

THE LANSING JOURNAL

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REMEMBERING WOODSTOCK

On the 50th anniversary of the historic music festival, a local couple reminisces, and Lansing celebrates



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BY JAMILYN HISKES

LANSING, Ill. (August 1, 2019) – Lansing will be celebrating the 50th anniversary of the famous 1969 Woodstock Music Festival on Friday and Saturday, August 9 and 10, at Fox Pointe, Lansing’s premiere entertainment venue. The Lansing Public Library has organized the anniversary event, which they are co-sponsoring with the Village of Lansing. The line-up of artists will recreate the style and vibe of the original Woodstock, as indicated by the tie-dye flyers created to promote the celebration.

But to attendees of the real thing—people who were actually there at that farm in Bethel, New York, with 400,000 other concert-goers—how will it compare?

ONLY MEMORIES, NO PHOTOS

Artist Jim Siergey and his wife Cindy of Munster, Ind., remember attending the festival as teenagers and have some interesting stories to tell.

“The thing is, we have no proof,” Cindy began with a smile. “We didn’t think to bring a camera.”

“We didn’t even bring a change of clothes,” Jim added. “I think I had 12 dollars in my pocket, and four was to buy a ticket.”

The two of them were working summer jobs in

Chicago in 1969, and the “big funk festival happening in New York” wasn’t even on their radar, Cindy said. But after a sudden phone call from her brother asking if she and Jim would like to go, she agreed.

MASSES OF PEOPLE

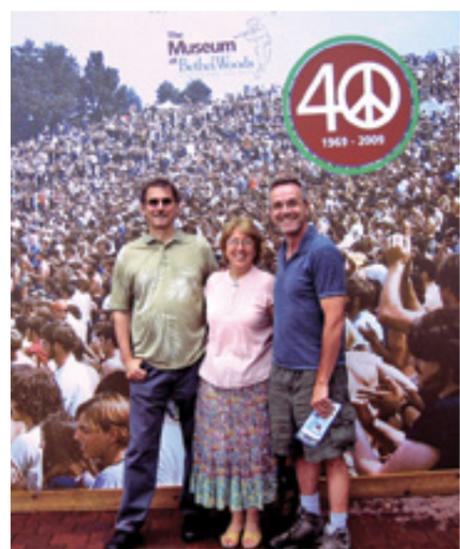
“We were in a car with three other people, and [Cindy’s] brother and one of his friends, who has since become one of my best friends, were going to go out there on a motorcycle and meet some people in Ohio who we would then meet at the front gate [of the festival],” Jim said. “And then we got there Friday and there was no front gate anymore.”

Jim said the front gate had been trampled by the sheer number of people flooding into the festival grounds. There wasn’t even anyone available to sell or check tickets, so

Jim and Cindy just walked in. “There was just nothing,” Cindy said. “The organizers had no idea that it was going to be that big. They were so overwhelmed by the masses of people that they just gave up trying to collect tickets.”

After wandering outside the festival calling the names

See “Woodstock,” page 5



Left: Jim and Cindy Siergey’s wedding photo, 1970. Right: Though Jim and Cindy and their friend Tim didn’t have a camera with them for Woodstock 1969, they were able to recreate the experience in 2009 at the Woodstock Museum. (Photos provided)

‘Follow the Yellow Brick Road’ scavenger hunt ends on Woodstock weekend

Prizes awarded, sponsors revealed on-stage August 10

BY JOSH BOOTSMA

LANSING, Ill. (July 25, 2018) – Grace Rubio was following the Yellow Brick Road. She didn’t click her heels or talk to tin men, but as she opened the front door to one of Ridge Road’s many businesses and received a sticker to place in her green booklet, she was taking the next step toward finishing her journey—not in Oz, but in Lansing.

Rubio is one of hundreds of Lansing residents who began to see Lansing through new eyes during the Lansing Public Library’s “Follow the Yellow Brick Road” scavenger hunt. Themed in honor of the Wizard of Oz’s 80th anniversary this summer, the scavenger hunt took participants on a clue-filled tour of Lansing locations.

Library staff member Manuel Cord-Cruz designed 20 Wizard of Oz stickers for the scavenger hunt. Part of the fun was seeing how each sticker relates to the organization giving it out.



“Every weekend I’m doing a little bit, and during the week after work,” said the twelve-year Lansing resident with a smile as she crossed Ridge Road to get from one business to another.

BOOKLETS AND STICKERS AND iPADS, OH MY!

Rubio was first made aware of the scavenger hunt when she passed through the library and saw the large “Follow the Yellow Brick Road” display in one of the inside windows, created by library employee Manuel Cord-Cruz. The hunt, which began on June 10, started with participants showing their library card and receiving a small green booklet with a picture of Oz on the front. Within the booklet are 20 Wizard of Oz themed clues that led to locations all over Lansing. These locations posted a “follow the yellow brick road” sign in their windows to greet scavenger hunters entering to receive

See “Yellow Brick Road,” page 11

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Don't rely on just the print edition for Lansing news! (There's more online....)

Reaching north Lansing

We apologize for the oversight

BY MELANIE JONGSMA, MANAGING EDITOR

LANSING, Ill. (July 14, 2019) – Sometimes a picture is worth a thousand words. Or a dozen zip codes.

FIRST, AN INTRO TO AFFORDABLE MAILING

The Lansing Journal uses a United States Postal Service program called Every Door Direct Mail (EDDM) to deliver the monthly print version of our newspaper to Lansing residents. This program is an affordable way to mail because each piece is not addressed to a particular name or address. Instead, the postal carrier is given a bundle of Lansing Journals, and he simply adds one to the mail he is already bringing to the addresses on his route. The Shopper began using EDDM because it was more cost-efficient than managing cadres of young paper boys and girls.



EDDM allows you to select which routes to deliver to. As the newspapers are printed, they are bundled and labeled with the route number. (Photo: Melanie Jongsma)

EDDM allows you to select which routes in a given zip code you want to deliver to. It was cost-prohibitive to choose every route, so the Shopper chose 14 routes that would reach approximately 7,500 homes in Lansing for \$1,125 each month.

SECOND, QUESTIONING THE LIST

The Lansing Journal has been using the same EDDM mailing list that the Shopper uses in Lansing. That is, everyone who gets the Lansing Shopper should also get The Lansing Journal. We print 10,000 copies, and we were mailing to the same 7,500 homes. The remaining 2,500 copies we placed in businesses around town.

But some recent conversations prompted us to take a look at our delivery routes.

THIRD, NUMBERS VS. PICTURES

Requesting the route numbers gave us this list: 60438C001, 60438C002, 60438C004, 60438C008, 60438C010, 60438C011, 60438C013, 60438C014, 60438C015, 60438C016, 60438C020, 60438C023, 60438C025, 60438C026.

It wasn't until we plotted those routes on a Lansing map that we became aware that we had completely missed Lansing residents north of the expressway.

By adding just three routes, we can reach most of north Lansing. So beginning with this issue, The Lansing Journal is being mailed to an additional 1,575 homes, for a total of about 8,770 Lansing residents each month.

RESULTS OF THIS CHANGE

For financial reasons, we didn't increase the print run when we added the new routes. That means we have fewer copies to distribute to local drop-off points—about 1,200 instead of 2,500. So we will be limiting the number of drop-off points we bring papers to as well as the number of copies we bring to each drop-off point.

Adding these three routes will cost us an additional \$260 in postage each month. That's not a huge amount, but our margins are pretty thin as it is.

ADVERTISING AND SUPPORT

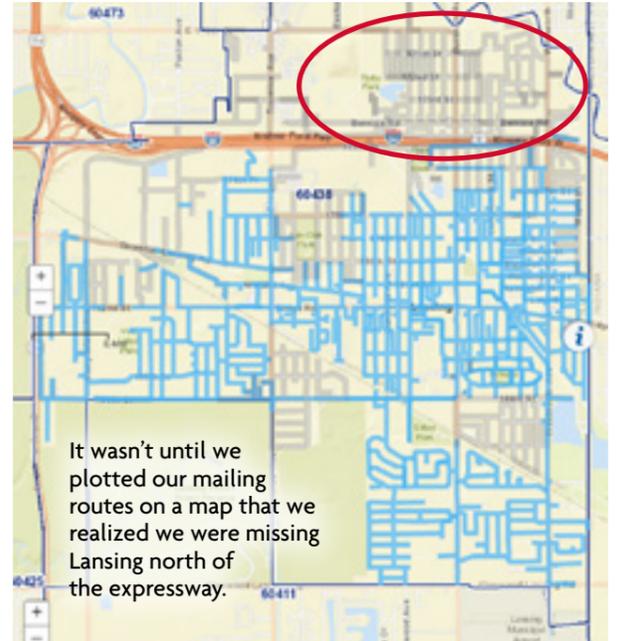
Personally, I'm hoping we can find an additional advertiser who will commit to a quarter-page ad each month. That size ad costs \$275, which would cover the added postage. This might be a business in north Lansing that wants to get a message in front of all Lansing residents. Or maybe it's a church in south Lansing that wants to let north Lansing know about programs, worship times, and special services.

Or maybe there are government entities—like the Lansing Police Department, the Human Relations Commission, the Fox Pointe Marketing Team—who want to make sure north Lansing knows about events, programs, hiring opportunities, and more.

For any of those advertisers, \$275/month is a cheap way to get a message delivered to 8,770 homes.

In addition, there are many individuals like the ones listed in the blue box below. These are people who send us money because they love this newspaper and want to keep it going. Sometimes those gifts are what make the difference between being in the red and being in the black in a given month.

It would take only 26 more people to donate \$10/month, and we'd be able to cover the cost of reaching a whole new section of our



It wasn't until we plotted our mailing routes on a map that we realized we were missing Lansing north of the expressway.

community. Is that achievable?

The Support tab on our website makes it convenient for people to set up a regular monthly contribution. We hope you'll visit it and make a gift.

LANSING HELPING LANSING

We have always wanted The Lansing Journal to be a newspaper for all of Lansing. And we are intentional about serving as much of our community as we can. That's why we were stunned to realize our oversight and why we worked quickly to correct it. Will you help us?

Whatever you can do in terms of advertising or individual contributions, we are grateful. Thank you.

With the faithful support of this community, we will continue the work of reaching all of Lansing with Lansing news.

THE LANSING JOURNAL

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 Every community deserves a good newspaper. The Lansing Journal serves the Lansing, Illinois, community with consistent, trustworthy, community-building news and information. Our partnership with The Shopper, which has served South Holland and the surrounding region since 1957, combines professional journalism, community values, and local publishing. We offer advertising opportunities for local businesses, byline opportunities for local journalists, and learning opportunities for local students. Content appearing in The Lansing Journal—in print or online—is subject to copyright laws. (© 2018 by The Lansing Journal. All rights reserved.)

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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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The Lansing Journal is a member of the Illinois Press Association, Independent Free Papers of America, and the Lansing Area Chamber of Commerce.

The people listed below share our vision for reaching all of Lansing with local news. **They gave money in July**, so that this newspaper could be printed and mailed in August. If you'd like to join them, visit thelansingjournal.com/news/support and select a small amount to give each month. Or mail a check to The Lansing Journal, PO Box 742, Lansing IL 60438. We appreciate every dollar of support!

Thank You

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Lansing-opoly puts Lansing on the board

Board game vouchers now available to public—\$20 each; supplies limited

BY MELANIE JONGSMA

LANSING, Ill. (August 7, 2019) —

“Speeding on Ridge Road. Go directly to the slammer. Do not collect \$250!”

“You got lost during the LOOP bike ride. Roll the dice.”

“Big event at Fox Pointe. Pay \$50 to attend.”

“Good Neighbor Day float wins first place. Collect \$200.”



Chamber Director Amy Todd has a sample Roch-opoly game from Rochester. The Lansing version will look similar, but it will have Lansing photos and Lansing locations on the game board, as well as Lansing references on the cards. (Photo: Melanie Jongsma)

honorees, so anyone who has been honored will recognize it, and when they land on it they’ll be reminded of their special night!”

A FUN FUNDRAISER
With production costs covered, any Lansing-opoly games that are sold now will help support Chamber programs and activities.

A Lansing board game has been on the Chamber’s list of fundraising ideas for several years, but it didn’t

The Lansing Area Chamber’s newest fundraiser is a customized local version of a familiar board game (a game that we can’t mention by name, because of potential trademark issues). Vouchers for Lansing-opoly are already being sold; residents who purchase a voucher will be able to trade it in for an actual board game once the games are produced and delivered. Expected delivery date is January 2020.

To avoid direct comparisons with the classic game originally marketed by Parker Brothers, certain references have been changed. A large corner space is labeled “Start,” for example, and when players pass it, they collect \$250. Players earn money to purchase “inns” and “homes,” rather than hotels and houses. The colors on the board are slightly different from those used in the more familiar game. And the game pieces are generic plastic markers rather than the iconic metal tokens.

