

# Capitol Correspondent



The Monthly Newsletter of the Lansing Junior Chamber | June 2014

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

[www.lansingjaycees.org](http://www.lansingjaycees.org)  
[@LansingJaycees](https://twitter.com/LansingJaycees)  
[Lansing Jaycees](https://www.facebook.com/LansingJaycees)

District 3

## Seen in Action!



**Above left:** Lansing Jaycees volunteer by face painting at the East Lansing Art Festival. **Above right:** Karin and Joy Root smile while catching a horse buggy ride back to Mission Point while visiting Mackinac Island for the May Leadership Conference. **Below:** Management Vice President Carrie Larsen wins best "Breakout Project" for the "Behind the Scenes: Criminal for an Evening" project at the Michigan Jaycees' May Leadership Conference.



## 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, Angela Clock, Abby Kelly, Jill Blust, Sheryl Soczek, Joe Kelly.

### Remember, anyone can be an author!

Please submit your articles, photos, or ideas for future newsletters to Lauren Leeds at [lleans823@gmail.com](mailto:lleans823@gmail.com) by June 16, 2014.

## 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

### Membership VP

Joe Kelly, (616) 617-8037

### Individual Development Directors

Michael P. Leeds, (248) 622-1829

Nick Horstman, (517) 703-4565

### Management VP

Carrie Larsen, (248) 756-3840

### Management Director

Lauren Leeds, (989) 482-1232

### Community Development Director

Angela Clock, (517) 410-9527

### Treasurer

Sheryl Soczek, (517) 862-6376

### Assistant Treasurer

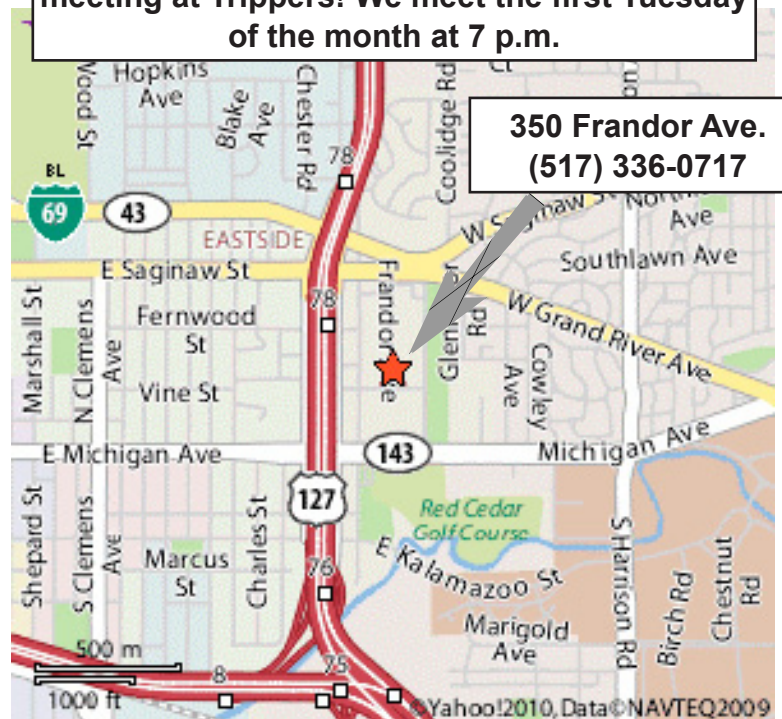
Jeff Straus, (989) 330-1956

### Secretary

Ilona Castelein, (517) 488-2245

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**





# President's Report

## Celebrating the First Trimester

On May 9th several Lansing Jaycees traveled to Mackinac Island to join the Michigan Jaycees as we celebrated our collective success for the first trimester of the year at the May Leadership Conference. This was a very exciting conference with a new format that was a nice break from the normal pace of past conferences. There was some excellent training, and many awards given out, as well as some ghost tours, carriage tours, and a walking pub crawl.

