

CityPULSE

a newspaper for the rest of us

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July 18 - 24, 2018

FREE



City Pulse's Summer of Art: "Russell," by Laura Gajewski. See page 21 for story.

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VOTE: TUES, AUG 7

DERRELL SLAUGHTER
DEMOCRAT FOR COUNTY COMMISSION

DERRELL SLAUGHTER
Democrat for Ingham County
Commission, District 3

Paid for by the Committee to
Elect Derrell Slaughter
500 West Jolly Rd, Lansing, MI 48910
www.SlaughterForLansing.com

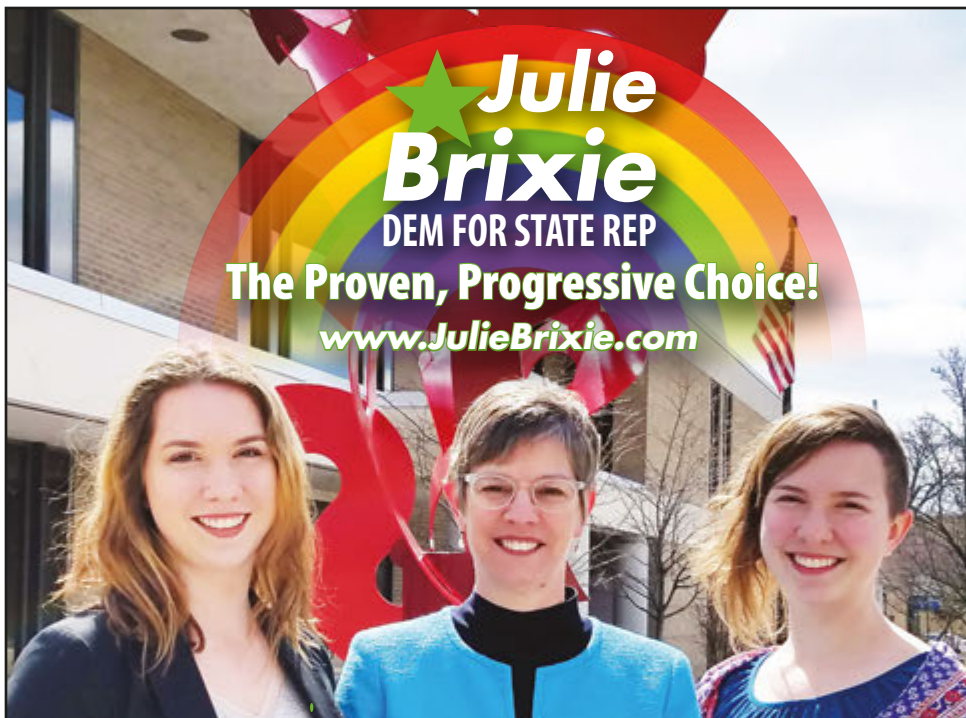


PENELOPE TSENOGLOU
DEMOCRAT FOR STATE REPRESENTATIVE
ORGANIZER • ADVOCATE • PROGRESSIVE

The Progressive Choice for State Representative



Julie Brixie
DEM FOR STATE REP
The Proven, Progressive Choice!
www.JulieBrixie.com



I ran for the Meridian Board in 2000 when it was 100% Republican
I won that race and worked tirelessly to flip Meridian,
which is now 100% DEM! I'm running to help take
back our state because the stakes couldn't be higher!

- ✓ Amend the Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act.
- ✓ Shut down Enbridge Line 5 and protect the Great Lakes.
- ✓ Take a stand against the NRA. Our communities are not theaters of war!
- ✓ Fix our roads, bridges and aging infrastructure.
- ✓ Put an end to the \$4.85 billion raid on classroom funding and establish universal preschool.
- ✓ Make college and vocational training affordable again.
- ✓ Establish universal healthcare in Michigan.
- ✓ Raise everyone up with a \$15 minimum wage!

Paid for by Julie Brixie for State Representative | 2294 Hamilton Rd, Okemos, MI 48864 | Mark Meadows - Treasurer

MAX DONOVAN
Democrat for 67th District State Representative


- ✓ Experience crafting and implementing 7-figure budgets
- ✓ Supported survivors of sexual assault with new programs at MSU
- ✓ Activism including over 7,000 petition signatures in the last 5 years

POLICY GOALS

- Access to green energy for schools to cut their bills and ours
- Tax corporate political spending to fund election reform
- Restore funding to local governments so they can fix roads
- Pursue social justice with social workers in schools & accessible clemency.

CHANGES WE NEED. CHOICES WE TRUST.
VOTE FOR MAX DONOVAN ON AUGUST 7TH!

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Max Donovan | 3031 S. Washington Apt. M-11 | Lansing, MI 48910



Bob Peña
Democrat for Ingham County Commission - 10th District

For the People • Listening to You!

Bob Peña
Democrat for Ingham County Commission - 10th District

Fix Our Roads? Elect an MDOT Highway Engineer with 33 Years Experience!

Vote for Bob Peña, Democrat • Ingham County Commission - 10th District
August 7th, 2018 Primary

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Bob Peña, 2100 Vine St, Lansing, Michigan 48912 - Bethany Enright, Treasurer








Capital Area District Libraries

Millage Renewal Vote


AUGUST 7

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While we continue to gain momentum, our millage rate has stayed the same since 2006. A renewal would not increase taxes but would continue funding CADL for four more years.

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YEARS



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DENNIS LOUNEY

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VOTE DENNIS LOUNEY IN THE DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY
AUGUST 7TH, 2018

Paid for by Friends of Dennis Louney 408 North Clemens Avenue Lansing, MI 48912

EXPERIENCED LEADERSHIP

DELIVERING RESULTS FOR OUR COMMUNITY

Paul N. DeWeese, M.D. was first elected to the Michigan House of Representatives in 1998. Prior to that, DeWeese served as the Assistant Medical Director in the Emergency Department at Eaton Rapids Community Hospital. He also worked at Three Rivers Hospital and Doctor's Hospital in Jackson.

As a State Representative Paul introduced a bill creating the Michigan Earned Income Tax Credit and established the Bipartisan Caucus on Racial Reconciliation.

Paul has served the poor in a number of countries including the Ivory Coast, India, Pakistan, Taiwan and Uganda.

In the 1990's Paul created the Friendship Medical Clinic in Lansing to serve homeless people.

**ON AUGUST 7TH IN THE DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY,
OR ON YOUR ABSENTEE BALLOT,**



PAUL DEWESEE
DEMOCRAT FOR STATE REPRESENTATIVE

VOTE FOR REAL CHANGE AND REAL SOLUTIONS



PAID FOR BY DEMOCRATS
FOR PAUL DEWESEE
PO BOX 64
HASLETT, MI 48840

Death notice

Robert "Rock" Hudson passed away June 29, 2018, in Sparrow Hospital in Lansing. A memorial service will be held at First Presbyterian Church, West Ottawa St., in Lansing, at 11:30 a.m. Saturday, July 28. An obituary will appear in the July 25 issue of City Pulse.

Clarification

A story in City Pulse on July 5 on criticism by Mike Barron of Lansing City Clerk Chris Swope and his husband, Bradly Rakowski, needs clarification on two points. One dealt with Barron's accusations that Rakowski's business, Bradly's Home and Garden, failed to file a "doing business as" form with Ingham County. The story should have pointed out that the business is organized as an LLC with the same name it does business under, making a DBA superfluous. Secondly, the story reported Barron claimed that Rakowski failed to file for a certificate of occupancy. But the story did not say that it was the responsibility of the business' landlord to do so, and that the landlord had corrected the omission.

Letter to the editor:

Brixie would be compromised

The worst kept secret in Lansing is the large extent to which lobbyists have a direct hand in what happens in our government. The money these individuals and groups spend on candidates is almost always an indication as to how that candidate will vote once they are elected. More money means more support. I think it is more important than ever that all citizens take it upon themselves to follow the money in our local races.

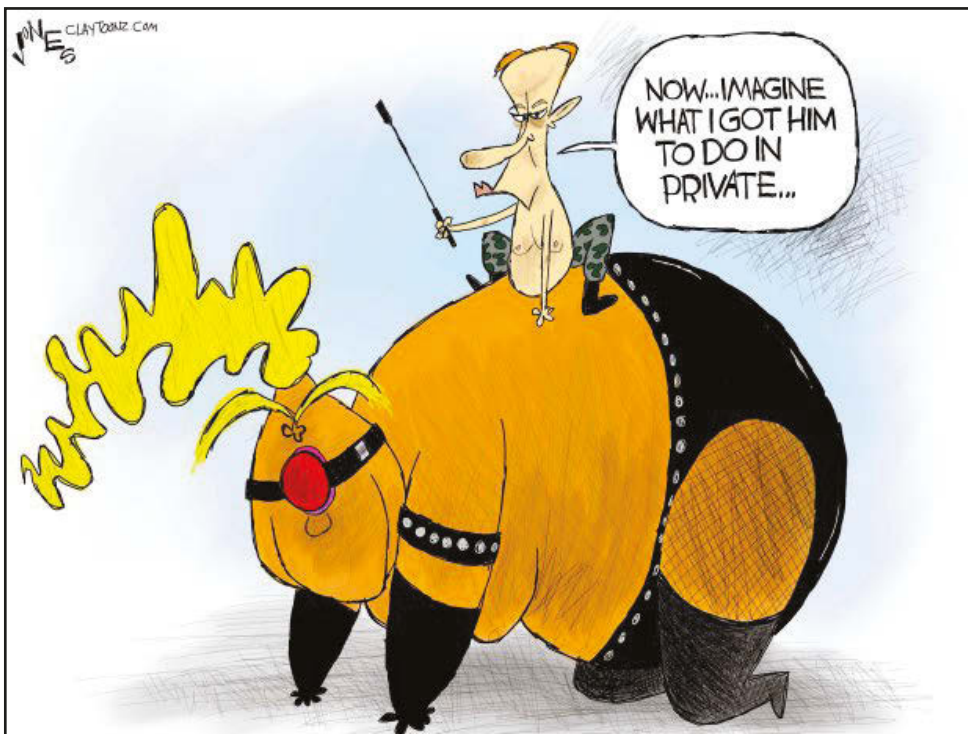
In the Democratic primary for the 69th House District race, former County Commissioner Penelope Tsernoglou and Meridian Township Treasurer Julie Brixie are facing off in a battle of endorsements to win the hearts of the people.

I have great concerns over the fact that

Ms. Brixie is openly accepting and flaunting the support of groups like the Farm Bureau who are opposed to Michigan's Voters Not Politicians and MI Legalize initiatives yet are proponents of fewer regulations on big polluters and who strongly support Michigan's Congressional Republicans – including Congressman Mike Bishop.

These simply do not seem like good Democratic or Progressive values to me. Should Ms. Brixie be elected it is possible that she would be politically indebted to these groups to such an extent that her positions become compromised. We need candidates willing to reject these groups in order to govern responsibly with principle."

Aaron Martinez



CityPULSE

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Community uncertain of the fate of historic houses



**PAGE
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Traveling exhibit visits Impression 5



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A review of Bowdie's decadent dishes



**Cover
Art**

By Laura Gajewski

**NOW AT 10:30 A.M.
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IMPACT
88.9FM**

THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW

THE PATH TO THE SUPREME COURT

HERE WE GO AGAIN

AFTER A CAREFUL VETTING PROCESS INCLUDING BACKROOM TALKS WITH JUSTICE KENNEDY, A LIST SUPPLIED BY AN INTEREST GROUP, AND AT LEAST TWO HOURS OF INTERVIEWS, A DECISION IS MADE.

THIS KAVANAUGH GUY--HE SAYS PRESIDENTS CAN'T BE PROSECUTED?

YES, SIR.

HE SEEMS EXTREMELY QUALIFIED TO ME!

JUDGE KAVANAUGH IMMEDIATELY DEMONSTRATES THE DEPTH OF HIS COMMITMENT TO TRUTH AND POLITICAL INDEPENDENCE.

"NO PRESIDENT EVER CONSULTED MORE WIDELY OR TALKED TO MORE PEOPLE FROM MORE BACKGROUNDS TO SEEK INPUT FOR A SUPREME COURT NOMINATION!"

ACTUAL THING HE SAID, WITH A STRAIGHT FACE

KAVANAUGH'S OLD PROFESSOR AT YALE LAW SCHOOL IMMEDIATELY PUBLISHES A GLOWING OP-ED IN SUPPORT.

SURE, HE'S A FAR-RIGHT EXTREMIST WHO'S ALMOST CERTAIN TO OVERTURN ROE--BUT IT SAYS HERE THAT HE'LL DO IT VERY THOUGHTFULLY!

AND MORE TO THE POINT--HE'S A FELLOW YALIE!

BOOLA BOOLA!

THE CAMPAIGN TO HUMANIZE HIM BEGINS.

I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT HIS JUDICIAL RECORD--BUT I READ IN THE WASHINGTON POST THAT HE'S VERY FOND OF HIS CHILDREN!

NOT ONLY THAT--HE'S A BIPEDAL, CARBON-BASED LIFE FORM--JUST LIKE US!

I FIND THAT VERY RELATABLE!

COMING SOON: THE NOMINEE ASSURES LAWMAKERS THAT HE HAS NO PRE-CONCEIVED NOTIONS ABOUT ANYTHING.

ROE V. WADE, YOU SAY? THE CASE VAGUELY RINGS A BELL--BUT I'D HAVE TO GO BACK AND REVIEW IT!

SAY, CAN I GET ANOTHER GLASS OF THAT REFRESHING CLEAR LIQUID--"WATER" I THINK YOU CALLED IT?

AND THEN, EVENTUALLY...

OH, ROE V. WADE! IT'S COMING BACK TO ME, NOW THAT I'VE BEEN CONFIRMED!

TOM TOMORROW © 2018

PULSE

NEWS & OPINION

A tale of two houses

Historic homes near downtown face uncertain future

As the bowling ball of time rolls forward, two historic but isolated 19th-century houses are wobbling like a 7-pin and 10-pin on the east and west fringes of Lansing's downtown.

The 1876 Richard and Deborah Glaister House, listed on the National Register of Historic Places in March 2017, was sold in June to Set Seg, a nonprofit insurance company with offices at 415 W. Kalamazoo St., about 20 feet west of the house. The new

owner says it's exploring "all options."

The stately house, at 402 S. Walnut St., was built and owned by the master masons who built the State Capitol two blocks away. Now it's the lone survivor of a vanished neighborhood.

The house's longtime owner, 93-year-old Alice Sessions, narrowly missed protecting the house by securing a listing as a local historic district. Sessions lived in the house, on and off, from age 15 until shortly before her death April 15. (Sessions was featured in City Pulse's annual People issue in January.) She turned down multiple offers to buy the house



A historic 1870 house at 532 E. Shiawassee St., home to the Dyslexia Institute is for sale.



The 1876 Glaister House, 402 S. Walnut St., built and occupied by the stonemasons who built the state Capitol, was sold to insurance non profit Set Seg in June. When owner Alice Sessions died in April at 93, her son did not honor her wish to have the house designated as a local historic district.

over the years, invested \$30,000 into repairs in 2017, and received a Preservation Lansing award that year for her efforts.

Dennis Rogoszewski, chief financial officer at Set Seg, said the nonprofit has no plans for the property yet. It paid \$250,000.

"It's an old house," Rogoszewski said. "We have to see what condition it's in, what's in there. I'm assuming there are some things in the house that are not the healthiest."

Dale Schrader, a member of Preservation Lansing who has rehabbed many homes on Lansing's East Side, helped Sessions draft a letter nominating the house as a local historic district last fall.

"I really believe it was her intention to save that house," Schrader said. "She knocked on my door, left a note about it, then came back a second time. I went through it with her personally on three or four trips to her house."

Sessions sent the letter to Lansing Mayor Andy Schor Jan. 22. Four days later, her son, Richard Sessions, wrote Schor, asking him to withdraw the request because the house was in trust, with Richard as co-trustee.

Putting the house in a local historic district, Richard Sessions wrote Schor, "could limit our flexibility to sell this asset to meet my mother's living and health care needs."

Alice Sessions died with the house still up for sale, but Richard Sessions did not honor his mother's request.

Reached at his home in Colorado last week, Richard Sessions declined to comment.

The National Register description of the house lists dozens of period details, from the oculus window in the front gable to carved plant motifs inspired by designer Christopher Dresser. The two-story, red brick Italianate house is a style that is relatively rare in Lansing.

"Despite long years as an apartment building the house retains much if not most of its original finishes," the National Register listing observes.

Being listed on the national register is a carrot, not a stick, and does not interfere in any way with a private property owner, according to Robbert McKay, historical architect at the State Historic Preservation Office.

But the listing opens the door to a federal rehabilitation tax credit to help restore and maintain historic buildings.

"We're always available to talk with the new owner and talk about what programs there are and how to use them," McKay said.

McKay said getting the home listed as a locally designated district "would have given

Suit dropped over Lansing pot ordinance

Plaintiffs drop action without explanation

Let Lansing Vote abruptly dropped its lawsuit against City Clerk Chris Swope last week, effectively halting a year-long case that sought to revamp the state capital's marijuana market and force city officials to revisit rules that regulate the industry.

Both parties agreed to dismiss the case with prejudice, meaning it cannot be refiled on the same claim.

"It's over and done with," City Attorney Jim Smiertka said about the suit. "It's been a long haul."

"But," Smiertka added, "this whole marijuana issue is not resolved. There has been a lot of litigation, and that's going to continue. This was a major case, and there was a lot of uncertainty to the process. Now there's a clear path forward. I'd say the uncertainties are removed."

The hearing in Ingham County Circuit Judge James Jamo's courtroom on July 18, which lasted only minutes, was initially slated to generate a possible ruling after Let Lansing Vote moved for a summary judgment. Those hopes, however, were quickly abandoned without much explanation. Attorneys largely kept their lips sealed.

"I can't say a thing," said Let Lansing Vote attorney James Giddings. "My client is under a situation."

Let Lansing Vote, a state-registered ballot committee representing an unnamed number of would-be marijuana dispensaries, last year filed the lawsuit in an attempt to nullify the city's ordinance regulating medical marijuana, which includes a limit of 25 dispensary licenses. The litigation boiled down to a claim that Swope illegally tossed petitions that would have overturned the local law.

Behind the suit, though, was the con-

See Pot, page 8



See Houses, page 6

Clerk: Candidates break campaign finance laws

Louney, Pena accused of separate violations

Two candidates vying for a slot on Ingham County's board of commissioners soon could be forced to face consequences after County Clerk Barb Byrum accused them of multiple campaign finance law violations.

Incumbent Commissioner Dennis Louney and one of his challengers in the Democratic primary, Robert Pena, earlier this month received letters from Byrum that contended both had ran afoul of state election laws.

Byrum's letter charges that Louney had repeatedly used his county email address to disseminate campaign literature. Byrum emphasized that taxpayers fund Louney's office — and his email — as a county commissioner. Byrum labeled Louney's missteps "personally offensive" and "clearly illegal."

"I know I made these mistakes and certainly admit to them," Louney said in an interview. "It wasn't intentional. I changed my email and I hadn't realized. I should have known better, but I didn't realize I was violating any sort of law. There was no intention of trying to use county services toward my campaign."

Pena said his violation stemmed largely from a lack of political wherewithal. Byrum said Pena's promotional materials — like yard signs and doorknob hangers



Byrum



Louney



Pena

— failed to include a standard disclosure that listed who paid for the signage. And it wasn't the first time that he was warned in the weeks leading up to next month's primary.

"Please note that you have already received a letter regarding this issue and this is the second time I have communicated with you about campaign finance requirements," Byrum wrote to Pena on July 13, adding that she had already warned him over a similar violation in a face-to-face meeting more than two weeks earlier.

Pena insisted he meant no harm, didn't understand the law and vowed to correct any outstanding issues.

Both cases were referred to the secretary of state for further review. A department spokesman on Monday confirmed a complaint had been received about Louney but he had yet to receive anything about Pena. Officials said they will review the allegations for up to five days before they decide

to investigate or dismiss each case.

Frederic Woodhams, spokesman, said unwitting violations such as those committed

by Pena and Louney are usually handled informally, sometimes with an agreement not to repeat the mistakes, sometimes with fines. Knowing violations can be punished as misdemeanors with a \$1,000 or less fine and as much as a year in jail.