SCRAMBLING FOR SPACE ON THE BOARD

Funding for the game was covered by advertisers who bought spaces on the board that will be imprinted with their name and logo. So instead of Boardwalk, Illinois Avenue, and Pennsylvania Railroad, players will land on locations such as Calumet Bakery, Lan Oak Park, and the

Gayety’s chose the Lansing-opoly money as their advertising space. (Photo provided)



Lansing Public Library. Thirty-five spaces were available at a range of prices, and they sold out within two weeks.

“There was a lot of excitement about the game,” said Amy Todd, Director of the Lansing Area Chamber.

“I jumped on it right away,” said Karen Kleine, owner of Minuteman Press (17930 Torrence Avenue). “It’s just so cool. So different and cool.” Kleine lives in Indiana and she attended Indiana University—so she pur-

chased the Indiana Avenue space. She is eager to see the games produced. “For people to land on a space that says ‘Minuteman Press’ is just so darn cute.” She is proud to be one of the few local businesses in the area that

provide design and printing services, and she’s proud to be part of the Lansing business community. “Lansing does a lot to stay community-oriented,” she added. “I want to be part of that.”

Kleine also serves on the Lansing Volunteer Recognition Committee, and she convinced them to buy a space on the board as well. “We don’t really do a lot of advertising,” she said about the committee, “because we want most of our money to go toward the dinner and the awards that we give people.” But she and the committee felt that Lansing-opoly would be a good use of funds. “The space will have the same logo as the pin that we give to all our volunteer

become an active project until Susan Thompson became President of the Chamber Board. Thompson did the research and contacted 521 Promo, a manufacturer of a variety of games. She was impressed with their good reviews and with how easy they made the process. “So far it’s been fantastic and very easy,” Thompson said about working with 521 Promo. “They seem to be a really great company.”

A limited number of Lansing-opoly vouchers are available at \$20 each. Lansing residents and businesses can buy vouchers from Chamber Board members or at the following locations:

- Bragg’s Automotive (2910 Bernice Road)
- Chamber office (18155 Roy Street, Suite 3)
- Fine Tune Automotive (17546 Chicago Avenue)
- Mancino’s (3300 Ridge Road)
- Ridge Animal Clinic (3667 Ridge Road)
- Waters Edge (18418 Wentworth Avenue)

“Once the vouchers are gone, they’re gone,” says Todd. It is unknown at this time how many vouchers have already been sold, because the sales from all the locations have not been compiled.

The vouchers are irreplaceable and nonrefundable, so Todd encourages buyers not to lose them. After the first round of sales, the per-game price will be \$25.

GETTING IN ON THE ACTION

For families who enjoy board games, Lansing-opoly will be a unique and completely playable addition to the game closet. Even for residents who are not “into” games, Lansing-opoly is a fun snapshot of current Lansing businesses and events.

And for old-timers who perhaps still own the Lansing board games that were created in the 1970s (by Trinity Lutheran School) and 1980s (by the Lansing Jaycees), Lansing-opoly will be a nice addition to their Lansing board game collection.

Information and announcements about the arrival of the published Lansing-opoly games is available from the Lansing Area Chamber—708-474-4170 or director@chamberoflansing.com.

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Woodstock 50th Anniversary Celebration

Concerts at Fox Pointe

August 9-10

Grounds open 4 p.m. Friday; 1 p.m. Saturday



Lansing Public Library

Friday, August 9: Enjoy the music of Creedence Clearwater Revival & Crosby, Stills, Nash & Young



Friday, August 9
5:00 p.m.
The Fortunate Sons
Music of Creedence
Clearwater Revival



Friday, August 9
8:00 p.m.
Marrakesh Express
Music of Crosby,
Stills, Nash & Young

Saturday, August 10: Enjoy the music of Joan Baez, Santana, The Who, Jimi Hendrix, and more!



Saturday, August 10
2:00 p.m.
Anna Stange
Music of Joan Baez



Saturday, August 10
4:00 p.m.
Rico!
Music of Santana



Saturday, August 10
6:30 p.m.
Who's Next
Music of The Who



Saturday, August 10
9:00 p.m.
AXIS
Music of Jimi Hendrix

continued, next page

Fox Pointe is located at 18138 Henry St., Lansing, IL 60438

Free admission. Food vendors and drinks available. No outside food or drink.

A curated selection of vendors will be selling items of the era, Saturday 1-6 p.m.

Sponsored by the Village of Lansing & Lansing Public Library

Woodstock, from page 1

of Cindy's brother and his friends to try and find them—and listening to singer-songwriter Richie Haven's set from afar—Jim and Cindy finally met up with some of them and went to work setting up a tent to camp in for the night. They found a spot in the woods surrounding the farm, but by morning, they weren't alone.

"None of us knew how to set up the tent," Jim said. "And it was pitch-black and raining. Somehow we got it up, and by morning, there were about 20 people in our tent. It was like a clown car."

EXPERIENCING WOODSTOCK

Saturday was when Jim and Cindy finally got to enjoy the music closer to the stage. After starting the day with a drive into town for some food—which was hard to find, given that the small grocery stores had been invaded by hundreds of thousands of festival-goers and were therefore nearly barren—they got to hang out and really experience Woodstock.

"It's an old-fashioned word now, but it was a very mellow environment," Cindy recalled. "Everybody was pretty laid-back. Some people were just playing in the mud. Nobody bothered anybody."

"It was in the collective unconscious that it was just us here," Jim said. "So we all knew that we had to take care of each other."

The two of them then spent the day watching legends like Carlos Santana—whose band at that time was only touring around San Francisco and hadn't released its first album yet—as well as rock and soul singer Janis Joplin and English rock band The Who. Jim said he remembers watching the sun rise on Sunday morning behind the stage while psychedelic rock band Jefferson Airplane played—a moment he called "far-f— -out, in the language of the time."

BACK TO REALITY

By Sunday afternoon, Jim and Cindy and the friends they'd come to the festival with had been awake about 20 hours and decided to head home. Because they were still living with their parents, there were some strong reactions upon their return, according to Cindy.

"I remember being dropped off and opening the

front door and my mother coming down the stairs," she said. "And she looked at me and told me, 'I never thought I'd see you alive again! Where's your brother?' And I said, 'I don't know, we couldn't find him!'"

THE END OF AN ERA

It truly was a surreal event. But why does Woodstock belong in the history books, and why are people still being interviewed about their time there 50 years later?

"There was change going on in the '60s.... There was the Civil Rights Movement and the Vietnam War going on, which was very divisive in our country," Cindy said. "And from that came things like 'America: Love it or Leave it' and 'Give Peace a Chance' and the whole hippie thing, going to San Francisco with flowers in your hair. I think that Woodstock and '69 was the culmination of that change. It was peaceful, and it was music and...everybody was sort of on the same page. I can't see that happening ever again."

"It really was the end of the '60s," Jim added.

REVISITING HISTORY

Given the positive community vibe that has characterized Fox Pointe events throughout the summer, it's easy to imagine the upcoming 50th-anniversary celebration of Woodstock having the same peaceful, mellow atmosphere as the original Woodstock. The Siergeys plan to attend, though Jim says, "Instead of a tent we will be bringing those folding chairs that fit in a bag. Perhaps granola and brown rice too."

Debbie Albrecht, Library Director, is excited about the anniversary celebration. The tribute bands lined up on Friday and Saturday will channel Santana, Joplin, The Who, and others that Jim, Cindy, and hundreds of thousands of others experienced in 1969. While Albrecht was living in New York at the time, her parents told her that at 14 she was too young to go to the concert. Still, she has fond memories of the incredible crowds, the hippie ideals, and the tensions between

generations.

"The thing about Woodstock was," she said, "it really was a peaceful gathering of folks who pulled together to get through some travails—rain, mud, too many people, not enough food, etc., but they did it together. As hard as folks have tried, it will never be replicated. It was a singular event in a very turbulent time where there was peace, love, and music."

The anniversary event on August 9 and 10 won't replicate Woodstock, but it will commemorate it. So Albrecht encourages attendees to "Put on your best outfit from 1969 and join us!"

WOODSTOCK CELEBRATION LINE-UP

Friday, August 9

- 5:00–7:00pm: Fortunate Sons, a Creedence Clearwater Revival cover band
- 8:00–10:30pm: Marrakesh Express, a Crosby, Stills, Nash and Young cover band

Saturday, August 10

- 2:00–3:00pm: Anna Stange, playing the music of Joan Baez
- 4:00–5:30pm: Rico!, a Santana cover band
- 6:30–8:00pm: Who's Next, a band covering The Who
- 9:00–10:30pm: Axis, covering Jimi Hendrix

Fox Pointe is located at 18138 Henry Street in Lansing, Illinois.

JIM SIERGEY TODAY

If you recognize the name Jim Siergey, it may be because his artwork has been seen on the pages of The Lansing Journal. Siergey regularly contributes "nartoons" for publication, and for this issue he created a special Woodstock-themed piece.

Will Woodstock 2019 in Lansing, Illinois, attract the same masses of humanity that Woodstock 1969 did in Bethel, New York? Come early on Friday, August 9, and Saturday, August 10, to make sure you get a spot on the lawn. (Photo: Village of Lansing)



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nartoon by Jim Siergey



This nartoon was created in recognition of the 50th anniversary of Woodstock, a cultural phenomenon that the young nartoonist attended.

Jim Siergey will also be part of a group show called "Portrait of the Artist as..." The opening reception will be Saturday, August 24, 7:00–10:00pm at Wild Rose Brewing Co., 1104 E. Main, Griffith, IN.

Ms. Black Illinois visits Patti Leach Youth Center for Beauty Day

BY JENNIFER YOS

LANSING, Ill. (July 29, 2019) – Beauty Day at the Patti Leach Youth Center was a special event held in July for its young female patrons. Not only did they receive free manicures, but more important, the participants openly discussed and shared advice regarding body image, self acceptance, acceptance of others, goal attainment, and college financing.

Director Aneisha Titsworth led a discussion about the negative influences social media can have on one's body image. Some of the conclusions drawn from the discussion were the importance of learning how not to compare oneself to others, of understanding that another girl's beauty does not take away from one's own, and of following the social media accounts of only positive role models.

BEAUTY AND BRAINS

Ms. Black Illinois USA 2019, Madame Kristen Glover joined in the discussion and also spoke to the participants about financial planning for college. Her pageant platform includes financial literacy, as well as dance performance and black representation in the arts.

Glover shared with the young women that when she was a junior at Seton Academy, she knew she wanted to go to college but also knew that she did not want to take on a lot of debt. She wondered, "How can I go to college without taking out all of those loans?"

She decided to stay home and first go to a community college. "If I can go to a community college, take the same courses for much less, and graduate, and be in a better financial position than my peers, I'm winning. And I have my degree, and a college experience—I am winning, yes? So that is what I did, but



it didn't come easy. I had to work five jobs at one time to pay for my collegiate career up until I transferred to Northern [Illinois University]... It was one of the hardest things I've ever done. But guess what. I did it."

She advised the young women, "You don't have to take the orthodox route or the route that people tell you you should take.... You can achieve your goal by taking another route. You have to think outside the box sometimes. You can't have people think for you—like my senior counselor was telling me, 'Take out the loan. It's ok.' But guess what? A lot of my peers who took out those loans? They're in a boatload of debt, and I'm here sailing!

"That is my message to you all: Use your brains. Learn how to strategize. Think outside the box. Be

Above: Ms. Black Illinois USA 2019 Madame Kristen Glover (center) visited the Patti Leach Youth Center on Beauty Day. Right: Destiny Williams (left) gets her nails done by a staff member at Patti Leach Youth Center on Beauty Day. (Photos: Jennifer Yos)

unorthodox. And also, use those strategic ways to reach your end goal."

Madame Glover, a resident of Lynwood, Illinois, has a bachelor degree in dance performance with a minor in speech pathology from Northern Illinois University. She currently is working toward a Masters in Accounting and will be competing for the Ms. Black USA Nationals August 9–August 11 in Washington, D.C.

The Patti Leach Youth Center is located at 18123 Burnham Avenue in Lansing, Illinois.



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Olympia Fields, IL

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OBITUARIES

BOOMSMA

A memorial service for Claude H. Boomsma was held Monday, August 5, 2019 at First Reformed Church in South Holland, IL with Rev. Dr. Rich Grevengoed officiating.

Mr. Boomsma was born September 11, 1931 and passed away July 31, 2019. Husband of Doris Boomsma (nee DeYoung). Father of Scott (Nancy) Boomsma, Robert (Laura) Boomsma, and Cindy (late Paul) Paarlberg. Grandfather of six; great-grandfather of ten. Brother of Jack (Darlene) Boomsma, late Sylvia (late James) Drenth, late Jim (late Jane) Boomsma, and the late George (late Rika) Boomsma.

Private interment was at Oak Ridge Cemetery, Lansing, IL. Arrangements were entrusted to Smits, DeYoung-Vroegh Funeral Home, South Holland, IL.

SANDRA BOVINO

DECEMBER 21, 1957 – JULY 27, 2019

Sandra Rose Bovino was born December 21, 1957, and passed away suddenly on July 27, 2019.

Preceded in death by her parents Anthony and Virginia Bovino. Survived by her brothers Daniel and Nicholas Bovino, and her nephews Michael and Mario Bovino and niece Danielle Bovino.

