

FOCUS

THE MONTHLY BUSINESS NEWS MAGAZINE OF THE
LANSING REGIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

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LANSING
DELTA TOWNSHIP



Local 652 602

MANUFACTURING

GREATER LANSING'S PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE

IN THIS ISSUE

10 OVER THE NEXT TEN RECOGNIZES TOP YOUNG PROFESSIONALS

ATHENA WIN: AN EVENING OF EMPOWERMENT

LRC-PAC ANNOUNCES NOVEMBER ELECTION ENDORSEMENTS



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Leadership Circle investors are proven business and community leaders. We value their commitment and applaud their efforts to strengthen our region with their leadership and appreciate the important role they play in advancing our organization.

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Greater Lansing is a Leader in Advanced Manufacturing

For more than a century, Greater Lansing has been a world leader in manufacturing. Our ability to effectively compete in a global economy has resulted in continued economic growth, jobs, investment, and an outstanding quality of life for families and thriving communities. Our connection to manufacturing has spawned an entrepreneurial spirit that allows us to innovate and overcome challenges.

The foundation of our manufacturing roots has been the strong presence of General Motors and automotive-related manufacturing. What may be most impressive about the GM/Lansing partnership through the decades has been the ability to remain competitive in the face of changing industry dynamics. The most recent example is GM's \$3 billion investment announcement in the new Ultium battery plant, a joint partnership between GM and LG Energy. That includes substantial investment in GM's two existing assembly plants and positions our region as a leader in the electric vehicle market.

It is also noteworthy how the advanced manufacturing landscape has evolved in our region. Greater Lansing is now home to a very diverse industry sector whose impact has a global reach.

Neogen is one success story that began in this region in the 1980s. That company has grown into a world leader in food and animal safety products. Neogen recently announced a \$71.5 million expansion in Lansing and an exciting merger with 3M Food Safety, which enhances the company's leadership status. Neogen along with Emergent BioSolutions are two excellent examples of our region's growth in the biotech and life sciences sector.

Bekum America is another example of a company that has quietly grown as the industry leader in the manufacture of blow molding machines that produce containers that all of us use everyday.

There are many other exciting stories in our region that often fly under the radar, such as Niowave, which has recently started shipping medical isotopes that offer the potential for medical breakthroughs in areas including cancer treatment. Medical and pharmaceutical company McKesson recently chose Delhi Township as an ideal location for a new distribution facility.

Our region also has a growing presence in the aerospace industry, as best represented by Pratt Whitney, which manufactures fan blades for jet engines. LorAnn Oils is a great example of a family-owned business that has thrived for 60 years and has become a leader in manufacturing premium flavorings and essential oils.

Our region is fortunate to have a strong foundation of organizations committed to education and workforce training to build the talent pipeline. Lansing Community College, Ingham Intermediate School District, Eaton RESA, and Clinton RESA are providing state-of-the-art programming for the growing number of students interested in opportunities in the professional trades.

We are also very proud of the strong partnership with the Capital Area Manufacturing Council and its efforts to build awareness about the new era in advanced manufacturing that is thriving in the Greater Lansing region.

Our community is a great example of the changing face of manufacturing in our country. We still make things as well as anywhere in the world, and the opportunities that exist in the new manufacturing economy are endless. That is why Greater Lansing will remain a global leader! ●



TIM DAMAN
PRESIDENT AND CEO
LANSING REGIONAL
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



Our community is a great example of the changing face of manufacturing in our country. We still make things as well as anywhere in the world, and the opportunities that exist in the new manufacturing economy are endless. That is why Greater Lansing will remain a global leader!

October 2022

10/4

LANSING ECONOMIC CLUB

Tuesday, Oct. 4 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Kellogg Hotel & Conference Center,
S. Harrison Road, East Lansing

The October Lansing Economic Club will feature Michigan State University president, Samuel L. Stanley, Jr., M.D. Since becoming president of Michigan State University in 2019, Samuel L. Stanley Jr., M.D., has accelerated the university's reach across key areas in education, research and outreach. He has shepherded the university through the pandemic while at the same time setting records in both fundraising and enrollment. Today, MSU focuses on maintaining a safe, diverse and welcoming university and spurring its excellence and impact across the range of its missions. President Stanley will discuss the spartan impact and how MSU is innovating for a better future in mid-Michigan and beyond.

Cost: Complimentary for Lansing Economic Club members, \$55 for LRCC members, \$75 for future members, and \$425 for a table of eight.

10/11

MEMBER MIXER

Tuesday, Oct. 11 from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.
Independence Villages of Grand Ledge,
4775 Village Drive, Grand Ledge

Make new connections at the October Member Mixer, hosted by the Independence Villages of Grand Ledge. You are invited to enjoy networking with other Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce members and complimentary food and beverages.

Cost: Complimentary for LRCC members.

10/26

BUSINESS EDUCATION SERIES

Wednesday, Oct. 26 from 10 to 11:30 a.m.
Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce,
500 E. Michigan Ave, Suite 200, Lansing

The November Business Education Series will feature Ian and Carrie Richardson from Richardson & Richardson Consulting, LLC. Ian and Carrie will discuss how to start prospecting for your business, key metrics for managing and maintaining your organization's pipeline and how to recognize gaps in your organization's sales process.

Cost: Complimentary for LRCC members and \$25 for future members.

Virtual Business Roundtables

Virtual roundtables allow community and government leaders an opportunity to share what is going on in the community and determine ways to advise the tri-county region. For more information please visit www.lansingchamber.org calendar of events.

Delta Township — Eaton County

Wednesday, Oct. 5 from 9 to 10 a.m.

Lansing — Delhi Township

Wednesday, Oct. 12 from 9 to 10 a.m.

East Lansing — Meridian Township

Wednesday, Oct. 19 from 9 to 10 a.m.

The LRCC hosts numerous events monthly, from Member Mixers to Lansing Economic Club programs. The events and programming provide valuable content and information and give members unique opportunities to connect and network.

The LRCC encourages members to check their email, follow LRCC social media channels, and visit the [LRCC website](#) for the most updated information on upcoming educational offerings and networking opportunities.

Registration is available on the LRCC website.

Info Hub

LRCC members have unparalleled access to company and staff profiles on the LRCC website. To access and update this information at any point, visit lansingchamber.org and enter your username and password. If you have not yet signed into the site, please follow the simple password reset instructions.

Call (517) 487-6340 with any questions.

Thank You Renewing Members

Abood Law Firm	Hobbs + Black Architects, Inc.
Allegra Marketing Print Mail - Okemos	Holt & Dimondale Agency
Baryames Cleaners	Ingham Health Plan Corporation
Buckingham Strategic Wealth - Grand Ledge	Innovare (formerly Corporate Office Interiors)
Burger King - 505 E. Saginaw St C2AE	Johnson Sign Company
Campbell Inc. Press Repair	Jon Anthony Florist dba Ha-Jon, Inc.
Capital Area Health Alliance	Kelley Cawthorne
Carbidex	L.O. Eyecare
Cask & Company	Lansing Urgent Care
Clinton County Board of Commissioners	M&M Moving of Lansing
Consumers Concrete Corporation	The Meridian Company
Cottage Gardens	MPC Cashway Lumber, Inc.
Crandell Brothers Trucking	Northwood University - University College
Crippen Auto Mall	One North Kitchen and Bar
Crowne Plaza Lansing West	OUTFRONT Media
DC Engineering, PC	Public Sector Consultants
Dickinson Wright PLLC	Re/Max Real Estate Professionals, Inc.
Edge Partnerships	SecurAlarm Systems Inc
Elieff Brothers Roofing & Exteriors	Shotwell Rutter Baer
F.D. Hayes Electric	Siena Accounting
GMCA - Greater Michigan Construction Academy	Spicer Group, Inc. - Lansing Area
Greater Lansing United Nations Assn.-USA	Staybridge Suites Lansing - Okemos
Grewal Law	Tandem Studios
Haddads Agency - Farm Bureau Insurance	TeamLogic IT
	Total Health Dentistry - Susan Maples, DDS
	Willingham & Coté Law Firm

Welcome New Members

Jersey Giant

(517) 323-6800
www.jgsubs.com
 3700 W. Saginaw St. #2
 Lansing, MI 48917

R. E. OLDS Foundation

(517) 402-1009
www.reoldsfoundation.org
 P.O. Box 4900
 East Lansing, MI 48826-4900

American Senior Benefits/ Schnepp Retirement

(517) 301-3380
www.schneppretirement.com
 2175 Association Dr Ste 270
 Okemos, MI 48864

Life Events Studio

www.lifeeventsstudiolansing.com
 6810 S Cedar St., Ste B
 Lansing, MI 48911

Group Genius

(517) 490-7884
www.groupgeniusmi.com
 4025 Holt Rd., Suite 500 (Building 2)
 Holt, MI 48842

Woldumar

(517) 322-0030
www.woldumar.org
 5739 Old Lansing Rd.
 Lansing, MI 48917

Michigan Association of Broadcasters

(517) 484-7444
www.michmab.com
 222 N. Chestnut St.
 Lansing, MI 48933

Brittany Parks Process Consulting LLC

(517) 402-5708
www.bppconsulting.net
 5859 W. Saginaw Hwy., Suite 335
 Lansing, MI 48917

Little Dreamers Daycare Center

(517) 258-1271
www.littledreamersdaycare.com
 3620 S. Waverly Rd
 Lansing, MI 48911

Lansing Christian School

(517) 882-5779
www.lansingchristianschool.org
 3405 Belle Chase Way
 Lansing, MI 48911

Chamber Milestones

Michigan Automobile Dealers Association

55 Years

Warner Norcross + Judd LLP

15 Years

Product Resource Company

10 Years

Serra Auto Campus

10 Years

Clean Team USA

5 Years

Kunz, Leigh & Associates

5 Years

Susan Combs Coaching & Consulting, LLC

5 Years

We'd like to offer a special salute to these great organizations who reached milestone anniversaries as Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce members this month. Thank you for your continued support throughout the years!