It's not clear how much the candidates could be charged, but they'll both remain on the ballot in August.

"I receive many campaign violation notices into the office, and that number usually increases as we get closer to the election date," Byrum added. "I'm known for being a stickler when it comes to campaign finance law. I treat everyone equally — Republican or Democrat — because I expect them to comply with the law."

Records indicate an unnamed person last month emailed Louney on his county email address to request a campaign yard sign. He replied the next day, thanked them for their support, promised the sign would be delivered and told them about a chance to pitch

in with some weekend doorknocking ahead of the election.

A Freedom of Information Act Request filed with the county the following month by Alexis Ruble sought to pry loose Louney's inbox for additional messages and included a copy of Louney's response to the prior email. Ruble filed a complaint the same day to accuse Louney of abusing county resources to further his campaign.

"These (materials) are not educational and explicitly mention voting in the Democratic primary," she wrote in the complaint. "It is unknown what other political purposes our government resources are being used for."

Ruble also accused Louney of attaching his county email address to fliers and other promotional materials ahead of the election. And state law specifically forbids the use of county funds to further an incumbent's election-oriented goals. It's the same reason Louney can't campaign during his board meetings.

Louney — who was also criticized by his challengers earlier this month for an alleged conflict of interest during a vote regarding a drainage project — suggested his other democratic opponent, Thomas Morgan, could again be the catalyst for the recent complaints. Louney hopes voters will understand that he's an "honest person."

Byrum confirmed that Morgan was fueling at least a portion of the recent com-

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Houses

from page 5

the property substantially more protection."

"Clearly, the location puts additional pressure on it, and not good pressure," he said.

Meanwhile, on the east side of downtown, the same pressure is bearing down on a two-story brick house built in 1870, now home to the Michigan Dyslexia Institute, next to the Lansing Brewing Co.

Gary Woodbury, president and CEO, said the nonprofit is looking for a more streamlined space that is easier for its out-of-town

clients to find.

The house at 532 E. Shiawassee St., at the corner of Larch Street, has a wealth of Victorian details and features, including a unique two-story, stacked bay window that dominates the north face like a glass wedding cake. In the early 20th century, the house belonged to the Curtis Meats family. A three-story meat-packing plant loomed over the house's west side until Larch Street was widened and the plant was torn down.

Heidi Butler, local history librarian at the Capital Area District Library, said "the house is fantastic but the location is a real problem, and masonry homes are notoriously hard to move."

Realtor James Caster said he's looking for a buyer that would repurpose and rehab the house. He has listed the building for \$250,000.

"It's nobody's intention to sell it to somebody who'll turn around and turn it into parking lot," Caster said. "That's not in the cards, and it would be a tragedy. I don't know who in their right mind would pay that kind of money to park cars there."

However, Woodbury said he "can't control" what the next owner will do.

A logical buyer would be developer Pat Gillespie, who owns much of the surrounding land and has been instrumental in acti-

vating the northeast sector of downtown into a bustling Stadium District, but Gillespie said he's not biting.

"We've had some interest, but not right



Walnut St.

now," Gillespie said. "We don't know what we'd do with it."

The house was restored in the 1960s and 1970s by Knight and Phyllis McKesson, a pair of colorful political activists who held various offices over the years and lived in the house for 20 years. A sign in front of the house advertised "Public Relations and

Other Flim-Flam."

Both the Glaister and the Shiawassee Street houses are not only architecturally significant, but also resound with decades of Lansing history. In a 2017 interview, Alice Sessions recalled roller-skating as a teenager from the house to the Arbaugh department store downtown. Lansing Mayor Ralph Crego boarded at the house when he was a newlywed. Two of the stonemasons who built the house, and the Capitol, worked without a mask and died from inhaling silica. Their father, Richard Glaister, was so distraught he committed suicide "right in my kitchen," Sessions said.

A folder of documents and memorabilia from the Shiawassee Street house includes a letter from a family friend of the McKesson's, Ed Sabrosky, describing his grandmother's three-day Polish wedding, which took place in the house, "with plenty of kielbasa, pierogi and libations."

"The men would throw silver dollars at Grandma's dinner plates and if they broke one they danced with the bride," the letter reads. "We're talking WEDDING here."

—LAWRENCE COSENTINO
cosentino@lansingcitypulse.com



532 Shiawassee St.

Campaign

from page 6

plaints fielded by her office. He has “always been a friend,” she said. And that personal relationship — paired with another “prior relationship” with Louney — is why she chose to skip an endorsement in their particular district, she said.

Morgan said he previously volunteered

for Byrum’s election campaigns but was never paid for any services.

“I feel like in some ways the email incident was a setup,” Louney added. “Someone asked me about a yard sign. It was two days later I had a complaint filed against me and that was the only email I received about a yard sign. It really is my own fault and I know that. I certainly understand that I violated the law here.”

Morgan said he doesn’t know Ruble and wasn’t involved with the reports against

Louney. He did, however, notice the lack of disclaimers on Pena’s campaign materials and notified Byrum about the potential violation. It’s nothing personal, he said. He just wants to see everyone respect campaign finance laws.

“It’s unfortunate and it’s part of the reason why people have a deep distrust of people in politics, but I’m really just trying to stay positive,” Morgan said. “Campaign finance laws are something that should be taken seriously, especially with all the cor-

porate influence going on in our politics today.”

Attempts to contact Ruble were unsuccessful. City Pulse also reviewed campaign finance statements for each of the county commission candidates. No other letters regarding alleged legal violations have been sent to any of the other 13 people vying for a slot on the commission.

— KYLE KAMINSKI
kyle@lansingcitypulse.com

CITY OF EAST LANSING
EAST LANSING CITY COUNCIL

A RESOLUTION TO PROPOSE AN AMENDMENT TO THE
CHARTER OF THE CITY OF EAST LANSING TO AUTHORIZE AN INCOME TAX

WHEREAS, the City of East Lansing is organized and operates as a Home Rule City pursuant to its Charter of the City of East Lansing adopted July 11, 1944, as amended, under the provisions of the Home Rule Cities Act, 1909 PA 279, as amended, MCL 117.1, et. seq.; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has adopted Ordinance #1413 imposing an excise tax equal to 1% on the income on resident individuals and businesses and ½ % on nonresident individuals for income earned in East Lansing; and

WHEREAS, a Charter Amendment amending Section 11.1 of the Charter, if adopted, will authorize the implementation of Ordinance #1413 and Section 10.5 of the Charter, thereafter limiting property taxes to a maximum of 13 mills during the time an excise tax on income is operational; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of East Lansing believes that the qualified and registered electors of the City of East Lansing should have the option to authorize the levy of a City Income Tax with all of the following Charter limitations:

1. That twenty percent (20%) of net income tax revenue shall be dedicated to police and fire protection; and
2. That twenty percent (20%) of net income tax revenue shall be dedicated to the maintenance and improvement of streets and sidewalks, water and sewer systems, and parks and recreation; and
3. That sixty percent (60%) of net income tax revenue shall be dedicated to supplemental payments for unfunded pension liabilities for retired city employees.

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED that in accordance with 1909 PA 279, as amended, MCL 117.21, the East Lansing City Council hereby proposes that Section 11.1 of Chapter 11 of the Charter of the City of East Lansing be amended to read as follows:

11.1. Power to Provide Funds.

In order to carry out the purposes, powers, and duties of the City government established by this Charter, the City may assess, levy and collect taxes, rents, tolls and excises. THE CITY IS AUTHORIZED TO LEVY AN EXCISE TAX ON INCOME IN ACCORDANCE WITH STATE LAW. IF ANY INCOME TAX IS LEVIED BY THE CITY, THE CITY MUST DEDICATE TWENTY PERCENT (20%) OF THE NET INCOME TAX REVENUE, AS DEFINED HEREIN, TO POLICE AND FIRE PROTECTION, THE CITY MUST DEDICATE TWENTY PERCENT (20%) OF THE NET INCOME TAX REVENUE, AS DEFINED HEREIN, TO THE MAINTENANCE AND IMPROVEMENT OF STREETS AND SIDEWALKS, WATER AND SEWER SYSTEMS, AND PARKS, AND RECREATION, AND CITY-OWNED FACILITIES, AND THE CITY MUST DEDICATE SIXTY PERCENT (60%) OF THE NET INCOME TAX REVENUE, AS DEFINED HEREIN, TO SUPPLEMENTAL PAYMENTS FOR THE CITY’S UNFUNDED PENSION LIABILITIES. NET INCOME TAX REVENUE MEANS THE INCOME TAX REVENUE ACTUALLY RECEIVED BY THE CITY MINUS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE AMOUNT OF PROPERTY TAXES WHICH LAWFULLY COULD HAVE BEEN ASSESSED WITHOUT THE REDUCTION IN PROPERTY TAXES REQUIRED BY SECTION 10.5 OF THE CITY CHARTER AND THE AMOUNT OF PROPERTY TAXES ACTUALLY RECEIVED BY THE CITY, AS CALCULATED ANNUALLY; AND, FURTHER REDUCED BY THE COST OF ADMINISTRATION OF THE EXCISE TAX ON INCOME AND REFUNDS. ANY INCOME TAX AUTHORIZED BY THIS SECTION SHALL HAVE A DURATON THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2030, AT WHICH TIME THE AUTHORITY PROVIDED BY THIS SECTION SHALL CEASE.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the aforesaid proposition to amend Section 11.1 of Chapter 11 of the City Charter shall be submitted to the electors of the City of East Lansing at the election to be held in the city on Tuesday, August 7, 2018; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Clerk be and is hereby directed to submit a certified copy of this resolution and proposition to the Governor of the State of Michigan for his approval of said amendment of said Charter provision pursuant to Section 22 of 1909 PA 297; MCL 117.22; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that before the submission of said amendment to the qualified electors of the City of East Lansing, the amendment herein proposed shall be published in full together with the existing Charter provision which will be altered thereby, being Section 11.1 as it now exists, and a notice of said election, in at least two issues of the City Pulse, or other newspaper of general circulation in the city of East Lansing, the first publication to be not less than two weeks nor more than four weeks prior to said election; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the purpose of such proposed Charter amendment or question shall be designated on the ballots to be printed by the City Clerk, which Ballot Question and Statement of Purpose shall be as follows:

BALLOT QUESTION

Shall Section 11.1 of the East Lansing City Charter be amended to authorize an excise tax on income for 12 years commencing January 1, 2019 implementing reduction of the City property taxes from a maximum of 20 mills to a maximum of 13 mills and requiring the net income tax revenue to be dedicated as follows: 20% to police and fire protection; 20% to the maintenance and improvement of streets and sidewalks, water and sewer systems, and parks, and recreation, and city-owned facilities; and, 60% to supplemental payments for unfunded pension liabilities for retired city employees.

YES _____ NO _____

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Clerk shall do and perform all acts required of said Clerk by the City Charter and the statutes of the State of Michigan in such case made and provided in regard to the registration of electors for said election, the giving of notice thereof, the giving of notice of such election, the preparation and furnishing of necessary ballots, the obtaining of necessary approval of this amendment by the Michigan Attorney General and Governor of the State of Michigan, and for the conduct of such election.

A true copy of this resolution can be inspected or obtained at the Office of the City Clerk at City Hall, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, Michigan during normal business hours.

Jennifer Shuster
City Clerk
CP#18-160

NOTICE OF DAY OF REVIEW OF APPORTIONMENTS
Ingham County Drain Commissioner
Patrick E. Lindemann

Notice is Hereby Given that a Public Hearing of Apportionment for special assessment of costs incurred by the drainage districts listed below will be held at the office of the Ingham County Drain Commissioner, 707 Buhl Avenue, in the City of Mason, Michigan, 48854, on **Wednesday, August 1, 2018, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.**

DRAIN NAME	MUNICIPALITY	SECTION NUMBERS
A10-00 ASSELTINE & BRAVENDER	INGHAM TOWNSHIP	8, 9
A16-00 AURELIUS & VEVAY DRAIN	ALAIEDON TOWNSHIP AURELIUS TOWNSHIP VEVAY TOWNSHIP CITY OF MASON	31, 32 1, 2, 11, 12 6, 7 5-7
B05-00 BATES DRAIN	ALAIEDON TOWNSHIP INGHAM TOWNSHIP VEVAY TOWNSHIP WHEATFIELD TOWNSHIP	36 5, 6 1 31, 32
B06-00 BATTEESE CREEK DRAIN (IC)	BUNKER HILL TOWNSHIP INGHAM TOWNSHIP	3-9, 16-22, 27-29, 32-34 26-3
C01-00 CAMPBELL DRAIN	VEVAY TOWNSHIP LESLIE TOWNSHIP	33, 34 3, 4, 9
C02-00 CANAAN DRAIN	ALAIEDON TOWNSHIP	29-32
C31-00 COUNTY FARM DRAIN	ALAIEDON TOWNSHIP	9, 16-21
C36-00 CULLEN DRAIN	INGHAM TOWNSHIP	2, 3, 10, 11, 14, 15
D04-00 DROVERS CROSSING DRAIN	BUNKER HILL TOWNSHIP	11, 14
D15-00 DOAN AND DEER CREEK DRAIN	INGHAM TOWNSHIP VILLAGE OF DANSVILLE	10, 11, 13-15, 22-24, 26, 27 14, 15, 22, 23
E06-00 EIFERT DRAIN	ALAIEDON TOWNSHIP WHEATFIELD TOWNSHIP	1, 12 7, 8, 17, 18
F10-00 FRANKLIN DRAIN	VEVAY TOWNSHIP CITY OF MASON	17 17
F13-00 FRY DRAIN	BUNKER HILL TOWNSHIP INGHAM TOWNSHIP	1, 2 35, 36
F25-00 FOUNTAIN DRAIN	AURELIUS TOWNSHIP	16, 17, 20, 21
G19-00 GRETTON DRAIN	AURELIUS TOWNSHIP	10, 11, 14, 15
H02-00 HAMPTON DRAIN	LESLIE TOWNSHIP	14, 15, 23
H28-00 HOPKINS DRAIN	AURELIUS TOWNSHIP	23, 26, 27
H32-00 HARKNESS DRAIN	LESLIE TOWNSHIP BUNKER HILL TOWNSHIP	12, 13, 24 18
H65-00 HUNTOON LAKE DRAIN	LESLIE TOWNSHIP CITY OF LESLIE	1-3, 9-16, 21-23, 25-27, 35 21
K02-00 KELLEY DRAIN	LESLIE TOWNSHIP	9, 15, 16, 21, 22
M36-00 MEADVILLE DRAIN	INGHAM TOWNSHIP WHITE OAK TOWNSHIP	25, 26, 36 30, 31
N04-00 NEU DRAIN	BUNKER HILL TOWNSHIP	16, 21, 22
O06-00 OSBORNE DRAIN	AURELIUS TOWNSHIP	14, 15, 22, 23
Q01-00 QUINN & HICKEY DRAIN	BUNKER HILL TOWNSHIP	1, 11, 12
R05-00 REEVES DRAIN	ALAIEDON TOWNSHIP WHEATFIELD TOWNSHIP	12, 13, 24 8, 17-20
R20-00 ROSSMAN-GOULD DRAIN	BUNKER HILL TOWNSHIP	13, 14, 23, 24
S13-00 SIMPSON DRAIN	AURELIUS TOWNSHIP	20, 21, 28, 29
T01-00 TALMADGE DRAIN	LESLIE TOWNSHIP VEVAY TOWNSHIP CITY OF MASON	2-10 15-17, 20-23, 26-35 16, 17
V04-00 VICKERS AND KENT DRAIN	WHEATFIELD TOWNSHIP	21, 28, 29
V07-00 VAN HORN DRAIN	ALAIEDON TOWNSHIP VEVAY TOWNSHIP	35, 36 1-3
V11-00 VICARY DRAIN	BUNKER HILL TOWNSHIP	19, 20, 29, 30, 32
W02-00 WEBER DRAIN	ALAIEDON TOWNSHIP	12
W22-00 WILLOW CREEK DRAIN	AURELIUS TOWNSHIP	11, 14, 23-26, 35, 36

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9

Pot

from page 5

tention that the limit on dispensaries tilted the market in favor of big-money interests.

Some, including Mayor Andy Schor, contended Let Lansing Vote’s success in the courtroom ultimately would have eroded the foundation of the entire marijuana market. A revocation of the ordinance would have forced all dispensaries, growing facilities and others to close in the absence of a law that guides their operation, he said.

Others contended an emergency ordinance could have been installed to prevent the market’s collapse, but speculation over the future of the industry — at least for now — has reached a simmer. Guidelines for regulating the city’s medical marijuana market are spelled out in the ordinance and Let Lansing Vote has raised its white flag.

Giddings and James Adkins, another attorney for the suit’s multiple plaintiffs, declined to elaborate further. .

Smiertka said he didn’t “get into the woods” when he heard about the motion to withdraw the case: He was just pleased the lawsuit was dropped. Lansing’s chief deputy city attorney, Joseph Abood, emphasized the dismissal did not include a settlement.

“They just withdrew it, so that’s great,” Smiertka added.

Another Let Lansing Vote attorney, Bob Baldori, didn’t return a call for comment. Marijuana advocate arren Osmar — previously labeled as a “representative” for Let Lansing Vote — didn’t respond to multiple messages over the past two weeks. Schor also provided little insight into what prompted the sudden dismissal.

“We’re going to continue to follow the ordinance as passed last year, and we hope to issue the 20 dispensary licenses very soon” that the new law permits in the first wave, Schor added. “It’s all at the clerk’s discretion from here. We’re making sure we’re running through all the processes in accordance with the existing ordinance and our departments.”

—KYLE KAMINSKI
kyle@lansingcitypulse.com

Want more
City Pulse?
Visit us at
lansingcitypulse.com

**CITY OF LANSING
PUBLIC ACCURACY TEST
FOR THE TUESDAY, AUGUST 7, 2018
PRIMARY ELECTION**

Notice is hereby given that the public test of the program which will be used for tabulating the results of the Primary Election to be held Tuesday, August 7, 2018 in the City of Lansing will be conducted at the City Clerk's Election Unit located at the South Washington Office Complex at 2500 South Washington Avenue on Tuesday, July 31, 2018 at 2:00 p.m.

The public accuracy test is conducted to determine that the program used to tabulate the results of the election counts the votes in the manner prescribed by law.

ABSENT VOTER BALLOTS

Registered voters can get an Absent Voter Ballot for any of the following reasons:

- You are 60 years of age or older
- You are physically unable to attend the polls without the assistance of another
- You expect to be absent from the City of Lansing for the entire time the polls are open on Election Day
- You cannot attend the polls because of the tenets of your religion
- You are an appointed precinct worker in a precinct other than the precinct where you reside
- You cannot attend the polls because you are confined to jail awaiting arraignment or trial

We must have a signed application to issue an Absent Voter Ballot. Applications are available at www.lansingmi.gov/Elections or by calling 517-483-4131.

The Lansing City Clerk's Office, 124 W. Michigan Ave., 9th Floor, will be open weekdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. to issue absentee ballots to qualified electors.

The Lansing City Clerk's Election Unit, 2500 S. Washington Ave (rear entrance), will be open

- Weekdays beginning July 9 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Wednesdays until 7 p.m.
- Sunday, July 29 from 12 noon to 4 p.m.; and
- Saturday, August 4 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Saturday, August 4 at 2 p.m. is the deadline to request an absentee ballot. You may also vote an absentee ballot in person on Monday, August 6 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the City Clerk's Office at 124 W. Michigan Ave, 9th Floor or 2500 S. Washington Ave.

An emergency absent voter ballot must be applied for by 4 p.m. on Election Day. Emergency absent voter ballots are available for voters who become physically disabled or will be absent from the City because of sickness or death in the family which has occurred at a time which has made it impossible to apply for absent voter ballots by Saturday, August 4 at 2 p.m.

