

# FOCUS

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

MAY 2026



*Lansing  
Landmarks*  
**ICONIC SMALL  
BUSINESSES**  
SHAPING OUR CITY

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Ask the Expert: The Hidden Problem in Your Governing Documents | Supporting Smart Data Center Growth Across Michigan | Capital Region International Airport Celebrates 100 Years of Flight



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LANSING REGIONAL CHAMBER

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**“**  
**From thriving  
downtowns to  
neighborhood  
corridors, small  
businesses  
bring energy  
and identity  
to our  
communities.**

## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAMBER

# Built Here, Growing Strong: Small Business Drives Lansing Forward

**S**mall businesses are the backbone of our regional economy and a defining strength of the Lansing region. They are innovators, job creators, and community builders who shape the character of our neighborhoods and drive long term economic growth.

As the Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce celebrates its 125th anniversary, we are reminded that this region has always been built on the vision and resilience of local businesses and the people behind them. From our earliest days to today, small business growth has been central to Lansing's progress and identity.

Across our region, we continue to see the powerful impact of small business development, not only through job creation and investment, but in the way these businesses activate districts, attract talent, and strengthen overall quality of life. From thriving downtowns to neighborhood corridors, small businesses bring energy and identity to our communities.

That impact was on full display over the past month through two opportunities focused specifically on small business success. During 517 Entrepreneurial Week, we welcomed local small business owners Tiffany Dowling, Tico Duckett, and Ben Rathbun, who shared practical strategies and lessons learned from building sustainable, successful businesses right here in the Lansing region. We were also pleased to host Small Business Administration Administrator Kelly Loeffler, who highlighted the many federal resources available to support small businesses and engaged in discussions on national issues affecting small businesses. Additionally, we celebrate the Lansing regional businesses that were recognized as outstanding small businesses during the recent Michigan Celebrates Small Business program: Centered Care of Michigan; Doggy Day Care and Spa; Groovy Donuts; High Road Handcrafted; Massage Bliss and Beauty; Aux Petits Sains; WalkWorthy Menswear; and Little Blessings Childcare.

Equally important is the responsibility to ensure these businesses can thrive. That means actively working to remove barriers that can stand in the way of growth whether through access to capital, workforce challenges, regulatory complexity, or limited connectivity to resources and networks. When we lower those barriers, we unlock innovation and create more opportunities for entrepreneurs at every stage.

The Chamber plays a key role in this work by bringing people together, connecting members to resources, and advocating for a strong and supportive business climate. As we celebrate Small Business Month, we recognize that every thriving economy starts at the local level with bold ideas, determined entrepreneurs, and communities willing to invest in their success.

We never lose sight of our core work: supporting our members and advancing our mission to work relentlessly to help them connect, grow, and thrive. That commitment to our members, our small businesses, and our region remains at the heart of everything we do. ♦

# Thank You Renewing Members

Ammon Pence Group  
Audiology & Hearing Aid Center  
Bellwether Public Relations  
(formerly Martin Waymire)  
Bridgcare Technologies  
Capital Area Housing Partnership  
(CAHP)  
Capital Imaging  
Capital Region Community  
Foundation  
Capital Steel & Wire, Inc.  
Capitol National Bank  
Caterpillar Corner Childcare Center  
Charter Township of Lansing  
(Lansing Township)  
Cin-Lan, Inc.  
City of St. Johns  
College HUNKS Hauling Junk and  
Moving  
Colliers Engineering & Design  
Columbia Sussex Corp  
Conquest Fitness  
Consumers Energy  
County National Bank  
Courtyard at Delta  
Courtyard by Marriott East Lansing/  
Okemos  
Cron Management, LLC  
Dave & Buster's  
Dean Transportation, Inc.  
Delhi Charter Township  
Delta Township  
DeWitt Charter Township  
Dewpoint  
Doggy Daycare and Spa  
Douglas Steel Fabricating  
Corporation  
Duckett Brothers Distributing  
Dusty's Cellar  
EDL Energy  
Ele's Place  
Emergent BioSolutions  
Fairfax Apartments  
Farm Bureau Insurance Company  
Fifth Third Bank  
Flooring America - Carpet Studio  
Fraser Trebilcock Davis & Dunlap  
P.C.  
Gillespie Company, LLC

Graze Craze  
GreenStone Farm Credit Services  
H Business Development &  
Consulting  
Hamp Business Coaching  
Highfields, Inc.  
Horizon Bank  
Hospice of Lansing & Stoneleigh  
Residence  
House of Dank Recreational  
Cannabis Lansing (The Earle of  
Smoke/H.O.D Lansing)  
Image Builders Unlimited  
Ingham Intermediate School  
District (Ingham ISD)  
ITC Holdings Corporation  
JEM Cleaning LLC  
Keller Williams Realty Lansing  
Kincaid Building Group, Inc.  
La Fille Gallery  
Lake State Landscaping & Snow  
Removal LLC  
Lake Trust Credit Union  
Lansing Courtyard by Marriott  
Love's Travel Stops & Country Stores  
MacIntyre & Cowen ReMax Grand  
River  
McLaren Greater Lansing  
Mead & Hunt  
MessageMakers  
Michigan Association of Counties  
Michigan Works! Association  
New Leaf Landscaping Company  
New Vision Lansing, LLC  
Notre Dame Federal Credit Union  
Nova Law PLC  
Oasis Senior Advisors of Mid-  
Michigan  
Origami Rehabilitation  
Piper & Gold Public Relations  
Playmakers  
Plumbers & Pipefitters Local Union  
333  
Potter Park Zoological Society  
Quality Dairy Company  
Red Cedar Lodge  
Redhead Creative Consultancy  
Reid Machinery, Inc.  
Robert Half International

RSDC of Michigan  
Salvation Army - Lansing Capitol  
Area, The  
Sam Eyde Management Company,  
L.L.C.  
Shaheen Chevrolet, Inc.  
SpringHill Suites by Marriott  
Stellablue Designs  
Storage Sense - North Aurelius Road  
Storage Sense - South Creyts Road  
Student Book Store, Inc.  
Superior Services RSH Inc.  
The Dinner Detective  
Theroux Development Co., Inc.  
Thomas M. Cooley Law School  
Tri-County Regional Planning  
Commission  
United Hospitality Group East  
Lansing, LLC  
Vital Care of Lansing  
WSYM - Fox 47  
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# Chamber Milestones

