

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

www.lansingjaycees.org

Region D
Population Division 6
Base Membership: 72

LANSING JAYCEES ANNUAL CAMPING TRIP

July 21 through 24 marked the annual Jaycee camping trip. This year 34 participants (24 adults and ten future Jaycees...a.k.a. children) journeyed to the west side of the state to make a temporary home at White River Campground in Montague.

To beat the weekend heat, many campers traveled to nearby Duck Lake, Lake Michigan, and even the campground pool for many cool, refreshing dips. A canoe and kayaking trip down the Muskegon River also gave campers a chance to cool off and have some fun. Those who simply wanted rest and relaxation hung out with fellow Jaycees back at camp playing heated Euchre games, engaging in quiet reading time, or just enjoying good conversation.

Of course it wouldn't be a camping trip without campfire cuisine. Friday night the sandwich makers were busted out for pie making and skewers for s'mores. At Saturday night's potluck there were plenty of burgers, dogs and dishes to tempt your taste buds. No one should have gone to bed hungry the entire weekend.

On Sunday's departure everyone packed up to head home at his or her leisure a little tired and a little dirty.



Andy Miller holds a dog for the Junior Jaycees to pet at the Annual Camping Trip.

Submitted by Anne Ribby, General Member

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 which promotes leadership training through community service. We meet the first Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. (dinner from 6 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.) at Tripper's Bar and Grill in Frandor. Visit our website, www.lansingjaycees.org for more information.



2011 Board of Directors

*The Board meets on the last Monday each month
 6:00 PM at Spartan Printing
 15551 S. US Highway 27, Lansing, MI 48906*

President

- **Angela Fossi** 586-484-7027

Chair of the Board

- **Angela Clock** 517-410-9527

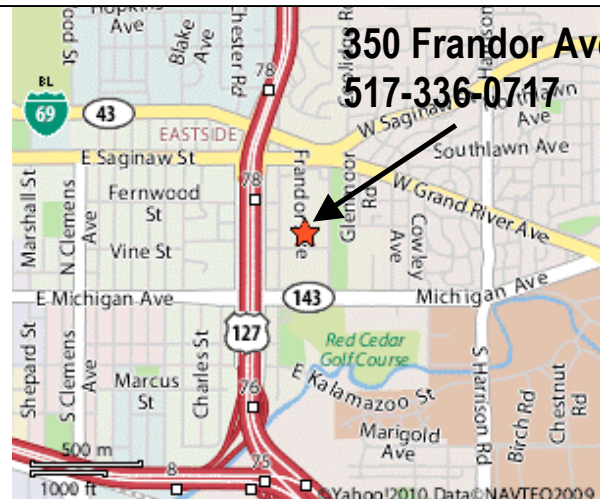
Board Members

- **Ilona Hajdar** 517-667-4236
 - *Membership VP*
- **Dan Harris** 517-927-9412
 - *Individual Development VP*
- **Sam Keeney** 989-714-5272
 - *Management VP*
- **Lauren Leeds** 989-482-1232
 - *Community Development Director*
 - *Press Secretary*
- **Charlie Root** 517-862-5326
 - *Director At Large*
- **Abby Siegel** 517-944-9729
 - *Community Development Director*
- **Sheryl Soczek** 517-862-6376
 - *Treasurer*
- **Adrienne Woodward** 517-420-1239
 - *Secretary*

In This Issue

| | |
|------------------------------------|---------------|
| President's Report | pg. 3 |
| Membership Info | pg. 4 |
| Seen in Action | pg. 5 |
| Member Spotlight | pg. 8 |
| Community Info | pg. 10 |
| Individual Development Info | pg. 11 |
| Management Info | pg. 13 |
| Calendar of Events | pg. 14 |
| Grab Bag | pg. 15 |
| Business Directory | pg. 14 |

Join us for our monthly membership meeting at Trippers! Every first Tuesday of the Month at 7:00 PM



A MESSAGE FROM THE
LANSING JAYCEES 83RD PRESIDENT

Confession time. I watch CSPAN and I was watching a press conference with Christine Lagarde who is the newly appointed Managing Director of the IMF the other day. Her response to this question has stuck with me for several days so I thought I would share it with you.