LRCC Joins with Greater Lansing Hispanic Chamber to Celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month

The Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce is proud to join with the Greater Lansing Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and other community leaders in celebrating National Hispanic Heritage Month, which runs from September 15 to October 15. Hispanic Heritage Month aims to celebrate the histories, cultures, and contributions of American citizens whose ancestors came from Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean, and Central and South America.

“It is fitting that we recognize the enormous contributions the Hispanic population has made in our region,” said Tim Daman, LRCC president and CEO. “It is particularly noteworthy to see the increasing number of Hispanic-owned businesses that are creating jobs and providing opportunities in the Greater Lansing region.”

“Celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month not only means to celebrate the positive contributions from Hispanic Latinos, but it is a reminder that Hispanic Latinos are Americans first and we are coming from very rich and diverse cultures and countries,” said Sein Paul Benavides, a Latino community leader in Mid-Michigan. “Everyone knows about Latino foods, but we are so much more and gaining new footholds with representation in every pocket in this great nation of ours. Latinos accounted for over 51 percent of the population growth between 2010 and 2020.”

Hispanic entrepreneurs are the fastest growing segment of business owners in the U.S., as they have ownership of one out of every seven small businesses in the country.

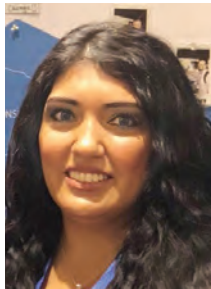
“National Hispanic Heritage Month and similar efforts have an ever-growing positive impact on our society. Today it is common to see companies, municipalities, universities, and non-profit organizations strive to create a diverse and inclusive work environment where clients and employees are celebrated and respected,” said Joe Garcia, CEO of Cristo Rey Community Center. “Latinos today continue to



Benavides



Garcia



Hernandez



Carrillo

advance communities across the country as small business owners, veterans, teachers, and public servants, among many other professions. Hispanic Heritage Month allows us to recognize our achievements and contributions to our national story.”



“In honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, the Greater Lansing Hispanic Chamber (GLHC) is proud to be part of, support, and celebrate the growing Hispanic Businesses in the Lansing region. Bringing recognition to this vibrant community is a way to highlight the rich culture it is well known for. We are excited to play a role in expanding on the inclusiveness to unify all groups and embrace the unique differences and contributions made toward economic growth,” said GLHC Co-Chairs, Elizabeth Hernandez and Chaz Carrillo. ●

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Goodfellas Bagel Deli Shop Offers New Location in Capital City Market

DOWNTOWN LANSING DELI ALSO EXPANDS INTO EAST LANSING

Meijer's Capital City Market grocery store in Lansing, Mich., has expanded its food service offering with an in-house Goodfellas Bagel Deli location.

The Grand Rapids, Mich.-based retailer said that Capital City Market customers are able to order from Goodfellas Bagel Deli's breakfast menu all day — as well as from an expanded lunch and dinner menu — or buy hot or cold grab-and-go sandwiches and sit down to eat it in the market's café. The deli also takes to-go bulk orders. Free parking is available behind the market.

The original Goodfellas Bagel Deli was launched in 2019 about a block from Capital City Market. The deli specializes in unique and traditional bagel sandwiches made with fresh ingredients, some sourced locally, including from Cochran Bros., which distributes freshly baked bread. The opening inside Capital City Market represents the deli's third location, serving an exclusive menu and convenience offerings, according to Capital City Market store manager Robert Lajcaj.

"I really enjoy the team at Capital City Market, and I'm looking forward to the new doors this partnership has already started to open for my business," commented Adrian Joseph, owner of Goodfellas Bagel Deli. "We've



Courtesy of Capital City Market

Goodfellas Bagel Deli owner Adrian Joseph at the bagel shop's Capital City Market opening.

done a good job of creating a really solid fan base, and now we'll be able to do so much more."

Goodfellas Bagel Deli has also expanded to a new location in East Lansing. Located at 235 Albert Street, the new deli is in the former Poke Lab next to the Mad Eagle boutique. Catering to the MSU crowd, Goodfellas in East Lansing will offer extended hours until 3 a.m. Wednesday through Sunday. ●

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W007955

WE ARE MOVING

State of fitness is moving to the Stadium District of Downtown Lansing! State of Fitness is ready for its next chapter in its evolution to continue to help change people's lives through fitness!

The past 12 years have been a dream come true for the State of Fitness family. We are forever grateful to the community of Meridian Township and all of their love and support during our time in East Lansing.

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Our new location will be in the heart of the Stadium District of Downtown Lansing located at 154 South Larch Street. Once Stamprite is being fully renovated by the Gillespie Group.



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The UN's Essential Role Over 77 Years

By Joseph Hess, former President, Greater Lansing UN Association



**UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

Since the formation of the United Nations in 1945, when the world population was around 2.5 billion, the population has grown to over 8 billion. With that growth has come a dizzying array of advances in transportation, communication, research methodologies, weaponry, and every other facet of human life. Those advances have also dramatically increased conditions that cause human conflict and the temptation to use violent methods to resolve disputes.

Every nation was impacted by the loss of life and economic and environmental damage during World War II. The UN was formed to address international conflicts via a binding agreement among national governments to use the UN and its agencies and commissions to peacefully resolve international disputes and preserve our planet for future generations.

Those mechanisms have been effective in preventing another global military conflict until Russia's Vladimir Putin violated his country's commitment to abide by the United Nations Charter. The Russian invasion of Ukraine in 2014 and its expansion in 2022 have been condemned by UN officials and the majority of UN member nations. Sanctions designed to stop and reverse the invasion are affecting national economies around the world. NATO and the UN are collaborating



Alex Ustinov/Pexels

Destroyed residential buildings in Ukrainian city.

to prevent Russia from escalating a regional conflict into another international war.

Businesses in Greater Lansing are beneficiaries of the UN's global operations, which facilitate international commerce. Lansing Regional Chamber members can support the UN's work by advocating on its behalf and by assisting in the resettlement of refugees and preparing them to enter the local workforce.

All are invited to attend the UN's 77th-anniversary program and dinner at 4:30 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 23, at the MSU Kellogg Hotel & Conference Center. For details and to register, go to gluna.org.

LRCC Members Recognized on Crain's Cool Places to Work List

Greater Lansing has numerous outstanding employers who provide great job environments for their team members. The Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce (LRCC) is proud to recognize our members who made the list of Crain's Cool Places to Work in 2022. This statewide survey and awards program is designed to identify, recognize and honor the best places of employment in Michigan, benefiting the state's economy, workforce and businesses. The *2022 Cool Places to Work in Michigan* list is made up of 100 companies in three size categories: small (15-49 U.S. employees), medium (50-249 U.S. employees), and large (250+ U.S. employees).

Congratulations to these outstanding LRCC members who received the Crain's Cool Place to Work 2022 Designation:

- Martin Waymire (#18)
- Cinnaire (#19)
- NTH Consultants, Ltd. (#30)
- Maner Costerisan (#40)
- Public Sector Consultants (#43)
- Michigan First Credit Union (#46)
- Clark Construction Company (#61)
- Dewpoint (#84)

LRCC Events Highlight Hunger in Our Community



The Economic Club program featured a panel discussion including Claire Babineaux-Fontenot, CEO of Feeding America, and Dr. Phil Knight, executive director of the Food Bank Council of Michigan. The discussion focused on how food insecurity impacts every business, from employees and their families, clients and potential clients, and the communities in which they operate. The program was moderated by Michelle Lantz, CEO of Greater Lansing Food Bank.

The Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce (LRCC) brought focus to hunger in our community with two special events on September 13. First, the fall return of the Lansing Economic Club series of programs featured a panel discussion on food insecurity in our region. Later the same day, the Greater Lansing Food Bank hosted the Chamber's member mixer.

An estimated one in seven residents in the Greater Lansing Food Bank's service area are food insecure, around 94,000 individuals. These individuals include working parents,



The LRCC Member Mixer held on September 13 at the Greater Lansing Food Bank complex offered business leaders an opportunity to visit the new state-of-the-art food bank and distribution center at Webster Road and I-69. There were also opportunities for attendees to discuss sponsorship, donation, and volunteer opportunities at the Food Bank.

children, seniors, and veterans. The Greater Lansing Food Bank has moved forward on a vigorous five-year goal to double its current food distribution to meet the increasing need.

