Grow Together–Shop Local

So many great things are happening in Lansing right now that it’s difficult to choose which ones to highlight in this edition of the Village Vision! While it isn’t possible to add my comments and thoughts to each article and announcement in these pages, I do want to comment on a topic that comes up frequently as I talk with residents around our village. That, of course, is economic development in Lansing.

I am pleased to announce more new businesses will become part of our community in the very near future. As you will see in our “Business Investment” segment below we have the privilege of welcoming several new businesses in the coming months.

In addition to these new businesses, Lansing has welcomed Visible Music College as a valuable new organization in our community within the last year. Visible Music College has already embraced Lansing and has been hosting a series of summer concerts to introduce their students and faculty to the residents of Lansing. These concerts allow their students to showcase their talents to the community while also engaging the residents. Already, Visible is proud to call Lansing home!

As we celebrate these new businesses and organizations, let’s be intentional about supporting and patronizing them! Let’s also remember to back the many other businesses in Lansing that have faithfully served our community for years.

Statistics show that local businesses are significantly more generous in their support of Lansing businesses and organizations that support Lansing events and activities.

By patronizing businesses in our own community, we are directly impacting the economy of Lansing in a positive way. Many people fall out of the habit of shopping locally and are then surprised by the range of products and gifts available when they do take time to patronize a local business.

Another benefit of shopping local is that the quality of service at locally owned businesses is very high. The individual attention that the consumer receives is something that is a strength of many Lansing businesses. These businesses survive by their reputation and repeat business, which means you get a high standard of service.

For a real economic recovery to take off nationally, it must happen among the millions of small enterprises in our cities and towns. Running these businesses isn’t easy. Large companies enjoy all kinds of competitive advantages, and online shopping can cut deeply into local economies.

As residents of Lansing, we have the power to influence economic development in our village. Our influence, of course, is exercised in our commitment to help these businesses succeed by patronizing them!

Our village officials are working hard to attract new businesses and help existing ones succeed. Won’t you partner with us by also working hard to patronize these businesses and let them know we are glad they have chosen Lansing?

Let’s show our businesses that we appreciate them choosing Lansing! It’s time to make it a habit to shop locally. When you buy local, you’re shaping a brighter future for your community, your family and yourself. That’s an economic plan worth supporting.

The Village of Lansing has approved the new Comprehensive Plan for the Village of Lansing. RE:LANSING is the name of the Village’s Comprehensive Plan, designed to serve the Lansing community over the next decade and beyond by assisting the Village in strengthening and improving its identity, community character, retail areas, and quality of life.

The Plan was developed through a planning process that involved the entire community, including elected officials, appointed officials, various boards and commissions, residents, and members of the business community.

The Plan sets forth long-range recommendations for the future growth and development within the community and for the maintenance of, and enhancements to the existing image and character of the Village.

The Comprehensive Plan will assist the Village in preserving and protecting important existing features and resources, coordinating new growth and development, and establishing a strong, positive community image and identity.

More information is available at www.villageoflansing.org.

Railroad Repairs

Since we were able to get the Torrence Avenue crossing rebuilt last year, we have been actively working with the leadership of CSX Railroad to get both the Thornton-Lansing Road and the Street crossings completely rebuilt.

We are pleased to announce that CSX has agreed to do both of them this summer. While construction dates are always subject to the weather, the Thornton-Lansing crossing is scheduled to be closed Monday, August 11 and reopened by Monday, August 18. The 186th Street crossing is scheduled to be closed Monday, August 18 and re-open by Monday, August 25.