Here is a question to consider: does a leader need to have hands on experience with every job or just know how to make them all work together? I enjoyed hearing her response as I have always believed that you shouldn't have to over-manage people if you have a strong team. Yet, it seems like there is always doubt surrounding leaders without the hands on experience. I applaud the fact that the reporter asked the question and I really respect the answer. Time will tell the rest. Thoughts?

Question: Let me ask you a couple issues I'm sure you have not expected to come up. As a lawyer, until recently a French finance minister, how do you counter accusations that you are, one, not qualified to take decisions on economics; and two, might have the interest of French banks and French taxpayers at heart on issues like Greece rather than those of the IMF?

The Managing Director: You always ask such nice questions. Always a pleasure.

You know what? I'm not going to brag about my qualifications, or lack of qualifications. I think that the truth of the pudding is in the eating, as you say, and we'll see how it goes. But I come to the job with an open mind, with my ability to manage and draw resources and willingness to contribute from all. Not going to second-guess. I'm going to ask questions. I'm going to evaluate, and I'm going to rely on the advice of people who know well their area. And, you know, without being too poetic about it, not all conductors know how to play the piano, the harp, the violin, or the cello. So I'll try to be a good conductor.

As to the bias that I would have to favor one or the other, certainly don't expect me on that particular front. I will not be biased.

Transcript of a Press Conference by International Monetary Fund Managing Director Christine Lagarde with First Deputy Managing Director John Lipsky and External Relations Director Caroline Atkinson

Washington, D.C.- July 6, 2011

<http://www.imf.org/external/np/tr/2011/tr070611.htm>

Teamwork is the ability to work together toward a common vision. The ability to direct individual accomplishment toward organizational objectives. It is the fuel that allows common people to attain uncommon results. ~Andrew Carnegie



Sincerely,
Angela M. Fossi
83rd President – Lansing Jaycees

Submitted by Angela Fossi, 83rd President, kitispant@gmail.com

A MESSAGE FROM THE MEMBERSHIP VICE PRESIDENT

WORDS OF WISDOM

SOMETIMES IN LIFE WE ALL JUST NEED A FEW WORDS OF WISDOM...

Nothing in life is to be feared. It is only to be understood.

-Marie Curie

One has to find a balance between what people need from you and what you need for yourself.
-Jessye Norman

The grand essentials to happiness in this life are something to do, something to love, and something to hope for.
-Joseph Addison

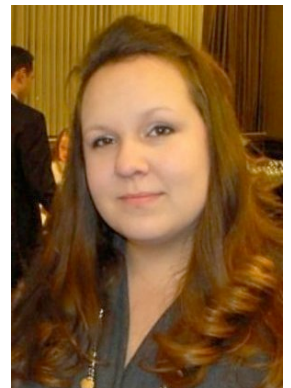
One of the things I learned the hard way was that it doesn't pay to get discouraged. Keeping busy and making optimism a way of life can restore your faith in yourself.
-Lucille Ball

What lies behind us and what lies before us are tiny matters compared to what lies within us.
-Ralph Waldo Emerson

It's not the load that breaks you down, it's the way you carry it.
-Lena Horne

In three words, I can sum up everything I've learned about life: It goes on.
-Robert Frost

Always be a first-rate version of yourself, instead of a second-rate version of somebody else.
-Judy Garland



Submitted by Ilona Hajdar, Membership VP, ihajdar@hotmail.com

LANSING JAYCEES



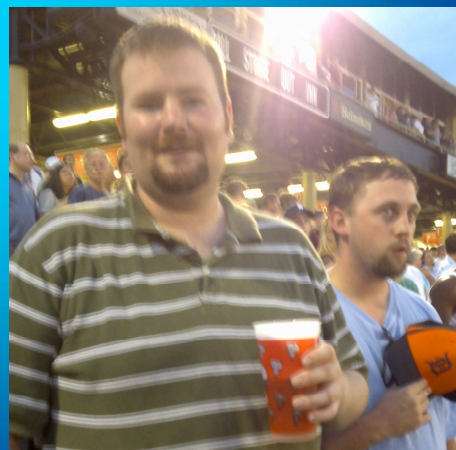
Anne and Bridget smile big as part of the group of Lansing Jaycees that attended the Lansing Lugnuts game on August 5, 2011.



