

Capitol Correspondent



The Monthly Newsletter of the Lansing Junior Chamber | May 2014

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

www.lansingjaycees.org
[@LansingJaycees](https://twitter.com/LansingJaycees)
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District 3

Easter Egg Hunt Fun!

Were there tears of joy? There might have been a few. The Easter Egg Hunt on the Capitol lawn proved to be another great success! There were an estimated 1,500 children and parents in attendance who scrambled for over 10,000 Easter eggs on the clear and bright spring afternoon

Potter Park Zoo animals, crafts, games, and face painting were huge hits throughout the day. There was also a great turn out among our friends including: Sparty, McGruff the Crime Dog, Vince and Larry Crash Test Dummies, the Easter Bunny, Big Lug, Crash the Clown, and ClickIt the Cricket (or ClickIt the Alien according to Emcee Tim Barron.)

Speaking of Emcee Tim Barron, he had a blast and will be very disappointed if he is not able to help out next year, although his words on the subject are a bit more colorful.

We would like to thank all of our volunteers who helped with stuffing eggs and making the actual hunt a safe and fun community event. Without you this is not possible. We had close to \$2000 in donations for our raffle prizes and we sold \$911 in tickets.

We are happy everyone had a good time and we know next year's Hunt will be even better.

Submitted by Jenni Riehle, Easter Egg Hunt Co-Chair



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 for more information.



Letter from the Editor

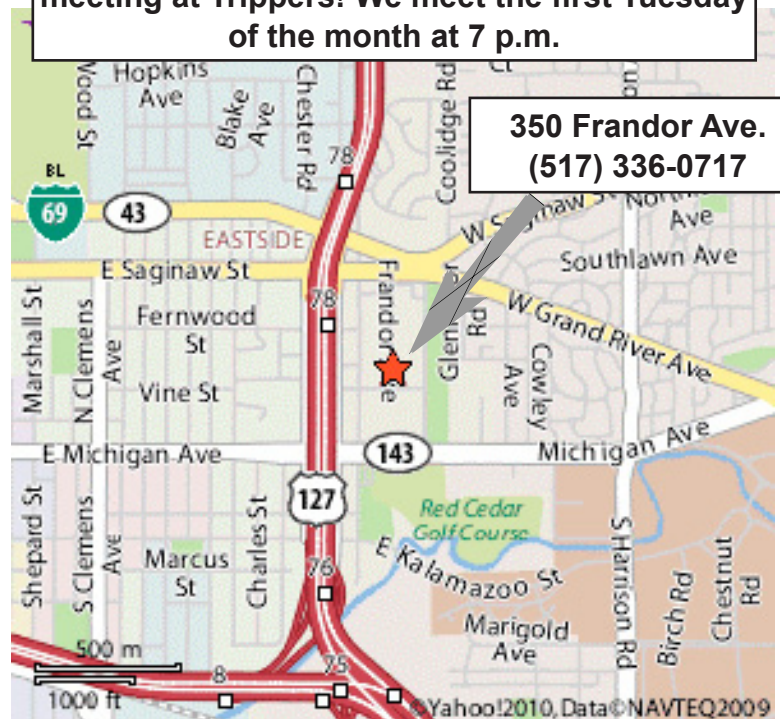
Thanks to the contributors of this month's newsletter, including: **Lauren Leeds, Carrie May Larsen, Charlie Root, Angela Clock, Jenni Riehle, Sheryl Soczek, Ruthi Dake.**

Remember, anyone can be an author!

Please submit your articles, photos, or ideas for future newsletters to Lauren Leeds at lleeds823@gmail.com by May 19, 2014.

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**



2014 Board of Directors Meets every third Tuesday 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

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Nick Horstman, (517) 703-4565

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Carrie Larsen, (248) 756-3840

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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

President's Report

Partnering for Impact

There has been a lot of talk about partnering in the Jaycees lately. At all levels of the organization, from Junior Chamber International on down to the local chapters, there is a push being made for us to work in conjunction with other organizations to create positive impact in our community. And I'm here to tell you that this is the only way we will be able to make a big impact in the Lansing area.

As an example of how a partnership can really step up our impact, consider our Relay for Life team. Our team is on track to raise \$7,500 or more for the American Cancer Society. A large part of the reason we're on that track is because we worked with Enterprise Rent-A-Car to get a \$1,000 donation. Many of you have some experience with fundraising and know how hard it can be to raise that kind of money.



