



SHOP LOCAL

Lansing

April Edition 2017

menNia's JOINT

HOME OF THE DUB ... Pg. 4

Sparky's
ELECTRIC

517.627.5423

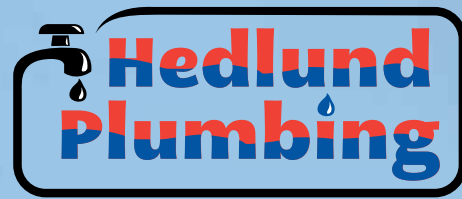
Service That's Shocking! ... Pg. 5



YOUR PROFESSIONAL
EXTERIOR REMODELER ... Pg. 6

STACY'S
LAWN  **SNOW**
INC.

SPRING & SUMMER LAWN CARE ... Pg. 8



TOP QUALITY PLUMBING SERVICE ... Pg. 9

MID-MICHIGAN
Cat Rescue, INC.
... Pg. 10



Become a member of an award winning credit union that will stay with you for a lifetime.

- Youth Club accounts for ages all the way up to 18

Debit and VISA cards are printed in branch

- Free financial counseling for members and non-members

Mortgage and Auto loan options available

- Free Checking accounts

Small Business Loan options

Visit us at www.casecu.org or stop in to one of our 7 branch locations for more information!



517.204.5771

Lansing's Residential and Commercial
Lawn & Snow Care Professionals!

LAWN CARE:

Weekly or Bi-Weekly • Mowing and Trimming
Edging • Landscaping • Fertilizing
Hedge Trimming • Lawn Rolling
Lawn Reseeding • Mulching

SNOW CARE:

Snow Plowing • Sidewalk Shoveling • Salting

MISCELLANEOUS SERVICE:

Tree & Brush Removal • Eaves-trough Cleaning
Deck Cleaning • Junk Removal

When you choose Stacy's Lawn & Snow Inc., you're selecting a premier lawn and snow removal company to tend to your property.

No matter the size of the job, we can accommodate your vision and maintain it through any season!

Book your SPRING CLEAN UP today!
STACYLAWNANDSNOW.COM

GET YOUR **WINDOW, ROOFING AND SIDING**
ESTIMATES NOW!



YOUR PROFESSIONAL
EXTERIOR REMODELERS

517.627.7999
IT'S BROTHA TIME!

Expires 4/30/17



PUBLISHER/EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
Ken Whiting

EDITOR
Elizabeth East

GRAPHIC DESIGN
Carrie Schaeffer
Caitlin Schneider

ONLINE EDITION EDITOR
Jessica Lam

WRITERS
Gretchen Smith
Amy Piper
Jessica Lam

PHOTOGRAPHERS
Gretchen Smith
Holly Jenks Photography

.....
A Special Thank you to
our advertisers. With their
support we are able to provide
this publication for Free to
the Greater Lansing residents.
.....

GET IN TOUCH

To submit a story or advertise with us:
www.ShopLocalLansing.com

Stay up to date on social media:
Facebook: facebook.com/shoplocallansing
Twitter: twitter.com/shoplocallansing

Or contact our office directly:
Email: Sales@ShopLocalLansing.com
Phone: 517.599.3543

6 FEATURES



YOUR PROFESSIONAL
EXTERIOR REMODELERS
IT'S BROTHA TIME!

☆ by Gretchen Smith

4 Menna's Joint

SERVES DELICIOUS
GRILLED WRAP "DUBS"!

5 Sparky's Electric

LET SPARKY'S SAVE YOUR
HOME CIRCUITS AND WIRING.

8 Stacy's Lawn and Snow

SPRING & SUMMER LAWN CARE.

9 Hedlund Plumbing

WHETHER AN EMERGENCY
FIX OR A PLUMBING REMODEL,
HEDLUND PLUMBING MAKES
WATER APPEAR, DISAPPEAR.

10 Mid-Michigan Cat Rescue

PLACED 10,000 CATS IN
THEIR FOREVER HOMES
OVER THE LAST 13 YEARS.

11 CASE CREDIT UNION

REMODEL REASSURANCE

12 4th Annual BEERFEST

80 ALCOHOL VENDORS
EXPECTED AT EVENT!

13 HELPFUL TIPS

14 LOCAL COUPONS



LIVE • Work • SHOP

Menna's Joint



GOT THE LATE NIGHT/EARLY MORNING MUNCHIES?

Menna's Joint serves up grilled wrap "dubs"

☆ by Gretchen Smith

From 10:30 am-3 or 4 a.m. (yes, those are their hours), Menna's Joint will satisfy your hankering for a baked potato-sized, freshly made grilled "Dub", crammed and sauced with about anything you can imagine, including Sweet Baby Ray's barbecue sauce. Vegetarians can find plenty of options, from the hot veggie Dub, to the three-cheese Supreme Dub to, broccoli and cheddar cheese soup. Don't forget the French toast sticks with syrup, or Momma Menna's famous chocolate chip cookies.

