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## Halloween showcase

Fun for all at the first “How-To Halloween” event at the Lansing Center  
by KRISTA WILSON



Krista Wilson/City Pulse

FRIDAY, OCT. 10 – A friendly Halloween decorating competition between two across-the-street neighbors sparked their collaboration for Lansing’s first “How-To Halloween.”

As the weekend segment of the line-up of tours, projects, and guest-speakers in Lansing’s Maker Week, How-To Halloween is committed to inspiring kids and their parents to create something nifty for the holiday.

Taking place Saturday from noon to 8 p.m. at the Lansing Center, the hoopla offers more than two dozen exhibits, displays, contests, and hands-on

activities. Vendors will be present to sell handmade Halloween crafts. The admission is \$5; children under two are free.

Jerry Jodloski and Steve Sneed are the rivaling neighbors who founded Robot Pumpkin, LLC, a Halloween-based business. The duo decided that this year their Halloween spirit should go beyond their front lawns.

“This is the most fun \$5 will buy you,” said Jodloski. “We have little bit of something for everyone. Sci-fi fans, comic book fans, blockbuster film fans, and the general Halloween fans should really enjoy what we have to offer.”

There will be Star Wars enthusiasts present, showing off their impressive, home-made costumes. The Impression 5 Science Museum is lending two Ghostbusters-themed exhibits that sling ghosts across the room while other participants can learn how to make glow-in-the-dark slime.

“How-To Halloween is very family friendly, and it’s not all necessarily kiddo activities,” said Sneed. “Adults should enjoy the exhibits as well.”

A life-sized Batman will be in attendance, accompanied by a full-scaled Batmobile that was built over a PT Cruiser. Attendees can watch as a UFO lifts to the top of the Lansing Center in an Area-51 themed display.

Also featured will be PunkinBot, a machine that carves cool designs into pumpkins; RotoMaak, a device that can mold scary skulls and other objects made of plastic; and ReTech, an artist who uses old X-rays and found objects to create eerie light fixtures.

Partners, Jodloski and Sneed, will appear as mad scientists, dressed in lab coats and whacky make-up that reflects an experiment gone wrong. The pair said the goal is to get people to leave with memories and an overall sense of bonding.