(L to R): Sidd, Mike, Stephanie, Troy, Alex, Colleen, and Sheryl keep cool at the Annual Camping Trip by taking a kayak down the river.



Troy handles the cooking at the Lansing Jaycees Annual Camping Trip!



Patrick and Mike enjoy the camaraderie at the Lansing Lugnuts Game!

SEEN IN ACTION

JAYCEES END SOFTBALL SEASON WITH A SIXTH PLACE FINISH!!

Another softball season has passed and we finished 4-7-1. That was good for 6th place out of 9 teams. The season was longer than most are used to because we played in an all-inclusive tournament and we had one rainout; we played in extreme heat and a downpour. We lost the first tournament game, but won our other tournament in the consolation round. We were short some people for some of games, but made it work. I like to think most people had fun.

The season started with Matt Bauer coaching and the torch was handed to me for the last 3 games of the season, plus 2 double elimination tournament games. This was a new experience for me, but I think I handled coaching pretty well. Usually after the game a few of us would head to a local establishment where we would discuss our W or L and just enjoy good company.

I want to thank the Lansing Jaycees for their support, everyone that came out to cheer us on, and my teammates for making this another enjoyable season. I look forward to another season next year.



Mike Castelein at the bat!!

Submitted by Michael Castelein, General Member

ALL ABOUT BASEBALL: LUGNUTS NIGHT



Ilona Hajdar and her daughter, Junior Jaycee Caydence, enjoy the Lansing Lugnuts game on August 5, 2011.

On Friday, August 5th some Lansing Jaycee members, family and friends spent a great evening out in the sun at Cooley Law Stadium for a Lansing Lugnuts game.

Even though our Lugnuts didn't win against the South Bend Silver Hawks, all of the attendees had a great time!!!

Who wouldn't with great weather, wonderful company and BASEBALL!

Thank you to all of you that came out.

Submitted by Ilona Hajdar, Membership VP, ihajdar@hotmail.com

Membership Anniversary Dates:

August:

**Colleen Burton, Lori Castelein,
Sangeetha Kannan, Samantha Keeney,
Siddhartha Muthiah, and Anne Ribby**

September:

**David Akens, Arya Amirahmadi, Kyle Guy,
Rocco Huang, Alyson Kechkaylo,
Nicholas Kechkaylo, Lauren Leeds, Garret
Mausolf, Eric Richmond, Amy Richter,
Eric Sheppard, Jamie Sheppard,
Cheryl Szczubialka, Adrienne Woodward**

August Birthdays

**Alexandra Briseno
Emily White
John Prush
Charles Strong
Kyle Smith
Jeff Shannon
Dave Akens**

Happy Birthday!!!



Welcome New Members!



***Know someone who would like to join the
Lansing Jaycees?
Invite them to one of our events!***

A note from the Capitol Correspondent Editor:

*Thanks to the contributors of the August newsletter: A. Ribby, A. Fossi, I. Hajdar, M. Castelein,
A. Dobbrastine, L. Leeds, A. Siegel, A. Clock, D. Harris, J. Hermann, S. Soczek, A. Woodward*

**Follow us on Twitter - @LansingJaycees
Follow us on Facebook – Lansing Jaycees**

ANYONE CAN BE AN AUTHOR!

Please submit your articles, photos, or ideas for future newsletters to:

**Adrienne Woodward
2011 Lansing Jaycees
Newsletter Editor
adrienne.d.woodward@gmail.com**

ADAM ROBERT DOBBRASTINE



Occupation: Paramedic / Student

Relationship Status: Married

Dream Job: RN

Favorite Movie and/or book: Boondock Saints

Favorite Type of Music: Alternative

Do you have any pets? Yes, 3 dogs.

Favorite Food: Grilled Steak

Favorite Game or Sport: Favorite Game: World of Warcraft. Favorite Sport: MSU Football!!

