because the exhibit is in the atrium, it is open for viewing anytime the Center for Visual and Performing Arts is open.

The Center for Visual and Performing Arts is located at 1040 Ridge Road in Munster, Indiana.

Ann Landers

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JULY SPECIALS

Lansing's CSCVB honored by Sports Destination Management magazine

Two "Favorite Destination" awards received

BY MELANIE JONGSMA

LANSING, Ill. (June 12, 2018) – Chicago Southland Convention and Visitors Bureau was honored in the 2018 Reader's Choice Awards announced by Sports Destination Management. The Chicago Southland was awarded:

- Favorite Destination for Community Engagement
- Favorite Destination for Accessibility

"Nominations exceeded expectations," said Fonda Johnson, publisher of *Sports Destination Management*, the leading publication with the largest circulation of sports event planners and tournament directors in the sports tourism market. "We were overwhelmed by the volume and scope of entries—from destinations to venues to the services and vendors that have become staples of this industry."

The May/June 2018 issue of *Sports Destination Management* included a feature article about the winners.

Chicago Southland, Illinois, was a Community Engagement favorite because "Sports and tourism play a major role in bringing these 63 communities together. The interaction of the two results in a better quality of life. The Chicago Southland Convention and Visitors Bureau recognizes this and prides itself on working with sports events from beginning to end. The CSCVB works hard to engage the region in upcoming sporting events through various methods, including posting participant/spectator information on social media; leveraging media coverage, promoting events in guides and newsletters, working with chambers of commerce on welcoming events and sometimes even participating in events." (page 100)

Chicago Southland was an Accessibility favorite because of its "convenient proximity to downtown Chicago, access to several interstates and minutes from Midway and O'Hare International Airports, making getting to and from events

a breeze. Interstates 55, 57, 80, 94, 294 and 355 serve the Chicago Southland so it is easily reachable, no matter what direction an attendee is coming from. In fact, the Chicago Southland is accessible from eight states in under five hours." (page 98)

The selection process started in January when *Sports Destination Management* began soliciting nominations from readers in an array of categories. A final list was then presented to readership for voting. The results of those votes were announced June 1.

Jim Garrett, President/CEO of the Chicago Southland CVB stated "Our region offers the best in accessibility and hospitality, and our communities go out of their way to make people feel at home. We are a destination that is easy to access as well as being easy on the wallet."



The Chicago Southland Convention & Visitors Bureau is located at 2304 173rd Street in Lansing. Call 708-895-8200 for more information.

Lansing's Three Roosters preparing to participate in state championship rodeo in Beecher

Three weekends—July 21–22, July 28–29, and August 4–5

BY MELANIE JONGSMA

BEECHER, Ill. (July 4, 2018) – For six years, Lansing's Three Roosters produce store has been the beer vendor at *Campeonato Estatal Charro*, the state championship Mexican rodeo held annually at Rancho el Consuelo. Store Manager Daisy Herrera will be serving beer and *michelada*, a beer-based cocktail made with chile and other spices.

It is Herrera's uncle, Ernesto Acevedo, who owns Three Roosters, and he competes in the rodeo as a member of a team called *Camperos de Beecher*. Acevedo's son Ricardo also competes.

Typical Mexican rodeo events include *Cala de Caballo* (horse reining), *Jineteo de Toro* (bull riding), and *Terna en el Ruedo* (team roping). The *Acevedos* compete in cow tipping.

Much like NASCAR, Mexican rodeo is its own culture with its own traditions, costumes, terminology, and celebrities. (Governor Bruce Rauner—who owns ranches in Montana and Wyoming—attended the event in 2015.)

For people who are interested in experiencing Mexican rodeo at the state competition this summer, Herrera explains that the first weekend, July 21 and 22,

will be the least crowded and may offer the best opportunity to walk around and get a sense of the event. Because the championship is a tournament, the competition intensifies each weekend, and the

crowds intensify as well.

Rancho el Consuelo is located at 744 Church Road in Beecher. Doors open at 10:00am each day of the championship. Call 708-913-7591 for more information.

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Lansing Special Olympics Swim Team medals at State Games begin with Olympic Torch relay down Burnham Avenue

BY MELANIE JONGSMA

LANSING, Ill. (June 27, 2018) – If you were stuck in traffic on Burnham Avenue the morning of June 12, you may have wondered what all the sirens and flashing lights were for. Lansing police vehicles escorted six coaches and six athletes from the Lansing Swim Team as they carried the Special Olympics torch through Lansing.

In Lansing, the torch relay began at 175th with Cortez Blackful, who was accompanied by Coach Rose Taylor, who also happens to be his aunt.

Blackful handed the torch to Ryan Persenaire, who was accompanied by Coach Bill Skarwecki. Skarwecki will be taking over as head coach of the team this year.