"The issue of food insecurity touches every one of us in some way, whether it is someone in our family or where we work," said Tim Daman, president & CEO, LRCC. "We hope the combination of these two programs heightened awareness of the need for all of us to support efforts to address hunger issues in our region." ●



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ATHENA WIN: Evening of Empowerment, STEM, Women and Science

In just a few short years, the ATHENA WIN Evening of Empowerment has become one of the premier events in the region. A record crowd of 240 people attended the event held on August 11th at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Lansing West, and everyone agreed it was a night to remember.

This year's program had a theme tied to STEM and women in science. The Evening of Empowerment serves in part as an opportunity to congratulate the 2021 ATHENA Award recipient. This year's recipient, Michelle Massey of TechSmith, is dedicated to creating more awareness around STEM opportunities and talked to the crowd about the importance of trying to connect more people in underserved communities to STEM learning.

The evening's keynote speaker was Camille Schrier, Miss America 2020. Attendees enjoyed learning more about Schrier's journey with science and her inspirational call for all young women to fuel their passion for science, technology, engineering, and math. Schrier developed Her Royal Scientist brand and put together kits of six science demonstrations suitable for the elementary-aged audience. Schrier joined with ATHENA WIN at an open house at Impression Five Science Center hosted by the Capital Area Manufacturing Council on the Wednesday before the event. The event included an audience of manufacturers and others in the field of STEM. Her Royal Scientist science kits were available for Schrier to autograph, along with many photo opportunities.

Schrier's message resonated with the entire crowd, in particular, with a larger than usual number of young attendees. Members of the Waverly Robotics team and the Grand Ledge National Honor Society enjoyed the message from Schrier. The participation of so many young people brought a special energy to the Evening of Empowerment.

"The energy was fantastic," said Brenda Geoghegan, co-chair of the event. "We are very interested in the long-term growth of ATHENA WIN, so it was good to be able to host so many young people who are the future of our organization and the community."

Several key sponsors supported the event, including the VIP sponsor PNC Bank, beverage sponsor Gud Marketing, gift sponsors MSUFCU, Delta Dental, and Huntington Bank, along with support from the Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce, Plant Professionals, TechSmith, and Jungle Jane Promotions.



(From L-R) Audrey Dahlgren, Sports Director, WLNS-TV6; Susan Hengesbach, Co-chair, 2022 Evening of Empowerment; Camille Schrier, Miss America 2020; and Brenda Geoghegan, Co-chair, 2022 Evening of Empowerment,



Waverly Robotics: Members of the Waverly Robotics team were among a large crowd of younger attendees at this year's Evening of Empowerment

"We cannot be more grateful for the support we have received from our sponsors and the hard work of all our committee members," said Susan Hengesbach. "We could not have had this successful event without each and every one of them."

ATHENA WIN is a collaborative effort to provide a support system for professional women in the Greater Lansing area and encourages all women to lead their communities forward. For more information about the organization and upcoming events, visit athenawin.wildapricot.org.

Chamber Events: Your Connection to Professional Development and Networking Success

From professional development to networking, the Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce hosts events to fit every need.

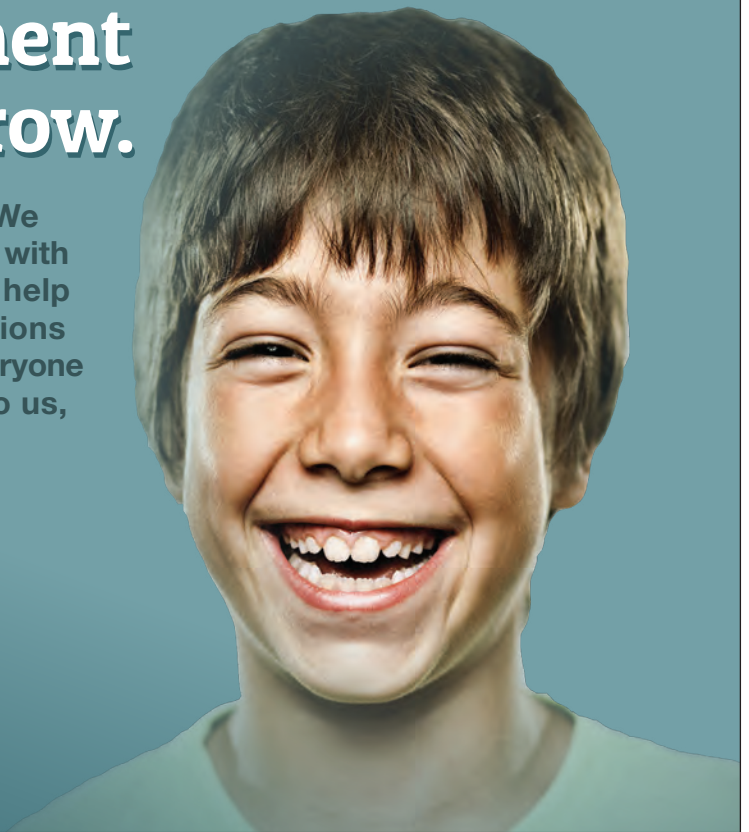
A full list of events is located on the Chamber Calendar on the LRCC website.



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Lansing Region’s Top Young Professionals Recognized at 10 Over the Next Ten Awards

The 16th annual *10 Over the Next Ten Awards* were held on Tuesday, Sept. 20 at the University Club of MSU in East Lansing. This event recognizes Greater Lansing’s top 10 young professionals who are expected to contribute significantly to our community over the next ten years. The event was sponsored by Independent Bank and the University Club of MSU and co-hosted by the Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce (LRCC) and Lansing 5:01. Michigan Premiere Events served as event management partner.

THE 2022 10 OVER THE NEXT TEN AWARD RECIPIENTS INCLUDE:



Barber

Kimberly Barber’s passion for travel led her to form Globetrotter Travel, a company dedicated to helping others plan their dream trips. She has received numerous awards for her outstanding work including being recognized as a Top 100 Agent in 2020 and 2021 as well as a Top 75 Agent in 2019. Kim is equally passionate about her community and has served as a board member

for the Lansing Women’s Forum since 2016, board member for Millennials in Travel and a granting volunteer for Make a Wish Michigan. Kim and her husband have been foster parents since 2020 and are in the process of adopting their son. She has a bachelor’s degree from Central Michigan University.



Caluk

Matea Caluk serves as assistant director for prevention, outreach and education in the Education Department at Michigan State University. Matea is a native of Bosnia and Herzegovina and relocated to Lansing in the late 90’s. She earned her bachelor’s in public relations and advertising. She earned her master’s in college student affairs leadership from Grand Valley State University.

Matea has dedicated her career to lending a voice to cultivate equitable practices and create opportunities for access. She received the Community Champion Award from the Greater Lansing Convention and Visitors Bureau in 2018. Matea loves the Lansing community and has committed to the important work of making the community a desirable destination to live and work and an equitable community for all people.



Christian

Aurelius Christian is a corridor and commercial development specialist for the Lansing Economic Development Corporation, where he oversees special programs to support small business growth and revitalization of blighted commercial corridors within the city. He is also spearheading a program to make opportunities for economic prosperity more equitable.

He is one of the youngest public officials in Greater Lansing appointed by the Ingham County Board of Commissioners to serve on the Board of Directors for the Ingham County Community Health Centers. In that role, Aurelius oversees 13 locations, 27,000 patients and over 70,000 annual visits delivering care to the community’s most vulnerable populations. Aurelius has a bachelor’s in advertising management from Michigan State University.



Clark

Amber Clark serves as neighborhoods and economic development director for Meridian Township. In her role, she is active in development efforts to revitalize the Haslett Village Square and the Village of Okemos Redevelopment Project. She also managed the Meridian Mall redevelopment project in conjunction with CBL Property Management. She also serves as

planning committee president for Meridian Township’s Juneteenth Celebration. Amber has been active in the Meridian Area Business Association, ATHENA PowerLink governing body, Haslett Robotics Club as a member and coach and Lansing Women’s Forum. Amber believes in working each day to create a better version of the world in which we live. She has a bachelor’s in communications from Michigan State University.



Cumberbatch

Lorin Cumberbatch saw a need in the community and decided to fill it. There were no Black estheticians in the Lansing area and she decided to open a shop to provide that service. Not only did she meet this need, but she also did it during the Covid pandemic. As owner and CEO of Skin Studio 211, Lorin welcomes all races through her door even though she originally set out to meet a need in the Black community. She has opened a second salon

in East Lansing this fall. She regularly donates gift cards and volunteer time to worthwhile fundraisers, back-to-school drives, community sports teams and other school activities. She also created the Black Book Drive which is now in its third year. She earned her general associate's degree from Lansing Community College.



DeGroat

Xavier DeGroat is president and CEO of the Xavier DeGroat Autism Foundation. He has had a huge impact on public policy and autism awareness since starting the Foundation in 2018. Xavier is autistic himself, and has channeled his energy into results that have included becoming the first autistic intern at the White House and working with Michigan Secretary

of State Jocelyn Benson to pass a law that changes the licensing of people so law enforcement will know immediately if a person they have pulled over is autistic. He also opened the world's first Autism Museum located in the Meridian Mall. He was named a Citizen of the Year in Delta Township in 2018 and has volunteered for Impression 5 Science Center and at numerous Lansing School District events.



