

CityPULSE

a newspaper for the rest of us

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June 12 - 18, 2019

FREE

Gay Pride
cometh before
the summer

See page 13



Attorney General Dana Nessel, 2019 Inclusion Award Honoree

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City Pulse • June 5, 2019

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PULSE

Sparrow Hospital cited for 'patient safety'

Accrediting agency finds multiple deficiencies

A national organization that accredits Sparrow Hospital has issued a preliminary denial after finding scores of deficiencies during a recent unannounced safety inspection.

The accrediting organization called



Dear Readers:

Hundreds of City Pulse readers pick up their copies at Sparrow Hospital and the Sparrow-owned Michigan Athletic Club ... usually.

But not the June 5 issue. Their copies magically disappeared.

What a coincidence that the issue broke the news that Sparrow Hospital was issued a temporary denial of accreditation over patient safety concerns. It's a story the rest of the media are still trying to catch up to.

This is journalism that truly matters to our community.

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Journalism that matters to Greater Lansing

CityPULSE

Favorite Things

Central United Methodist pastor Mark Thompson's tabletop labyrinth



I have a tabletop labyrinth that is a symbol of wandering in life, but wandering with purpose. They are from ancient times, used not just in religious spheres but in spirituality as well. I love them and I am planning to go to one on the West Coast that is made out of a lavender field.

My first labyrinth was in the late '80s at a convent in Grand Rapids out in its backfield. It was a lawn mown in such a way to be a labyrinth. Now, whenever I see one I tend to walk on it.

What I love about these, even the tabletop ones, is when you are going into the maze toward the center, it takes an ungodly amount of time. When I go onto the path, I like to unpack and let go.

I physically need to do something like walk to do this because I have ADHD. I need to be moving. When I'm doing that, I can take deep breaths and really focus in on the moment with mindfulness techniques.

When I eventually get to the center, whether it be a desktop one or one in real life, I just sit there. On my desk, I leave my finger in the middle.

There, I am able to let go of stuff and physically sit still as much as I can. As I'm walking back out after a half-hour of meditation, I start to pick up stuff and am able to choose what I pick up.

I begin to focus on creating a new space for myself.

The labyrinth, especially the one on my desk, is something I can just look at and say I feel like I'm wandering, but I will finally get to where I need to be. It is symbolic of the journey of life and the journey of faith.

That is how I thoroughly enjoy connecting with people. Every person, no matter who they are, is on some sort of spiritual journey. I don't name that for the person. It depends on the person what they call it.

I need to be able to be in conversation with people wherever they are, whether it be a bar or a church or walking in the woods. We want to help them to slow down enough to say I have a center that is divine and am part of the divine energy.

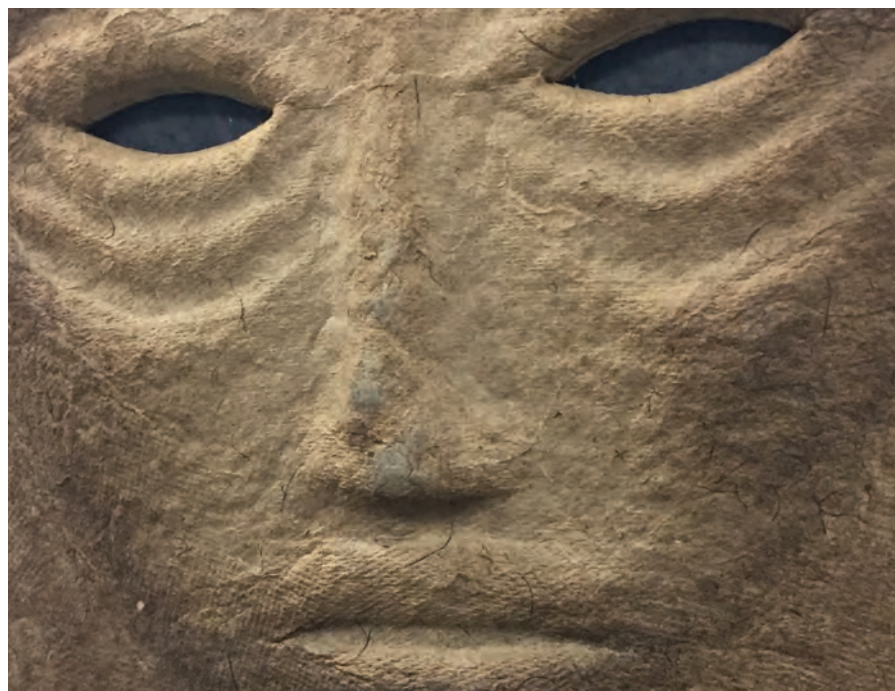
We are spiritual beings in beautiful human bodies, and in the labyrinth journey I am taking all of me with me, my whole gay self.

