Madonna Miles Trip to Lansing, MI!

Last Friday the Madonna Miles group took a trip to Lansing, MI to visit our state’s capitol and learn more about Michigan history.

The group began at the Michigan Historical Museum in Lansing, which houses spectacular displays marking the evolution of Michigan from its pre-territory era through the 20th century. Displays included early Native American homes and migration routes, early American/European settler migration, civil war battle attire and weaponry (did you know Michigan sent a higher percentage of troops to fight in the Civil War than any other northern state?!), prohibition era businesses, World War Two posters, early automobiles, union and civil rights movements, and many more.

After the museum, the group went down the road to the State Capitol Building to learn how the government works and see the progression of the Michigan State Government, artistically displayed along the beautiful and ornate walls of this historical landmark. Although neither the House nor Senate was in session, State Senator Glenn Anderson (who represents Livonia) made sure to leave us a welcoming message!

Remember: Anyone can join the Madonna Miles trips! For more information, please contact the ISO or Student Life Office (room 1411).
St. Patrick’s Day — A day when everyone is Irish!

On Sunday we celebrated one of America’s most beloved holidays: St. Patrick’s Day. St. Patrick’s Day is a religious and cultural holiday celebrated every year on March 17th, honoring the most popular patron saint of Ireland and the introduction of Christianity to the country of Ireland in the 5th century, and is a general celebration on Irish heritage.

Of course this holiday is a big celebration in Ireland, with festivals and parades that span 5 days, but it is also a very popular holiday in the United States. Like many other nationalities, Irish immigrants have played a very important role in the founding of our country, and many experienced great difficulties in immigrating to the U.S. For this reason, the month of March is also recognized as Irish-American heritage month to honor the struggles and contributions of the Irish and Irish-American people.

Like in Ireland, around the U.S. many festivals and parades are held on St. Patrick’s Day (though it is not a public holiday in the U.S.). Chicago, for example dyes its river green—which is the generally recognized color of Ireland. It is one of the leading alcohol consumption days in the U.S. (as well as in Ireland) and many bars and pubs will color their beer green for the day.

In addition to wearing green clothing, the shamrock has become a symbol of Ireland and St. Patrick’s Day because legend says that St. Patrick used the 3-leaf shamrock to explain the Holy Trinity to the Irish people. Another popular symbol of the holiday is the Leprechaun, which is a fairy-like creature from Irish folklore that hides his gold at the end of rainbows and has the ability to grant wishes to any human that can catch him!

Meet Our Student Staff!

"I am Eric (KyongTaek) Mun and currently a sophomore majoring in Business at Madonna. I was born and grew up in Seoul, South Korea and now I am 23 years old. I came to the States when I was fifteen; this is my sixth year in the States. I spent my first year at a small town named Lake View, Iowa and then I graduated high school from Atlanta, Georgia. During my high school years I played Track and Soccer for three years and awarded MVP for two years in both teams.

Well then I went to Michigan State University in 2008 but after a semester I decided to join military service so that I served for two years in Republic of Korea Marine Corps as an artillery man and I discharged in Feb. 2011 as a Sergeant.

I hope everyone here at Madonna will achieve what they want and I wish you all the best luck."
You may have noticed the cold, snowy weather we have had lately. The first day of Spring is Wednesday, March 20 and there is still snow on the ground! Unfortunately, this type of weather is very common in Michigan. So common, in fact, that we often use the saying “March comes in like a lion and goes out like a lamb.”

So… What does it mean? Well, the weather in the beginning of March is often bitterly cold, and like a lion, it is fierce and strong weather. But, by the end of March, the weather will resemble more of a lamb: calm, gentle, and hopefully a bit warmer!

We have a lot of weather-related sayings and idioms in English. Can you match the idiom below with its meaning?

1. Any port in a storm
   “He hates his job, but in this economy it’s any port in a storm.”

2. Steal (someone’s) thunder
   “She tried to steal the bride’s thunder by wearing a beautiful, white gown to the wedding.”

3. Chase rainbows
   “She wants to be a famous actress someday, but her parents think she should quit chasing rainbows.”

4. On cloud nine
   “I heard he was accepted to Harvard. He must be on cloud nine!”

5. Come rain or come shine
   “Come rain or come shine, I’ll be there for your birthday.”

6. When it rains, it pours
   “Great. First the entertainment canceled, then the wrong flowers were ordered, and now the food is late!”
   “Well, you know what they say: when it rains, it pours.”

7. The calm before the storm
   “Everything is going surprising well lately. But I’m worried it’s just the calm before the storm.”

8. Under the weather
   “I don’t think I’m going to go out tonight. I’m feeling a bit under the weather.”

9. Shoot the breeze
   “I went out with friends last night and just shot the breeze over a few beers.”

10. Rain on (someone’s) parade
    “Yes! I finally finished my 10-page term paper!”
    “I hate to rain on your parade, but it’s supposed to be 30 pages minimum.”

Definitions:
A. When something goes wrong, many things will go wrong
B. To chat casually with someone
C. To be very, very happy
D. When things are good or peaceful, but you feel something will go wrong soon
E. To give bad news to a happy person
F. In a bad situation, any solution will do—even an unfavorable one
G. No matter what; to let nothing stop you
H. To feel ill or lack energy
I. To try to achieve an unachievable dream
J. To take credit away from someone, or to take attention off of someone to your own advantage

Answers:
Upcoming Events:

**Student Employment/ PTO:**
Job Preparedness Workshop

- **Date:** Wednesday, April 3
- **Time:** 3:30 — 4:30 pm
- **Location:** Room 1503

Interested in working on or off campus? How about after you graduate? What do you need to do? How do you find a job? Come find out!

Presentations by Ms. Grace Philson from the ISO and Ms. Chris Brant from Career Services.

**April Coffee Time/Graduation Celebration and Alumni Benefits Workshop**

- **Date:** Wednesday, April 10
- **Time:** 3:30 — 4:30 pm
- **Location:** Room 1503

Join us for the last coffee time of the year as we celebrate those who are graduating and learn about the benefits you have as a Madonna Alumna/Alumnus!

**Women’s History Month Movie: Girl Rising**

- **Date:** Wednesday, March 20 and Thursday, March 21
- **Time:** 7:00pm (Wed) and 4:00pm (Thurs)
- **Location:** Franciscan Center Lecture Hall S100

Come see a powerful and inspiring new movie about the power of education in fighting social injustice across the world. Truly a must see!

**Income Tax Filing Workshop**

- **Date:** Thursday, April 4
- **Time:** 11:30 am — 1:00 pm
- **Location:** To Be Announced

Did you work during 2012? If so, you are required by law to file your income tax return by April 15, 2013. Come to the workshop to learn how, and you might get some money back from the government!