Although Sandra was rarely seen out, due to medical reasons, she was loved by many through social media. Sandra had a great heart; she loved her family, especially her brothers and her niece and nephews. She loved her many remaining relatives and countless friends.

Sandra, you will be missed dearly, but we know you are where you longed to be—with your mother and father. Rest in peace Sandra—from your loving brother, Nick.

A memorial service will be held in the near future.

FERRARO

A funeral service for Dena J. Ferraro (nee Sanders) was held Thursday, August 1, 2019 at Smits Funeral Home in Dyer, IN.

Mrs. Ferraro was born August 18, 1951 and passed away July 27, 2019. Wife of the late Gerald Ferraro. Mother of Anthony (Emilia) Ferraro and Michael (Kelley) Ferraro. Grandmother of three.

Entombment was at Evergreen Cemetery, Evergreen Park, IL. Arrangements were entrusted to Smits Funeral Home, Dyer, IN.

LUEBKE

A memorial service for Mark Henry Luebke was held Saturday, August 3, 2019 at Smits Funeral Home in Dyer, IN with Rev. Jeff Riddering and Mr. Rick Riddering officiating.

Mr. Luebke was born January 10, 1959 and passed away July 29, 2019. Husband of Pamela Joy Luebke (nee DeYoung). Father of Nicholas Steven Luebke and Kayla Joy Luebke. Son of Henry and the late Nicla Luebke; son-in-law of Geraldine and the late Herbert DeYoung. Brother of Jan (Dirk) Swiderek, Karyn (Harry) Madorin, and the late Steven Luebke; brother-in-law of Barbara (Harold) Triezenberg and David DeYoung.

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

MCDONALD

A funeral service for Eileen A. McDonald was held Sunday, August 4, 2019 at Smits Funeral Home in Dyer, IN.

Mrs. McDonald was born July 8, 1926 and passed away July 28, 2019. Wife of the late Roland B. McDonald. Mother of Larry McDonald and Barbara McDonald. Grandmother of 2; great-grandmother of 2. Sister of Mary (late Donald) Edens, Helen (late Otto) Sidon, and the late Robert (Marilyn) Kusterman.

Interment was at Washington Street Cemetery, Casey, IL. Arrangements were entrusted to Smits Funeral Home James E. Janusz Funeral Service, Dyer, IN.

PULASKI

A Funeral Mass for Evelyn L. Pulaski was held on August 5, 2019 at Holy Ghost Church with Rev. Anthony Talarico officiating.

Mrs. Pulaski (nee Wojciechowski) was born February 12, 1928 and died July 31, 2019. She was the wife of the late Casimir; mother of Donna Bolier, Clifford (Jennifer) Pulaski, Gregory (Bev) Pulaski, Thomas (Jill) Pulaski, and Louise (Stuart) Ross; grandmother of 11 and great-grandmother of 3; aunt of many

nieces and nephews.

Interment was at Holy Cross Cemetery. Arrangements entrusted to Thornridge Funeral Home (Janusz Family Funeral Service).

RAMOS

A funeral service for Filemon Ramos was held August 2, 2019, Thornridge Funeral Home.

Mr. Ramos was born December 31, 1946, and died July 29, 2019. He was the husband of Tomasa (née Rojas); father of Norma Santana, Arturo (Amber) Ramos, Jorge (Maria) Ramos, Octavio (Sylvia) Ramos, Estela (Jeronimo) Mendoza, Filimon Ramos Jr., Cynthia (Carlos) Calderon, Marisol Ramos, Daisy Ramos, and the late Rigoberto (Susana) Ramos; grandfather of 30 and great-grandfather of 5; brother of Arturo (Elvira) Ramos and Benjamin (Socorro) Ramos; kind uncle of many nieces and nephews.

Interment was at Holy Cross Cemetery. Arrangements were entrusted to Thornridge Funeral Home (Janusz Family Funeral Service).



JOHN TEMPELMAN

JANUARY 03, 1931 – JULY 24, 2019

John Tempelman age 88, of Lansing, Illinois, formerly of Edgerton, MN, passed away Wednesday, July 24, 2019.

He is survived by his beloved wife Betty (nee Zandstra) Tempelman. Loving father of Judy (George) Otto, Patty (Fred) Dorsch, Phil (Karri) Tempelman, and Mike (Sherry) Tempelman. Cherished grandfather of Melissa Huge, Renee Nelson, Doug Kooy, Joe Dorsch, Jim Dorsch, Ella Tempelman, Kevin Tempelman, Bryan Tempelman, Christopher Tempelman, Collin Tempelman, Curtis Tempelman, Leah Tempelman, Jeff Otto, and Kristen VanderLinden. Great grandfather of Kolton, Rylan, Laney, Haylee, Jocelyn, Marissa, Samantha, Connor, Ethan, Chase, Collin, Cassie, Mallory, Adrian, Iris. Fond brother of Marie and Kay. Loving uncle to many nieces and nephews. John was preceded in death by his parents John and Anna Tempelman, brothers Luke and Toon, and grandson Adam Dorsch.

Friends visited with the family on July 30, 2019, at the Schroeder-Lauer Funeral Home, 3227 Ridge Road, Lansing, Illinois from 3:00 to 7:00 PM. Funeral services were held on Wednesday, July 31, 2019, at 11:30 AM at First Church (PCA), 3134 Ridge Road, Lansing, Illinois, with Pastor Cary Gephart officiating. John was laid to rest at Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery, Elwood, Illinois.

John was a veteran of the United States Marine Corp. He was in business with Pete Ham for 25 years. John was a loving and caring husband, father, grandfather, brother, and son. He enjoyed spending time with his family and grandchildren. He was loved by many, and he will be truly missed. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made in John's name to St. Anthony of Lansing, 3025 Spring Lake Drive, Lansing, Illinois 60438.

The Lansing Journal runs full obituaries with photos in our daily online news (thelansingjournal.com/news) as we receive information from funeral homes both local and out-of-state. For \$100, we can also include a version of the notice and photo in the upcoming monthly print edition. Interested families may contact The Lansing Journal directly, or ask your funeral home to do so.



KENNETH L. WARFEL

SEPTEMBER 15, 1923 – JULY 9, 2019

Kenneth Warfel, age 95, of Lansing, IL, passed away on Tuesday, July 9, 2019.

He is survived by sons Michael Warfel of Renton, WA, and Gary Warfel of Chicago, IL; five grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren. He is preceded in death by Sally Warfel, his wife of 63 years; mother, Fern Foltz Warfel, and father, Ray Warfel, of Newton, IL; and brother, Lynn Warfel, of Portland, OR.

Ken was born in Newton, IL, on September 15, 1923. He served in the US Army from January 1943 through October 1945 as a T/4 in the 115th Medical Battalion of 40th Infantry Division, where he earned the Bronze Star for meritorious service in the Pacific Theater. He worked as a lab technician for the Sinclair Oil Company from 1945 until his retirement in 1985. Ken served as secretary-treasurer for School District 171 and was active in Boy Scouts of America Troop 246. He was a wonderful husband, father, grandfather, and uncle, and he will be greatly missed by his family and friends.

At the request of the family, services will be private.



SANDRA M. WILKE

JULY 16, 1921 – JULY 2, 2019

Sandra M. Wilke (nee Piazza), age 97 of Lansing, IL, passed away Tuesday, July 2, 2019.

She is survived by her daughter: Barbara Strauch; grandchildren: Christina (Philip Mengel) Strauch-Mengel, Allen Wilke, Devin Wilke; step grandson: Jason; and daughter-in-law: Karen Wilke. Mrs. Wilke was preceded in death by her beloved husband: George; and son: Dennis.

Friends visited with Mrs. Wilke's family on Friday, July 12, 2019, from 3:00 – 8:00 PM at the Schroeder-Lauer Funeral Home, 3227 Ridge Rd., Lansing, IL. A Mass of Christian Burial was held on Saturday, July 13 at 10:00 AM at St. Ann Catholic Church, 3010 Ridge Rd., Lansing, IL. Mrs. Wilke was entombed at Assumption Cemetery in Glenwood, IL.

Mrs. Wilke was a Registered Nurse. She was retired from the Dept of Children and Family Services for the City of Chicago. She had also worked as a nurse at Marshall Fields. She was a fabulous mother, grandmother, and homemaker.

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708-474-5400

WORSHIP SERVICES

Sunday School.....9:30am

Sunday Worship10:30am



3134 Ridge Road, Lansing
708-474-9610

www.firstchurchpca.org

BEN KAPPERS, PASTOR

WORSHIP SERVICES

Morning Worship 9:30am

Sunday School.....11:00am

Evening Worship..... 5:30pm



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www.gracechurchlansing.org

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Wednesday10:00am



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Sunday School.....11:00am

Evening Worship.....5:00pm

Village Board meeting highlights

From the July 16, 2019, meeting

BY MELANIE JONGSMA

LANSING, Ill. (July 22, 2019) – The July 16 series of meetings began with a Public Hearing about the 2020 budget, followed by the regular Village Board meeting and the Committee of the Whole meeting. The Lansing Journal provided full articles on some of the business that was conducted, and other items are summarized in the highlights below.

BUDGET APPROVED

“Budgets are just a prediction of where you’re aiming to be for that year,” explained Village Administrator Dan Podgorski at the beginning of the Public Hearing. “Sometimes certain revenues are not realized, or certain expenditures are not needed that were budgeted for, and that’s why you have a “Budget-to-Actual” difference.”

Podgorski continued, “The budget that’s being presented here is a balanced budget with anticipated revenues in our general fund of \$29,423,784 and budgeted expenditures of \$29,413,901.” The Village also has a number of restricted funds, such as TIFs, whose monies can be spent only on specific functions. Some of those funds have current balances that will be added to anticipated revenues to offset projected expenditures. Village Treasurer Arlette Frye also emphasized that though the budget is balanced, it is predicated on a 4.9% tax increase, which will be voted on later this year.

There were no questions asked during the Public Hearing, and the annual appropriation ordinance (the budget) was unanimously approved during the Board meeting that followed.

BESSE SHIRT LETTERING

The new awning at Besse Shirt Lettering (18058 Torrence) qualifies for the Façade Improvement Grant Program, so they have filed a request to participate. The program allows businesses to submit qualified costs for reimbursement; if approved, the Village reimburses up to 40% of the improvement costs, and an

additional 10% if a Lansing vendor is used.

FOX POINTE FENCING

A bid was awarded to Action Fence Contractors, Inc. for additional perimeter fencing and gates around Fox Pointe at a cost of \$193,800.

NEW TIF

A Public Hearing was held on July 2 regarding the proposed Torrence Avenue/172nd Street TIF District, and it was favorably received, reported Administrator Podgorski. As a final step in the process, Trustee Mike Fish made motions to approve three ordinances:

- Ordinance # 19-021, adopting the Torrence/172nd Street redevelopment project area TIF plan
- Ordinance # 19-022, designating the Torrence/172nd Street redevelopment project area, a redevelopment project area pursuant to the Tax Increment Allocation Redevelopment Act
- Ordinance # 19-023, adopting Tax Increment Allocation Financing for the Torrence/172nd Street redevelopment project area

Approval was unanimous.

NEW LANSING BUSINESSES

Trustee Brian Hardy, who chairs the Building and Economic Development Departments, listed a number of new businesses that have opened in Lansing in the past month, including:

- Clear Expressions Speech & Language Services (18340 Torrence)—a home-based speech/language therapy business
- Cook DuPage Transportation Company, Inc. (2200 Bernice)—a warehouse auto service
- BRCT Insurance Group, Inc. (2 River Place #C)—an insurance agency
- The Hanger Boutique (3521 Ridge)—a clothing boutique (see July 5 article)
- Walle Closing Out (17328 Torrence)—an



Indiana Avenue will be resurfaced from School Street all the way to Torrence Avenue, rather than ending at Glen Terrace. (Photo: Melanie Jongsma)

outlet store

- Beauty Trends (16737 Torrence)—beauty supplies
- She Gog Enterprises, LLC (3312-14 Ridge)—a gym/dance studio
- Christie Pilar Jewelry Outlet (16797 Torrence)—jewelry sales and repairs, new owner
- Tiny Town of Lansing (18144 Glen Terrace)—child care, new location (see June 14 article)

INDIANA AVENUE RESURFACING

A Community Development Block Grant from Cook County provided the Village with \$200,000 to spend on resurfacing part of Indiana Avenue. That amount was enough to cover the cost from School Street to Glen Terrace, and the administration agreed to add the rest of Indiana Avenue—all the way to Torrence—to the 2019 street resurfacing plans.

NEXT MEETING

The next Village Board and Committee of the Whole meetings are scheduled for Tuesday, August 20, at 7:00pm at the Police and Court Complex, 2710 E 170th St, Lansing, Illinois.