Area Manager Gus Brush fell in love with "Dubs" when he was a student at Western Michigan University. He's now Area Manager for that location, and East Lansing, Allendale, Grand Rapids and Mount Pleasant. "I just loved how simple the brand was, and how delicious the Dub was. It's a meal that caters to college students, who get hooked on Dubs, and bring in friends, parents and grandparents to sample their favorite late night college gnosh.

When Gus orders his favorite Dub, it's the Master. The grill sizzles as chicken, cheddar and mozzarella cheese, and uniquely bite-sized seasoned potatoes are piled high, and sour cream is smothered into the mix. That's transferred to a grilled, piping hot wrap, pinched, then tightly wrapped, so you have to take that first bite to find out what awaits inside.

He relies on his wife, Katie, to keep him organized, as he drops in on each location several times a week. He can work prep with the best, and teaches new hires how to deftly grill and roll up a Dublicious Dub. "What I enjoy most is empowering college students to serve customers as they would want to be served. Our employees have to be outgoing, self-motivated, and able to solve problems. They need to be prepared for a rush of customers and not feel overwhelmed. **We deliver to fraternities, sororities, dorms, off-campus housing, and businesses within a two-mile radius.** Our goal is to get the order to customers as quickly as possible, without breaking any speed limits.

"I challenge each store's General Manager to beat last year's numbers and to foster a spirit of "we're all in this together. We're always hiring so we have staff that are pumped for this opportunity and see this as an opportunity to gain real-world business experience. In any given year, we acquire as many as 7,000 new Dub fans through word-of-mouth and social media.

Still, we're only as good as the last Dub we've served. ☆

Featured below:
Gus Brush, Area Mgr.,
Mastering the DUB!



MENNA'S JOINT
115 Albert Avenue
East Lansing, MI 48823
517.351.3827





☆ by Gretchen Smith

Confucius reminds us: “True wisdom is knowing what you don’t know.” For many homeowners, that may translate into not understanding how electricity works. Josh Ranshaw, owner of Sparky’s Electric in Grand Ledge, was with a homeowner, whose bank of kitchen lighting seemed to be playing tricks. For a couple of hours all lights were on, and then, just as mysteriously, the lights extinguished.

Three visits later, Josh discovered one switch, that when turned on, extinguished the other lights. “There’s usually one outlet in a home that no one knows what it does, except it affects the other lights. Here, the mystery switch controlled an old outside light and the connection was broken. When the homeowner turned on the other switches, he had light. If he accidentally switched on the old outside light, the other lights short-circuited. By removing that switch and connection, and testing solid connections for the other circuits, the lighting issue was solved.



SPARKY’S ELECTRIC, LLC
12852 Partlow Ave.
Grand Ledge, MI 48837
517.627.5423
SparkysElectricllc.com

Sparky's ELECTRIC

517.627.5423

Service That's Shocking!

SPARKS REALLY
CAN FLY AND ARCING
CIRCUITS SMELL ...

LET SPARKY'S
ELECTRIC
SAVE HOME
CIRCUITS
AND WIRING

Founded in 2011, Josh Ranshaw worked under the auspices of other licensed electricians for nine years, before starting Sparky’s Electric. His field crew includes seven licensed and bonded electricians and an office supervisor who fields calls and handles administrative details. **More than 85% of the firm’s work is residential and comes from referrals.**

A WISE INVESTMENT

“For home electrical inspections, we charge \$211.75, and this includes a 2-3 hours to test all outlets, breaker boxes, and wiring,” says Josh. “It’s an investment if a homeowner is considering updating their home electricity system. This is the time to add more outlets, surge protection, and move toward whole-home LED lighting.

“New home wiring is trending toward automation,” adds Josh. “Older homes require re-wiring to meet code, and deal with electrical disruption issues caused by with weather, or mice who chew through wiring sheaths to gain wall access. We replace a lot of nob-and-tube wiring with new cabling and junction boxes, swapping out fuse boxes for breaker systems, and updating outlets, receptacles, and fixtures connected directly to the wiring.

“With new home wiring, we install smart programmed electrical systems, that can include motion detectors, surge protection networks, multiway switches, security lights and generator standby systems.

We can connect home electrical systems so a homeowner can control lighting and security with their smartphone.

ONE YEAR WARRANTY

“Customers accept a written proposal with task and cost breakdown before we start, and we try to be accurate with time estimates,” adds Josh.” We respect our customer’s time and their home. Electrical repairs or extensive re-wiring can cause dust. We wear boot covers, use dust bowls, sheeting and portable vacuums to keep debris contained. Within a week of completing a job, we follow up with a phone call to see that we met the customer’s need. **We warranty our work for one year.** I know it’s the little things that matter which leave lasting impressions with our customers.” ☆

SPARKY’S ELECTRICAL SAVINGS TIPS:

1. Save money by converting to LED lighting.
2. Install a programmable thermostat.
3. Consider solar power units and 4-foot diameter wind turbines for energy capture.
4. Check smoke and carbon monoxide detectors frequently. The life span of both is 8-10 years.
5. Consider two-stage surge suppression for all cables entering the home.