On Friday evening there was all the normal check in/registration stuff going on. But there were also competitions and recognition interviews going on. One of the changes made this year is that in order to get an award for a project or event from the Michigan Jaycees, people need to submit a written form and if their written form is chosen, they need to go through an interview process at the conference. The Michigan Jaycees programming team interviewed every accepted applicant about their event and why it was successful. Our very own Carrie May Larsen participated in this process and thought it was a very exciting new way to handle awards and recognition from the state, but there will be more on that later.



Charlie Root  
President

[croot80@gmail.com](mailto:croot80@gmail.com)

Friday evening also held the opening ceremony that got everybody out of their seats and engaged as we played a sort of zany scavenger hunt concocted by our very own Angela Fossi. Everyone was split up into teams and captains were assigned to each team. The MC would call of an item and the first captain to present that item to the designated recipient got some points. It was a fun new take on the ice breaker and really helped set the pace for the rest of the conference. After the opening ceremony the welcome party and ghost tours began.

We had a business meeting and keynote speaker that began at 9 a.m. on Saturday morning. This was followed by two hours of breakout training sessions.

So far, those of you that have attended conferences in the past might be thinking this doesn't sound all that different from past conferences. But here's where the big change comes in to play. Rather than having attendees travel all that way just to be cooped up in a conference room the entire time, everyone was given the afternoon on Saturday until 8 p.m. to enjoy the island as they saw fit. Some people took a bike ride, or a run, around the island, others did some shopping. I went to the butterfly house with the first family where we bought Joy the cutest set of wearable butterfly wings you'll ever see.

At 8 p.m. we gathered together again for the awards presentation. This is where the top chapters, competitions winners, and other award winners were recognized and presented with their awards. There are all new categories for awards for projects including best long running project (for projects that have been run for more than two years) and best break out project (for projects that have never been run before). And I am very proud to tell you that the Lansing Jaycees were awarded the best break out project award for our Criminal for an Evening with the Michigan State Police. Carrie May Larsen was our chairperson for this project and she was also present for the interview on Friday night. Congratulations Carrie May on a job well done!

After the awards ceremony it was time to let our hair down. There was music and cocktails after the awards and some people spent their time there. Many went on the walking pub crawl to visit the various bars on Mackinac Island, while others remained behind and enjoyed playing cards, dancing, or just spending time laughing with our friends from around the great state of Michigan.

All in all it was a great time, and the new format was refreshing. If you have been to a conference before and felt it wasn't for you, I would encourage you to consider giving it another shot with the new format. If you've never been to a conference then you should really consider joining the Michigan Jaycees in at Double JJ Ranch for the September Leadership Conference. This conference is going to be full of fun team building games and competitions, including a sand castle building contest! I hope to see you there.

## Dates to Remember

### Individual Development Events

- JUNE 10:** Knitting Circle, 6:30-8:30 pm,  
Zoobies Old Town Tavern,  
611 E. Grand River, Lansing
- JUNE 22:** How to Brew Your Own, 12-4 pm,  
Castelein house, 2345 Lyons  
Ave, Lansing
- JUNE 24:** Knitting Circle, 6:30-8:30 pm,  
Zoobies Old Town Tavern,  
611 E. Grand River, Lansing

### Community Development Events

- JUNE 18:** Relay Team Meeting
- JUNE 25:** Relay Team Huddle, time/location  
TBD
- JUNE 27-28:** Relay for Life, 2 pm-2pm, Cooley  
Law School Stadium, 505 E.  
Michigan Ave., Lansing

### Management Events

- JUNE 7:** Bacon Challenge Pool Party,  
1-4pm, Kalamazoo
- JUNE 16:** Board of Directors Meeting,  
6-8 p.m., 2425 E. Grand River  
Suite 1, Lansing