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the award-winning
Soul Naturals will
be present.*

Lansing Police Officer Wilson Pierce commended by Department of Defense

Pierce's "professionalism and patience" aid DOD in Lansing home search

BY JOSH BOOTSMA

LANSING, Ill. (July 18, 2019) – Lansing Police Officer Wilson Pierce was commended by the U.S. Department of Defense via letter, which was read during the Village Board meeting on July 16. Officer Pierce had assisted the department during a home search in Lansing on June 18. Lansing Police Chief Dennis Murrin received a letter from the Department of Defense agent in charge of the search, commending Pierce for his "professionalism and patience."

The full text of the letter Chief Murrin received is included below:

Chief Murrin,

I want to commend you for allowing the assignment of an officer to assist our agency with a federal search warrant we served in the Village of Lansing on June 18, 2019.

While we initially expected to only have the officer there for a short time during the entry of the residence, the resident immediately began voicing some animosity towards law enforcement. The officer assigned to assist was officer Wilson Pierce. Officer Pierce overheard the resident and asked if he could assist us. Officer Pierce intervened and was able to quickly establish a rapport,

calming the resident and allowing the search teams to start the process of the search warrant.

Officer Pierce exhibited great professionalism and patience with a citizen of your Village, at the same time providing my team an extra layer of safety. Officer Pierce was able to build on the relationship that he had established, thus allowing members of the team to take over, and freeing Officer Pierce to return to patrol.



Officer Wilson Pierce (right, standing) received a standing ovation from Village officials after Police Chief Dennis Murrin (left) read his letter of commendation from the U.S. Department of Defense. (Photo: Josh Bootsma)

I understand it is a burden to have a patrol officer tied up with another assignment, but I am so thankful that you allowed us to have Officer Pierce for a few hours. He has a great professionalism about him and the community is lucky to have his service.

Thank you,
Lewis Mitchell
Present agent in charge,
Department of Defense

After the letter was read and Pierce received a round of applause, he made a few remarks thanking the Village and the Department of Defense for recognizing him. "I was just doing my job—and that's what you guys hired me for," he said, "and I'm always appreciative of this Village because this is the Village that gave me my opportunity. So, thank you."

Officer Pierce is a detective in the Lansing Police Department and is very involved in the community. Pierce started the HOME (Helping Our Minors Excel) program in 2008, which is a mentorship group designed to impact kids ages 10-18 through community service and workshops. He also set up Lansing's "crosstown classic" basketball game between Heritage and Memorial middle schools to foster healthy competition and sportsmanship. Pierce has served in the Lansing PD since 2001.

Fall 2019 Registration in progress at South Suburban College

Free class available to qualified applicants

INFORMATION PROVIDED BY SOUTH SUBURBAN COLLEGE

SOUTH HOLLAND, Ill. (July 26, 2019) – Fall Registration is already in progress at South Suburban College (SSC). The 2019 Fall Semester begins the week of August 19 for both credit and non-credit classes at the college's Main Campus and Oak Forest Center. Class schedules and registration application are available online at www.ssc.edu. Prospective students are encouraged to register soon to secure their preferred schedule.

SSC also offers a free class to first-time credit students residing in District 510—which includes Lansing—and in Lake County, Indiana. Residents may take the free class during a fall or spring semester. High school students may also utilize the free class during the summer semester before or after their senior year. The free class opportunity applies to tuition only, and does not apply to courses of more than 5 credit hours. The free class cannot be used with State or Federal Financial Aid, other Special Tuition Programs, or Employer Subsidy Programs.

South Suburban College's Main Campus is located at 15800 South State Street in South Holland, Illinois. The Oak Forest Center is located at 16333 South Kilbourn Avenue, Oak Forest, Illinois. For more information, contact the Office of Admissions at 708-210-5718. Para Información En Español Llame: 708-210-5740.

Lansing Summer Haiku

LANSING, Ill. (July 12, 2019) – Inspired by a special issue of "Morning Edition" on NPR, The Lansing Journal is inviting readers to tap into their inner poet and write some haiku. The assigned topic is "Favorite Summertime Memories."

Since haiku are often very visual, we encouraged participants to think about specific images—camping trips, first jobs, rainstorms, fireworks, ice cream, whatever evokes summer.

A number of readers have already responded with these gems:

Boats in the water
Sandy feet and sunkissed skin
My Summer Time dream
Sydney Schurman

"What a fun activity. Thank you!"
Sydney told us.

Cool after day's heat,
Lying below screened windows,
I hear June bugs bump
Tish Yos

"I wrote mine using your idea of
recalling a childhood memory," said
Tish.

Rain Soaked
Cruised up wheels in rows.
Paint dried puddles washed away.
No convertibles.

Sitting in the sun
Reading The Lansing Journal
Sipping lemonade

Carol Van Drunen

Summer Sky
Multi-color dusk.
A billowy fire melts.
Beyond the ribbon.

Mary Paulton

"Love your paper!!!" Carol told us.

Two wheels of freedom
cruising to the corner store
gum cards on my mind
Daniel Blom

Dogs run yip yapping
wind blowing flowers blooming
Summer barking songs
Rose Polgar

Do you haiku?

Haiku is a Japanese form of poetry with a simple three-line structure—five syllables, seven syllables, five syllables. They can be easy to write, yet somehow their simplicity leads to insights that can be very profound.

Give it a try! We're accepting submissions through the end of August. Send your haiku to info@thelansingjournal.com. We publish them all online, and we fit as many as possible into our print edition.

Subscribe to the daily email to be notified when your haiku gets published: www.thelansingjournal.com/news/subscribe

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Chief Murrin reports MOU progress

Last July's agreement leads to increased recruitment diversity and other improvements

BY MELANIE JONGSMA

LANSING, Ill. (July 10, 2019) — "I was pleasantly surprised at how much had been done," said Pastor Dan Roels after reviewing the progress report written by Lansing Police Chief Dennis Murrin in February, six months after the Memorandum Of Understanding was signed. While Roels recognizes that much more needs to be done, he does not diminish the progress so far. "It's a good report," he said. "It's a positive thing."

The Memorandum Of Understanding (MOU) was the outcome of months-long mediation between the Village (including the Lansing Police Department) and a coalition of concerned citizens—mediation that became particularly necessary after the June 24, 2017, incident involving a white off-duty police officer and a black teenager. In a process that sometimes left the coalition doubtful about the Village's sincerity, Chief Murrin was unilaterally commended for his genuineness.

Coalition member Elvis Slaughter went so far as to write a thank-you letter to Chief Murrin. "The Lansing Community Coalition," wrote Slaughter, "wants to applaud you for sincerely committing to implement MOU initiatives."

Murrin's seven-page report documents progress made in:

1. Community Policing (specifically recruitment)
2. Restorative Justice Program & School Resource Opportunities
3. Police/Youth Relations (specifically the production of an educational video)

Highlights from all three areas of this six-month report were summarized in the online version of this article. For space reasons, this print article will focus only on Item #1.

NEW RECRUITMENT STRATEGIES

Recruiting qualified police officers is an ongoing challenge for the Lansing

Police Department, and Murrin had expressed an eagerness to find new ways to expand the pool of applicants. Slaughter also had served as a Commissioner with the Board of Fire and Police—but his term expired in October and was not renewed. As the only African American Commissioner, he provided that Board a unique perspective, so he worked closely with Chief Murrin to adopt several new recruiting practices, such as:

- Including the testing orientation at the date of the test
- Creating both Spanish and English versions of the recruitment pamphlet
- Placing a recruitment ad in the National Minority Update
- Attending Job Fairs at TF South, Family Christian Center, Western Illinois University, and Indiana University Northwest prior to the test
- Posting promos on Facebook
- Waiving the \$25.00 application fee—this item was not specified by the MOU, but Murrin suggested it, and Slaughter said, "That effort reflected genuine interest by the LPD to remove barriers that might deter people from applying."

MORE, DIVERSE APPLICANTS

These strategies resulted in 81 applicants for the October 2018 test, 31 of whom took part in the testing process. Fewer than half of those were white:

- 13 African Americans
- 4 Hispanics
- 14 Caucasians

"That speaks volumes of a well-planned recruitment effort," said Slaughter. On some occasions, the Fire and Police Commission has had only 10 or fewer qualified candidates.

Following the completion of the written test and oral interviews with the Fire and Police Commission, the final eligibility list included 25 names demographically represented as follows:

- 8 African Americans

- 5 Hispanics (Murrin says one of the applicants had been misidentified in the numbers above, and a correction will be made in his one-year progress report)
- 12 Caucasians

It is the Fire and Police Commission that does the hiring of police officers, and the number of officers they can hire is determined mainly by the budget, explained Lori Nylen, Recording Secretary for the Commission. "The Commission can't do anything until they get the ok from the administration," she said. "The Mayor or Dan [Podgorski] will tell [Commission Chairman] Gerry [Hartog], 'Ok, it's ok for you to appoint five new officers, or two new officers.'" Once they receive a number from the administration, the Commission then begins contacting people in the order they appear on the eligibility list, which is ranked by test scores.

Since other police departments are contacting people from the same list, it is common for Lansing's Fire and Police Commission to reach out to twice as many people in order to get the number of hires they need. From the November list, they worked all the way down to #17 in order to get the 9 names they had been authorized to hire. Those 9 names included:

- 2 African Americans
- 1 Hispanic
- 6 Caucasian

The next step in the process is for the new hires to attend Police Academy, and this time, two of those nine candidates dropped out of the process then—one Caucasian male and one African American female. So the Commission returned to the list and began contacting additional names. They cannot begin another round of recruiting, applying, and testing until all names on this list have been exhausted, or the list reaches its two-year expiration date.

OTHER POSSIBLE BIASES

While Slaughter was pleased with the results of the recruiting efforts at the beginning of the hiring process, his ongoing concern is about the demographics represented at the end of the process. He wants to keep working to ensure that all test-takers are equally prepared—for the test, for the Academy, and for a career on the police force. Since Lansing has a residency requirement for police officers, it is also important for the community to be attractive to candidates who are also entertaining offers from Naperville, Burr Ridge, and other towns.

STRENGTH IN DIVERSITY

Both Roels and Slaughter would like to believe that the MOU progress report—with regard to all three areas of concern—is more than simply a checklist of fulfilled obligations, but rather represents a new way of thinking in Lansing. As people in leadership become more intentional about expanding and diversifying their networks, Lansing's Boards, Commissions, and Committees can benefit from expanded pools of candidates who bring a wider range of experience, energy, and ideas.

"Lansing is a very beautiful and diverse community with so much to offer and so much potential," says Slaughter. "It is a safe community, with good schools, good businesses, outstanding churches, great parks, great events, a great newspaper, and wonderful neighbors."

The one-year MOU progress report is expected to be completed in August.

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Yellow Brick Road, from page 1

a sticker—also designed by Cord-Cruz—to place in their booklet. Completed booklets were returned to the library where each participant's name was entered into a drawing for one of 11 prizes consisting of a TV, iPads, and Amazon Fire tablets.

WE'RE OFF TO MEET THE COMMUNITY

According to Library Director Debbie Albrecht, the idea for a community-oriented scavenger hunt came about a few years ago at an intergovernmental meeting. "Pastor Childress from Grace Church [first] mentioned the idea of a community hunt," said Albrecht, "I thought it was a great idea.... It's just summer fun."

Lansing resident Jennifer Polley agrees. A kindergarten teacher, Polley enjoyed doing the scavenger hunt with her two nieces—Katelyn and Elizabeth—from out of town. "I thought it was extremely creative," she said, "[My nieces] loved reading the clues out loud and seeing if I could figure out where we needed to go."



Jennifer Polley's nieces Elizabeth (left) and Katelyn visited Lansing and enjoyed following the "Yellow Brick Road" around town guided by their aunt. (Photo: Jennifer Polley)

Some of the clues in the booklet required some Lansing knowledge while others were more

straightforward. One of the clues read, "The Wizard of Oz is mysterious & a bit scary with his great and powerful voice! Our wizard or should I say Mayor is kind and friendly. She spends her working day in a place easy to find. Her 'guards' can give you what you seek!"



One of the Mayor's "guards," Esmerelda Solorio says all the scavenger hunters who have visited her for stickers have been very friendly. (Photo: Melanie Jongsma)

"As a lifelong Lansing resident I did not think it was hard to figure out the clues," Polley said, "but I do think some of them could be difficult if you were new in town or not familiar with the businesses.... There were a few businesses on the hunt that I had never been into."

THE BUSINESSES

Albrecht contacted local businesses and organizations to ask for a \$50 donation from each to help purchase the 11 prizes. Those businesses are the ones featured in the scavenger hunt booklet, and their identity will be revealed at the end of the contest.

Like Polley, Rubio has enjoyed the opportunity to travel across town and visit some businesses she might not have otherwise. "Since I work far away from here," she explained, "I've never really went into certain businesses.... There's a lot of them where you say, 'Hey I've gotta come back here.' I'm jotting some stuff down about where I like and where I'd like to go back."

The businesses that comprise the "Yellow Brick Road" are excited about being part of the action, too. "It's good for business," said Joyce Jellema, who has

been passing out stickers at her business. "But it's good for the community because [the participants] will say, 'Oh my gosh, I didn't know you guys were here! Look what you've got!'"