**MAYOTTEgroup Architects**  
40 years

**Neogen Corporation**  
40 years

**PADNOS**  
35 years

**Krimson, LLC**  
25 years

**Castle Pointe Apartments -  
Monarch Investment**  
20 years

**Doty Mechanical, Inc.**  
20 years

**Lakewood Apartments - Monarch  
Investment**  
20 years

**Michigan Optometric Association**  
20 years

**Publicom**  
20 years

**S & S Die Co.**  
20 years

**Financial Technology, Inc.**  
15 years

**Michigan High School Athletic  
Association**  
15 years

**Resch Strategies**  
15 years

**River Caddis Development**  
15 years

**ACD.net**  
10 years

**Cinnaire Corporation**  
10 years

**Patrick McPharlin**  
10 years

**Transworld Business Advisors of  
Grand Rapids | Lansing**  
10 years

**Michigan First Credit Union -  
Meridian Township**  
5 years

**VE Infrastructure Group (formerly  
Value Engineering, 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!*



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## Welcome New Members

### Choice One Bank

(616) 205-0321  
[www.choicene.bank](http://www.choicene.bank)  
109 E. Division  
Sparta, MI 49345

### R.E. Olds Transportation Museum

(517) 372-0529  
[www.reoldsmuseum.org](http://www.reoldsmuseum.org)  
240 Museum Drive  
Lansing, MI 48933

### Mayfair Bar

(517) 339-3880  
[www.mayfairbar.net](http://www.mayfairbar.net)  
1589 Lake Lansing Road  
Haslett MI, 48840

### Pritoria Homes

(517) 332-1038  
[www.pritoriahomes.com](http://www.pritoriahomes.com)  
3032 Vine St  
Lansing MI, 48912

### Ferris State University - Flint

(810) 762-0461  
[www.ferris.edu](http://www.ferris.edu)  
1401 E Court St., MMB 1008  
Flint MI, 48503

### Michigan Wedding Association

(517) 939-9797  
[www.lansingbridalshow.com](http://www.lansingbridalshow.com)  
DeWitt MI, 48820

### Veterans Archives

(248) 289-3180  
[www.veteransarchives.org](http://www.veteransarchives.org)  
East Lansing MI, 48823

### Patriot Ambulance Service

(810) 742-5391  
[www.patriotambulance.net](http://www.patriotambulance.net)  
5189 Commerce Rd  
Flint MI, 48507

### Business Charity Directory

(616) 666-3085  
[www.businesscharitydirectory.com](http://www.businesscharitydirectory.com)  
P.O. Box 57  
Dewitt MI, 48820

### M2 Speaks

[M2speaks.com](http://M2speaks.com)  
East Lansing MI, 48823

### Nexx Fund Financial

(877) 976-6399  
[www.nexxfundfinancial.com](http://www.nexxfundfinancial.com)  
Lansing MI, 48906

### Archer Law

(517) 594-2100  
[www.archerlawmi.com](http://www.archerlawmi.com)  
Haslett MI, 48840

### Ambivo

(269) 366-6281  
[ambivo.io](http://ambivo.io)  
1690 Watertower Place,  
Ste 100 #391  
East Lansing MI, 48823

### College Bike Shop

(517) 484-6413  
[www.collegebikeshop.com](http://www.collegebikeshop.com)  
340 N Larch St  
Lansing MI, 48912

### Lifeboat Addiction Recovery Services

(517) 977-1772  
[lifeboataddictionrecovery.org](http://lifeboataddictionrecovery.org)  
1601 E. Michigan Ave., Ste 1  
Lansing MI, 48912

### Fairfield Inn and Suites by Marriott - Eastwood

(517) 374-6500  
[www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/landt-fairfield-inn-and-suites-lansing-at-eastwood/](http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/landt-fairfield-inn-and-suites-lansing-at-eastwood/)  
3320 Preyde Blvd.  
Lansing MI, 48912

### Chick-Fil-A South Cedar

(517) 329-1055  
[www.chick-fil-a.com/locations/mi/south-cedar-mi](http://www.chick-fil-a.com/locations/mi/south-cedar-mi)  
6430 South Cedar Street  
Lansing MI, 48911

### Next Generation Family Services

(517) 574-0802  
[www.nextgenfamilyservices.org](http://www.nextgenfamilyservices.org)  
405 W Greenlawn, Suite 110A  
Lansing MI, 48910



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A heartfelt thank you to Dave Campbell for his dedicated work and partnership with FOCUS Magazine over the years. With 40 years in the printing industry, his commitment and professionalism have left a lasting impact.

Congratulations on your retirement from BRD Printing, Dave. Wishing you all the best in your next chapter filled with travel, adventure, and everything ahead!

# Leading with Purpose: How Ms. Corporate Lansing Mirrors My ATHENA Journey

By Ashlee R. Willis, Ms. Corporate Lansing  
Founder & CEO, Michigan Premier Events

When I was selected as Ms. Corporate Lansing, one of the first things I felt was recognition, not just of an accomplishment, but of alignment. As a board member of ATHENA WIN and chair of the Evening of Empowerment committee, I have spent years immersed in the ATHENA Leadership Model and its eight principles of enlightened leadership. What struck me most about the Ms. Corporate America Organization is how naturally those same principles are embedded within its foundation.

The Ms. Corporate America platform is not a traditional pageant. There is no swimsuit competition. Instead, it centers on corporate leadership, community impact, and the ability to clearly articulate your values, vision, and voice. That framework reflects the ATHENA Leadership Model almost point for point: live authentically, act courageously, advocate fiercely, build relationships, and give back intentionally. These are not abstract ideas to me. They are the way I lead.

As the founder of Michigan Premier Events, I have spent over a decade building relationships, fostering collaboration, and creating experiences that connect organizations and communities across Michigan. This year marks our 10 year anniversary, a milestone that reflects not just business growth, but the power of purpose driven leadership in action. What started as a small creative venture has evolved into a full-scale event management company producing more than 100 events annually, serving corporations, nonprofits, and community organizations across the state.

But my leadership journey has always extended beyond business. It has been shaped and strengthened by ATHENA.

ATHENA teaches that leadership is not positional, it is intentional. It asks us to lead with authenticity, to invest in the success of others, and to continuously grow. Those principles guided me when I faced early barriers as an entrepreneur. Instead of waiting for opportunity, I created it. I hosted my own events, built platforms for visibility, and focused on proving impact through action. That same mindset became the foundation of Michigan



Premier Events, from launching community initiatives like Lift Up Local during COVID to

building programs that highlight small businesses and elevate local voices.

Today, that work continues through initiatives such as Meet the Chef, Heartfelt Fridays, and large scale community events that center connection, inclusion, and collaboration. Each one reflects a core ATHENA belief: when you create space for others to succeed, everyone rises.

One of the most meaningful ATHENA principles is also the simplest: celebrate. Not only the success of others, but your own growth and journey. This title, Ms. Corporate Lansing, is one I deeply celebrate, not because it defines me, but because it reflects the work already being lived out in my leadership every day.

My platform is rooted in economic empowerment and visibility for women of color in business. ATHENA has always believed that when women are lifted, communities rise. I have built my career on that belief, and I continue to see it proven through my work in Lansing and beyond.

