

The Monthly Newsletter for the Lansing Junior Chamber of Commerce | April 2015

District 4 • Population Division 3 • Base Membership: 70

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Easter Egg Hunt 2015!!

The Lansing Jaycees has hosted the annual Easter Egg Hunt since the 1950's!!! It is possible we had Easter egg hunts even sooner, however, back in the 1950's the Lansing Jaycees members at the time were not utilizing the file archive section of our web page. The first recorded date in hosting the Easter Egg Hunt on the Capitol Lawn is dated as far back as 1982. This project has evolved into an

event that the community expects and looks forward to each year, and has grown to reach what's estimated to be more than 2,000 people.

Each year, the Easter Egg Hunt festivities begin the Saturday before Easter at 10 a.m. Various mascots include the Easter Bunny, Big Lug, Crash Test Dummies, Crash the Clown, and Click--It the Cricket. This year, Scoop from
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Danielle Wellington and Rob Dowding, Co-Chairs stand on the Capitol steps at the 2015 Lansing Jaycees Easter Egg Hunt on the Capitol Lawn.

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Culver's came out, however we fortunately and unfortunately missed having Sparty this year, as he was in Indianapolis for the Final Four! Go Green! Crafts, games, and face painting were a huge success, thank you to combined efforts from Lisa Pinkava, Lauren Kenczyk, Amy Simon, and Trina Van Schyndel.

At 11 a.m. Tim Barron, our emcee, conducted a



Lauren Kenczyk & Michael Leeds help with bubbles



Jenni Riehle & Elizabeth Ryerson help with Surveys



Amy Simon hands out event agendas

Left: Lisa Pinkava paints faces : Right: Colleen Burton and Angela Clock sell raffle tickets



countdown assisted by the Lansing Fire Department's siren letting all the kids know to race out to the eggs. The 5-12 age group was a little premature in racing out to the eggs, as they were already in the hunt area on 'five...four.... three....'. All the eggs were gone in what seemed in seconds. It is amazing how quick the egg hunt actually happens. The Golden Egg prizes distributed, totaling 8, were a huge hit, and all the kids really appreciated the extra winnings. Raffle prizes were sponsored entirely from local businesses, and were also a great success as they brought in \$900 in funds to help with the costs of this project.

At 11 a.m., our emcee, Tim Barron conducted a countdown assisted by the Lansing Fire Department's siren letting all the kids know to race out to Everything came together perfectly, and was a success! Weather was even on our side, despite being a little chilly, we did not experience any April show-ers. WLNS,

ers. WLNS, and the Lansing State Journal all came out to the event and interviewed project chairs and board members as well. We had a number of volunteers that came out including Jaycees, friends of the members, Kalamazoo Jaycees, the Lansing Derby Vixens, and general members of the public that also like to help with the event. Thank you to the many people involved with this event, as it is our group as a whole that pulls off such a great Easter Egg Hunt each year!

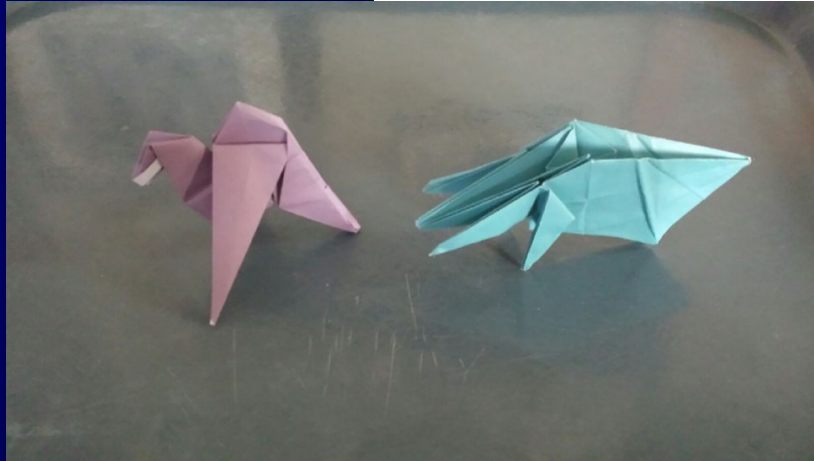
—Danielle Wellington, Easter Egg Hunt Co-Chair, Board of Directors, Community



Michael Leeds- President's Report

Insofar as most people know how to do origami, their skills likely begin and end with a paper crane. Obviously, there is more to the art than that. I know a few more models than most but I am always amazed when I see the work of the pros. If you can imagine it, someone has found a way to make it out of a single sheet of paper without cutting or gluing.

