

Capitol Correspondent



The Monthly Newsletter of the Lansing Junior Chamber of Commerce • June 2004

Lansing Jaycees
PO Box 16150
Lansing, MI 48901

(517) 853-8620
www.lansingjaycees.org

Region D
Population Division 7
Base Membership: 79



2004 Board of Directors

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Sara Ballard	(517) 388-1220
<i>Chair of the Board</i>	
Amy Miller	(517) 699-0048
<i>Treasurer</i>	
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<i>Membership Development VP</i>	
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<i>Community Development VP</i>	
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<i>Individual Development VP</i>	
Matt Wiitala	(517) 482-4615
<i>Management Development VP</i>	
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<i>Membership Development Director</i>	
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<i>Community Development Director</i>	
Rachel Pavlik	(517) 337-2007
<i>Individual Development Director</i>	
Sheryl Soczek	(517) 664-1650
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Mike Flaminio	(517) 980-6453

The Lansing Jaycees is an organization of people ages 21-39 which promotes leadership training through community service.

We meet the first Tuesday of each month at 6 pm at Tripper's Restaurant in Frandor, Lansing. Visit our website for a map to the meeting location or call us at (517) 853-8620.



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Volunteering Levels Take a Drastic Dip in Michigan...

According to a study done in 2003 by the Michigan Non-Profit Association. In 2002, one-third (33.5%) of Michigan residents volunteered, a drop of 16 points compared with 2001 levels of 50%. Volunteer levels of individuals between the ages of 25 and 39 years decreased significantly. In 2002, **volunteering by 25 to 39 year olds dropped over 40%** from 2001.

The Jaycees have identified this as a significant problem and our chapter has offered a solution by sponsoring and organizing the event Be A Volunteer in Your Own Town in conjunction with the Volunteer Center of Mid-Michigan.

Be A Volunteer in Your Own Town is a great way to introduce people to the world of volunteering. In one short Saturday morning you can experience a smorgasbord of volunteer opportunities. There are three tracks: PEOPLE TO PEOPLE for those who like to utilize their social skills and interact; HANDS ON for those that like to get a bit dirty and work with their hands; and PASS IT ON (Mentoring) for those who want to use their professional skills and knowledge to help out non-profits and members of the community.

9:00 AM - 1:00 PM HAWK ISALND PARK

9:00 AM- Welcome to the World of Volunteering in the Lansing Area. Find out where you can go on the web and other resources to find volunteer opportunities that fit your interests and your time schedule. You'll also be introduced to one-time event opportunities like Silver Bells in the City and Common Ground.

10:00- 12:00 The Volunteer EXEPERIECE

You'll be given maps to 3 different locations depending on what track you signed up for. You'll be asked to jump right in to help out at these various locations and experience the many types of volunteering.

12:00- 1:00 PM Volunteer Lunch and Social

Not only does volunteering make you feel good but it also is a great way to meet people in your community. You'll have a chance to meet and mingle with various volunteer agencies and fellow volunteer while we feast on a picnic lunch in the park.

Why do people volunteer? According to the same study mentioned above, the number one reason people volunteered was because they were asked by friends and family. **So ASK YOUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY** to come out on June 19th so that they can get a feel for what volunteering is all about. With our help, by this time next year, those study results will be drastically different.

REGISTER for Be A Volunteer in Your Own Town TODAY at <http://www.lansingjaycees.org>

Sara Ballard, 76th President, Lansing Jaycees

What are the benefits of volunteering?

Volunteers give freely of their time and expertise in order to make a difference. Volunteering can help you:

- Make important networking contacts
- Learn or develop skills
- Gain work experience
- Build self-esteem and self-confidence
- Improve health
- Help you meet new people
- Feel needed and valued
- Make a difference in someone's life
- Express gratitude for help you may have received in the past from an organization

Whether it is important to you to solve a community problem, advance a worthy cause, or to develop as a person, volunteering offers many benefits in appreciation of the gift of your time and expertise.