Chris Swope, CMMC/CMC
Lansing City Clerk
www.lansingmi.gov/Clerk www.facebook.com/LansingClerkSwope

CP#18-172

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

	VEVAY TOWNSHIP	7, 17-20, 29-31
	CITY OF MASON	8, 17
W28-00 WRIGHT & POTTER DRAIN	AURELIUS TOWNSHIP	2-4, 9-11
W32-00 WOODWORTH DRAIN	LESLIE TOWNSHIP	29-32

At the meeting to review the apportionment of benefits, I will have the tentative apportionments against parcels and municipalities within the drainage district available to review. Any drain assessments against land will be collected in the same manner as property taxes. For assessments to be collected in installments, the Drain Code (Act 40 of 1956, Sec. 154 [e]) provides that the assessment may be paid in full with any interest to date at any time and thereby avoid further interest charges.

Proceedings conducted at the day of review are subject to the Michigan Open Meetings Act. Persons with disabilities needing accommodations for effective participation in the meeting should contact the Ingham County Drain Commissioner at (517) 676-8395 or the Michigan Relay Center at 711 (TTY) at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting to request mobility, visual, hearing, or other assistance. **You are Further Notified** that persons aggrieved by the apportionment may appeal to the Ingham County Probate Court within ten (10) days of the Day of Review.

Patrick E. Lindemann
Ingham County Drain Commissioner

CP#18-167

B/19/008 MOORES PARK PAVILION as per the specifications provided by the City of Lansing. The City of Lansing will accept **sealed bids** at the City of Lansing, C/O LBWL, Purchasing Office, 1110 S Pennsylvania Ave, Lansing, Michigan 48912 until 2:00 PM local time in effect on **AUGUST 16, 2018** at which time bids will be publicly opened and read. **Complete specifications and forms required to submit bids are available by contacting Stephanie Robinson at (517) 702-6197 email: stephanie.robinson@lbwl.com or go to www.mitn.info** The City of Lansing encourages bids from all vendors including MBE/WBE vendors and Lansing-based businesses.

CP#18-170

**PUBLIC NOTICE OF
CAPITAL AREA TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
ON ITS FY 2019 PROGRAM OF PROJECTS AND
PUBLIC HEARING ON ITS PROPOSED FY 2019 BUDGET**

Capital Area Transportation Authority ("CATA") hereby provides notice to the public and to private providers of its proposed FY 2019 Program of Projects and of its public hearing on its FY 2019 Budget.

The proposed FY 2019 Program of Projects is as follows:

PROGRAM OF PROJECTS CAPITAL

Section 5307 Formula Funding

Item	Federal Share	Total Grant Budget
Large Buses	\$ 3,033,966	\$ 3,792,457
Small Buses	\$ 617,211	\$ 771,513
Paratransit Vehicles	\$ 518,039	\$ 647,548
Maintenance Equipment	\$ 124,454	\$ 155,567
Facility Improvements	\$ 157,901	\$ 197,375
Preventive Maintenance	\$ 880,000	\$ 1,100,000
Spare Parts	\$ 120,000	\$ 150,000
Customer Enhancements	\$ 63,389	\$ 79,235
Safety & Security	\$ 63,389	\$ 79,236
ITS	\$ 217,794	\$ 272,242
Planning	\$ 542,745	\$ 678,431
Total	\$ 6,338,886	\$ 7,923,604

Section 5339 Bus and Bus Facilities Funding

Item	Federal Share	Total Grant Budget
Large Buses	\$ 684,331	\$ 855,414
Small Buses	\$ 201,074	\$ 251,343
Total	\$ 885,406	\$ 1,106,757

Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Funding

Item	Federal Share	Total Grant Budget
Commute Options	\$ 23,054	\$ 23,054
Public Education	\$ 44,178	\$ 55,223
Total	\$ 67,232	\$ 78,277

Section 5310 Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Funding

Item	Federal Share	Total Grant Budget
Operating Service	\$ 127,789	\$ 255,578
Replacement/ Expansion Buses	\$ 150,149	\$ 187,686
Total	\$ 277,938	\$ 443,264

OPERATIONS

Federal Share Section 5307 & other *	\$ 1,773,000
State Share *	\$16,351,000
Local Share	\$21,400,000
Farebox and other	\$ 7,726,000
Total	<u>\$47,250,000</u>

(*Includes: Federal & State Preventive Maintenance Funds)

(*Includes: Federal & State Preventive Maintenance Funds)

Total Capital/Operations	\$56,801,902
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The proposed program of projects will constitute the final program of projects if there are no changes. Additional details on the proposed FY 2019 Program of Projects and a copy of the proposed FY 2019 Budget are available for public inspection at CATA's Administrative Offices at 4615 Tranter Street, Lansing, MI 48910.

CATA will hold a public hearing on its proposed FY 2019 Budget on Wednesday, August 15, 2018, at 4:00 p.m. in the CATA Board Room located at 4615 Tranter Street, Lansing, MI. **The property tax millage rate proposed to be levied to support the proposed budget will be a subject of this hearing.** This will be a levy under the current authorized millage. There is NO proposal for a new millage.

Written comments on the program of projects or the budget should be addressed to CATA, Attn: Program/Budget Comments, 4615 Tranter Street, Lansing, MI 48910, and must be received by 4:00 p.m., on August 15, 2018. Reasonable accommodations will be made for persons with disabilities and should be requested by August 10, 2018.

Capital Area Transportation Authority
Bradley T. Funkhouser, AICP, Chief Executive Officer

CP#18-168

B/19/007 AUTOMATIC BAR SCREEN REISSUE as per the specifications provided by the City of Lansing. The City of Lansing will accept **sealed bids** at the City of Lansing, C/O LBWL, Purchasing Office, 1110 S Pennsylvania Ave, Lansing, Michigan 48912 until 2:00 PM local time in effect on **JULY 24, 2018** at which time bids will be publicly opened and read. **Complete specifications and forms required to submit bids are available by contacting Stephanie Robinson at (517) 702-6197 email: stephanie.robinson@lbwl.com or go to www.mitn.info** The City of Lansing encourages bids from all vendors including MBE/WBE vendors and Lansing-based businesses.

CP#18-166

2018 PRIMARY ELECTION SECTION

Will Republicans or Democrats play Trump card best in primary?

President Donald Trump's name isn't on the Aug. 7 ballot, but his impact will be felt up and down Michigan's Democratic and Republican primary ballot.

The Ds believe the backlash of Trump's unexpected 2016 victory will combine with frustrations that Bernie Sanders got screwed out of the Democratic nomination to unleash the type of motivated voter that got progressive Dana Nessel the party's attorney general nod three months ago.

Across the state, 25 percent more Democrats filed for state offices this year than Republicans, compared to 2010, when both major parties fielded roughly the same number.

Both chemical industry entrepreneur Shri Thanedar and former Detroit Public Health Director Abdul El-Sayed are trying to ride Sanders' progressive movement into the governor's office. El-Sayed is seen as the most politically pure of the two. The Rhodes scholar crafted a detailed progressive agenda that he passionately and effectively sells on the campaign stump.



El-Sayed

Meanwhile, Thanedar is running a more personality-driven campaign. He espouses progressive policies, but his views take a back seat to his compelling rags-to-riches story of immigrating from India in 1978 with nothing but \$20 and his blue suitcase. Thanedar's clever and often-run commercials earned him front-runner status for a few months.



Thanedar

Former Senate Minority Leader Gretchen Whitmer is riding a different wave. It's a #MeToo movement powered by disgusted women who can't believe America elected a "chauvinist pig" in 2016 and are done with accepting blatant sexism as "just the way it is." A couple weeks after declaring her candidacy



Whitmer

The 2018 Primary Election preview

Once upon a time, City Pulse published its election preview guide the last issue before the election. But absentee voting has changed the election landscape. Thus, starting last year, City Pulse began publishing its guides a few weeks ahead of the elections. This year, our preview of the Primary Election is nearly three weeks before the Aug. 7 voting day.

In the following pages you'll find a look at the competitive races both state-wide and locally, including five Ingham County commissioners' contests and three significant ballot issues: the Ingham County justice and library millages and the East Lansing income tax.

Next week, City Pulse will announce its endorsements in some races and ballot issues.

For more on what's on the primary election ballot, we highly recommend that you check out the League of Women Voters' guide at www.vote411.org.)

in January 2017, Whitmer delivered a powerful speech in front of the largest known gathering on the state Capitol lawn.

To a growing number of Michiganders, she the one wanting to "fix the damn roads," as her TV commercials declare. The latest MIRS-Target Insyght poll shows the union-backed Whitmer up 40 percent to 19 and 17 percent over Thanedar and El-Sayed, respectively.

On the Republican side, it's all about Trump. For where two or three gather with Attorney General Bill Schuette, Trump's name is mentioned within 60 seconds. If the utterance of Trump's name at the first GOP debate were a drinking game, participants would be passed out 20 minutes in.



Schuette

It's not as if Schuette doesn't have 30 years of public service of his own to speak of. It's that his two largest cases as attorney general — Flint water crisis response and the Michigan State University/Larry Nassar response — are still active and politically volatile.

Since polling showing Republicans coming around to Trump, Schuette has seen value in talking about how his top primary opponent disavowed Trump weeks before the 2016 election.

Lt. Gov. Brian Calley ended up voting for Trump at his wife's urging, but he's more interested in spinning the discussion into Michigan's "economic comeback" and his role in helping Gov. Rick Snyder address

sticky issues in Detroit and Flint.

The Republican primary has almost become a proxy war between Trump and Snyder, with the later using his remaining pots of money to prop up his wingman whenever possible.

To be fair, the only candidate to support Trump from beginning to end in 2016, however, was Midland Dr. Jim Hines, an outsider candidate who likely would be more competitive if he had Thanedar's millions of dollars.

Conservative Sen. Patrick Colbeck is picking up what remains of the Tea Party movement in Michigan, but he's operating with less money than Hines.

Several other primaries are on the ballot Aug. 7. Below is a preview of the national and statewide offices.

U.S. Senate

There's no bigger display of Republicans' falling over themselves to snuggle with Trump than Michigan's GOP U.S. Senate primary. The latest pro-John James



Calley



Hines



Colbeck

commercial claims, "Liberal Sandy Pensler stands against President Trump," and then plays a clip where the successful Southeast Michigan business executive said he does not "like his personal style" and "I can't speak at fourth grade level like he does."

Meanwhile, Pensler has been running radio ads thanking Trump for his Macomb County visit since late April and has taken some heat for saying in a Detroit News editorial that the president's tariffs would help Michigan.



Pensler

James, a U.S. Army military veteran, exchanged a military salute with Trump during that April 28 visit. The more conservative of the two, James and his family owns a Detroit supply chain company and has gotten a fair share of face time on Fox News.



James

But Pensler has put at least \$5 million of his own money into the race. Every recent poll conducted on the race shows his corresponding TV ads have paid dividends.

Three-term incumbent U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow, D-Delta Twp., is waiting in the wings with her \$9 million in cash on hand.

Congress

Democrat Elissa Slotkin has raised twice as much money as every other Democrat running for the 8th Congressional District in the last 16 years ... combined. The national attention the former national security official has generated in this traditionally lean-Republican seat can't be overstated.

She's outraising any Michigander running for Congress — incumbent or not. She's highlighting national stories about how first-time female candidates are making significant impacts in competitive seats.



Slotkin

About a third of the \$1.15 million she

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State primary

from page 10

raised between April 1 and June 30 is coming directly from Michigan contributions. The rest is mostly small-dollar contributions from Democratic sympathizers from across the country who see Slotkin as someone who can unseat two-term U.S. Rep. Mike Bishop.

She's not as progressive as primary opponent Chris Smith, a Michigan State University criminal justice professor. She'd rather see a Medicare buy-in program whereas Smith wants a single-payer health care system.

Endorsed by the MDP's Progressive Caucus, Smith is valiantly trying to harness Sanders' more liberal message with grassroots supporters.

In the 7th District, a similar scenario is playing out to represent in Eaton County/Jackson County/southeast Michigan, where former state Rep. Gretchen Driskell is fending off a challenge from her political left from Progressive Caucus-endorsed Steve Friday, although Friday is nowhere near as active as Smith.



Driskell

Of the 43 Michigan congressional candidates who filed their 2nd quarter fundraising information with the Federal Elections Commission on Sunday night, Friday's \$3,462 was the lightest. He's claiming he's only spent \$680 so far on his campaign, while Smith is reporting that he's spent \$81,117.



Friday

Driskell, a commercial real estate agent, is Saline's longest serving female mayor (1999-2012). She lost by 15 points to incumbent U.S. Rep. Tim Walberg in 2016, but has outlasted the incumbent in the last three reporting quarters.

Michigan State Senate

Democrat Kelly Rossman-McKinney waits in the wings with a pile of cash as state Reps. Tom Barrett, R-Potterville, and Brett Roberts, R-Charlotte, duke it out for the Republican nomination in the 24th District.



Friday

A political action committee connected to Consumers Energy has aggressively

campaigned for the more moderate Roberts, who also benefited from a Gov. Rick Snyder-sponsored fundraiser. Otherwise, the southern Eaton County farmer isn't known for his deep pockets and comes from a far corner of this Eaton-Clinton-Shiawassee County District. Recently, Roberts has found himself in a contentious fight with Charlotte officials over his plans to expand his Dairy Queen restaurant.



Roberts

Barrett, a conservative National Guard Army pilot, is a tenacious door-knocker who has won two high-dollar competitive races. He kicked off his campaign at the Country Mill Orchard, known around the region for declining to host same-sex weddings for religious reasons.



Barrett

He also made news late last year when he landed a National Guard helicopter at Perry High School's football field to deliver the game ball for an Oct. 6 game. While some questioned his political motivations, an investigation found no wrongdoing. Barrett continuously contended the veterans appreciation event was a routine outreach mission.

In the 23rd District, Andrea Pollock, the deputy political director for the Michigan Republican Party, and real estate agent Nancy Denny are running in the GOP primary. Sen. Curtis Hertel Jr., D-East Lansing, is running unopposed on the Democratic side.



Hertel

Michigan State House

67th District — The marquee matchup in this south Lansing/rural Ingham County district evaporated when Williamston School Board President Greg Talberg dropped out to fend off a recall attempt spurred by his support for a more lenient transgender student policy.

Instead, Ingham County Commissioner Kara Hope has emerged as the only Democrat staging anything resembling a competitive campaign. The attorney and founding president of the Holt Community Arts Council is endorsed by just about everybody and is the clear frontrunner to succeed term-limited



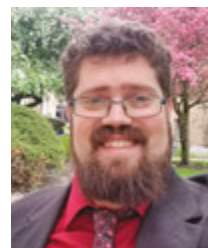
Hope

Rep. Tom Cochran.

Twenty-something progressive Alec Findlay is running for the second straight cycle and has the support of the MDP's Progressive Caucus. Law librarian Brent Domann, Dansville High graduate Derek Stephens and liberal Max Donovan are also on the ballot. Donovan earned the backing the MDP's Cannabis Caucus.



Findlay



Donovan

On the Republican side, former Mason Mayor Leon Clark is running against Clyde Thomas, who runs a trucking company and Cornerstone Contracting.



Clark

68th District — Seven Democrats are seeking to replace now-Mayor Andy Schor, but the story has been the political re-emergence of Paul DeWeese, the former state representative from Williamston (1999-2002) now seeking the Lansing-based district.



Thomas

It's not the length of DeWeese's absence that's the story here. It's that the defrocked physician is on criminal probation and fresh off paying about \$1 million in fines and fees for insurance fraud and illegally treating heroin addicts with opioids.

Still, DeWeese, 62, has scraped together the funding to run a full-fledged, competitive campaign centered around criminal justice reform and compassion for those battling addiction.



DeWeese

Ingham County Commission Chair woman Sarah Anthony has emerged as the clear frontrunner in this race, however, gobbling up endorsements from just about every local elected official, labor union and traditional Democratic interest group. The one-time staffer for former Rep. Joan Bauer was first elected to the



Anthony

commission in 2012 as the country's youngest female African American.

Kelly Collison, who chairs of the Michigan Democratic Party (MDP)'s Progressive Caucus, is putting together a late charge from the political left, fueled by an agenda of universal health care and a \$15 minimum wage. The former Bernie Sanders volunteer's late entrance into the race has her and her loyal band of volunteers working on a condensed schedule to boost her name ID.



Collison

Former legislative staffer Grant Bradley and Lansing attorney Eric Nelson are also seeking both the full two-year term and the remaining six weeks of Schor's expired term. Progressive Benjamin Guins and Kenyan refugee Farhan Sheikh-Omar are only seeking the full two-year term.



Bradley

69th House District — One of the state's most competitive and expensive Democratic primaries is taking shape in this East Lansing/Meridian Township-based district with Meridian Township Treasurer Julie Brixie, Ingham County Commissioner Teri Banas and former Commissioner Penelope Tsernoglou.

All three have been raising money, sending out fliers, commissioning polls, making videos and knocking on doors. Brixie, first elected Meridian Township trustee in 2000 and served two terms before being elected treasurer in 2008. Her hesitation about supporting Meridian's 2013 Human Rights Ordinance for legal and financial reasons has been pointed out during the campaign, although Brixie did end up supporting the measure.

If Brixie, 52, isn't successful, it would not be for lack of effort. The perceived frontrunner is showing up everywhere and doing everything to present herself as the best option to succeed term-limited Rep. Sam Singh.



Brixie

Born in England, Banas has a compelling story about how her Polish parents fled a Siberia forced labor camp under the rule of Joseph Stalin's Soviet Union. Having the resources to share that story and her message amid the high-dollar



Banas

Budget cuts loom if income tax proposal fails

East Lansing looks to taxpayers amid financial turmoil, unfunded liabilities

East Lansing officials think a new income tax could offer the cash infusion needed to rescue the city from financial turmoil while revenues flatten and concerns surrounding unfunded pension liabilities reach a precipice.

"The basic constraint that we're under is the city is broke," said Mayor Pro Tem Erik Altmann. "This is the only place left to go find those dollars. Everything else has been cut to the bone. There's a certain set of essential functions that we can't cut but we've already cut all our departments as far as we can possibly cut them."

Officials — much like last year — are again turning to taxpayers to wrap a tourniquet around their financial bleed. Under the proposal, residents would pay a newly fashioned 1-percent income tax and out-of-towners would be forced to pay a half-percent into city coffers. Altmann said it'll generate about \$10 million annually.

An estimated \$5 million property tax reduction, however, should slice those revenues in half, Altmann said.

The charter amendment is set to appear on the ballot next month, requiring voter approval to siphon income taxes for the next 12 years, funneling the bulk of the new revenue into the city's unfunded pension liabilities for retired city employees. The re-



Kyle Kaminski/City Pulse

East Lansing's income tax proposal includes enhanced funding for public safety services.

maintaining 40 percent would be split between emergency services and infrastructure.

"We don't really have a choice here," said Councilwoman Ruth Beier. "Because of the Headlee Amendment and Michigan's Constitution, we cannot raise our property taxes much higher than they are right now. We can't levy a sales tax. The only way to generate that revenue is with an income tax. That's really the only option we have."

Residents who live and work in East Lansing would be taxed at 1 percent. Those who live in East Lansing but work in another municipality with a local income tax — such as Lansing — would see the tax split between each jurisdiction. The same would

apply to those who live in another tax-bearing city but work in East Lansing.

"Every single one of these people who live outside the city but drive in for work will have to pay," Beier added. "And they should. If it wasn't for the city's infrastructure, they wouldn't be able to do what they do."

East Lansing's general fund totals have only increased by about 1.9 percent within the last 12 years, according to budgets posted online. Officials attribute the flatline to less revenue sharing from the state, tighter restrictions on revenue generation and the ongoing impact of dropping property values in the wake of the 2008 recession.

MSU's majority, tax-free stake in East

Lansing's land holdings further exacerbates the problem, Beier added.

The city's legacy cost obligations have also increased in that same timeframe. Officials said pension plan obligations were 80 percent funded in 2003 but dropped to about 50 percent by this year. State regulators need the \$190 million liability to be fully funded by 2041, requiring some local budgetary prowess in the meantime.

"We'll continue to make our annually required contributions," Altmann noted. "That new money will be on top of existing premiums. This brings new money into the pension system. The state has advised us we need to submit a corrective action plan. This income tax proposal, if it passes, would become that corrective plan."

Council members last year sought to levy a new property tax, but the measure was narrowly defeated at the polls. Officials this time around hope the newly introduced 12-year limitation on the income tax, with specific allocations for the generated revenues, will convince voters to hop aboard. Or else face the consequences.