One time I did the labyrinth and it was an unpacking of as much as I could at the moment of me being in the closet for 50 years. I just cried like a baby. I'm so glad no one else was around to see it.

(This interview was edited and condensed by Dennis Burck. If you have a recommendation for "Favorite Things," please email dennis@lansingcitypulse.com.)



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Image: Three-dimensional cover of *Conjuros y Ebriedades*.

CityPULSE

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(517) 371-5600 • Fax: (517) 999-6061 • 1905 E. Michigan Ave. • Lansing, MI 48912 • www.lansingcitypulse.com

ADVERTISING INQUIRIES: (517) 999-5061
or email citypulse@lansingcitypulse.com
CLASSIFIEDS: (517) 999-6704

EDITOR AND PUBLISHER • Berl Schwartz
publisher@lansingcitypulse.com • (517) 999-5061
ARTS & CULTURE EDITOR • Audrey Matusz
audrey@lansingcitypulse.com • (517) 999-5068
EVENTS EDITOR/OFFICE MANAGER • Suzi Smith
suzi@lansingcitypulse.com • (517) 999-6704
DIGITAL CONTENT/PRODUCTION MANAGER • Skyler Ashley
production@lansingcitypulse.com
(517) 999-5066
STAFF WRITERS • Lawrence Cosentino
lawrence@lansingcitypulse.com • (517) 999-5065
• Kyle Kaminski • kyle@lansingcitypulse.com
(517) 999-6715
• Dennis Burck • dennis@lansingcitypulse.com
(517) 999-6705
SALES EXECUTIVE
Lee Purdy • lee@lansingcitypulse.com • (517) 999-5064

Contributors: Andy Balaskovitz, Justin Bilicki, Daniel E. Bollman, Jeffrey Billman, Capital News Service, Bill Castanier, Ryan Claytor, Mary C. Cusack, Tom Helma, Gabrielle Lawrence Johnson, Eve Kucharski, Terry Link, Andy McGlashen, Kyle Melinn, Mark Nixon, Shawn Parker, Stefanie Pohl, Dennis Preston, Allan I. Ross, Nevin Speerbrecker, Dylan Tarr, Rich Tupica, Ute Von Der Heyden, David Winkelstern, Paul Wozniak

Distribution manager: Paul Shore • (517) 999-6704
Delivery drivers: Dave Fisher, Dale Gartner, Thomas Scott Jr., Jack Dowd, Gavin Smith



How does Peppermint Creek's latest production fare?

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Holland honors 'Wizard of Oz' author

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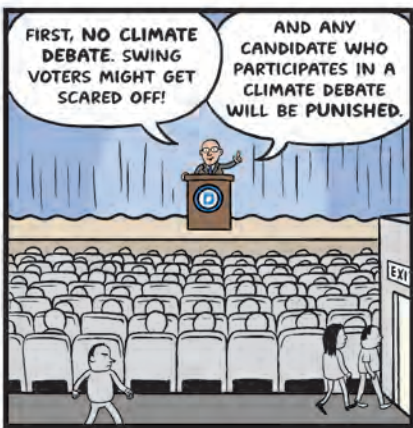
Lansing musician Greg Nagy's album release show