YOUR PROFESSIONAL EXTERIOR REMODELERS *IT'S BROTHA TIME!*

☆ by Gretchen Smith

WIND DAMAGE

Recent 60+ per-hour winds snapped a three-foot diameter oak branch onto Tony M.'s gabled roof. Granted, he knew a new roof on his 1989 Cape Cod home was due. He had just hoped to get another year or two on the roof, and have replacement funds on hand. The force of the branch ripped through the shingles, and he could see a wintry sky blowing through.

A call to Elieff Brothers Roofing, Siding and windows brought a same-day call to look at the damage. Steve Elieff suggested two options:

Completely replace the torn gabled roof section, complete with a new wood deck, ice shield, flashing and 50-year warranty shingles, and leave the other roof section for the following year, or completely replace the existing roof at one time to ensure other unseen problems are fixed, and a snug fit for all shingles. Considering what insurance would pay from his homeowner's policy and his roof set-aside funds, he decided to go with a total re-roof, with a lifetime algae-proof warranty.

"I couldn't believe it," says Tony. "The worst damage was fixed in one day, and the new roof was complete in three days. I even picked the color and style of the shingles from the 'shingle selector' section on their website. The crew was here from first to last light, and nature and Elieff Brothers' expertise really made the decision easy."

SUN DAMAGE

Melissa and Doug R. have owned their shingle-type cedar wood-sided house for 13 years. Doug's work often takes him out of town 1-2 weeks every other month, so home fix-it chores have become a part-time job on top of Melissa's full-time paralegal work. There hasn't been time to properly maintain the wood siding. The sun has bleached one side a tangerine color, and the wood is peeling red flakes like dandruff. Both agree no-maintenance vinyl siding would give their home the facelift it needs.

They request a quote online from Elieff Brothers to see if they can get vinyl siding in roughly the same cedar shade currently on their home. Paul Elieff pays them a visit and takes photos of their current wood siding. Their home is roughly 2,500 square-feet, and he suggests the siding can be completed in about eight days for around \$10,000. While their home is being re-sided, foam-board and house wrap will seal off areas being worked on. Using their budgeted home savings account, they approach a local credit union for a \$4,000 line-of-credit.

Their loan request is approved, and the Elieff crew has their home re-sided within 12 days. "We almost drove by our own home," admits Melissa. "Elieff was thorough, answered all questions we had, and even cleaned up every night before they left."

LET ELIEFF BROTHERS SUGGEST LASTING SOLUTIONS!

DRAFTY WINDOWS? LEAKY ROOF? FLAKING SIDING?



WINDOW AND DOOR INSTALLATION

New window and door installation is yet another Elieff Brothers' specialty. The firm recommends Andersen® windows for style variety and insulation efficiency, including double-hung, sliders, casement, and bay and bows.

Greg and Erin B. have a one-story home in west Lansing they bought from the original owner. Looking at their energy bill, they realized the single pane windows lack energy efficiency almost year-round, and neither wants to live in a sauna or icehouse. A friend took them on a tour of their home, where Elieff Brothers installed vinyl double-hung windows, with insulating sashes and frames. Their energy bill reduction was 75%.

That's all it took for Greg and Erin to call Elieff Brothers for a quote. Steve gave them an estimate for tear-out and replacement of their windows, and recommended thermal insulated entry and storm doors to add a double dose of energy efficiency. Because both Greg and Erin contribute toward home improvement savings in their budget, a short-term, low-interest loan allowed them to proceed with Steve's quote.

The 10-day project estimate was completed in five days. Two months post-installation, their energy bill dropped from \$258 to \$127 monthly. *"We were able to pay off the loan in short order, and begin replenishing our maintenance budget. Our in-home temperature has been dialed back by 10 degrees. You can bet we'll be telling others about the energy savings Elieff helped us realize."*

.....
THAT'S GOOD NEWS FOR STEVE AND PAUL ELIEFF AND THEIR CREW, AS WORD-OF-MOUTH REFERRALS AND WEBSITE TESTIMONIALS ACCOUNT FOR MORE THAN 90% OF THEIR WORK. THE FIRM HAS BEEN A SUPER SERVICE RATED CONTRACTOR ON ANGIE'S LIST FOR THE LAST FOUR YEARS.

"WE DON'T HAGGLE ON PRICE BECAUSE OUR GOAL IS 100% CUSTOMER SATISFACTION, USING QUALITY MATERIALS AND BEST INDUSTRY PRACTICES," SAYS STEVE. "WE START OUR 25TH YEAR IN BUSINESS IN 2018, ALTHOUGH PAUL AND I HAVE BEEN IN THE ROOFING AND SIDING BUSINESS SINCE 1985. THE INTEGRITY AND CRAFTSMANSHIP WE INVEST IN EACH CUSTOMER PROJECT GOES BACK TO THE VALUES WE LEARNED FROM OUR PARENTS, GORDON AND MARIE ELIEFF." ☆
.....

