Historic Ford Hangar Forms Foundation

The Ford Hangar, located on the grounds of the Lansing Municipal Airport, has been a historical landmark in the community for over 80 years. The Hangar was originally conceived under Henry Ford, the famous automaker, as a place to build and house the Ford Tri-Motor airplane. Ford called upon the services of the architectural firm of Albert Kahn, who himself would become known for his innovations in architectural design. Construction on the project began in August of 1926, and was completed by January of 1927. Kahn innovations for the building included large windows for increased natural light and ventilation, a construction design that allowed for more interior space while maintaining the structural strength of the building, and hangar doors that could be easily opened on a wheeled track by just one person. Airplanes hangars before that time had been temporary structures, while Kahn’s designs allowed for the building to remain a functional hangar. Early aviation greats like Wiley Post and Harold Gatty, who flew around the world in 1933, visited the Ford Hangar. When the Great Depression caused Ford to abandon his plans for the production of Ford Tri-Motor airplanes, the hangar and the airport were in danger of being destroyed and converted into farmland. However, this was averted by the property being leased to a number of different individuals and groups, including Guy Amick and the University of Chicago during World War II, before finally being acquired by the Village in 1976.

The historical heritage of the Ford Hangar was made permanent by its successful placement into the National Registry of Historic Places in May of 1985. The credit for this belongs to both the Lansing Historical Society and Harold Christian, assisted by Daniel Bluestone, a historical architectural expert from the University of Chicago. Mr. Christian worked tirelessly for six years to gain this recognition for the Ford Hangar. A plaque commemorating this designation was placed near the building in 1986 where it remains to this day.

Several months ago, the Ford Hangar was vacated and a chance at a restoration of the building is now possible. The Ford Hangar Foundation, recently formed to help stabilize and preserve this Lansing treasure, is working to ensure the community and the surrounding suburbs are able to enjoy the building for years to come. The Foundation is not only collecting donations that will go towards restoring this national landmark but also encouraging interested parties to utilize the hangar for public and private events.

Anyone interested in donating to the Ford Hangar Foundation, or in renting the facility is asked to please contact the Foundation at fordhangarfoundation@gmail.com.
Mayor’s Message

Spring has officially arrived and summer will be here before we know it. It’s good to see the warmer weather bringing our residents out for a stroll. Spring also brings to mind Lansing’s annual Good Neighbor Day Parade, which is always the first Saturday in May. Years ago, when I served as parade line-up chairman for 13 years, I always thought of the parade as our unofficial start of the spring/summer season. Lansing has a rich history of folks being “good neighbors” and I hope this tradition continues as we move forward in the future.

For the third year in a row, my office will once again sponsor the Community Clean up Day, held the second Saturday in May. This effort has been extremely beneficial in keeping Lansing clean, with over 300 volunteers coming out to help. It’s only a few hours on a Saturday morning, so I encourage young and old alike to do their part for our community. Even if you cannot help during our specified day or time, please take some time out this spring to help us by keeping your yards and alleys clean. If you would like more information about our Community Clean up Day or to register, please call my office at 895-7208 or email my assistant at vpayne@villageoflansing.org.

Economic development has definitely been a priority in Lansing for the past few years. While its been difficult in these hard economic times, I can assure you that we have been in constant contact with developers and potential businesses, promoting our town and are beginning to see results. We have seen an increase in business inquiries, and are doing all that we can to encourage development, particularly in the former Sam’s Club property. I have personally been working closely with our new Planning and Development Director, Kristi DeLaurentis. Kristi is very positive and energetic about the economic climate here in Lansing, and has been doing an outstanding job of making contacts, following through and getting things done.

I recently had the opportunity to attend one of the free Friday evening concerts held at the Lansing Public Library, and found it very enjoyable. It was not only entertaining, but also wonderful to see how many of our residents came out to enjoy the concert as well. If you haven’t attended one of the concerts, your last chance for this year will be on Friday, April 13th. Please call the library for more information or to register.

I hope you enjoy this edition of the Village Vision. Please feel free to call my office at 895-7208 with any questions or suggestions.

Village Board Meetings:
Meetings begin at 7:30 p.m. at the Lansing Police and Court Facility, 2710 170th St.

First Tuesday:
Regular Meeting
Committee of the Whole

Third Tuesday:
Regular meeting

No regular meetings the first week in January, July, and August.