Joseph

Adrian Joseph opened his first Goodfellas Bagel Deli at the corner of Pere Marquette and Michigan Avenue in downtown Lansing in 2019. Two months after opening, the COVID pandemic struck. Not only was his new business able to make it through the pandemic, but the company was also able to build a strong foundation that served as the basis for expansion. Goodfellas

recently opened locations in East Lansing and inside Capital City Market in downtown Lansing. During the pandemic, Goodfellas supplied first responders with meals and discounts. They also sponsor numerous local events and have built a relationship with the nearby City Rescue Mission, through which Goodfellas donates extra food or items they are unable to use. They have also helped raise funds for the Black Student Alliance and are active with the LRCC.



Munsters

Jordan Munsters says his favorite thing to do is to get people to break out of their comfort zones and have fun. He is doing that through two successful businesses he has created—High Caliber Karting and Entertainment and Combat Karting, LLC. The two companies combined employ more than 60 people. Located in the Meridian Mall, High

Caliber Karting has become an anchor entertainment complex. While many restaurants and entertainment companies had to close during the Covid shutdown, Jordan found a way to keep the 80,000-square foot facility open and proceed with a 25,000-square foot expansion in 2021. Jordan and his company are active in supporting numerous fundraisers. In 2021, Meridian Township sought Jordan's support in hosting a community car show that would draw people from all over the state. The first year of Meridian Motorfest brought over 200 vehicles and 1,000 people to the area. He has also hosted numerous activities to support the local arts community. Jordan earned a bachelor's degree in Interdisciplinary Studies in Social Science from Michigan State University.



Petitjean

Molly Petitjean is an attorney with Buhl, Little, Lynwood and Harris, PLC practicing in the areas of estate planning, estate and trust administration and business planning. She is licensed in both Michigan and Wisconsin. She is a board member for multiple organizations for the legal and Greater Lansing communities and a volunteer for her church. She also

serves on the grants committee for the Capital Region Community Foundation. Additionally, she serves as a board member for Our Biswas, a group that provides economic empowerment for women and girls who live in conditions of extreme poverty around the world. Molly earned her J.D. degree, magna cum laude, from Michigan State College of Law and a bachelor's degree, with honors from Marquette University.



Tisdale

Ernest Tisdale is the national field services director for EDUStaff. Among his numerous accomplishments at EDUStaff was helping to pass legislation allowing for more substitute teachers in Michigan. He and his wife, Carmen also opened The Hidden Gem Event Venue in Holt in January 2020. Having to close two months later due to the pandemic was one of

the most challenging and at the same time rewarding professional experiences for the couple. The Hidden Gem is a full-service event venue offering catering, bar services, decorations, and event coordinating services. Having an event venue has allowed Ernest and Carmen to support numerous community organizations, including Child and Family Services, Holt Kiwanis Club, Ele's Place and the LRCC among others. Ernest earned his MBA from Cornerstone University. ●



MANUFACTURING GREATER LANSING'S PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE

GREATER LANSING

has a rich legacy tied to the manufacturing industry. Thanks to R.E. Olds' pivotal decision to relocate his fledgling auto company to Lansing more than a century ago, generations of Lansing families have been connected to the manufacturing industry in one form or another.

October is manufacturing month which celebrates modern manufacturing, an industry sector that has evolved and flourished in the 21st century. To a large extent, Greater Lansing exemplifies the more diverse nature of manufacturing today as the region has seen robust growth in the areas of biotech and medical technology, aerospace, and food safety. The recent announcement of the Ultium EV battery plant in Delta Township puts the region front and center in the electric vehicle revolution. It is certain to lead to further growth in automotive technologies in the region.

"The GM/Ultium announcement has thrust Greater Lansing to the forefront of the electric vehicle revolution, which ensures our region's future with GM for quite some time," said Tim Daman, president & CEO, Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce. "Equally exciting has been the growth of so many diverse industry sectors represented in our manufacturing community, including biotech, high-tech research, medical devices, aerospace, and others. Greater Lansing is a leader in the advanced manufacturing economy."

Global competition has brought many challenges to manufacturers over the past several decades as many

manufacturing jobs shifted overseas. However, the industry has been fighting to shift those jobs back to the United States. Cindy Kangas, who serves as executive director of the Capital Area Manufacturing Council, says that the manufacturers doing the best have diversified so they are not providing just one product to one industry.

"Instead of just providing to the auto industry, they will provide products for farm machinery and aerospace products," said Kangas. "You're seeing a lot more investment in technology and innovation which is helping take manufacturing to the next level."

To a large extent, Greater Lansing exemplifies the more diverse nature of manufacturing today as the region has seen robust growth in the areas of biotech and medical technology, aerospace, and food safety. The recent announcement of the Ultium EV battery plant in Delta Township puts the region front and center in the electric vehicle revolution. It is certain to lead to further growth in automotive technologies in the region.

New advanced manufacturing technologies bring new careers, requiring a skilled workforce interested in pursuing them, from bioengineers to data analysts to robotics technicians. Nationally, manufacturers will seek to fill 4 million high-skill, high-tech, and high-paying jobs over the next decade.

"Some have suggested that the shift to high-tech manufacturing means fewer jobs, but in fact we will always need entry-level jobs. Plus, we now have increased demand for many higher skill positions in the industry," said Kangas.

The demand for highly skilled workers in manufacturing has caused the educational system to ramp up the talent pipeline and provide training opportunities for students considering a career in the professional trades. Lansing Community College's Center for Manufacturing Excellence offers one- and two-year programs in areas including computer-automated design, manufacturing engineering technology, robotics and automation, and welding. At the high school level, Ingham Intermediate, Eaton RESA and Clinton RESA all



have state-of-the-art education opportunities for local students.

Part of the challenge of attracting students into manufacturing programs has been educating parents about the changing nature of manufacturing and the opportunities involved, as compared to the industry of several decades ago. Meanwhile, manufacturers are opening up more apprenticeships and co-op programs to help nurture the talent pipeline.

"We are very conscious of the narrative that needs to be changed," said Kangas. "People often think that factories are dirty and jobs are insecure. Teachers and counselors

often push kids to go to four-year universities, but not every child may be ready for that. Kids that go into professional trades are graduating with zero debt, starting their careers young, and having an amazing experience."

Kangas says that our diverse manufacturing businesses remain one of the best-kept secrets and we as a community should be proud of our robust manufacturing sector.

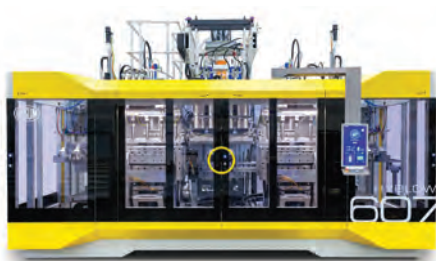
"We drive by these facilities on a daily basis, and we see them and we have no idea what goes on inside," said Kangas.

"These places are highly successful businesses that are often shipping their products globally. We should very much be proud of what is happening in our region."

Greater Lansing does have numerous success stories in an increasingly diverse manufacturing sector. Here are just a few of the many stories worth telling about manufacturing in our region.

Bekum America Corporation: People Make the Difference

Bekum America Corporation was established in 1979 with the mission to introduce top-quality blow molding machinery designed to produce plastic



bottles, containers, and other large plastic parts in the North American marketplace, by blending German design and technology with American skill and ingenuity.

A sample of products produced on Bekum's machinery includes customer favorites such as cosmetic and shampoo bottles, food jars, detergent bottles, beverage and juice containers, and countless other large plastic objects. Bekum's customers produce these products for an impressive array of consumer-oriented companies. Since its inception, Bekum's customer base has

LRCC Members in Manufacturing

In celebration of October as National Manufacturing Month, The Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce is proud to recognize our members in the manufacturing industry. Thank you for your enormous contributions to our region!

- Alro Steel Corporation
- Bekum America Corporation
- Capital Area Manufacturing Council
- Capital Steel & Wire, Inc.
- Dart Container
- Demmer Corporation
- Douglas Steel Fabricating Corporation
- Dowding Industries
- Emergent BioSolutions
- GM - General Motors Lansing Operations
- Heppler Engineering Group
- IMPCO
- KTM Industries, Inc.
- LorAnn Oils, Inc.
- Neogen Corporation
- Niowave Inc.
- Peckham, Inc.
- Pratt & Whitney AutoAir, Inc.
- RSDC of Michigan
- S & S Die Co.
- The Shyft Group

Don't see your business listed? Contact us to become a member today!



expanded greatly and now includes large, multinational customers, as well as small "owner/operator" plastic bottle manufacturers.

"You might not know us, but you use bottles produced on Bekum machines every day of your life," said Steve London, president & CEO, Bekum America Corporation.

Bekum strives for excellence in the design and manufacture of its industry-leading technology, in the development of its employees, and in its involvement in the community. Bekum's concentration on developing its people has resulted in its industry-leading position. Its people represent quality and excellence, which translates into long-term success through increasing sales, a strong marketplace share, and more than 40 years of successful operations.

Bekum believes the major reason for its long-term success has been its people. "Growing its own" has been and continues to be a significant goal of Bekum. Following this belief, Bekum has developed an award-winning Apprenticeship Program based upon the German "model," and they are proud that more than 50 percent of their manufacturing employees are the results of its outstanding Apprenticeship Program.

Bekum practices what it preaches – people make the difference.