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**Cover
Art**

Courtesy Photo



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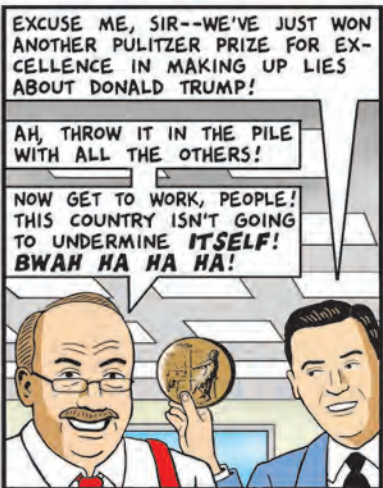
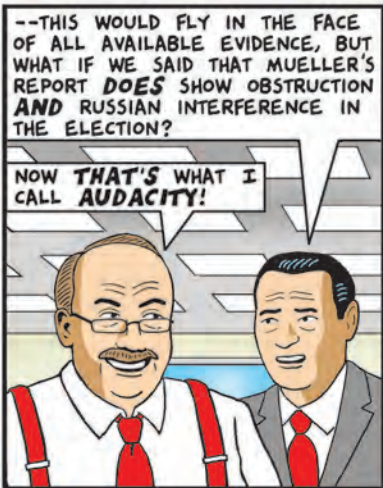
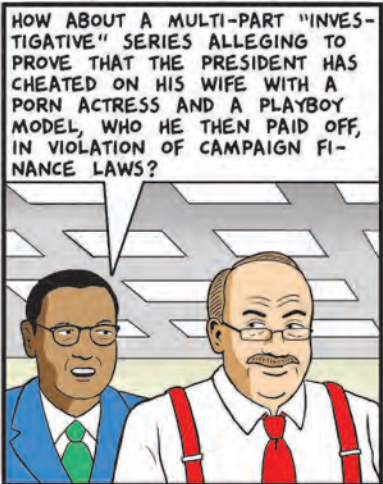
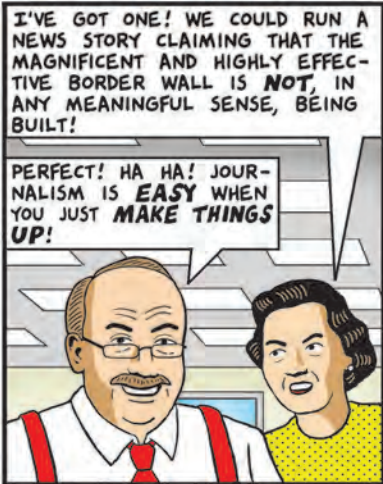
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THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW



TOM TOMORROW © 2019

PULSE

NEWS & OPINION

Sparrow: Safety concerns 'resolved'

Hospital officials dodge specifics about deficiencies

Officials at Sparrow Health System maintain that more than 90 deficiencies uncovered in a recent safety inspection were "entirely resolved" in recent weeks. But many details about the problems (and their fixes) remain unknown.

Karen Kent VanGorder, senior vice president at Sparrow, expects the accrediting organization The Joint Commission to overturn a preliminary denial of accreditation issued in April for scores of safety citations at Sparrow Hospital in Lansing. But, like other officials, she refused to shed much light on the findings.

"Patients should be completely reassured that we have been thoroughly inspected and vetted, and that we pass even the most rigorous investigations, repeatedly," VanGorder told City Pulse.

The Joint Commission is an independent nonprofit that inspects and accredits about 80% of U.S. hospitals on a series of safety measures. It issued a preliminary denial of accreditation — a prerequisite to the acceptance of Medicare and Medicaid payments — on April 20, one day after a weeklong, surprise inspection at the hospital.

The commission issues a preliminary denial when hospitals either create an "immediate threat to health or safety of patients or the public," or do not comply with commission standards, according to its website. Fewer than 1% of hospitals nationwide were denied accreditation last year. The preliminary denial was a first for Sparrow, VanGorder said.

VanGorder and other officials have repeatedly declined to elaborate on the vast majority of concerns identified in the commission's May 24 report, including citations for incomplete operative notes, unlocked anesthesia carts, improper medication labeling, inadequate identification of patients at risk of suicide and numerous other issues.