POSITIVE IMPACT

Rubio isn't the only one who has used the Oz-ian hunt to get better acquainted with Lansing. According to Albrecht, the first participant to finish the journey around town was new to Lansing and used the experience to get to know his new neighborhood.

Another participant lost her husband a few months ago and was talked into doing the scavenger hunt during one of her many visits to the library. According to Albrecht, she came back a few days later with a "big smile on her face and said how much fun she was having."

"That makes it all worth it," Albrecht said.

AUGUST 10

The final opportunity for completed booklets to be entered in the drawing is at the Woodstock Experience on August 10. Prize winners will be announced on stage around 8:00pm, before the last band of the evening performs. Participants do not need to be present at Fox Pointe to win. Rather than hauling all the prizes to Woodstock, Albrecht will keep them at the library, where they will be available for pick-up on Monday, August 11.



Participants in the Yellow Brick Road scavenger hunt were not promised courage, a heart, or a brain as they traveled Lansing, but many discovered, "There's no place like Lansing!" (Photo: Josh Bootsma)

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Lansing family holds birthday party in Oak Glen Cemetery

BY JENNIFER YOS

LANSING, Ill. (July 19, 2019) – On Friday, July 12, Lansing’s Oak Glen Cemetery was unusually animate with a happy family reunion that included patriotic decorations fluttering in the breeze, joyful singing, and homemade cupcakes. The occasion—which could easily be mistaken for a belated Memorial Day or Fourth of July picnic—was a posthumous centennial birthday celebration for Erwin Henry Diekelman, a young Thornton man whose ultimate sacrifice during World War II at the age of 25 will never be forgotten by his extended family who gathered at the cemetery. The proud military family chose to honor “Uncle Erv” by throwing him a gravesite 100th birthday party with decorations, birthday song, and cupcakes.

FROM LANSING TO THORNTON

Erwin Henry Diekelman was born on July 12, 1919, the eighth of nine children of William C. and Anna Louis (Schultz) Diekelman. Before she married, Anna had lived at the Schultz homestead in Lansing next to St. John Lutheran School on Wentworth Avenue, now St. John Commons Condos. After marriage, the Diekelmans lived in Thornton, but family ties in Lansing remained very strong.

Erwin was baptized and confirmed at St. John Lutheran Church. He graduated Thornton Public School in 1932 and Thornton Township High School in 1936. In his younger years, Erwin, along with his eight siblings, helped run their parents’ grocery and butcher shop located at 114 East Margaret Street in Thornton, across the street from the Village Hall. They also raised poultry and grew a small garden.

“HE STUDIED TO BE A SPY”

On November 25, 1942, Erwin was inducted into the U.S. Army, and after basic training he was stationed at Camp House in Texas, where he drove a tank. Later he was at Camp Cleburne, which served as a POW camp for German prisoners. “There’s not much record of it,” his niece Janet Sanders explains, “and there wouldn’t be, because he was involved with Intelligence, but he

went to a camp in Texas...where he studied to be a spy.” She adds, as possible evidence, that her uncle “looked very German” and that he had studied German in high school.

By July 1944, Erwin was sent into action on the Western Front in Germany. As a Private First Class in the 22nd Infantry, 4th Infantry Division, he fought in the Battle of Hürtgen Forest, the longest battle on German ground during World War II and one of the worst defeats for the U.S. Army. In three months, from September 16 to December 16, 1944, the Americans sustained almost 33,000 casualties. All accounts of the battleground describe the conditions as “hellish.” Pfc. Diekelman was in action five months before he was wounded at Hürtgen Forest.

RETURNING HOME

Erwin was wounded on November 23, 1944, and sent to a military hospital in France, where he died four days later. He was buried in an American military cemetery in Belgium, where every day local women laid fresh flowers on the soldiers’ graves. Almost three years later, in October of 1947, the first of the war dead were returned to New York City on board the transport Joseph V. Connolly. Pfc. Diekelman was among the 6,200 returned, and he was recognized along with others in a memorial service held at Soldier Field in Chicago. His remains were reburied with full military honors in Oak Glen Cemetery on November 13, 1947.

Janet Sanders, who organized the July 12 reunion, was Erwin Diekelman’s niece. She was only six years old when her mother received the tragic news of her brother’s death. “I remember my mother ironing and crying and crying and crying.... He was wounded first and then four days later died in the hospital.”



The Diekelman family gathered in Oak Glen Cemetery last month to celebrate Uncle Erv’s birthday. (Photo: Jennifer Yos)

Jim Rich, son of Erwin’s older sister Amanda (Diekelman) Rich, added, “They got him with a mortar.” Janet elaborated, “He was with three guys in a fox hole and had his legs blown off, and flown to the hospital, but then didn’t make it.”

Jim added appreciatively, “And one man [of the three] came back—and came and seen my Grandmother and Grandfather, and he was in uniform and everything—and they had a store in Thornton, my grandmother and grandfather—and he came and visited them and they talked for hours.”

The motto of the 4th Infantry Division is “Steadfast and Loyal.” The motto that once belonged to Pfc. Erwin Diekelman, now carries over to his extended family. “We’re definitely a military family,” Janet proudly proclaims. “We are very proud to be descendants of such a brave, young American and will attempt to keep his memory alive throughout the generations to follow. That is one reason we are here today. He never had the chance to marry and have a family of his own, so it is up to us.”

“Lest we forget...” Jim added.

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Hundreds attend Oak Glen URC Burger Bash and Car Show

BY NATALIE TOGTMAN. ILLIANA JOURNALISM STUDENT

LANSING, Ill. (July 24, 2019) – On Friday, July 19, Lansing’s Oak Glen United Reformed Church hosted its annual Burger Bash and Car Show.

Marilou Ooms, who is part of the Evangelism Committee at the church, said, “We want to use this as an outreach effort to the Lansing community.” This year Oak Glen sent out invitations to those who live within a mile of the church. The event drew in roughly 200 people.

The event allows church and community members to look at cars as well as enjoy a meal consisting of burgers, bratwurst, and more.

Dexter Bland, community member, said, “This is the first time I’ve come to this event. I was interested in the car show, so I decided to bring my wife and my daughter along.”

Kristine Espitia, another community member, said, “My son and I were looking at cars when a member of the church approached us and started talking about different groups at the church which interested me.”

Oak Glen United Reformed Church is located at 2244 Indiana Avenue in Lansing.



Members of Oak Glen URC, from left: Simon Regnerus, Emma Regnerus, Annika Regnerus, Leann Lange, and Richelle VanderZee enjoy a meal at the Burger Bash. (Photo: Natalie Togtman)

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Nicor launches Meter Modernization Program in Lansing

BY JENNIFER YOS

LANSING, Ill. (July 24, 2019) – Nicor Gas representatives spoke at the July 16 Village Board meeting to explain their current Meter Modernization Program and to share important information for Lansing’s Nicor customers.

NEW TECHNOLOGY FOR TIMELY, ACCURATE BILLING

The Meter Modernization Program involves installing small, two-way communication devices on the existing natural gas meters at Nicor customer homes or businesses. These two-way communication devices feature technology that automates the meter-reading process by collecting natural gas usage information and securely transmitting it to Nicor Gas. This new technology will provide timely and accurate billing, and eliminate the current system of in-person meter readings alternating with “estimate readings.” Nicor representatives likened their modernization program to the recent upgrade of the water meters in Lansing.

SECURITY

Nicor has licensed radio frequency usage through the vendor Sensus, their network provider, to make sure that information is protected. The device cannot access any information other

than the customer’s natural gas usage information. It will be installed on the existing meter and will move the natural gas index into the new device with the same kinds of dials that are used for readings on the existing meters. The device transmits the meter reading via radio frequency to base stations at existing Nicor facilities or to rented tower space.

INSTALLATION AND DEPLOYMENT

All of Nicor’s residential and commercial customers will eventually have the devices installed. Due to the volume—approximately 2.2 million gas meters—Nicor is working with third-party contractors on the installations.

Nicor customers will receive a postcard 30-60 days in advance of planned installation.

Following the initial postcard, Nicor customers receive a more detailed letter.

At the time of installation, the contracted installer will knock on the door, give a door tag to explain what they’re doing and answer any questions about the program. The installers contracted by Nicor for the Village of Lansing are 3P and Tribus Utility Services. Installers will wear uniforms, but they will not be Nicor Gas uniforms. They will be 3P Utilities Services or 3P Utility Tribus Services uniforms. However, all contractors will have a Nicor Gas contractor ID with their picture and a red bar showing which company they work for. Residents who have any doubt about the personnel at their door should call Nicor before granting access.

Most Lansing residents will not experience any interruption to their natural gas services during installation. Those with an outside meter might not even notice that the installer is there putting on the device. Residential installation takes 15-20 minutes; for businesses with large commercial or rotary meters, it may take a little longer—about 30 minutes to an hour.

For residents who have an indoor meter, Nicor will leave a door tag notice with instructions for scheduling an appointment to have the device put on that meter or eventually to move the meter outside with the new device.

WHAT HAPPENS TO THE METER READERS?

Nicor assures that there will be no job reduction due to meter

modernization because current meter readers will be transitioned to new roles as utility specialists who will be trained more in depth on how to do safety checks and perform maintenance on the meters. They will learn additional skills for advancement in light fuel operation and mechanical responsibilities.



A Nicor door tag explains the process and answers questions about the program. (Photo: Jennifer Yos)

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TF South Spanish teacher Hannah Berridge (far left) congratulates Trevon Gant and Kenneth Halpert. (Photo provided)

Future teachers receive new scholarships

BY MELANIE JONGSMA

CALUMET CITY, ILL. (July 24, 2019) – “I’m really excited to be here today,” TF South Spanish teacher Hannah Berridge said to the District 215 School Board at their July 23 meeting, “to introduce and congratulate two young men who are the first-ever Local 683 Future Teachers Scholarship recipients.”

Trevon Gant and Kenneth Halpert were both awarded the newly established scholarship. Gant plans to study early education, and Halpert plans to study history and special education.

The scholarship was specifically established to encourage students to enter the field of education. “Come back to 215!” Superintendent Teresa Lance encouraged the recipients.

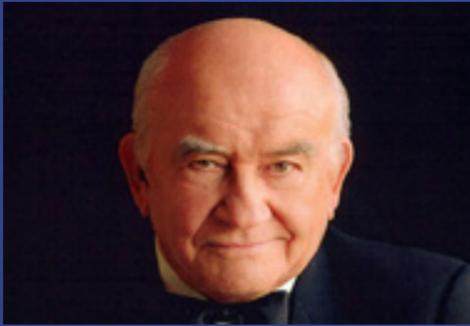


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The Lansing Journal *journeys*

McSwiggans Pub (Ireland)
SUBMITTED BY WENDY MCSWIGGAN



Wendy McSwiggan wrote, "Our middle son Aidan was diagnosed with cancer during his junior of high school (2017). This is a picture from his Make-A-Wish trip to Ireland this summer. We visited McSwiggan's Pub (same last name, no relation) in Galway, Ireland. It was a fantastic trip—Make-A-Wish outdid themselves. And Aidan is currently cancer-free."

Greece
SUBMITTED BY DR. KERRI KATSALIS



Dr. Kerri Katsalis, owner of Ridge Animal Clinic (3667 Ridge Road, Lansing, Illinois), took a break from the rigors of providing wellness and emergency care for local pets. She and her husband Dino visited her homeland to reunite with family and enjoy local cuisine at a seaside establishment. (Photo: restaurant staff)

Cliffs of Moher (Ireland)
SUBMITTED BY STEPHANIE JANSMA



Stephanie Jansma took a copy of The Lansing Journal to the Cliffs of Moher in Liscannor, Ireland. The cliffs are 702ft high (155m) and spread across 8 miles (12.8km). "Sadly, this copy of the Journal was destroyed from the rain and fog after these photos—luckily I read it before the trip!" said Stephanie. (Photo: Amber Sproul)

Keep those Journals journeying!

We love to see a variety of people enjoying The Lansing Journal in a variety of locations. Residents, businesses, churches, schools, public officials—anyone is qualified to participate.