The Ms. Corporate America Organization mirrors that same truth. It challenges women to show up fully, speak boldly, and lead with purpose. That is what ATHENA has taught me all along.

You do not need a title to lead. But when you are given one, it becomes an opportunity to amplify the work already in motion. ♦



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## The Foundation Problem: What Your Governing Documents Might Be Getting Wrong

By: Hannah Morgan Smith, Associate Attorney with Fahey Schultz Burzych Rhodes PLC

One of the most consequential decisions a business owner makes happens before the first customer is served or the first dollar is earned: choosing and formalizing the right business structure. That decision determines how authority is exercised, how liability is allocated, and how ownership interests can be transferred. Getting it right from the start is far less costly than correcting mistakes later.



Morgan Smith

The choice between an LLC, S corporation, or partnership is not simply a tax question. Each carries distinct implications for who has authority, how liability is allocated, and how the business can evolve. For LLCs, one of the most preventable problems involves a mismatch between the articles of organization filed with the state and what the operating agreement actually says. When those documents conflict, there is genuine uncertainty about who has the legal authority to bind the company, sign contracts, or make decisions on its behalf. That disconnect tends to emerge during a sale, a financing transaction, or a dispute, exactly when clarity matters most.

Thoughtful formation also means planning for what we call the “Four D’s”: death, disability, divorce, and dissociation. The death or disability of an owner raises immediate questions about control and continuity.

A personal divorce can bring an unexpected third party into the ownership structure. And dissociation, or a business divorce between co-owners, is more common than most founders anticipate. When an operating agreement fails to address these scenarios with clear buy-sell provisions, agreed-upon valuation methods, and defined dispute procedures, the result is often expensive and contentious litigation decided on someone else’s terms.

Succession planning deserves the same early attention. Whether an owner intends to pass the business to a family member, sell to a co-owner, or transition to outside buyers, the process is far smoother when the framework is established in advance. Waiting until a triggering event occurs leaves fewer options and less leverage.

As businesses grow, roles shift and operational realities evolve. Governing documents that once reflected how a company operated may no longer be accurate, creating ambiguity precisely when clarity matters most. A crisis does not build foundation problems. It exposes them. Owners who treat governance as a living part of their business are the ones who stay in control when it matters most. ♦

# Lansing Landmarks

## ICONIC SMALL BUSINESSES SHAPING OUR CITY

By Liz Reno-Hayes



Quality Dairy celebrates *90 years of serving*



**1971: Quality Dairy adds their first fuel store at the Corner of S. Waverly & Jolly Road.**

**In March 1936,** two families set out to change the way Lansing residents enjoyed fresh milk, offering a convenient alternative to waiting for the milkman's daily delivery. With an initial \$600 investment from Gregory J. and Pauline Martin, the first Quality Dairy store opened on South Washington Avenue with partners Harvey and Mildred Mack, launching a legacy that would shape Mid-Michigan for generations.

90 years later, Quality Dairy Company remains a community cornerstone, growing from that single milk store to a beloved network of 26 locations across Greater Lansing. As a third-generation family-owned business, Quality Dairy's Vice President, Joe Martin, shares how the company has maintained its hometown feel while growing.

"Bringing the community our quality products and service has always been our focus. Over the years, we've refreshed our stores, expanded kitchen



It's hard to turn a corner in Lansing and not see a QD. Our employees *become like family* to our customers, and their friendly service and dedication make the experience memorable. We look forward to *continuing to serve the community* for many years to come.

**Joe Martin**, Vice President, Quality Dairy



**Quality Dairy produces over 150,000 Paczki for the Lansing area**

## mid-Michigan

selections, added fuel services, and introduced new products. At the same time, we've worked to ensure our stores collaborate, foster teamwork, and create an environment where employees feel supported and engaged," says Martin.

Quality Dairy didn't just expand, it innovated. Starting with their always-creamy sour cream, they soon introduced eggnog, cider, and everyday grocery items. In 1940, they began producing ice cream, followed by fresh bakery goods in 1968.

Along the way, QD became known for creativity. From bagged milk pitcher packs, the first of their kind in the U.S., "Pitcher packs were easier to store and stayed fresh longer, no one else was doing it," explains Martin. They also introduced classics like French onion chip dip, paczki pastries, and hand-dipped ice cream, giving locals treats that remain favorites today. "You can taste when it's real, fresh every day. That commitment to quality makes all the difference," Martin adds.

Martin reflects on the company's commitment to community and shares how the focus has always been on staying connected, giving back, and supporting their customers and employees.

Looking ahead, QD is embracing technology and innovation to connect with a new wave of customers and keep their offerings fresh and relevant. From POS driven loyalty programs to Quick Service Restaurant expansion with fresh made-to-order chicken, Martin says the goal is to offer new products, upgraded stores, and memorable customer experiences.

As Quality Dairy marks 90 years of service in 2026, it stands not just as a business, but as a living piece of Mid-Michigan heritage. "It's hard to turn a corner in Lansing and not see a QD. Our employees become like family to our customers, and their friendly service and dedication make the experience memorable. We look forward to continuing to serve the community for many years to come," Martin concludes.



“

I hope that Preuss Pets can be a beacon of hope for any creative entrepreneur bursting with ideas but starting from very humble and small beginnings.

**Kirbay Preuss**

Marketing and HR  
Director, Preuss Pets

## Preuss Pets marks 40+ years of innovation in pet care

For more than 40 years, Preuss Pets has built a reputation as one of the most unique pet stores in the country, but its 20-year presence in Lansing's Old Town tells an equally important story about small business impact and community transformation.

Choosing Old Town two decades ago was a bold move. At the time, the district looked very different than it does today. That decision helped shape what Old Town has become. "When you take a risk and succeed in creating a destination location, other businesses are more inclined to take that risk too," said Kirbay Preuss, Marketing and HR Director. "Old Town is such a vibrant community of entrepreneurs who come together to support one another on this journey."

That sense of shared experience is central to Preuss Pets' role in the district. "There is comfort in walking along others who know the trials and tribulations of the journey," Preuss said. "Those who speak from their actions, not just their words."

While its impact on Old Town is clear, the longevity of Preuss Pets is rooted in a strong commitment to animal care and education. The business has become a leader in proper animal husbandry, with distinctions that include integration into the curriculum at Michigan State University, USDA licensing, and an on-site aquatic veterinarian.

Education is central to the mission at Preuss Pets, extending beyond the store through classes,

demonstrations, tours, and community outreach, all designed to help families better understand the responsibility and joy of animal care.

“We know kids are so drawn to learning about different animals,” Preuss said. “From understanding animal behavior to learning how to be better stewards of the environment, there are so many concepts that can spark curiosity and responsibility.”