MANUFACTURING: GREATER LANSING'S PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE



Dart Container: A Family Business Gone Global

Dart Container Corporation, founded and headquartered in Mason, makes everyday products that give people the freedom to enjoy the food and drinks they love, wherever they are. From to-go containers and dinnerware to tamper-evident food packaging and the red SOLO® cup, Dart products have kept people on the go and having fun for more than 60 years.

Dart's story began in 1937 with the opening of a small machine shop in Mason by William F. (WF) Dart. More than 60 years later, Dart remains a family-owned, family-focused company with 15,000 employees in four countries, including about 1,800 on their Mason campus.

Jim Farrell is Dart's Executive Vice President of People, Culture and Communications. He says in addition to quality products, customer service, and outstanding people, the strong support of the Dart family was and remains a major driver in the company's growth through the years.

"As a privately held company, we don't have to report earnings to thousands of stakeholders looking for short-term gains and be pressured to make decisions that may not be good long-term strategy," Farrell explained. "The unwavering commitment of the Dart family and their deep understanding of the foodservice industry enables us to make decisions for the long term, even if a return on investment takes a little longer."

Despite being a huge global company, Farrell says Dart's steadfast emphasis on its core values and the culture those values have created allows it to maintain the "family feel" in its daily operations.

"While we have all these machines and buildings and technology, at the end of the day our success relies on our people, and we deeply value their many contributions to the company," said Farrell.

The billion-dollar acquisition of Solo Cup Company 10 years ago allowed Dart to expand its portfolio into different plastic and paper products. The company recently built a \$38-million facility focused on developing new, innovative, and sustainable products on its Mason campus.

"We're currently exploring new materials and developing



Ferrell



Metts



London



Bigelow



Hendel



Grettenberger



Adent



Kangas



Daman

more sustainable applications for existing raw materials," said Farrell. "The demand for food and beverage packaging continues to increase, and Dart Container is well-positioned to meet our customers' current and future needs."

Dowding Industries: A Culture of Effort and Innovation

When Maurice "Skip" Dowding opened a small tool and die shop in a garage near his home on Narrow Lake in 1965, he never imagined how big his business would become. Since then, Dowding Industries has grown from a tool and die manufacturer to a leading-edge, world-class manufacturer of metal stampings, fabrication, precision-machined components, and assemblies. Dowding produces parts for automotive, railcar, agriculture, mining, construction, and infrastructure sectors. Company President Jeff Metts believes that even more important than what they do at Dowding is why they do it.

"We really do it because it is an opportunity to bring people to be all they can be," said Metts. "We are really interested in our culture. Our people give us the best years of their lives and we want to make sure this is a job that meets their needs. That is just as important as making parts and making money."

Dowding's 227 employees work at one of three facilities at its

High School Robotics Phenomenon: A Fun Way to Prepare for the Jobs of the Future

High school robotics teams are quickly growing in popularity for both boys and girls alike. The FIRST Robotics Competition (FRC) is a competition held internationally for teams across the U.S., including more than 476 in the state of Michigan, which is the largest region in the world for FRC.

"I have never found a program that is more impactful on students' lives," said Bryan Tasior, Holt High School teacher and advisor to the Holt Robo Rams.

The Robo Rams operate much like a small business that is managed by student leadership. Some students work in human resources, media and marketing, and fundraising. There are teams for manufacturing, electrical, programming, and scouting teams for competition season.

"It is a unique opportunity for students to find their passion even if they don't know it yet," said Tasior. "They are apt to do things they have never done before, so they have to go out on a limb and learn new skills on a daily basis."

The Holt Robo Rams had a very successful competition season, working through regional and state competitions to become one of 80 teams from Michigan to qualify for the world competition in Houston, Texas. The event included 459 teams from 34 countries. In addition to the thrill of the competition itself, the team enjoyed field trips to a Houston Astros game, Galveston Beach, Memphis, and the Lorraine Motel, the site of the Martin Luther King assassination.

"It was a life-changing experience for our students," said Tasior. "Some of our kids had never left Michigan, and they were talking to kids from Israel, Turkey, and Japan and helping each other during the competition."

The Robo Rams' success is getting noticed by other students. Three times as many students have signed up for the program this year. Tasior says the team is looking for more partnerships in the community with local businesses. He also says that Holt will eventually expand the robotics program into the elementary level so that



students throughout the K-12 system will have opportunities to participate.

Waverly High School has seen significant growth in its robotics program since it was originally formed five years ago. Waverly had 17 students in its first year and has seen enrollment rise to 42 at the high school and 180 districtwide. Waverly High teacher and robotics coach Jeff Parks says being in robotics shows students multiple career paths.

"We teach kids how to machine and weld metal, how to CAD, write grants, how to produce videos, and how to build a robot," said Parks. "They learn to work together because the kids writing


the grants need to know what the kids building the robots are doing and vice versa."

Waverly has enjoyed a great deal of success in various robotics competitions, including competing in the world competition in the program's first year. Today the team is focused on expanding its community engagement, letting as many people as possible interact with the robots.

"We are working on building a tee-shirt cannon robot, which is a six-barreled cannon that will drive around and shoot tee-shirts out to crowds at various events," said Parks. "We hope by getting out more in the community we can drive the growth of robotics in the Greater Lansing area."

The success of the robotics program has increased interest in students beyond the district's current ability to support them. Parks says Waverly is working on ways to increase staffing to provide more opportunities, especially for disadvantaged students.

"We have a lot of students that because of their socio-economic status aren't exposed to as many opportunities," said Parks. "Being able to get more of those students involved is something we are going to keep striving for."

Parks says that robotics is the greatest way to teach skilled trades, career readiness and to help students determine where they want to get in life. 

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campus in Eaton Rapids. Part of the company's success can be attributed to its continuing push to evolve and innovate. The company has changed its manufacturing process to reduce the time it takes to manufacture parts, a process known as QRM.

"It really changed how we work and how we get things done," said Metts. "It took our lead times from 58-59 days down to 14 days and sometimes down to as little as one day."

Dowding has also significantly increased the amount it spends on training and development and revised its hiring process to help ensure that each employee brought on board represents the right fit for the entire team. The company has also invested in automation, adding new robots for welding and machining.

When asked what difference-makers separate Dowding from other companies, Metts summed it up in two words: attitude and effort.

"I'm really proud of this team. We have a great culture and a great attitude around that culture," said Metts. "It is the best team we've ever assembled. We've taken about seven years to cultivate the leadership on the team and they have really stepped up and done a great job. They know what they want to do and where they want to go."



General Motors and Lansing: A Proud Past and Promising Future

For over a century, the Greater Lansing region and GM have enjoyed a partnership that has served as the foundation of regional growth and prosperity.

"We wouldn't have been successful all those years without very strong public and private partnerships," said Jennifer Bigelow, Plant Director at GM's Lansing Grand River (LGR) Assembly Plant. "Specifically, as we look at the skilled workforce that we need for the jobs that we have here in Lansing and those whole region helps provide that."

The Lansing/GM relationship received a major boost with GM's recent \$3 billion investment announcement in a new Ultium battery plant, a joint partnership between GM and LG Energy Solutions to be located in Delta Township. GM also announced it is investing more than \$510 million in its two Lansing-area vehicle assembly plants, Lansing Grand

River (LGR) and Lansing Delta Township (LDT) to upgrade their production capabilities for near-term products. LGR currently produces the Chevrolet Camaro and Cadillac CT4 and CT5. LDT produces the Chevrolet Traverse, Buick Enclave, and GMC Acadia Limited.

"With two existing assembly plants, positioning a battery plant in this region fits well with our car manufacturing strategy," said Bigelow. "We are excited to see how this is going to play into our GM EV future."

The GM investments move Michigan and the region to the head of the pack in the EV revolution. These developments also secure Michigan's/GM long-term future together.

"We have a very good skilled workforce already in this area which offers us resources and people that can continue to grow as we bring in the electric future," said Bigelow.

GM has always taken an active role in supporting community needs in the region through a number of non-profit organizations, including the Capital Area United Way, Boys and Girls Club of Greater Lansing, and Impression 5 Science Center. The company has a strong desire to support STEM learning programs as a means of developing the workforce of tomorrow.

"We can't have a stable manufacturing workforce without seeing STEM and learning in that field continue to be cultivated and grow in our youth and the activities that can be offered here in the region," said Bigelow.



IMPCO: A World Leader in Microfinishing

IMPCO Microfinishing, a Lansing-based machine tooling manufacturer, was founded as Industrial Metal Products Corporation back in 1937. IMPCO began the business of making small tools, dies, and fixtures with six screw machines with a small staff of tool and die specialists. IMPCO developed the world's first automated crankshaft Microfinishing machine in 1947 and since then continues to set the standard in microfinishing process quality and system development. IMPCO has strong relationships in the automotive arena, enjoying the distinction of working with all of the Big 3 Auto companies, GM, Ford, and Chrysler.

"This all started 75 years ago when IMPCO designed, built, and delivered the world's first automated microfinishing

Celebrating Women in STEM and Manufacturing Careers

By Cindy Kangas, Executive Director, Capital Area Manufacturing Council

In honor of Manufacturing Month, it's important to celebrate the contributions of female leaders and innovators, both past and present, who have made a positive impact on manufacturing. These empowered, STEM-focused women continue to drive our industry forward. From entry-level production to engineers and CEOs, there have always been hardworking, creative women thinkers slowly growing in number while changing the narrative.