Send us your photos of The Lansing Journal in unique places near or far. Email them to info@thelansingjournal.com, and make sure you include these basic pieces of information:

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Crystal Onyx Cave

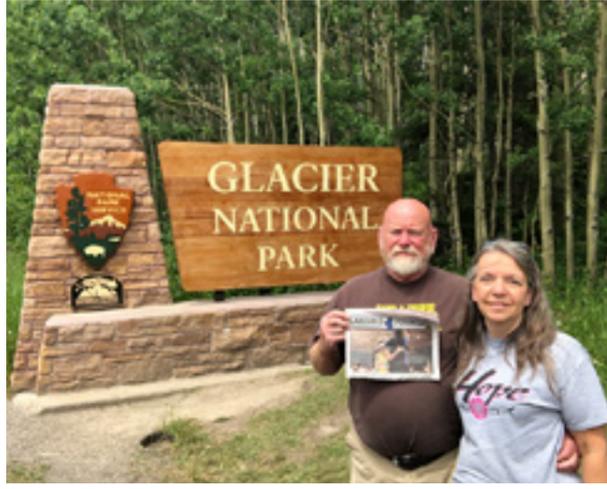
SUBMITTED BY KAREN KLEINE



Karen Kleine, owner of Lansing's Minuteman Press (17930 Torrence Avenue), spent the Fourth of July weekend in Kentucky, where she discovered Crystal Onyx Cave and shared her Lansing Journal with Hal, one of the locals. Crystal Onyx Cave is a family-run tourist attraction, owned by Scott and Sara Sendtko. "He was so awesome," said Karen about Scott. Scott and Sarah completely renovated the cave when they purchased it in 2010, installing new handrails and gravel paths, and serving as a tour guides along with other family members. Karen said Crystal Onyx Cave was "the best part of driving to the Smoky Mountains...seeing the stalagmites and the stalactite geckos and crickets in the cave." (Photo: Scott Sendtko)

Glacier National Park

SUBMITTED BY GRACE KELLEY



Rich and Joyce Kelley spent four days visiting Glacier National Park—and they took The Lansing Journal along. "It was our first time there, and we would highly recommend it!" says Joyce. "The waters are a beautiful shade of blue!" They saw mountain goats, long horn sheep, black bear, and mule deer. Also impressive—"We took the photo on my phone with the use of a timer," explained Joyce.

Victoria Falls

SUBMITTED BY RICHARD DUST



From left: Jake Gourley, Jeannette Gourley, Barb Dust, and Rich Dust brought The Lansing Journal to Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe, one of the natural wonders of the world. "There is not much fencing or guard rails," said Rich. "We made sure we did not get too close to the edge." The photo was taken by Fanuel, the group's guide in Zimbabwe.

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Omaha, Nebraska

SUBMITTED BY LT. COLONELS KOCH AND KOCH

Lieutenant Colonel Janelle Koch and Lieutenant Colonel Brian Koch, both in the Air Force, have been stationed in Germany for the past three years. Brian is a 1995 graduate of TF South, and he and his wife are glad to be returning Stateside. His parents met the family—including Elizabeth (redhead) and Katelyn (blonde)—the day they landed in Omaha, and brought them The Lansing Journal to catch them up on hometown news, especially Fox Pointe! While Janelle and Brian were house hunting in Omaha, their two girls spent three weeks in Lansing with their aunt, Jennifer Koch Polley, where they attended concerts and participated in the Lansing Public Library's Yellow Brick Road scavenger hunt. (Photo: Judy Koch, mom)



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Korean performers dedicating concert to American veterans

Sunday, August 18, 5:00pm

BY MELANIE JONGSMA

LANSING, Ill. (July 31, 2019) – Pastor Dave Price is excited to have Joshua Lee and his wife Yoon Hee Lee return to First United Methodist Church of Lansing. The professional classical vocalists have performed at the church before, to the delight of the congregation and visitors.

The Lees live in Mokena, Illinois, now, but they are originally from Busan, South Korea. They return to Korea and elsewhere in Asia several times a year to do missionary work.

The August 18 concert at First United has special meaning. The Lees are dedicating it to American military veterans, especially those who served during the Korean War. The reason? It was from American soldiers that Joshua Lee first heard the Christian gospel, a message that convinced him to follow the teachings of Jesus. The concert is the Lees' way of saying thank-you.

For that reason, Pastor Price has specifically invited Lansing's American Legion, and he hopes the broader Lansing community will come as well.

The Lees are bringing with them a Korean dance troupe, so the concert will be a visual production as well as a musical performance.

The performance is free, though guests will have an opportunity to make a donation; the free-will offering that is collected will be divided between the Lees' global ministry and the local ministries of First United Methodist Church.

A light summer dinner—also free—will follow the concert around 6:15pm.

First United Methodist Church is located at 18420 Burnham Avenue in Lansing, Illinois. For more information, call 708-474-1144 or email lanumc@sbcglobal.net.

Cornerstone Church marks 75 years with celebration weekend

Saturday and Sunday, August 17 and 18

BY MELANIE JONGSMA

LANSING, Ill. (July 31, 2019) – “For three quarters of a century, First Baptist Church has been leading the lost to Christ, baptizing them into a new life, building them up in God's family, and equipping them to go in the power of the Holy Spirit for Him to do in others what has been done in them,” reads a letter from Pastor Michael Eberly of the church that is now known as Cornerstone. The letter was sent in July to members and friends of one of Lansing's oldest churches, a church that just last year renewed their vision and updated their name.

The re-visioning process that began in 2016 has involved more than a name change. The church has also been upgrading its facilities in order to accommodate an intentional focus on outreach and community ministry. For example, members contributed more than \$300,000 to construct and remodel a fully ADA accessible space called “The Gathering Place,”

which can be used for weeknight concerts and Sunday morning coffee as well as children's events and family parties. One result of the updates and intentionality is a 30% spike in attendance.

The celebration weekend will give former church members and curious community members an opportunity to see the changes, hear the vision casting, and support it. The committee lists the two current mission priorities that need funding: the building's sanctuary technology and the children's ministry spaces.

An Open House reception is planned for Saturday, August 17, from 3:00–5:00pm, with a brief program at 4:00pm. Refreshments will be served.

And the worship service on Sunday, August 18, begins at 10:30am, and will be followed by a Celebration Luncheon at noon. The luncheon is a catered event, so RSVPs are requested.

First Baptist/Cornerstone Church is located at 3440 178th Street in Lansing, 708-474-5400.

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Shooter identified, apprehended Public reminded to take precautions when conducting internet business

INFORMATION PROVIDED BY THE LANSING POLICE DEPARTMENT

LANSING, Ill. (July 30, 2019) – On July 23, 2019, at approximately 6:07pm, the Lansing Police Department responded to the area of 17355 Torrence Avenue (the former Kmart building) for a report of shots fired.

Upon arrival, officers located two victims in the parking lot at 2500 Bernice Road/173rd Street. One female victim—later identified as Lisa York, age 41 of Hobart, Indiana—sustained a gunshot wound to the head and was later pronounced dead at St. Margarets North Hospital in Hammond, Indiana. The second victim was a male who had sustained multiple gunshot wounds to the body. He was transported to Christ Hospital in Oak Lawn, and was listed in stable condition at the time of the incident, and was ultimately treated and released.

The investigation revealed that the incident occurred over the sale of an item that had been listed on a social media site.

The Lansing Police Department’s Criminal Investigations Division worked with the South Suburban Major Crimes Task Force and the Cook County State’s Attorney’s Office. On July 29, 2019, Marvin Gibson-Jones, age 21 of Calumet City, Illinois, was charged with first degree murder. Gibson-Jones was scheduled to appear in bond court at 1:30pm, on July 30, 2019, in Markham, Illinois.

The Lansing Police Department encourages people to be safe when doing internet transactions. Two years ago they created a “Meetup Spot” for internet purchase exchanges. Its proximity to the main entrance doors of the police station makes it a safe place to meet when buying or selling items from unknown parties.

The Lansing Police Department is at 2710 E 170th Street in Lansing, Illinois.

South Holland Manor Health and Rehab cited with ‘A’ violation

INFORMATION PROVIDED BY THE ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. (July 26, 2019) – The Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) today announced the 2019 Second Quarterly Report of Nursing Home Violators is now posted on IDPH’s website. The full report contains additional information about the violations.

South Holland Manor Health and Rehab Center, a 216-bed skilled care facility located at 2145 East 170th Street in South Holland, was fined \$25,000 for failure to follow a resident’s assessment and safely assist with bed mobility. The facility was cited with an “A” violation of the Nursing Home Care Act and processed between April–June 2019.

An “A” violation pertains to a condition in which there is a substantial probability that death or serious mental or physical harm will result, or has resulted.

The list included 28 other facilities with “A” violations and 5 facilities with “AA” violations, which are cited when there is a condition or occurrence at the facility that proximately caused a resident’s death.

The complete list of second-quarter violations is available on the IDPH website: www.dph.illinois.gov



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Garage Sales

Aug. 8-9, 8am to 2pm. Aug. 10, 9-12p 7227 Hohman Ave., Hammond. HUGE Rummage & Bake Sale. Trinity Lutheran Church. Antiques, furniture, clothes, kitchen items, and much, much more. Hot Dog & Sloppy Joe meals available.

August 8,9,10 9am-2pm 3618 177th Street, Lansing Bicycle stroller, clothes (girl), MK purses, furniture, mens & womens clothes, jewelry, home decor, pool, something for everyone

Friday, August 9th, 8am-1pm 19120 Roy Street, Lansing Clothing, household items, motorcycle parts, shoes, toys, misc.

August 9-10, 12-6 pm 15101 State/Indiana Ave, South Holland Electronics, fixtures, vases, decor, WrestleMania, toys, children sz 8-18, ladies shoes 4-9, mens shoes 7-12, coats 10-18, furs, freebies

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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: Vintage, carpenter, mechanics, tools, Axes, Advertising items, padlocks, knives, magazines, radios, oil cans, signs, vises, railroad items. Call Lee. 219-923-8669

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For sale: Bernina sewing machine, original \$1500. Asking \$400 including desk and chair, tools, thread, etc. Good quality. 708-889-1049 leave message

For sale: Adjustable King Size bed frame. Actually two twin frames each with their own remote. Excellent Condition. Manufactured by RIZE. 708-769-8834

For sale: 2 - Electric stoves, one Frigidaire, needs select, one Whirlpool, need to fix knob. \$100 for both, white color, good condition. 708-444-4070

Electric hospital bed, waterproof mattress & 6" memory foam, side guards, power sit up, legs up, crank to raise & lower bed, rolling bed table, extra bed guard, grab bar, used 10 mos, very clean, smoke/ pet free home. 708-903-1120. You pick up Lansing



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For sale: Drafting table \$35; Mesh task chair, \$35. 708-460-6035

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Ladies full length fur mink coat, med, very beautiful; red cowboy boots sz 8; royal blue eel skin cowboy boots, sz. 1/2; brown mens cowboy boots, sz 8 1/2, everything in exc. cond., very reasonable. 708-565-0251

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Over the Tavern considers the importance of asking questions

BY JOSH BOOTSMA

LANSING, Ill. (July 26, 2019) – On a corner property in Buffalo, New York lives a boy who's starting to doubt his faith. Despite being raised by Catholic parents alongside four siblings, young Rudy Pazinski can't quite get past this question: What if I don't want to be Catholic? So begins *Over the Tavern*, Theatre at the Center's foray into religion, family, and the challenging, goofy, and sometimes life-changing power of relationships.

FAMILY MATTERS

The Pazinski family, like most families, is a complicated one. The youngest brother Georgie (Julian Solis) has a mental disability, Annie (Isabelle Roberts) takes troubling steps to be noticed by the boys at school, and the oldest brother Eddie (Seth Steinberg) is content (though ashamed) to receive Playboy magazines as payment for his after-school job. But the most interesting complication is the one that drives the plot: in a life saturated with Catholicism, Rudy (Logan Baffico) seems to be straying from the Catholic faith.

The play, set in 1959, opens as Rudy receives verbal and physical swats from Sister Clarissa (Janet Ulrich Brooks), his strict and aging teacher at St. Casimir's Parochial School. A battle that gains nuance throughout the play, Sister Clarissa is intent on teaching Rudy the basics of the Catholic faith while Rudy seems intent on the opposite—preferring to impersonate Ed Sullivan and ask off-the-wall questions about Jesus and Catholicism. As the

play continues and the Pazinski family economy begins to take shape—backboned by the resilient mother, Ellen (Cory Goodrich)—it quickly becomes clear that there's a cloud hanging over this family in the form of someone who's notably absent: Dad.

Chet Pazinski (Eric Slater) works only a story below his home, in a tavern that shares his name, but is somehow still distant from his family. And when he is physically present, he cares very little about truly listening to his children and wife. Tensions are heightened as Chet's problems with his own family are added to Rudy's problems with the church. The delicate facade of peace that's been achieved in the household is quickly shattered as Rudy's unwillingness to learn from Sister Clarissa forces real, difficult conversations to occur.

COMPLEX QUESTIONS = COMPLEX PERFORMANCES

Over the Tavern is a semi-autobiographical production written by Tom Dudzick. Much of Dudzick's work explores religious themes that he encountered growing up in New York. Dudzick said of *Over the Tavern*, "Essentially the play is a tribute to anyone who was ever a child and asked, 'Why?'"

The play asks this question effectively, and takes the audience on a laughter-filled but thoughtful journey into the mind of a boy who had the courage to be critical in a setting where doing so was thought to risk his salvation. The complexity of the story requires complex performances from the actors, who dive into the religious and familial nuances with a mighty effort. Baffico's

performance as Rudy was most often funny and charming, while Slater's performance as the troubled father helped the audience feel the fear and hate that his character inspired in his children. Solis made an excellent Georgie, producing movements and noises respectfully and accurately reminiscent of someone with a mental disability.