Volunteerism is thriving in Lansing. It always makes me happy to hear about a new event or service sponsored by our volunteers. If you are looking for a way to be involved in your community, may I personally suggest a few of our many great service organizations: The Lansing Historical Society, 474-6160 ~ Lansing Business Women’s Association, 474-0349 ~ Lansing Junior Women’s Club, P.O. Box 5140 ~ Lansing Lion’s Club, P.O. Box 421, ~ Meals on Wheels, 474-1144 ~ or Friends of the Library, 474-2447.

Spring is indeed a time to wonder and appreciate things, but it is also a time to get active. Shut that lap-top and take a walk in the park, or go play catch with a neighbor kid. When is the last time you flew a kite?

Happy spring Lansing!

Patty Eidam, Village Clerk

Have you seen a robin yet? Daffodils are blooming and the days are getting longer. This time of year, everything seems possible: the garden you might have, or the vacation you might take, or that home improvement you might get to.
Young Lansing Resident to Sing National Anthem for White Sox

Last summer, after learning that it was his daughter Molly’s dream to sing for the Chicago White Sox, John Roe decided he wanted to make that dream come true. He and Molly drove down to the front office at U.S. Cellular Field and dropped off a DVD of her performances, with a letter from Molly explaining that she wanted to sing the National Anthem for the Sox. On February 11th of this year, John was contacted by the White Sox Park Operations Department, asking for more information and a link to Molly’s YouTube videos.

Below is an excerpt from John’s letter.

I write to you in hopes of helping my daughter realize a dream. Molly wants to sing the National Anthem for the Chicago White Sox.

Molly Roe is 12 years old and lives in Lansing, IL.

Molly taught herself to sing the National Anthem because she was required to sing a patriotic song to audition for her School’s Anthem because she was required to sing a song she didn’t have to use a recording, I could sing the Anthem for opening day, so I asked Molly if she thought she could sing it in front of a crowd of people. She answered me that she could and that she would be proud to sing it. When I asked if she would be nervous, Molly replied “A little, but that it was a dream of hers to sing at US Cellular Field for HER Chicago White Sox.” I was amazed. After she explained her dream to me, she innocently asked me, “Dad, do you think they would let us stay and watch the game if I was able to sing for them?” I answered that I’m sure that the Sox would, but if not, I would buy tickets.

Molly performed the National Anthem in front of approximately 300 people at the Lansing Little League opening day ceremony. She nailed it! The president of the league was so impressed that he raved and raved and asked her to sing at Lansing’s annual tournament. Molly agreed and sang a total of thirteen times, often being requested by teams visiting from other communities. Molly sang the Anthem four times in one afternoon. I don’t know of any professional performers that have done that.

Molly attends St Ann Catholic School in Lansing. When our Parish Pastor, Fr. Bill McFarlane heard and saw her, on YouTube, He asked her to sing at church, opening up the 10th Anniversary Mass commemorating 09-11-2001. The entire church followed her lead and sang along with her. The church erupted in applause after she sang.

I am her proud Dad and think that she is Awesome no matter what, but You be the judge and see if you would want her to sing before a 2012 Sox game. If not, Molly and our family will be in the stands, or at home, singing along to our National Anthem and cheering on our Chicago White Sox.

John was contacted on February 16, 2012 by the Chicago White Sox, inviting Molly to sing before the April 14, 2012 game against the Detroit Tigers. Molly graciously accepted and will perform the “Star Spangled Banner” prior to the game. If you would like to see Molly sing before her big debut, go to YouTube and type Molly Roe in the search box.

Good luck Molly…. Lansing will be watching!!

Ridge Road Cruise Nights

Mark your calendars for the Lan-Oak Park Foundations 2012 cruise nights on Ridge Road

June 16th
July 21st
August 18th

Would you go to the beach and dump a gallon of oil or paint into the water? How about a shovel full of dog poop? Well if you dump waste oil, paint or pet waste into the storm drain by your home you are doing the same thing. What goes into the storm drain by your house goes directly into the local rivers and creeks; it does not go to a treatment plant. Call the Lansing Public Works Department at (708) 895-7190 for information on where to dispose of waste oil and paint, and please clean up after your pet.

2012 Lansing Vehicle Stickers

VEHICLE STICKERS FOR 2012 - 2013
GO ON SALE MAY 14TH.