Altmann said the proposal's failure will almost certainly spell a \$5 million reduction in city services.

Council members have eyed police and fire departments — the largest expense in the city's budget — for the first round of budget cuts. Each department would need to lose about four employees each, Altmann added. The Hannah Community Center could also be forced to close in the wake of the proposal's failure, he said.

"The number of fire trucks and ambulances on the road would decrease,"

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State Primary

from page 11

campaigns waged by her opponent will be key.

Tsernoglou, endorsed by the MDP's progressive caucus, may be best known for buying popular voter list company Practical Political Consulting off Mark Grebner and Alan Fox a few years ago, but she got her start in politics by leading an effort to end Ingham County's practice of selling shelter dogs and cats for research.



Tsernoglou

71st House District — A pair of competitive Eaton County primaries has Waverly School Board Vice President Angela Witwer, the president of Edge Partnerships, squaring off against progressive Beth



Witwer

Bowen, a training specialist at Dart Container. Former Bernie Sanders volunteer Dominic Natoli is also on the Democratic primary ballot in the race to succeed Rep. Tom Barrett.



Natoli

On the Republican side, Wheatfield Golf Course owner Chuck Cascarilla and Eaton County Commissioner Christine Barnes are the favorites. The fun fact here is that Cascarilla's wife, Delta Township Trustee Andrea Cascarilla, nearly won the Democratic nomination for this seat in 2012.



Cascarilla

Sen. Rick Jones is backing Barnes, who is seen as the more conservative option, while Cascarilla



Barnes

is a lifelong Delta Township resident who's been involved in the community for years.

Clarisa Trevino, who owns the Royal Queens of Fashion sales website, and former MSU football strength coach Chris Stewart are also on the ballot on the Republican side.

93rd House District — For all intents and purposes, Graham Filler has been running for the Republican nomination here for years, according to sources on the ground in Clinton County, and it's showing. The assistant attorney general has been working the hardest and the longest for this seat to replace



Trevino



Stewart



Filler

term-limited Rep. Tom Leonard.

Former deputy treasurer Madhu Anderson has more state experience than Filler and could connect with professionals in Bath Township and around southern Clinton County. Depending on how deep her wallet goes, she could make a substantial impact. Former county commissioner Anne Hill was leading in an internal poll shared with MIRS Anderson last month, but she lost her 2016 re-election bid by 151 votes.


—KYLE MELINN

(Kyle Melinn is news editor of the Capitol news service MIRS. He is at melinnky@gmail.com.)



Anderson





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Walt Sorg, Democrat
Age: 68
Residence: Lansing
District: Third (Southwest Lansing)

Sorg is a communications professional with decades of experience in economic development, public policy, broadcast and journalism. He has a bachelor's degree in business communication from Thomas A. Edison State University and has received numerous awards over his professional career, holding key leadership positions both within various state agencies and through his privately founded communications consulting company. Sorg also previously worked as a contributing writer and columnist for City Pulse. The Lansing Area Association for Human Rights gave Sorg a "very positive" rating.



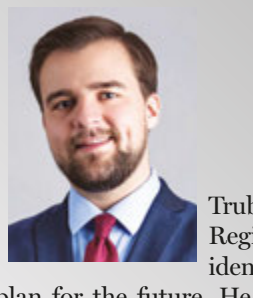
Derrell Slaughter, Democrat
Age: 31
Residence: Lansing
District: Third (Southwest Lansing)

Slaughter is an analyst for the Michigan Public Service Commission and the chairman of Ingham County's Board of Health. He has a bachelor's degree in public policy from Michigan State University and touts involvement with the Old Everett Neighborhood Association, the county's Democratic Party and the American Civil Liberties Union. He said he received endorsements from the UAW, Greater Lansing Labor Council, United Association of Plumbers and Pipefitters Local 333, Michigan Education Association and LaunchProgress. Slaughter said county commissioners, Lansing City council members and Sheriff Scott Wiggelsworth have pledged their support. The Lansing Area Association for Human Rights gave Slaughter a "positive" rating.



Todd Tennis, Democrat
Age: 47
Residence: Lansing
District: Fifth (Southeast Lansing)

Tennis has served as a county commissioner for the last 12 years. He has a bachelor's degree in political science from the University of Michigan and is the president of a lobbying firm, Capitol Services Inc. He touted endorsements from the Greater Lansing Labor Council, the UAW and several local officials like Mayor Andy Schor, Senator Curtis Hertel, Commissioner Sarah Anthony, County Clerk Barb Byrum and Lansing Councilman Peter Spadafore. The Lansing Area Association for Human Rights gave Tennis a "very positive" rating.



Chris Trubac, Democrat
Age: 28
Residence: Holt
District: Seventh (Portions of South Lansing and Delhi Township)

Trubac works for Ingham County's Register of Deeds where he helps residents to avoid property fraud and plan for the future. He serves on the board of directors for Building Twentyone and is a member of the Kiwanis Club of Holt. He has a bachelor's degree in environmental conservation from the University of Massachusetts and has worked as a substitute teacher, policy analyst and in constituent services for the state legislature. He touts endorsements from Ingham County's Democratic Party, the UAW, the Greater Lansing Labor Council, the Michigan Regional Council of Carpenters and Millwrights, the International Union of Operating Engineers Local 324 and the MEA's Ingham-Clinton Educators PAC among other locally elected officials. The Lansing Area Association for Human Rights gave Trubac a "positive" rating.



Vincent Dragonetti, Democrat
Age: 70
Residence: Holt
District: Seventh (Portions of South Lansing and Delhi Township)

Dragonetti has spent the last 30 years working in private-sector real estate, securities, insurance and investments. He teaches at Lansing Community College and has a bachelor's degree in business from Michigan State University. Dragonetti previously served as a county commissioner before he was defeated in a bid for reelection and touts experience working with the Michigan Education Association and with multiple labor unions. The Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce has also endorsed his campaign. The Lansing Area Association for Human Rights gave Dragonetti a "negative" rating.



Robert Peña, Democrat
Age: 55
Residence: Lansing
District: Tenth (East side of Lansing, including a portion of Lansing Township and East Lansing)

Peña has lived in Lansing for the last 33 years. He has a bachelor's degree from the University of Texas at Austin and a master's degree from Michigan State University — both in civil engineering. He works at the Michigan Department of Transportation as a quality assurance engineer and touts endorsements from the Lansing Bike Party, the Greater Lansing Food Bank, Habitat for Humanity and the Lansing Area AIDS network. The Lansing Area Association for Human Rights gave Peña a "positive" rating.

Fifteen Democrats face off for Ingham County commission

Candidates discuss priorities ahead of primary election

A crowded August primary for Ingham County's Board of Commissioners will determine which Democratic candidates will face off against their Republican challengers in November.

City Pulse reached out to each of the 15 candidates seeking election in contested races to discuss their priorities. Two candidates didn't return phone calls. One has since suspended her campaign. The remaining 12 candidates offered their perspectives on a number of topics, but budgetary acumen, road improvements, millage requests, unfunded liabilities and regional collaboration took center stage.

Road improvements

More than 40 percent of Ingham County's primary roads last year were rated in "poor" condition under the state's Pavement Surface Evaluation and Rating system, according to data provided by the county's road department. Each candidate emphasized a commitment to help rebuild local infrastructure.

Walt Sorg said taxpayers will ultimately need to float the bill if they want to get the ball rolling on repairs sooner than later. They called for a hefty bond issue backed by a voter-approved millage to net the revenue needed for longer term investments in the county's crumbling streets.

"It's unusual to campaign on the idea that we need to raise taxes," Sorg added. "I'm not afraid to say that. We need to be honest with the people. It's going to cost hundreds of millions of dollars to fix every road in Ingham County. We need to get our roads fixed. It's hurting us in terms of economic development."

Emily Stivers suggested the county would need at least \$200 million in bonds to begin work immediately and emphasized that voters should have a voice in the scheduling process. Others — including Todd Tennis and Chris Trubac — were undecided on whether the county should be filling a funding gap on behalf of state legislators.

Tennis said he would prefer an additional 1-cent gasoline tax and noted a countywide millage would be sure to raise concerns about the adequate distribution of resources. Trubac said reduced revenue sharing from the state has made roads worse than anticipated and noted enhanced local funding could reduce pressure on lawmakers.

"The state is actually supposed to fund these repairs and reconstruction," Trubac said. "I'm torn on this one."

Thomas Morgan said corporations and developers need to pay their "fair share" amid the countywide effort to improve roads. He pushed for better negotiations on future developments and — like nearly every candidate interviewed — suggested proper long-term planning could go a long way in determining the best path forward.

Milton Scales was the only candidate to take a firm stance against a potential road construction millage. He — like Dennis Louney — suggested enhanced regional collaboration could instead help reduce any potential financial commitment from county taxpayers, also noting



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Commission

from page 14

a solid list of priorities should always come first. “It may take a 20-year plan in order to fully fund (road) reconstruction,” added Linda Burghardt. “It has to be done. We may have to bite that bullet but I think it’s a little too early to (consider a countywide millage). I just don’t know enough about the funding issues and other constraints. I just know we need to do something.”

Justice millage

When voters they select their commission candidates later next month, they will also have an opportunity to approve a millage request that would ultimately fund a modernized jail, additional office space and new courtroom facilities in Mason. Some candidates expressed their hesitation, but everyone recognized the need. Robert Pena said he’ll vote in favor of the initiative but suggested additional dollars should also be dedicated to the region’s school system amid an effort to reduce the number of would-be criminals entering into the facility. “These issues go hand in hand,” Pena added. “If we don’t educate our young people, they’re going to get into problems. That escalates into heavier crime so I think we need to do a little more at the forefront of this. But I’m for the jail because we need it. We need to treat these people humanely. These people will come back out.”

Derrell Slaughter — like Mark Polsdofer — suggested enhanced efficiencies could lead to additional mental health programming for inmates, which ultimately led them to support the project. Slaughter also wants to keep a close eye on the construction to ensure the county is getting the best possible bang for its buck, he said. Others were critical but supportive of the proposed re-investment in Mason. Officials said most inmates lodged at the facility arrive from Lansing. Sorg suggested thousands could be inconvenienced by the cross-county drive (or bus trip) to the county seat. Morgan said he doesn’t think voters are concerned with the jail’s condition.

“It’s nothing but continued sprawl,” Morgan added. “I’d also like to see more money be spent on educating people rather than imprisoning them. Is the new jail a top priority? That’s not what I hear when I go door to door.” He added that he would be more supportive if the jail were going to be centrally located in Lansing. Vincent Dragonetti said he was unsure how he felt about the proposal but understood the need for improvement. Others, like Louney, said it could be more financially responsible to replace the facilities rather than continue to pour hundreds of thousands of taxpayer dollars into annual maintenance at the jail. Tennis expressed hope the “sorely needed” initiative will pass and said the potential for a cost-saving collaboration with Lansing and East Lansing and other jurisdictions is still a viable route forward. Discussions over cost

See Commission, Page 17

No profile available for two candidates

Several calls to 5th District Democratic challenger Chris LaMarche were not returned to the Lansing City Pulse. He also ignored a questionnaire from The Lansing Area Association for Human Rights, according to its rating website. Democrat Alexia Mansour — the first candidate to file in District No. 12 — said she is no longer seeking election to the office “due to family obligations and personal reasons.” She said her priority was to ensure a Democratic woman found her way into the office, and she is “confident” her challengers are capable of filling that role. Democratic challenger Jessica Hamel will also appear on the ballot but she didn’t return several phone calls.



Thomas Morgan, Democrat
Age: 38
Residence: Lansing
District: Tenth
(East side of Lansing, including a portion of Lansing Township and East Lansing)

Morgan has served as the chairman of the Ingham County Economic Development Corporation since 2011 and spent three years on the county’s equal opportunity committee. He has a bachelor’s degree in journalism from Michigan State University, worked at the Lansing City Pulse and has since dedicated his professional aspirations to community advocacy. He worked with the medical marijuana industry, the Michigan Education Association and is currently employed in the communications department at the Michigan Education Special Services Association. He touts endorsements from the MEA, the Michigan Regional Council of Carpenters and Millwrights, United Association of Plumbers and Pipefitters Local 333, Heat and Frost Insulators Local 47, United Food and Commercial Workers Local 951 and five members of Lansing’s city council. The Lansing Area Association for Human Rights gave Morgan a “very positive” rating.



Dennis Louney, Democrat
Age: 55
Residence: Lansing
District: Tenth
(East side of Lansing, including a portion of Lansing Township and East Lansing)

Louney has served as a county commissioner since his appointment in February. He has a bachelor’s degree in political science and pre-legal studies from Michigan State University and a master’s in public administration from Western Michigan University. Louney spent several years working with Democrats in the state legislature before working for more than a decade as a lobbyist for Delta Dental. He currently works as a public affairs representative for The Spicer Group and has served as the president of the Fairview Elementary PTA, the Michigan Environmental Action Council and on the Board of Water and Light. He touted endorsements from county sheriff, drain commissioner and treasurer, the Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce, the UAW and multiple labor unions. The Lansing Area Association for Human Rights gave Louney a “positive” rating.



Milton Scales, Democrat
Age: 62
Residence: Haslett
District: Eleventh
(Northern Meridian Township)

Scales has spent the last 33 years working in law enforcement — from the Detroit Police Department to the Department of Natural Resources and later the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality. He retired in 2010 and has since served on the board at Meridian Township and the county’s Planning Commission and Road Commission. He has a bachelor’s degree in community development and a master’s degree in science administration from Central Michigan University, and an associate’s degree in criminal justice from Lansing Community College. He touted endorsements from the Meridian Township Police Officers’ Association, the Meridian Township Professional Firefighters and multiple elected officials at both the township and county level. The Lansing Area Association for Human Rights gave Scales a “negative” rating.



Emily Stivers, Democrat
Age: 36
Residence: East Lansing
District: Eleventh
(Northern Meridian Township)

Stivers works for the nonprofit EduGuide, helping students build social and emotional skills. She has more than a decade of experience in nonprofit research, advocacy and fighting poverty through work with the United Nations Foundation and as an intern for Nancy Pelosi. She has a bachelor’s degree in economic development from Michigan State University and a master’s degree in gender studies from the University of Michigan with a focus on public budgeting, cost-benefit analysis and values and ethics in policymaking. She touts endorsements from several Meridian Township officials. The Lansing Area Association for Human Rights gave Stivers a “positive” rating.



Mark Polsdofer, Democrat
Age: 46
Residence: Okemos
District: Twelfth
(Southern Meridian Township)

Polsdofer is a program specialist for the Michigan Department of Transportation, chairman of the county’s Brownfield Redevelopment Authority and serves on the board of directors at the county’s Economic Development Corporation. He has a bachelor’s degree in political science from Western Michigan University, attended law school at Michigan State University and worked in both chambers of state legislature. He touted endorsements from House Democratic Leader Sam Singh, County Clerk Barb Byrum, Meridian Township Trustee Dan Opsommer, Planned Parenthood Advocates of Michigan, former Michigan Education Association Director Chuck Anderson and civil rights advocate Emily Dievendorf. The Lansing Area Association for Human Rights gave Polsdofer a “very positive” rating.



Linda Burghardt, Democrat
Age: 65
Residence: Okemos
District: Twelfth
(Southern Meridian Township)

Burghardt most recently served as executive director at the Area Agencies on Aging Association of Michigan and has held multiple positions including jobs with the state legislature, the National Association of Social Workers, the National Alliance on Mental Illness and the Mental Health Association of Michigan. She has a bachelor’s degree in government from Cornell University and a master’s degree in public administration from Michigan State University. She touted endorsements from County Drain Commissioner Pat Lindemann and Commissioner Dennis Louney. The Lansing Area Association for Human Rights gave Burghardt a “positive” rating.

Millage proposal aims to overhaul criminal justice facilities

Undersheriff: Ingham County's jail routinely 'oozing' taxpayer money

Undersheriff Andy Bouck likes to compare Ingham County's jail to an Oldsmobile Delta Eighty-Eight.

The average driver can expect to tack a few thousand miles to the odometer each year before they eventually need a replacement. But the Rocket V8 humming under the jail's metaphorical hood has been chugging along — without interruption — for more than 50 years. And it's time for the county to head to the dealership, he said.

"Like everything else in this world, things wear out," Bouck said. "In this case, it's things that don't just need patches and repairs. It needs to be totally replaced with modern stuff. We're literally spending hundreds of thousands every year just to do piecemeal repairs to make it work. It's oozing money on a daily basis."

County commissioners this year seek to levy taxpayers for a new millage to help fund a modernized replacement for the jail in Mason, as well as new offices for the sheriff's department and additional courtroom facilities. The "justice complex" would be financed with bonds and repaid using the proposed millage over the next 20 years.

Local residents — if the measure is passes the ballot next month — can expect to pay an additional \$42.50 in annual property taxes for a home with a taxable value of \$50,000, according to the proposal. About \$37 million would fund the jail, \$16 million would build new office space, \$9 million would boost the 55th District Court and another \$2.4 million would build an additional courtroom and office space for the 30th Circuit Court.

The project also requires about \$6.2 million in site development should voters greenlight the millage next month. Officials also said a new jail would lend to enhanced mental health programming and substance abuse treatment, hopefully rehabilitating would-be repeat offenders and preventing their return to a county jail cell.

"We want to get us up to the standard

that's suitable for our inmates," added Jail Major Darin Southworth.

The jail earlier this year again passed an annual Michigan Department of Corrections inspection; Officials there maintained the safety and security of the facility has yet to be jeopardized by its aging condition. But even a brief walk down the often dimly lit, concrete hallways revealed the reasons officials are concerned for the future.

Southworth still wrangles an antique set of skeleton keys from his pocket to pass between stubborn locks. Electrical wires connecting camera monitors and other equipment teem from the drop-ceilings. Paint is chipping just about anywhere it can. Box fans and a mesh of extension cords have replaced broken air conditioning units.

And that just scrapes the cosmetic surface. Bouck said the linear design of the jail — with expansive hallways and poor lines of sight between cells and control rooms — comes with its own set of problems. A move to a "pod" design would allow corrections staff to keep a closer eye on inmates and will naturally lead to staff efficiencies.

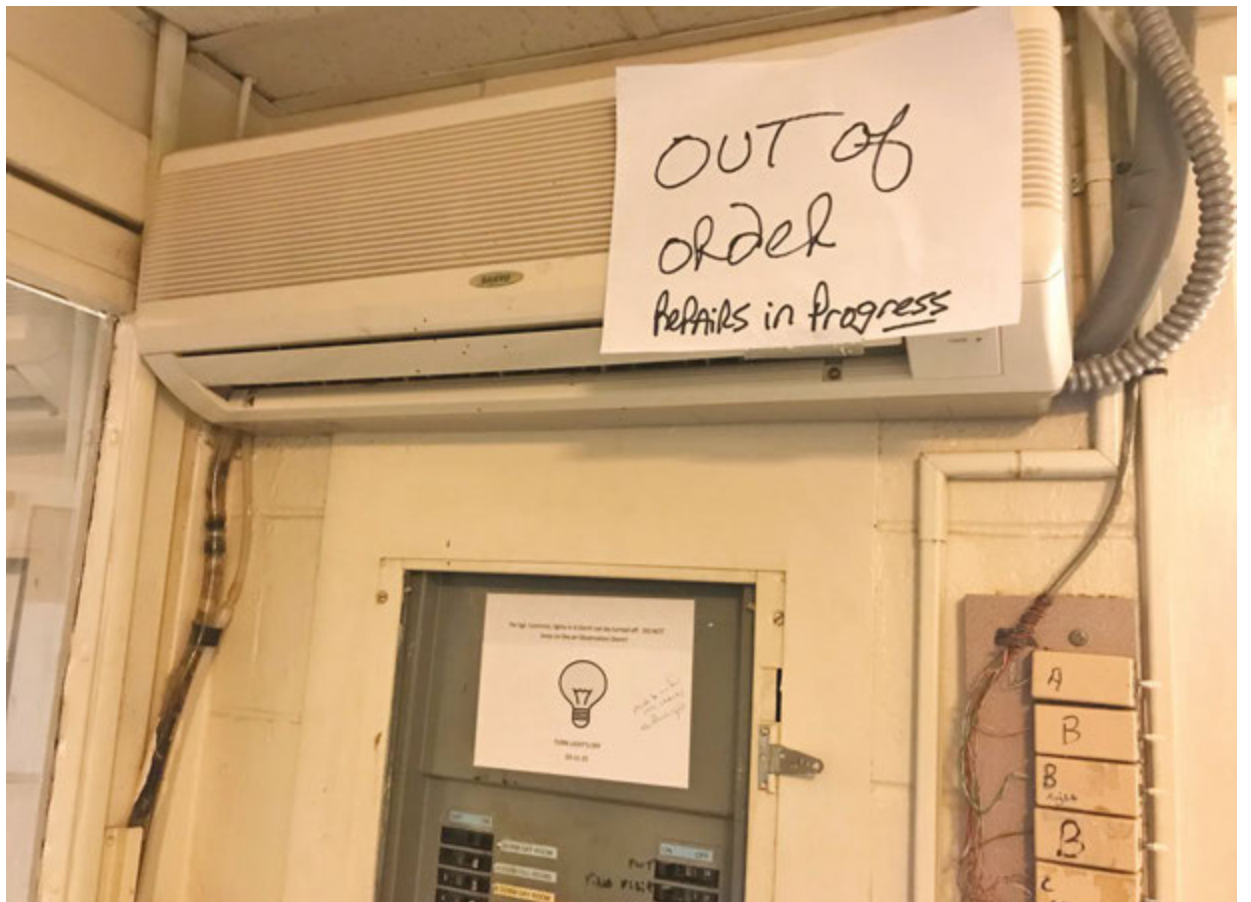
Ingham County's jail last year processed about 8,600 inmates and houses nearly 450 people on any given day. Bouck said nearly 5,000 individual maintenance orders last year alone are likely to continue at the same pace this year, draining about \$400,000 annually from the county budget. It's like putting lipstick on a pig, he suggested.