2011 Goal: Finish prerequisites for LCC nursing program

First car: Saturn sports coupe.

Why I joined the Jaycees: To meet new people, give back to my community, and help raise funds for a charity close to my heart.

Random Fact: Kissing in a marriage ceremony started in Rome because it was used to seal contracts. Since marriage is a contract it is sealed with a kiss. ;)

Favorite Jaycee Project and reason: Right now my favorite project is the golf outing for the Olivia Raine Foundation. This is the most important to me because it raises funds to help families pay for funeral expenses that recently lost an infant. On October 6th I lost my daughter so this charity will always have a place in my heart.

Favorite Quote: “Let the little children come to me and do not forbid them; For such is the kingdom of heaven.” -Jesus (Matthew 19:14)

Jaycee Join Date: I think its 6-1-11

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR OF THE BOARD

“It’s not what we carry but what we let go that defines us.” – Charlie Crews, *Life*

A few weeks ago, I started watching the now cancelled TV show, *Life*. Short story of the premise - Charlie Crews is a detective who is back on the force after serving 12 years for a murder he did not commit. Over the course of the series (which ran for two seasons, one of them shortened by the writers’ strike), he is trying to figure out who set him up to go to prison and who exactly committed the murders of his friends.

At this point, you’re probably asking yourself “What does this have to do with anything?” My answer to you is – pretty much everything.

Hanging on to grudges or wrongs makes life much more difficult. Have you met that person that seems to have a chip on their shoulder? Those people tend to be carrying many grudges, but don’t make themselves pleasant to be around.

Take this quote forward in everything you do – at work, in the Jaycees or in your personal life. Is it worth it to lose time being upset about things you can’t control? Life is a learning experience, and part of it is learning what to carry and learning what to let go.

Our society makes it seem that only the strong people hold on to everything, but in many ways, it’s the tougher and better decision to let go of something that is causing you problems. Charlie Crews lost 12 years of his life because of something he couldn’t control. Why should we lose time over things we can control?



Yours in Service,
Angela M. Clock

**Submitted by Angela Clock,
2011 MIJC Community Vice President,
Chair of the Board, fallingstar924@hotmail.com**

A MESSAGE FROM THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORS

RELAY FOR LIFE UPDATE

We had a most successful **Rummage Sale** on August 6 at **Fenner Nature Center!**

Thank you to all who donated items and baked goodies to sell. We made **\$176.65**, which brings our total up to **\$1,682.40**. We've still got a ways to go to hit our goal of **\$2,200** so Angela Clock and Angela Fossi will sumo wrestle for our entertainment.

How will we reach this goal? By letting our friends and family know about our next and last fundraising event: The **Silent Brown Bag Auction** happening at **Reno's West** during our Happy Hour on **August 19th** from **5:30 to 7:30**. Auction items will include gift certificates to popular restaurants around the Lansing area, movie passes, massages and other services. The auction will be like any other silent auction, only the items are hidden by the brown bags they're in.

I hope you can join us for this fun and exciting event! If you cannot, please let others know so they can join in the fun! Also, if you would like to make a donation, please let me know.

*Submitted by Abby Siegel, Community Development Director,
queenpetunia@hotmail.com*



9/11 VIGIL

Next month the nation will pause and reflect on the tenth anniversary of 9/11.

To commemorate this somber occasion, the Lansing Jaycees are planning a vigil next month for Sunday, Sept. 11 on the lawn of the state Capitol in Lansing.

Scheduled to kickoff at 8:30 a.m., the event will include moments of silence, music, poetry and guest speakers. Members of the MSU ROTC will present and post the colors.

We will be handing out small American flags to those in attendance.

After the ceremony, we plan to walk down to Remembrance Plaza to present a wreath at Lansing's 9/11 memorial.



I hope you can join us on Sunday, Sept. 11 for what is sure to be a moving commemoration.