Vehicle sticker applications are mailed the 2nd or 3rd week in May, to all residents that have previously purchased stickers.

When your vehicle sticker application arrives in the mail check it carefully! If all the pre-printed information is correct, and no updates are needed, you may want to consider using the U.S. Mail to complete your sticker transaction. Simply use the pre-printed return envelope to send your check or money order and both halves of the application back to us. Your sticker(s) will be sent to you via U.S. Mail.

Stickers are available for purchase in person at the Village Clerk’s Office or through the U.S. mail. Additionally, residents may use the overnight drop box located on the south side of the Lansing Municipal Center. Residents using the convenience of the drop box should put their completed form and a check in an envelope. Stickers will be sent to them as soon as possible through the mail.

Credit card payments for vehicle stickers and pet tags are accepted at the Clerk’s Office in person only. No credit card payments are accepted through the mail or over the phone.

The prices for vehicle stickers and pet tags have not changed. Prices are:

$30.00 for passenger vehicles.
Truck prices start at $37.50.
Senior vehicle stickers are $3.00 (65 years of age by January 1, 2012 – only one per household)
Pet tags are $5.00

Although prices have not changed, there are some changes on the application form, such as proof of rabies vaccination for dog tags and new vehicle documentation. Residents are encouraged to read the form carefully.

VEHICLE STICKERS MUST BE DISPLAYED BY JULY 1, 2012.

Hours of the Village Clerk’s Office are:
Monday through Friday
9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Saturday 9:00 a.m. to noon.
Lansing Area Chamber of Commerce
Good Neighbor Day Parade 2012!

The Lansing Good Neighbor Day Parade will again animate the streets of Lansing, as participants embrace this year’s theme: There’s No Place Like Home! This event is on Saturday, May 5, 2012 at 2 p.m. The parade begins at Wentworth Avenue and Ridge Road, proceeds west on Ridge Road; then turns north on Torrence Avenue. A right turn brings the parade to a finish at beautiful Lan Oak Park. Area businesses, organizations and our municipal services will comprise an exciting line up of entries. Come out and enjoy one of Lansing’s favorite yearly traditions!

The Good Neighbor Day Parade is just one of the many events that the Lansing Area Chamber of Commerce has planned for businesses, organizations and residents in 2012. Our motto is Commerce and Community Working Together for the Good of All. The Board of Directors and staff have put together a host of activities that provide a broad selection of dates and times to choose from, so that our Members and Community residents can be sure to find opportunities that are convenient for them. For example, Member Luncheons are every 2nd Wednesday of the month, and there is also a monthly Business After Hours event.

The Chamber of Commerce 46th Annual Golf Outing is on Wednesday, June 27. A traditional daytime outing, this event will be held at the Lansing Country Club. Then, in July the Chamber of Commerce is thrilled to bring back Sidewalk Sales Days on Friday and Saturday, July 13 and 14. In tandem with the Lan Oak Park District’s community Garage Sale on Park Plaza, this weekend’s shopping opportunities are sure to be spectacular! Visit the Chamber of Commerce website, www.chamberoflansing.com for information on activities, promotions and news.

Good News for Job Hunters!

The Lansing Public Library has an exciting new service available for those seeking a job.

Coming soon at the library and through the library’s website will be access to The Careers College. This is a new web service that teaches you how to market yourself in today’s job market. Many people have no idea how to showcase their talents. Using this resource will allow you to learn how to present yourself to potential employers.

This virtual course is self-paced, with online job search coursework and career transition guidance. Using this site lets you learn at your own pace to prepare for the job hunt, from building your confidence to exploring career options, searching for the hidden job market (the jobs that aren’t advertised), making contact, getting hired and starting your new job right.

In addition, on Wednesday, April 18, 2012, from 10 a.m. to Noon, Todd Bermont, the founder and developer of The Careers College and author of 10 Insider Secrets to a Winning Job Search & Cognitive Selling will be at the library to introduce this resource and answer your questions. He will discuss the current job hunting market and demonstrate how to make use of The Career College website.

During these times, the library is trying to do all it can to assist those in the community seeking new jobs. The library provides computers, internet access, and now The Careers College to help you get your next job.

Please call 708-474-2447 and reserve your spot at this introduction to The Careers College.