ELIEFF BROTHERS ROOFING AND SIDING

6739 Lansing Road • Charlotte, MI 48837

Near the Michigan State Police Secondary Complex

517.202.3749 • ElieffBrothers.com





SPRING & SUMMER LAWN CARE

☆ by Jessica Lam

Stacy's Lawn & Snow, Inc., a local Greater Lansing lawn care company, started in 1995, does year round lawn care services catered to your needs. They offer quality commercial and residential lawn care, landscaping and snow removal services in and around Lansing, Michigan. Spend more time with your family this spring by allowing the professionals of Stacy's Lawn & Snow to do your aerating, seeding, edging and mowing for you. They can come to you if you live in Lansing or the surrounding areas.

Spring-cleaning doesn't have to just include inside your home. Take care of the outside too. Last winter seemed to be rough on everyone in the Greater Lansing area; many people still have leftover leaves, fallen branches or over grown bushes. Not only are the experts at Stacy's Lawn & Snow able to trim branches, they are able to help gather and cleanup your lawn to make it look organized. **Your lawn will look fantastic in no time with help of the professionals at Stacy's Lawn & Snow.**

From the small jobs to the big jobs, they are able to do the following services:

- ✿ AERATING
- ✿ EDGING
- ✿ SEEDING
- ✿ GATHER LEFTOVER LEAVES
- ✿ FALLEN BRANCHES
- ✿ TRIM LOW BRANCHES
- ✿ TRIM BUSHES
- ✿ TREE REMOVAL
- ✿ LAWN MOWING
- ✿ SPRING CLEANUP
- ✿ FALL CLEANUP
- ✿ WEED WHACKING
- ✿ HEDGING
- ✿ SPRING FERTILIZATION
- ✿ BAG CLIPPINGS, LEAVES AND BRANCHES
- ✿ LANDSCAPING
- ✿ AND MORE...

Their number one goal is to make your lawn look as nice as possible. They have even perfected the art of mowing in specific directions. It is your call to tell them. You can call them at **517-204-5771**.

All of the services of Stacy's Lawn & Snow can be customized to your needs. They can do just one service, a couple or all the above. They are different from all other lawn service companies around because they are the only company to do short-term or one-time lawn services. They can come to you on call, weekly, bi-weekly, monthly, or just when you are on vacation. You don't need to worry about coming home to an unmanaged lawn when you return from a relaxing vacation.

Besides doing residential services in the Greater Lansing and surrounding areas, they are also able to do many of their services for businesses too. They are taking on clients for the summer. So give Stacy's Lawn a try! Spend more time with your family, strain yourself a little less and enjoy the weather outside. No matter the size of the job, Stacy's Lawn & Snow Inc. can accommodate your vision and maintain it through any season! ☆

STACY'S
LAWN AND SNOW
517.204.5571
Stacy@WaldoFamily.com





1.800.HEDLUND

☆ by Gretchen Smith

It's 6:45 a.m., and Lynn turns the faucet for her shower and a few drops dribble out. Across town, John's sump pump alarm is beeping and his basement is filling with water. Both are long-time customers of Hedlund Plumbing, so they have the firm on speed-dial.

Hedlund's co-owners and brothers, Bob and Tom, dispatch two of their plumbers to both residences. In Lynn's situation, the shower head was found to be plugged. A simple fix, and now Lynn knows how to check this if it happens again.

John's basement flood was a little more complicated. His sump pump had switched its position inside the basin, and the float running the on/off switch was disabled. Again, an easy adjustment and the pump resumed draining.

.....
REPAIRING LEAKING TOILETS AND GRINDING
GARBAGE DISPOSALS, INSTALLATION AND
SERVICE OF WATER HEATERS, AND REBUILDING
ORIGINAL PLUMBING FROM OLDER HOMES FROM
THE 1940s AND '50s ARE JUST A FEW OF THE
SERVICES HEDLUND PLUMBING CAN TACKLE.
.....



Hedlund is a **THIRD-GENERATION FAMILY BUSINESS** started by Einer Hedlund in 1939, passed along to David and Howard Hedlund, and now owned and operated by Bob and Tom Hedlund. One thing that has always remained consistent is their desire to treat all customers as family, and make the customer their number one priority for all jobs. *THEY ALSO TAKE PRIDE IN DOING EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO PROTECT CUSTOMERS' PROPERTY AS IF IT WERE THEIR OWN HOME.*

Hedlund Plumbing keeps up on the latest technology and products available, such as wi-fi-linked high water alarms for sump pumps, hot water recirculation systems, high efficiency tankless water heaters, and a variety of water treatments systems for clean water.

Same-day service is always the goal for the Hedlund Plumbing's service department, with 24/7 scheduling options and the ability to schedule calls directly from Hedlund Plumbing's website at the customer's convenience.