"We're not just warehousing people," Bouck added. "We want to give them the most beneficial things available so they don't have to come back here. It's not just about putting them inside a cell and locking the door."

Most inmates arrive from Lansing, pushing some to voice concerns about the proposed reinvestment in Mason. Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce officials have since urged commissioners to rethink the concept.

"We just think there's more of an opportunity here for the municipalities (like Lansing and East Lansing) and the county to work together on a solution," said chamber spokesman Eric Dimoff. "We see an opportunity for savings. You're transporting most of these people from Lansing to Mason. That's just inefficient."

A defendant planning to see a judge on Monday morning would need to hop buses for about an hour to



Kyle Kaminski/City Pulse

An aging air conditioning unit inside Ingham County's jail, like many other pieces of equipment, is reaching the end of its functional life. Sheriff's officials contended the facility remains secure for both inmates and staff but repairs are growing costly after more than 50 years of operation.

go from Lansing to Mason, according to a route planned through the Capital Area Transportation Authority's website. But that didn't account for the sometimes lengthy walk to the nearest stop.

Lansing Mayor Andy Schor said public transportation helps reduce the potential inconvenience but recognized that regional collaboration could eliminate the need for the city to operate its own respective lock-up facility. He personally plans to vote in favor of the proposal regardless, but he hasn't taken a position on behalf of the city.

Some county commissioners are open to further collaboration but contended the new jail can't afford to wait another 10 years for those plans to come to fruition. Commissioner Todd Tennis, for example, said he's open to a shared facility with nearby cities but still has questions surrounding cost sharing and liabilities.

"Some people are very suspicious of the county coming in to take over something," Tennis added. "One person's regionalism is

another person's loss of local control. You have to balance all of these things. We're not going to go into anything where any one partner is balking. We're not shoving that down their throats."

Other residents are hesitant to offer their financial endorsement for a project they claimed bears no impact on their daily lives. But Southworth said improvements to the county jail can equate to improvements countywide, ultimately saving taxpayers — and their cars, homes, families and friends — from becoming victims of a crime.

"There is something in it for you," Southworth said. "We can use your money more efficiently. You're bleeding money right now with these repairs. If the everyday taxpayer looks beyond this incarceration point and we look at doing better with them while they're here, perhaps we can all have a greater impact on recidivism too."

— KYLE KAMINSKI
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Budget

from page 12

Altmann said. "Response times would increase. Certain crimes wouldn't be investigated anymore. Our residents need these services. The only reason these things are on the table is because we've cut everything else. There's nowhere else to turn."

Former MSU President Lou Anna Simon last year opposed the tax proposal because thousands of university employees would have felt a massive financial impact from the new tax. Interim President John Engler, however, has chosen to "not personally weigh in on the measure," according to a university spokeswoman.

Lansing Mayor Andy Schor estimated the new tax will divert about \$800,000 in income taxes that would have otherwise been passed through from East Lansing. He said he didn't have strong thoughts one way or another but noted it would be hard to oppose the tax when his city collects an income tax of its own.

The Lansing Regional Chamber of Com-

merce, much like a stance taken last year, has again vehemently opposed the measure in favor of "common sense reforms," said the marketing and communications director, Eric Dimoff. He said the bulk of 160 chamber-represented businesses downtown would rather avoid the additional tax.

"We understand the needs and some of the challenges with state funding reductions over the years," Dimoff added. "That's just a challenge they'll need to face and make necessary adjustments in their budget. There are just things you have to get rid of. Sooner or later, Ingham County is going to be tapped out (on taxes)."

Altmann shot back at the criticism. He said Dimoff's rhetoric is largely based on ignorance.

"They're making it up as they go along," Altmann added. "I don't think they represent any significant majority of businesses in East Lansing. Businesses depend on infrastructure just as much as anybody else. This proposal is actually a good deal for the city."

"We can't leave that money on the table. We can't afford it."

— KYLE KAMINSKI
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Kyle Kaminski/City Pulse

Ingham County Sheriff's officials contended the justice millage is a "need" — not a "want."

Local libraries bank on millage proposal

Renewal would generate 90 % of CADL revenues

The value of a public library isn't lost on Peg Mawby, especially in her rural, one-streetlight town.

The head librarian of Capital Area District Libraries' Webberville branch for years has watched as curious schoolchildren roamed inside, anxious to check out another book or to log onto the nearest computer and catch up on homework. Libraries are important to any community, she said. But in her town, it fills a widening gap.

"This is quite a small community, and at this point in time, there really isn't much here," Mawby said. "You have to go somewhere else for just about anything. The fact that we can offer anything for the community is a good thing. Having libraries out there as a place to go for activities is really valuable to me and this community."

CADL this year seeks to renew a millage that for years has kept shelves and staff stocked at more than a dozen local library branches and continues to fuel family-oriented, educational opportunities for thousands of area residents. The 1.56-mill levy accounts for 90 percent of library funding; Officials say its passage is essential.

"It's pretty much our mandatory source for funding," said CADL's Executive Director, Scott Duimstra. "Without it, we wouldn't be able to function. This is important. We feel we're a strong community partner and regardless of how you use your local library, we hope voters can see that too."

The millage is usually an easy sell. Voters since the '90s have consistently opted to dedicate a portion of their property taxes to the library system — earmarking funds for things like materials, staff and general operations. The same rate has been in effect since 2010 and was renewed in 2014 with an overwhelming 77 approval rate.

Duimstra said taxpayers are seeing a



Kyle Kaminski/Lansing City Pulse

Brodee Tyler and Michael Bialoke, both 10, relax at Capital Area District Libraries' Webberville branch and play a military-style video game. Library officials said they tracked more than 1.7 million individual computer and wireless sessions since the last operating millage was approved in 2014.

return on their investment. More than 4.8 million visits were logged to CADL libraries since 2014. More than 10 million items have been loaned out in that same timeframe, and more than a quarter-million people have attended various events throughout the 13 publicly funded branches.

"Another one of the largest impacts in the community is access to technology," Duimstra said, tallying about 1.7 million public computer and wireless sessions in

the last four years. "This access to materials and technology for the general public ultimately strengthens these communities and the workforce."

And it's not just about paperback books. Duimstra said CADL has managed to keep afloat in the digital age with a wide collection of electronic reading materials that has been steadily growing for more than 12 years. Mawby said libraries like the one in Webberville still very much comprise the bedrock of her local community.



Capital Area District Libraries
cadl.org

"Some people can't go out and spend \$7.99 on a magazine," Mawby added. "You can actually save a lot of money by using a library. And you can't underscore the educational aspect. Michigan has not been doing well in terms of (early childhood literacy). Libraries still play an important role for these schools."

Duimstra emphasized the millage renewal does not represent a tax increase. The request — identical to the version that passed in 2014 — will continue to provide the same level of funding for 13 branches and a mobile library while services continue to expand. Taxes for library services will not increase as part of the measure.

"If it did not pass, we'd have to go back to our library board and they would determine what to do next," Duimstra said. "We'd probably quickly turn around and try to get it back on the November ballot but if it didn't pass in November, it would really be a dire situation for us."

— KYLE KAMINSKI
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Commission

from page 15

sharing and liability issues have caused headaches on the board in the past but the jail can't wait for a perfect solution, he said.

"We're always looking at ways to coordinate services," Tennis added. "But in many cases, the municipalities that help to pay into these collaborations still want to stay in control. That's where we start to have our differences."

Unfunded liabilities

Ingham County — with about \$474.6 million in pension liabilities and retiree healthcare obligations — will require some budgetary skill to keep its finances out of the hands of state regulators, officials said. Commissioners for years have chipped away at unfunded legacy costs, but it will likely remain a focus for years.

Most candidates claimed to have the experience necessary to maneuver budgets and ensure the county's outstanding pension and healthcare obligations, funded at 67 and 14 percent, respectively, will continue to meet the needs of those who retire from the county each year.

Slaughter said special millages shouldn't be the first solution to dealing with complex financial problems. He suggested the

county needs to find a way to navigate its unfunded debts without jeopardizing services to local residents. Stiver also voiced concerns about "millage fatigue" should commissioners make another request.

"Folks don't realize our budgets are being balanced on the back of our reserve funds," Dragonetti added. "We've got to start making smarter decisions. ... We've got to get back to the basics. We keep saying that (special millages) will fix these things, but some of the people being hurt the most are those with lower incomes."

Some suggested the state could be doing more to allow counties to expand their revenue sources. Trubac hopes to advocate for continued reform in both chambers of the legislature, using his enhanced "visibility" to direct attention to larger financing issues and push back against legislators "that don't want to play ball."

"It comes down to revenues," Morgan added. "We need to have more revenue coming into the county and we need to break the stranglehold that corporate lobbyists have with all these tax abatements. It's ludicrous to hand out massive tax breaks to developers and corporate interests. The county has a massive responsibility here."

Burghardt and Louney said commissioners first need to establish a county-wide asset management plan to better set their priorities before they can go about affecting change and whittling down out-

standing debts. Pena said some projects and plans may need to be paused while the county comes to grips with its existing obligations.

"We're spending money on all kinds of projects all over the county but we really need to step back and take care of our weakest members," Pena added. "We need to adjust our budgets and ensure everyone

receives attention."

Polls are open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Aug. 7. The registration deadline has passed for the primary election, but the window for the Nov. 6 general election is open through Oct. 9. Visit michigan.gov/elections for additional information.

— KYLE KAMINSKI
kyle@lansingcitypulse.com



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Skylar Ashley/City Pulse

Representatives from each of the award-winning production companies onstage with their Pulsar Awards, Monday evening at UrbanBeat Event Center.

The final curtain call: Your 2017–2018 Pulsar Award recipients

By SKYLER ASHLEY

As the curtain officially dropped on another season of productions, the local theater community gathered at UrbanBeat Event Center Monday evening to honor Greater Lansing's many production companies and acting troupes.

Owosso Community Players, which first started receiving ballots during the 2015-2016 theater season, came out strong, with a healthy amount of nominations and award scores. Its production of "Disney's Beauty and the Beast" nabbed four awards.

The two marquee prizes, Best Play and Best Musical, were snatched up by stalwart Riverwalk Theatre and another fresh face, Ixion Theatre Ensemble.

All of the Lansing area's community, professional or college theater groups were in contention. Pulsars do not cover children's theater, high school theater, gala presentations, student showcases or workshop shows.

To have been nominated, each play/musical was required to have been viewed and scored by three judges. This year's judges were: Tom Helma, Kathy Helma, David Winkelstern, Sue Winkelstern, Paul Wozniak, Mary Cusack, Ute von der Hayden, Erin Buitendorp and Meegan Holland.

If you missed the 14th annual Pulsar Awards ceremony, you will find a complete list of the award recipients below:

Best Play

"Broke-ology"
Ixion Theatre Ensemble

Best Musical

"Monty Python's Spamlot"
Riverwalk Theatre

Best Director (Play)

Rob Roznowski
"Thus With a Kiss I Die"
MSU Department of Theatre

Best Director (Musical)

Garrett Bradley
"Disney's Beauty and the Beast"
Owosso Community Players

Best Musical Direction

Jillian Boots
"Disney's Beauty and the Beast"
Owosso Community Players

Best Choreography

Karyn Perry
"Monty Python's Spamlot"
Riverwalk Theatre

Best Set Design

Bob Fernholz
"Coyote on a Fence"
LCC Theatre Program

Best Property Design

Mike Windnagle, Anna Owens and Gail Worden
"Disney's Beauty and the Beast"
Owosso Community Players

Best Sound

Chelle Peterson
"Coyote on a Fence"
LCC Theatre Program

Best Lighting Design

Bob Fernholz
"Coyote on a Fence"
LCC Theatre Program

Best Costume Design

Jenna Light
"Dog Act"
MSU Department of Theatre

Best Hair and Makeup

Jenna Light
"Dog Act"
MSU Department of Theatre

Best Original Script

Rob Roznowski
"Thus With a Kiss I Die"
MSU Department of Theatre

Best Specialization

Allison Dobbins
Projection Design
"Out of Orbit"
Williamston Theatre

Best Actor (Play)

Rico Bruce Wade
"Broke-ology"
Ixion Theatre Ensemble

Best Actress (Play)

Janet Colson
"Gidion's Knot"
Ixion Theatre Ensemble

Best Supporting Actor (Play)

LeKeathon Wilson
"Broke-ology"
Ixion Theatre Ensemble

Best Supporting Actress (Play)

Sandra Birch
"Beau Jest"
Williamston Theatre

Best Featured Actress (Play)

Taylor Rupp
"Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike"
Owosso Community Players

Best Featured Actor (Play)

Peter James Florian
"The Misanthrope"
MSU Department of Theatre

Best Actor (Musical)

Matt Eldred
"Falsettos"
Peppermint Creek

Best Actress (Musical)

Claire Canfield
"Disney's Beauty and the Beast"
Owosso Community Players

Best Supporting Actor (Musical)

Zach Riley
"Monty Python's Spamlot"
Riverwalk Theatre

Best Supporting Actress (Musical)

Stephanie Banghart
"Disney's Beauty and the Beast"
Owosso Community Players

Best Featured Actor (Musical)

Edric Haleen
"She Loves Me"
Riverwalk Theatre

Best Ensemble (Play)

"Thus With a Kiss I Die"
MSU Department of Theatre

NEW IN TOWN: THRIFT WITCH - VINTAGE RETAIL



Dennis Burck/City Pulse

Thrift Witch owner Tiesha King.

By DENNIS BURCK

With a painting of Lon Chaney Sr. as the Phantom of the Opera hanging above the register and a mounted spider on the wall, Thrift Witch frightens and entices customers with vintage and handmade oddities, art and clothing.

Thrift Witch

Wednesday-Saturday,
11 a.m. to 6 p.m.
REO Town Marketplace
1027 S. Washington
Ave., Lansing
(517) 927-7576
www.facebook.com/
ThriftWitchVintage

After succeeding in online business, Thrift Witch owner Tiesha King opened her boutique horror and vintage shop in the

REO Town Marketplace in late June. “Growing up poor, we always had the oldest of the old,” said King. “We had a lot of that ‘70s couch material that was burnt orange and earth tones. I’ve always been attracted to that and that leads into the fall Halloween atmosphere.”

“I liked to be scared at an early age — I really liked the ‘Rocky Horror Picture Show,’” she recalled.

King said her first love toward “spooky things” came from watching the “Laff-A-Lympics” Hanna Barbera cartoon.

She rooted for the Really Rottens, even though they are not supposed to be sympathetic.

Running the Dark Art of Michigan show at the Avenue Café for five years, King said a lot of art vendors found that they didn’t have a place to sell.

“I think that a lot of times bigger businesses don’t want to sell spooky stuff unless it is Halloween, or around that time of year. They really are miss-

ing the market of people that like that year-round.”

After seeing the demand from the Dark Art of Michigan project, King saw an opportunity to take advantage of a year-round market, and so far it’s worked out well.

“We’ve almost been here a month and everybody that is part of our small little group of artists has been successful,” she said.

Enhancing the spook factor is Thrift Witch’s wet specimen collection.

“Those are for shock value: a mounted spider, rabbits in jars,” said King. “One of the girls works for the police force, so she has to do everything by the books and she is really knowledgeable about it. That’s why I feel comfortable working with her. We don’t want to do scary stuff in the wrong way.”

Apart from the oddities, Thrift Witch has a sizable collection of used pop culture and band t-shirts.

The REO Town Marketplace was instrumental to Thrift Witch’s success, said King. “Since I’ve moved in and met all the other women in here, every-

one is really smart and knows their business,” said King. “Coming from the producer’s aspect, having these guys support me is why I moved here.”



Ingham County Animal Shelter

To adopt one of these pets from the ICAS call (517) 676-8370.
600 Curtis St., Mason, MI, 48854.
ac.ingham.org



Tweety is a sweet older puppy looking for an active home. She loves people and will need to work on her manners (she jumps up to say hello). She would do best with older kids and active dogs who can keep up with her and who won’t mind her big, bossy personality.

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<https://soldanspet.com/>



Baby is a sweet girl who loves people and will gladly snuggle with anyone. She’d do best in a home with a submissive male or a couple of sturdy kids who enjoy slobbery love!

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Tigress loves people and is always ready to play! She loves to play and she’s not picky about her toys. Give her a toy and she’s ready to go! She would most likely chase a cat (what a great toy!) She probably wouldn’t mind another dog to hang out with.

Sponsored by
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Jazzberry Jam is a sweet boy looking for a new home. He’s pretty playful and outgoing and tends to get along with just about everybody. He does tend to be choosy about his cat friends.

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Baby Girl is a sweet gal looking for a new home. She loves people and is super affectionate and will gladly jump up and say hello to anyone who walks into kitty kingdom.

In memory of
Rodica’s cats



Winnie is a sweet gal looking for a new home. She is kind of shy at first, but once she warms up she’s a friendly snuggly gal. She loves to get head rubs and will push her head into your hand until you pay attention to her. She’d make a great addition to a home with older children and most likely cats.

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Barron and changing times for Common Ground Music Festival

By SKYLER ASHLEY

Palling around with Ted Nugent, calmly dispersing the Crosby, Stills & Nash crowd in the midst of an oncoming storm — these are some of brash radio jock Tim Barron's Common Ground memories. He emceed the music festival since its 2000 inception; now he's claiming "M.C. Emeritus" status, gracefully retiring as a self-proclaimed relic from the festival's original era.

"This year was the first year I just didn't feel in my heart that I was the relevant person to be onstage, and that I had basically aged out, which is fine. A lot of guys like me have egos that don't allow them to admit that," Barron, 58, said. "They get all whipped up about it and try to stay young. They do the comb-over, dress inappropriately and date a teenager. But not me. I understand I'm old and a young person should do my job."

But Barron's age isn't the sole reason he's leaving the volunteer position — festivals simply don't need prototypical emcees any-

more; social media and D.J.s have taken over the role Barron once filled at Common Ground.

"They have a lot of social media and a lot of screens with the information, 'Thanks to SpaghettiOs for the main stage, thanks to so and so,'" Barron said. "They don't need a guy out there talking about SpaghettiOs! It's no longer the way the model works."

Barron's retirement from Common Ground comes as another symbol of the festival's changing identity for veteran concertgoers. For its first dozen years, the festival carried the reputation as a week of classic rock.