The business has also earned national recognition from organizations such as Pet Product International and World Pet Association, along with a special tribute from Governor Gretchen Whitmer and Emily Dievendorf, as well as a feature on The Late Show with Stephen Colbert.



“No matter the recognition, Preuss Pets will always remain committed to running one of the best pet stores in the nation, striving to always raise the bar in pet care and best practices for customer education,” Preuss said.

Looking ahead, Preuss Pets hopes to continue serving as both a model and a message of encouragement for small business owners. “I hope that Preuss Pets can be a beacon of hope for any creative entrepreneur bursting with ideas but starting from very humble and small beginnings,” said Kirby Preuss. “We can share our story of hard work and dedication with a commitment to our values always.”

That same long-term vision extends to animal care and education. “We will continue to lead the way in best practices and be a voice across the country to help other stores keep raising the bar as well,” she said.

Today, Preuss Pets stands not only as a destination, but as proof of what is possible when small businesses invest in community and grow alongside it.



## The Peanut Shop *preserves a legacy* in downtown Lansing

For nearly a century, The Peanut Shop has been a fixture in downtown Lansing, offering more than just fresh roasted nuts. Since opening in 1937, the shop has remained in its original location, serving as a living piece of the city’s history and a reminder of the power of small business longevity.

“Everywhere you look in the shop is a little piece of history,” said Adam Seyburn, owner. Original features like the peanut roaster, still in operation nearly 90 years later, and glass display cases have served generations of customers. That consistency is intentional. “We’re very deliberate about maintaining the same experience a customer would have seen over the last 80 plus



“  
Everywhere  
you look in the  
shop is a little  
piece of history.”

Adam Seyburn, Peanut Shop Owner

years,” Seyburn noted. From the counterweight scales to roasting nuts in front of customers, the experience reflects a time when retail was more personal and quality was assured.

That commitment to tradition is part of what makes The Peanut Shop a destination. Generations of families continue to return, often sharing the experience across decades. “We love seeing grandparents bring in young kids and say, ‘I’m bringing you here just like my grandparents brought me,’” Seyburn reflected.

While the shop remained in the same family until 2022, Seyburn embraced the responsibility of carrying that legacy forward. The transition has been both challenging and rewarding, grounded in maintaining the small details that make the experience so distinctive. “The Peanut Shop is such a fun place to work. Everyone who walks in is excited to be here,” he added. “The little things are what make a small business stand out.”

Beyond its walls, The Peanut Shop plays a vital role in downtown Lansing’s vitality. “We fill a niche for people working and living downtown, but we’re also a destination,” Seyburn said. With customers traveling from across Mid Michigan and beyond, the shop draws steady foot traffic that supports neighboring businesses



and strengthens the energy of the district. “We’re proud to be an anchor store for downtown,” he added.

Looking ahead, the focus remains on preserving what makes The Peanut Shop special while ensuring it remains accessible for future generations. “We try to change very little so customers today can have the same experience someone had decades ago,” Seyburn said. With thoughtful updates like online ordering, the shop continues to evolve without losing its identity.

In a rapidly changing retail landscape, The Peanut Shop stands as a testament to the enduring value of small business, where tradition, community, and personal connection continue to shape the heart of downtown Lansing. ♦

## HELP DESK: SMALL BUSINESS CONCIERGE

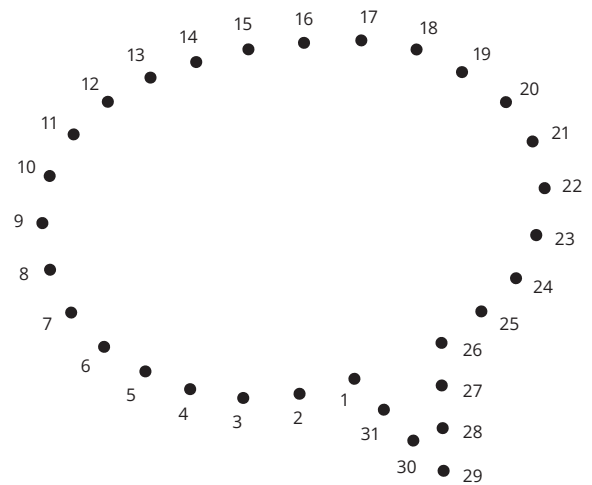
The Chamber's Public Affairs team serves as your dedicated advocate, helping businesses, organizations, and nonprofits navigate challenges at the local, state, and federal levels.

From zoning issues and permits to licensure requirements and regulatory compliance, the team provides guidance, connections, and solutions to help you move forward with confidence.

Whether you are launching, growing, or facing a barrier, the Chamber is here to help clear the path so you can focus on what matters most, running your business.

Contact: [sjapinga@lansingchamber.org](mailto:sjapinga@lansingchamber.org)

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# Centennial Soar: Capital Region International Airport Celebrates 100 Years of Flight



As the sun rises over the runways of Capital Region International Airport, it reveals more than concrete and aircrafts - it illuminates a century of progress, connection, and community in Mid-Michigan. This landmark anniversary marks 100 years of transformation, as Lansing prepares to celebrate an extraordinary journey from a modest 300-acre hayfield to a dynamic, billion-dollar regional asset.

## A Century of Connection

The story of flight in Lansing began in 1926, when the first aircraft lifted off from Chandler's Marsh. What started with airmail routes and daring biplane exhibitions has evolved into an international port of entry. Today, Capital Region International Airport moves more than 63 million pounds of cargo annually and welcomes over 352,000 travelers each year—serving as a vital link between Mid-Michigan and the global economy.



**"We are committed to positioning LAN as a leading regional gateway – powering connectivity, accelerating economic growth, and delivering enduring value for the Mid-Michigan region."**

*Nicole Noll-Williams, president and CEO of the Capital Region Airport Authority (CRAA)*

Reflecting on this historic milestone, Nicole Noll-Williams, president and CEO of the Capital Region Airport Authority (CRAA), underscored the airport's enduring role in the region. "For 100 years, this airport has connected people, powered commerce, and stood as a proud partner to the Lansing community," said Noll-Williams. "We are honored to celebrate not only where we've been, but where we are going - together."

## Modernizing for the Next Century

For Nicole Noll-Williams, this centennial milestone is both professional and personal. Leading the team guiding the airport into its next century is a distinct honor, and she views critical infrastructure investments - such as new boarding bridges, roadway improvements, and enhanced utility systems - as essential to ensuring safety, reliability, an elevated passenger experience, and the long-term resilience of the facility.

Noll-Williams' vision for the next 100 years centers on

integrated, forward-looking growth. She sees the airport not simply as a point of transit, but as a catalyst for regional opportunity - supporting economic development by strengthening the logistics economy, enabling the attraction of high-skill jobs, and enhancing connectivity and access through thoughtful planning and strong community partnerships.