*Submitted by Lauren Leeds, Community Development Director and Press
Secretary, laurenloo823@yahoo.com*

A MESSAGE FROM THE INDIVIDUAL DEVELOPMENT VICE PRESIDENT

I want to shout out and say a big thank you to Shelley Meilock and everyone who attended her personal image workshop. Shelley did a fantastic job explaining how to craft your own personal image. Be sure to check out her radio show on 1240 WJIM Sundays at noon or visit her at <http://www.mieshelimage.com> or <http://www.inershoesradio.com> to learn more.

I am pleased to say we have a full month of individual development activities. At the time of publication our Howzat! Cricket will be underway. If you haven't signed up already feel free to drop by and learn. We will be at the IM East Ground off of Wilson Road and Shaw Lane in East Lansing Thursday evenings from ~6 to 8pm unless it rains. Be sure to contact Andrew Hoard, project chair, at andrew.t.hoard@gmail.com or Individual Development Vice President Dan Harris at dan@dnharris.com or 517-927-9412 if you have questions. The match game takes place on August 25th and we really would enjoy having a full field with fans cheering us on.

Speaking of being full, do you like food? Easy answer wasn't it? Be sure to check out our next installment of Get Your Food On. Road trip time, destination: Ann Arbor. We will be enjoying Swiss dinner fare from The Melting Pot. If you have questions contact project chair Lauren Leeds (laurenloo823@yahoo.com).

The Lansing Jaycees had a Resume and Interview Skills Seminar on Monday August 15th at the Capital Area District Library. Former Lansing Jaycee Teri (Bruning) Sand facilitated the meeting. Twenty two people attended including seventeen non-Jaycees! Teri did a phenomenal job fielding a variety of questions on creating a great resume and handling the interview process. Teri works at the Capital Area Michigan Works service center in Lansing as a business liaison. It is her job to better understand business needs, what positions businesses need to fill, help them craft job listings, and assist them in interview preparation. She not only understands business needs in the Lansing region, she educates and trains them on how to field through resumes, conduct interviews, and determine best fit. Michigan Works is typically only open during business hours and Teri typically only trains during the day. This evening event was a rare opportunity for those already employed during 8-5 to have access to someone who can help them take their career to the next level.



Submitted by Dan Harris, Individual Development Vice President, dan@dnharris.com

Life Coaching In Your Inbox: What You Resist, Persists

Greetings, my dear Jaycees! It was lovely to meet some of you in person at your monthly Trippers meeting. This month, I am writing about a phrase that I use with my clients all the time: “WHAT YOU RESIST, PERSISTS.”

At first glance, the idea that if you resist something it will persist sounds pretty counter-intuitive. If you're against something, you might be thinking, how could that make it stronger? Well, here's the thing: it's a matter of where you are putting your attention and energy. So if you are saying, “Not This. Not This. Not This.” Where is all your energy? On THIS, of course.

For example, say that you want to lose weight. If you spend all your time saying and thinking to yourself, “I'm so fat. I don't want to be fat. Ugh, I hate how fat I look.” Where is your attention and energy? On being fat! (And by the way, nothing will drive you to emotional eating like telling yourself you're fat. I know this from personal experience.)

So when you want something to change, the very first step is to identify your vision. What do you want? What is the opposite of Not This? Be as detailed as you can in your description. What does it look like, smell like, taste like, feel like? How will you know when you have arrived at That (Not This)?

If you're really serious about wanting the change, make a vision board, which is a fancy woo-woo term for a collage of pictures that make you feel good and capture the intention of your goal. Research shows we are wired to respond to images. If you google “vision board” you'll find all kinds of how-to videos on youtube. Here's my favorite approach: get a stack of old magazines, about 6-10 of them. Play some music you love. Go through the magazines as quickly as you can and rip out any image or word that grabs you. Don't over-think it, and don't start reading the articles. Just keep moving. Do this for about 20 minutes. Then, take all the images and words you grabbed and arrange them on a piece of poster board in a way that pleases you. Glue them down, and you've got your vision board!

Walt Disney said: “If you can dream it, you can do it.” And dreams, as you know, are pictures. Help your brain see the picture, and you will find yourself on the path before you know it.