Peruse the old lineups and you'll see nearly the entire pantheon of legendary rock acts — save the bands whose members faced untimely deaths.

"I was not even 40 when this all started. I was a younger person and REO Speedwagon, Styx, Sammy Hagar and David Lee Roth were younger people too," Barron said. "We were presenting the acts of our time. Nobody really noticed that 20 years had gone by."

The change in scheduling becomes glaringly apparent in 2009, when eight artists named with the DJ prefix were booked alongside the likes of Huey Lewis and the News.

Fast forward: More hip-hop and alternative acts entered the fray until 2018, where the only classic acts were DJ Jazzy Jeff and Tone Loc — both without a single guitar between them.

Barron said Common Ground's gradual retooling was a no-brainer and a "wise decision" by co-founder Kevin Meyer's booking company, Meridian Entertainment Group.

"We were all getting older, and the acts that we were used to were getting older. There are some old dudes out there. Many of these cats are in casinos with air conditioning and they take the elevator home at 10:30," Barron laughed. "Fewer classic artists were touring at all, those that did were doing casinos or giant festivals. We had



Skylar Ashley/City Pulse

Tim Barron at the Okemos office of his radio show, "Tim Barron's Radio Michigan."

very few to pick from, so the demand was for younger acts for younger people."

Though some of Common Ground's audience may be disappointed by the recent lack of acts like Blue Oyster Cult or Lynyrd Skynyrd, Barron said the "economic reality" is that their demographic is not the one keeping the festival afloat.

"Common Ground's mainstay are people between the ages of 18 and 35. That's who they were before. It's really just staying with who they were attracting before, and the newer acts are what it's going to take."

According to Barron, the older crowd aren't as game to spend a day baking in the

July sun as they were 10 years ago. He also suggested the absence of those upset by the change hasn't hurt Common Ground.

"You can complain all you want, but you weren't showing up. People tend to moan, especially when it's so easy to be negative anonymously on Facebook," Barron said. "But the fact of the matter is people who make their living in this industry and don't pay their bills unless they do it right, all got together and realized the older demographic was not showing back up for these events."

But Barron isn't too certain that Meridian Entertainment Group are completely closed off from the idea of a separate festival that brings back the legacy rock acts.

Barron suggested that if such an event were to be booked, he would be more than happy to throw his hat in.

"If we go back to older acts and steer it toward classic rock again, I'll come back for that," Barron said. "We're also talking about possibly leaving Common Ground completely alone and doing another weekend. We have a lot of weekends in the summer."

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Meet the cover artist: Laura Gajewski

By BRIANNE TWIDDY

It's the mess that Laura Gajewski loves most about art.

This week's City Pulse cover artist likes the feeling of the greasy black charcoal between her fingers; the way it smoothly glides onto the paper to create a beautiful contrast.

Gajewski, 38, spent more than 18 hours in her studio creating this week's cover art, "Russell." It's a mixed media piece featuring an old abandoned house. She saw the piece in her head as the house stood in front of her — dark black smudges against a light blue sky with the decaying house fighting to stay standing.

More smudges come out of the windows to represent the memories created within, as the roof remains only half-there. A small box on the house has the word "safe" on it.

"I always was creative and drawing since I was a kid," she said. "I'd have piles of sketchbooks everywhere. It's always been a part of me."

A majority of her work focuses on abandoned homes — it's the history within the homes that draws her there.

"Russell" was inspired by a House she saw in the west side of Detroit.

"All houses I draw are real houses," Gajewski said. "The name Russell comes from the little bit of cursive writing in the piece, so I named it 'Russell' based off that text."

Her intent with this piece was to provoke the thought that homes witness the lives within them and survive long after the people leave. Gajewski defines the drawings as portraits, as a way to personify the abandoned homes and capture their personalities.

"These drawings reflect the idea of dis-

covering the life in the spaces we inhabit, even when human life has moved on," Gajewski said in her artist statement.

She depicts this through the multilay-

allowing the viewer to glimpse fragments of the layers of time and memory that made them that way," she said in the statement.



Gajewski

ered and complex surface she created to incorporate a faded and scratched look to the piece.

Gajewski wasn't shy about using different methods to create the surface, utilizing charcoal, graphite, xspray enamel, paint thinner, collage, acetone and ink.

The surfaces of "Russell" were torn, scratched, peeled and erased using different techniques to create physical and emotional depth.

"The complex surfaces of these pieces are intended to parallel the weathered surfaces of the houses themselves, while

How did your passion for art begin?

I always was creative and drawing since I was a kid. I'd have piles of sketchbooks everywhere — it's always been a part of me.

What medium do you like to work with the most?

My cover is a mixed media charcoal drawing. That's my favorite. It's primarily charcoal, but I'll include acrylic paint and sometimes chalk pastel, even sharpies, but charcoal primarily dominates. I love a nice dark black,

greasy charcoal. I think it's really beautiful.

"Russell" is a mixed media piece. How did you decide which to use and what works together?

I have everything in my studio and I grab whatever I think will make the mark that matches what I see in my head. Painting is the most challenging because I draw — I'm not much for painting so it's harder.

How do you select the houses? Was

there a specific moment that spurred your fascination for abandoned houses?

I choose the ones that I intuitively feel have a history to tell within their walls. It started with my own house that I grew up in — it was built in the 1860s and it had so much personality built from its stories. I could feel its life, and that's where my fascination started.

Is there anything else you want our readers to know?

I have a show in a East Lansing gallery from Oct. 5 to Nov. 30 at the Plus Gallery. The opening reception is Oct. 5. The name of the show is "Mid-Autumnal Portraits."

Call for submissions

This summer, City Pulse will feature local art on our cover for up to eight issues: June 27-Aug. 29, excluding our Aug. 15 anniversary issue. Submission guidelines: Anyone living in Ingham, Eaton or Clinton counties may submit entries. Artists agree to give the originals to the Arts Council of Greater Lansing, which places them in the silent auction at its annual Holiday Glitter fundraiser. The artists receive 30 percent.

Submissions should be print quality (300 dpi).

The available space is 10.25 inches wide by 6.5 inches high. Your art need not be exactly that, but it needs to be a rectangle of roughly those proportions — or able to be cropped to those proportions — for us to make it work.

Submit an original piece of art to lansingarts.slideroom.com. For more information, please call the Arts Council at (517) 372-4636.

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Courtesy photo

The lionesses of "The Lion King: The Musical" dance across the stage.



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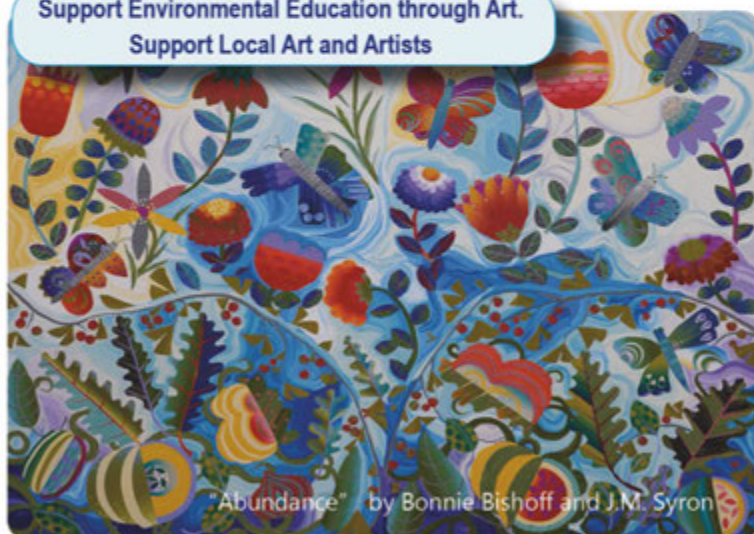
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CURTAIN CALL

'The Lion King' never sleeps

By **PAUL WOZNIAK**

Since Disney's "The Lion King: The Musical" debuted in 1997 and the animated movie which inspired it blew up in 1994, "The Lion King" has been an almost unrivaled pop culture meme.

Now running at the Wharton Center through July 29, the talented cast and crew of this touring version ensures the staying power of a pop masterpiece that does not rest on its laurels.

First conceived by director Julie Taymor, "The Lion King" is a cohesive and colorful blend of classical theater elements like Shakespeare's stories and Greek masks with modern dance all rooted in African culture. Audiences may come for the Broadway spectacle and original hit songs by Elton John and Tim Rice like "Circle of Life" and "Can You Feel the Love Tonight?" but they can't avoid the subtle progressive politics or theater history lessons cleverly woven within.

"The Lion King" takes us through the journey of Simba the lion, heir to the throne of the Pridelands, who in short must confront his plotting uncle Scar and avenge the death of his father Mufasa to become the lion king. Along the way, Simba grows from a cub to a manly lion with help from a meerkat named Timon, a warthog named Pumbaa, a magical mandrill named Rafiki, and the spirit of his late father. Oh, and he falls in love with Nala, a fellow lion and childhood friend.

The entire cast, from the lions to the bird spinners and dancers who pretend to be grass are universally solid. Gerald Ramsey plays the stoic Mufasa with an Atticus Finch air, imparting to his son the best line of the show, "There's more to being king than getting your way all the time."

As Mufasa's young Simba for Friday's performance, Salahedin Safi imbues the perfect blend of restless curiosity, naivety and humility topped with a great voice to carry the first act to its inevitable end.

His young partner Nala played Friday by Danielle W. Jalade matches Safi with strength and wit despite her reduced stage time. Jared Dixon carries that same restless spirit and sense of humility into adult Simba throughout the end of Act II.

As Simba's foil Scar, Mark Campbell finds the right balance between a friendly condescending megalomaniac and believably creepy menace. Campbell's best song is "Be Prepared," the Latin dance army building song featuring ominous goose stepping hyenas led by Scar's minions Shenzi (Keith Bennett), Banzai (Robbie Swift) and Ed (Robb Sapp).

While the lions get their share of plot and songs, it's the supporting cast that stands out the most from the spectacle. As the brightly painted Rafiki, Mukelisiwe Goba ignites the show with her incredible piercing voice.

Along with Greg Jackson as a hornbill and royal adviser Zazu, Tony Freeman as Timon and William James Austin as Pumbaa, Goba provides comic relief and broad physicality with a character that feels more rounded than most of the leads.

She also steals the show in Act II with the Gospel choir driven "He Lives in You," easily the best non-Elton John song of the musical.

The song also provides one of the show's other "awe" moments where Mufasa's face appears to coalesce among the stars from swirling blobs.

But, rightfully, the biggest draw of the show is the spectacle of reality bending costumes, puppets and set pieces that combine to create an immersive feeling production that literally moves through the audience. But it's more than just visual effects. There's a sense of individual character to every animal. Even the smallest moments like the shadow puppet of a mouse skittering has personality.

From the "Circle of Life" opening to its closing reprise, where animals of every shape and size stomp and fly from the balcony to the stage accompanied by the pounding of African drums, "The Lion King" will make child in all of us say "wow!"

'The Poisoned City' inscribes the devastating Flint water crisis

By BILL CASTANIER

When reading Anna Clark's devastating book "The Poisoned City" on the Flint water crisis, I couldn't get out of my mind the simple admonition, "Water, water everywhere. Nor any drop to drink."

Flint is a straight shot up I-75 to the shores of Lake Huron. In little over 45-minutes, you can be fishing on the Saginaw Bay, a portal into Lake Huron, the source of Flint's fresh drinking water.

With so much fresh water around them, why did the residents of Flint in 2014 find themselves drinking poisonous water? Clark's definitive book on the crisis helps us understand the complicated web that led to the poisoning. It goes over the astonishing discovery of lead in the water, the cover-up by government officials and the inspirational actions of community activists demanding fresh drinking water and environmental justice.

Clark, in an interview from her Detroit home, told City Pulse she is still coming to grips with the intense experience of writing "The Poisoned City."

"I'm not over the shock of it," she said, referring to her two-year quest to shine light on one of most frightening environmental disasters of our time.

"I wish I had a great coping strategy, but talking about it helps — it's cathartic in a way," Clark said. Clark also knows that her pain will gradually diminish, but for the residents of Flint, and more than 27,000 of their children, the effects of lead poisoning will last a lifetime.

Clark, in her 300 page book — including 67 pages of carefully documented footnotes — attempts to make sense of the decisions that went into switching Flint from its Detroit water source to a new line.

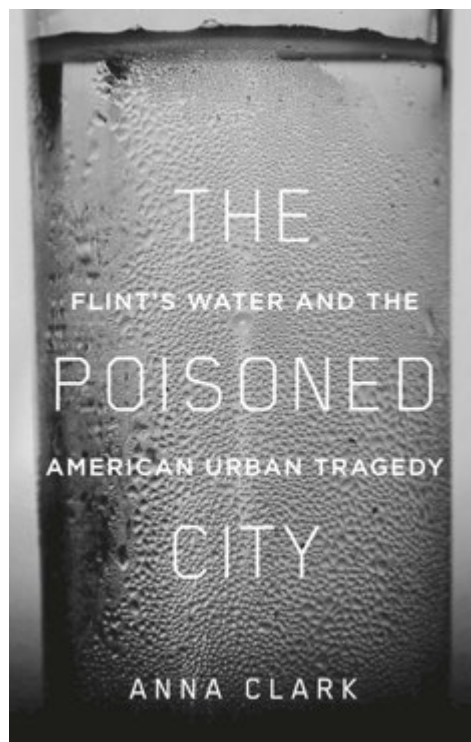
The crisis got its start when Governor Rick Snyder named an emergency manager to oversee the financially beleaguered city. The idea was to cut costs.

There's no question that Flint's water was outrageously expensive, due to distance from the source and the legacy of serving a community population that was one-half of what it once was.

In spring 2014, Flint switched from one provider to another with one minor glitch: the city would need to use water from the Flint River for a short time until the infrastructure for the new line was in place.

It was considered an easy solution, but that's where everything went terribly wrong. Water treatment is exceedingly sophisticated, as Clark points out in her book, but it is well known that aging cities have lead service pipes going into homes. In order to prevent corrosion, and thus the leaching of lead into service lines, a noncorrosive chemical must be introduced. Despite affirmations by state government officials, it was later proved that the water was not treated with corrosion control.

In April 2014, Flint residents discovered



their water was coming out of their faucets with a deep brown hue. When community activists like LeeAnne Walters began to complain, they were dismissed, often rudely, by government officials — including Lansing's Jerry Ambrose, who became a Flint emergency manager in 2014.

Not to be deterred, Walters went directly to the Environmental Protection Agency and found a sympathetic ear in Miguel Del Toral. Del Toral set everything into motion by writing a memo to his bosses and to several Michigan government administrators who were responsible for overseeing water quality. He was stonewalled by entrenched bureaucrats, but two things were happening simultaneously that would change the attitudes on the ground.

First, Virginia Tech professor, environmental activist and MacArthur Genius Grant recipient Marc Edwards entered the fray. He had previous experience with lead poisoning in Washington D.C. in 2004, which enabled him to introduce scientific rigor and testing



Courtesy photo

This iconic watertower has become the symbol to many of the Flint Water Crisis.

into the Flint situation.

Next, Mona Hanna-Attisha, a Flint pediatrician, pulled together testing results for lead from Flint children. On Sept. 24, 2015, she delivered a news conference that acted as a knockout punch to federal and state officials with the crucial evidence that the children of Flint had been poisoned by lead.

Although 18 months too late, the state and federal government stepped up and sent bottled water, faucet filters and National Guard troops to Flint. Gov. Snyder used his 2016 State of the State address to exclusively discuss the Flint Water Crisis and apologize to Flint residents.

But as Clark points out in her book, the trials and tribulations are far from over for Flint. The dozen or so state and local officials linked to the crisis have been charged with crimes like involuntary manslaughter.

"We should all be enraged," she said. And the bottom line is Flint residents still aren't using the water to drink, cook or bathe.

Meanwhile, Clark, a recent Knight-Wallace journalism fellow at the University of Michigan, will be watching the classic cinematic lesson in water utility corruption, "Chinatown."

"There are a lot of similarities," she said.

SCHULER BOOKS & MUSIC

**Capitol City Writers Assoc.
presents Picture Book Author
and Illustrator Kristin Roskifte**

Thursday, July 19 @ 7pm

Join us for a special CCWA presentation (open to the public) by Norwegian illustrator and picture book author Kristin Roskifte. Roskifte will show a lot of examples from her sketchbook library, and talk about how keeping sketchbooks has influenced her ideas, her work and her life.

**Social Justice Educator &
Activist Melanie S. Morrison**

Tuesday, July 24 @ 7pm




Meet Melanie S. Morrison -- founder and executive director of Allies for Change, as she presents her newest book, *Murder on Shades Mountain: The Legal Lynching of Willie Peterson and the Struggle for Justice in Jim Crow Birmingham*.

**Debut Michigan YA author
Stacey Filak presents
*The Queen Underneath***

Thursday, July 26 @ 7pm

We're pleased to welcome Stacey Filak in celebration of her highly anticipated young adult fantasy novel *The Queen Underneath*! Kirkus Reviews declared it "a glorious celebration of female power".

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Thursday, July 19 from 4-6pm



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THREE ON-SITE REAL ESTATE AUCTIONS HELD TUESDAY, JULY 24, 2018



On-Site, 2:00pm

13.83± ACRES
6726 S. Washington,
Lansing
Property adjacent to
Chisholm Hills Golf Club
Zoned: Category A
Single Family Residential



On-Site, 3:00pm

**EDEN GLEN
CONDOMINIUM**
4 Units (sold as one property)
1713, 1715, 1717 & 1719
Maisonette Dr, Lansing
Each unit is 990± sf,
2-story, 2BR, 1.5BA



On-Site, 4:30pm

**FORMER KING
OF THE GRILL**
4400 N. Grand River
Ave, Lansing
2,456± sf, 0.88± Acres
Zoned: 201 Comm'l,
Improved

A deposit of \$1,000 is required to receive a bid card.
Eric Schertzing, Ingham County Treasurer,
341 S. Jefferson St, Mason, MI (517.676.7220)

Detailed information on parcels to be offered
& terms of sale can be obtained on the
internet at www.BippusUSA.com

Parcels listed with asterisks (***) will
be auctioned subject to an Owner
Occupancy Restrictive Covenant.

BippusUSA.com



Detailed Info 888-481-5108
or Visit Our Website!

John Bippus AARE CAI CES GRI Broker/Auctioneer

OUT ON THE TOWN

Events must be entered through the calendar at lansingcitypulse.com. Deadline is 5 p.m. Wednesdays for the following week's issue. Charges may apply for paid events to appear in print. If you need assistance, please call Ella at (517) 999-6704.

Wednesday, July 18

CLASSES-AND-SEMINARS

MINDFULNESS MEDITATION. From 7 to 9 p.m. Chua Van Hanh Temple, 3015 S. Washington Lansing.

PRACTICE YOUR ENGLISH. From 7 to 8 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

STARTING A BUSINESS. From 9 to 11 a.m. Free - to register call (517) 483-1921. Small Business Development Center, LCC, 309 N. Washington Sq. Suite 110 Lansing.

LITERATURE-AND-POETRY

GREENTHUMBS STORYTIME IN THE PARK. From 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. FREE. Harrison Meadows Neighborhood Park, 1650 Roxburgh Ave. East Lansing.

MUSIC

THE INCOMPARABLE, MARTHA REEVES IN CONCERT ON HER ACTUAL BIRTHDAY!!!!. From 7 to 9 p.m. There is no admission charge - donations will be graciously accepted to help defray the cost of the concert! . William E. Tennant Performance Shell, 805 W. Park St. Saint Johns. 989-224-2429.

THEATER

VICTORIA MARTIN: MATH TEAM QUEEN BY KATHRYN WALAT. From 7 to 8:30 p.m. free. Lansing Community College, 500 N. Capitol Ave. Lansing.

THURSDAY, JULY 19 >> SUMMER COOKING WORKSHOP AT ALLEN NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER

Using Michigan's summer fruits, veggies and herbs, Chef John McCarthy will demonstrate how to cook with produce grown in your community. With additional demonstrations on proper knife techniques, McCarthy aims to build confidence in the kitchen to use local produce to its full potential.

6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. 1
629 Kalamazoo St. \$10 suggested donation. 18 and up only.