Since taking the helm in 2021, Noll-Williams' team has transitioned from pandemic recovery to a period of strategic growth, modernization, and service expansion. Key achievements include:

- ✓ **Major Infrastructure Investment:** Secured more than \$70 million in grant funding, including \$9.4 million for roadway improvements, strengthening a key gateway to the airport and regional logistics network; \$8.1 million to expand and enhance the air cargo ramp in support of UPS and other operators; and \$3.6 million to advance site readiness, positioning the airport for immediate, build-ready development opportunities.
- ✓ **Expanded Air Service:** Reintroduced United Airlines service to Chicago and launched new routes through Breeze Airways and Apple Vacations; connecting Lansing to key business, leisure, and international destinations, including Florida, Mexico, and the Dominican Republic.
- ✓ **Sustainability and Innovation:** Michigan's first electric aircraft charger installed in partnership with BETA Technologies and Michigan Economic Development Corporation, positioning LAN at the forefront of next-generation aviation.
- ✓ **A 20-Year Vision:** Advanced a comprehensive Master Plan focused on terminal improvements, airfield enhancements, and future development of more than 425 acres of strategic property.

"Leading LAN has been a privilege and an incredibly rewarding journey," Noll-Williams said. "While we've made meaningful progress, our work is just beginning. We are committed to positioning LAN as a leading regional gateway – powering connectivity, accelerating economic growth, and delivering enduring value for the Mid-Michigan region."

## Driving Regional Prosperity

The airport's impact extends far beyond the runway. As one of only two Michigan airports with a U.S. Customs

# You're Invited! Centennial Open House "100 Years of Flight"



**SATURDAY, JUNE  
13TH, AT 10 A.M.**

To commemorate this historic milestone, Capital Region International Airport will host a Centennial Open House on Saturday, June 13, beginning at 10 a.m. This signature event will celebrate a century of aviation in our region while looking ahead to the next era of innovation and growth.

Organizations interested in showcasing their services or engaging with the community are invited to connect with airport administration for participation opportunities.

**For event details and centennial updates, visit [FlyLansing.com](http://FlyLansing.com).**



and Border Protection Federal Inspection Station, LAN serves as a critical gateway for international business and trade. Today, the airport supports

approximately 1,080 jobs and generates an estimated \$1 billion in annual economic impact.

For Lansing and the broader Mid-Michigan region, a strong airport is more than a convenience—it is a competitive necessity. Serving a regional population of more than 1.2 million people within a 45-minute drive from LAN, the airport supports state government operations, universities, and other major employers, reinforcing its role as a cornerstone of the transportation network and overall economic vitality. In total, the airport drives significant economic activity across the region, supporting more than 7,300 jobs. By providing efficient access for business travel and cargo movement, LAN helps position Lansing as an attractive destination for investment, talent, and high-skill industries. ♦

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# Chamber Advocates for Businesses Impacted by Kalamazoo Street Flooding

The Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce is actively advocating on behalf of small businesses and residents impacted by ongoing flooding along Kalamazoo Street, following continued concerns tied to the Montgomery Drain project.

Local businesses have invested significantly in this corridor, contributing to infrastructure improvements with the expectation that longstanding flooding challenges would be addressed. However, repeated flooding events continue to disrupt operations, damage property, and create uncertainty for employees and customers.

In response, the Chamber formally raised concerns to the Ingham County Board of Commissioners, calling for greater transparency, accountability, and a clear path forward. The Chamber emphasized that prior communications around the Montgomery Drain project included commitments to reduce flooding impacts, making current conditions particularly concerning.



Aerial view of flooding in Lansing after heavy weekend rainfall. Courtesy Photo: WILX

Importantly, the Chamber is advocating for solutions, not just awareness. This includes exploring additional infrastructure improvements, identifying mitigation strategies, and ensuring meaningful support for affected businesses and residents.

At its core, this effort reflects the Chamber's mission to support businesses, strengthen communities, and ensure that public investments deliver real, reliable outcomes for those who depend on them. ♦

Join us to celebrate the great regional asset that is the Lansing River Trail on Saturday, June 27! Run the region's premiere 10k, or walk/run the 5k, with both races staged entirely on The Lansing River Trail! The race originates and ends at Potter Park Zoo.

Proceeds will benefit The Friends of the Lansing Regional Trails, and its mission to promote a safe, clean, and thoughtfully-expanded trail.

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# Small Businesses Signal Caution Amid Ongoing Inflation Pressures

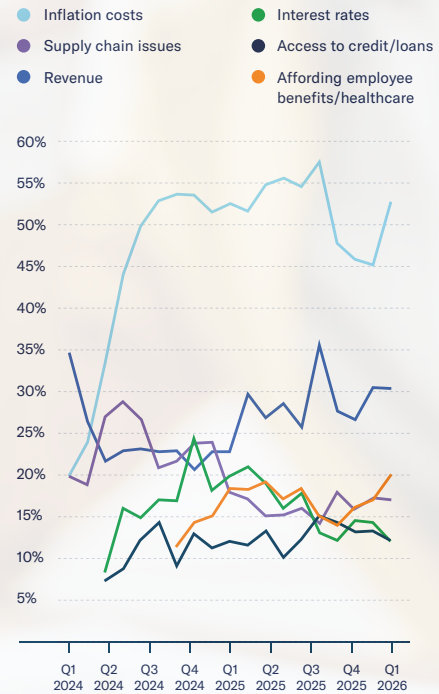
The Small Business Index score for Q1 2026 is 67.0, down from 68.4 last quarter.

“Financial uncertainty in the economy is causing tightening on discretionary spending.”

**CHRIS BARBER**

Chief Nerd, Cheaper Than A Geek

**Biggest challenges facing small business owners (top 6 shown)**



## Key Takeaways



### INFLATION IS CHIEF CONCERN

**53% of small business owners cite inflation as their biggest challenge.**



### HIRING AND INVESTMENT PLANS PULL BACK

**Just 37% expect to increase investment and 30% plan to add staff in the next year.**



### ECONOMIC CONFIDENCE WEAKENS

**Only 28% say the U.S. economy is in good health, a 10-point drop from last quarter.**



### CASH-FLOW CONFIDENCE SLIPS

**Only 20% say they are very comfortable with their cash flow, down 11 points over two quarters.**

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce Q1 2026 Small Business Index highlights a more cautious outlook among small businesses as inflation and cost pressures continue to weigh on decision making.

While overall confidence remains steady, fewer small businesses plan to increase hiring in the coming months, signaling a shift toward a more measured approach to growth. Rising input costs, including materials, wages, and borrowing, continue to challenge day-to-day operations and long term planning.

Inflation remains the top concern for small businesses, outpacing workforce challenges and revenue growth. Many business owners report adjusting by delaying expansion, scaling back hiring expectations, or passing increased costs on to consumers where possible.

Despite these headwinds, small businesses remain resilient, with many still reporting stable revenues and a willingness to invest when conditions improve.