Charlie Root
President

croot80@gmail.com

For those of you that haven't done much fundraising, trust me, it is incredibly hard to raise \$1,000 just knocking on doors and bugging your friends and family. That partnership has given us the boost we need to meet or exceed our Relay for Life fundraising goal.

In an effort to continue developing new partnerships, I am pleased to announce that the Lansing Junior Chamber has now joined up with the Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce (LRCC). This partnership not only allows us new opportunities to reach out to local businesses and non-profits, but will also allow our members to enjoy attending chamber events at member pricing. I have personally gone over our chapter mission and vision with the leadership of the LRCC, and they support us completely. I look forward to the great things we can accomplish with their support.

Finally, I have a favor to ask of all of you. I would like you to consider the potential partners out there in our community. Perhaps there's another non-profit you work with, or maybe your employer likes to support community service projects. If you have any ideas for a potential partnership, let me know.

Then we can work together to pursue that partnership.

- Charlie Root
86th President
Lansing Jaycees

Dates to Remember

Individual Development Events

- MAY 13:** Knitting Circle, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Zoobies Old Town Tavern, 611 E. Grand River, Lansing
- MAY 27:** Knitting Circle, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Zoobies Old Town Tavern, 611 E. Grand River, Lansing

Membership Events

- MAY 7:** Softball game, 6:15 p.m., Nancy Moore Park, Okemos
- MAY 14:** Softball game, 7:15 p.m., Nancy Moore Park, Okemos
- MAY 28:** Softball game, 6:15 p.m., Nancy Moore Park, Okemos
- JUNE 3:** General Membership Meeting, 6-8:30 p.m., Tripper's, 350 Frandor Ave., Lansing

Management Events

- MAY 15:** Bylaws Review, 7-8:30 p.m., Big gby, 2250 Lake Lansing Rd.
- MAY 16-17:** World Expo of Beer, various times, Heritage Park, Frankenmuth
- MAY 19:** Board of Directors Meeting, 6-8 p.m., 2425 E. Grand River Suite 1, Lansing
- COMING SOON:** Lansing Jaycees Foundation Meeting, 6:30-8 p.m., Location TBD

Community Development Events

- MAY 14:** Relay Team Meeting
- MAY 17-18:** East Lansing Art Festival, 9:15 a.m.- 6:15 p.m., downtown East Lansing
- MAY 22:** Community Engagement Meeting, Time/Location TBD

Happy Birthday!

May Birthdays

Jake Bourdon
Michael Castelein
Ruthi Dake
Melissa Horste
Sam Keeney
Michael Leeds
Michelle Meriwether
Whitney Townsend
Adrienne Woodward

June Birthdays

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

Membership Anniversaries

May

Laura de la Rangel
Alex Gardner
Sean Gillis
Lauren Kenczyk
Mary Ouellette
Karin Root
Jacqueline Swanson
Justin Warner

June

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

Management Report

“Insert Search Engine Name” Us!

I took a few minutes to plug “Lansing Jaycees” into a few search engines. I was curious to see what information people see first when they search for us. It turns out that Easter Egg Hunt and Haunted House are in line just behind our website. The Lansing Jaycees are known for a laundry list of good works in the community, and here are a few that gained (and continue to gain...) our chapter recognition online:

Helping save the Turner-Dodge House (http://www.lansingmi.gov/how_saved_turner-dodge_house) – did you know we had such a role with this?

Helping with the Lansing Urban Farm Project (<http://lansingurbanfarmproject.wordpress.com/2012/04/24/lansing-jaycees/>). Sometimes we have projects that only a few people attend. Some may wonder why we should run such projects, but I have always felt that small projects can still make an impact, and gain us positive word-of-mouth. This was one of those.

Guest Ninja Mission (<http://lansingninjas.wordpress.com/2011/06/09/guest-ninja-mission-lansing-jaycees-serve-coffee-and-kindness/>). Sometimes we reach out to be part of a larger mission, and in this case, it was the mission of random acts of kindness.

Some of the other interesting things I found were the number of past presidents and past members who mention the Lansing Jaycees in online profiles, resumes, and biographies. Membership in the Lansing Jaycees equates recognition that you are interested in impacting your community in a positive way. Cheers to your membership!

Learn How to be a Jaycee

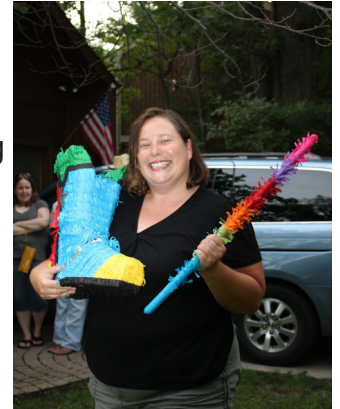
So, you’ve joined/are a Jaycee ... now what? Are you wondering how to make the most of your membership? Well, have no fear, the Management team is here to help!