The Lansing Jaycees were able to make a big impact on the Grand Ball at Ingham County Medical Care Facility on May 13th. The residents of the skilled nursing facility enjoyed wearing corsages made and donated by the Lansing Jaycees, and especially enjoyed the interaction with the Jaycees who were taking pictures and serving food to the residents. Jaycees in attendance were Jamie Prevo, Kim Doughty, Tierany Myers, Sara Ballard, and Rachel Pavlik. Special thanks to Kim Doughty for donating Mary Kay makeup for the residents!



Lansing Jaycees bring smiles to the faces of residents of the Ingham County Medical Care Facility.

Community Development opportunities for June will begin with the Child and Family Services 5K run/walk to raise funds for the Angel House project. The race will be held on June 12th at Riverfront Park. Jaycees are needed as race volunteers to pass out water, point people in the right direction, etc. Sheila Wiitala can be contacted at (517) 482-4615 for more information on this event.



The second opportunity to help in the community during the month of June will be at the Ronald McDonald House' 5th Anniversary 5K event. This is an event to again continue a positive relationship with the Ronald McDonald house and our organization. Volunteers are needed to help with face painting. Please contact Sheila Wiitala for more information.

Do you find yourself watching home improvement shows on Saturdays, wanting to decorate or fix up a room in your house? If so, there is a perfect opportunity for you to chair an event in June or July. Jaycee Parks in Holt and Grand Ledge need some sprucing up. You can help them look their best in their communities by helping to paint and pick them up.

The Adopt-A-Highway project is another place that the Lansing Jaycees are involved. This event runs three times a year and is an opportunity for us to make the stretch of highway bearing the Jaycees name litter free.

Any help with these events will be greatly appreciated. If you have never chaired an event, the VP or Director of Community Development will be happy to help you or to co-chair the event with you.

Looking forward to a productive June,

Rachel Pavlik, Community Development Director
Sheila Wiitala, Community Development VP



CHILDREN'S SHOPPING SPREE...



IT'S COMING AUGUST 7th! Remember all that money we raised at the Bowl-A-Thon? Get ready to help spend it! We'll be taking 50 underprivileged children shopping for new school clothes and supplies, and to do that we need LOTS OF VOLUNTEERS!! If you'd like to get involved, please contact Angela Backus at angela.backus@ahpplc.com or 980-3759.

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***

Individual Development

After the Wine Weekend in Traverse City and Be a Hit at BAMM, Individual Development finished out the month of April with Paint Your Own Pottery, which was held at Playing Picasso at Frandor Mall on Thursday, April 29th. The event gave individuals the opportunity to paint pieces such as soap dispensers, bowls and serving trays. Some of these were on display at the May GMM. A big thank you to **Kathleen Hausbeck-Miller** for chairing this event and the following attendees for making the event a great success: **Necole Steron** (a guest from the **Howell Jaycees**), **Karen Brown**, **Amy Miller**, **Marisa Burien-Fitzgerald**, **Kim Doughty**, and **Laura Vieth**.

Coming up is the **Whitewater River Rafting Adventure** in **Lansing, West Virginia, May 28th-31st**. Chaired by **Jill Klinger**, we look forward to finding out what adventures participants have from this Memorial Weekend camping and rafting extravaganza. If participants have any questions before leaving, please contact Jill at 282-3877 or klingejk@pps.k12.mi.us.

In June, Individual Development is offering a **CPR Certification Class** that covers Adults/Children/Infants. The event will be held at Tutor Time at 2273 Club Meridian Drive in Okemos on Thursday, June 17th at 6:30 pm. **Sheila Wiitala**, a certified Red Cross instructor, will be facilitating the class. This class is for both individuals who need to be re-certified and those who are being certified for the first time. The cost to register for the class is only \$5.00. For more information, please contact Sheila at 482-4615 or shmwitala@sbcglobal.net.