3rd Annual Community Clean Up Day

The Village is looking for groups and individuals interested in taking part in the 3rd Annual Community Clean-up Day on May 2012. From 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. Clean up will take place in several public areas, including parks, schools and the airport. Last year’s day was a huge success with over 300 residents taking part in the project. Following the clean up, a barbecue lunch will be provided by Mayor Abbott at Park Plaza for volunteers only. Pre-registration is required. To register, please call Vivian at 708-895-7208.

The Department of Planning and Development

The Department of Planning and Development provides the following services:

* Planning and Zoning
* Economic Development

Whether you are looking to make improvements to your home or property, interested in starting a new business, or an existing business planning to expand or make changes, Lansing’s Planning and Development Department is here to assist you.

They can help navigate requests for business licenses, variances, special uses and other permits or coordinate large-scale economic development initiatives.

Veteran Appreciation Dinner

The Third Annual Veteran Appreciation Dinner hosted by the Lansing Junior Woman’s Club will be held on Thursday, April 19 at American Legion Post #697, 18255 Grant Street in Lansing at 5 p.m. The dinner is open to any local residents who have served or are currently serving in any branch of the military. The dinner is free for the veteran and one guest. There will be a cash bar. Space is limited. Please RSVP by April 10 by calling Judy at (219) 929-6288 and leave the following information: Name of veteran and guest (please spell out names), the branch of service, the years served, a contact number and how you heard about the dinner. You can also respond by e-mail to bearjk@yahoo.com.

Lansing Autumn Festival

From October 12th through the 14th, the first annual Lansing Autumn Festival will take place in beautiful downtown Lansing. The festival will kick-off on Friday evening with an Oktoberfest theme of brats, bands and beers. Saturday & Sunday’s festivities will include a variety of exciting events and entertainment.

Be sure to check your summer edition of the Village Vision for more information, or look for upcoming information on the village website and Chamber of Commerce website.

Special thanks to the Lansing Area Chamber of Commerce and Mayor Norm Abbott for your sponsorship donations, and to Lansing Sport Shop for creating the awesome logo!

If you would like to help or be a sponsor, please contact the festival committee by email at lansingautumnfest@comcast.net

Garage Sales

A permit is required to hold a garage sale in the Village of Lansing. More information, including all guidelines and requirements is available at the Lansing Village Clerk’s office. Garage sale permits are $5.00 and no more than three garage sales can be held per year at an individual address.
due to a new Illinois state law. The Village of electronics with your regular garbage pickup Homewood Disposal no longer accepts any on Monday, January 2nd. All pick- New Year's Day will be observed for large branches or tree trimmings. Public Works provides chipper service for large branches or tree trimmings. Branches should be stacked neatly near the curb or in the alley and will be picked up on a weekly basis.

SPECIAL PICKUPS
Call Public Works if you have items such as concrete, lumber, dirt, sod or stone to arrange for a special pickup. There may be a charge associated with this service.

TREES
Tree trimming is the responsibility of the property owner. If you have a dead or dying tree on your parkway, please call Public Works and we will assess the condition of the tree.

WATER BILLING
For questions regarding billing, you may call the Billing Clerk at 708-895-7198. If you are moving, please call Public Works to schedule a final reading before your closing.

SEWER PROBLEMS
If you are experiencing sewer problems (backup, odor, or slow running drains) call Public Works before you call a plumber and our crew will check the main sewer line.

CHIPPER SERVICE
Public Works provides chipper service for large branches or tree trimmings. Branches should be stacked neatly near the curb or in the alley and will be picked up on a weekly basis.

YARD WASTE
Yard waste (grass clippings, leaves, twigs, flowers or plants, etc.) will be picked up by Public Works from now until November 2nd on your garbage day. It must be separated from your regular garbage and put in a separate can, labeled “YARD WASTE” or put in a paper yard waste bag. No plastic bags will be picked up.

As of January 1, 2012
Homewood Disposal no longer accepts any electronics with your regular garbage pickup due to a new Illinois state law. The Village of Lansing has an electronic recycling program for Village residents. The trailer is located at the Public Works facility. Lansing residents only may bring any electronic items (such as televisions, computers, keyboards, monitors, fax machines, etc.) to the Public Works facility, check in at the office, and you will be directed to the trailer. The access hours are 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday. Thank you for your cooperation.

