

# Capitol Correspondent



The Monthly Newsletter of the Lansing Junior Chamber | August 2014

Lansing Jaycees  
P.O. Box 16150  
Lansing, MI 48901

[www.lansingjaycees.org](http://www.lansingjaycees.org)  
[@LansingJaycees](https://twitter.com/LansingJaycees)  
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District 3

## Seen in Action!



**Above:** Several Jaycees (including 86th President Charlie Root; Lifetime Members Troy Steere and Alex Briseno; John Prush; Carrie and Jason Larsen; and Eric Richmond) and four non-Jaycees traveled to Big Kidz Games in Grand Rapids to play BattleTech Pods. The group had a blast! **Below left:** Michael Leeds and Karen Sue Brown check out an exhibit at the Broad Art Museum. **Below Right:** Michael Leeds and Angela Fossi closely examine an exhibit at the Broad that contains thousands of false teeth and other surprises for people to find.



## The Jaycee Creed by C. William Brownfield

We believe that faith in God gives meaning and purpose to human life;  
That the brotherhood of man transcends the sovereignty of nations;  
That economic justice can best be won by free men through free enterprise;  
That government should be of laws rather than of men;  
That earth's great treasure lies in human personality; and that  
**SERVICE TO HUMANITY IS  
THE BEST WORK OF LIFE**

The Lansing Jaycees is an organization of people ages 21–40 that promotes leadership training through community service. We meet the first Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. at Tripper's Bar and Grill in the Frandor Shopping Center, with dinner served between 6 p.m. and 7 p.m. Visit our website, [www.lansingjaycees.org](http://www.lansingjaycees.org) for more information.



### Letter from the Editor

Thanks to the contributors of this month's newsletter, including:

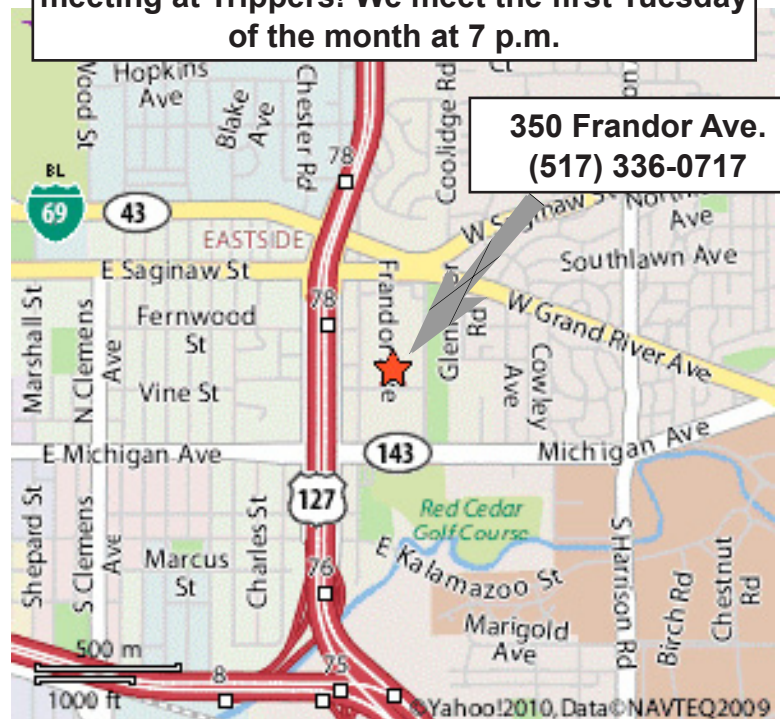
Lauren Leeds, Carrie May Larsen, Charlie Root, Sean Gillis, Herb Reed, Nick Horstman, Jason Larsen and Angela Clock.

### Remember, anyone can be an author!

Please submit your articles, photos, or ideas for future newsletters to Lauren Leeds at [lleeds823@gmail.com](mailto:lleeds823@gmail.com) by Aug. 18, 2014.

Join us for our monthly membership meeting at Trippers! We meet the first Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m.

350 Frandor Ave.  
(517) 336-0717



## 2014 Board of Directors

Meets every third Monday of the month at 6 p.m.