The **Summer Circle Theatre** is coming back to MSU in June and the Jaycees will be in attendance on three Thursdays in June. Bring a picnic basket, some insect repellent, and rain clothes (shows are performed outdoors – rain or shine!). For more information on this event, please contact **Karen Brown** at 336-1217 or brownks@michigan.gov.

Finally in June, as a precursor to the Annual Camping Trip in July, we will be having a **Camping Cooking Class** at Fenner Nature Center at 2020 E. Mount Hope in Lansing on Monday, June 21st, starting at 6:00 pm. We have reserved one of the fire pits for our class. We ask that participants contribute “ingredients” for the class (a list will be at the June GMM and part of an upcoming E-Vite). We are looking to prepare some dishes beyond hot dogs, hamburgers, and marshmallows and even some variations on old favorites. For more information, please contact **Matt Wiitala** at 482-4615, mtwiitala@hotmail.com.

Finally, in July, the Jaycees will be heading to **Orchard Beach State Park** for the Annual Camping Trip from July 23rd-25th. This has been a wonderful part of the Lansing Jaycees history. The cost is approximately \$20/person (\$40/couples and families). For more information, please contact **Andy Miller** at 484-1892 or acmill@comcast.net or **Kathleen Hausbeck-Miller** at 484-1892 or kmhausbeck@comcast.net.

Sheryl Soczek, Individual Development Director
Matt Wiitala, Individual Development VP

Celebrate Michigan Jaycee Week June 19th-26th



June 19th - Be A Volunteer in Your Own Town. Hawk Island - 9 AM to 1 PM

June 21st - Camping Cooking Class; 6:00 PM; Fenner Nature Center

June 25th - Summer Pub Crawl/Traveling Euchre Tournament



Membership Development

We found out our newest member, **Matt Cannata**, is an awesome whistler when we were playing Cranium at **Jimi Carolan's** house for Happy Hour & Game Night. In attendance at Happy Hour & Game Night on May 14th were **Sara Ballard, Marisa Burian-Fitzgerald, Matt Cannata, Jimi Carolan, Kim Doughty, Mike Flaminio, and Tierany Myers.**

June is a busy month for Membership. The first thing we have coming up is "Be a Tourist in Your Own Town" on June 5th. The Lansing Jaycees will have a booth at the event, and members will be having a great time visiting some places in the Lansing area. We will meet at 10AM at the Lansing Jaycees booth in the gazebo at the Lansing Center. The cost of a passport is \$1. Passports can be purchased at the Lansing Mall or Meridian Mall, or they can be purchased at information stations on June 5th. The passport will provide access to many Lansing area attractions, such as Andy T's Farms, Kresge Art Museum, Nokomis Learning Center, Potter Park Zoo, and Turner Dodge House and Park.

A new Member Orientation will be held June 8th at 7:00PM at the Michigan Jaycees Service Center. If you joined the Lansing Jaycees during the past three months, this is an excellent way to become more familiar with what we do as Lansing Jaycees, and how to help make things happen. Immediately following New Member Orientation, we will be having a Membership Committee meeting. The anticipated start time is 8:30PM, June 8th, at the Michigan Jaycees Service Center.

On June 11th the 2004 Chili Cook Off will take place along the Lansing Center Boardwalk and Rivertrail. We plan to meet at 5:30PM at the Nuthouse. The chili Cookoff takes place from 5-9PM. The cost is \$5 for all the chili you can wait in line to sample.

Mobile Euchre Night/Happy Hour will start off at Crunchy's in East Lansing on June 25th. Please contact **Dave Akens**, drakens1@netzero.net, or **Mike Keeney**, michael.keeney@abnamro.com for more information. There will be information provided in the Jaycee Juice regarding this activity also.

Membership Information Night will be held June 29th at 7:00 PM at Tripper's. Please invite some potential members and come share your experiences with some prospective members.