Countless female pioneers contributed to the safety and innovation of manufacturing. Margaret Knight, known as "Lady Edison," received her first patent in 1871 after seeing someone get injured in a textile mill and creating a safety device for looms.

Women in factories evolved during WWI and WWII: As males joined the military, production of wartime products became a necessity. Women entered the workforce to run drill presses, weld, operate cranes, use screw machines, and handle metalworking equipment. They performed manual labor to produce the products, but were also involved in the design, testing, and distribution.

machine in response to a request from Chrysler Corporation for polishing its new V-8 engine crankshaft," said Mark Hendel, IMPCO's Global Sales Director. "Since then, IMPCO has developed strong relationships with licensees and agents worldwide to ensure we can support our customers globally. Continued investment in R&D ensures we maintain our position as the global leader in microfinishing."

The nature of the auto industry is cyclical, so it is important to innovate and stay on top of constantly evolving technologies. IMPCO has moved with the auto industry into the electric vehicle market, having previously developed a machine solution and process, which recently led to a \$3.5 million order for multiple microfinishing systems to be used in the drivetrain of electric vehicles.

IMPCO continues to introduce new developments to provide optimized microfinishing solutions to its customers worldwide – today IMPCO has R&D, machine tool design, and build capabilities in North America and in Europe. IMPCO utilizes its microfinishing process across several areas, including automotive, aerospace, general manufacturing, and motorsports. The company has recently delivered equipment into the medical arena, building components for MRI scanners.

Hendel attributes much of the company's success to the dedication of the workforce, what he says is

A recent industry study shows that 1 in 3 manufacturing professionals and 1 in 4 manufacturing leaders are women. The Capital Area Manufacturing Council has created a Women in Manufacturing special interest group with a mission to connect, inspire and draw women to the industry. We've had discussions on a wide range of topics and have found we have similar concerns and successes.

I encourage young ladies to learn about pioneers like Madame C.J. Walker, Ella May Wiggins, and Rosie the Riveter. They should feel empowered by current leaders like Stephanie Kwolek, Mary Barra, and Veronica Braker. Local leaders Kelly Preston and Julie Mann are two of my personal heroes.

Counselors, teachers, and parents: Please encourage young ladies to consider careers in our diverse industry. Visit a science museum. Join a robotics club. I am inspired daily by all I see happening and know the future will be bright with a talent pipeline of young ladies to help make it happen. 🌞

"strength from within." IMPCO enjoys very low turnover and Hendel says the people that work there have the vision and drive to build a foundation for the next generation.

"We are the guardians of the company that we need to hand over one day," said Hendel. "If we have turned it over in better condition than we found it, then we have done a good job."



LorAnn Oils Celebrates 60 Years in Business

Specialty flavoring company LorAnn Oils, Inc. marked a milestone year in 2022. Pharmacist O.K. Grettenberger founded LorAnn Oils in 1962 and named the company in honor of his wife, Laura, and their only daughter, Ann. The company remains family owned and operated with O.K.'s grandson, John Grettenberger Jr., now at the helm.

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Originally, LorAnn Oils bottled and distributed to pharmacies ten core essential oils such as peppermint and clove. Over the years, the business has expanded its product offerings and LorAnn now sells to a wide variety of retailers, manufacturers, health practitioners, and home consumers. Today, the company services over 30,000 customers in 45 countries.

"We manufacture and sell professional flavors and ingredients for any size kitchen," said John Grettenberger, CEO, LorAnn Oils, Inc.

Half of LorAnn's wholesale business is selling to retailers including Walmart, Meijer, Kroger, Hobby Lobby, and Michaels. The other half of the business is to specialty users including candy and baking manufacturers. The company also sells direct to consumers through its website.

Based in Lansing, LorAnn Oils has 70 employees in two locations. The company headquarters is a 37,000-square-foot facility on Aurelius Road, which hosts the offices and manufacturing operations. The company has added onto the facility several times, including a \$1.5 million, 7,000-square foot expansion in 2017. The company continues to grow and recently invested in an 11,800-square foot expansion in Delta Township, which handles finished goods and outbound shipping.

LorAnn Oils was able to come back strong during the Covid pandemic. After an initial shutdown, the company went to a three-shift production schedule which helped space people out. Grettenberger says the company grew steadily during the pandemic, as people who were staying home were doing more cooking and consequently used more of LorAnn's products.

Grettenberger attributes the company's success to a loyal workforce, loyal customers, and a steady push to come up with new, innovative products to keep up with changing demands and needs of the customers.

"One of the more recent items that is off to a great start is an unflavored gummy mix which works perfectly with our super strength flavors," said Grettenberger. "We already offered candy mixes for people to make hard candy at home and now they can make great-tasting gummies with this new mix."

For more information about LorAnn Oils, visit, LorAnnOils.com

Global Leader Neogen Expands its Lansing Footprint

When Neogen was formed in Lansing in 1982, few probably thought the company would become a global leader that can be found at every step of the food chain. Today the company provides a comprehensive range of



solutions and services for the food processing, animal protein and agriculture industries, not only helping to protect the world's food supply but also enabling our customers to produce more efficiently and effectively than they could before. Today, Neogen's efforts span across the globe, with teams stationed in 12 countries and a sales presence in more than 140.

Neogen has remained steadfast in its commitment to Lansing as its corporate headquarters. In July, Neogen held a ceremonial groundbreaking in Lansing for a new food safety facility. The \$71.5 million expansion, supported by \$1.9 million in incentives from the state of Michigan, is centered around constructing a three-story, dedicated manufacturing building on E. Shiawassee Street, adjacent to other Neogen facilities. The 175,000-square-foot space represents the company's investment in new manufacturing equipment and laboratory equipment for the test and release of products.

"Neogen is proud to call Lansing our corporate headquarters, and we are so happy to continue growing with the city that helped build us into the global company that we are today," said John Adent, president & CEO, Neogen. "This year, as we celebrate our 40th year of operations, we also celebrate a number of big steps forward for our company."

One of those big steps forward came when Neogen recently completed its transaction with 3M Food Safety. Together, the companies create an innovative global leader in food safety, building even further upon an already strong platform.

As a combined company, Neogen and Food Safety now have an enhanced geographic footprint, even more innovative product offerings, greater digitization capabilities, and increased financial flexibility to capitalize on robust growth trends in sustainability, food safety, and supply chain integrity.

"The completion of this transaction marks an exciting new chapter for Neogen as we benefit from the growing demand within the industry to become a leading innovator in food security," said Adent. 🌀



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Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce Announces Endorsements for the November 8 General Election

The Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce Political Action Committee (LRC-PAC) has announced additional endorsements for the 2022 election cycle.

“The November election is one of the most critical elections in recent years because of the changes to districts at the federal, state, and county level,” said Tim Daman, president & CEO, Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce. “With these new districts, there are several candidates running for different offices, so it is incredibly important to ensure that we are endorsing candidates who will work side-by-side with the business community in meeting priorities that support advancing economic growth, job creation, and working across the aisle on key policies that impact the health of our economy.”

“We are particularly pleased with the bipartisan nature of the candidates we are backing this cycle,” said Steve Japinga, senior vice president of public affairs, Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce. “This is a critical time in our region, making the experience and ability to make thoughtful decisions about difficult issues particularly important. We believe these candidates are well-positioned to continue to work towards addressing economic challenges, accelerating our recovery, and promoting opportunity together.”

The bipartisan list of LRC-PAC endorsed candidates can be found at lansingchamber.org/lrc-pac

CLINTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

- VAL VAIL-SHIREY (R) 1st District
- DAVID POHL (R) 2nd District
- BRUCE DELONG (R) 3rd District
- KEN MITCHELL (R) 4th District
- BOB SHOWERS (R) 5th District

EATON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

- TIM BARNES (R) 1st District
- BLAKE MULDER (R) 2nd District
- TERRANCE AUGUSTINE (D) 3rd District
- RANDON HASKELL (D) 4th District
- JIM MOTT (R) 5th District

INGHAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

- RANDY MAIVILLE (R) 1st District
- KARLA RUEST (R) 2nd District
- CHRIS TRUBAC (D) 3rd District
- MYLES JOHNSON (D) 4th District
- VIC CELENTINO (D) 5th District
- THOMAS MORGAN (D) 7th District
- GABRIELLE LAWRENCE (D) 8th District
- MARK GREBNER (D) 9th District
- IRENE CAHILL (D) 10th District
- MARK POLSDOFER (D) 11th District
- MONICA SCHAFFER (R) 12th District

LANSING CITY COUNCIL

- BRIAN DANIELS 1st Ward

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STATE SENATE

- SARAH ANTHONY (D) 20th District (Democrat, Under Party, Chairman)
- SAM SINGH (D) 28th District (Buddhist, American, Indian, Hindu, Sikh, 20 Indian, 20 American)

STATE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

- BRIAN BEOLE (R) 79th District (White, Christian, Democrat)
- JULIE BRUXE (D) 79th District (Black, Christian, Democrat)
- ANGELA WITWER (D) 79th District (White, Christian, Democrat)
- GRAHAM FILLER (R) 99th District (White, Christian, Republican)

US CONGRESS

- JOHN MOOLENAAR (R) 2nd District (White, Christian, Democrat)
- ELISSA SLOTKIN (D) 7th District (White, Christian, Democrat)

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2022 LRC-PAC Regional Election Guide

Read our Regional Election Guide for information on election dates, ballot proposals and LRC-PAC endorsed candidates at lansingchamber.org/lrc-pac

As an all-voter initiative through an ever-changing process, it is critical to have the public receive timely and accurate information. The guide is intended to provide the public with a central location to find information on election dates, ballot proposals, and endorsed candidates. We encourage you to visit our website regularly to stay up-to-date on any changes to the guide.