A block later, Joe Centracchio and Coach Tony Cusimano received the torch, and they ran it to sisters Estrella and Venus Aragon, who were accompanied by Coach Mike Burke and current Head Coach Dennis Sullivan.

The final hand-off was from the sisters to Jacob Dragicevich, who was accompanied by Coach Mike Collins.

The Lansing Swim Team is sponsored by the Lansing Knights of Columbus. This year, they competed in the state-level Special Olympics competition in Normal, Illinois, on June 15 and 16.

Gold medal winners included Andy Kranc (25M backstroke), Keith Cipich (50M freestyle), Mike Houston (25M freestyle), and Joey Centracchio (50M backstroke).

Silver medalists included Keith Cipich (25M freestyle), Estrella Aragon (25M freestyle), Jake Dragicevich (25M freestyle), and the 4x25M freestyle relay team—Keith Johnson, Derek Williams, Tom Wippo, and Lansing resident Ryan Persenaire.

Bronze medalists were Jake Dragicevich (50M freestyle) and Keith Johnson (25M breaststroke).

And Matt Lukacek, Keith Johnson, and Derrick Williams won fourth place in their various events.

The Lansing Swim Team enjoyed a group outing while at State. (Photo provided)



Sixth annual LOOP bike ride is Friday, July 20

“There is still time to register,” says Chamber Director Amy Todd

BY MELANIE JONGSMA

LANSING, Ill. (June 28, 2018) – The annual LOOP bike ride gives Lansing residents an opportunity to tour their village by bike. Check-in will begin at 6:00pm at Park Plaza on Friday, July 20.

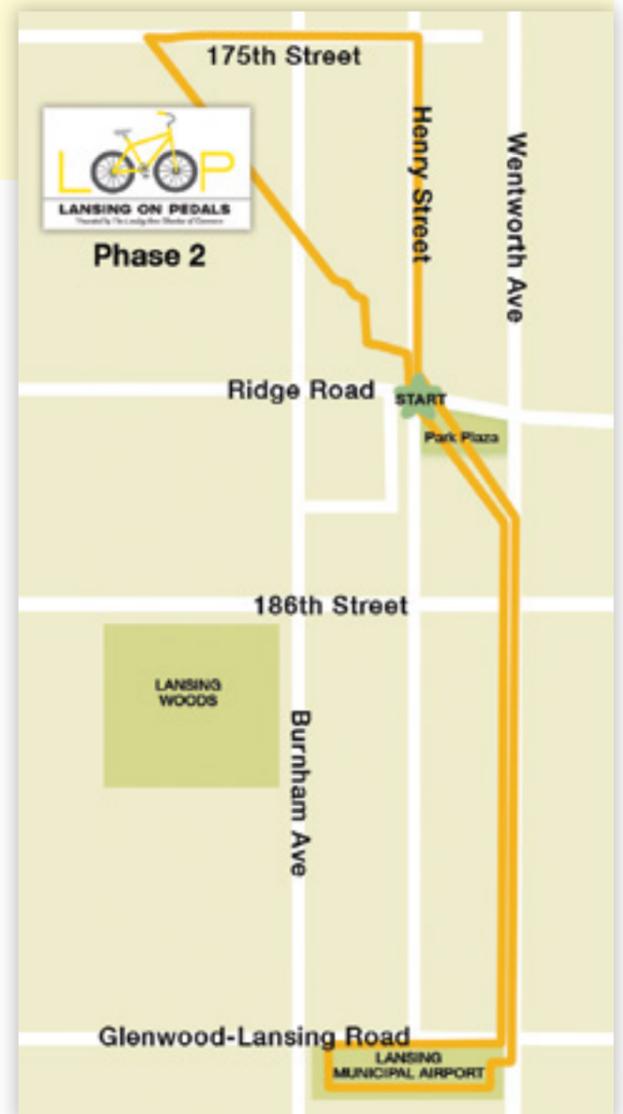
From Park Plaza, Phase 1 begins around 7:00pm and takes about an hour to complete. Upon returning to Park Plaza, bikers will take a break and rehydrate with bottles of water. Those who choose to continue with Phase 2 will begin that route at dusk—around 8:30pm—so when they go through the Lansing Municipal Airport, the runway lights will be on. Depending on how fast people pedal, Phase 2 of the LOOP bike ride will end around 10:00pm, back at Park Plaza.

EARLY REGISTRATION DISCOUNT

The regular registration price is \$40.00 per rider, but from now until July 14, bikers can register for only \$30.00. Registered participants receive a goody bag and t-shirt.

Registration is available through the Lansing Area Chamber of Commerce website, or call 708-474-4170 to register by phone.

The LOOP bike ride takes place rain or shine—unless lightning is forecast. If the event is canceled due to lightning, bags and shirts reserved for paid registrants will be available for pickup, but registration refunds will not be issued. Chamber Director Amy Todd says, “Please consider any ‘loss of value’ a donation to the Chamber’s Family Giving program during the holidays.”



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