Business Investments

- O’Reily Auto Parts is building a store at the corner of Ridge Road and Torrence Avenue.
- Kilroy’s Pub will be participating in the Ridge Road Facade Program and renovating their facility to become a family-friendly restaurant.
- Kids America clothing retailer will open this fall in The Landings.
- Phillips Chevrolet has started a 3.5 million dollar expansion.
The Village of Lansing is encouraging all citizens and businesses to register for Code RED. Code RED is a telephone communication service that allows the Village to quickly notify citizens about emergency situations. The Village of Lansing will use the Code RED system to notify citizens about emergencies such as:

- Severe Weather: severe weather warning notifications will be issued within seconds after being issued by the National Weather Service. Weather notifications are issued for the immediate threats of severe thunderstorm warnings, flash flood warnings and tornado warnings.
- Utility outage
- Fires or floods
- Hostage Situation
- Other incidents where rapid and accurate notification is essential

It’s easy for you and your family members to register: simply go to the Village website at www.villageoflansing.org and register there.

If you don’t have access to a computer, you can register by phone. For residents without internet access, please call the Lansing Police Department non-emergency phone line at 895-7150 during normal business hours and an Emergency Communications staff will assist in the registration process.

**CodeRed Frequently Asked Questions**

**What is CodeRED and why is it important to me?**
CodeRED is a new emergency notification service by which Lansing officials can notify Lansing residents and businesses by telephone, cellular phone, text message, or electronic mail about emergency situations or critical community alerts. The system is capable of sending messages only to specific neighborhoods or the entire community.

**Does this mean the Village of Lansing will be calling me constantly?**
No. The Village of Lansing respects your privacy. Code RED will only be used when emergency situations arise that you should know about.

The system will be used to send messages only to those residents and businesses directly affected by a particular event. For example, if you happen to live in an area for which a “boil water” advisory has been issued due to a water main break, Code RED will call only you and your neighbors to deliver that very important health advisory.

If there is a Village wide emergency, all Lansing residents will be contacted by the method of their choice and kept up-to-date on developments.

**For what kinds of situations will Code RED be used?**
Severe weather situations, substantial utility outage, evacuation notices, missing or lost persons, fires or floods, major roadway issues, significant criminal situations, chemical spill or gas leak. In short, emergencies and community alerts. There are general notifications that the Village will send out using this notification system. However, upon signup, people can choose whether or not they would like to receive those along with the emergency notifications.

Sign up for this valuable service today, and be sure to check with your loved ones and neighbors to be sure they have also registered.

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**Congratulations to Lansing’s 2014 Beautification Award Winners**

Once again Lansing’s Property Beautification Contest, recognized property owners that strive to beautify and improve their yards and neighborhoods. Each year, the Village of Lansing selects properties that exemplify the finest efforts of those who live and/or work here toward enhancing the overall beauty of the property. Two different property categories were eligible– residential and commercial- with awards given to recognize exceptional effort in decorative plantings, landscaping and lawn care.

Over 30 nominations were received, with eight winners announced during the Grand Ole Fourth Celebration at Lan-Oak Park. Congratulations to all those nominated and to this year’s winners for their hard work keeping the Village of Lansing a beautiful place to live, work and play!

**Residential Winners**
- The Mast Household, 3629 176th Place
- The Biondi Household, 17856 Commercial Avenue
- The Harton Household, 17559 Community Street
- The Danielson Household, 18003 Exchange Avenue
- The Dekker Household, 18613 Forest View Lane

**Commercial Winners**
- St. Ann Parish & School, 3010 & 3014 Ridge Road
- Olive Garden Italian Restaurant, 16601 Torrence Avenue
- Ted’s Feed Store, 17950 Burnham Avenue
Helmet Safety Bringing Community Together

While taking an evening ride with his dad on June 8th, eight-year-old Lansing resident Cody Ziemkowski took an unfortunate fall from his bicycle that resulted in serious head injuries.

Cody was taken via ambulance to Hope Children’s Hospital. He suffered a skull fracture and he also had a small brain bleed that required surgery. In addition, Cody had a broken neck and many facial fractures. Cody and his family recognize that if Cody had been wearing a helmet, his injuries would likely have been much less serious.

Cody has taken this tragedy as an opportunity to encourage other kids to purchase and wear helmets whenever they are on a bicycle.

As word of Cody’s injury got around, family, friends and even strangers pitched in to help lift his spirits and raise money for mounting medical bills for his hospital stay and expected two-year recovery period. Nearly $12,000 has already been raised!