Origami is an art about possibilities arising for the simplest of items. Skill is important but imagination plays a vital role as well. But like any skill, especially artistic skill, the more complex models may still be beyond abilities of most. Rather than being discouraged by this fact I have found it is uplifting. Origami is an art based



on limitations. Limitations of the paper and limitations of the folder.

Sometimes fewer folds lead to a more beautiful possibility. I saw a documentary about origami a few years ago (yes, there really is such



a thing) and

a highly skilled folder was called out by a student and asked "sure, you can do a lot with many folds but how much can you do with just one?" At which point he produced a simple single fold model with elegant lines and

complex geometry.

Beauty can be found in the simple and the complex and we all have something beautiful in us waiting for a way to express itself. In any case, here's a camel and a failed elephant!

Pet Photos with the Easter Bunny

Pet Photos with the Easter Bunny had another successful year. Lauren Leeds and Lauren Kenczyk chaired the event with many volunteers helping out through the two day event.

This year's event took place on Saturday March 21 at Preuss Pets in Oldtown and on Sunday, March 22 at Soldan's Pet Supplies on Saginaw.

This year, the event helped raise money and donations for the Animal Placement Bureau and the Ingham County Animal Control. This year's event raised \$540 in cash and another \$75 worth of items from the organizations wish lists. Way to go!

For more pictures, visit the Lansing Jaycees Facebook Page.



Vice President's Report



Hi everyone! I can't believe it's spring 2015 already. I'm your Lansing Jaycees Programming Vice President this year, which means I work with your entire board of directors on planning, managing, and documenting our events. Even as a seasoned

board member, I'm partially intimidated, but mostly excited. My favorite part about being a Jaycee is the feeling of coming together for a common cause and giving back. We've got a great group of go-getters on our board and among our general members this year. I can't wait to work with you all!

Remember, this chapter is what we all make of it. It's cliché, but it's true. Any interest you have could be an

event. Any cause you want to assist could be a cause for our chapter. The board is here to serve YOU, so don't be shy with your ideas! We can provide you a process to make those ideas a reality. Whether you're planning a new event or helping with a recurring one, you'll be surprised how quick and easy it is to get involved. Our chapter has a long history and has process, knowledge, motivation, contacts, and even funds to make a lot happen. So, make the most of your membership. Bring your ideas forward, come to a committee meeting, hang out at a happy hour or GMM, RSVP to events, observe your board in action at a board meeting, or whatever. We'll help you become even more of a leader than you knew possible. Trust me, I often look back and wonder how I've managed to accomplish what I have in the Lansing area and I have the Jaycees to thank for all of that. You can, too! — Eric Richmond

Secretary's Report



March 20th marked the first day of spring. I'm not going to lie, after this winter I felt like this day should have been a national holiday. I love spring! Every day is a new adventure in nature with

flowers blooming, birds singing and the temperatures rising. Maybe it was the change in seasons that has me thinking about butterflies. Specifically, the butterfly effect. This is the idea that something small, like fluttering of butterfly wings can create something larger, like a hurricane.

I was watching CBS Sunday Morning a few weeks ago and they had a great [story about this](#). I think this is a good reminder to do something even if it seems small because

you never know the reaction. I challenge all of you to think of a cause that you feel strongly about. It could be improving animal welfare, child wellness, environmental, or any number of items; take a pledge to do something positive to make an improvement. The something could be small like sending an email to a group to educate them, paying an act of kindness forward, or making a donation.