### President

Charlie Root, (517) 862-5326

### Chair of the Board

Abby Kelly, (517) 944-9729

### Individual Development Directors

Michael P. Leeds, (248) 622-1829

Nick Horstman, (517) 703-4565

### Management VP

Carrie Larsen, (248) 756-3840

### Secretary/Management Director

Lauren Leeds, (989) 482-1232

### Community Development Director

Angela Clock, (517) 410-9527

### Treasurer

Sheryl Soczek, (517) 862-6376

### Assistant Treasurer

Jeff Straus, (989) 330-1956

## President's Report

### Jaycees Around the World

If you didn't already know, you are a member of a worldwide organization of young leaders. All around the world Jaycees are leading the charge to improve their communities, build their leadership skills, and meet exciting new people. And you are one of them. From Lansing to Okinawa Jaycees are searching for long term solutions to local problems.

I've researched a few projects that our friends from across the world are working on. Perhaps reading about what other chapters are up to around the globe will spark an idea in one of you. If you find that happening, contact your nearest board member immediately and we will see about fanning that spark into a full-fledged wild fire. One thing to note, around the world Jaycee organizations are adopting the JCI (Junior Chamber International) name. So, it is not the Ontario Jaycees, it is JCI Ontario, It's not Japan Jaycees, it's JCI Japan. You get the picture. The chapters in the United States have been a little slow to join in on this as we are little stubborn. I just wanted to explain that little tidbit so you weren't wondering what JCI Cameroon has to do with the Jaycees.



Charlie Root  
President  
[croot80@gmail.com](mailto:croot80@gmail.com)

#### **JCI Dominican Republic:**

Members of JCI Dominican Republic have run a back to school project where they provided back to school supplies for the children at a local school and then spent time talking to the children about the importance of a good education. The Lansing Jaycees used to run a similar type of project where we took students on a back to school shopping spree. This is a project was very popular among our members, and could make a comeback if we could find somebody dedicated to running the project.

#### **JCI Cameroon:**

In Douala, Cameroon JCI members ran a job interview workshop at a local university. The program was split into two sections. First, students went through a mock interview with a human resources expert. After the mock interview the expert would then give the student feedback and advice on how to improve their interviewing skills. The second portion was a sort of lecture from a successful HR consultant. They had over 200 students participate, and established a network for follow up emails and phone calls to monitor the success of the participants.

#### **JCI Cambodia:**

JCI Cambodia – Phnom Penh has a continuous project that they have been running since their chapter was founded called the Sharing of Smiles. They have partnered with a local orphanage where they visit with the children there. During their visits they try to encourage the children to focus on education, and they work to build close relationships with the children. They also talk to them about the importance of healthy living and hygiene. They also worked with the children to plant 20 trees at the orphanage. The overall goal is to teach the children about the importance of friendship, to instill a sense of solidarity, and to have fun. I mean, it is called the Sharing of Smiles after all.

So there's a glimpse of just a few of the things going on in JCI chapters around the world. If you would like to learn more about Junior Chamber International, or JCI projects being run around the world feel free to let me know. I'd be happy to connect you to the right resources.

# Dates to Remember

## Individual Development Events

- AUGUST 9:** The Art of Tea: Japanese Cultural Center Visit, 12:15-4:30 pm, Japanese Cultural Center, 527 Ezra Rust Dr., Saginaw
- AUGUST 12:** Knitting, 6:30-8:30 pm, Zoobies, 611 Grand River Ave., Lansing
- AUGUST 26:** Knitting, 6:30-8:30 pm, Zoobies, 611 Grand River Ave., Lansing

## Membership Events

- AUGUST 8:** Happy Hour, 5:30-7:30 pm, Zoobies, 611 Grand River Ave., Lansing
- AUGUST 20:** Kickball Team, 6:15-9:15 pm, East Lansing Softball Complex, 6400 Abbot Road, East Lansing
- AUGUST 22-24:** Annual Camping Trip, Oscoda KOA, 3591 Forrest Road, Oscoda
- SEPTEMBER 5:** Happy Hour, 5:30-7:30 pm, Location TBD
- SEPTEMBER 2:** General Membership Meeting, 6-8:30 pm, Tripper's, 350 Frandor Ave., Lansing