The most impressive performance, however, was that of Janet Ulrich Brooks, who made Sister Clarissa remarkably believable. Regular patrons of Theatre at the Center will remember Brooks from last summer's one-woman show *Ann Landers: The Lady with All the Answers*. Given the way *Over the Tavern* is written, it would be tempting for an actress to turn the strict Catholic instructor into a caricature. Brooks, however, took a more measured approach, giving the character depth and a human quality. As Sister Clarissa subtly changes over the course of the play, Rudy isn't sparring with a crotchety old lady, but having a meaningful conversation with a true and thoughtful person, expertly achieved by Brooks.

EXCELLENT DESIGN

Complementing the complex plot and characters is a scenic design that is equally so. Placed on the second floor of a corner lot, the set's detail perfectly captures the function of a late 1950s home, while simultaneously nodding to the artistic form of the era. The level of detail in the home is astounding, from the posters in the bedrooms to the spices in the kitchen to the massive "Chet's" sign that descends from the exterior of the second floor to the

imaginary floor below. Of particular delight are the tops of the "windows" of the home, which are flown in from above and subtly frame the action. The shadows cast on these window-toppers give the impression that there are trees nearby, a wonderful detail that could just as easily have been forgotten. Another period-appropriate detail is the TV and radio noises that help smooth the transitions from scene to scene and give helpful historical context. Angela Weber Miller (Scenic), Shelley Strasser (Lighting), Michael J. Patrick (Sound), and Emily Hartig (Props) did well in designing these aspects of the play's setting.

WHY IS "WHY?" SO BAD?

Theatre at the Center's *Over the Tavern* leaves its audience asking serious questions about faith and family and achieves what the playwright intended, to challenge the notion that the question "Why?" is wrong. Sister Clarissa tells Rudy early in the play, "Stop thinking. Your instructions are to memorize." But by the end of the story, both Sister Clarissa and Rudy's father Chet are willing to talk with Rudy and engage his questions rather than swatting them away. Not all of his qualms and questions are answered, but by the end of the play new doors have been opened between Rudy, Sister Clarissa, and his dad, doors that allow for open, honest, and genuine conversation.

Ultimately the play, with its complex characters and story, is in many ways like life: By the end we're left with more questions than when we started. And perhaps we're better for it.

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Lansing teen chosen as Shriners ambassador at upcoming PGA Tour

Griffin Polley to serve as pros' standard bearer in Las Vegas

BY CARRIE STEINWEG

CHICAGO, Ill. (August 4, 2019) – Griffin Polley, 17, has faced a number of medical challenges throughout his life, but that hasn't stopped him from being a member of TF South's golf team. Last year after an injury, his doctors at Shriners Hospital in Chicago had to give him special permission to play in a boot that season. And after that visit, representatives from the hospital got in touch to see if Griffin would be interested in being part of an upcoming PGA (Professional Golfers Association) Tour event.

Polley was chosen as one of 22 patient ambassadors nationwide to represent the hospital network at the Shriners Hospitals for Children Open, an official PGA Tour event in Las Vegas this October. Griffin will serve as a standard bearer throughout the weekend, carrying the scores of professional golfers as they compete in the tournament. This rare opportunity will give him a close-up look at the professional world of a sport he plays—and a chance to share how his life has been changed by his care at Shriners Hospital.

EARLY CHALLENGES

Born two months premature and weighing less than 4 pounds, Polley had a condition known as EA/TEF (esophageal atresia and tracheal esophageal fistula). When he was 3 days old, he underwent surgery to detach his esophagus from his trachea and reattach it to its correct position. Another surgery followed at 5 weeks old.

When he was 2, Polley was diagnosed with diplegic cerebral palsy.

At age 4, while attending Lester Crawl Preschool, a physical therapist referred his family to Shriners Hospital in Chicago for orthopaedic care from the

hospital's multidisciplinary cerebral palsy team. His care there has included many pairs of braces to help support his legs while walking, several rounds of botox to relax muscles in both his upper and lower legs, and casts on both legs to stretch his leg muscles and improve his gait pattern.

REPRESENTING SHRINERS

"As a Standard Bearer ambassador, Griffin is representing the Chicago hospital. He will be a standard bearer during the third and fourth rounds of tournament, interacting with PGA Tour professionals and visible during the international telecast for six hours of live viewing reaching over 900 million homes and all over social media," said Mashayla Colwell, Director of Marketing and Communications for Shriners Hospitals. "Because Griffin golfs on his high school golf team, he was chosen to also play in the Pro-Am tournament. He will get the opportunity to hit off a par-3 hole with the top 40 PGA Tour professionals in the Las Vegas Open tournament field the day before tournament play begins. It is an amazing experience for these kids."

According to his mother, Jennifer Polley, Griffin got interested in golfing through his grandfather, Karl Koch. "His first experience was riding in the golf cart with his grandpa. He did not start actually playing golf until summer before his freshman year at TF South," she said.

Griffin's mother said that having him treated at Shriners Hospital has been a great experience for her family. "They have always been extremely helpful and very thorough with his care," she said. "The Shriners have always helped with the cost of all of these procedures... The hospital and entire staff are easy to work with and always very accommodating. I feel very lucky to have a Shriners Kid and am very

grateful for all the help they have given us. I am excited and honored

Because Griffin golfs on the TF South golf team, he was chosen to play in the Pro-Am tournament. (Photo provided)



that Griffin will be representing the Chicago hospital at the PGA events."

MEETING NEW PEOPLE

Griffin said, "I am excited to represent the Chicago Shriners Hospital at both events," but he also admitted, "I haven't really done anything this big with golf, so I'm a little nervous."

"I enjoy golf and it's a great way to meet new people," said Griffin. That it is. The Shriners Hospitals for Children Open takes place the first week of October and as an ambassador he'll have a chance to meet and walk along side some of the greats of the game.

To contribute to Griffin's trip, donations can be made online at donate.lovetotherescue.org/fundraiser/2159605

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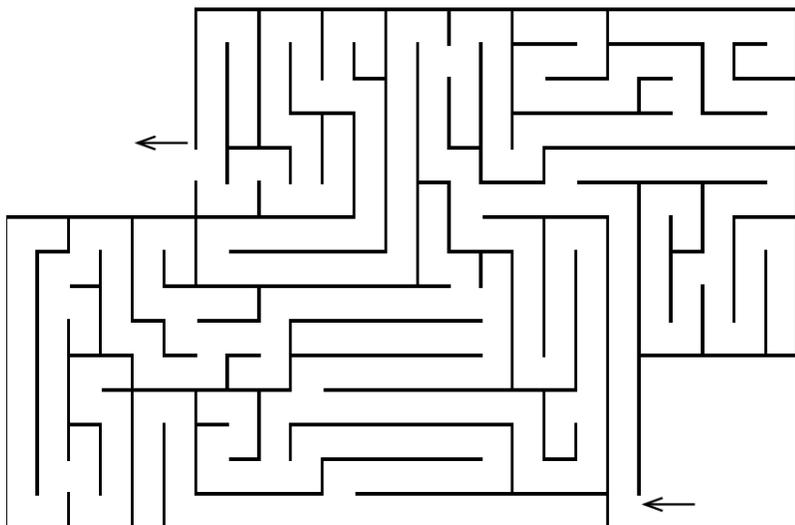
WORDSEARCH

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Onomatopoeia

Bang	Clatter	Gargle	Mumble	Squirt
Bark	Click	Gasp	Murmur	Swish
Belch	Cluck	Giggle	Oink	Thud
Blurt	Crash	Growl	Purr	Thump
Bray	Ding	Grunt	Quack	Tweet
Bump	Dribble	Gurgle	Screech	Warble
Buzz	Drip	Hiccup	Slap	Whip
Chatter	Drizzle	Hiss	Splash	Whisper
Chirp	Flipflop	Jingle	Spray	Yawn
Clap	Flutter	Knock	Sprinkle	Zip

SOLVE THE MAZE



CROSSWORD

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ACROSS

- Catch
- Anagram of "Rest"
- Neat and tidy
- Teller of untruths
- Trot
- Chieftain
- Unit of area
- Afrikaner
- A brief indulgence
- Cobbler
- Not those
- Reddish brown dye
- Pertaining to milk
- A journal or diary
- Imbedded
- Sword
- Part of a garment that covers an arm
- Walk through shallow water
- Genus of hemlock spruce
- Principal
- Order of business
- In your mind
- Give as a gift
- Confederate general
- Bell, buzzer or siren
- Maltreatment
- Comical
- A river that flows from Turkey through Iraq
- Diameters
- Region
- Fluff
- Came up
- An earthy deposit rich in lime
- Otherwise
- Semesters
- Prostitute
- Fortune teller

DOWN

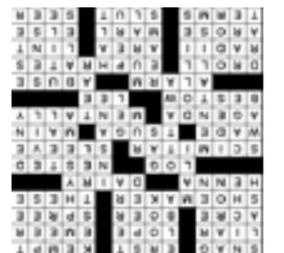
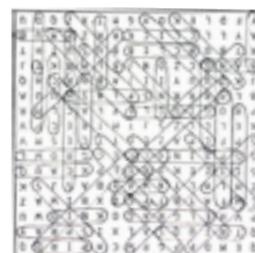
- Gash
- Alcove
- Brother of Moses
- Color of grass
- A Tuscan island
- A chesspiece
- Velocity
- Latin for "Earth"
- Small falcon
- An abnormal condition of the lungs
- Being nothing more than specified
- PPP
- Oak or birch
- French Sudan
- Crazy
- Capital of Canada
- Petrol
- Blue-green
- Wicked
- Declare untrue
- Mop
- Coop
- Mid-month days
- The philosophy where the mind is the true reality
- Liquor
- A hair mousse
- Wheeled platforms
- Rip
- Units of paper
- Wall painting
- Bundles
- Useful
- Detect
- An organic compound
- "Darn!"
- Scarce
- Smell
- South American country
- Stop

Onomatopoeia

This is a category of words which sound like what they describe. Examples of onomatopoeic words are hiss, thump, splash, whisper, and growl—all imitations of the sounds they evoke. See today's Wordsearch for more!

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.

New parking lot planned north of Fox Pointe

71 spaces to be partially funded by MWRD grant

BY JOSH BOOTSMA

LANSING, Ill. (August 2, 2019) – A new Fox Pointe parking lot is planned for completion before next summer’s slate of events, pending final approval by the Village Board of Trustees. Village Engineer Jeff Pintar gave a presentation during the Committee of the Whole meeting on July 16 outlining the details of the environmentally-conscious project to be constructed northwest of the event venue. The project was first proposed in January before the Village Board.

Once approved, the project will be 58% funded by the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago (MWRD), who will provide \$250,000 for the project.

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE PARKING LOT

Pintar called the new lot a “green infrastructure parking lot,” explaining “as part of the application program, we need to keep the storm water on-site.” The Village had to apply for the funds from the MWRD, who is committed to managing storm water in more environmentally-conscious ways.

To this end, the parking lot will use bioswales to absorb water rather than having the water run directly into the sewer system. Bioswales are landscape elements intentionally designed to deal with water run-off. The central bioswale in the new lot will feature soil, plants, and permeable

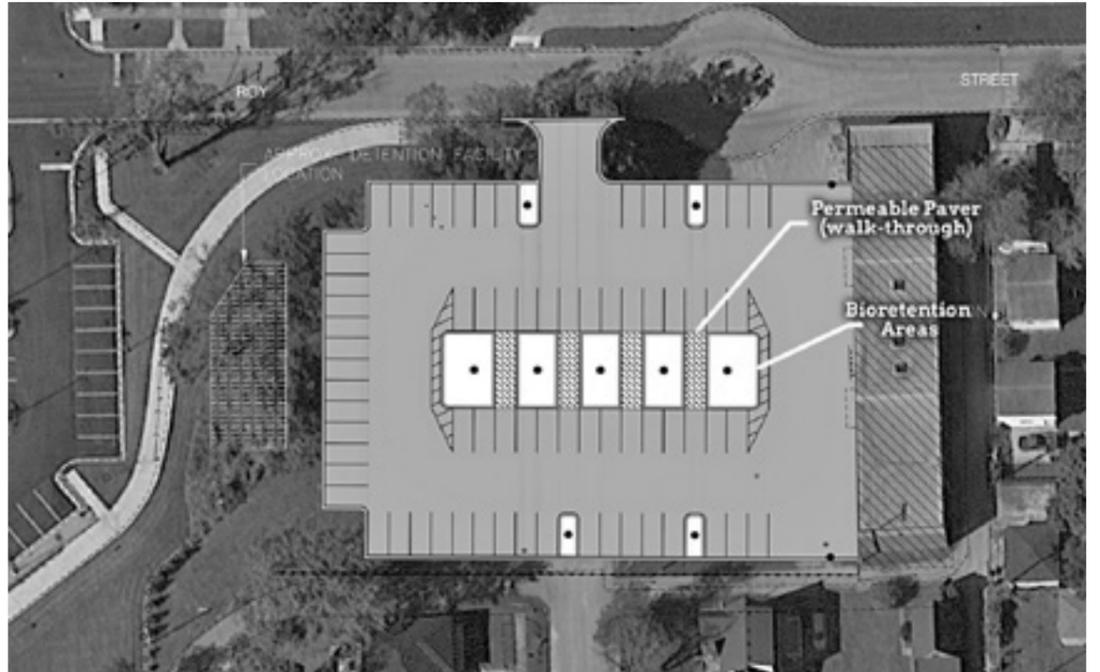
pavers that will absorb water. Sewer drains will be present above the bioswale elevation but below the elevation of the parking lot surface to ensure that the parking lot does not flood in the event of extreme rain.