For the Lansing region, these findings reinforce the importance of policies that support cost stability, workforce development, and a predictable regulatory environment.

To view the full report, visit: [www.uschamber.com/small-business/small-business-index-q1-2026](http://www.uschamber.com/small-business/small-business-index-q1-2026) ♦

# ATHENA WIN Aspiring Leaders

By Liz Reno-Hayes



2025-2026 ATHENA WIN Aspiring Leaders Leadership Program Cohort Celebration

**A**THENA WIN Aspiring Leaders, a program run through the Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce's Thrive Series, continues to shape emerging women leaders through a dynamic, experience driven approach to leadership development. Designed to build self-awareness, strengthen leadership impact, and foster meaningful connections, the program provides participants with the tools and confidence to create change within their organizations and communities.

Peer mentoring plays a central role in the Aspiring Leaders experience. Mentees meet monthly with their mentors, building meaningful relationships that provide support, inspiration, and perspective while strengthening connections across the region.

Throughout the seven-month program, 2025-2026 ATHENA WIN Aspiring Leaders participants deepened their leadership skills through a series of focused sessions. In February, the fourth session, *Cultivating Collaboration*, challenged participants to explore their role in creating environments where others feel valued, engaged, and empowered to contribute. In March, the fifth session, *The Power of Your Resilience*, equipped participants with the mindset and tools to navigate challenges, recover from setbacks, and lead with confidence in times of uncertainty.

The program concluded with the ATHENA WIN Aspiring Leaders Celebration on April 7, held at Capital Region International Airport. The morning featured a light breakfast and capstone presentations from each mentee. Participants shared their growth as leaders, explored their unique leadership styles, and reflected on their non-negotiables and personal passions.

Some of the key takeaways shared by mentees included: always be courageous and kind; let honesty and integrity drive everything you do; be present in the moment; listen to understand, not respond; do the right thing even when no one is watching; lead with grit and grace; and remember that leadership is not about being liked, but about being trusted.

A heartfelt thank you to Gina Lisenby, CPCC, ACC, for facilitating this year's cohort.

Applications for the 2026-2027 ATHENA WIN Aspiring Leaders cohort open in May, with the program launching in September 2026.

Contact Sarah Bakken at [sbakken@lansingchamber.org](mailto:sbakken@lansingchamber.org) for more information. ♦



**Congratulations to the 2025–2026 Aspiring Leaders mentees for their dedication, growth, and commitment to becoming stronger leaders:**

- ✓ **Amber Hamilton**  
*FD Hayes*
- ✓ **Ashley Crosser**  
*Highfields*
- ✓ **Carolyn McQuillan**  
*McLaren Foundation*
- ✓ **Cat Cook**  
*Maner Costerisan*
- ✓ **De'Anna Smith**  
*Capital Steel & Wire*
- ✓ **Hannah Morgan Smith**  
*Fahey Schultz  
Burzych Rhodes*
- ✓ **Katie Sullivan**  
*CG Financial*
- ✓ **Katlyn Henson**  
*PNC*
- ✓ **Kelly Scanlon**  
*Peckham*
- ✓ **Kylie Humble**  
*InVerve Marketing*
- ✓ **LaQuecia Gibson**  
*Lansing Housing  
Commission*
- ✓ **Lynn Munoz**  
*UM Health Sparrow*
- ✓ **Renee McNutt**  
*LRCC*
- ✓ **Sara VanOver**  
*RPK Group*

**Thank you to our dedicated 2025–2026 Aspiring Leaders mentors for their time, guidance, and support:**

- ✓ **Amy McNamara**  
*Mercantile Bank*
- ✓ **Breina Pugh**  
*ITC Holdings*
- ✓ **Carrie Rathbun Hawks**  
*Rathbun Public  
Relations*
- ✓ **Cindy Kangas**  
*CAMC*
- ✓ **Courtney Millbrook**  
*Lansing  
Symphony Orchestra*
- ✓ **Deb Horak**  
*Güd Marketing*
- ✓ **Deb Slezak**  
*McLaren Health Care*
- ✓ **Joy Wagner**  
*Granger Waste  
Services*
- ✓ **Julie Mann**  
*Lead With Collective*
- ✓ **Kate Powers**  
*Michigan League for  
Public Policy (MLPP)*
- ✓ **Leslie Batchelor**  
*PNC Bank*
- ✓ **Melissa Nay**  
*Choose Lansing*
- ✓ **Michelle Lantz**  
*Lansing Food Bank*
- ✓ **Shelley Davis Boyd**  
*M3 Group*



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## SMALL BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT: Peculiar Coffee

Launching Peculiar Coffee has been both exciting and transformative for owner Selina Máté, who describes the journey as “exciting, fun, and daunting.” As a new woman-owned business, building the company from the ground up has been deeply personal. “It has made me believe in myself more than any other phase of life has,” Máté noted. A lifelong coffee enthusiast, Máté first dreamed of owning a coffee business at 15. That vision came to life after moving back to Lansing with her husband, K, who has been a steady partner in both life and business.



Instead of a traditional storefront, Peculiar Coffee was built as a mobile espresso bar and catering concept. “We chose this model to fill a clear gap in our community while allowing us to be in many places at once,” Máté reflected. From Lansing to Detroit, the business brings the coffee experience directly to customers at markets, events, and celebrations.



Community response has been overwhelmingly positive, with strong support from regulars and event clients. For Máté, the most rewarding part has been the relationships built along the way. “Coffee is a universal love language,” she reflected. “We get

to meet people at markets and then be part of their weddings, baby showers, and biggest life moments.”

Above all, Peculiar Coffee prioritizes experience. “We hope people feel welcomed, seen, and encouraged to be curious,” Máté noted. “Anyone can make a great cup of coffee, but people remember how you make them feel.”

Looking ahead, Peculiar Coffee plans to expand catering across the Greater Lansing region, bringing customized coffee experiences directly to workplaces and community events. “We’re excited to partner with more organizations in Lansing to help them create memorable, personalized moments of appreciation for their teams,” Máté reflected.

You can also find Peculiar Coffee at the Meridian Farmers Market every Saturday, the East Lansing Farmers Market on Sundays, and the Allen Farmers Market on Wednesdays. For catering and event inquiries, visit [peculiarcoffeeco.com](http://peculiarcoffeeco.com) ♦

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# Supporting Smart Data Center Growth Across Michigan

The Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce is proud to be part of a growing statewide coalition, Michigan for Responsible Data Centers, focused on advancing responsible, forward looking data center development across Michigan.

As demand for digital infrastructure continues to grow, data centers represent a significant opportunity to strengthen Michigan's economy, attract private investment, and position the state as a leader in emerging technologies. For the Lansing region, this includes opportunities to redevelop underutilized sites, expand the tax base, and support long term economic growth.