Larger projects are also possible with the Hedlund remodeling crew. *"As some of our customers mature, they want to switch out bathtubs for walk-in or accessible showers,"* says Tom. *"We provide free written quotes and schedule installations for the customer's convenience, trying to minimize disruptions to their daily schedule."*

"We recently worked on a home where our company had installed the original plumbing fixtures in 1958," adds Tom. *"It was very satisfying to know that our father, uncle, and grandfather had a hand in this house so long ago, and we are able to continue this service relationship all these decades later."*

Both brothers agree on the need for ongoing communication with customers about projects, quoted pricing ahead of time, and follow-up once a project is complete. *"Whether the customer has a very small repair or a complete re-pipe of the plumbing system,"* say both brothers, *"we love being that go-to source for top-end plumbing service and expertise for the long-term."* ☆

HEDLUND PLUMBING
7974 W. Grand River Ave.
Grand Ledge, MI 48837
517.627.5503
HedlundPlumbing.com



MID-MICHIGAN *Cat Rescue, INC.*

☆ by Amy Piper



Mid-Michigan Cat Rescue, Inc. (MMCR) has saved and placed about 10,000 cats in their forever homes over the last thirteen years. Dedicated to finding lifetime homes for abused, abandoned, neglected, or owner-relinquished cats and kittens, Senior Volunteer Amy Gonea says, "This isn't an easy task, but it's a rewarding one,"

Gonea remembers a special kitty named Sky found in an abandoned trailer home with little to no socialization. She was an incredibly shy brown tabby and certainly not an eye-popper. Sky was an older cat and had to have a dental procedure, so she had no teeth. She had so many things going against her, no socialization, being a brown tabby, shy, no teeth, and an older cat; her chances of adoption were exceptionally low. She lived at MMCR for about two years.

Sky would stay at the bottom of the cat tree, way in the back, not wanting to come out. Volunteers would talk to her and pet her; they gave her lots of attention to get her to trust people. Gradually she

sought attention and began to purr when petted. The volunteer's socialization efforts worked and through the efforts of the volunteers at MMCR, Sky found her forever home and has lived happily ever after. That's what MMCR does.

Several things make MMCR different from other facilities.

The cats live openly in the house as they would in their forever home, only in cages during the ten to twelve day quarantine process. MMCR is a "no-kill" home even if they have to wait three to four years for the cat to find their forever home.

They take-in all types of special needs cats, including those that are blind, have amputations, eye removals, dentals, or other injuries. They also take bottle babies, feral, semi-feral, FIV POS, FELV POS, pregnant cats, seniors, and those with special diets. MMCR also typically takes all of the cats on the euthanasia list from the shelters they work with and have no other place to go.



ADOPTIONS

MMCR knows their cats' personality. Their "Know Me Better" program matches the cat's personality to a potential new home before they even meet their potential new pet parent. If for any reason a cat doesn't work out or at any point in the cat's life the adopter can't keep the cat, they are required to give the cat back to MMCR, as the Director Sarah Vicary-Williams personally makes a lifetime commitment of care to the cats. She says, "*They are my children forever.*"

Spring is here and MMCR is getting ready for kitten season, where their numbers will grow from the current 150 to about 250 cat residents. To adopt a new a kitty, go to the website and complete an adoption application. You can also find out when and where the next adoption event will happen. Once they are in

the Dimondale house, they will also do adoptions from there.

DONATIONS

If you're doing spring-cleaning and have old towels, sheets, blankets, gently used cat items, food or litter that your cat refuses MMCR can use them. They will also take open bags of cat food. They need everything required to run a home from paper towels, toilet paper, pens, and reams of paper to dishwasher detergent, and bleach. You can complete monetary contributions through the website: www.midmichigancatrescue.org.

VOLUNTEERS

MMCR is a non-profit, non-state, and non-federally funded 501C3 volunteer-based organization. *The organization is always looking for volunteers, especially to support adoption events.* As Director Sarah Vicary-Williams wrote in one of her

email's to volunteers, "...it takes a lot of us to do it!"

MMCR provides training for its volunteers, so there's no worries in knowing what to do. Classes include Adoption Event Roles and Etiquette Training, Cat Personality and Adoption Matching Training, Cat Handling Training, and Cat House Cleaning Training. They hold classes at the Dimondale house lasting between 1-2 hours.

Many tasks require volunteers, from cleaning the house, managing adoption events, or working in the office. "*Volunteering is a great way to get your kitty fix,*" says Amy Gonea. ☆

MID-MICHIGAN CAT RESCUE
5707 Michigan Road
Dimondale, Michigan 48821
MidMichiganCatRescue.org
Info@MidMichiganCatRescue.org



REMODEL REASSURANCE

The vast majority of building and remodeling contractors are honest, hardworking, contentious people who take a great deal of pride in their work. Unfortunately, like any profession, it can only take a few bad apples to give everyone a bad name. At least a few times a month, especially during the summer when many homeowners decide to go ahead with remodeling projects, there is something on the local news about the latest contractor scams and how families get taken for a lot of money. Many of the con-artists in this field stick with one of these tried and true methods for separating homeowners from their hard-earned cash.

THE FOLLOWING TIPS SHOULD HELP KEEP YOUR PROJECT FROM BEING THE FEATURED STORY ON THE LOCAL NEWS:

WATCH OUT FOR THESE TELL-TALE SCAM SIGNS

Up-front Payments

It's not unusual for a contractor to ask for up-front payment before beginning a job. However, it should only be a small percentage of the total cost, 10% at the very most. If a contractor asks for a larger percentage before the job starts it might be a sign that they are not financially stable.