## Management Events

- AUGUST 12:** Fearsome 5K Mtg, 5:30-6:30 pm, Hawk Island 1601 E. Cavanaugh, Lansing
- AUGUST 18:** Board of Directors Meeting, 6-8 p.m., 2425 E. Grand River Suite 1, Lansing
- AUGUST 21:** Jaycee Bootcamp Part I: PMG Training, Time/Location TBD
- SEPT. 14-16:** Texas Hold 'Em, Tripper's, 350 Frandor Ave., Lansing

## Community Development Events

- REST OF 2014:** Pop Tab Collecting, drop off pop can tabs to Angela Clock or Michael P. Leeds throughout 2014
- OCTOBER 25:** Fall Fun Fest, Time TBD, Hawk Island, 1601 E. Cavanaugh, Lansing

## Happy Birthday!

### August Birthdays

John Prush  
Mike Demmer

### September Birthdays

Angela Clock  
Jackson Buddingh  
Jill Blust  
Nick Horstman  
Rudolph Werner  
Russell Chambers  
Sangs Kannan  
Shane Robbins

## Membership Anniversaries

### August

Anne Ribby  
Colleen Burton  
Jaimie Hutchison  
Jason Larsen  
Jenni Riehle  
Kris Dezelski  
Rudolph Werner  
Sam Keeney  
Sangs Kannan  
Shane Robbins

### September

Adrienne Woodward  
Eric Richmond  
Eric Sheppard  
Jake Bourdon  
Jamie Sheppard  
Lauren Leeds  
Melissa Horste  
Tonya Blust

## Management Report

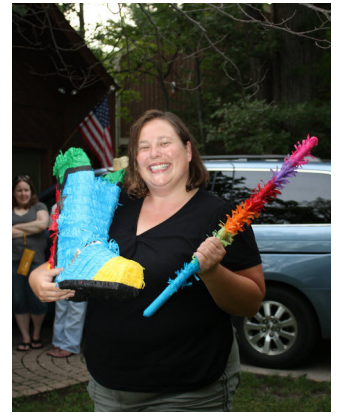
### Getting Unstuck

Newton's First Law: An object at rest stays at rest and an object in motion stays in motion with the same speed and in the same direction unless acted upon by an unbalanced force.

I find that during the summer, things in my Jaycee life slow down and sometimes it feels like I am a bit stuck. I have been going through the motions of committee meetings and getting some work done, but I haven't attacked any of it with quite the gusto I had at the beginning of the year. I have read posts on Facebook, read other articles online, and thought about how to motivate myself to do more than go through the motions. And then I went to committee meetings for two upcoming fundraisers, the Holiday Shopping Spree and the Fearsome 5k. And I was reinvigorated. It took me sitting down with friends, working through how to make these amazing projects come to life for me to get unstuck. There is a lot of work to be done on both of these committees, but they should prove exciting. I hope you'll join us.

This process also reminded me of one of my favorite shows, *The West Wing*, and one of my favorite anecdotes from Chief of Staff Leo McGarry: "This guy's walkin' down a street when he falls in a hole. The walls are so steep he can't get out. A doctor passes by and the guy shouts up, 'Hey you! Can you help me out?' The doctor writes a prescription, throws it down in the hole, and moves on. Then a priest comes along and the guy shouts up, 'Father, I'm down in this hole; can you help me out?' The priest writes out a prayer, throws it down in the hole and moves on. Then a friend walks by. 'Hey, Joe, it's me. Can ya help me out?' And the friend jumps in the hole. Our guy says, 'Are ya stupid? Now we're both down here.' The friend says, 'Yeah, but I've been down here before and I know the way out.'"

The next time you're stuck, look around. Chances are you have a friend who is right along side you, ready and willing to help you out.



Carrie Larsen  
Management Vice President  
[carriemay@aol.com](mailto:carriemay@aol.com)

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### Just Who is Roberts and Why Should I Care About His Rules?

Have you heard of "Robert's Rules of Order"? Do you know what they are, why they're useful or how to use them effectively? If you answered "no" to one of more of those questions, then I've got the event for you!

Dave Worthams, 87th President of the Michigan Jaycees (and longtime friend of our chapter) will travel to Lansing on Sept. 13 to participate in "Jaycee Bootcamp: How to be on the Board," where he will teach us about all things related to parliamentary procedure (Robert's Rules of Order).