Steve Japinga
Senior Vice President, Public Affairs
Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce

lansingchamber.org | 517-487-4240 | info@lansingchamber.org



The Lansing Regional Chamber Ambassador Committee enjoyed our monthly meeting hosted by **Delta Dental of Michigan**. A big thanks to Delta Dental employee and Chamber Ambassador Carmen Argersinger for the invitation and continued partnership.



LAFCU hosted a ribbon-cutting ceremony on August 31st to officially unveil the newly renovated lobby of its headquarters and West Lansing Branch, located at 106 N. Marketplace Blvd. in Lansing. The 9,632-square-foot space, designed by Lansing-based MAYOTTEgroup Architects and built by Dobie Construction, headquartered in Eagle, Michigan, was significantly renovated with LAFCU members in mind and enhances the member experience from arrival to departure. The result is a modern and timeless space with four ATM/ITM machines that enable virtual face-to-face banking, in-person member service representatives, and a wall commemorating LAFCU's history since its founding in 1936. The event included lobby tours, LAFCU cookies from Quality Dairy, and a special appearance by LAFCU's mascot, LAFF-E the Cow.



Member engagement and education were the focus of the September 15 Chamber 360 program, hosted by the Lansing Regional Chamber and sponsored by **The Centennial Group**. This quarterly event brings together new and prospective members of the Chamber and reviews the tools, resources, and relationships that comprise their membership investment. The event's highlight is a dynamic member roundtable where each participant gets to introduce themselves and their business.



With 50 years of combined financial planning experience, **Richards & Addy Wealth Management** has built a reputation for developing long-standing relationships with its clients and delivering on the highest standards of service, integrity, and value. The LRCC was pleased to host a ribbon-cutting ceremony on August 23rd to celebrate their 5th anniversary and newly expanded office space, located at 4039 Legacy Parkway, Suite B, Lansing. With deep roots in the Greater Lansing and Michigan State University communities, Richards & Addy takes pride in helping clients create and implement financial solutions to grow their nest eggs, protect their wealth, and achieve financial freedom.



On September 15th, the Lansing Regional Chamber was pleased to attend an event hosted by the **Lansing Housing Commission** to celebrate extensive renovations at Waverly Place Apartments, including new appliances, air conditioning, roofing, siding, carpet, and more. The renovations totaled more than \$13 million and updated 140 units. Remarks were provided by Doug Fleming, executive director, Lansing Housing Commission; Office of Mayor Andy Schor; and Jeffery Brown, Lansing City Council. Waverly Place underwent Rental Assistance Demonstration allowing public housing authorities to leverage public and private debt and equity to reinvest in public housing.

NEW HIRES



Singer

Trenton Singer joins **Triterra** as a geologist. Singer earned a bachelor's degree in Geological Sciences from Michigan State University.

Trenton assists with the design, installation, implementation, and reporting of vapor mitigation systems in response to vapor intrusion complications on contaminated properties.

Sparrow Ionia Hospital is pleased to announce that highly skilled Family Medicine physician **Dylan McKay, D.O.**, has joined the medical staff of Sparrow Medical Group (SMG) Saranac. Dr. McKay is a board-certified Family Medicine physician who practices evidence-



McKay

based medicine. In addition to routine check-ups and screening exams, he provides treatment for musculoskeletal disorders, osteopathic manipulative treatment, substance use disorders, diabetes, and obesity.



Howrani Heeres



Seals

Public Sector Consultants (PSC), an objective public policy consulting

firm with a focus on research, evaluation, and strategic planning, is expanding its expertise in the energy and environment practice. **Joel Howrani Heeres** joins PSC as director of climate and sustainability, and **Colin Seals** comes on as director of energy.



Weller

Dr. Frank Weller was inaugurated as the tenth president of **Great Lakes Christian College (GLCC)** on Saturday, Sept. 24. The inaugural ceremony was held in the Doty

Center on the GLCC campus. Dr. Weller, who graduated from GLCC in 1989, began as the new president on June 1. He was previously the senior minister at the South Lansing Christian Church for 14 years.

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Waddell

Loomis, Ewert, Parsley, Davis & Gotting P.C.

is pleased to announce the addition of **Brandon W. Waddell** to the firm. Waddell earned his law degree from

Thomas M. Cooley Law School and is licensed in the states of Michigan and Texas. He has been practicing law for nine years and specializes in Business and Corporate Litigation, General Litigation, and Family Law.



Haase

Tami Haase

joins **Triterra** as a senior industrial hygienist, working as a part of the industrial hygiene team. Haase started her career in 1987 in the industrial hygiene field.

She now performs pre-renovation/demolition hazardous material inspections to identify the presence of asbestos, lead, mold, PCBs, and other hazardous materials.

AWARDS



Sparrow Ionia Hospital recently honored a highly skilled nurse and

surgical team with **DAISY Awards** for their compassionate care, outstanding nursing skills, and always putting patients first. Emergency Department Nurse **Amber Spitzley, BSN, R.N.**, was named **DAISY Award** honoree based on a patient nomination for her attentiveness and kindness during the patient's long stay. Sparrow Ionia Surgical caregivers received a **DAISY Team Award** after being nominated by fellow caregivers for their support, responsiveness, and exceptional care. The team is known for helping with critical events, assisting departments in need, and providing education assistance, among other things.

The law firm of **Loomis, Ewert, Parsley, Davis and Gotting** is happy to announce that the **Best Lawyers in America** has recognized the following Loomis attorneys in their practice areas for 2023: **Michael G. Oliva, Paula K. Manis, James F. Anderton V, Jeffrey S. Theuer, Michael H. Rhodes, James R. Neal, Mikhail Murshak, and Jeffrey L. Green.**

For the fifth year in a row, **E.W. Sparrow Hospital** and its **Comprehensive Stroke Center** has received the highest level of recognition for stroke care nationally. For the second time, the hospital was honored for care of Type 2 diabetes patients who have had strokes. The **Stroke Center** has been honored by the **American Heart Association/American Stroke Association** with the **Get with the Guidelines-Stroke GOLD PLUS** achievement award and **Target: Stroke Honor Roll Elite Plus** for performance during 2021. Sparrow's diabetes program has been recognized with the **AHA/ASA's Get with the Guidelines Target: Type 2 Diabetes Honor Roll.**

Fifteen attorneys from **Foster Swift's** Lansing office were selected by their peers for inclusion in **The Best Lawyers in America 2023**: **Charles E. Barbieri, Scott A. Chernich, Anna K. Gibson, Brian G. Goodenough, Matt G. Herbec, Charles A. Janssen, Richard C. Kraus, Scott L. Mandel,**

Thomas R. Meagher, Douglas A. Mielock, David R. Russell, Michael D. Sanders, Scott A. Storey, Deanna Swisher, and Brent A. Titus. In addition, **Douglas A. Mielock** was named the **Best Lawyers® 2023 Trusts and Estates "Lawyer of the Year"** in Lansing, and **Mark J. DeLuca** was named a **Best Lawyers 2023 "One to Watch."**

Downtown Lansing businesses, volunteers, and city leaders gathered to recognize and celebrate the volunteers and businesses that contribute day-in and day-out to making downtown thrive. Congrats to this year's winners, including **Best New Business Award: Capital Hippie and Tatse; Long-Term/Legacy Business Award: Linn & Owen Jewelers; Promotion Committee Award: Keri Brown; Design and Public Spaces Award: Valerie Marvin; Business Development Award: Marcus Martin; Organization Committee Award: Stephanie Van Koevering; Community Partner Award: REO Town's Ryan Wert and Old Town's Ben Dowd; Downtown Champion Award: Ryan Holmes; and Volunteer of the Year: Erin Robinson.**



Tucker

E.W. Sparrow Hospital Medical Chief of Staff **LaKeeya Tucker, D.O.**, has been recognized with the **Community Champion Award** by Lansing's Eastside Community

Action Center for her work in providing access to care for underserved populations. Dr. Tucker reflects the highly skilled physicians who practice leading-edge medicine at Sparrow.

Dickinson Wright is pleased to announce that attorneys in Lansing have been included in the 2023 editions of **Best Lawyers in America**, **Best Lawyers in America "Ones to Watch,"** and **Best Lawyers in America "Lawyer of the Year."** Dickinson Wright attorneys recognized on the

Best Lawyers in America list include **Peter H. Ellsworth, Scott R. Knapp, Peter J. Kulick, James F. Mauro, Ryan M. Shannon, Kester K. So,** and **Jeffery V. Stuckey. Nolan J. Moody** was recognized on the Best Lawyers in America "Ones to Watch" list. Dickinson Wright attorneys recognized on the Best Lawyers in America 2023 "Lawyer of the Year" list include **James F. Mauro** and **Ryan M. Shannon.**

DISTINCTIONS



Sparrow Carson Hospital is proud to recognize **Tabatha Miller**, health unit coordinator and patient care tech from Sparrow Carson Surgical Services, as its Caregiver of the Quarter for the outstanding compassionate care she provides to both patients and her colleagues.