Thoughts? Questions? Yeah but's? Drop me a line at julica@julicahermann.com, or join me on my free monthly call. Helping people find their vision is one of my favorite things to do. ☺ You can sign up at my website: www.julicahermann.com.

***Submitted by Julica Hermann, Social Change and life Coach,
julica.hermann@gmail.com***



A MESSAGE FROM THE TREASURER

Well it is here, August has arrived. This time of year brings some excitement to the Lansing area as school will start soon, traffic will increase and we will be bombarded with students from MSU, Cooley Law School and LCC. Wait did I say this would be exciting.....

Along with school starting, the deals on cheap furniture, school products and items to stock up on will be in full force. If you don't feel like braving the crowds at the stores, there are ways to still save money on those items and many more.

Yipit.com – Collects daily deals nearby from services such as BuyWithMe and Groupon

Bookingbuddy.com – Searches major travel sites like Kayak, Priceline and Orbitz as well as less-known deal makers so you can find affordable travel options more quickly.

Techbargains.com – Allows you to compare prices on laptops, GPS devices and more. You will find bargains and coupons and can choose to be notified when your desired brand goes on sale.

Goldstar.com – Pay half on comedy shows, sporting events, plays, concerts and more. Venues partner with websites to fill their seats without the markup of a broker.

Fatwallet.com – An active customer forum where users share their finds. Users purchase from links on this site and earn money back for their purchases (a favorite of my sister-in-law).

Retailmenot.com – Allows you to look up coupon codes with a database of more than 65,000 stores. The site has a deep collection of promotional and free shipping codes.

Ebates.com - Sign up for a free account, browse the retail partners and purchase your items. Quarterly you will receive a check with your earnings.

Happy shopping,

Sheryl A. Soczek
Treasurer



**Submitted by Sheryl Soczek,
Treasurer,
soczek@mail.hfs.msu.edu**

A MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY

Summer heat. Lazy days. Running from work to errands to vacations and back to work again. It all leads to one thing: Burn Out.

A severe lack of motivation can occur in these endless days of summer, leading to piled up work, passed deadlines, and upset friends, family, and co-workers.

So, how do you beat the burn? Below are five simple steps to help you get back on track so you can go on enjoying the summer – without the guilt!

1. Just Say No: Stay focused on the important goals rather than try to please everyone.
2. Schedule “Me” Time: Write it in your planner and keep the appointment.
3. Get a Change of Scenery: Work from a coffee shop or patio, if allowed!
4. Prioritize Your Well-Being: Give yourself time to eat, sleep, and exercise.
5. Practice Delegating: You don't have to do it yourself if you find competent people to help you out!

These simple steps can help you beat the summer slump and get back on track for a more productive 2011!

This information and more can be found at:
<http://www.startupnation.com/business-articles/9641/1/burnout-5-steps-beat.htm>

Hope it helps! Enjoy!

Sincerely,
Adrienne Woodward
2011 Lansing Jaycees
Secretary



**Submitted by Adrienne Woodward, Secretary,
woodwa46@msu.edu**

Lansing Jaycees Activities...

August 19 – **Relay For Life Fundraiser & Happy Hour** – Reno's West, 5001 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing; 5:30 – 7:30 PM (Details = A. Siegel @ 517-944-9729)

August 20 – **The Olivia Raine Foundation Golf Outing** – Fenton Farms Golf Course, 12312 Torrey Rd., Fenton; 9 AM Shotgun Start (Details = C. Root @ 517-862-5326)

August 20 – **Get Your Food On: Do You Fondue?** – The Melting Pot, 309 S. Main St., Ann Arbor; 6:00 – 8:30 PM (Details = L. Leeds @ 989-482-1232)

August 25 – **Howzat! Introduction to Cricket – Game Day! Match Session** – TBD (Alternative date is September 1; Details = A. Hoard, or D. Harris @ 517-927-9412)

August 26 – 28 – **Delta County Duck Races** – Escanaba (Details = A. Clock @ 517-410-9527)

August 29 – **Board of Directors Meeting** – Spartan Printing, 15551 S. US Highway 27, Lansing; 6 – 8 PM (Details = A. Fossi @ 517-484-7027)