In addition to learning the proper procedure for participating in a board meeting, such as how to make a motion, when discussion should take place, how to call a vote, and so on, you'll also learn what is required of members who decide to serve on the Lansing Jaycees Board of Directors.



Lauren Leeds  
Management Director  
[lleds823@gmail.com](mailto:lleds823@gmail.com)

This training is a fantastic way to learn more about your organization and learn skills that you can use to step into a leadership role in the Jaycees, a local governmental board, or another nonprofit.

Keep your eyes peeled for more information on the time/place in the coming month. Hope to see you there!

## Community Report

### It's August Already?

Where did the summer go?! We're getting close to school starting back up again and fall to get into full swing!

After a quiet summer in the community area, we're getting ready for a big fall/winter! We need your help in the following areas:

**Fall Fun Fest** – In conjunction with the Fearsome 5K, the chapter will be putting on what we like to call the Easter Egg Hunt – Halloween style! We need your help in various roles from chairs to committees to get this ready for Oct. 25, so we can host a great family event for the community.

**Stuff the Bus** – Being held Dec. 6, we are looking for co-chairs to run this project for 2014! With plans to begin committee meetings in September to get details nailed down, this is our big holiday project to help families in our community! Be part of the fun!

Last, but not least, we're collecting pop can tabs through the end of the year for the Ronald McDonald House! Please help us meet our big, audacious goal of collecting 5 pounds by Dec. 31! RHM uses these tabs to fund the various programs they provide in our community.

Interested in any of the above? Contact me at [amclock924@gmail.com](mailto:amclock924@gmail.com) to sign up or get more information!



Angela Clock

Community Development Director  
[fallingstar924@hotmail.com](mailto:fallingstar924@hotmail.com)

## Jaycee Trivia

Can you name some of the "Founders" of the Jaycee movement?

Answer: Henry Glessenbier  
Andrew Mungenast  
John Armbruster  
Clarence H. "Daddy" Howard  
Bill Brownfield

Has Michigan ever hosted a U.S. Jaycee convention?

Answer: Yes! The U.S. Jaycee Convention of 1929 was held in Flint.

# Individual Development Report

## Learning about Japanese Culture

Have you ever wanted to find out more about the Japanese, their culture and the art of the tea ceremony? Well, then you're in luck! The Jaycees are planning to travel to the Japanese Cultural Center, Tea House and Gardens in the city of Saginaw on Saturday, Aug. 9.

This trip will give interested members an opportunity to attend a tea ceremony where a trained docent will explain the tea ceremony as well as how Japanese hand tools were employed to construct the sukiya (rustic) structure.

Tea Ceremonies are presented on the second Saturday of each month at 2 p.m. throughout the year (except for December). They are part of the Tea House tour which includes a cup of green tea and costs \$8 per person.

After the tea ceremony people will be free to explore the three acres of gardens located on the property.

A carpool for those interested in attending will be planned closer to the event - but we'll plan to leave Lansing just shortly after noon with an estimated arrival time in Saginaw of 1:30 to 1:45 p.m.

If you are interested in attending, please contact me or RSVP to the evite, so that I can coordinate a carpool for those who plan to attend.



Lauren Leeds  
Management Director  
[lleds823@gmail.com](mailto:lleds823@gmail.com)

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## Being a Jaycee

What does it mean to be a Lansing Jaycee? Many in the community still are not aware of what a great organization we are a part of. It is up to us to continue to expand not only our reputation but also our services in the community.

Too often we get caught up in the rhythm of our daily lives that we forget to meet new individuals and try new things. This is one of the greatest aspects of our organization as we offer a plethora of events to introduce our members and guests to new traditions, hobbies, skill sets and PEOPLE. Yes the people you meet at these events can have a lasting impact on your life, whether it is in the form of potential job opportunities, future business opportunities, or a lifetime friendship. Many will attest that some of their best friends are a part of the organization and some have even been fortunate enough to meet them by being a member. Others have convinced their friends to join, after all why be selfish and not share what the organization has to offer to all?