Either way, we need to see more movement in our community and the Jaycees can help with that. If you want to educate a group send a newsletter article to Jenni Riehle. If you want to raise funds, work with Danielle Wellington to start a fundraising project. If you want to get your hands dirty plan a community garden and get us involved. Your ideas are the catalyst for our group! Let's see where it will take us!

— Angela Fossi

Member Birthdays

Tracy Prush	04-01	Shantana Goerge	04-14	Jake Bourdon	05-09
Laura de la Rambelje	04-02	Trina Van Schyndel	04-18	Samantha Keeney	05-11
Andy Drier	04-08	Ashley Orel	04-18	Adrienna Woodward	05-17
Andrew Hoard	04-09	Swanson, Jacqueline	04-26	Katie Koerner	05-26
Jamie Sheppard	04-11	Michael Leeds	05-07	Michael Castelein	05-28
				Michelle Meriwether	05-28

Why I Joined the Jaycees

I had been working at my job for around a year and a half, before an email came circulating around; this email was requesting people to attend a meeting with the idea of possibly joining a club that I had never heard of. I had asked around and learned it was a civil service organization; which was probably the first reason I joined. I had joined because, I know in the future, for my graduate or professional schools, I would need documented volunteer hours. So initially it was pure selfish self-interest. However, it seemed every week, motivations seemed to change. After the first meeting, before I joined, we became acquainted with all of the things the local and national chapters had done. We also learned of all the great people who had been members. I felt then it'd be a good idea to join, so as to have a way to follow in their footsteps and share in their success. It changed once more after I'd joined and attended my first couple meetings. The friendly atmosphere motivated me to stick around to help my new-found friends get things done. Now, I know not, if the reason why I joined evolved from one to the next; or coalesced and became a blend of all of the aforementioned. What's more clear, is that I'm hopeful for the future and excited to plan and help out with whatever events we undertake next. — Collin Fitzgerald, New Member



Michael Leeds, Lansing Jaycees President, swears in Collin Fitzgerald at the March General Membership Meeting



100 years and the best is yet to come!

It all started with one person and a dance club over 100 years ago. After a few years as a member it's hard to think the beginnings of what is now JCI have been working to empower young people to create positive change for a century. In the past 4 months we have successfully held two impactful community events and I am proud of what we can accomplish as a group. When focusing in on my goals for joining the Board this year I have looked to the history of our organization for inspiration. A mailer I received from JCI prompted me to read about both the international and Lansing organizations history. In my research, I stumbled on a wonderful idea called JCI Impact 100 Project that I would like to share with you. It's an initiative for chapters using JCI Active Citizen Framework to conduct a project that either involves 100 citizens or results in solutions to the needs of 100 citizens in our community. Take this opportunity to read more about the global initiative and start brainstorming ideas at www.jci.cc/100years/impact100. I'm excited to work with all of you to impact our community for the rest of the year. Look for an event invitation to get started with the Impact 100 project later this month!

Yours in service,

Ryan Kiernicki, Board of Directors, Development



Michigan Historical Museum Adventure



The Michigan Historical Museum, located in downtown Lansing, offers a different way to see our state's background. It actually documents the history of the land that became our state, not just the more 'recent' history. I like walking into the building as there is a large mosaic and map of the state set in the middle of the building, that can be viewed from inside but is an outdoor feature.

Some of the exhibits include Lumbering, Settlement, the Upper Peninsula, the 1957 Detroit Auto Show, and the Great Depression. The Civil War is an area that also documents Michigan's important role in the Underground Railroad, which I recall fascinated me in elementary school. And who doesn't love seeing the iconic taillights and wings of the 1950's automobiles?