Those concerns, however, have since been fixed, VanGorder said.

"It's important to notice these are all potential problems and not actual problems. No patient care was affected by any of these things," VanGorder

said. "You could potentially say we're completely in compliance" with Joint Commission standards. "We're in constant contact with TJC. They have reassured us that it's taken care of."

A review for a final determination is under way. The hospital, in the meantime, remains accredited. Online reports (supposedly pegged for revisions later this summer) still list at least 48



VanGorder

non-compliant safety standards at the hospital, but VanGorder said the latest round of inspections failed to identify a single area of concern.

A spokeswoman for The Joint Commission declined to confirm any recent developments, communication with the hospital or elaborate on any anticipated changes to Sparrow's accreditation status. She pointed to online records and also declined to elaborate about any of the citations based on "the privacy of all involved."

"The absence of findings is a good thing," VanGorder said. "Those would have been given to us in writing."

Recent citations included: The competence of staff to perform their responsibilities; infection prevention; fire protection; education about followup care and treatment and concerns about "time-outs" — the final check by medical personnel before a procedure on whether they have the right patient and fully understand the operation.

VanGorder wasn't exactly sure what led to Sparrow's first preliminary denial from the commission but insisted that one-third of the reported citations were immediately corrected during

the inspection. And while some citations may seem alarming, many had no direct link to patient care or treatment, VanGorder said.

Infection prevention citations were tied to staff washing their hands in the wrong sinks, VanGorder said. A stretcher parked near a hospital doorway also dinged Sparrow for adequate fire prevention, she said. As for the competence of staff? That came down to an administrative snag based on improperly filed paperwork, she said.

"You don't wash your dirty shoes where your wife is making a salad. It's that kind of thing," VanGorder added. "We also have to transport instruments from one place to another in complete compliance with fastidious rules."

Other broad citations found in the commission's report included deficiencies in patient planning and assessment, safe and effective treatment, the management of hazardous medication and waste, the existence of safety and security risks and poor maintenance of "complete and accurate" medical records for each patient.

VanGorder declined to address those issues, instead pointing to other, perhaps lower priority, concerns.

"All of the findings are important. It would be hard to say that one thing is more troublesome than another," VanGorder said. "It's like potholes in the street. If you don't drive into them, then there's no real problem. In this case, we went back in and validated that nobody drove in these potholes and they were all repaired."

So, despite supposed fixes over the last few weeks, how did these deficiencies materialize? VanGorder said she and the hospital received written documentation for every commission concern. She's just not sharing the details.

"You'd have to ask the Joint Commission," VanGorder added. "Why this one led to that? I couldn't tell you."

The Joint Commission spokeswoman said most hospitals come into compliance and improve after a preliminary denial is issued — usually within 60 days of the initial survey. A denial of accreditation is only a "last resort" for



The oculus on East Lansing's Saper Gallery featured as last month's Eye for Design was identified only by one individual: its owner. Roy Saper, who has frequently identified past details, expressed his surprise at the lack of responses, given the traffic the building has seen since its construction more than 30 years ago. He provided the photos below, showing the steel and panels being set on the iconic East Lansing building in 1985.

The detail above may be found in Lansing. The first person to correctly identify its location will receive a City Pulse Eye for Design mug. Send your answer to daniel@eastarbor.com by June 19.

Daniel E. Bollman, AIA



"Eye for Design" is our look at some of the nicer properties in Lansing. It rotates each with Eye candy of the Week and Eyesore of the Week. If you have a suggestion, please e-mail eye@lansingcitypulse.com or call Berl Schwartz at 999-5061.

See Sparrow, Page 6

Missteps prompt Ingham Co. ethics policy review

Ingham County commissioners are looking to hold themselves to a higher ethical standard after taking steps to scrap and rewrite a longstanding policy to guide their conduct as elected officials.

After several incidents of elected and hired county officials “playing around the edges” — as Commissioner Ryan Sebolt put it — of policies that guide their conduct, he and others think it’s time to for a revision. County attorneys have been instructed to entirely rewrite the policy by July.