Read the Contract

When a contractor works on your home there should be a written contract. It should also have an attached scope of work. This provides the exact detail included in their quote. Did you expect three light fixtures in a certain price range? If not, you may have purchased a lesser quality.

Project Changes

Rarely a project goes from start to finish without at least a few changes. Some changes cause more work or material costs known as extras. This should be spelled out in the contract so there aren't any unpleasant surprises. However, it's more important that the customer be told the cost before the actual work is done when the final bill is presented.

Proper Credentials

Insist that your contractor have a license and insurance. You could be liable should anyone get hurt on the job. Your homeowner's insurance may not cover damages to your home. The price-break is just not worth it. If your contractor says they can do the job for less due to not having a license or insurance, the conversation should stop right there.

Avoid Rip-off Artists

Beware of a contractor who refuses to give you a copy of his license and insurance. By following a few simple tips, you can avoid the chances of getting taken.

Rip off artists will try to sway you with these tactics:

- They can't verify any provided references
- Tempt you with a low price that's only good if you sign today
- Asks you to pay for materials that haven't arrived
- Offers to cut you a deal if you pay with cash
- Will give you a rebate if we use your house as a model
- You have to pay for the work permits.

WWW.CASECU.ORG



80 ALCOHOL VENDORS EXPECTED FOR 4TH BEERFEST AT BALLPARK 4.29.17

☆ by Gretchen Smith

Paul Starr, the 'I'm A Beer Hound' festival organizer, expects 4,000 craft beer and spirits aficionados to rally at Cooley Law Stadium from 3-8 p.m. on Saturday, April 29. Sixty craft breweries, seven cideries, five meaderies, three distilleries and four wineries will offer three-ounce sipping samples.

Tickets can be purchased online, at the ballpark ticket office, or on event day. A regular ticket is \$30, for 10 three-ounce tasting samples. VIP tickets (early entry at 2 p.m.) are \$40 and include 15 tasting tickets. Day-of tickets are \$35 for 10 tickets. Additional tickets are five tickets for \$5. Designated driver tickets are \$15.

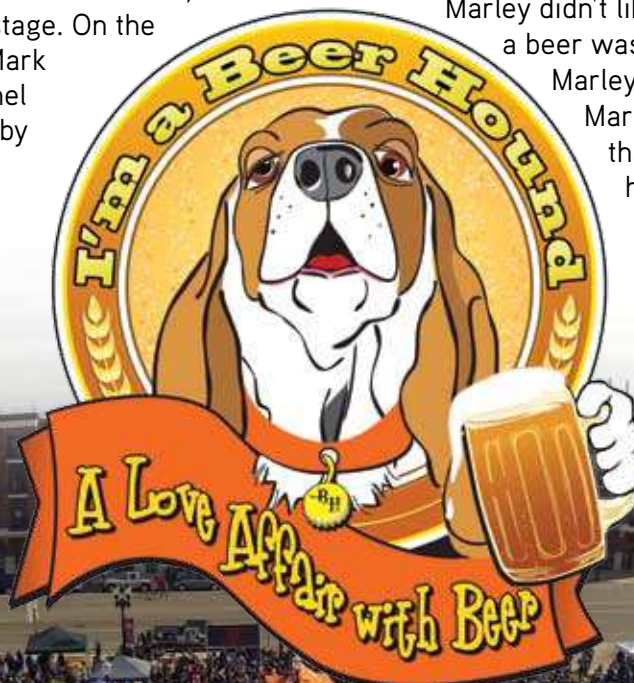
Live music performances include Delilah DeWylde, 2:30-4 p.m., Lansing Unionized Vaudeville Spectacle, 4:30-6 p.m., and Citizen Zero, 7-8 p.m., all on the main stage. On the acoustic stage, listen to Mark Warner, 2-3:30 p.m., Rachel Curtis, 4-6 p.m., and Shelby and Drake, 6:30-8 p.m.

Food will be available for purchase, as well as access to indoor restrooms. The event takes place rain or shine with no refunds. A portion of the proceeds benefits Lansing Kiwanis Club, Red Ledge Brewers and St. Gerard School Athletics.

PAUL STARR'S FIRST CREATION, 'I'M A BEER HOUND', STARTED OUT IN 2010 AS A MERE IDEA OF PROMOTING MICHIGAN CRAFT BEERS, AND HAS BREWED INTO WHAT PAUL CURRENTLY OVERSEES - A MICHIGAN BEER NEWS WEBSITE, FESTIVAL ORGANIZER, LIFE STYLE BRAND, TOUR COMPANY AND MEMBERSHIP CARD.

The story behind how the basset hound became the mascot for the 'I'm Beer Hound' logo is Paul has a friend with a basset hound named Marley.

Marley didn't like climbing stairs, but when a beer was put at the top of the stairs, Marley would go up the stairs. Marley loved beer! To Paul, that defined what a beer hound was, and the basset hound became the mascot for 'I'm a Beer Hound'. ☆



TIPS FOR SUCCESS FROM LOCAL BUSINESSES



**CAPITAL AREA
TRAVEL LEADERS**

820 Charlevoix Dr., Ste. 240
Grand Ledge, MI 48837
800-627-8350 Office



WHAT CAN RUIN A VACATION QUICKER THAN ANYTHING?