The coalition brings together business organizations, industry leaders, and community partners to advocate for balanced policies that encourage investment while

ensuring environmental responsibility, transparency, and strong community engagement.

Importantly, this is not just a local issue. States across the country are competing aggressively for data center investment. Without a clear, consistent, and supportive policy framework, Michigan risks falling behind in attracting these projects and the economic benefits that come with them.

By working collaboratively through this coalition, the Chamber is helping ensure Michigan remains competitive, innovative, and prepared to meet the demands of a rapidly evolving digital economy.

To learn more about the coalition, visit [mifordatacenters.org](http://mifordatacenters.org) ♦

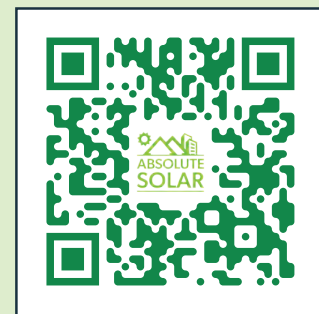


## Why it's the right time for your business to go solar.

Energy costs keep climbing. However, tax incentives are at an all-time high. Discover how Michigan businesses are locking in savings — and what it could mean for yours.

[Read the full article](#)

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## Presidents & Chairs of the Lansing Chamber and its Predecessors

Presidents / Chair of Board of Lansing Chamber of Commerce - The title changed from President to Chairman of the Board in 1988.



### William J. Porter Jr. - 1953 & 1954

Porter was the founder of Porter Realty Company and was known as the realtor for MSU and LCC. Porter graduated from MSU with a degree in engineering and went to work for Oldsmobile. He then joined Rolland Stebbins at Advance Realty but soon formed his own company, retiring at the age of 84. Music was always a love of Porter, who played trombone in the Jack DeDamp dance

band to help finance his college education. He later formed Bill Porter and his Orchestra. Porter was secretary of the Lansing Country Club and an officer in the City Club, president of the Board of Realtors and a director of American Bank and Trust and First American Bank. Porter was also an officer in numerous appraisal organizations. He turned 90 on 9-9-99 and died in 2001.



### Jack F. Wolfram - 1955

Wolfram held the post of general manager of Oldsmobile for 13 years ending in 1964. His previous employer was the Chandler Motor Car Co. of Cleveland. Though Olds enjoyed some of its best years under his regime, Wolfram was either respected or genuinely disliked. Wolfram did have a flair for show business and introduced

Broadway-type musical revues to debut the next year's products to rank and file employees, the media and the dealers. One of Wolfram's favorite entries was the Ninety-Eight in model year 1958. It was quickly dubbed the king of chrome by the media because of four long chrome strips running along the rear quarter panel.



### Richard B. Foster - 1956 & 1957

Born in Lansing in 1908, Foster graduated from Lansing Central High School. After graduating from the University of Michigan Law School in 1932, he joined the firm founded by his father, Walter, known today as Foster Swift Collins & Smith, PC. For more than 60 years, Foster was an outstanding lawyer, advocate and gentleman, serving as legal counsel to many local and

Michigan-based businesses. He was an avid supporter and leader of numerous community organizations and was Ingham County Prosecutor for two terms. In 1942 he enlisted in the Army Air Corp as a lieutenant and was discharged as a major. He was president of the Ingham County Bar Association and Lansing Rotary President 1954-1955 and served on the Lansing Police and Fire Boards. Foster died December 10, 1996.



### Walter F. Patenge - 1958-1959

Patenge was born in 1898. He was president and CEO of Wohlert Corporation. Patenge was a graduate of Michigan State University and an industrialist and philanthropist. He was a trustee of Kiwanis International, and

lieutenant governor and governor of the Michigan Kiwanis District. He also established the Walter F. Patenge Medal of Public Service, awarded each year for outstanding dedication to serving the public good. Patenge died in 1994.



### Russell F. Phillips - 1960

Phillips graduated from Eastern Michigan University and Cleary Business Collect and was a teacher in Holt before becoming the owner of Phillips Realty Company, a company he led for 25 years. In 1950 he served as president of the Michigan Chapter of the Institute of Real Estate

Management. Phillips also served as president of the Lansing Board of Realtors, Junior Chamber of Commerce and the Zach Chandler Club and served as a director of Union Saving and Loan and chair of the United Community Fund Drive. Phillips was active in the Lansing Civic Players Guild and the YMCA. Phillips died in 1968.



### W.H. "Bud" Kouts - 1961

*In 1954, Kouts purchased Wolverine Chevrolet from Ted Peters and renamed it Bud Kouts Chevrolet. Joe Iding remained as office manager until 1963 when he was promoted to general manager. In 1977, Iding purchased the dealership from Kouts.*



### George T. Parisian - 1964

*Parisian was the long time general manager of Standard Block & Supply Company. With his brother, Dick, the Parisians were involved with Standard for many years.*



### Ronald Gen. McDonald- 1962 & 1963.

*Adj. General McDonald was a member of the Michigan National Guard. He also served as president of Lansing Rotary 1970-71 and worked for Oldsmobile, prior to being named Adj. General. He later worked at Lansing Lithograph.*



## Chamber in Action



Congratulations to **The ATS of Lansing** on their Grand Re-Opening! Ambassadors and community guests gathered to celebrate the exciting new chapter of ATS of Lansing, formerly known as The Airport Tavern & Steakhouse. Under new leadership, ATS is ready to continue serving the Lansing community while honoring the tradition that has made this local spot a favorite for around 55 years.



Great turnout at the Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce Member Mixer hosted at **LaFontaine CDJR Okemos** as they celebrated their Grand Opening on Hulett Road! This marks the 7th LaFontaine location in the Lansing region, and their team shared how passionate they are about the communities they serve. With more than 3,200 employees across all their locations, they're excited to be part of the Okemos community and grateful for the warm welcome.



**Rundezvous Fitness Studio** is officially OPEN in downtown Williamston! With nearly 3,000 sq. ft. of space, you'll find free weights, Peloton treadmills, group classes, and even a kids' corner so you can focus on your workout while the kids are entertained.



The Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce along with our Ambassadors and Meridian Township, are proud to celebrate **Club Pilates** on their 1-year anniversary with a ribbon cutting ceremony!

# Members on the Move

## NEW HIRES



Harris

**Obsidian Advocacy Group** proudly announces the hiring of **Jasmine Harris** as its new Senior Director of Communications and Associate Lobbyist. Harris

brings a distinguished background in political communications, public policy, and strategic advocacy, with experience spanning state and national arenas. In her new role, she will help lead OAG's expansion into public relations, providing strategic guidance on messaging, political campaign support, crisis communications, stakeholder engagement, media training, and reputation management.