Tips to keep your summer safe and enjoyable

From: Lansing Fire Department Lieutenant / Paramedic Dan Szklarski

1.) Enjoy the sun. Always wear protective clothing and sunscreen. A bad burn today could become skin cancer in the future.
2.) Do not wear loose clothing around open flame. The flames from a grill, fireplace, or campfire can ignite loose clothing instantly.
3.) Bicycle safety- Use your head, wear a helmet. Use designated bike lanes, paths, or sidewalks when available. If you must ride on a road, ride with the flow of traffic on the right side of the street. Use hand signals to notify others of your intentions.
4.) Never add fuel to a hot lawnmower or other small engine. Wait until the engine has cooled off to avoid a potential fire.
5.) Do not allow children to play unattended near creeks, ponds, pools, or other water sources where drowning may be a possibility. Floation devices are not a substitute for an approved personal flotation device.
6.) Avoid heat cramps and heat exhaustion. Keep cool and stay properly hydrated. Drink salt and electrolyte containing fluids like those found in sports drinks.
7.) For roller-bladers, roller-skaters, and skate-boarders- Always wear your helmet, elbow pads, knee pads, and hand protection.
8.) Do not use homemade trick props. Go to a professionally built skate park.
9.) Don’t let mosquitoes ruin your summer. Remove any standing water near your home (areas of standing water are breeding grounds for mosquitoes). Wear mosquito repellent that contains the active ingredient D.E.E.T. at dawn and dusk when mosquito activity is at its highest.
10.) Stay away from stray animals. If you’re near a stray animal, slowly back away. Running away only entices the animal to chase you.
11.) Do not play with fireworks. Make your 4th of July truly spectacular, get a group together and go watch the professional display at Lan-Oak Park.

If you have any questions regarding fire or health safety, please contact the Lansing Fire Department at (708)895-7400. HAVE A SAFE SUMMER!

GARBAGE AND REFUSE COLLECTION - 2012 Holiday Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Pickup Schedule</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 1, 2012 – New Years Day</td>
<td>New Year’s Day will be observed on Monday, January 2nd. All pick-ups will be delayed one day for that week only.</td>
<td>Monday-Wednesday pickups will be on schedule. Thu and Fri pickups will be delayed one day for that week only.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 28, 2012 – Memorial Day</td>
<td>All pickups will be delayed one day for that week only.</td>
<td>Monday-Wednesday pickups will be on schedule. Thu and Fri pickups will be delayed one day for that week only.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 3, 2012 – Labor Day</td>
<td>All pickups will be delayed one day for that week only.</td>
<td>Monday-Wednesday pickups will be on schedule. Thu and Fri pickups will be delayed one day for that week only.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 4, 2012 – Independence Day</td>
<td>Independence Day will be observed on Monday, July 4th. All pick-ups will be delayed one day for that week only.</td>
<td>Monday-Wednesday pickups will be on schedule. Thu and Fri pickups will be delayed one day for that week only.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 22, 2012 – Thanksgiving Day</td>
<td>Thanksgiving Day will be observed on Monday, November 25th. All pick-ups will be delayed one day for that week only.</td>
<td>Monday-Wednesday pickups will be on schedule. Thu and Fri pickups will be delayed one day for that week only.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 25, 2012 – Christmas Day</td>
<td>Christmas Day will be observed on Monday, December 26th. All pick-ups will be delayed one day for that week only.</td>
<td>Monday-Wednesday pickups will be on schedule. Thu and Fri pickups will be delayed one day for that week only.</td>
</tr>
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Lansing Stakeholders Survey

The Village of Lansing and its Economic Development Commission are committed to strengthening the business environment throughout the entire community. Concerning the historic downtown commercial district along Ridge Road, we’d like your feedback as we consider initiatives that have the potential to spur downtown reinvestment and stimulate a better environment for the whole community. Please take a moment to provide answers to a short survey. We are very interested in your responses. Thank you!

This survey is also available on the Village’s website or can also be picked up/dropped off at the Chamber Offices, 3404 Lake Street and at the Lansing Municipal Center, 3141 Ridge Road through the end of March. All answers will remain anonymous, but you are encouraged (optional) to share your contact information.