Management Vice President Carrie Larsen and I will shortly be scheduling a series of events designed to help you learn how to be the best Jaycee (and hopefully, citizen) you can be.

Watch your inbox for evites to “Jaycee Bootcamp: How to be a Jaycee” events soon. We plan to offer up trainings in how to use the Chapter’s project management guide (you might have heard the acronyms CPG or PMG before and wondered what exactly those are), how to run a meeting, and how to be on a nonprofit board - which will include parliamentary procedure (also know as Robert’s Rules of Order) training from Dave Q. Worthams, 87th Past President of the Michigan Jaycees. Trust me, you don’t want to miss parli-pro with Dave!

If there are any other trainings you’d like to have to help you learn more about the Lansing Jaycees (or our parent organizations: Michigan Jaycees, U.S. Jaycees and JCI), please feel free to let either me or Carrie know, after all, we’re here to serve you.

I hope you’re excited to learn more about how our organization works, I know I am.



Carrie Larsen
Management Vice President
carriemay@aol.com



Lauren Leeds
Management Director
lleeds823@gmail.com

Management Report

Behind the Scenes with MSP: Criminal for an Evening

If you missed this event, then you missed some of the funniest, most entertaining moments of April. The Lansing Jaycees toured the Michigan State Police Training Academy on April 21. The tour, provided by Trooper Dave Cope, included a discussion of weapons and vehicles used by troopers and an in-depth discussion about the training that recruits receive at the Academy. Trooper Cope also showed us the training tank (civilians might refer to this as a “pool”) where water safety and submerged vehicle rescue training is conducted. After a quick dinner in the cafeteria, our Jaycees were assigned to their acting roles. You see, the Jaycees served as actors in scenario-based training for the recruits participating in the 126th Trooper Recruit



Lansing Jaycees listen to Trooper Dave Cope on a recent tour of the Michigan State Police Training Academy at the “Criminal for an Evening” even on April 21.



Carrie Larsen
Management Vice President
carriemay@aol.com

School. Angela Clock and Colleen Burton portrayed two women addicted to methamphetamine who were driving around in a rolling meth lab. Dan Harris and Alex Briseno acted as a deaf couple being pulled over, which challenged the recruits on their communication style. Joe Kelly’s scenario involved him walking around with another person who was openly carrying a pistol. Jessi Wortley Adler joined a few of our interns in a car full of flirty girls trying to get out of a ticket. Her husband, Ari, portrayed a driver with a concealed weapon. The best supporting actor Oscar goes to President Charlie Root for not laughing out loud during every scenario as he was paired with our best actress Oscar winner, Sheryl Soczek. She played the incredibly convincing part of an angry driver. After all, when else would she ever curse at a trooper? It was a pleasure to see everyone embrace their acting roles. The staff of the Training Academy was very grateful for our assistance. Don’t fret if you missed this opportunity – we have been invited back to help the 127th Trooper Recruit School as well! More details will follow, but this will likely take place in the fall. Many thanks to all who participated!

Community Report

Now What?

It's that time of year where we're in the post-Egg Hunt coma, but the Lansing Jaycees have plenty of community activities coming up!

May 17-18 is the East Lansing Art Festival and we'll be providing free face painting in the Children's Area again this year! This is a great opportunity to spend some time outside with kids and using your artistic (or not so artistic, if you're me) skills! The Lansing Jaycees are known for this event, so we'll need all hands on deck to help out! Contact Keri Brown (keb_keri@hotmail.com) or Carrie Larsen (carriemmay@aol.com) for more information.

June 27-28 is Relay for Life at Cooley Law School Stadium, home of the Lansing Lugnuts! We need your help fundraising for the team. We'll also need help during the event, from walking the track to selling items on site! You can join the team here: http://main.acsevents.org/site/TR/RelayForLife/RFLCY14LS?team_id=1504906&pg=team&fr_id=59649. Contact Ruthi Dake (ruthilovesyou@gmail.com) or Jill Blust (hellokittyjilly@aol.com) for more information!



Angela Clock
Community Development Director
fallingstar924@hotmail.com

I'm also looking for community ideas for the summer, so if you have those, please let me know!

Get Out and Move!