“Somebody reading through our ethics policy shouldn’t have to read through a dizzying array of questions before they actually get to the meat of the ethics that are proposed within it,” Sebolt said. “I just don’t feel like the current ethics policy is adequate or applicable — nor is it accessible.”

The 26-page ethics policy outlines general guidelines that mandate the “highest moral principles” and “more efficient and economical ways of getting tasks accomplished.” It also looks to quell nepotism and other conflicting financial interests by avoiding the general allowance of “special favors or privileges” among officials.



Sebolt



Morgan



Grebner

Commissioner Mark Grebner, who said he wrote the policy in the middle of the night while ill with the flu, said the guidelines from the ‘90s have served Ingham County well. But he agrees that changes are necessary, just as long as the attorneys maintain “the spirit” of his concepts in the new draft.

“Our ethics policy is very unusual,” Grebner explained. “It’s intricate and subtle. Maybe most people might think ethics policies shouldn’t be intricate and subtle, but straightforward language can be easily evaded. This creates rules and methods for when these sorts of problems arise and it helps guide us back to the ground.”

The policy highlights guidelines on hiring, purchasing, romantic relationships between em-

ployees, political contributions, gifts and how to resolve alleged violations of the policy. Grebner said the policy is designed to be more informative than consequential, and helps create an “institution” of accountability.

Sebolt doesn’t doubt the principles behind the policy. He just wants some more clarification on the details — specifically as it relates to the use of private email accounts for county-related business. Commissioner Dennis Louney resigned last year after it was discovered he had used his county email address for campaign purposes. Sheriff Scott Wriggelsworth apologized for a similar violation this year.

Another board-level controversy ensued when City Pulse reported that several county commissioners had listed their private email addresses as their public point of contact on the Ingham County website. Some commissioners — like Grebner — had argued that it’s nearly impossible to keep the two distinctly separate.

But private emails can pose a clear obstacle to the state’s Freedom of Information Act when multiple elected officials have an outlet to discuss county-related business outside the reach of the county’s Information Technology Department. Commissioners want

some clarity.

“I’ve tried to have the policy rewritten, but it never worked out,” Grebner added. “The ethics policy does need to be rewritten. I agree. It hasn’t kept up to date with state law. It just sounds a lot like me writing weirdly, but nobody on the board was capable of editing it at the time. And there it has sat for all these years.”

Added Commissioner Thomas Morgan: “As it stands, it’s opaque gobbledegook that serves no other purpose than to amuse its author and show through effusive verbosity how much smarter he is than anyone else.”

“The ethics policy needs a wholesale rewrite so that it provides clear guidelines,” Morgan said. Grebner “is proud of pointing out that his policy is so good that it’s never been violated. It’s much more likely that it’s never been violated because it’s too weak and confusing.”

The yet-to-be written, revised ethics policy is due back before the Board of Commissioners by July 9. The committee resolution calls for staff attorneys to include a “general sense” of the existing policy with simplified language, along with the inclusion of “best practices” from policies of other municipalities across the state.

Commissioner Emily Stivers said times have changed since the policy was last amended back in 1999.

“An increased reliance on social media and email calls for an increased need for a better ethics policy,” Stivers said. “We’re looking more for bullet points than rambling paragraphs. With the last board of commissioners, I think we were just starting to get into some mucky, ethical territory. We just needed something more specific.”

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Sparrow

from page 5

hospitals that are unwilling to resolve ongoing concerns. VanGorder doesn’t consider that a possibility.

“If I’m in the community, I’m not excited that 90 things were found,” VanGorder added.

“But I think if you have an organization that does what we do on a daily basis — and does it in as many places as we do it — you’d want to know that someone is shining a light in our corner. That’s what this report does for us.”

City Pulse first publicized the Joint Commission report earlier this month

after a source (who asked not to be named) provided a copy of an internal staff email regarding the citations. Officials previously declined an interview and issued a one-paragraph statement that noted “all concerns have been corrected and cleared.”

