


Capitol Correspondent

 @LansingJaycees

 Lansing Jaycees



THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE LANSING JUNIOR CHAMBER OF COMMERCE | FEBRUARY 2013

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

www.lansingjaycees.org

District 4
Population Division 6
Base Membership: 79

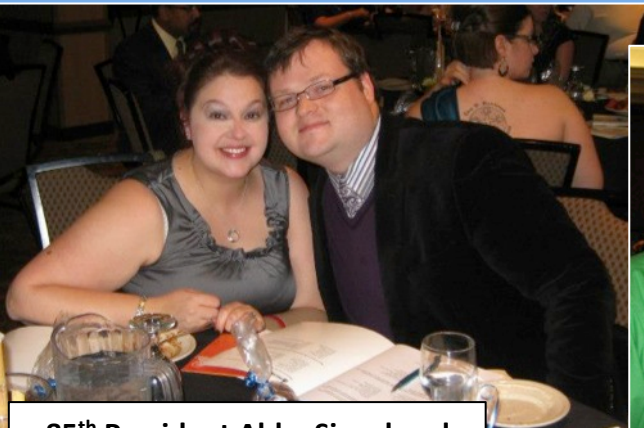
CELEBRATING 2012! [LANSING BANQUET]



84th President Lauren Leeds presents first year award recipients Matt Wille, Jenni Riehle, Jason Larsen, Sarah Mangiapane, Ashley Orel, & Katie Fiero.



Ilona Hajdar and Alex Briseno.



85th President Abby Siegel and "First Man" Joe Kelly.



Andy & Kathy Miller, Troy & Stephanie Steere, Carrie May & Jason Larsen.

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



Your 2013 Board of Directors

The BOD meets on the last Monday of each month, 6 p.m. at Maner Costerisan, 2425 E. Grand River Ave., Lansing. All members are welcome.

President:

Abby Siegel queenpetunia@hotmail.com

Chair of the Board:

Lauren Leeds lleeds823@gmail.com

Membership VP:

Charlie Root croot80@gmail.com

Individual Development VP:

Ilona Hajdar ihajdar@gmail.com

Community Development VP:

Ruthi Dake ruthilovesyou87@gmail.com

Management VP:

Kris Dezelski dezelskik@gmail.com

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Jessi Wortley Adler jessicawortley@gmail.com

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Sheryl Soczek soczek@msu.edu

Secretary:

Eric Richmond edr@thelastbyte.com

A note from the Capitol Correspondent Editor:

Thanks to the contributors of this newsletter:

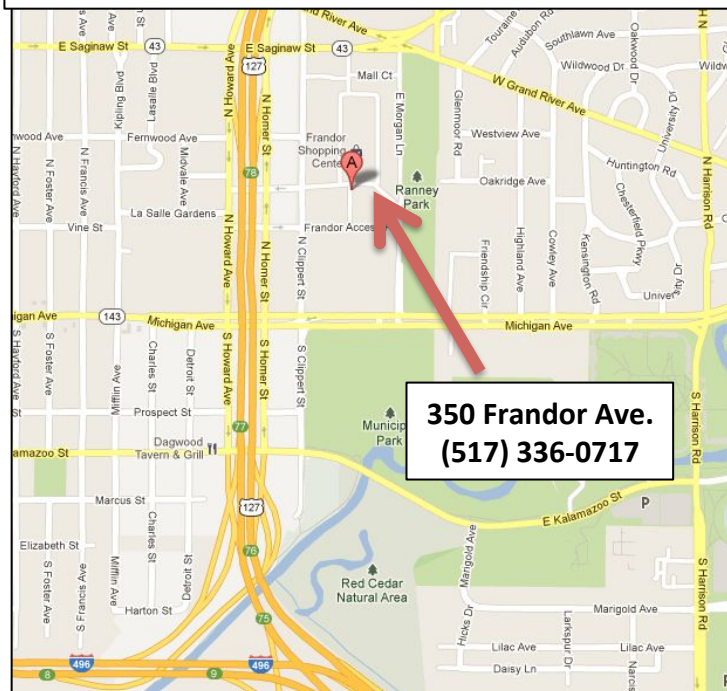
Abby Siegel, Lauren Leeds, Charlie Root, Ilona Hajdar, Ruthi Dake, Kris Dezelski, Angela Clock, Jessi Wortley Adler, Sheryl Soczek, Eric Richmond, Jaimie Hutchison, and Colleen Burton

ANYONE CAN BE AN AUTHOR!