Getting sick!!! Here are 5 recommendations to help boost your immunity and prevent you from spending more time in your room than seeing the sights.

1. **Take a multi vitamin with plenty of vitamin C in the days leading up to your trip.** I use Airborne. Probiotics are also good for maintaining gut health during travel.
2. **Stay hydrated by drinking plenty of water.** Always carry a bottle with you during and throughout your travel.
3. **Carry hand sanitizer and/or wipes.** It's always a good idea to wipe down your tray and arm wrests on the plane, and/or door knobs of your stateroom on a cruise ship.
4. **Keep your distance from people who may be coughing and sneezing in confined areas.** 6 feet is a good gage.
5. **Get plenty of sleep and avoid unnecessary calories found in alcohol.** Alcohol tends to disrupt your sleeping patterns and weakens the immune system.

If you should get sick on vacation you may want to purchase travel protection. Most companies offer 25k in medical reimbursement during travel. Remember to keep your receipts. And one last piece of advise, when possible, schedule a few days after your vacation to take a vacation from your vacation to ease back into your normal routine.



Mahabir

WELLNESS

COPING WITH THE TRANSITION OF SEPARATION AND DIVORCE:

Just a few bits and pieces of advice out of many.

Roller Coaster Feelings: It's normal to feel sad, angry, exhausted, frustrated, confused and many more feelings that can be intense. Accept that reactions like these will lessen over time.

Sharing your Feelings: With trusted supportive individuals in your life. Professional Mental Health is an option in a neutral environment. Consider joining a support group where you can talk to others in similar situations. Isolating yourself can raise your stress levels and reduce your concentration.

Take a Break: Give yourself permission to feel and to function at a less than desired level, take time to heal, regroup and re-energize. Do things that are healthy that can refocus your energy!

Wellness: Be good to yourself inside and out. Take time out to exercise, eat well, keep hydrated and relax. Keep to your normal routines as much as possible.

Avoid High Conflict and Power Struggles: Avoid draining your energy in gauging in high conflict with spouse or ex spouse.

Recreate Yourself: Reconnect with things you enjoy doing, invest time in your hobbies, passions, volunteer, take interesting classes, take time to enjoy life and make new positive friends.

517-898-8541
1640 Haslett Road, Haslett, MI 48840
MahabirWellness.com • www.TravisConti.com

Westside Car Care



Automotive Maintenance and Repair

409 Lentz Court, Lansing, MI 48917

517.484.6199

Monday-Friday 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Perhaps one of the most important factors to have a safe vehicle is the condition of the tires. **Under-inflation, over-loading or potholes - any of these circumstances can accelerate a tire failure and there are few more frightening thoughts than tire failure at highway speeds.**

All vehicles built after 2007 have an on board tire pressure monitor system that will display a warning symbol indicating a tire that is low on air or overinflated.

There are two basic TPMS (Tire Pressure Monitor System), direct and indirect. Indirect systems don't have a sensor in the wheel and use wheel speed data to determine if a tire is low. Direct systems use a sensor in the wheel that tells an on board computer what the tire pressure is in each tire. Direct system TPMS sensors have a normal working life of 5-7 years before the internal battery expires. These sensors are non-serviceable and when the battery expires the sensor must be replaced for the system to operate correctly. Most vehicles require a reset procedure for the TPMS system when the tires are rotated.

Don't ignore this important safety feature, it could potentially save your life!

What should you do when you see this light?



Travis B. Conti
MI-REALTOR®
517.930.1721



GREATER LANSING REAL-ESTATE MARKET REPORT:

We are currently in a "Seller's Market" in Mid-Michigan which simply means we have more buyers than homes for sale. This makes the importance of having a buyer's agent to represent you in your home search that much more important. Why? Glad you asked! First of all a buyer's agent can connect you directly to the local multiple listing service for "real-time listing updates" so you can react quicker when a home hits the market for sale that meets or exceeds your needs and wants! Secondly your buyer's agent can schedule the showing, help you evaluate the home, and ultimately help you present an offer, negotiate the best price possible, and professionally help navigate through the entire buying process. As your buyer's agent my fiduciary responsibility is to protect your best interest throughout the entire process with no charge for my professional services. Visit TravisConti.com or call 517-930-1721 to get started!

Health, Happiness & Confidence

Mahabir
WELLNESS

Mahabir specializes in
**DIVORCE COUNSELING &
ADVANCED SKIN CARE.**

Counseling in
Life Transitions

Action-Oriented
Therapy

Advanced
Skincare
Procedures

Medical-Grade
Products

Gita Mahabir, Counselor, LPC • Esthetician, LE **517.898.8541**

1640 Haslett Rd, Ste 100, Haslett, MI 48840

MahabirWellness.com



Create a custom

announcement or save-the-date card
for an upcoming wedding, graduation
or any special event or celebration.