The month of May will hopefully bring us warmer weather, sunshine and softball. It's a great time to celebrate National Physical Fitness and Sports Month!

Why is this important? I know I tend to find myself sitting a lot – at work, at home, at meetings, in the car. This winter was particularly cold, which impeded my movement even more. I've worked on making myself get up and move throughout the day, in order to keep active. I've also been easing back into running and heading to the gym.

Here are just a few benefits of physical activity (US Department of Health and Human Services): children and adolescents – physical activity can improve muscular fitness and bone and heart health. Adults – physical activity can lower risk for heart disease, type 2 diabetes, and some types of cancer. Older adults – physical activity can lower the risk of falls and improve cognitive functioning (like learning and judgment skills).

What can you do?

- Join the Lansing Jaycees softball team!
- Sign up for a 5K – run or walk!
- Dodgeball, anyone?
- Get the bike out of the garage!
- Hit the pool – indoor or outdoor

Create a goal. Start small and work your way up to more activity!

See you outside!

Submitted by Angela Clock, Community Director

Community Report

What is a Luminaria?

The warm sun is falling over the horizon and the chill of night starts to set in. You have been at Relay for Life for a while, now. Your feet are starting to get tired, but you keep walking because you know your shift is almost over with. There are bags that line the track you are walking. What are those for?

There is one bag that catches your eye every time you make a lap. It looks like it was done by a small child. On the front of the bag is a picture of a mother and a daughter holding hands on a playground. There are several people with lighters who are



cancer. All the candles placed in the bags represent a person.

Those candles are mothers, fathers, brothers, sisters, sons, daughters, uncles, aunts, cousins, grandmas, grandpas. For every \$10 donated to the Relay for Life team, you will have the opportunity to either decorate, or have someone decorate a luminaria. If you have never seen a luminaria ceremony, you should, and bring some tissues. I Relay so that a child will never have to miss their parent's hugs. Why do you Relay?

Submitted by Ruthi Dake, Relay Co-Chair

starting to light candles inside the bags. You see a little girl holding a candle, getting ready to put it in her bag ... the one you eye every time you pass it. She is waiting to have her candle lit. You stop walking for a second and help her with her candle.

"Did you make this pretty picture?" You ask. She answers: "I made it for my mommy. She doesn't hug me anymore because she is in heaven now."

A luminaria is a way to honor or remember someone you love, who is battling cancer, has beat cancer, or who lost to



Call for Volunteers!

Per Community Director Angela Clock, the Lansing Jaycees have received the following request from Steven Rummel, Co-Race Director:

On Saturday, May 10 we will be hosting the DeWitt Take a Breath for PH and Get Moving for MS: Half-Marathon, 10K, and 5K run/walk event. Proceeds for this event will go to benefit the Pulmonary Hypertension Association in memory of my friend's daughter, Mackenzie Grubich, and the National Multiple Sclerosis Society to honor those, like myself, who have been diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis. We are also hosting a free Kid's ¼ Mile run to help promote children's activities, health and fitness.

Volunteer Opportunities May 7-10, 2014

There are volunteer positions for every type of person. Last year, we had over 100 volunteers before, during and after the event to help it run as smoothly and as successfully as possible. Volunteers make the race possible and provide vital services to runners and walkers. Big thanks to past volunteers!

Prior to the races, individuals can assist by stuffing race packets; manning packet pickup at the pasta dinner and Playmakers; organizing medals; coordinating sponsors, volunteers, online auction donations, water/Gatorade stations, and T-shirts; marking the course; etc.

On race day, volunteers are needed out on the race courses to help at turns, aid stations, lead/pace bikes, handing out medals at the finish, providing food at the finish, etc.

Volunteers can check in and pick up their shirt at the main gate of the football stadium, before departing for their assigned duty.

If you are unable to participate in the races, please consider volunteering. You can view all of the opportunities and sign up at SignupGenius.com.

SHOUT OUTS!

To Sheryl:
Got a warning just cause he wanted to get rid of her.

~Charlie Root

Never knew Sheryl was a newsman, sailor and truck driver in her former professions.

~Lauren Leeds

Colleen: Tell your baby daddy, Smoke, to stop leaving so much salt in his trunk!

~Lauren Leeds

Auxiliary Officers Report

The Right Time to Shop

Did you ever stop and wonder if there is a perfect time of year to buy something and why? HGTV has concluded that there is. I hope you find this excerpt from HGTV Magazine as interesting as I did.