How would you describe yourself and your relationship to the village?
(Check all that apply)
- Resident
- Resident in Downtown area
- Member of Business Community
- Downtown Business Owner
- Downtown Building Owner
- Public Official or related staff
- Developer
- Investor
- Other

Which goals for the downtown business district do you consider top priorities?
[Please rank all in order, highest (1) to lowest (6)]
- Enhance vitality in downtown/Ridge Road area
- Strengthen business environment
- Position downtown as an exciting destination for events
- Maintain and enhance community character
- Attract and capture new restaurants/retailers, etc.
- Retain and promote existing businesses

What revitalization efforts do you believe will strengthen existing businesses most?
(Rank all in order, highest (1) to lowest (5))
- Spurring reinvestment in the downtown business district
- Improving the image of the Ridge Road corridor as a shopping destination
- Increasing pedestrian activity with business, civic and open spaces

Should the Village offer incentives to downtown property owners to spruce up or invest in their properties to help attract and capture new retailers/restaurants or other business ventures—and visitors—to our community?
- Yes
- No
- Not sure

Are you in favor of a Chamber-supported banner program, promoting local businesses along Ridge Road and/or Torrence Avenue?
- Yes
- No
- Not sure

What improvements would you like to see along the Torrence Avenue corridor?

Know a business that should be in downtown Lansing or on Torrence Avenue? What is it—be specific and identify by name or type (food/take-out eateries, “sit-down” restaurant, pub/brewery, card shop, clothing retailer, etc.).

Optional: Please share your contact information with the Village of Lansing and the Lansing Economic Development Commission

Name:
Title:
Company:
Address:
Phone:
Email address:

Thank you for your input!
Sincerely,
Lansing Economic Development Commission members

*If you have any questions regarding the survey or are interested in starting a business in Lansing, please contact Kristi DeLaurentis, Director of Planning and Development, Village of Lansing, at 708-895-7174 or kdelaurtis@villageoflansing.org.

Local Easter Egg Hunts

**LOCAL EASTER EGG HUNTS ON SATURDAY, APRIL 7TH**

The Lan-Oak Park District is hosting an Easter Egg Hunt in downtown Lansing at Park Plaza (Ridge & Henry) for children 11 and under. Begins promptly at 10:00 a.m.

The Lansing Copper Muggers are also hosting an Easter Egg Hunt that begins at 10:00 a.m. in Lions Park, 177th & Bernadine. Please call Tom at 708-214-0025 for information.

Kiwanis Club 57th Annual Pancake Breakfast

Kiwanis is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to changing the world, one child and one community at a time.

Please join the Lansing Kiwanis Club on Saturday, May 5, 2012 before the Good Neighbor Day Parade, for their annual Pancake Breakfast at T.F. South High School cafeteria. The breakfast runs from 7:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon tickets are $5.00. Children under 12 and seniors are $4.00.

Community Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>APRIL</th>
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<tr>
<td>7 – Lan-Oak Park District Easter Egg Hunt, Park Plaza, 10 a.m. for children 11 &amp; under.</td>
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<tr>
<td>7 – Lansing Copper Muggers Easter Egg Hunt, 10 a.m. at Lions Park.</td>
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<tr>
<td>13 – FREE Concert at the Library. Call 474-2447 to register.</td>
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<tr>
<td>14 – Touch-A-Truck event to benefit Lansing Police Cadets at the Ford Hangar, Lansing Airport, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>19 – Veteran Appreciation Dinner. American Legion, 5 p.m. Call 219-929-6288 to RSVP.</td>
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<tr>
<td>23 – World Book Night at the Lansing Library. Watch for library employees at various locations around town that evening passing out free books! They are hoping to turn people on to the joys of READING!</td>
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<tr>
<th>JUNE</th>
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<tr>
<td>1 – Library Annual Block Party &amp; Grand Re-Opening, 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Music, entertainment and fun for all ages. Please join your neighbors on the library front lawn. More info at <a href="http://www.lansingpl.org">www.lansingpl.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>10 – Annual EAA Pancake Breakfast, Lansing Municipal Airport, 7 a.m. - 1 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>16 – Ridge Road Cruise Night.</td>
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<tr>
<td>27 – Lansing Area Chamber of Commerce 46th annual Golf Outing, Lansing Country Club, call 474-4170 for more information.</td>
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<th>MAY</th>
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<tr>
<td>5 – Good Neighbor Day Parade, kicks off at 2 p.m. from Wentworth and Ridge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 – Kiwanis Pancake Breakfast, T.F. South H.S. 7 a.m. to 12 noon.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 – 3rd Annual Community Clean up Day, 10 a.m. to 12 noon, call 895-7208 to register</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 – Vehicle stickers and pet tags go on sale at the Village Clerk’s office.</td>
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<tr>
<th>JULY</th>
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<tr>
<td>4 – Grand Ole Fourth, Lan-Oak Park, 5-10 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>13 – Lansing Area Chamber of Commerce Sidewalk Sale Days, Downtown Lansing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 - Lansing Area Chamber of Commerce Sidewalk Sale Days, Downtown Lansing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21 – Ridge Road Cruise Night</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
An Introduction to Flooding in Lansing