OUTER GRAPHICS

Graphic Design & Visual Branding

Info@outergraphics.com

517.324.1806 tel

517.324.1807 fax

210 Abbot Rd., Suite 16
East Lansing, MI 48823

Wedding Invites
Graduation Invites
Save-the-Dates
Party Invites
Vinyl Signs
Announcements



ALICIA'S
Authentic Mexican
Deli & Catering



Homemade Fresh Every Day

Buy One Dinner, Get One
Half Off With A Purchase
Of Two Drinks **4/30/17**

5025 N. Grand River
Lansing, MI 48906

P: (517) 580-8417

aliciasmexicanfood.com

Offer not valid on Thursdays
Offer Expires on

Open Monday to Friday 8AM to 7PM
Open Saturday from 9AM to 2PM
Closed on Sunday



Benedict Auto Body

246 W Maple • Mason, MI 48854 • 517-676-4970

WWW.BENEDICTAUTOBODY.COM

**Fully Certified Collision Repair • Free
Estimate • Free Loaner • Automotive
Repair • Free Diagnosis**



**mid-michigan
INTERACTIVE**

**\$200
OFF**

To redeem coupon you must
have a signed contract by
May 1st, 2017 to receive the discount.

CALL US AT

517-599-3543 or (888) 580-8930

VISIT US AT

midmichiganinteractive.com

EXPIRES MAY 1ST, 2017

**YOUR NEXT WEBSITE
DESIGN PROJECT**

\$200

Savings Coupon

\$200

**BROTHERS
BROS**



This entitles you to a \$200 off any
exterior project - windows, siding, or
roofing job on your home.

* \$3,500 Minimum purchase
required. Coupon must be
presented at time of estimate.

Windows • Roofing • Siding

517.627.7999 • ELIEFFBROTHERS.COM

\$50 OFF

per person when you book
your vacation to Ireland on our
Custom Small Group Itinerary.

**CAPITAL AREA
TRAVEL LEADERS**

Travel Dates
6/28/2017
to 7/9/2017.

Air, Lodging,
and Daily
Breakfast
included

Book Now!

517.627.8350 | Ask for Jody





Fully Licensed and Insured Electricians.

- New Construction, Remodel, Design & Build Projects for both residential and commercial.
- Lighting upgrades/retrofits.
- Help you pay less for energy through light replacement.
- Site lighting installations.
- Landscape lighting.
- Service upgrades.
- Generator installations for any size project.
- Service Calls/Work

Serving Greater Lansing & Surrounding Areas with quality workmanship, customer service and satisfaction.

Find us on  @SelleckElectricLLC
or call us at (517)673-8529

TRAVIS B. CONTI MICHIGAN REALTOR



If you're looking to
Build, Buy or Sell...
contact me - I can help!

**COLDWELL
BANKER**

**HUBBELL
BRIARWOOD**



517-930-1721



BBB Rating: A+
Click for Review

Top 1% Producer for
Coldwell Banker North America

LansingChristianRealEstate.com • Travis@TravisConti.com

Reputation is Important, but Character is Priceless.

To reconnect with me on  send me a friend request.
I look forward to hearing from you!

Westside Car Care, Inc.

Automotive Maintenance and Repair

517.484.6199

WESTSIDE is a full-service repair facility offering the following services:



Troy Sika, Owner

**Air Conditioning
Alignments
Brakes
Carburetors
Clutches
Cooling Systems
Electrical
Engines
Exhaust**

**Fleet Services
Oil Changes
Routine Maintenance
Struts/Shocks
Tires
Transmissions
Tune-ups
Used Vehicle Inspections
4x4's and more...just give us a call!**

Family-owned and operated since 1982, Westside is committed to offering the highest quality automotive maintenance and repair. Let our experienced and knowledgeable staff assist you with all your automotive maintenance and repair needs!

409 Lentz Court, Lansing, MI 48917 Monday-Friday 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

A Complete RENTAL

AREA'S MOST COMPLETE PARTY RENTAL STORE



236 W. Mount Hope Avenue • Lansing, MI. 48910 • **517.484.6600**

Save time and money. One company, one delivery, one source and no worries. A Complete Rental is the Lansing Rental Company that works for you!

A Complete Rental is a full-service rental company that offers its customers a vast selection of wedding and party rental items. Serving Lansing and the surrounding areas for over 27 years, we are the area's most complete party rental store.

We have built our reputation by providing our customers with the most reliable rental items and outstanding customer service.

From tents to tables, to chairs and china, we offer a large diverse inventory of rentals for weddings, open houses, parties, corporate events or any other special event that you may be planning.

These rental items include:

CENTERPIECES

WEDDING

ACCESSORIES

ARCHES

CANDELABRAS

CARD HOLDERS

CHOCOLATE FOUNTAINS

BEVERAGE FOUNTAINS

POPCORN MACHINES

INFLATABLES

DUNK TANKS

WEDDING TENTS

PARTY CANOPIES

TABLES

CHAIRS

FROZEN DRINK

MACHINES

**SOFT SERVE ICE CREAM
MACHINE**

DANCE FLOORS

TABLE LINENS

NAPKINS

CHINA

GLASSWARE

FLATWARE

AND MUCH MORE.....



www.ACompleteRental.com