While many of us went to places like the museum in our youth, we haven't as adults, and they offer unique insights as we mature. The chapter will be visiting the Michigan Historical Museum on April 19. Jenni Riehle, the project chair, has thoughtfully picked a Sunday, as Sundays have free admission. Feel free to bring friends and family, including children, to this event. — Colleen Burton, Executive Vice President and Membership

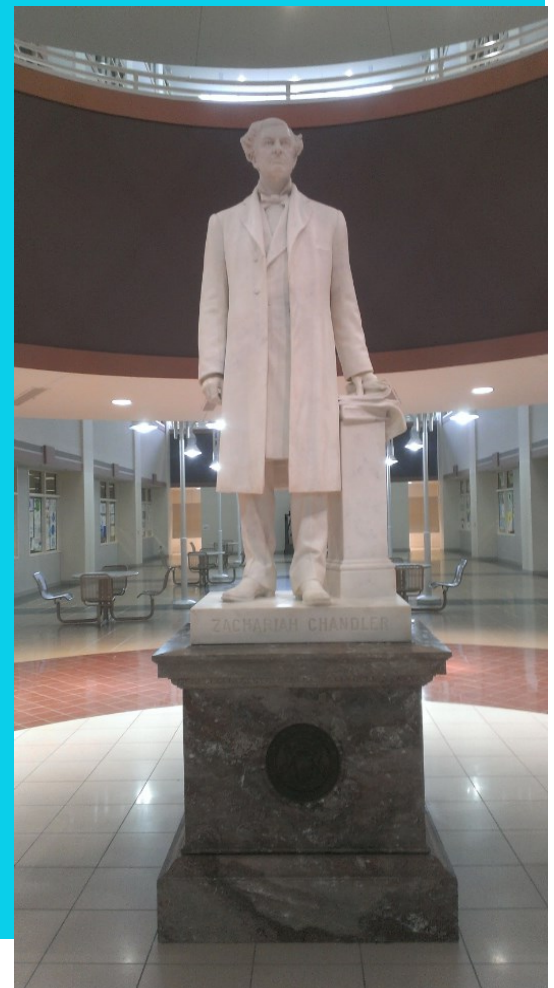
Who is Zachariah Chandler?



Life can sometimes seem like it is spinning out of control. We are constantly being bombarded with media, meetings, and life events that make the days and weeks seem to fly by. I think as Jaycees we may be especially prone to a fast-paced life style as we pack our schedules full of positive action. I want to challenge you however, to try and take a small moment every day to notice something that you may have not before. Be curious about the things that surround you.

For example, I had walked past this statue on the ground floor of my work hundreds of times and I never took two seconds to even read the name on the plaque, until one day, I did. This beautiful work of art is of Zachariah Chandler, former Mayor of Detroit, U. S. Senator, and 12th Secretary of the Interior under Ulysses S. Grant. He was an Underground Railroad supporter during the Civil War and a lifelong abolitionist. He also worked diligently in support of Native American tribes. His life and how it has shaped this state and the nation is something I don't believe should be ignored, although I was guilty of just that every time I passed by. I find his story captivating and his work inspiring and I am left wondering, what other of histories secrets are in plain sight?

The generations that came before us left so many amazing stories, and amazing stories that they chose to commemorate in various ways. It is away for them to speak to us from the past, to share their views, values, and to inspire leaders of the future. As I discover more gems, I hope to share them with all of you. I also look forward to hearing what you might discover once you take a second look. — Jenni Riehle, Board of Directors, Communications



Spring Cleaning—Helpful Tips

When you look outside you might still see remnants of snow on the ground, but don't be discouraged! Spring has officially arrived and the thaw is here to stay. The long, chilling winter kept us restlessly huddled indoors, but now the sun and warm weather pull us outside and inspires us to be active. Getting outdoors – and staying there for more than five minutes – is a freedom I very much missed, and I assume many of you would say the same. For homeowners this newfound freedom also comes with a degree of responsibility, all those projects you put off during the winter need to get taken care of so you can enjoy your summer! To help with that I've put together a few homeowner tips that I hope will help make your summer worry free. Let's take it from the top!



Inspect your roof: A lot can go wrong over the course of just one winter. Keep an eye out for curling shingles and mold growth, both are indicators that your roof needs some attention. A leaky roof can lead to a wide variety of issues, so it's something you need to always keep an eye one.

Check your gutters: Along with the roof, the gutters can take a beating. Especially here in Michigan, where we typically have a lot of freeze/thaw occurring. Make sure they are free of debris and flush to your roof so nothing is getting in behind them.