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

edr@thelastbyte.com

Join us for our monthly membership meeting at Trippers! Every first Tuesday of the Month at 7 p.m.



CHAIR OF THE BOARD REPORT



Congratulations Lansing Jaycees on being a top chapter in the state in 2012!

Earlier this month the Lansing Jaycees were honored as one of the top four chapters in the state by the Michigan Jaycees at the Year End Assembly in Big Rapids. In addition to receiving the “Giessenbier Memorial Award,” we also took the “Chapter of the Trimester” award for the third trimester of 2012.

Michigan Jaycees 88th President Sarah Nelson said: “The Lansing Jaycees are one of our top chapters in the state. We are proud of the work they do within the Lansing community. The recognition they

Lauren Leeds lleeds823@gmail.com

received ... at our Year End Assembly is a reflection of that hard work and dedication.”

Additionally, for the second year in a row, the Lansing Jaycees were named the number one Community chapter in the state and earned the Governor’s Cup for government and civic programming. The chapter also received an Honorable Mention for best Individual Development chapter in the state.

I am so incredibly proud of everything we accomplished as a chapter last year. The fact that all our hard work was recognized is purely icing on the cake – the true reward is the impact we had in our community.

The Chapter also won a Project Category Award (Chapter Activities) for its 2012 “Made in Michigan: A Happy Hour” event, which took place at Bagger Dave’s in East Lansing, a Michigan-based restaurant that only serves Michigan-made beer.

Additionally, Danielle Wellington was recognized with the 2012 Thom Stark Memorial Award for her work as the Lansing Jaycees Membership Vice President in 2012. The recognition is awarded to the top local vice presidents across the state.

Our own Ruthi Dake took home a presidential medallion for all her hard work to run the Michigan Jaycees Competitions program, as well as an award to recognize her for all her hard work.

I was honored to receive both the Lichwala and Luthy memorial awards given to local presidents, as well as a presidential medallion from Michigan Jaycees 88th President Sarah Nelson.

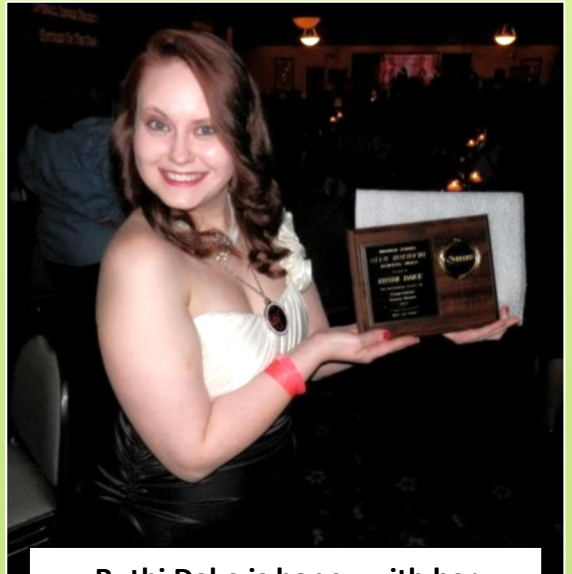
While we should all take a moment to reflect on the great things we accomplished last year, we must keep our attention focused on the present and future – on all the remarkable things we have yet to do in 2013. When we work together, it is amazing what we can do. Here’s to making 2013 an even better year!

CELEBRATING 2012!

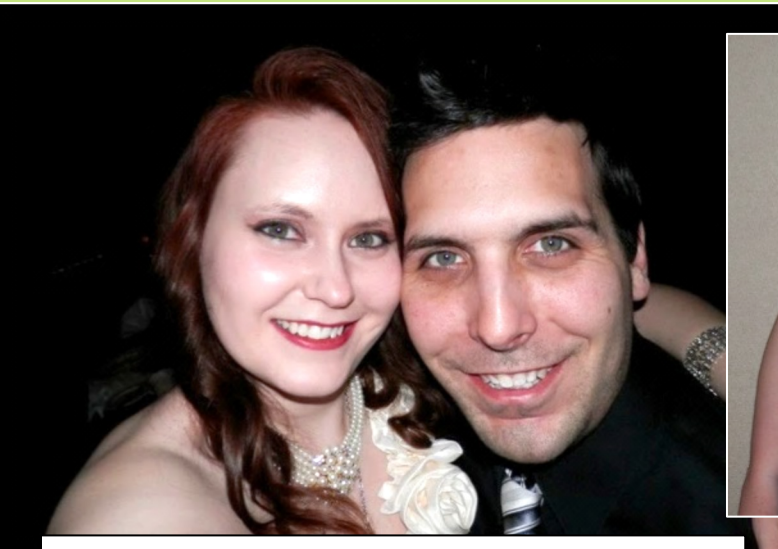
[MI JAYCEE CONVENTION]



84th President Lauren Leeds celebrates Lansing's win of the Governor's Cup for the second year in a row!