Nick Horstman  
Individual Development Director  
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It is important that each member keeps this in mind as we continue to try and grow and develop our group. The group is what we make it. So lets take charge and try and invite at least one quality person that we know to an event. Someone that shares similar ideals, someone that is a part of another organization that you are a part of, or a friend. This will not only show those individuals how you are committed to the community but also let them see what a great group you belong to.

## Membership Report

### Jaycees, Mechs, and Mayhem ... Oh My!

On Saturday, July 26th the chapter took a trip to Big Kidz Games in Grand Rapids to play BattleTech Pods. We had a great turn out with seven Jaycees and four non-Jaycees in attendance.

Over the course of the four hours that we played, we managed to get in 14 games, despite some small technical glitches. We ran several different styles of play ranging from everyone against each other to team battles. Afterword we stopped in to Charlie's Pub and Grill, and oddly Charlie Root didn't get a discount, for a post battle wrap up before heading back to Lansing. All the attendees had a great time and the owners told me they were glad they could host our party. They are planning to expand before the fall to allow for at least four to six more pods.

Due to the interest we had for this event, including those who were unable to attend, there will be a follow-up trip in the early fall to go back for another Mech Party. Look for the e-vite in your inbox sometime in late August.

*Submitted by Jason Larsen*





## Membership Report

### Meet Sean Gillis!

As a relatively newer member (he joined the Lansing Jaycees in May 2013), Sean Gillis joined the organization because he wanted the chance to meet new people, get involved and make a difference in his community.

When asked about his favorite Jaycee project, Sean answered: Books and Beverages Project. He said, "It was fun getting involved with books and getting back into reading for fun as well as going to different breweries around the Lansing Area."

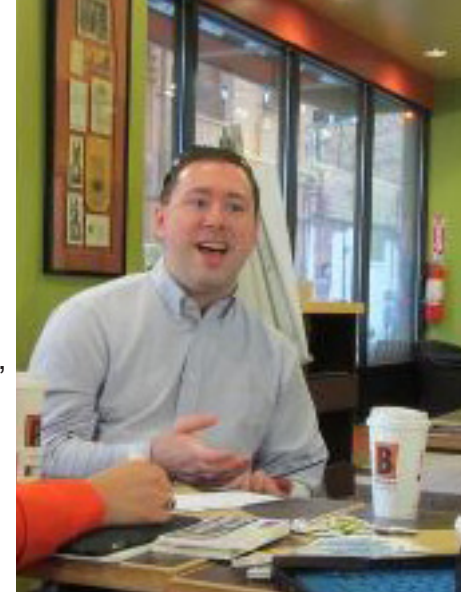
Sean is engaged to Kellie Schneider, and the two have set a date of July 16, 2015 for their nuptials. He works as a production planner for Dart Container Corporation.

His favorite book is *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* by Stephen Chbosky. Sean's favorite movie is *Empire Records*, while his favorite TV show is *The Big Bang Theory*.

A random fact about Sean: "I am very knowledgeable about music and can name many songs within the first few seconds when I hear it on the radio. I love to sing for fun as well and I am currently becoming a member of the Capital City Chordsmen."

Sean's favorite quote is: "Never, never, never give up." ~Ralph Waldo Emerson.

His hobbies interests include: listening to music; going to festivals (especially Common Ground and the Ingham County Fair); going to sporting events like the Lugnuts, Tigers and MSU; meeting new people; having fun; and watching old TV shows.



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# SHOUT OUTS!

John Prush: Thanks for coming up with my BattleTech Mech name ... nobody else would've suggested that! ~Carrie

To the Softball Team: Congratulations on another great season! ~Charlie

Jason: Nice job on chairing your first project of the year. What will be your next one be? ~Carrie

Thanks to Herb Reed and Sean Gillis for agreeing to being featured this month! ~Lauren

Ashley: Congratulations on getting into the program at Loyola! ~Carrie (Lauren seconds that!)

Michael Leeds: Shouldn't you be working on your dissertation? ~Charlie

Ryan: Thanks for chairing the Fearsome 5K - I can't wait to see how it turns out! ~Carrie

Abby: You're one of my most favorite people on the face of the Earth. I love you. ~Lauren

## Past President Spotlight

### Herb Reed, 61st President

A Bay City native, Herb Reed served as president of the Lansing Jaycees during 1989-1990. He also has the distinction of being the first African-American president of our chapter. He retired from working for the U.S. government in 2002.