MORE SPACES MAKE A “NICE ADDITION”

The lot will offer 71 spaces to patrons of Fox Pointe, the Penny Greenway, Winterhoff Park, and other nearby attractions. The project will be constructed to allow the Village continued use of the garages on the north side of the lot and will no longer allow vehicles to cut through the area to get from Washington Street to Roy Street and vice versa. There is however, still an alley that runs along the perimeter of the lot that will be maintained. The entrance to the lot will be on Roy St, just south of the existing roundabout.

The MWRD will also work with the Village to create signage that will explain what green infrastructure is to those who use the lot, adding an educational element that gave the project greater appeal in the eyes of the MWRD.

“I think it’s a nice addition,” concluded trustee Brian Hardy after Pintar had given his presentation, “From what I see right now, it’s nice that I haven’t heard of any problems with parking, but I think as Fox Pointe



gets more well known, the crowds are going to grow and [this new parking lot] is going to enhance and help people have a place to park that is close to the venue.”

The Village Board will decide whether or not to approve the lot’s construction at its next meeting on August 20.

Above: The parking lot will use bioswales (bioretention areas) to deal with storm water retention. The lot will also feature permeable pavers to allow patrons to walk across the bioswales. (Graphic courtesy of Robinson Engineering)

Below: The view of the current lot from Roy Street, looking east. (Photo: Josh Bootsma)



Lansing sizzles, melts, rocks at Food Truck Fest

BY JAMILYN HISKES

LANSING, Ill. (July 19, 2019) – Despite temperatures climbing into the 90s on Saturday, July 13, just under 200 people gathered at Fox Pointe for Lansing’s first-ever Food Truck Fest from 3:00–8:00pm. The shaded pavilion was crowded with people eating barbecue, ice cream, and cupcakes, and even though it was hot, there was nothing but positive energy all around.

The Food Truck Fest featured four trucks from the Chicagoland and Northwest Indiana area: American food and sandwich vendor Sizzle Box, cupcake truck Cute As A Cupcake, barbecue truck Bill’s Grill, and cereal-infused ice cream vendor Cream Crunch N’ More.

In addition, 1980s rock cover band Kik-N-Jimi performed at the Fest from 4:00–7:00pm. Kik-N-Jimi is a 1980s rock cover band from Calumet City consisting of singer Barron, drummer Roland Qualkinbush, guitarist Dave Perez, keyboardist Carl Moszur and bassist Marty Paul.

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LARC serves as Event Staff at largest Fox Pointe concert to date

LARC and Dick Diamond and the Dusters both give back

BY KATIE ARVIA

LANSING, Ill. (July 28, 2019) – If you’ve visited Fox Pointe this summer, you’ve probably noticed the volunteer staff members and their neon green Event Staff vests. These volunteers change from week to week, with groups like the Copper Muggers, Legion Riders, and members of TF South’s drama club coming out to support Lansing’s summer concert series. In exchange for their service, the Village makes a donation of \$400 to the serving organization at the end of the season. Volunteering is an opportunity for Lansing’s groups and organizations to interact with event attendees and earn support for their own cause while serving the broader community.

At the July 24 concert, staff members and clients of LARC joined the volunteer ranks, providing a unique opportunity for concert-goers and helpers alike.

PARTICIPATING IN COMMUNITY

Despite being around for more than half a century, LARC is not well known by many Lansing residents. Founded in 1956, LARC is a private, not-for-profit organization that is dedicated to providing opportunities for developmentally disabled adults. These opportunities include a place to live, work, and participate in their community.

LARC provides day training, work activities, and senior programs to nearly 100 adults, and houses 43 individuals in CILAs (community integrated living arrangements) around the community.

Twelve LARC staff and clients came out on July 24 to volunteer, while Dick Diamond and the Dusters performed for Fox Pointe’s largest crowd to date, with over 1,500 people in attendance.

“I like the atmosphere, I think they did a beautiful job remodeling this place. I’m glad it’s here. I think it’s a good mixer for the community,” said Lansing resident Carol Taylor.

MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL

Because the events are so community-driven, having LARC volunteers on hand gave residents the chance to interact with both staff and clients and potentially learn more about the organization.

Ernie Gonzalez, Executive Director for LARC, joined in Wednesday night’s festivities and explained that these opportunities tie directly into LARC’s mission: “LARC is about being integrated in the community and participating in the community. What we want to teach our clients, what we want to teach the community, is that our clients can have a disability [but] it doesn’t mean they can’t be productive, contributing citizens to society. Having



“I came out here with my beautiful staff, Jamie, and my two best friends from LARC,” said Ira Burton (left), one of LARC’s clients. LARC staff and clients served as Event Staff at Fox Pointe during the Dick Diamond and the Dusters concert on July 24. (Photo: Katie Arvia)

some of our clients here to help volunteer at this event reinforces that.”

Echoing Gonzalez’s sentiments, Jamie Palmondon, a direct support staff member for LARC, said, “This is the community that [the clients] live in. I think that it’s a good idea to have them volunteer and work in the community that they live in.”

GIVING BACK

Later in the evening, LARC was presented with a \$1,400 donation by Dick Diamond and his band, including Jeff Gajewski, aka Walter Melon, who plays the keyboard in the band and also works at LARC. The beautiful weather, the talented musicians, and the dedicated volunteers all helped create a

perfect evening for concert-goers. But they weren’t the only ones having a good time.

“I came out here with my beautiful staff, Jamie, and my two best friends from LARC,” said Ira Burton (far left), one of LARC’s clients. Burton said he was excited to be working at Fox Pointe and is already looking forward to returning next year.

To learn more about LARC, visit them online at www.larclansing.com. To see a complete line-up of acts coming to Fox Pointe this season, visit www.foxpointe.org.

LARC is located at 19043 Wentworth Avenue in Lansing, Illinois.



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GET TO THE POINTE!

Local band Grand Pond is living the dream

BY JAMILYN HISKES

LANSING, Ill. (August 7, 2019) – Griffin McGreal's voice can easily fill a music venue. He's focused and determined as he strums his guitar and belts out the words of his band's songs from the stage at Cheers (4660 147th St.) in Midlothian, Ill., on July 28. Behind him, drummer and percussionist Jeff Lane ratchets up the hype in the space with every beat, while lead guitarist Matthew Rodriguez and bassist Andrew Welgarz craft melodies and riffs that will stick in the audience's head long after their short set is over.

These four make up the Lansing-based alternative rock band Grand Pond. Though the band is young, its members already have a clear vision of the future.

ORIGINS AND INFLUENCES

"We started in October [2018] and really just came out of my brother [Welgarz], who'd picked up the bass for a couple years," McGreal, 22, said. "I was always writing music, and he kind of just pushed me in the right direction, like, 'Why don't we do something with this?'"

Grand Pond's influences are listed on the band's Facebook page, and the list ranges from Pink Floyd to The Smashing Pumpkins to The Killers. They all combine to create a strong alternative base with a slight electronic element as well.

"We do a lot of pre-recorded pianos and we'll edit them into backing tracks for live performances," McGreal said. "Whether that's a piano key ringing out

or a sample from something, it depends."

UPS AND DOWNS

It hasn't been an easy road for the band thus far. Between losing their original drummer and saving up for studio time to record their debut EP, Joyride, there's been a fair share of ups and downs. But Grand Pond has already played venues such as Jack's Pub (3325 Ridge Rd.) and JJ Kelley's (2455 Bernice Rd.) in Lansing, and on July 26, they released their debut single, "Pups." Full of catchy riffs and honest lyrics, the song is the perfect starting point for the young band and an enticing preview of what's to come.

"[Pups] was probably one of the first songs we wrote when we got together," McGreal said. "It was always this milestone to get it recorded and put it out, and it's wild that we're actually here now. ...It's probably our poppier track, like our radio single. Everyone seems to love it."

HONESTY AND FRIENDSHIP

McGreal said honesty in their music is something Grand Pond takes very seriously, and part of how they do that is through their lyrics.

"I feel like there's this weird trend going on where what you say has to be 'in' or has to follow a certain motif, and I don't like that," he said. "I feel like songwriting should be almost like a diary. ...I feel like it has to resonate. So whether that's a super personal moment for me in a song that I think everyone could relate to, or something I don't think anyone could relate to, it



Lansing-based alternative rock band Grand Pond played a well-attended show with an enthusiastic audience on July 28 at Cheers in Midlothian, Ill. (Photo: Jamilyn Hiskes)

has to tell the truth."

"Pup" features wistful, romantic lyrics— "Our lips touch and once again I'm existentialist" —and plainly self-deprecating ones — "You're a god and I'm your dog / Won't you let me feel blessed" —that are common in alternative music. Paired with Rodriguez's and McGreal's hefty vocals and catchy instrumentals, they create a promising foundation for a band that could go far in Chicago's alternative scene. But the music isn't the only thing that will keep Grand Pond together.

"We do a surprisingly good job of getting along," McGreal said. "I think that's our best strength, that we were all friends before any of this happened. It's turning into this thing where the local scene is being more and more present, and we're getting a lot of support in areas we never thought we would—whether that's bands we've played with or just hometown support. It's been a dream."

GETTING TO THE POINTE

Where do they think they're heading in the next year or so? Hopefully to the stage at Fox Pointe, and even to some of Chicago's local radio stations—93.1 WXRT, to be specific, according to McGreal.

"One of the things we talked about when we started was, if we're not playing Fox Pointe by next year, what are we even doing?" McGreal said with a laugh.

Grand Pond's next show is August 15 on Chicago's North Side, at HVAC Pub (3530 N. Clark St.), with Hammond, Indiana-based alternative band Black Hand. For those up for a good old-fashioned rock show and discovering new music by a local band, it's bound to be a stellar event.

For more information, visit Grand Pond's Facebook page or email the band at grandpondmusic@yahoo.com. "Pups" is available to stream and purchase on all platforms, including Apple Music, Spotify, and Bandcamp.

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TF South tennis courts get refreshed

BY MELANIE JONGSMA

LANSING, Ill. (July 19, 2019) – A chain and lock on the gate of the TF South tennis courts on July 15 prevented would-be players from entering. “Tennis Courts Closed for Resurfacing,” read a laminated sign on the chain link door.

The courts were completely resurfaced in the summer of 2015, and in the years since then some cracks and fissures appeared, which is normal given Chicago-area seasonal variances. When the cracks open wide enough and deep enough, not only is play affected, but also rain is able to get in—and when that freezes, the damage becomes more severe.

Perm-A-Seal Asphalt Maintenance (www.permaseal.com) was contracted to do the work, and George Garcia—a 19-year veteran with the company—led the repair crew at TF South. They began by cleaning the playing surface with power blowers and filling the larger cracks with sand before adding a binder. Smaller cracks can be patched with binder only.

The binder can be applied in any kind of dry temperature; it is not affected by heat or humidity, though the workers might be. Garcia’s crew worked



in 90-degree temperatures, drinking plenty of water, and stopping occasionally to sit in the air conditioned cabs of their trucks.

Once the binder cured, it was painted. Though the same colors were used, Garcia said the difference

Perm-A-Seal works to undo four Chicago winter-summer cycles

Cracks like this affect play but also allow moisture in below the surface, and when that freezes, the damage is more severe. A team from Perm-A-Seal Asphalt Maintenance filled the larger cracks with a white sand and then a binder. The courts at TF South were completely resurfaced in the summer of 2015. (Photo: Melanie Jongsma)

between the new paint and the old paint would be noticeable until the new paint weathers a little.

The entire project was completed by July 26, which is what Tim Stephan, District 215 Director of

Facilities, was hoping.

TF South High School is located at 18500 Burnham Avenue. Their tennis courts are located to the west of the school, on Chicago Avenue.

Village plans Bears vs. Packers Tailgate Party at Fox Pointe

INFORMATION PROVIDED BY THE VILLAGE OF LANSING

LANSING, Ill. (August 5, 2019) - On Thursday, September 5, the Village of Lansing will help kick off the 2019 National Football League season by hosting a Chicago Bears vs. Green Bay Packers Tailgate Party at Fox Pointe. The game will be broadcast on a giant

20' x 12' video wall with additional screens set up throughout the venue.

A Kids Zone will also be set up in the venue, as well as food vendors and other concessions.

Village officials are working with the TF South High School and Highland High School varsity football teams to arrange for their participation in the night’s events. “We are hoping to

enhance the sense of community between the two schools,” said Ken Reynolds, Village Communications Director and former assistant athletic director at TF South. The two teams play each other the following evening, September 6, in Lansing.

The Fox Pointe Tailgate Party will begin at 5:30pm on September 5, with kickoff at 7:20pm.



Fox Pointe is located at 18138 Henry Street in Lansing, Illinois. (Photo: Melanie Jongsma)

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