### Membership Events

- JUNE 4:** Softball game, 6:15 pm, Nancy  
Moore Park, Okemos
- JUNE 6:** Happy Hour, 5:30-7:30 pm,  
Soup Spoon Cafe, 1419 E. Michi-  
gan Ave., Lansing
- JUNE 11:** Softball game, 6:05 pm, Nancy  
Moore Park, Okemos
- JUNE 18:** Softball game, 6:05 pm, Nancy  
Moore Park, Okemos
- JUNE 20:** Lugnuts game, 7-10pm, Cooley  
Stadium, 505 E. Michigan Ave.,  
Lansing
- JUNE 25:** Softball game, 7:05 & 8:05 pm,  
Nancy Moore Park, Okemos
- JULY 1:** General Membership Meeting,  
6-8:30 pm, Tripper's,  
350 Frandor Ave., Lansing

## Happy Birthday!

#### June Birthdays

Tonya Blust  
Keri Brown  
Ilona Castelein  
Sean Gillis  
Shawna Henderson  
Lauren Kenczyk  
Eric Richmond  
Andrea Stay

#### July Birthdays

Amy Simon  
Angela Fossi  
Sheryl Soczek  
Kris Dezelski  
Colleen Burton  
Jen Anderson  
Lauren Leeds

## Membership Anniversaries

#### June

Abby Kelly  
Ryan Kiernicki  
Shawna Henderson  
Ruthi Dake  
Whitney Townsend  
Ben Magsig  
Beth Michaels  
Adam Dobbrastine  
Larry Wascher

#### July

Danielle Wellington  
Jeff Straus  
Shantana Goerge  
Tracy Prush

# Management Report

## Management Question: Who Reads This Thing Anyway?

Our bylaws designate the name of our newsletter, and each year the board determines how often this will be published, but what I really want to know is who is reading the Capitol Correspondent? We have article topics that run the gamut - from carrots to cleaning, travel to Texas Hold 'Em, and recipes to random facts, we publish just about anything. I am curious, though, about what interests you in the newsletter. Do you enjoy the member profiles? How about updates on events? What about the history of the chapter?

My challenge to you is to take a minute and send me a message (email - [carriem-may@aol.com](mailto:carriem-may@aol.com), cell / text 248-756-3840, Facebook ... whatever you like) and let me know if you had a few minutes to take a look at the newsletter. And then, let me know what else you would like to see in the newsletter. And after that? Let me know if you would like to contribute to the newsletter. And to see how carefully people are really reading this, if I have 15 people who are not board members contact me, I will bring Carrie May Cookies to the Lansing Jaycees Softball game on June 11. I hope to hear from you soon!



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

For giggles, another "Humorous Look at Government Signs" from <http://www.debv.com/humorsigns.htm>:



If you have to set yourself on fire, do not run.

It's sage advice.

## Want to Be a Better Jaycee?

Congratulations, you've joined the Lansing Jaycees. Now what? This is something most people have wondered after joining the Junior Chamber. No fear though, because there are a bunch of other members here you can help you figure out how to make the most of your membership.

Management Vice President Carrie Larsen and I plan on launching a new series of projects soon called: "Jaycee Bootcamp." We have three projects planned to help you learn more about how you can develop and hone your leadership skills in our organization.

The first project will focus on how to effectively use project planning tools; the second will focus on how to run a successful committee meeting for larger scale projects; and lastly we already have a date on the calendar for September when we'll be running "Jaycee Bootcamp: How to be on a Board" where Dave Worthams, 87th president of the Michigan Jaycees will run a training on proper parliamentary procedure (AKA: Robert's Rules of Order). I hope these projects sound interesting and I hope you'll consider attending. I am confident that these events will help you be a better Jaycee and a better member of the Lansing community.



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

## Community Report

### Aluminum = Cash?

The Lansing Jaycees are starting a new collection for the remainder of 2014. At the June General Membership Meeting (GMM), we'll begin collecting pop can tabs for the Ronald McDonald House of Mid-Michigan (RMHMM). Pop can tabs are collected by RMHMM and recycled for cash. That money then goes to fund the programs put on by the RMHMM.

We're hoping this project will allow many of our members to get involved in some small way!

Some fun statistics regarding pop can tabs!