The Lansing community has bonded together to send this message and ensure that no other family has to endure the pain that Cody and his family are enduring right now. The entire family: Kevin, Colleen, Korey and especially Cody, have grown from this experience. Cody’s perspective is inspiring for anyone who has ever suffered a setback in life.

Cody continues to amaze us all with his spirit and tireless crusade to educate EVERYONE about the importance of wearing a helmet. Bicycling accidents cause many serious injuries and, in the United States, about 1,300 deaths per year, mainly head injuries. Here are a few words from Colleen, the mother of this amazing child.

“Cody is home and continues making us smile. He is the strongest child we know. Everyday we are hurting but he is giving us more and more power to get up and face the day. His positive attitude and ability to smile keeps everyone going. Daily we see the changes that we need towards the recovery but we also see the desires of the little eight year old boy has to be active. It is clear to all of us that our challenges might be big, but no matter what, we are ready and know that our faith and courage will get us past all things. Our family will never be able to thank you for all the prayers and support because there is no way we could do this without all of you. As we continue to discover God’s plans for the future please wear your helmets and know how much we appreciate all of you.”

Paving the Way

It’s no secret that over the past few decades, there has been insufficient investment in our roadways. Mayor Abbott and the Village Board have been determined to fix the village’s financial mess, and then make our roads a top priority. The good news is that later this summer crews will begin resurfacing the roads listed below, and about 3 miles of alleys. This is just the beginning however, of a major undertaking. We have about 101 total miles of roadway in Lansing, with about 88.5 miles under our jurisdiction (the other 12.5 miles are state or county roads). We also have about 29 miles of alleys.

There are essentially two types of road projects: resurfacing and reconstructing. Resurfacing means that you remove and overlay about 2 inches of asphalt to return the street to a smooth surface. Every road has a sub-base, and if the road has deteriorated to the point where the sub-base is no longer stable, then the road cannot just be resurfaced, it must be reconstructed. The cost to resurface is about $60 per linear foot, whereas reconstruction costs about $125 per linear foot. So, for obvious reasons, we want to address as many streets as possible before the sub-base deteriorates and we have to go the more costly route of reconstructing. In the old days, there really was no scientific way to assess these layers below the surface asphalt. That has changed.

As we continue to reverse the trend of the past few decades of not focusing on improving our roads, but we’re doing it in a smart scientific way that will save our taxpayers hundreds of thousands of dollars.” This will be possible because we’ll have the intelligence as to which roads can be caught at the stage of resurfacing, which is about half the cost of re-constructing.

“The streets listed below are already scheduled for work in 2014. The results of the assessment will determine which streets will be added for 2015.

- Chicago Ave. from 175th Street to 178th St.
- 176th St. from Lorenz Ave. to Burnham Ave.
- 178th St. from Columbia Dr. to Burnham Ave.
- 182nd Place from Oakley Ave. to dead end
- 178th Place from Burnham to Cul de Sac
- Maple St. from Ridge Rd. to Randolph St.
- Lange St. from Ridge Rd. to Randolph St.
- Grant St. from Legion Dr. to Illinois St.
- Legion Dr. from Wentworth Ave. To dead end
- Ridge Rd. from Stony Island to Torrence
- Terrace Dr. from Wentworth Ave. to Maple Ave.
- Maple Ave. from Terrace Dr. to Illi-Indy
- Holiday Court from 176th Place to 175th St.
Mayor Norm Abbott recently met with Governor Pat Quinn and State Rep. Marcus Evans and discussed legislative issues that are important to Lansing.

First National Bank group helping at 2014 Lansing Cleanup Day

District 158 Roundball Classic Participants at a Village Board meeting to present donations for local charities.