For the upcoming months...July 16th we will be headed to Funtime East in Okemos. The meeting time is 7:00PM. August 13th is Happy Hour at 6:00PM at Sammy's. August 27th we are planning to board the Michigan Princess for a Retro/Disco Cruise. The cruise begins at 9:00PM and lasts until midnight. The cost is \$15.

We will be holding another drawing at the GMM on June 1st. Last month's prize, a \$20 gift certificate to Grand Traverse Pie, and the previous months \$20 gift certificate to Tripper's/Comedy Zone will all be included with another gift this month. Our winner, **Mona Buchanan**, was not in attendance at the May GMM. Every Lansing Jaycee is entered in the drawing, but you must be present to win.

Travis Pasma won the \$20 off membership dues certificate for being a guest at the Membership Information Night in April.

Thank you to everyone that signed up to be a mentor to our newest members. If anyone else is interested, please sign up online, or contact Jimi or Pat.

Address, phone number, or email changed? Keep it up to date on the Jaycees website, www.lansingjaycees.org.

Pay dues the easy way...PayPal through the Jaycees website.

Jimi Carolan, Membership Development VP

Pat O'Dell, Membership Development Director

WHO WANTS TO BE A MILLIONAIRE?

If you do, don't miss the June 1 GMM. The "Who Wants to Be a Millionaire" game show format will be used to share some important information about the current job market. What is the employment outlook? Which companies are the best to work for? Have FUN while you learn! Our own Teri Bruning (Community Services Specialist at the Capital Area Michigan Works! Service Center) will help us understand these questions and more.

2004 Chili Cook-off

Get out in the summer heat and spice up your evening at the annual fund-raiser for the Adopt-a-River project and the H.O.P.E. Scholarship fund on June 11th. The event runs from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. along the Lansing Center boardwalk and River Trail all the way to the City Market, and features several area businesses competing for awards. It's just \$5 for all the chili you can wait in line to sample. There also will be live music and cash bars. If it rains, the event moves into the Lansing Center. For more info, call 267-9800.

Member/Chairperson of the Month

March

Member of the Month

Tom Barger has stepped up to the plate since becoming a member two short months ago! Since his initiation into the Jaycees, Tom has become the Lansing Jaycee's Legal Council, raised over \$350.00 for the Children's Shopping Spree, and offered to help find sponsorships for the Haunted House. Congratulations Tom, and thank you for deciding to be a Jaycee!

Chairperson of the Month

Patrick Brazil helped the Jaycees splash around with a lesson in Scuba Diving! This new addition to the Individual Development Area was a hit with our membership and it was fun to visit the Meridian Area Business Expo all at the same time. Thank you Patrick for the innovative project and we look forward to blowing some more bubbles!



April

Member of the Month

Sometimes the work of a Jaycee is not always in the limelight. There is a lot of behind the scenes work that goes on to keep our organization filled with projects and to keep our name in the public eye. April's Jaycee of the Month, **Patrick Talty**, has provided the Jaycees with a variety of volunteer, publicity, and recruitment opportunities, including free tickets to the Lugnuts game! With a busy home life with a wife a 3 kids, Patrick was still able to help out with the Easter Egg Hunt this month. Thank you Patrick!

Chairperson of the Month

For her ability to step outside of her box and stretch the limits of the WKAR Auction, April's Chairperson of the Month is **Teri Bruning**. With the help of her committee, Teri helped gather close to 50 Jaycees from across the state to answer the phones at the WKAR Auction. Thanks Teri for your hard work in making the Jaycees visible across the air waves and providing lots of fun on a Friday night!

Happy Birthday!!

Pat O'Dell

Kim Doughty

Jennifer Rappin

Steve Popp

Sheri Williams

Mike Flaminio

Chris Vieth

Karen Brown

Membership Anniversaries

Kelly Armbrustmacher
2001

Patrick Brazil
2003

Mona Buchanan
2003

Jimi Carolan
2003

Daniel Harris
2003

Tierany Myers
2003

Jason Whiting
2002

Sheri Williams
2003



Summer Circle Theater Begins!



