

Nearly Complete

Library Center holds block party to raise final \$25K needed for renovations

BY STEVEN J. FERRARI

After two years of raising money, the Friends of the Lansing Community Library Center are just \$25,000 shy of what's needed to complete renovations to the library and they are hoping to raise the last of it during the "Building Block Party" on Aug. 5.

Members of the Friends of the LCLC said that they have already gone to businesses and corporations for the \$350,000 they have already raised for the project. The block party, they say, is a chance to bring the community in to the fundraising and have them be a part of the process.

"This is the community component," said Bobbi Wasenko, a member of the Friends of the LCLC.

"We didn't want to close this out without community involvement," added Marlaine Darfler, chair of the Friends of the LCLC. "The real focus (of the event) is to let community members become an integral part of the fundraising."

From noon to 3 p.m., partygoers can head over to the library and the community building next door to take part in all of the fun.

Tours of the expansion project will highlight the event, to let people know what the library will look like when construction is complete.

"The focus isn't on things to do, it's 'come and take a look,'" Darfler said.

Donna Scott, co-chair of the fundraising

committee, said that she was looking forward to letting people know more about the library and getting the word out about the programs. She noted that, even after seven years, there are some people that don't know the library is there.

"Sometimes people come to the building, which is the old town hall, and need to be directed to the new town hall," Scott said.

Also, the Lansing Fire Department will host activities for kids involving a fire truck. All the while, music from Elephant Sounds DJ will fill everyone's ears.

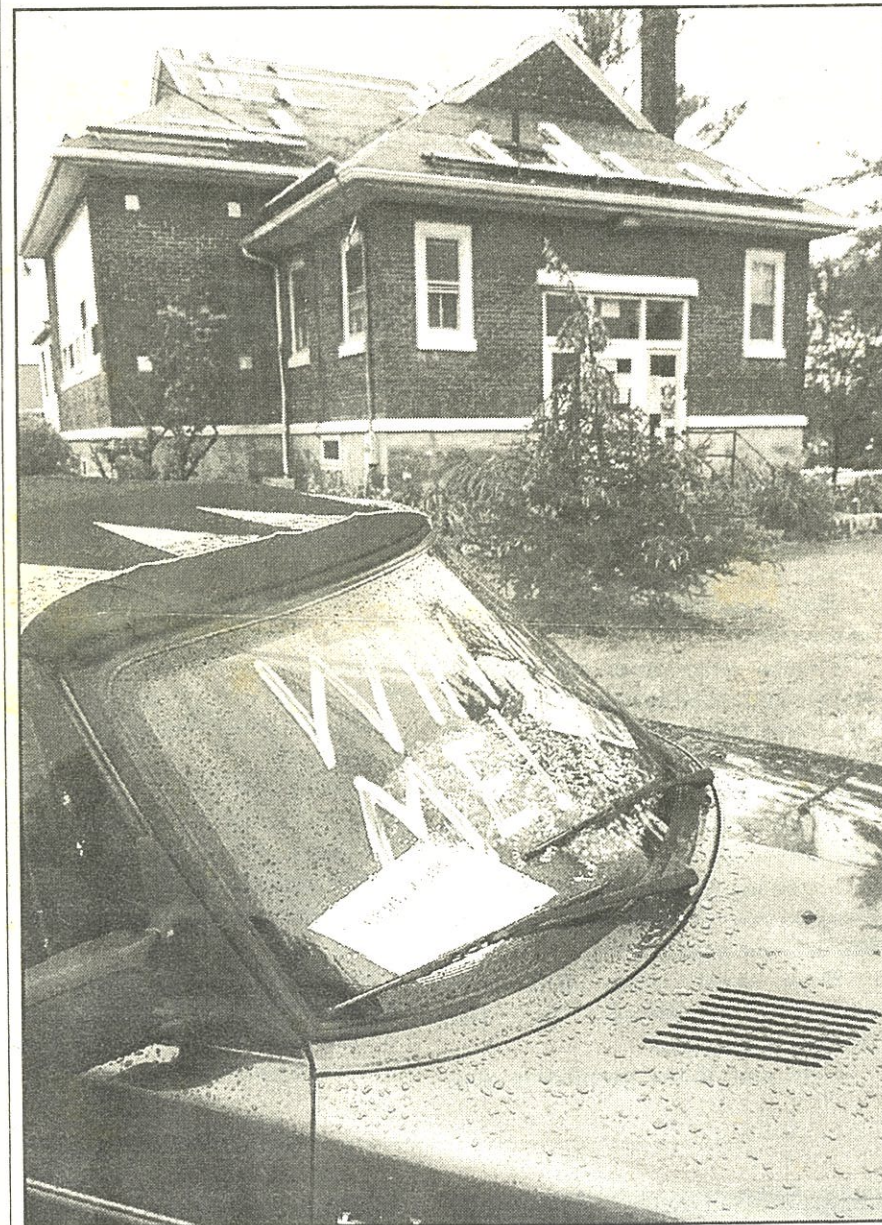
Another big highlight for the Aug. 5 party is the pair of raffles. The first will give away a 1988 Saab convertible. The second will be for \$2,500 cash. Tickets for the raffles are \$50 each, with the number of tickets limited to only 200. Wasenko said tickets are still available and can be purchased at the town supervisor's office and through members of the library's board of directors.

One way that the library board is hoping to get community members involved is through an "Adopt-a-Book" program. The library has created a list of books they would like to purchase. For a minimum \$10 donation, a bookplate with the donor's name will be put on the book when it is purchased for placement on the library's shelves.

Fundraising for the project started two years ago with a \$100,000 check from State

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Take a Chance



The Lansing Community Library is raffling off this 1988 Saab turbo convertible at a block party on August 5. Tickets are available at the Town Hall.

Photo: Skip Thorne