January: Fitness Equipment – timed to coincide with all of our New Year’s resolutions and Linens – marked down to increase business during the slow season (next mark down will be spring when retailers are trying to sell their winter stock).

February: Cameras – new models come out so the old ones are cheaper and Televisions – can you say Super Bowl, what better reason for a TV to be on sale.

March: Garden and Lawn Care Products – retailers lower their prices to compete for your spring fever and Luggage – the holiday travel season is over resulting in lower demand for luggage and lower prices.

April: Vacuums – new models come out in June so they are trying to get rid of the old and home accessories – stores want your gifting money for events like Mother’s Day and graduations so they are competing for your business (20 percent savings or more).

May: Outdoor Grills – price cuts are given as outdoor entertaining gets under way and Annual Flowers and Vegetables – generally discounted 30 to 50 percent in May or June due to the end of planting season.

June: Dishware – hello wedding season, find markdowns near 50 percent on china, dishes, flatware and glassware and Tools – hand and power tools are discounted for Father’s Day, they will go on sale again between Thanksgiving and Christmas.

July: Paint – homeowners take advantage of warm weather to tackle outdoor paint jobs (January is also a good month due to New Year’s home improvement resolutions) and Mattresses – funny as it sounds, retailers have a tradition to offer steep discounts around patriotic holidays (4th Day) to lure people into stores when they have time off.

August: Computers – students are going back to school and the new models come out, time to sell the old (also on sale when updated operating systems come out) and Perennials and Shrubs – often half off at the end of summer for about a month before the first frost so nurseries can clear out their stock.

September: Furniture – Labor Day brings sales on beds, bookcases and chairs. Discounts may deepen in fall and winter, but so does the selection and Outdoor Furniture – from Labor Day thru October find discounts from 15 to 20 percent off in cold climates and early summer in warmer climates.

October: Cookware – just in time for the holidays look for starter sets where you will pay 25 percent less than if you purchased them separately (mid-May is another sale, but shorter) and Camping and Outdoor Gear – camping season is over, time to get the gear off the shelves with discounts of up to 30 percent off.

November: New Cars – car dealers want to end their year on a high note so sales are the best here (also good July 4 thru August) and Appliances – small appliances go on sale near major holidays when they are trying to entice shoppers into their stores (refrigerators go on sale in May).

December: Air Conditioners – demand is low so units may be on sale for up to 20 percent off, since they are typically only sold April through September prices will fall and Wall-To-Wall Carpeting – spending on home goods dies down so most carpet retailers will negotiate up to 20 percent off carpet and installation to drum up business.

Happy Shopping!



Sheryl Soczek
Treasurer

soczek@msu.edu

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

Website: www.RobertDowding.com

Blog: 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

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

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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

Website: www.clearingblocksediting.com

Want to see your business featured?
Contact Lauren Leeds at: lleads823@gmail.com



Lansing Jaycees night!

Lansing Lugnuts vs. Bowling Green Hot Rods

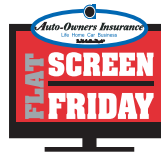
Friday, June 20th, 2014 @ 7:05 pm

will you sign this?

Come early and visit the Autograph Area for free player autographs from two of your favorite Lugnuts players. The Autograph Area will be open 45 minutes before the game!

freebie Fridays!

Flat Screen Friday presented by Auto-Owners Insurance. Throughout the game, Eight flat screen TV's will be given away to fans!



booms & bangs!

What better way to conclude your night than LAFCU Fireworks! Stick around after the game, sit back and enjoy as crowd-pleasing fireworks fill the sky to classic rock favorites and music that reminds you it's summer!



you might be a winner!

Someone from our group will win a special Lugnuts gift in the group raffle! Ask your group leader for your raffle form before you head to the game! The winner's name will appear on the scoreboard in the 7th inning!

name in lights!

Our group will be recognized by the entire stadium on the scoreboard and welcomed with a P.A. announcement at Cooley Law School Stadium. It's one of the many benefits for attending a game as a group!

say lugnut!

A Delta Dental smile shots photographer will find our group in the stands and take our picture! You can download the complimentary keepsake on the Lugnut's website 2 days after the game!



ticket order form

Order Deadline: Friday, May 9th

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ # of Box Tickets: _____ @ \$11.00 = _____

Email: _____

Please return this form with payment to: Joe Kelly

Hurry! ...The absolute last day to order is: Friday, May 9th

Please make checks payable to: Lansing Jaycess

For more information please contact: Joe Kelly at 616-617-8037 or joekelly@gmail.com