After a story published last week on the topic, more than 500 copies of City Pulse went missing from Sparrow Health System facilities after they were delivered. A hospital front-desk staffer said the papers were removed because of a “negative” story. VanGorder and Vice President Illene Cantor denied any knowledge of their disappearance.

“I don’t have any information on that,” Cantor added.

— KYLE KAMINSKI
kyle@lansingcitypulse.com

Bring on Russian trolls

Rep. Slotkin, a former CIA agent, targets ‘information warfare against our political system’

One of the many times U.S. Rep. Elissa Slotkin received applause during her town hall at Sexton High School last week was for the simple comment that she read the entire 448-page Mueller report.

The commentary that followed, however, had little to do with President Donald Trump. It had to do with what has been described by others as “Russian trolls.” The former CIA agent didn’t use that term in talking to the crowd of close to 200, but that’s what she was talking about — Russian actors using social media and paid ads to sway swing state voters in Michigan and elsewhere during the 2016 elections.

Half of the Mueller report was “a straight up description of Russian information warfare against our political system.” Roughly \$100,000 was spent on Facebook alone on a campaign that was seen by an estimated 129 million Americans, she said.

Apparently, Eastern European countries like Montenegro and Albania are familiar with the Russian propaganda machine rolling into town. It’s not unique to the 2016 election or the recent 2018 mid-terms either. Slotkin said similar tactics were used during the Cold War against particular presidential candidates.

Updated for 2018, the new tactic is to create a phony radical Muslim groups or African American groups to fan the flames of hatred. Another ad depicted Hillary Clinton with the devil while Donald Trump walked with Jesus.

“They are not shy about what they’re doing,” Slotkin said ... and it’s currently 100% legal. She and a few of her security-focused colleagues are working on legislation to “plug the holes” in the system to prevent foreign government propaganda in 2020.

The comment earned another round of applause.



As she bounced around Lansing last Thursday, the first-year 8th District Congresswoman said people wanted to talk about health care, rising drug costs and opioid addictions. And she’s more than willing to talk about those issues.

Water quality questions come up. The federal reaction to PFAS contamination. She is not weighing deeply into the Trump impeachment question at this point. Maybe later.

What really gets Slotkin fired up, though, is national security stuff. The former national security official

What really gets Slotkin fired up is national security. The former national security official has been using her expertise to focus on what she sees as the next big threats the United States is facing and what she can do as a member of Congress to stop those threats

has been using her expertise to focus on what she sees as the next big threats the United States is facing and what she can do as a member of Congress to stop those threats.

Earlier in the day last Thursday, the former U.S. Department of Defense official strolled through the grounds of the Emergent BioSolutions lab off Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard. That’s the big, heavily guarded lab where they make the anthrax vaccine.

After she was done, about 60 employees gathered in the break-room to pepper her with various questions. There was one about NAFTA and tariffs. Someone asked if Washington was as dysfunctional as it seems. Another asked what she does for fun. She loves to paddle riv-

Budget Hearing Notice

The Mid-Michigan Leadership Academy will be holding its annual budget hearing on Wednesday, June 26, 2019 at 5:00pm. The location will be the Board Room located at 730 W. Maple St, Lansing MI 48906. The 2019-2020 budget is available for public inspection at 730 W. Maple St, Lansing, MI 48906. The meeting will be conducted in accordance with the Open Meetings Act.

Robert Macomber, Board President

CP#19-153

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, June 19, 2019, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.**