Approximately one million pull tabs = 800 pounds

Approximately 1,430 pull tabs = one pound

Approximately 63,360 pull tabs = 1 mile

Our goal is to collect 5 pounds of pop can tabs by December 31! Bring them to GMMs or other events to collect. You can give them to myself or Michael Leeds.

Want to collect at work? If you have ideas, we are looking for some potential partnerships in order to reach our goal. Please let us know!

Also – be on the lookout for opportunities to make dinner for the families staying at the RMHMM! We'll be setting some up later in the year!



Angela Clock

Community Development Director

[fallingstar924@hotmail.com](mailto:fallingstar924@hotmail.com)

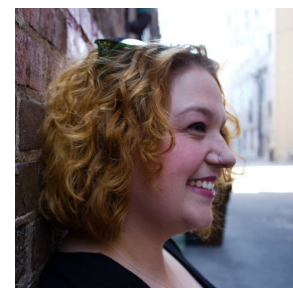
### Why I Relay

I'm mad. I'm frustrated and angry. Why?

Because people I know and love are dealing with the ramifications of cancer. I don't like asking someone how their loved ones are doing and waiting with bated breath to hear about treatment schedules and doctors appointments. Because earlier this year a previous boss of mine and fellow foodie passed away of leukemia. After all this time, my life has been touched by this terrible disease.

There is one thing giving me hope, and it has for the past five years. As long as I have been a Jaycee, I have taken part in Relay for Life - happening this year at June 27 and 28 from 2 p.m. to 2 p.m. at Cooley Law School stadium. Every year, we open with ceremonies celebrating Survivors. These people are hope personified. I am proud of them for being strong and joining us in our celebration.

As we move through the 24 hours we Relay, we also honor and remember those we've lost to cancer with luminaria and a silent lap. This is the most touching part of Relay, and for me, the most motivating. After our luminaria ceremony, we continue to walk through the night and have fun. There's snacks and music and maybe a movie this year on the jumbotron at Cooley stadium. At the end of our 24 hours on the field, hopefully we will be \$40,000 closer to finding a cure. For a few months after Relay, I don't feel mad, but it always returns when I hear about someone else getting cancer. But I really want to stop feeling mad altogether. So, I'm going to keep Relaying, and I'm going to ask that you join me! Its fun, heart-warming, and an empowering experience!



Abby Siegel

Chair of the Board

[queenpetunia@hotmail.com](mailto:queenpetunia@hotmail.com)



## Membership Report

### How Do I Meet People?

I found a job here right out of college and it moved me away from my friends that I got to know in college. Now that school was over, I didn't have a ton of opportunity to meet people who were within the same age as I was. I asked my dad how I can meet new people and he recommended that I look into the Jaycees.

He met a lot of people through the Kentwood Jaycees, not just in Kentwood, but also across the state at the Michigan Jaycees conventions. I was still not totally convinced that it would work for me. I showed up to a few events (the events are listed on our chapter website). He said that people would try to "recruit" me, but that I should just go to a couple events and make sure it felt like a good fit. And that is what happened, people tried to explain the benefits, but I went to a couple of events before committing to it. I saw that the people were friendly, and that there were lots of little ways that I could help out to make the community a better place.



**Joe Kelly**  
Membership Vice President  
[joewkelly@gmail.com](mailto:joewkelly@gmail.com)

What did I get for my annual membership dues? I got a chance to connect with people who knew all sorts of cool places to eat in Lansing, things to do in Lansing, and places to see. I've been a member for six years and I'm still learning all of the great places to eat. We will have a Happy Hour the first Friday of June at Soup Spoon. Jill Blust's article in this newsletter will elaborate on just how amazing their food is.

Joining a group like the Jaycees helped me build connections with other people in a way that Yelp or a visitors guide would not have been able to do for me.

## Lansing Jaycees Trivia

Where is the birthplace of the Jaycee movement?

*Answer: St. Louis, Missouri*

When did Junior Chamber International (JCI) begin?

Bonus question: Where did JCI start?