FRIDAY, JULY 20 >> 1938 RADIO SCRIPT VERSION OF TREASURE ISLAND LIVE AT ROBIN THEATRE

Hear the grit and growl of Long John Silver and Billy Bones in a special performance of Treasure Island. Presented by Audio Air Force, this performance will retell the classic story the in live radio theater. Whether a radio or theater buff, the show will encapsulate the old school charm of an art form that shaped the memories of so many Americans in their childhood.

6:30 p.m. doors, 7 p.m. show time.
Tickets \$10. 1105 S. Washington. All ages welcome.

EVENTS

GAMES AT THE MERIDIAN SENIOR CENTER (SEE DESCRIPTIONS FOR DATES AND TIMES). From 12:30 to 4 p.m. Bingo and Bridge- \$1 - \$2 per person to play. Meridian Senior Center, 4406 Okemos Road Okemos.

THE SINGULARITY. From 1 to 2 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

ARTS

A PANOPLY OF PUPPET. From 12 to 2 p.m. free. Lookout! Gallery, 362 Bogue St., MSU campus East Lansing.

Thursday, July 19

CLASSES-AND-SEMINARS

(TOPS) TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY . At 6 p.m. First meeting FREE.. Haslett Middle School, 1535 Franklin St. Haslett.

A COURSE IN MIRACLES. From 7 to 8:30 p.m. Love offering.. Unity Spiritual Center of Lansing, 230 S. Holmes Lansing. 517-371-3010.

ADULT CRAFT NIGHT: LIBRARIES ROCK!. From 6 to 7 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

EARLY MORNING MEDITATION. From 7 to 8 a.m. FREE. Creative Wellness, 2025 Abbot Road, # 200 East Lansing.

NIA. From 5:45 to 6:45 p.m. Cost: \$12 per class or purchase a 'Class Card' for 8 classes for \$80.. Creative Wellness, 2025 Abbot Road, # 200 East Lansing.

SPANISH CONVERSATION. From 7 to 8 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

MUSIC

JAZZ THURSDAYS WITH HAPPENSTANCE. From 7 to 9 p.m. UrbanBeat Event Center, 1213 Turner St. Lansing.

MUSIC IN THE GARDEN FEAT. FROG & THE BEEFTONES. From 7 to 9 p.m. Free. Veterans Memorial Gardens Amphitheater, 2074 Aurelius Road Holt.

POPS CONCERT. From 6 to 7 p.m. Free. Patriarche Park, Located on the corner of E. Saginaw Street and Alton Road East Lansing.

THURSDAY NIGHT LIVE! - THE SEA CRUISERS. From 6 to 7:30 p.m. Free. Ingham County Courthouse, 341 S. Jefferson Mason.

EVENTS

61ST ANNUAL EAST LANSING KIWANIS CHICKEN BBQ.

See Out on the Town Page 18

'Amazing Dinosaurs!' exhibit at Impression 5



New traveling exhibit runs through Jan.

By SHRUTI SARIPALLI

Lansing families have a chance to see life-like recreations of dinosaurs, real prehistoric fossils and other interactive installations for children at Impression 5's new exhibit, Amazing Dinosaurs.

"We've been fortunate enough to bring in four large traveling exhibits since we unveiled the Dart Hall of Science in 2016, each one drawing visitors from all over the region. Amazing Dinosaurs will be our fifth traveling exhibit in the space," said

Amazing Dinosaurs Exhibit

\$8.50 - adults & children, \$7 - seniors & military Free for members & children 1 & younger Monday, closed Sunday, noon to 5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 pm. 200 Museum Drive, Lansing www.impression5.org (517) 485-8116

Impression 5 creative communicator Morgan Butts.

Talking about Amazing Dinosaurs' unique nature, Butts said that almost every piece is hands-on.

"What's really exciting about this exhibit is how each piece is so engaging. When you go to a natural history

museum, you're going to see amazing fossils and skeletal casts. But in our exhibit, you can touch everything," said Butts.

The motive of the exhibit was to introduce children to scientific concepts in dynamic and engaging ways, said Laura Zeller, Impression 5

director of communications.

"Fostering a sense of curiosity about the world and a love of learning at a young age is such a critical part of developing problem solving behavior that supports individuals for a lifetime," said Zeller.

The exhibit will allow visitors of all ages to play and immerse themselves in an experience that creates meaningful connections to science and the world at large.

"Walking into this exhibit, you really feel transported to a different time," said Butts.

The specifics of Amazing Dinosaurs include digging for hatchlings and adult dinosaur fossils, exploring a dinosaur habitat, and recreating dinosaur tracks by walking with plastic dinosaur feet, said Butts.

"The exhibit is for everyone. Dinosaurs are a universally intriguing topic," said Zeller.

According to Zeller, the most exciting attraction of the exhibit is the tyrannosaurus footprint, which visitors can use to see how their own feet measure up.

Butts also mentioned the lifelike recreations of popular dinosaurs which she said kids are sure to love.

"Visitors will not only come face-to-face with lifelike recreations of popular dinosaurs, but they will also experience immersive activities that that explore the life of these prehistoric creatures," said Butts.

Jonesin' Crossword

By Matt Jones

"Urban Sprawl"—this town needs more room!

Matt Jones

Across

1 Childhood illness with swollen glands

6 Goes on and on

11 Some NFL All-Pro

14 Actor Ulrich

15 Tibet's neighbor

16 Questionable Twitter poster, perhaps

17 They read a lot of stories out loud

19 Historical division

20 French vineyard classification

21 Feeling not-so-great

22 Be blustery

23 Ruler who lost her head in 1793

28 St. crosser

29 Cone or Cat preceder

30 Ripken of the Orioles

31 Stamp for an incoming pkg.

33 Football broadcaster Collinsworth

36 Purplish flower

40 Food and wine publication that went completely online in 2009

43 Cosmetician Lauder

44 Orange-roofed chain, familiarly

45 Nefarious

46 Genesis craft

48 "You've Got Mail" company

50 Addams Family cousin

51 Phrase often seen after a married or professional name

57 Passable

58 Battery option

59 Nest egg, initially

60 Cleveland player, for short

61 Got out, or followed the

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9	10		11	12	13
14						15						16		
17					18							19		
				20			21				22			
23	24	25				26				27				
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31			32		33		34	35		36		37	38	39
40				41					42					
43						44					45			
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51	52	53				54	55			56				
57					58				59					
60					61				62			63	64	65
66					67					68				
69					70					71				

same path as the theme answers?

66 Gibbon, for one

67 Tooth type

68 Spine-tingling

69 Pot top

70 Goes after flies

71 Bottom-of-the-bottle stuff

Down

1 Web portal with a butterfly logo

2 Plucked instrument

3 "Give me some kitten food"

4 Joe of "Home Alone"

5 Long looks

6 Party org. gathering last held in 2016 in Philadelphia

7 Take another swing at

8 Speed skater ____ Anton Ohno

9 Flavor for some knots?

10 Mercedes roadsters

11 Orange character from the '80s who appears in "Wreck-It Ralph"

12 Sacha Baron Cohen character

13 Music festival area

18 Subtle meaning

22 English-speaking country of Central America

23 Selma's sister

24 Some Chevy hatchbacks

25 Director's option

26 Part of WNW

27 "The Lion King" heroine

32 Fanciful

34 "As I see it," in a text

35 He cohosts "America's Game"

37 Bon Jovi's " ____ on a Prayer"

38 Novelist Loos

39 Boston team, briefly

41 Paltry

42 Any of the kids searching for One-Eyed Willy in a 1985 flick

47 Onetime capital of Poland

49 Domineered, with "over"

51 Like the main point

52 Giraffe relative with striped legs

53 Was delirious

54 Undefeated boxer Ali

55 Pester with barks

56 Word after smart or mineral

61 Text type

62 7, on a rotary phone

63 Cinnabar, e.g.

64 Costume shop purchase

65 "Castlevania" platform

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Answers Page 28

SUDOKU

INTERMEDIATE

		7				5	6	
					7			
			3	5				9
8	2						4	6
				2			1	
1				7	8	3		
2			5	1				3
		3						
	6	4			9	1		

TO PLAY

Fill in the grid so that every row, column, and outlined 3-by-3 box contains the numbers 1 through 9 exactly once. No guessing is required. The solution is unique.

Answers on page 28

Free Will Astrology

By Rob Brezсны

July 18-July 24, 2018

Aries (March 21-April 19) Be extra polite and deferential. Cultivate an exaggerated respect for the status quo. Spend an inordinate amount of time watching dumb TV shows while eating junk food. Make sure you're exposed to as little natural light and fresh air as possible. JUST KIDDING! I lied! Ignore everything I just said! Here's my real advice: Dare yourself to feel strong positive emotions. Tell secrets to animals and trees. Swim and dance and meditate naked. Remember in detail the three best experiences you've ever had. Experiment with the way you kiss. Create a blessing that surprises you and everyone else. Sing new love songs. Change something about yourself you don't like. Ask yourself unexpected questions, then answer them with unruly truths that have medicinal effects.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) Your past is not quite what it seems. The coming weeks will be an excellent time to find out why -- and make the necessary adjustments. A good way to begin would be to burrow back into your old stories and unearth the half-truths buried there. It's possible that your younger self wasn't sufficiently wise to understand what was really happening all those months and years ago, and as a result distorted the meaning of the events. I suspect, too, that some of your memories aren't actually your own, but rather other people's versions of your history. You may not have time to write a new memoir right now, but it might be healing to spend a couple of hours drawing up a revised outline of your important turning points.

Gemini (May 21-June 20) One of the most famously obtuse book-length poems in the English language is Robert Browning's *Sordello*, published in 1840. After studying it at length, Alfred Tennyson, who was Great Britain's Poet Laureate from 1850 to 1892, confessed, "There were only two lines in it that I understood." Personally, I did better than Tennyson, managing to decipher 18 lines. But I bet that if you read this dense, multi-layered text in the coming weeks, you would do better than me and Tennyson. That's because you'll be at the height of your cognitive acumen. Please note: I suggest you use your extra intelligence for more practical purposes than decoding obtuse texts.

Cancer (June 21-July 22) Ready for your financial therapy session? For your first assignment, make a list of the valuable qualities you have to offer the world, and write a short essay about why the world should abundantly reward you for them. Assignment #2: Visualize what it feels like when your valuable qualities are appreciated by people who matter to you. #3: Say this: "I am a rich resource that ethical, reliable allies want to enjoy." #4: Say this: "My scruples can't be bought for any amount of money. I may rent my soul, but I'll never sell it outright."

Leo (July 23-August 22) As you wobble and stumble into the New World, you shouldn't pretend you understand more than you actually do. In fact, I advise you to play up your innocence and freshness. Gleefully acknowledge you've got a lot to learn. Enjoy the liberating sensation of having nothing to prove. That's not just the most humble way to proceed; it'll be your smartest and most effective strategy. Even people who have been a bit skeptical of you before will be softened by your vulnerability. Opportunities will arise because of your willingness to be empty and open and raw.

Virgo (August 23-September 22) Since 1358, the city of Paris has used the Latin motto *Fluctuat nec mergitur*, which can be translated as "She is tossed by the waves but does not sink." I propose that we install those stirring words as your rallying cry for the next few weeks. My analysis of the astrological omens gives me confidence that even though you may encounter unruly weather, you will sail on unscathed. What might be the metaphorical equivalent of taking seasick pills?

Libra (September 23-October 22) The Spanish word delicadeza can have several meanings in English, including "delicacy" and "finesse." The Portuguese word delicadeza has those meanings, as well as others, including "tenderness," "fineness," "suavity," "respect," and "urbanity." In accordance with current astrological omens, I'm making it your word of power for the next three weeks. You're in a phase when you will thrive by expressing an abundance of these qualities. It might be fun to temporarily give yourself the nickname Delicadeza.

Scorpio (October 23-November 21) Uninformed scientists scorn my oracles. Reductionist journalists say I'm just another delusional fortuneteller. Materialist cynics accuse me of pandering to people's superstition. But I reject those naive perspectives. I define myself as a psychologically astute poet who works playfully to liberate my readers' imaginations with inventive language, frisky stories, and unpredictable ideas. Take a cue from me, Scorpio, especially in the next four weeks. Don't allow others to circumscribe what you do or who you are. Claim the power to characterize yourself. Refuse to be squeezed into any categories, niches, or images -- except those that squeeze you the way you like to be squeezed.

Sagittarius (November 22-December 21) "I have no notion of loving people by halves; it is not my nature. My attachments are always excessively strong." So said Sagittarian novelist Jane Austen. I don't have any judgment about whether her attitude was right or wrong, wise or ill-advised. How about you? Whatever your philosophical position might be, I suggest that for the next four weeks you activate your inner Jane Austen and let that part of you shine -- not just in relation to whom and what you love but also with everything that rouses your passionate interest. According to my reading of the astrological omens, you're due for some big, beautiful, radiant zeal.

Capricorn (December 22-January 19) "There are truths I haven't even told God," confessed Brazilian writer Clarice Lispector. "And not even myself. I am a secret under the lock of seven keys." Are you harboring any riddles or codes or revelations that fit that description, Capricorn? Are there any sparks or seeds or gems that are so deeply concealed they're almost lost? If so, the coming weeks will be an excellent time to bring them up out their dark hiding places. If you're not quite ready to show them to God, you should at least unveil them to yourself. Their emergence could spawn a near-miracle or two.

Aquarius (January 20- February 18) What are your goals for your top two alliances or friendships? By that I mean, what would you like to accomplish together? How do you want to influence and inspire each other? What effects do you want your relationships to have on the world? Now maybe you've never even considered the possibility of thinking this way. Maybe you simply want to enjoy your bonds and see how they evolve rather than harnessing them for greater goals. That's fine. No pressure. But if you are interested in shaping your connections with a more focused sense of purpose, the coming weeks will be an excellent time to do so.

Pisces (February 19-March 20) In Janet Fitch's novel *White Oleander*, a character makes a list of "twenty-seven names for tears," including "Heartdew. Griefhoney. Sadwater. Die tränen. Eau de douleur. Los rios del corazón." (The last three can be translated as "The Tears," "Water of Pain," and "The Rivers of the Heart.") I invite you to emulate this playfully extravagant approach to the art of crying. The coming weeks will be an excellent time to celebrate and honor your sadness, as well as all the other rich emotions that provoke tears. You'll be wise to feel profound gratitude for your capacity to feel so deeply. For best results, go in search of experiences and insights that will unleash the full cathartic power of weeping. Act as if empathy is a superpower.

Go to RealAstrology.com to check out Rob Brezсны's EXPANDED WEEKLY AUDIO HOROSCOPES and DAILY TEXT MESSAGE HOROSCOPES. The audio horoscopes are also available by phone at 1-877-873-4888 or 1-900-950-7700.

TURN IT DOWN!

A SURVEY OF LANSING'S MUSICAL LANDSCAPE

BY RICH TUPICA

Wed., July 25 **HAVOK AT THE LOFT**



Tyrant, Extinction A.D. open heavy show

Wednesday, July 25 @ The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. All ages, \$20, \$17 adv., 7 p.m.

Havok, an emerging Denver-based metal band, headlines an all-ages show July 25 at The Loft. Warming up the stage are Tyrant, Extinction A.D., Jungle Rot and Hate Unbound. Since Havok formed in 2004, it promptly issued a series of angry yet thought-provoking demos and EPs stacked with blistering fast thrash that caught the attention of Candlelight Records — which issued the band’s ’80s-metal influenced debut LP, “Burn” in 2009. After that, Havok hit the road and shared stages with metal titans like Exodus, Anthrax, Primal Fear and Hammerfall. Along the way, more acclaimed albums followed, including 2011’s “Time Is Up” and 2013’s “Unnatural Selection.” The band’s most recent disc, 2017’s “Conformicide,” was issued by its new label, Century Media Records, home to other notable metal acts like Deicide, Eyehategod, Iced Earth and Krokus.

Fri., Aug. 3 **KOOL KEITH AT THE LOFT**

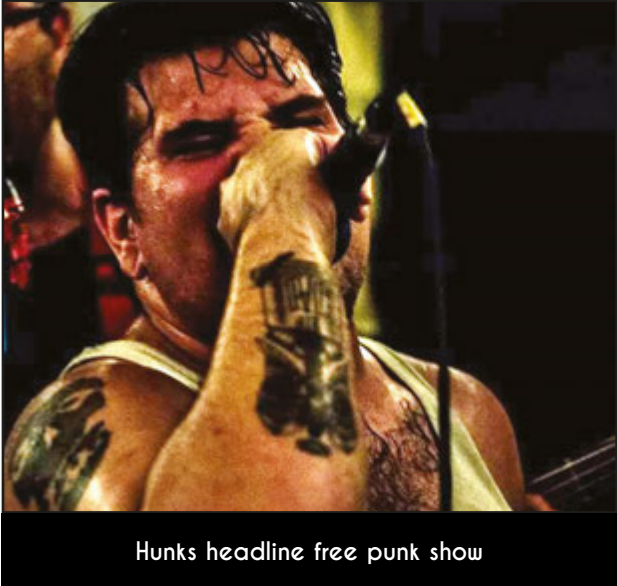


Rap legend heads to Lansing

Friday, Aug. 3 @ The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. 18+, \$22, \$18 adv., 8 p.m.

Since his 1988 debut with the group Ultramagnetic MCs on the “Critical Beatdown” LP, Kool Keith has been praised for his surreal and bizarre rhymes. Friday, Aug. 3, the legendary rapper headlines a night of hip-hop at The Loft; openers include Rafa’el, Ozay Moore and DJ Omni, Big Sherm, DJ Cutt Nice and the Fist Coalition. Over the years, Kool Keith (real name Keith Matthew Thornton) has worn a few mythical alter egos, including Dr. Doom and Dr. Octagon. He debuted the latter in 1995 and it features him rapping in character as a gynecologist and surgeon, who also happens to be a psychotic extraterrestrial. In 2006, he issued the long-awaited follow up, “The Return of Dr. Octagon” LP, and then waited until April 2018 to unveil the third Octagon installment: “Moosebumps: An Exploration into Modern Day Horrification.”

Sat., July 21 **THE HUNKY NEWCOMERS AT THE AVENUE CAFE**



Hunks headline free punk show

Saturday, July 21 @ The Avenue Café, 2021 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. 21+, FREE, 9 p.m.

Back in 2011, when the Hunky Newcomers formed in Lansing over spilt beers and scuffed-up Ramones and Replacements LPs, they didn’t waste any time delivering their amped-up punk sounds to the local scene. Saturday, the band returns to the Avenue Café for a free show. Openers are Dear Ears, Greg Blucher and Suburban Delinquents. “It was around this time seven years ago,” recalled Hunky Newcomers’ guitarist Loren Pudvay, “that we formed the band and then wrote, recorded and released our first record at our first show. That was all in the span of about a week-and-a half — so I guess it’s kind of our seven-year anniversary.” After its debut CD-r, the Hunky Newcomers further honed its three-chord sloppiness on a pile of compilations and proper records — most notably 2014’s “Secret of the Booze” LP, the “Penis Time” EP and “Harder Dude Stuff,” a 2017 live album released via GTG Records.

LIVE AND LOCAL

UPCOMING SHOW? CONTACT ELLA@LANSINGCITYPULSE.COM

DESTINATION	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
The Avenue Café, 2021 E. Michigan Ave.	Service Industry Night	Dueling Pianos	Open Mic	Hunky newcomers
Crunchy's, 254 W. Grand River Ave.		Karaoke, 9 p.m.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.
Coach's, 6201 Bishop Road	DJ Trivia		Live Music	DJ
Esquire, 1250 Turner St.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.			
The Exchange, 314 E. Michigan Ave.	The Good Cookies, 8 p.m.	Mike Skory & Friends Open Mic, 8:30 p.m.	Showdown	Showdown
Green Door, 2005 E. Michigan Ave.	Johnny D Blues Night	Karaoke	Soul Play	Sloan
The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave.				Green Chi, 9pm
UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner St.		Jazz Thursday 7-10 p.m.	Orquesta Ritmo, 7:30	
Watershed Tavern and Grill, 5965 Marsh Rd.			Capital City DJ's	Capital City DJ's

Out on the Town

from page 25

MUSIC

PIANO RECITAL . From 5:30 to 7 p.m. All Advanced Studies Gateway events are free and open to the public. . Facility for Rare Isotope Beams, 640 South Shaw Lane East Lansing.