DRAIN NAME	MUNICIPALITY	SECTION NUMBERS
A08-00	ANDREWS DRAIN	MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP 24 WILLIAMSTOWN TOWNSHIP 9, 10, 15-17, 20-22
A12-00	ATZINGER DRAIN	WILLIAMSTOWN TOWNSHIP 33, 34 WHEATFIELD TOWNSHIP 2-4, 9, 10, 15, 16 CITY OF WILLIAMSTON 2, 3, 34, 35
B06-00	BATTEESE CREEK DRAIN (IC)	INGHAM TOWNSHIP 26-30, 32-35 BUNKERHILL TOWNSHIP 3-9, 16-22, 27-29, 32-34
B10-00	BERGEON DRAIN	VEVAY TOWNSHIP 1, 2, 11, 12
B24-00	BURKLEY DRAIN	WILLIAMSTOWN TOWNSHIP 32, 33 WHEATFIELD TOWNSHIP 4, 5
B28-00	BUTTON DRAIN	CITY OF LANSING 4 MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP 34-36 ALAIEDON TOWNSHIP 1-3, 9-15, 23, 24
C08-00	CHAMBERLAIN DRAIN	LOCKE TOWNSHIP 22, 23, 26, 27
C37-00	CHAPIN DRAIN	VEVAY TOWNSHIP 27, 28, 33, 34
D06-00	DEER CREEK DRAIN	ALAIEDON TOWNSHIP 36 WHEATFIELD TOWNSHIP 2, 3, 10-16, 21-29, 31-35 INGHAM TOWNSHIP 2-11, 15-22, 27-30 VEVAY TOWNSHIP 1, 12, 13, 24 WILLIAMSTOWN TOWNSHIP 2 CITY OF WILLIAMSTON 1, 2, 11, 35 VILLAGE OF DANSVILLE 15, 22
F07-00	FOSTER DRAIN	MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP 13, 14, 22-24, 26, 27 WILLIAMSTOWN TOWNSHIP 3, 4, 8-10, 15-17, 20
F07-11	FOSTER, GEORGETOWN BRANCH DRAIN	MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP 14
H21-00	HERRON CREEK DRAIN	CITY OF LANSING 5, 29, 32 MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP 20, 28-32 ALAIEDON TOWNSHIP 5-9, 16, 17
H22-00	HILL DRAIN	WILLIAMSTOWN TOWNSHIP 23-26
M22-00	MILLER DRAIN	INGHAM TOWNSHIP 16, 17, 20-22, 27-29 VILLAGE OF DANSVILLE 22
P26-00	PONDEROSA DRAIN	MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP 35 ALAIEDON TOWNSHIP 2
P39-00	POVEY DRAIN	MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP 25 WILLIAMSTOWN TOWNSHIP
S16-00	SLOAN CREEK DRAIN	CITY OF LANSING 4 MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP 34-36 WILLIAMSTOWN TOWNSHIP 31-33 ALAIEDON TOWNSHIP 1-3, 9-15, 23, 24 WHEATFIELD TOWNSHIP 4-9, 16-21, 27-29, 32
S33-00	SUTTELL DRAIN	WILLIAMSTOWN TOWNSHIP 33, 34 CITY OF WILLIAMSTON 35
S40-00	STID DRAIN	AURELIUS TOWNSHIP 2
S45-20	SMITH CONSOLIDATED DRAIN	CITY OF LANSING 4, 5 MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP 27-29, 32-34 ALAIEDON TOWNSHIP 3-5, 8, 9

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#19-161

Melinn

from page 7

ers and streams Up North with her husband, BTW.

Then someone asked about the future of warfare and cyber threats.

She looked like a major league slugger ready to jump on a fastball down the middle.

She talked about how the nature of warfare is changing. The next big wars, she said, will not be tanks and ground troops taking over larger swaths of land in hand-to-hand combat. The wars will be over information seized or defended over the internet. Financial data. Critical infrastructure. Satellites in space.

"The private sector is on the front lines of a lot of this," she said.

We're already seeing it with the Russians playing in both the 2016 and 2018 elections. A Russian company called the Internet Research Agency worked with Russian political interests to create at least one contrived protest in Pennsylvania.

With her husband working in

the Pentagon, "We talk about these things all the time," she told me later.

Facebook is hurriedly trying to delete the phony accounts as the hackers essentially laugh at the U.S. intelligence and the private sector. According to CNN, the Internet Research Agency bragged about meddling and how it couldn't be stopped in one post.

That's not good enough for Slotkin. She said she is working with those in the Problem Solvers Caucus and others in Congress on legislation before the next presidential election.

"No one, no Republican, Democrat or independent that I know wants foreigners influencing our political process," she said. "There's a lot we need to do to protect ourselves for 2020. It should have already been done. We're doing it now."