Ruthi Dake is happy with her Horiuchi Memorial Award.



Ruthi Dake & Nick Alt – what a cute couple!



Angela Clock and Lauren Leeds with their Presidential Medallions.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mentor Program Roles Out



Abby Siegel queenpetunia@hotmail.com

Wow! We are already one month down in 2013 and we have made some wonderful progress through our year so far. We had a great fundraising event in the Debate Tournament, and have another at American Crepes in East Lansing under our belts. We are also gearing up for our Easter Egg Hunt taking place on March 30 at the Capitol in downtown Lansing.

We have also held a meeting about our Lansing Jaycees Mentor Program, and I am super excited to tell you that we are ready to get this up and running! This program will pair more seasoned chapter members with new members to show them the ropes, encourage them to come out to different events, or answer any questions new Jaycees may have.

Why have this program in place? Because activation is key! And having a point person well-versed in our chapter's dynamics is very important for new members getting involved in our chapter and community. But this isn't a one way street, only benefiting new members - veterans of our chapter can see the spark of new ideas come to life when mentoring, keeping their interest in our chapter activities peaked, too! From my own experience, I can tell you being with newer members helps me get excited about upcoming events and possible programming. Even just brainstorming sessions with "green" members can be so eye-opening!



The time commitment is up to each pair of new and experienced members, but we ask at least a one-on-one meeting initially to get to know each other.

How can you become involved in the program as a Mentor or Mentee? Contact me at queenpetunia@hotmail.com, or Membership Vice President Charlie Root at croot80@gmail.com.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Management

Newsletter Submissions:

Contact Eric Richmond <edr@thelastbyte.com>

March deadline – Mon, Mar 11

April deadline – Mon, Apr 15

Board of Directors Meetings: Abby Siegel

<queenpetunia@hotmail.com> - *Mon, Mar 25, Apr 29, 6:00PM - Maner Costerisan, 2425 E. Grand River Ave. STE 1, Lansing.*

A Very French February: Joe Kelly

<joewkelly@gmail.com> - *Thurs, Feb 28, 5:00-8:00PM - American Crêpes, 986 Trowbridge Rd, East Lansing.*

Come to American Crepes Thursdays in February for a fundraiser for the Lansing Jaycees. Mention the chapter and 15% goes to us.

Individual Development

Networking Workshop: Jaimie Hutchison

<jaimjohutch@hotmail.com> - *Wed, Mar 20, 6:00-7:30PM - Haslett Library.*

Jaimie Hutchison from MSU Career Services will provide participants the opportunity to learn how to network. Talking to your friends and your extended network is a great way to find career possibilities. Participants are encouraged to bring a current copy of their resume.

Adventures with Pierogi: Angela Fossi

<kitispart@gmail.com> - *Sat, Apr 6, Time TBD - Redford Jaycees Hall - 15585 Beech Daly, Redford.*

Join us on a road trip to the Redford Jaycees so we can learn how to make pierogis. This is a hands on work shop! The best part is we get to enjoy all phases of making pierogi including eating them!

Membership

General Membership Meetings (GMM): Abby Siegel

<queenpetunia@hotmail.com> - *Tues, Mar 5, Apr 2, May 7, 6:00-8:30PM - Trippers, 350 Frandor Ave, Lansing.*

Community Development

Easter Egg Hunt Committee Meeting: Ruthi Dake

<ruthilovesyou87@gmail.com> & Angela Clock <fallingstar924@hotmail.com> - *Wed, Feb 27, 6:00-7:30PM - Panera Bread (Frandor), 310 N. Clippert St.*

For people on a committee or thinking about joining a committee for the Easter Egg Hunt!

Relay For Life Committee Meeting: Ruthi Dake

<ruthilovesyou87@gmail.com> - *Thurs, Feb 28, 6:00-7:30PM - American Crêpes, 986 Trowbridge Rd, East Lansing.*

Come and discuss fundraising ideas, turn in money collected, go over our current goal status.