Maner Costerisan, a full-service public accounting, technology, and business consulting firm, has been recognized as one of Crain's Detroit's 2022 Cool Places to Work. The prestigious annual list ranked Maner No. 13 among medium-sized businesses statewide and No. 40 overall.



September was an exciting month for Lansing-based **Jackson National Life Insurance Company® (Jackson®)** and its associates, as nearly one year ago Jackson was spun off from its former

parent company, Prudential plc, and became an independent, publicly-listed company on the NYSE. In celebration of this milestone, Jackson's CEO **Laura Prieskorn** was presented with an official Lansing Lugnuts baseball jersey during a pre-game ceremony at Jackson Field.

Peckham has been named as one of Michigan's Best and Brightest in Wellness, a program that recognizes companies that promote employee wellbeing, worksite health and wellness. Winning companies are evaluated on best practices, along with health and wellness benchmarking standards in the industry.



Watzke

Origami Rehabilitation would like to recognize **Aimee Watzke**, physical therapist, for successfully completing Pelvic Health Training. Pelvic health addresses pain, weakness, and dysfunction of the pelvic floor and core muscles. Pelvic health is a specialty service offered at both of Origami's locations in Mason and Lansing.

E.W. Sparrow Hospital Pediatric Nurse Practitioner **Cindy Meteyer** has been recognized with the DAISY Award for going above and beyond to deliver compassionate care to twin 10-year-old boys receiving their COVID



vaccinations. The patients have high needle anxiety and Meteyer went out of her way to be at each appointment to make the boys feel safe and comfortable while receiving their COVID shots.

Maner Costerisan, a full-service accounting and advisory firm, has been recognized as one of the accounting industry's most prestigious industry information resources. Accounting Today ranked Maner Costerisan No. 25 among the top midsize and large firms to work for nationwide. Maner Costerisan is a leading firm in the region for the last two years and "Best Firms to Work For" nationwide for the seventh consecutive year.

PROMOTIONS



Ghannam

Horizon Bank has announced the recent addition of **Sam Ghannam** as the new market president for the Lansing Region. He is located at 1600 Abbot Road in East Lansing.

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Channam has nearly 25 years of banking experience, the last 12 years as a senior relationship manager in Commercial Banking.

Kate Powers has assumed the role of interim president/CEO of **Ele's Place, Inc.** Powers joined the organization in 2014 as the director of major & planned gifts for Ele's Place headquarters, and from 2015 to 2018 served as the senior managing director of the Ele's Place Capital Region Branch. In 2018, Powers moved back to headquarters to serve as the chief operating officer/chief development officer of Ele's Place, Inc.



The Carin Whybrew Project, a Greater Lansing area-based real estate team

with **Coldwell Banker Hubbell Briarwood** has these announcements: team member **T.J. George** has been promoted to agent development manager; **Wesley Whybrew** has been acting as the web development and manager of the team's media presence and is promoted to webmaster; **Suzanne Hutchings** has joined the team as an agent. Congratulations to The Carin Whybrew Project for continued success and growth building the Greater Lansing and surrounding areas.

PEOPLE NEWS



Smith

After 60 years at the firm of **Foster Swift**, firm name partner **Webb A. "Tony" Smith** has decided to call it a career. Smith officially retired from the firm as of July 31. Known



Coleman

After an extensive nationwide search, **Sparrow Health System** is proud to name **Jared Coleman** as the new James W. Butler III Administrative Fellow, aimed at honoring

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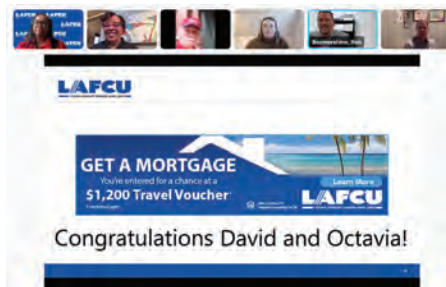
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the legacy of a respected Sparrow board member and community leader. The fellowship is named for the late James W. Butler III, who championed access to health quality care for the most vulnerable and led efforts toward the state's first medical clinic for the homeless. Coleman, a Kalamazoo native, will work closely alongside Sparrow senior leadership and caregivers over the next year to prepare himself for a career in healthcare management.



Closing on a **LAFCU** mortgage was lucky for **Dave and Shay Cooper** of Stanton, and **Octavia Zurhorst**, of Grand Ledge, in more than the traditional way. In addition to securing the loan itself, the holders of each mortgage won a \$1,200 travel voucher through a contest held by the credit union. Anyone who closed on a LAFCU mortgage in 2021 was eligible to win.

COMPANY NEWS



Waverly Community Schools officially broke ground for considerable upgrades to its learning environments. Voters approved the bonds in May 2021 which do not increase the district's current millage rate. The \$125 million project will provide 21st century learning spaces as well as enhance safety and security for all those using district facilities.

Looking for a soft drink, lottery ticket, notary public, and authentic Indian food all in one place? Make sure you stop into **Market On The SQ²**, a new business offering all that and more. While the store continues to grow, there's no shortage of customers. Check out the new store at 212 S. Washington Sq. Open 8 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday.



With shovels in hand, **Child and Family Charities** broke ground on renovations to the new Jackson House. The celebration marks the start of a comprehensive transformation to a portion of the former McLaren Greater Lansing Hospital site. The Jackson House will serve as a safe place for teens and youth without a stable home environment. **Jackson National Life Insurance Company® (Jackson®)** and its associates donated \$940,000 to underwrite the cost of the Jackson House. They also volunteered their time to clean out and prepare the building for renovations.

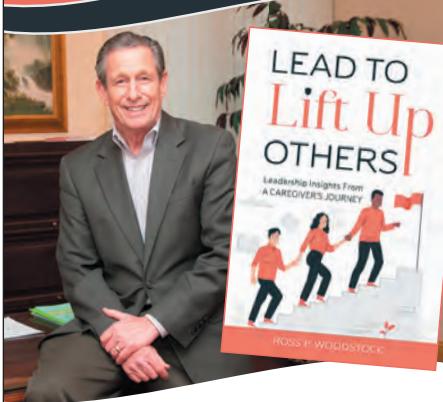


Lake Superior Community Partnerships joined **Edge Partnerships** on Aug. 31 for the marketing and communication agency's Marquette grand opening celebration at 148 W. Washington Street. Edge, with offices in Lansing and Chicago, expanded to the Upper Peninsula in response to the high demand for strategic marketing services.




MeTV is moving its local affiliation to **WILX**. America's #1 Classic Television Network, MeTV is a highly rated channel featuring 60+ of the greatest brand-name T.V. shows. It is family-friendly, quality entertainment in a safe, consistent and engaging environment. Beginning Monday, Oct. 3, News 10 @ 10 will air Monday through Friday from 10 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. on MeTV. News 10 @ 10 will be anchored by the trusted team of **David Andrews** and **Ann Emmerich**, with First Alert Weather from **Andy Provenzano** and sports from the News 10 Sports team of **Tim Staudt**, **Fred Heumann**, **Kellan Buddy**, and **Joey Ellis**.

A Leadership Book with a TWIST



Author: Ross Woodstock
Executive Coach and Leadership Consultant

Available on Amazon





Ingham Intermediate School District recently launched a new mobile application for families, staff, and local district representatives.

Available on both Google Play and the App Store, the free mobile application provides important on-the-go information and alerts in an easy-to-use format. To download the mobile application, simply search Ingham ISD on Google Play for Android devices or the App Store for Apple devices. There is no cost to use the mobile application.

Downtown Lansing Inc. is partnering with **Lansing 5:01** once again to bring you a second Block Aid event Thursday, Oct. 6, starting at 5:01 p.m. The event will feature live music, local food, Social District drinks to sip and stroll the event, art vendors, a kids' zone, and all your favorite businesses ready to

#LiftUpLocal. In addition to Block Aid, Downtown Lansing Inc. is teaming up with **Michigan Premier Events** to bring you Forks and Corks - an upscale evening of unparalleled wine and food pairings showcasing culinary treats from some of the top dining spots in Downtown Lansing, presented by **Lexus of Lansing**. The event will be held on Allegan Street from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. as an outdoor art garden party within the Block Aid Event.



On Thursday, Sept. 8, **Union Bank** Board of Directors, employees, and community members gathered together to celebrate the opening of the bank's new corporate office at 670 Cascade W Parkway S.E. in

Grand Rapids. The 6,500 square-foot, state-of-the-art, full-service banking facility opened for business on Monday, Sept. 12.



LAFCU is offering free document shredding to the public at the credit union's Shred Day, Saturday, Oct. 15, 10 a.m. to noon, to help reduce identity theft. A mobile shredding truck will be at LAFCU's headquarters/West Lansing Branch, 106 N. Marketplace Blvd., Lansing, for on-site, secure destruction of personal documents. The paper will be recycled. Each person may drop off up to four bankers boxes of materials to be shredded. ●

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