**The Flood Hazard:** Properties in Lansing’s floodplain are subject to three flood problems: overbank flooding, local drainage and sewer back-up. You could be faced with one, two or all three of these hazards.

**Overbank Flooding:** Lansing is subject to overbank flooding from the Little Calumet River, North Creek and Lansing Ditch. The largest flood problem is along the Little Calumet River.

The first major flood in recent memory on the Little Calumet was in June 1981. It was followed by a flood almost as high in December 1982. Lansing’s worst flood on record (so far) occurred in November 1990. Heavy local storms caused the Little Cal to rise higher than before, over half a foot higher than the 1981 record. The July 1996 flood came within inches of the 1981 flood.

Because of all the construction in the upstream watersheds, storm water runs off quickly. The 1990 storm caused overbank flooding to reach buildings in less than 24 hours. The river kept rising for another 24 hours. With our flat terrain, it takes a while for the waters to recede. After the Little Cal crested in 1990, it took 3 to 4 days to get back in it’s banks. In other words, the river was out of it’s banks for a total of five days and in buildings for two of those days. On the smaller streams, such as North Creek and Lansing Ditch, the water will rise and fall faster.

**Local Drainage:** Lansing’s local drainage problems are primarily due to back up combined from sewers and storm sewers. The sewers are designed to drain streets and ponding areas along with transporting sanitary sewage to treatment facilities. When they are blocked or overloaded by heavy rains, the drainage system is plugged. Storm water sits for hours or days, waiting for the sewers to clear.

Local drainage problems occur during storms in any part of the Village of Lansing. In some cases, yard ponding will cause or aggravate basement flooding. Flooded streets and yards can cause or aggravate the health and safety problems and disrupt traffic.

**Sewer Backup:** With no place to go, sewers back up and flow into the lowest opening in the sewer line. Sanitary sewers back up into basements and storm sewers back up into streets. An overloaded combined sewer backs up into basements first, if the water gets deeper, into streets. With the completion of the Deep Tunnel connection in 1996, the combined sewers have been better able to handle their wet weather flows.

A sewer backup causes two types of damage. By getting items wet with dirty water, it can effectively destroy many basement contents. Finished basements, with carpeting and furniture, are especially susceptible to damage. Even in unfinished basements, water damages washing machines, dryers, furnaces, water heaters, and utilities.

The second type of damage comes from the sewage in the water. Backed up sewers create a significant health problem, even in empty basements. Clean up must be careful and thorough to ensure there are no lingering hazards.

**Natural and beneficial functions:** Floodplains should be seen in their natural context. They are more than just hazardous locations for human development. Open and natural areas, such as the Forest Preserves, absorb much more rain and floodwater than urbanized areas, reducing flood flows on downstream properties. Wetland plants filter storm water runoff, making it cleaner for those downstream.

**For information on how you can protect your home and property from flood damage, see the Lansing Public Library for references under “flood.”**

Check with the Building Department to determine if you are in a mapped floodplain. The Building Department can be visited at 3141 Ridge Road or reached by calling 895-7193 (fax: 895-2460.)
SPECIAL WELCOME AWAITS RETURNING SERVICEMEN

The Village of Lansing is taking steps to provide a special welcome home for our servicemen and servicewomen who are on leave or returning home from active duty permanently. Mayor Abbott requests a representative from the family of the returning serviceperson notify his office at 895-7208. To honor and recognize this important occasion, the Village will send a police escort to meet the soldier upon his/her arrival in Lansing and escort them to their home. The soldier’s homecoming will also be posted on the Village marquis.