National Day of Prayer gathering at St. John’s Lutheran Church

Government Officials Partnering for Lansing Good Neighbor Day Parade

2014 Good Neighbor Day Parade

2014 Torch Run for Special Olympics

Wings and Pancakes fundraiser at Ford Hangar to benefit Ford Hangar Foundation

Fat Tuesday Bash at Lansing Country Club sponsored by Lansing Association for Community Events (LACE)

2014 Fat Tuesday Bash at Lansing Country Club

Coffee With A Cop at McDonald’s

Cruise Night in Lansing June 2014

Memorial Jr. High 5K Run

Grand Ole 4th at Lan Oak Park
The Village of Lansing is pleased to announce the hiring of Travis Bandstra as the new Director of Economic Development for the Village of Lansing. Bandstra holds a Masters Degree in Public Policy and Administration from Northwestern, with a focus on economic development. Prior to being hired by the Village of Lansing, Travis served as the Director of Alumni Relations for Trinity College in Palos Heights for six years. 

Bandstra has valuable experience in real estate, including real estate appraisal, that will be beneficial for his role as director of economic development. Mayor Abbott described Bandstra as being “a talented relationship builder, a strategic thinker, and a quick study on whatever issue is before him”.

Travis is married and has a 17-month-old son named Jack. His wife Lisa is a neonatal intensive care nurse at Advocate Christ Hospital in Oak Lawn. They have been married for seven years.

Travis and Lisa are excited about moving their family into Lansing, and contributing to the vitality of the community.

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In the past 5 years, all 50 states have experienced floods or flash floods. Everyone lives in a flood zone. Most homeowners insurance does not cover flood damage.

If you live in a Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) or high-risk area and have a federally backed mortgage, your mortgage lender requires you to have flood insurance.

Just a few inches of water from a flood can cause tens of thousands of dollars in damage.

Flash floods often bring walls of water 10 to 20 feet high.

A car can easily be carried away by just two feet of floodwater.

Winter storms and snowmelt are common causes of flooding.

New land develop can increase flood risk, especially if the construction changes natural runoff paths.

You are eligible to purchase flood insurance because Lansing participates in the National Flood Insurance Program. In most cases, it takes 30 days after purchase for a policy to take effect, so it’s important to buy insurance before the storm approaches and the floodwaters start to rise. Visit our website for more flood information.

Members of the Lansing Police Cadet Program recently traveled to the 2014 National Law Enforcement Exploring Conference. During the weeklong event the Cadets competed in various law enforcement scenarios designed to judge their ability to respond to crimes in progress. These included Domestic Crisis Response, Burglary in Progress and Bomb Threat Response. The Cadets competed against over 2,500 Explorers from all 50 states in over 4,600 team competitions. The team was awarded a third place trophy for Bomb Threat Response! This year’s competition team included Cadet Sgt. Dennis Murin Ill, Cadets Josh Schurman, Kathryn Gottwald and Tyler Schutt.

The Lansing Fire Department is accepting applications for Paid on Call Firefighters. Applicants must be 21 years of age and residents of the Village of Lansing. Applications can be picked up at Lansing Fire Department station #3 19300 Burnham Ave. Monday through Friday between 8am and 4pm. For further information, interested individuals may inquire at fire station #3 Monday thru Friday between 8am and 4pm or call the station at 895-7400.

The fire department was again a proud partner with the Lansing Junior Women’s Club and gave two students a ride to school in a fire truck for their winning safety essays. The two students' essays were chosen from over 50 submitted essays from various schools in Lansing. The two winners were both students from Oak Glen School, Vanessa Sanchez and Charles Rodrigues III. 

The Bucket Brigade is a volunteer group designed to bring the people of Lansing together and improve the appearance of the community. Participating in this volunteer program will showcase your pride in our community. 

Volunteers are provided a 5 gallon bucket, donated by Ace Hardware, and a Bucket Brigade T-Shirt. Volunteers go out a few hours a month as they are able, to clean up around their neighborhood or other areas that need attention.