Herb joined the Jaycees in 1982 for community service opportunities and aged out as an Exhausted Rooster in 1995.

When asked about great memories or a story he'd like to share, Herb said:

"I was in charge of getting speakers for dinner meetings two separate years.

I remember contacting Joel Ferguson to be a speaker. Turns out he was a past Jaycee. I had one of the Jaycee members, Lou Adado do the introduction because he had interned with his company while attending Michigan State University (MSU). I also remember contacting Lash Larowe, a controversial MSU professor, to speak at a meeting. My brother-in-law had been one of this students and he remembered him. Another one was Kathy Schmaltz from I believe Channel 10. Her brother and a Jaycee, Mike Domagalski, had been roommates at Central Michigan University. The Jaycees used to meet at the Elks Club on Moores River Drive. They had an unwritten policy to exclude African-Americans from membership. They excluded one particular individual and it became news. Scott Pohl was president that year. Within a few days, he announced that we were moving our meetings elsewhere. I was prouder to be a Jaycee that year."

Herb said that his greatest takeaway/skill from being a Jaycee is: "Public speaking. I was always pretty shy and hated speaking in front of a group. I chaired a project within a couple of months of joining. I was then on the Board of Directors 1983-1985 and 1988-1991. I was either speaking in front of the Board of Directors or the entire chapter on a regular basis."

Herb added: "I really enjoyed going to conventions. I traveled to cities I had never been to. For years, I always tried to get members to attend the conventions, not just the board members. It was a great disappointment to me that we could not get more of the members to attend."

Last but not least, one of the most important member benefits Herb took away from being a Jaycee was: "I made a lot of good friends in the Jaycees. I am still friends with them after all of these years."



## Jaycee Trivia

When were women finally admitted as members of the Jaycees?

*Answer: 1984 - following a Supreme Court case*

# Jaycees Business Directory

## Auto, Home, Life & Tax Deferred Annuities

Member: Shantana Goerge

I specialize in home, auto, and life insurance. I'm passionate about the fact that insurance is boring and confusing to most people. Let me keep an eye on it for you, so it can keep up with you without the worries.

**Phone:** (517) 347-6772, ext. 56547

**Fax:** (517) 347-6983

**Email:** [shantana.goerge@libertymutual.com](mailto:shantana.goerge@libertymutual.com)

**Facebook:** [Shantana Goerge](#)

## Keller Williams Realty

Member: Rob Dowding

I pride myself and the Robert Dowding Team at Keller Williams Realty with excellent customer service in the representation of sellers, buyers, and investors in the entire Greater Lansing Area. Leverage yourself by hiring a true professional to assist you, your friends, and your family in achieving your Real Estate dreams and goals.

**Phone:** (517) 853-6390

**Email:** [Sold@RobertDowding.com](mailto:Sold@RobertDowding.com)

**Website:** [www.RobertDowding.com](http://www.RobertDowding.com)

**Blog:** [www.RealestateRealresults.com](http://www.RealestateRealresults.com)

## Clearing Blocks: Editing Services & Creative Content Development

Member: Jen Anderson

I offer comprehensive copy editing services, from light editing to line editing, in addition to creative content development. If you have a special project you'd like a professional set of eyes on, don't hesitate to get in touch! Please check out the website for sample rates and services, or call for a consultation.

**Phone:** (603) 548-0840

**Email:** [jennifer.margaret.anderson@gmail.com](mailto:jennifer.margaret.anderson@gmail.com)

**Website:** [www.clearingblocksediting.com](http://www.clearingblocksediting.com)

## The Law Office of Eric J. Sheppard

Member: Eric Sheppard

I provide dedicated, personal attention to all of my cases. I will assist you and your family with all of your questions and concerns relating to your legal matters. I am highly experienced in criminal law, family law, and general practice matters.

**Phone (Office):** (517) 618-1580

**Phone (Cell):** (216) 973-9996

**Website:** [www.ericshppardlaw.com](http://www.ericshppardlaw.com)

Want to see your business featured?  
Contact Lauren Leeds at: [lleads823@gmail.com](mailto:lleads823@gmail.com)