Don't forget the attic: Be sure to double check insulation and keep an eye out for leaks in your roof. If you find a leak in the attic that hasn't spread to the rest of the house you'll be glad you did!

Inspect your windows: You can finally remove those storm windows and replace them with screens to offer better airflow during the summer months. If you have an A/C unit be sure the exterior of the windows still have a solid seal around them, you don't want any cool air escaping!

Don't forget the sump pump: With intense spring rain comes a heightened risk for basement flooding, which is the number one homeowner's claim in Michigan. Make sure yours is in good working condition and think about installing a battery-powered back up. You might spend a little now, but it could potentially save you hundreds in clean up.

I hope you find some of those helpful, now go get outdoors and enjoy all the adventures our great state has to offer!

—Alex Nelson, Board of Directors, Membership

2015 Camping Trip!

I know that with snow showers in the end of March, August may seem like it is still a long way off. But it is closer than you think, and it is time for us to start talking about the Lansing Jaycees Annual Camping Trip!

This year the camping trip will be August 7th – August 9th. We are tentatively planning to go to the KOA Campground in Oscoda, MI. This campground offers a ton of fun activities on site, including a jumping pillow, video arcade and some of the best bathroom and shower facilities I have ever seen at a campground. Also, this campground is located just a few minutes from the Oscoda Beach Park on Lake Huron. This park has 1,025 feet of sandy beach, a basketball court, skateboard park and playground equipment. There are also places to rent a canoe or kayak if anybody is interested in taking a trip down the Au Sable River.

I am currently in the process of gathering information and confirming costs with the campground so those details will be shared as soon as they are available. For now, I can tell you that the base rate will be somewhere around \$30 per night for a tent site. That will cover 2 adults and 2 children up to 17 years old (children 12 and under camp for free), one tent and one vehicle. Up to 8 people can stay on a site, but there will be an additional fee for more than 2 adults or 2 children.

If you are interested in attending feel free to contact me at anytime with questions, and keep your eyes peeled for an official invite through the chapter's evite system.

—Charlie Root; Chair of the Board



Upcoming Events

Event	Date	Time	Contact
Get to Know Your Marvel Cinema Universe: Iron Man 3 **THIS EVENT IS NOW APRIL 10, RESCHEDULED FROM MARCH 28** more info...	04/10/15	07:00 PM - 09:30 PM EST	Jason Larsen
Get to Know Your Marvel Cinema Universe: Thor 2: The Dark World more info...	04/11/15	4:00 PM—6:30 PM EST	Jason Larsen
Board of Directors Meeting Join the Lansing Jaycees Board of Directors for its monthly meeting. more info...	04/16/15	06:00 PM - 08:30 PM EST	Michael P Leeds
Get to Know Your Marvel Cinema Universe: Captain America: The Winter Soldier more info...	04/18/15		Jason Larsen
Michigan Historical Museum Adventure Please join us as we take an adventure to the Michigan Historical Museum to learn about Michigan History and some of Michigan's great leaders of the past. more info...	04/19/15	02:00 PM - 05:00 PM EST	Jenni Riehle
Get to Know Your Marvel Cinema Universe: Guardians of the Galaxy more info...	04/24/15		Jason Larsen
April 26-29 Texas Hold Em Volunteer for our biggest money making fundraiser of the year. Sign-Up on VolunteerSpot: http://vols.pt/9V9NBX more info...	4/26/15 4/27/15 4/28/15 4/29/15		Ryan Kiernicki
Get to Know Your Marvel Cinema Universe: The Avengers 2: Age of Ultron (in theaters) Date/Time TBD. May take place May 1, 2, or 3. more info...	05/01/15		Jason Larsen

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 Facebook: Shantana Goerge

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: jen-nifer.margaret.anderson@gmail.com Website: www.clearingblocksediting.com

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 Website: www.RobertDowding.com Blog:

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Member: Alexander Nelson

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Michigan's Insurance Company



Want to see your business featured? Contact Jenni Riehle at: JenniRiehle@gmail.com

About US

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 networking between 6 p.m. and 7 p.m. Visit our website, www.lansingjaycees.org for more information.



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!

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