To sign up or for more information, contact Bridget Bettenhausen by phone or email: 895-7176 or bbettenhausen@villageoflansing.org.
Lansing Autumn Fest will return in October, brought to you by the Lansing Association for Community Events (L.A.C.E.) and the Village of Lansing. The Lansing Autumn Fest had a very successful second year of fun activities with beautiful, warm weather in the heart of downtown Lansing at Park Plaza and Fox Pointe. The festival drew in residents from throughout the Chicagoland area and Northwest Indiana and brought back many former Lansing residents to their hometown.

Starting on Friday, October 10, the three-day festival will kick off with a dozen food vendors and great music. The festival will open at 4 p.m and feature the German band Alpine Thunder and the Unstoppables. Top regional bands on the main stage during the weekend at Fox Pointe will include Big Top Band and Ear Candy. Additionally, there will be entertainment on the family stage in Park Plaza.

Saturday and Sunday will be packed with activities to make the 2014 festival bigger, better and even more family friendly. The Children's Activity Zone will include games, pumpkin decorating, scarecrow making, temporary tattoos, face painting, inflatables and more. Also returning are the chili cook-off, vintage baseball game and vendor marketplace. Marketplace applications can be obtained at www.lansingautumnfest.org.

Be sure to get your tickets for the new Pumpkin Cash Raffle for a chance to win $10,000 or a number of other cash prizes. Tickets are $20 and winner need not be present. Drawings will be done on Sunday, October 12, the final day of the festival. Get your tickets early for an opportunity to win an early bird cash prize at the August 2nd Cruise Night. Tickets are available from L.A.C.E. Board Members or at J.J. Kelley’s or The Insurance Place. They will also be sold at the Lansing Cruise Nights.

For sponsorship opportunities, to volunteer, or for additional festival information, visit our website at www.lansingautumnfest.org.

Proceeds from the festival will help to fund L.A.C.E. events, including the Christmas House Tour, Fat Tuesday Bash, Cruise Nights and Lansing Autumn Fest 2015.

Chili Cook-Off
Join us for the Autumn Fest's 3rd Annual Chili Cook-Off! Bring your appetite and join the fun as cooks work their culinary magic and compete! Call (708) 207-0067 to register.

The L.A.C.E. board extends their thanks to the festival sponsors. Sponsorships are still available. For additional information call 708-646-5606 and ask for JoEllyn.

Hydrant Restoration
The Village of Lansing recently launched a fire hydrant restoration project.

The Village has traditionally hired summer laborers to paint hydrants with brushes, but some now have five or six layers of paint. Just painting again won't help much because of the rust underneath. So, the Village contracted a company to sandblast the hydrants to the metal, then spray on a coat of primer and two coats of paint.

The Village paints nearly 1,500 fire hydrants on a 5-year cycle as part of the routine maintenance of the hydrants. Maintaining the protective coating on fire hydrants helps them last longer, improves operability and makes them more aesthetically appealing.
The Village is excited to announce our Citizen Request Tracker, in response to requests from residents about the status of prior requests sent to the Village. According to Village Technology Director Fabian Newman, “Since the Village launched its new website last year we have seen a big uptick in the amount of citizens contacting the Village with requests, ranging from code enforcement incidents to potholes. Newman said that while the CRT app has only been in use for a few months while being tested, he thinks it’ll bolster Lansing’s accountability to the community and help keep communication lines open.

According to Newman, “With our CRT tracking, there is always a response, and always a time frame to get their questions answered. It’s a great way for them to track when they submitted a request and what responses they get. It’s good for us too, because it shows we contacted the citizen,” he added. “It’s two-way communication that keeps us both in check.” The citizen request system allows residents to ask questions, make service requests and make suggestions. When a request is submitted, the user receives a tracking number that allows him or her to check the status of the request at any time. Staff will also receive an e-mail notifying them of each request and will be responsible for updating the system as a request is handled.