WATER BILL DISCOUNT FOR SENIORS

Lansing seniors, age 65 and over, may receive a discount on the Village refuse portion of their water bill. Eligible seniors should bring their driver’s license or state ID and a copy of your real estate tax bill to the Village Clerk’s office at 3141 Ridge Road.

SAVE EXPIRED COUPONS FOR TROOPS

The Lansing Business Women’s Association is accepting expired coupons to be passed on to troops to be used at military commissaries, where the coupons are expired up to 6 months past expiration. Coupons can be dropped off at the Fashionette, the Insurance Place, Lansing Public Library, the Village Municipal Center, Lansing Chamber of Commerce, Eisenhower Center, First National Bank and Ridge Animal Clinic. Cash donations to cover the cost of postage are always welcome. For more information or to volunteer to help with the project, contact Pat at 708-323-5232.

NEW LEAF RESOURCES ANNUAL BANQUET

Save the Date! New Leaf Resources is excited to announce its Annual Celebration Banquet will be held on Thursday, April 26, 2012, at The Center for Visual & Performing Arts, in Munster, Indiana, and feature speaker, author & artist, Ben Glenn as the guest entertainer! Self-described ADHD Expert, Ben shares his personal testimony of struggling with dyslexia, learning disabilities and ADHD. During his presentation, Ben will create a 6x8 foot chalk drawing set to beautiful and moving music – it’s a sight to behold. For reservations, please call (708) 895-7310 or visit www.newleafresources.org. Plan a night out with your friends - it’s sure to be a memorable evening! With locations in Lansing and Crown Point, New Leaf Resources offers professional counseling from a Christian perspective.

LEARN ABOUT THE CHICAGO SOUTHLAND CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU

The Chicago Southland Convention and Visitors Bureau will host a CVB Orientation for new or prospective members starting at 8:30 a.m. March 21 at their office, 2304 173rd Street, Lansing.

SOUTH SUBURBAN PADS

How Big is Four Hours of Your Time?
To PADS and its Guests, Four Hours is Huge! South Suburban PADS is gearing up for its Summer Interim Housing Shelter Season which operates from May 1st through September 30th each year. The Summer IHP program is an exciting way for new volunteers to become acquainted with the PADS program. We need volunteers to supervise the site and the guests and to complete paperwork. We also need cook teams to provide meals. That’s the extent of the work involved. It’s a breeze! And, a wonderful way to get to know the guests because it’s the same guests at the same shelter night-after-night. If you are looking to volunteer and to find a way to connect with those you serve, this is the ticket. Or, better yet – grab two of your close friends or family members and work together on a shift. It’s a great way for friends and family to spend four quality hours together. It could be the best four hours you spend each month! Contact Dawn Thrasher, Community Resource Coordinator for PADS, 708-754-4357, dawn@sspads.org to register for volunteer opportunities and to learn about the many opportunities available to support the PADS mission.

NEEDLE DISPOSAL

Over the past several months, Homewood Disposal collection drivers and helpers have noted a large increase in loose needles mixed in with garbage and recycling. While residential homes are exempt from medical waste hauling regulations, disposing of needles with other household materials presents a health and safety risk for their employees. There are needle/syringe exchange programs that may be available. Please contact your physician’s office or pharmacy regarding the availability of these programs. Several manufacturers also offer products for sale that allow you to destroy needles at home by burning, melting or cutting off the needle-making it safe to throw in the garbage. Prices vary depending on the product. If, after investigating needle disposal options, you find that the only feasible option for you is to dispose of them with your regular household waste, please use the following procedures: Place needles in rigid containers such as bottles, coffee cans, etc. and secure the top/lid with heavy duty tape. Label the container “Do not recycle” and dispose of in the garbage. NOT RECYCLING.

FARMERS MARKET

It’s never too early to plan! Mark your calendars for the return of the Farmers Market every Wednesday in June, July and August from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. in Park Plaza. Enjoy fresh from-the-farm produce and many other delicious items each week. Please call 474-8552 for more information.

TOUCH-A-TRUCK

Join the fun in the Historic Ford Hangar at the Lansing Municipal Airport for the Lansing Police Cadets annual Touch-A-Truck event April 12th from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Bring the kids for a chance to see and touch a variety of emergency, construction and other heavy equipment, along with K-9 demonstrations. $20 for a family pass or $5 for single admission. Children under 1 are free.