Pet Photos with the Easter Bunny: Sat and/or Sun, Mar

16-17 – Stay tuned for further details!

Easter Egg Stuffing: *Sat, Mar 23, 8:00AM-2:00PM, Sohn Linen - 2401 Wood St., Lansing.*

Help stuff 10,000+ eggs for the upcoming Hunt! Sign up for a shift or come whenever you can. Lunch provided.

Easter Egg Hunt & Raffle: Ruthi Dake

<ruthilovesyou87@gmail.com> & Angela Clock <fallingstar924@hotmail.com> - *Sat, Marc 30, 8:00AM-12:00PM - Capitol Lawn*

This is it! The big day! There are plenty of ways to help. See you there to bring Easter joy to our community!

February Birthdays



Nick Alt
Jimi DeKett
Nick Halpin
Dan Harris
Amy Richter-Perkins
Charlie Root

February Membership Anniversaries



Chris Vieth
Jamie Hutchison
Dan Harris
Amy Simon
Emily White
Andrea Stay

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Hello again, everybody!

2013 is off to great start, and I am getting very excited for all of the wonderful projects we will be running this year. We will be bringing back many of the tried and true events, like the Easter Egg Hunt and Stuff the Bus. We will also be trying out a lot of projects that have never been done before. Some of these new ideas may be wildly successful,

and others may struggle to take off. The beauty of working with the Jaycees is that the success, in and of itself, is not what's important. Sure, it will always feel better to meet our goals, and get awards, and have everybody pat us on the back. But what really matters when we try something new is that we learn something from the effort. Because win, lose or draw, there is always something positive that can be taken away from every event we run, or even try to run.

We have tried to have a successful beer tent at the Great Lakes Folk Festival every year, for the past three years. And while this event has been a hit for getting members involved, or getting our name out to the public, it has not been profitable even once. This is a problem because the goal of the event has been to make money. I'm bringing this up as an example of a noble effort that just did not turn out the results we wanted to see.

Now for the positive that can be taken away from all of this. This past summer I was a co-chair for the beer tent, and once again we fell short of making a profit. In fact, we were several hundred dollars away from just breaking even. The committee members all sat down together to try and come up with some other fundraising options to help cover the difference, and make up the lost funds. That is how we came up with Operation Snowman Army. The idea was to make up some snowmen out of whatever materials we could find. Then people could make a donation to have the snowmen invade a friend or family member's yard for a day or two. Each victim of the snowman army was given a letter explaining why the snowmen were there, and an order form so they could pass the snowmen on to another person. We got the project ready around Thanksgiving and ran until just after the New Year. In that time we were able to raise more than \$1,300, which was about twice the amount we needed to break even. The project was a greater success than we expected, and we plan to bring it back for the holiday season of 2013. And it never would have happened if our beer tent wouldn't have been such a grand budgetary flop.

So if you have an idea that you're not sure of, don't be afraid to give it a shot. The only way to guarantee your idea won't succeed is to never give it a try.



Charlie Root croot80@gmail.com

INDIVIDUAL DEVELOPMENT REPORT

Hy Gissenbier (founder of the Jaycees) felt that in order for young people to improve their prospects for social and career advancements they would first have to join forces socially.

This thought has been expressed throughout all aspects of our lives in many different ways.

"All for one and one for all." - Alexandre Dumas

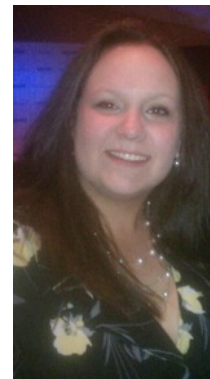
"Many hands make for light work." - John Heywood

"We must remember that one determined person can make a significant difference, and that a small group of determined people can change the course of history." - Sonia Johnson

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has." - Margaret Mead

When it comes to groups, I am so pleased to be part of the Lansing Jaycees. I have only been a member since 2009 but am astounded with how much I have learned, how many great people I have met, how much I have accomplished and how much I have grown professionally and personally. I wouldn't be here and who I am today without the Lansing Jaycees and its members.

The Lansing Jaycees strive to provide its members with every tool possible to become a leader, community activist and so much more. If there is ever anything that you believe would help YOU grow or experience something new, don't hesitate to bring that idea forward. Also, remember to "share the wealth." Tell your family, friends, co-workers, etc. about the Lansing Jaycees and all that they can do and accomplish in this unbelievable organization.