September 3 – **Take me out to a Tigers game!** – Comerica Park, 2100 Woodward Ave., Detroit; 4 – 7:30 PM (Details = A. Fossi @ 517-484-7027)

September 6 – **General Membership Meeting** – Trippers – Frandor, 350 Frandor Ave., Lansing; 6 – 8 PM (Details = A. Fossi @ 517-484-7027)

September 11 – **9/11 Vigil** – State Capitol Lawn, 100 N. Capitol Ave., Michigan Capitol Building, Lansing; 8:30 – 10:30 AM (Details = L. Leeds @ 989-482-1232)

September 17 – **Capital Area Humane Society Run & Walk for the Animals** – Fitzgerald Park, Grand Ledge; 9:30 AM – 5 PM (Details = C. Root @ 517-862-5326)

September 19 – 22 – **Texas Hold 'Em** – Trippers – Frandor, 350 Frandor Ave., Lansing

September 24 – **MSU Tailgating** – Spartan Stadium; TBD (Details = A. Fossi @ 586-484-7027)

September 26 – **Board of Directors Meeting** – Spartan Printing, 15551 S. US Highway 27, Lansing; 6 – 8 PM (Details = A. Fossi @ 517-484-7027)

September 27 – **Debate Workshop** – Mor Information TBD (Details = J. Kelly)

Watch the Juice weekly for other events yet to be planned!

Jaycee Business Directory

Keller Williams Realty

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 family in achieving your Real Estate dreams and goals.

Ph: 517.853.6390

Email:

Sold@RobertDowding.com

Website:

www.RobertDowding.com

Blog:

www.RealestateRealresults.com

Website Design Services

Vieth Consulting provides development services for organization and commercial websites. Contact Chris Vieth for more information or for a quote.

H: 627-7145

W: 930-3611

ccvieth@viethconsulting.com

To advertise your business here, submit your information to woodwa46@msu.edu

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT:

If you participated in the GYFO: bd's Mongolian BBQ/Cinco de Mayo quiz, and you would like to know the answers, here they are!!

What is the largest desert in Asia that covers parts of southern Mongolia?

Gobi. "Gobi" means desert in Mongolian. The desert has an area of 281,800 square kilometres and stretches south into China. Temperatures vary from 45C in summer to -40C in winter.

What is the largest ethnic grouping in Mongolia?

Khalka Mongols. Mongolia is relatively ethnically homogeneous. Mongols constitute 85% of the population (of that Mongol population 90% are Khalka with the remaining 10% being Durbet and Dariganga Mongols). Turkic groups (Kazakhs, Turvins and Khotans) make up 7% of the population. The remainder of the population is made up of Russians, Chinese and Tungusic-speakers.

Which mountain range would you find in Mongolia?

Altai. The Altai Mountains can be found in the west of Mongolia and include the five peaks of Tavan Bogd (Five Saints). The highest of these, and the highest peak in Mongolia, is Huiten Uul (Mt Cold) which is 4374m. The Sayan Mountains lie north of Mongolia in Russia, the Khinggan Mountains can be found in the Chinese province of Inner Mongolia while Tian Shan stretches across Kyrgyzstan and the Chinese province of Xinjiang Uygur.

Which country, bordering Mongolia to the north, held a strong influence over Mongolia after it gained official independence in 1945?

Russia. After the fall of the Qing Dynasty in 1911, Mongolia proclaimed itself independent. However, Mongols had to fight for freedom until 1921 to gain actual independence. It was not until 1945 that the international community recognized Mongolia as an independent country.

From which country did Mongolia become independent in the 1920s?

China. Mongolia initially gained limited autonomy from China following the fall of the Qing monarchy in 1911 but was later reoccupied by China in 1919. Anticommunist White Russians expelled the Chinese in 1921 at which point the Mongolians sought help from the Bolsheviks and in 1924 the Mongolian Peoples' Republic was declared. Independence Day is celebrated on 11th July, the day on which in 1921 Mongolia declared independence from China.

What is the predominant religion in Mongolia?