Enter a question, suggestion, or request for service is quite simple. Use our smartphone and click on the Citizen Request Link. Another option is for the submitter to simply visit our village website at www.villageoflansing.org and select the Citizen request link under the Residents Tab. Then they choose the appropriate topic from the list of Action Line Request types that will appear. Examples of topics include: reporting a missed trash collection, reporting a pothole, business license inquiries, reporting nuisances, and many other topics. “People don’t always want to pick up the phone and try and reach the right person with a concern,” Newman said. “But they are always on social media, so it is a quick and easy way for them to send us information to help us better their lives and the Village of Lansing.”

The Village of Lansing established a municipal electric aggregation savings program in the summer of 2013 following the passage of a voter referendum authorizing the program. The purpose was to help residents purchase electricity at rates lower than ComEd, and the average participating household will have saved an estimated $85 on their electric supply versus the ComEd default rate, for a community-wide savings approaching $650,000 by the end of the program’s term. Savings continues through July 2014 meter readings, at which point the program’s first term expires.

The Village sought bids for the next 12 month period, and it turned out ComEd rates were the lowest. The Village will go to bid each spring, except in the event a multi-year contract is chosen, and secure the lowest possible rate for our residents. Vivian Payne, who manages the aggregation program for the Village said, “Residents can rest assured that the Village will actively pursue the best available rates and residents who stick with the community program will effortlessly be switched between suppliers each year.”

Residents enrolled in the Village’s program received a letter from ComEd in June stating that their supply service will be switched back to ComEd. This “Confirmation of Drop” notice states that ratepayers have two billing periods in which they may choose to switch to another supplier or otherwise will be required to remain on ComEd electric supply service for a total of 12 months from the effective date on the letter. Residents are advised they may switch to another supplier only within that first 60-day window. No action is needed on your part to be moved to the ComEd supply rate.

Residents should beware of door-to-door solicitors, direct callers or direct mail pieces regarding electric supply and are advised to review contract terms for any floating rates or early termination fees. It is recommended that ratepayers never release their account number to a solicitor under any circumstance, unless they have decided to move to that supplier.

The enhanced Garbage & Recycling program has dramatically improved the aesthetics of our community, but that’s not the only exciting outcome. Since the roll-out of toters, Lansing residents have increased their recycling volume by about 55%! In the first 6 months of 2014 that equates to 1,933,620 lbs. Lansing residents are known for being environmentally conscious, but this significant increase speaks to a whole new level of environmental responsibility. Did you know that more than half of the garbage produced by a household can be recycled? The benefits of recycling go beyond the amount of waste that is sent to landfills. Recycling conserves natural resources, reduces greenhouse gas emissions and saves energy. Your decision to reduce, reuse and recycle will sustain the environment for future generations by recycling. Below are some reminders to maintain the efficiency of our refuse program and continue to enhance the curb appeal of our village, thereby increasing property values for everyone.

- When putting toters out, face the opening of the lid toward the curb or alley, clear of surrounding obstructions.
- Toters should be brought back from the curb as soon as possible after pick-up.
- Yard waste must be placed in the designated toter or in brown paper yard waste bags. No yard waste can be picked up if mixed with trash or in plastic bags as yard waste goes to a yard waste land fill and they don’t accept yard waste contaminated with regular trash or plastic bags.
- Public Works provides chipper service for larger branches at your curbside. No branches will be picked up in alley’s unless they are in your yard waste toter.
- All rubbish and recycling must be placed in your designated toters. Homewood Disposal will no longer pickup trash that is in regular garbage cans, as they cannot be picked up with the automated arm.
- Additional toters are available for only $12 a year. Call the Public Works Department at 895-7190 to request delivery.

The Village of Lansing’s own television channel, LNN, is available to anyone in Lansing who has access to cable TV or the internet.

Sign up for our e-newsletter on our website!

Like Us on Facebook to engage with us
www.facebook.com/VillageofLansing

Subscribe to our YouTube videos, share them, or embed them on your own sites. We publish videos from LNN to our YouTube Channel.