Ilona Hajdar

ihajdar@gmail.com



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. -Jessy 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

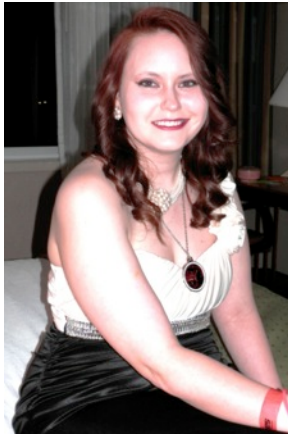
What lies behind us and what lies before us are tiny matters compared to what lies within us. -Ralph Waldo Emerson

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

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT REPORT



Ruthi Dake

ruthilovesyou87@gmail.com

We live in the center of civics, being a capitol chapter, and I feel like this gives us an advantage in making an impact in our community! I am looking forward to some great civic projects that will help get our name out to the public, and create some positive connections with our local enforcement agencies!

Don't forget to bring your dollar bills to the March, April, May and June General Membership Meetings! You will have a chance to deface a note, and participate in a 50/50 raffle that will benefit the efforts of the American Cancer Society through the Lansing Jaycee's Relay for Life Team! Our goal this year is a hefty one, \$5,000 dollars! Also make sure to bring some quarters, as we will also be implementing S.A.L.T. fines to benefit the American Cancer Society as well! S.A.L.T. stands for "Silly and Little Things," and the fine master will decide who falls victim of a fine. However, if you get fined, there is no obligation to pay, this is just a fun way to raise some extra money!

COMING UP

March 23 – Eggs Stuffing Party. Join the Easter Egg Hunt Committee at Sohn Linen, to stuff eggs for the egg hunt!

March 30 – Easter Egg Hunt on the Capitol Lawn! A great signature event! Whether you come to support the chapter, or come to help the chapter, please come out to this event!

If you have a community project you would like to see happen, please don't hesitate to contact me! ruthilovesyou87@gmail.com

MANAGEMENT VP REPORT

Breakfast, Brews, Brunch & Brainstorming



Kris Dezelski dezelskik@gmail.com

Over the course of the coming year, Jessi and I will be hosting a series of brainstorming sessions. Our goal is to find new fundraising opportunities for the chapter. The more funds we raise, the more we have to spend on the projects we run. We had our first brainstorming session at breakfast recently. We mainly talked about the chapter's current fundraising projects and their relative strengths and weaknesses.

When it comes to new fundraisers we need to think about two things. Is the project sustainable? Also what are the associated risks and rewards? A project is sustainable only if we can get chapter "buy in" year in and year out. There needs to be chapter buy in from year to year and the resources to run the project also need to be available. Haunted House may no longer be sustainable because finding a location can be very tricky some years, or other years it may be tough to get the appropriate "buy in." Another factor to consider when assessing fundraising events is the risk and reward. For most fund raising events the chapter has to put up some money up front. Our risk is that we won't make these funds back, our reward is what we make on top of what we had to put up. Please consider these things when you are thinking of new fundraising ideas for the chapter.



Let's Go Bowling!

I am super excited to announce that Fay Poissant, 85th President of the Michigan Jaycees from Ann Arbor, is running a campaign to be the 94th President of the United States Junior Chamber! We will get the opportunity to vote for her in Seattle in June!

To help out with expenses relating to her campaign, there will be a bowling fundraiser held on Saturday, March 16 from 2-4 p.m. at City Limits, 2120 E. Saginaw, East Lansing.

For \$20, you'll get two games, shoe rental, pizza and pop!

If you're interested, please RSVP to Angela Clock

at fallingstar924@hotmail.com!



Let's go bowling!



Angela Clock

MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR REPORT

School Bus Safety



Jessi Wortley Adler
jessicawortley@gmail.com



While brainstorming topics for this article, a friend who is a school bus driver asked me to write about school bus safety and the laws concerning when to stop for a school bus.

He witnesses around eight cars a week that illegally pass his school bus, putting the children on that bus in danger. Even just one car doing it is bad enough, but eight? I was shocked.