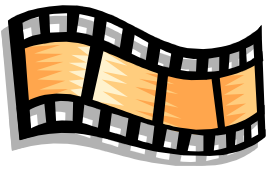
On Wednesday, June 9th, MSU's Summer Circle Theater begins with 'The Fire Bug', a satire by Max Frisch. It's onstage on the banks of the Red Cedar River behind the MSU auditorium at 8PM June 9th-12th. It's free, but donations are accepted. For more info, call 355-6690

Let Your Voice Be Heard!!

Send your articles about upcoming or recent events, music or movie reviews, or anything else you want to share to Jamie Wilmoth at jamie.wilmoth@ahppplc.com.

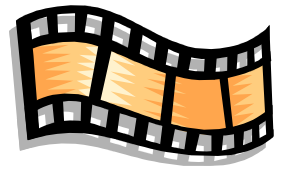
Articles are due by the 20th of each month. Let's continue to make the newsletter **your** newsletter!





Movie Review

Laws of Attraction



By Matt Wiitala

I knew I was in trouble while watching *Laws of Attraction*, starring Pierce Brosnan and Julianne Moore, when I was looking at the screen thinking of ideas of how to improve the story. *Laws* is another in a recent string of romantic comedies that feature two people who should be together from the get-go but, throughout the story, find inane ways to be apart. Hey, I enjoy a good romantic comedy and goodness knows they're one of the most reliably predictable film genres. I have nothing against a film I've seen before in some other form just as long as it's done well.

Alas, *Laws* is not done well. The story begins with Audrey Woods (Moore), considered one of the finest divorce attorneys in New York City. She is surprised to find one day that her opposing counsel has been fired and replaced with Daniel Rafferty (Brosnan) who, the first time she sees him, is asleep in his chair in the courtroom. She quickly takes this as a sign that he's a lightweight. In fact, as it turns out, they are both so good that neither has lost a case.

Even before Audrey realizes it, Daniel has her in bed. She then spends nearly the rest of the film convincing herself he is all wrong for her. Daniel takes a different track and starts to develop feelings for her. This is one of the places the film goes wrong as there is no good reason they shouldn't be together – neither character is malicious towards the other or cheating but the story keeps putting up roadblocks.

After thrashing each other in court several times, both come upon the case of Serena, a clothes designer, and her punk rock star husband, Thorne Jamison (a name only a screenwriter could come up with). Serena and Thorne are content to divorce provided each gets to keep their beloved Irish castle. Off Audrey and Daniel fly to Ireland to interview staff to see if Serena or Thorne has true claim to the castle. While attending a local village festival (aptly described as a “three day booze-up”), Audrey and Daniel find themselves yet again in bed but with wedding rings on their fingers.

Audrey is horrified at this prospect but Daniel is not - he even arranges to move into her apartment to make the marriage look good. Standing by, bemused, is Audrey's mother, Sara (Frances Fisher). Daniel continues to press the matter of his feelings while Audrey continually rebuffs him.

The ending of *Laws of Attraction* is no surprise. Getting there, though, is a slog. The film makes two critical missteps. The first is that the film could have spent most of it's time in Ireland and introduced us to some eccentric characters (it does but it spends so little time there that you hardly notice it), sort of in the same way of *Waking Ned Devine* (1999) or *The Matchmaker* (1997). It hardly seems worth the effort to set part of the film in Ireland without enjoying the locale. Second, *Laws* introduces some dramatic moments that, while good, seem too dramatic for a light comedy.





I never really laughed during *Laws of Attraction* (to be fair, my wife enjoyed it). I smiled some and I enjoyed Pierce Brosnan's seedy Daniel Rafferty (a nice change of pace from James Bond), with his shaggy hair and overall unkempt appearance. Moore is good but her character isn't interesting and she doesn't have great chemistry with Brosnan. They are two good actors once again done a disservice by a screenplay containing too many unnecessary elements.