SUMMER JAZZ & BLUES CONCERT. At 7 p.m. University Reformed Church, 841 Timberlane Street East Lansing. 5173516810.

TGIF MARGARITAVILLE PATIO DANCE PARTY FRIDAY 7/20/18. From 7 p.m. to 12 a.m. \$15 Complimentary dance lesson & buffet included in price of admission.. Hawk Hollow Golf Course, 15101 Chandler Rd. Bath. (517) 641-4295.

ARTS

KIDS ART WITH IRINA. From 12 to 1 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

Saturday, July 21

CLASSES-AND-SEMINARS

FLOWER ARRANGING. From 10 a.m. to noon \$12 suggested donation, sliding scale fee . Hunter Park Community GardenHouse, 1400 block of E. Kalamazoo St. Lansing.

LITERATURE-AND-POETRY

SOCIAL JUSTICE READING GROUP. From 10:30 a.m. to noon FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

THEATER

SATURDAY, JULY 21 >> 'STRANGER THINGS' NIGHT AT COOLEY LAW STADIUM

Be spooked while snacking on waffles and catching the game at Stranger Things Night. With specialty cocktails and food inspired by Eggo, the Lugnuts square off against Cedar Rapids in a showdown with special Stranger Things entertainment. Fireworks will close out the night.

5 p.m. to 9 p.m. 505 E. Michigan Ave.

Tickets can be purchased at www.milb.com/lansing.

SATURDAY JULY 21 >> MEOW LUAU AT FRANDOR SATURDAY

Take home a new friend and give local cats a chance with discounted adoption fees made possible by donations. Already spayed/neutered, vaccinated and microchipped, these cats are ready to find their forever home. With over 120 cats up for grabs this year, Meow Luau hopes to smash last year's record of 30 cats adopted.

12 p.m. to 6 p.m. 410 Frandor Ave.

\$10 adult cats. \$20 kittens.

SUMMER SHORTS 2. From 10 to 11 a.m. Free . Flint Youth Theatre, 1220 E. Kearsley St. Flint. 810-237-1530.

EVENTS

FILM AND DISCUSSION ABOUT CHILDHOOD TRAUMA. From 4 to 6 p.m. Free. Red Cedar Friends Meeting House, 1400 Turner St. Lansing.

MEOW LUAU. From 12 to 6 p.m. \$10 adult cats, \$20 kittens.. Frandor Shopping Center, 408 Frandor Ave. Lansing. 517-333-5300.

Sunday, July 22

CLASSES-AND-SEMINARS

JUGGLING. From 2 to 4 p.m. FREE. Orchard Street Pumpthouse, 368 Orchard St. East Lansing.

EVENTS

ATHEISTS AND HUMANISTS DINNER MEETING. From 5 to 8:30 p.m. Buffet is \$10.99 plus tax (includes sushi bar and cook-to-order ingredients you select). Drinks are \$1.30 extra, except for complementary hot tea. . Asian Buffet, 4920 Marsh Rd. Okemos. (517) 381-8388.

Monday, July 23

CLASSES-AND-SEMINARS

A COURSE OF LOVE. From 1 to 2 p.m. Love offering. Unity Spiritual Center of Lansing, 230 S. Holmes Lansing. 517-371-3010.

ELEMENTARY: STOP MOTION ANIMATION SUMMER CAMP. From 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. tinkrLAB Member: \$249.00 Not Yet Member: \$299.00 Price increases after 5/1/18. tinkrLAB, Meridian Mall, 1982 W Grand River Okemos. 517-233-1524.

MIDDLE SCHOOL: CODING & ENGINEERING 101 SUMMER CAMP. From 9 a.m. to noon tinkrLAB Member: \$125.00 Not Yet Member: \$175.00 Price increases after 5/1/18. tinkrLAB, Meridian Mall, 1982 W Grand River Okemos. 517-233-1524.

MIDDLE SCHOOL: CODING & ENGINEERING 101 SUMMER CAMP. From 9 to noon tinkrLAB Member: \$125.00

CROSSWORD SOLUTION

From Pg. 26

M	U	M	P	S	D	R	A	G	S	Q	B	S
S	K	E	E	T	N	E	P	A	L	B	O	T
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SUDOKU SOLUTION

From Pg. 26

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NOTICE OF ELECTION PRIMARY ELECTION TUESDAY, AUGUST 7, 2018

To the **qualified electors** of the City of Lansing, Counties of Ingham, Eaton, and Clinton, State of Michigan

Notice is hereby given that the City of Lansing will conduct the Primary Election in the City of Lansing, Counties of Ingham, Eaton, and Clinton, State of Michigan on Tuesday, August 7, 2018. **Polls will be open at 7:00 a.m. and will remain open until 8:00 p.m.**

For the purpose of nominating candidates to the following offices:

Governor, U.S. Senator, U. S. Representative in Congress, State Senator, State Representative, County Commissioner, Delegates to County Convention

For the purpose of voting on the following proposals:

County: Justice Millage Question (Ingham County Only), Juvenile Millage Renewal (Eaton County Only), 9-1-1 and Central Dispatch Renewal (Eaton County Only)
District Library: Capital Area District Library Renewal

Voting Precincts and Polling Places are:

Lansing Ward 1

Pct. 1 – Gier Park Community Center
Pct. 2 – Grand River Head Start
Pct. 3 – Post Oak School
Pct. 4 – Pattengill School
Pct. 5 – Foster Community Center
Pct. 6 – Pilgrim Congregational Church
Pct. 7 – Pilgrim Congregational Church
Pct. 8 – Bethlehem Temple Church
Pct. 9 – Board of Water and Light
Pct. 10 – South Washington Office Cplx.
Pct. 45 – Foster Community Center

Lansing Ward 2

Pct. 11 – South Washington Office Cplx.
Pct. 12 – Lyons School
Pct. 13 – Cavanaugh School
Pct. 14 – Gardner School
Pct. 15 – Mt. Hope School
Pct. 16 – Parker Memorial Baptist Church
Pct. 17 – Kendon School
Pct. 18 – Gardner School
Pct. 19 – North School
Pct. 20 – North School
Pct. 21 – Forest View School

Lansing Ward 3

Pct. 22 – Southside Community Center
Pct. 23 – Woodcreek School
Pct. 24 – Attwood School
Pct. 25 – Attwood School
Pct. 26 – Southside Community Center
Pct. 27 – Pleasant View School
Pct. 28 – Elmhurst School
Pct. 29 – Tabernacle of David Church
Pct. 30 – Averill School
Pct. 31 – Lewton School

Lansing Ward 4

Pct. 32 – Elmhurst School
Pct. 33 – Lewton School
Pct. 34 – South Washington Office Cplx.
Pct. 35 – First Presbyterian Church
Pct. 36 – Letts Community Center
Pct. 37 – Letts Community Center
Pct. 38 – Willow Elementary School
Pct. 39 – Emanuel First Lutheran Church
Pct. 40 – Willow School
Pct. 41 – Cumberland School
Pct. 42 – Transitions North
Pct. 43 – St. Stephen Lutheran Church
Pct. 44 – St. Casimir Catholic Church

All polling places are accessible and voting instructions are available in alternative formats of audio and Braille. An accessible voting device is also available.

To see if you are registered or to find your polling location, check the Secretary of State Voter Information web site at www.michigan.gov/vote.

Photo Identification OR Affidavit Required to Vote:

Under a Michigan law upheld by the Michigan Supreme Court, ALL voters will be asked to show photo identification to vote at the polls. Voters without identification will be required to fill out and sign an affidavit in order to receive a ballot.

ABSENT VOTER BALLOTS

Registered voters can get an Absent Voter Ballot for any of the following reasons:

- You are 60 years of age or older
- You are physically unable to attend the polls without the assistance of another
- You expect to be absent from the City of Lansing for the entire time the polls are open on Election Day
- You cannot attend the polls because of the tenets of your religion
- You are an appointed precinct worker in a precinct other than the precinct where you reside
- You cannot attend the polls because you are confined to jail awaiting arraignment or trial

We must have a signed application to issue an Absent Voter Ballot. Applications are available at www.lansingmi.gov/Elections or by calling 517-483-4131.

The Lansing City Clerk's Office, 124 W. Michigan Ave., 9th Floor, will be open weekdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. to issue absentee ballots to qualified electors.

The Lansing City Clerk's Election Unit, 2500 S. Washington Ave (rear entrance), will be open

- Weekdays beginning July 9 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Wednesdays until 7 p.m.
- Sunday, July 29 from 12 noon to 4 p.m.; and
- Saturday, August 4 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

to issue absentee ballots to qualified electors.

Saturday, August 4 at 2 p.m. is the deadline to request an absentee ballot. You may also vote an absentee ballot in person on Monday, August 6 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the City Clerk's Office at 124 W. Michigan Ave, 9th Floor or 2500 S. Washington Ave.

An emergency absent voter ballot must be applied for by 4 p.m. on Election Day. Emergency absent voter ballots are available for voters who become physically disabled or will be absent from the City because of sickness or death in the family which has occurred at a time which has made it impossible to apply for absent voter ballots by Saturday, August 4 at 2 p.m.

Chris Swope, CMMC/CMC
Lansing City Clerk
www.lansingmi.gov/Clerk

www.facebook.com/LansingClerkSwope
CP#18-171

Out on the Town

from page 28

Not Yet Member: \$175.00
Price increases after 5/1/18. tinkrLAB, Meridian Mall, 1982 W Grand River Okemos. 517-233-1524.

LITERATURE-AND-POETRY

OUT OF THIS WORLD BOOK CLUB. At 7 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

MUSIC

LITTLE MOVERS DANCE PARTY. From 11 a.m. to noon FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

Tuesday, July 24

LITERATURE-AND-POETRY

FAMILY STORYTIME. From 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

LIBRARY CONCERT SERIES: THE UKULELE KINGS. From 6:30 to 8 p.m. Free. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Dr. Lansing. (517) 321-4014.

MUSIC

JAZZ TUESDAYS AT MORIARTY'S. From 7 to 10 p.m. FREE. Moriarty's Pub, 802 E. Michigan Ave. Lansing. (517) 485-5287.

LIBRARY CONCERT SERIES: THE UKULELE KINGS. From 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Free. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Dr. Lansing. (517) 321-4014.

TUESDAY IS BLUES-DAY AT URBANBEAT. From 7 to 10 p.m. UrbanBeat Event Center, 1213 Turner St. Lansing.

THEATER

DANCE LANSING. From 7 to 9 p.m. free. Dart Auditorium, Lansing Community College, 500 N. Capitol Ave. Lansing.

EVENTS

TEEN ACTIVISTS COALITION - ELPL CHAPTER OF THE HARRY POTTER ALLIANCE. From 4 to 5 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

TUESDAY GAMES. From 1 to 4 p.m. Euchre, Free Bridge, \$1 - \$2 per person. Meridian Senior Center, 4406 Okemos Road Okemos.

SUNDAY, JULY 22 >> SECOND ANNUAL MIKE SADLER CELEBRATION OF LIFE AT ATWATER BREWERY

Honor the life of the Spartan football star who earned his way among MSU's all-time leaders in punts. Passing away in a tragic accident in 2016, Sadler's legacy of helping others continues to make strides in the Michigan athlete community with the Michael Sadler Foundation. Tickets will include two free drinks, a Sadler wristband and a souvenir pint glass. The MSU Marching Band and funk outfit Desmond Jones will provide entertainment. Dean Trailways is offering complimentary, round-trip transportation from Spartan Stadium to facilitate the event. Reserve bus seats by contacting courtneyb@deantrans.com.

12 p.m. to 3 p.m. 201 Michigan Street, Grand Rapids, MI. Tickets \$40. www.michaelsadlerfoundation.com/events

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS EAST LANSING HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

Notice is hereby given of the following public hearings to be held by the East Lansing Historic District Commission on **Thursday, August 9, 2018** at 6:00 p.m., in the 54-B District Court, Courtroom 2, 101 Linden Street, East Lansing.

1. A public hearing will be held for the purpose of considering a request from Liliana Torres, for the property at 927 Huntington Rd., to widen the driveway and add a sidewalk next to the garage.
2. A public hearing will be held for the purpose of considering a request from the Sean Sanford and Melanie Wallace, for the property at 521 Division St., to replace the siding with a new material to be determined at the meeting.
3. A public hearing will be held for the purpose of considering a request from Zoey Zacharski, for the property at 503 Park Ln., to replace the fence and add a paved patio.
4. A public hearing will be held for the purpose of considering a request from Daniel Bollman, for the property at 329 M.A.C. Ave., to relocate the entire structure to a new site within the City of East Lansing to open the lot for redevelopment.
5. A public hearing will be held for the purpose of considering a request from the Alumni Corporation Board for the Delta Sigma Phi Fraternity, for the property at 1218 E. Grand River Ave., to add an ADA Ramp to the structure.

Call (517) 319-6930, the Department of Planning, Building and Development, East Lansing City Hall, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, for additional information. All interested persons will be given an opportunity to be heard.

The City of East Lansing will provide reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as interpreters for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting, to individuals with disabilities upon request received by the City seven (7) calendar days prior to the meeting. Individuals with disabilities requiring aids or services should write or call the Planning Department, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, MI 48823. Phone: (517) 319-6930. TDD Number: 1-800-649-3777.

Jennifer Shuster
City Clerk

CP#18-169



HE ATE

Bowdie's Chophouse

SHE ATE



By **MARK NIXON**

The well-worn punchline about Whole Foods is that it quickly becomes “Whole Paycheck.”

Indeed, I've paid nearly \$10 for a quarter-pound of cheese at Whole Foods. But I hasten to add two things: 1.) It was really fantastic triple cream brie, the likes of which I have not found outside of France. 2.) I don't shop for everyday items at Whole Foods. I shop there for high quality, hard-to-find items — usually for special occasions.

And that's pretty much my take on Bowdie's Chophouse, a newcomer to downtown Lansing. It's tantalizing but damned expensive. But, for my money, it's damned good.

Our first visit happened on my birthday, and my brother who met us there bought the drinks. Our bill was just over \$113.

We began by sharing an appetizer of smoked duck ravioli for \$13. Spooned over the ravioli was warmed double cream laced with sage. It was tender and moist, rich and smoky.

That and a salad could make a meal by themselves. Judy had the Faroe Island Salmon with farro for \$29. As most folks who know me know, I'm not a big fan of salmon. Too many memories of my childhood and meatless Friday suppers of canned salmon patties.

But this salmon rendition was terrific; incredibly mild-tasting and moist, and the farro seemed cooked in a rich broth, perhaps chicken or vegetable stock.

I ordered the 14-ounce, bone-in, dry-aged filet steak, rare. This \$51 entree was worth the initial sticker shock; rare, tender, juicy, with a crusty exterior. It's probably the best steak I've had in this town — and certainly in the Top 5 of steaks I've had from here to Las Vegas.

Bowdie's understands what so many restaurants can't seem to grasp. Heat. The steak was sizzling. And the plate was so hot that the table cloth below still wafted warmth some 20 minutes after our server had cleared the table.

A final note about our first visit: Judy and I shared a grilled Caesar salad for \$10. I was skeptical about the grilled part, but Bowdie's pulled it off. The lettuce was quickly seared, the cool dressing ladled on and large shavings of Parmesan cheese topped it off. I would improve the dressing with more anchovies and garlic.

Visit No. 2 came on Judy's birthday, and I knew from the get-go what she would order. Yep, a rack of lamb for \$55. It was

rare as ordered and tender as desired. We had enough left over for two meals. The grilled asparagus for \$10 was equally generous, and also became fare for next day's supper.

Before the entrees, we shared a deconstructed crab cake for \$15. Judy loved the way they took all the elements — Panko crumbs, lumps of crab, a light sauce, all served on arugula — and left them apart. No crab cake per se, just all the necessary elements.

I liked the taste, but I'm old-fashioned. I want my crab cakes to be actual cakes, a la Maryland.

While waiting for my entree, I gazed about. So much is reminiscent of the old Knight Cap. There are few tables and the decor is minimalist.

I ordered the roasted half-chicken for \$24. When it arrived, our server noted the chicken

had been brined. I've been brining (and in some cases “corning”) meats for years. I think I can fairly opine whether a meat has been brined. And this chicken was well-brined and delicious.

Brining retains so much of the bird's natural juices that when properly roasted, you get a crisp skin and a sweet, juicy interior. Wonderful.

Bowdie's servers are also attentive and knowledgeable, but they don't hover. Thank you for that.

The looming question is, does Lansing have the steady clientele willing to fork over the dough? Our second visit, with dinner, drinks and tip, cost us more than \$200.

Two words keep echoing in my mind: Special. Occasion.

By **GABRIELLE LAWRENCE**

It was a steamy summer night, the kind when I don't put on makeup until I am in the car, air conditioning vents directly aimed at my face. We had a babysitter. Downtown

Lansing was jammed with people going to Common Ground or a Lugnuts game, but we found street parking and were seated at an intimate table for two in the dimly lit dining room in no time.

“All of our steaks are dry-aged,” our server told us, which sounds fancy. But what does that mean, exactly?

It means that the beef is kept in a carefully controlled environment for an extended period to allow the natural collagen to break down. A dry-aging process allows the meat to age the marbling to become exposed, resulting in a highly-concentrated flavor and more tender texture.

The opposite is wet

aging, which is what is happening whenever you buy beef at the grocery store. In a nutshell, the beef is vacuum sealed, thus “wet” aging in its own juices. Dry aging is the gold standard and accounts for the difference in cost between Bowdie's and Outback.

While we waited for our dry-aged filet and New York strip, we shared a bowl of shrimp bisque and a wedge salad. Both classic dishes were executed beautifully. The lardons on the Wedge salad (which are chunks of pork belly think an extremely thickly cut bacon) were slightly sweet, a perfect balance of crisp and meaty, and melted in our mouths. The shrimp bisque was rich and creamy with straightforward, clean flavors.

His Kansas City strip steak and my 10 ounce filet mignon came to the table on

sizzling plates, swimming in a pool of their own juices and butter.

We could have added a sauce, a blue cheese crumble, or some other kind of accoutrement, but I tend to be a steak purist. I sliced off a sliver and felt a twinge of concern. I had requested my filet medium rare, but what was presented to me was decidedly medium, verging on medium well. I ate a few more bites before I stopped our server to discuss my issue with her.

“I think my steak is overcooked,” I told her, with a note of apology in my voice. “Oh. Really? Are you sure?” she asked while she eyed my plate suspiciously. Her reaction made me second-guess my belief, and I hemmed and hawed for a moment before telling her “Yes, I think so, but I would appreciate it if you could ask the chef's opinion.”

She returned to the table after consulting with the chef and confirmed that yes, my \$48 steak was overcooked. Not a little bit, a lot. She could offer us a free appetizer or dessert.

I'm happy to spend a lot of money and time on my food, and I try to remember that even if I don't like something, that is generally due to my own personal tastes.

But an overcooked steak is undeniable. And when it's \$48, which is probably the most expensive filet in the Greater Lansing area, I want the problem to be solved. I don't want a wedge salad taken off the bill. The chef also came to the table to apologize, and I remain perplexed that neither one of these employees offered a more appropriate solution to the problem.

His New York strip steak, on the other hand, was beautifully medium rare. We shared a cone of truffle fries, which were crispy, salty, piping hot and positively fragrant with the scent of truffle. I could make a meal of the wedge salad and truffle fries, if I allowed myself to eat meals that consisted of a wedge salad and truffle fries.

We did accept the offer of a free dessert and asked for a slice of carrot cake. The triple layer cake was dense, moist and spicy, and while the cream cheese frosting was slightly too sweet for my taste, we licked the platter clean. Not literally, Bowdie's is a nice restaurant. But we would have if we were in the privacy of our own home.

Bowdie's has the best filet in town, as did their predecessor and my sentimental favorite the Knight Cap. But the overcooked steak and the temperate reaction to my complaint illustrate why I prefer to save my hard-earned money and eat steak at home. If it's overcooked, I have only myself to blame.

Bowdie's Chophouse
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Gabrielle Lawrence/City Pulse

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