Pricco

**Triterra** is pleased to announce the addition of **Mary Pricco** as Administrative Assistant in our Grand Rapids office. Pricco holds a Bachelor's

degree in Geography, with minors in Environmental Studies and Sustainable Urban and Regional Planning. She brings a strong foundation in administrative operations, along with experience in data management, documentation, and coordination within fast-paced, compliance-driven environments. In her role at Triterra, Pricco will provide administrative support to project teams and ensure efficient and consistent client service.

**Rathbun Insurance** welcomes **Kenadi Williams** as Office Manager and Executive Assistant. Williams, a Lansing local, brings valuable office management experience and a strong commitment to service.



Williams

She will be the welcoming first point of contact for guests while also supporting staff behind the scenes to help ensure smooth daily operations. In her dual role, Williams will also provide executive assistant support to the leadership team, helping keep the office organized and efficient so the team can focus on serving clients.



Johnston

**Jim Johnston** has joined **Mercantile Bank** as Vice President of Commercial Banking. With more than 15 years of banking experience, Johnston brings a strong background in relationship management and business lending, including more than half of his career serving clients in the Greater Lansing area. In his new role, he will partner with local businesses to support their financial goals and contribute to Mercantile Bank's continued growth and commitment to the communities it serves.

## APPOINTMENTS

**Foster Swift Collins & Smith, P.C.**, announced its 2026 Executive Committee officers at its first meeting of the year. Elected to serve are **Andrew C. Vredenburg**, President; **Laura J. Genovich**, Vice President, Grand Rapids; **Anna K. Gibson**, Secretary; **Warren H. Krueger**, Vice President, Lansing; **Ray H. Littleton**, Vice President, Southfield; and **Nicholas M. Oertel**, Treasurer. In addition, the following attorneys have been named as practice leaders: **Alaina M. Nelson** for the Trusts & Estates practice group and **Michael C. Zahrt** as

Co-Leader of the Business & Tax practice group.



Vredenburg



Genovich



Gibson



Krueger



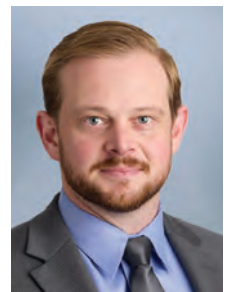
Littleton



Oertel



Nelson



Zahrt

**Stephanie Weed** has been promoted to Tax Manager at **Lally Group, PC** in recognition of her expertise and dedication. She consistently provides outstanding tax planning services that help our clients reach their financial goals. Sean Palmer has been promoted to Manager, recognized



Weed

for his expertise in serving family-owned businesses, manufacturers, and non-profit organizations. His commitment to delivering tailored solutions and

fostering growth makes him a valuable asset to both our clients and the Lally Group team.



Hengsbach



Pray

**LAFUCU** continues to invest in internal leadership with the promotion of **Kim Hengsbach** to assistant collections manager, recognizing her longstanding commitment and contributions to the credit union's operational strength. Hengsbach has been with LAFUCU for more than 17 years and advanced from her previous role as collector. In her new position, she supports efforts to preserve the credit union's assets by helping oversee delinquent accounts, charge-offs, and fraud losses. **LAFUCU** has also promoted **Morgan Pray** to Vice President of ATM/ITM Operations, recognizing her leadership, operational expertise, and commitment to member service. In her new role, Pray will oversee the strategic direction, performance, and growth of LAFUCU's ATM and interactive teller machine network, enhancing operational efficiency and member access. Pray began her career with LAFUCU in 2014 as a teller and has since advanced through multiple leadership roles.

**The Greater Michigan Construction Academy (GMCA)** is pleased to announce the promotion of



Fairchild

**Michelle Fairchild** to Director of Events and Partner Engagement, serving the Midland, Lansing, and Saginaw campuses. Previously

the Director of Admissions at the Midland campus, Fairchild now leads event planning, fundraising efforts, and special programs across all three locations. She also oversees partner engagement, focusing on building strong, sustainable relationships with industry and community partners to support student enrollment, workforce development, and event participation. This expanded role supports GMCA's continued growth and commitment to connecting students with the skilled trades.

## AWARDS



Therrien

**McLaren Greater Lansing** nurse **Sarah Therrien** was honored with the **DAISY Award for Extraordinary Nurses**. Therrien has worked at McLaren for six years. Therrien's career is the fulfillment of a lifelong ambition to enter the medical field and make a meaningful impact on the lives of others. The award is part of the **DAISY Foundation's** program to recognize the exceptional care nurses provide every day.



Sinas

**Stephen Sinas**, personal injury attorney and partner at **Sinas Dramis**, was named a Fellow of the International Society

of Barristers. This prestigious recognition is reserved for a select group of trial lawyers who exemplify the highest standards of skill, experience, and integrity in the courtroom. It reflects Sinas's unwavering commitment to justice and his dedication to advocating for injured individuals and their families across Michigan. This achievement is also a testament to the values that define Sinas Dramis—excellence that delivers winning verdicts and settlements, compassionate guidance for those we serve, and ethical leadership.



**Dart Bank** has been named a 2026 USA Today Top Workplaces winner, marking the fourth consecutive year the organization has received this national honor. The award recognizes companies that prioritize a strong workplace culture and positive employee experience. Determined by confidential employee feedback and independently administered by Energage, LLC, the Top Workplaces program evaluates organizations based on key cultural drivers such as trust, alignment, leadership, and connection.

## COMPANY NEWS



**McLaren Greater Lansing**, part of statewide McLaren Health Care and a leading Ingham County health care provider, has expanded its surgical services to provide comprehensive cranial and spinal cord care within the community. Through an agreement with Lansing Neurosurgery, McLaren Greater Lansing has added to its medical staff four board-certified

neurosurgeons capable of performing a range of procedures addressing brain and spinal disorders.



**Delta Township's 2026 State of the Township** emphasized the power of partnerships and the community's ability to rise above challenges together. Under the theme "Rooted in Progress, Growing with Purpose," the address highlighted collaborative leadership across public safety, economic development, and education, including a State of Education overview from Waverly Community Schools and Grand Ledge Public Schools. These strong partnerships continue to position Delta Township as a thriving,

resilient community and a great place to live, work, and play.



**PFCU Credit Union** participated in the Community Wellness

Expo at the Flint Farmers' Market on March 7, emphasizing the connection between financial wellness and overall well-being. The event gathered local organizations focused on supporting healthier lives. At its booth, PFCU offered budgeting tips, savings guidance, lending resources, and digital banking tools while highlighting its commitment to financial education and personalized support. Through events like this, PFCU continues its mission to strengthen community financial health with accessible solutions and trusted guidance. ♦

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L to R: Marc Jurcisin, Melanie Squires, Michelle Carpenter, Kim Harless, Sara Andrus, and Leia Cooper-Rigg of the Dart Bank Treasury Management team.

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### Please welcome, Melanie Squires!

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