Rating: ** (C-), 90 minutes, PG-13

Looking for Ways to Get Involved??

- **Voice your opinion!** Check out the new polls on the website every month and place your vote.
- Come to the **Lansing Jaycee Foundation Meeting** on Thursday, June 3rd from 6 PM to 8 PM at the Michigan Jaycee Service Center. Items on this meeting's agenda...review of Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation, recruitment of board members, and fundraising options. Please RSVP to saraballard@comcast.net as location may change to a local watering hole.
- Join us at the **"Down by the River Chili Cook Off"** on June 11th 2004. This event is being sponsored by the Lansing Board of Water and Light. Proceeds go to support the Adopt A River program and the Hope Scholarship. If you would like to find out more information the event and how you can be involved, please visit www.lbwl.com or call the ICD at (517) 676-2290.
- Help plan projects for the **Business Opportunities Commission**, which exposes members to businesses in the area, business networking, and business skills. If you're interested, please contact Sara Ballard at saraballard@comcast.net.

Lansing Jaycees Calendar ~ June/July 2004

		1 General Membership Meeting 6 PM Tripper's	2	3	4 	5 - Be a Tourist in Your Own Town - Jaycees Park Cleanup	<p><u>General Membership Meeting</u> June 1st Tripper's in Frandor Dinner at 6 PM Meeting at 7 PM Who Wants to be a Millionaire at 8 PM Contact: Sara Ballard (517) 388-1220</p> <p><u>Be a Tourist in Your Own Town</u> June 5th 10 AM – 5 PM Come discover (or rediscover) Michigan's capital city. Contact: Jimi Carolan (517) 622-0524</p> <p><u>CPR Certification</u> June 17th 6:30 PM Tutor Time in Okemos Adult, Child, and Infant CPR certification and recertification offered – see pg. 9 for more info. Contact: Sheila Wiitala (517) 482-4615</p> <p><u>Be a Volunteer in Your Own Town</u> June 19th 9 AM – 1PM Think you know all there is to know about volunteering? Join us and find out. Contact: Sara Ballard (517) 388-1220</p> <p><u>Camping Cookout Class</u> June 21st 6 PM Fenner Nature Center Come learn how make more than just hot dogs and s'mores at a campfire! Contact: Matt Wiitala (517) 482-4615</p>
	June						
6	7	8 New Member Orientation	9	10	11 - Happy Hour - Chili Cook off	12 Child & Family Services 5k Run/Walk	
13	14	15	16	17 CPR Certification 	18	19 - Michigan Jaycees Week - Be a Volunteer in Your Own Town	
20 - July Newsletter Articles Due - Michigan Jaycees Week	21 Camping Cookout Class	22 	23	24	25 Mobile Euchre Night/Happy Hour	26	
27	28	29 Membership Information Night	30	1  July	2	3 Fireworks in Delta Township	
4 	5 Common Ground	6 - GMM - Picnic in the Park	7	8	9	10	
11 - Common Ground - Jaycee Golf Tourn.	12	13	14 Christmas in July 	15	16 Jaycee Night Out-Funtime	17	
18	19	20 August Newsletter Articles Due	21	22 	23 Camping Trip	24	
25 Camping Trip	26	27	28	29	30	31	



CPR CERTIFICATION

INFANT/CHILD/ADULT CPR

THURSDAY, JUNE 17 6:30 P.M.

The Lansing Jaycees will be sponsoring an Infant/Child/Adult CPR Certification Class instructed by our very own Sheila Wiitala. This three- hour class is for both individuals who need to be re-certified or would like to be certified for the first time.

Cost: \$5.00 per person

Location: Tutor Time at 2273 Club Meridian Drive in Okemos

The class is limited to the first 20 people so sign up early