*Bonus question answer: Mexico City*

*Answer: 1944*

## Comfort in a Bowl

The Soup Spoon Café is one of my favorite places for a lunchtime splurge. They are a local, independent restaurant and are very proud of it. In fact, their motto is “Friends don’t let friends eat at chain restaurants!” They make several homemade soups each day that vary because they use many local and seasonal ingredients. In addition to soups, they serve delicious sandwiches, salads, specialty entrees and decadent desserts. More importantly, they now have a bar and serve up Michigan brews, wines and spirits. Watch out for their special Firkin Friday events!



*Friends don't let  
friends eat at  
chain restaurants!*

I went there first with my mom and had the most amazing pumpkin bisque. It was like warm pumpkin pie, comfort in a bowl. They even served it with a dollop of fresh whipped cream. Sadly, this seasonal delight is only available in the fall, but that is what makes it so special. On a different occasion, we splurged on their signature bread pudding with a homemade caramel sauce. It is truly delectable and perfect for sharing. As a vegetarian, I enjoy their daily vegan soup specials and their lentil patty on grilled sourdough is amazing! Carnivores and omnivores, don’t worry, there is no shortage of meaty options. They are known for their seafood chowder, kobe burgers, and have numerous sandwiches and entrees to wet your appetite. Be sure to check out their naan pizza of the day as well!

I work practically right across the street, so I have watched them grow over the past few years. I can remember when they were only open for dinner every other day. I would leave work at 4 p.m. and their chairs would sadly be propped upside down on the tables. Word on their good food must have gotten around and they expanded into the space next door to provide more seating as well as a bar. They have recently expanded yet again to provide more dining space and it is the perfect opportunity to celebrate Happy Hour with all of you! I hope to see you there on June 6th from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

The Soup Spoon Café is located at 1419 E. Michigan Avenue in Lansing.

*Submitted by Jill Blust*

## SHOUT OUTS!

Keri and Carrie - you guys rock! Thanks for all your hard work on face painting!

~Clock

Hey Jen Anderson, let’s pick a day for Indian food!

~Lauren

Get well soon Fossi! ~Clock

Face Painters: Thanks for all of your help! We raised more than \$540! ~Carrie

Clock, thanks for the note, it meant a lot! ~Lauren

Charlie - thanks for fixing my brakes. No more de-tours! ~Clock

Keri Brown – it was a pleasure to co-chair Face Painting with you! I hope you aren’t having any Olaf flash-backs! ~Carrie

Ruthi Dake, I miss you! ~Lauren

Laura and Ryan: Congratulations on the arrival of Baby de la! Can’t wait to meet him! ~Carrie & Jason

Go, Grasshopper, go! ~Anonymous



## Auxiliary Officers Report

### Getting Out Tough Stains

Below are some tips to help you get permanent marker, like Sharpies, out of just about anything.

It's a shame when something "permanent" threatens to ruin a favorite piece of clothing or other items.

Tuck these tips away for future use and hopefully they can help you save money either at the dry cleaner or in having to replace items you thought were ruined.

Hope you find these tips helpful!



Sheryl Soczek  
Treasurer

[soczek@msu.edu](mailto:soczek@msu.edu)

## HOW TO REMOVE PERMANENT MARKER FROM EVERYTHING



CLOTHES – USE HAND SANITIZER

WALLS – USE TOOTHPASTE OR HAIRSPRAY

WOOD – USE RUBBING ALCOHOL

CARPET – USE WHITE VINEGAR

FURNITURE – USE MILK

WHITE BOARD – USE DRY ERASE MARKER OR PENCIL RUBBER ERASER

CERAMIC OR GLASS – USE 1 PART TOOTHPASTE WITH 1 PART BAKING SODA

# Jaycees Business Directory

## 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)

## 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](https://www.facebook.com/ShantanaGoerge)

## 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.ericssheppardlaw.com](http://www.ericssheppardlaw.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)

Want to see your business featured?  
Contact Lauren Leeds at: [lleeds823@gmail.com](mailto:lleeds823@gmail.com)