Download the Village of Lansing App in Apple & Google Stores.
Community Calendar

- August 2nd – Cruise Night in Lansing
- August 4th – L.A.R.C. Golf Outing
- September 5th – 6th Fetching Market Event at Ford Hangar (5pm-8pm) on Friday and (10am-6pm) on Saturday
- September 14th – Cruise Night (Special Time 3pm-7pm)
- October 8th – International Walk to School Day
- October 10th – 12th – Autumn Fest – Fox Pointe
- October 31st – Trick or Treat Hours 4-7:30pm
- November 7th – Evening of Thanks Dinner at Serbian Social Center 6:30pm
- November 9th – Veteran’s Day Ceremony at Lansing Veteran’s Memorial at 2pm
- November 28th – Santa House Opens Hours: 6-8pm on Fridays Hours: 1-3pm on Saturdays
- December 7th – 2nd Annual Christmas House Walk (Noon to 4pm)

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In Other News...

Automatic Debit Available for Water Bill!

Looking for a more convenient way to pay your water bill? The Village offers an Automatic Utility Payment Plan as a convenient way to pay your bill at no cost to you. We will automatically debit the amount of your quarterly bill from your checking account on the due date of the bill. Applications are available online at www.villageoflansing.org or can be picked up at the Municipal Center. Please call 895-7198 with questions.

ATHENA Nominations Wanted

The ATHENA Award Program celebrated nationally and internationally recognizes individuals for professional excellence, for providing service to their community and for assisting women in their attainment of professional goals and leadership skills.

ATHENA Award Recipients are men or women who meet the following three criteria:
- Demonstrate excellence, creativity and initiative in their business or profession.
- Provide valuable service by contributing time and energy to improve the quality of life for others in the community.
- Actively assist women in achieving their full leadership potential.

Nomination forms with complete information are available at the Village Municipal Center, Fashionette, Lansing Chamber office, Ridge Animal Clinic and Schultz Insurance.

With Your Library Card - Shop Local And Save

September 2014 is National Library Card Sign-up Month, as designated by the American Library Association. Public libraries and the vast array of resources they offer to their cardholders add value to their communities. Your library card gives you access to literature, movies, music, computers, e-books, research resources, live entertainment and so much more.

To celebrate and to encourage everyone in town to get a library card the Lansing Public Library has partnered with The Village of Lansing and the Lansing Area Chamber of Commerce and local businesses to bring you, “With Your Library Card Shop Local and Save.

During the month of September if you show your valid Lansing Public Library Card at participating local businesses you will receive special discounts and offers just for you. So now is the time to stop at the library and get a card. They have traditional cards and are now offering a new concept in library cards; one that is both your library card and if you choose to activate it, a prepaid debit card. The Lansing Public Library is the second library in the country to offer this new concept! Staff are happy to explain how this works when you visit. Anyone who has a traditional library card and would like to upgrade to this new card may do so at anytime with no fee.

So get your card and watch for the announcement of participating businesses at the end of August then get out there during the month of September and Shop Local. Support the businesses that have chosen to make Lansing their home just like you. Information will be available at the library at 2750 Indiana Ave, on their website www.lansingpl.org or you may call them at 474-2447. If you are a business who would like information on this program please contact the Library Director, Debbie Albrecht at debbie@lansingpl.org. We are grateful to the Village, the Chamber and our local businesses for their support in this initiative.

Save Your Coupons for Military Families

The Lansing Business Women’s Association is cutting and sorting coupons for our military families overseas. The coupons can be used 6 months past the expiration date at their commissary. Join the group on the first Monday of every month at the Lansing Public Library in the Community Room. They meet 9:30 a.m. - noon and 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. Bring your scissors and any coupons you may have. Questions call Pat Leck at 322-5232.

Veterans Day Ceremony November 9th

On Sunday November 9th at 2 pm, honor our nation’s Women Veterans at a Veteran’s Day Ceremony at the Lansing Veterans Memorial. This will be brought to you by the Lansing Veterans Memorial Honor Guard. The Memorial is located at the Lansing Municipal Airport, Burnham Ave and Glenwood Lansing Rd. All women currently serving in the military or Veterans of our Country’s Armed Services are invited to attend, participate & be recognized for their service.