Buddhism. All religions were suppressed during the years of the Communist government. However, about 96% of the population are considered Tibetan Buddhists with most of the remainder being Muslims.

Mongolia is often referred to as 'Outer Mongolia'. Where would you find 'Inner Mongolia'?

China. The terms Inner and Outer Mongolia date back to Imperial China. The Qing dynasty divided China into a number of provinces: Inner Mongolia was so called because it was closer to the Chinese capital at Beijing. The Mongols themselves use the terms North and South Mongolia.

In what year was Mongolia 'discovered'?

1206. Before becoming an empire, Mongolia consisted of various nomadic empires. Those empires included the Xiongnu, the Xianbei, the Rouran, the Gokturks, and others. Chenghis Khan discovered it.

Mongolia is often referred to as The Land of The ___?

Eternal Blue Sky. The Land of The Eternal Blue Sky has its roots in Tengriism, an ancient religion of the people of Central and East Asia. This religion was centered around Tengri, the god of Sky. There's also the fact that Mongolia typically has about 257 cloudless days a year--lots of blue skies there!

Chinggis Khaan (better known in the West as Genghis Khan) is perhaps the most famous Mongol of all time and a very important figure to modern Mongolians. His real name was Temujin, but what does Chinggis Khaan mean?

Universal King. Temujin was given the name after uniting the warring Mongol tribes. His armies went on to conquer much of Asia and laid the foundations for an empire that under Temujin's grandson, Kublai Khan, would stretch from Korea to Hungary, the largest contiguous empire in history. Chenggis Khaan remains a national hero in Mongolia.

What is the State Great Hural?

Mongolia's parliament. The parliament was previously known as the Peoples' Great Hural. The State Great Hural was established by the constitution of 1992.



What is Cinco de Mayo translated to English?

5th of May

What other Mexican holiday is often confused with Cinco de Mayo?

Mexican Independence Day (el Dieciseis de Septiembre)

Who did the Mexican army defeat?

A well-armed, professional French army led by Napoleon III

What battle is associated with Cinco de Mayo?

Battle of Puebla took place on May 5, 1862. This battle marks a turning point in Mexican national pride. They won the battle over huge French troop. This victory made the Mexican people very happy, and helped create a feeling of national unity. Puebla is 100 miles east of Mexico City. The Mexican forces were made up of untrained commoners. The “Batalla de Puebla” became a symbol of Mexican unity and patriotism.

How many solders were in each army?

4,500 poorly armed soldiers in the Mexican army and roughly 8,000 well armed and trained French soldiers led by Napoleon III. The battle lasted 4 hours.

What date is the other popular Mexican (from question 2) celebrated?

Mexican Independence Day (el Dieciseis de Septiembre) is celebrated on the 16th of September

How is Cinco de Mayo celebrated?

Cinco de mayo is celebrated with festivals and fiestas. Parades usually start moving about 11 o'clock. The parades consist of marchers dressed as French and Mexican generals with soldiers following, armed like the original freedom fighters with machetes and old-fashioned rifles. Paraders wearing skirts and flowery hats represent the women (soldaderos) who traveled with the army to cook and care for the men. Those portraying French soldiers carry knapsacks with wine bottles sticking out of them. At mid-afternoon the “battle” begins in the plaza. Rifles and cannon roar, there is much smoke and shouting, and at nightfall, the Mexican and French generals meet face-to-face for a sword battle. The Mexican general, of course, wins. The fiesta also includes speeches by government officials. And since it is a fiesta there are lots of games and lively dances, mariachi music, traditional foods, bullfights, and colorful [cinco de mayo decorations](#). At night there are pinatas for the children and the celebration ends with beautiful displays of fireworks. People wear clothes of red and green, the colors of the Mexican flag.

Who was the leader of the Mexican army during this war?

General Ignacio Zaragoza was born in Texas when it was still part of Mexico and is considered to be a Chicano hero.

Why is Cinco de Mayo important for Americans?

In addition to its importance in Mexico, Cinco de Mayo is significant to all Americans because it marks the last time that any foreign power has acted the aggressor on North American soil.



Submitted by Dan Harris, Individual Development Vice President, dan@dnharris.com