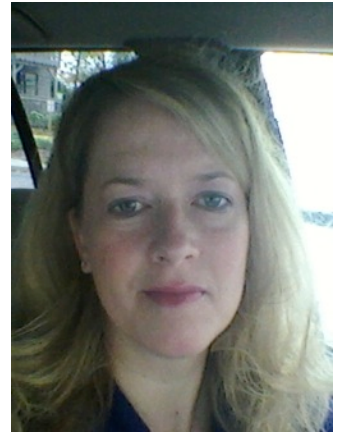
A school bus with its flashing red lights and the stop sign arm that swings out from the bus should be treated just like any red traffic light. You must come to a complete stop, and not move or pass the bus until the red lights have gone off. This is for the safety of the kids getting on and off the bus and possibly crossing the road.

Last summer, state law was strengthened to require motorists to come to complete stops at least 20 feet from school buses with their red flashers and stop arm engaged when students are loading or unloading. Motorists shall remain stopped until the school bus deactivates its flashers and federally required stop arm and resumes motion. Exempt from the law are motorists encountering school buses located on the other side of a divided road.

Also in state law are penalties for violations including civil infractions, points on your license, fines up to \$500 and community service at a school.

Unfortunately, too many people ignore the bus lights and stop arm, potentially putting kids in danger, whether or not they are crossing the road. It doesn't matter if you are in a hurry, late for work or don't think you see any kids – you need to stop. A minute of your time could make all the difference for both you and someone's child.

TREASURER REPORT



Sheryl Soczek soczek@msu.edu

It is hard to believe it is already the end of February. Time to start Christmas shopping, okay maybe too early but here are some tips to get you started for any shopping extravaganza (courtesy of Cambriastyle.com).

Want to give gifts to loved ones and donate to a charity? iGive.com lets you do just that. Download the iGive button and every time you shop many online retailers will donate a percentage of your purchase to the charity of your choice.

Plan ahead, start writing down gift ideas before your holiday/birthday shopping and make a budget. With your gift idea list, if you happen to find a good deal on one of your list items buy it and store it for later (just don't forget where you put it).

Not sure what to get someone? Stalk them ... politely of course. Check out what they may have pinned on Pinterest or liked on Facebook. Once you find out what they "like" find a merchant that sells it and subscribe to their social media. You never know when they will have a sale.

For those Excel lovers and organized people in general, create an online folder and spreadsheet of who you need to buy for, what you have purchased (attach a receipt/confirmation if already purchased), where from and when it arrives (again don't misplace it). This will help you during your busy season narrow down what is left to get. It will also assist if you want to buy something similar for someone else. If you would like to keep your receipts without actually keeping your receipts, download the Lemon Wallet app and store them as a PDF on your smart phone.

Comparison shop – Use apps like Red Laser and Invisible Hand or websites like Pricegrabber to find the best prices and discount codes. Remember to always check out the return policies before you purchase something. There are several websites (and flash sale sites) out there that have fun gifts and things you really do need at huge discounts. Check out Rue La La, Gilt, One Kings Lane, Zulily and HauteLook. Beware with these sites; items do "sell out."

Shipping – The cost of shipping can negate any "great deal" you may find. Look for free shipping codes. The website Freeshippigday lists merchants who offer free shipping codes and other discounts year-round. Join a subscription service to places like Shefinds or ShopRunner, they have retail partners and members get free two-day shipping and free returns during the holidays and other times throughout the year. Save money on additional shipping by mailing a package direct to the recipient's house if they are a distance away, many places will even offer gift wrapping services.

NETWORKING!

Join us for a presentation on networking!

Network or not work. I have been told those words before. Here is the thing, we all network every day. It can sound fun, like making new friends or building relationships. It can also feel forced to some who say it does not feel authentic, it is schmoozing. Some people want to network, they just fear that they don't know what to say or how to say it. Well this workshop is designed to take the work out of networking. Join the Lansing Jaycees and learn the do's and don'ts of networking all while practicing networking in a safe friendly environment.



Jaimie Hutchison

jaimjohutch@hotmail.com

Networking:

Wednesday, March 20th, 6-7:30 p.m.

Haslett Library (near the Meridian Mall, lots of parking)

Presenter: Jaimie Hutchison, Lansing Jaycee and Career Consultant at Michigan State University.



Lansing Jaycees 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.

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H: 627-7145 W: 930-3611 ccvieth@viethconsulting.com

The Law Office of Eric J. 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.

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Office: 517-618-1580 • Cell: 216-973-9996 Website: www.ericssheppardlaw.com

To advertise your business here, submit information to edr@thelastbyte.com. This service is FREE for Members of the Lansing Jaycees!!