(Kyle Melinn, of the Capitol news service MIRS, is at melinnkey@gmail.com.)



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CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN NOTICE OF POSTING OF TOWNSHIP BOARD MINUTES

On June 5, 2019 the approved minutes of the following proceedings of the Meridian Township Board:

May 21, 2019 Regular Meeting

were sent to the following locations for public posting:

Meridian Township Municipal Building, 5151 Marsh Road
and the Township Website www.meridian.mi.us.

BRETT DREYFUS, CMMC
TOWNSHIP CLERK

CP#19-165

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF LANSING SYNOPSIS OF PROPOSED MINUTES

A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF LANSING WAS HELD AT THE TOWNSHIP OFFICES LOCATED AT 3209 WEST MICHIGAN AVENUE, LANSING, MICHIGAN ON TUESDAY, MAY 28, 2019, AT 7:00 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Supervisor Hayes, Clerk Aten, Treasurer Rodgers
Trustees: Harris, Bankson

MEMBERS ABSENT: Trustees: Broughton, McKenzie
ALSO PRESENT: Phil Clark, Attorney

ACTION TAKEN BY THE BOARD:

Meeting called to order by Supervisor Hayes.

Minutes of the meeting held on May 14, 2019, approved.

Agenda approved as amended.

Approved Introduction of Ordinance 75.1: Prohibition of Marihuana Establishments.

Approved Conditional Job Offer for Police Chief.

Approved benefits agreement for the police chief position.

Approved the extension of the agreement for the assessing contract.

Approved continuing services agreement for preparation of financial services statement & authorize Clerk to sign.

Authorized Clerk and Supervisor to sign documents for new ambulance.

Claims approved.

Meeting adjourned.

Diontrae Hayes, Supervisor
Susan L. Aten, Clerk

CP#19-166




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CityPULSE



LOCAL EXPERTS

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Our commitment goes beyond the pages. Last week, we hosted four Michigan native queer writers for a celebration of local voices in writing.

Interested in using our space for an LGBT focused event? We are proud allies of the movement and inquiries can be sent via Facebook Messenger at m.me/EverybodyReads.

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Michelle Carpenter,
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INSURANCE

Whitmer's auto insurance reform in Michigan

Nobody in insurance knows what this insurance reform means yet. Even people who championed it don't know what it is going to look like. In a couple weeks, the Michigan Association of Insurance Agents is going to meet on this and we will get together to talk about what it might mean. It is all very pre-emptive.

What I am trying to do now is give info to assuage concerns and temper exuberance. First of all, it is important to discuss what info we are getting, slivers of truth filtered through the political agendas of biased news sources. Everyone wants to emphasize themselves as the good guy, but time will tell who is doing what.

What worries me as an agent now is what happens in a few years. With the choice of the newly offered cheaper insurance, in some cases someone just gave away lifetime coverage after an accident. With cheaper coverage capped at \$50,000 post accident, someone with a lifelong injury would only receive the bare minimum state benefits after the limit is reached.

What I would suggest people do through the transition is find advocacy in an agent and discover exactly how these changes might affect you. The changes will go into effect at the earliest in July 2020.

We always welcome any questions about insurance concerns.



Scott Harris

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ART SUPPLIES

Delphi Glass is turning up the heat this summer

It's June and you want to do nothing more than run your fingers through the sand of Lake Michigan — we get it, believe us. While the water may be a little too cold for swimming just yet, Delphi Glass is turning up the heat in our fusing studio with frit. If you don't know, frit looks and feels a lot like sand, but you can melt it into just about any design. Beachy scene? Check. Palm tree? Check. Glass pink flamingo we think your grandmother would love? Definitely check. We can't exactly bring you to the beach, but we can bring the beach to you.

Learn how to use frit to create fused glass pieces, from jewelry to wall art. Bring a friend or two while you're at it and join us for one of our fusing classes. You don't have to be an artist to take it — no, seriously! We don't even require you know the color wheel to join in on this summer fun. Whatever your interests, we've got you covered at Delphi Glass. We'll even turn on the Beach Boys for you.



Delphi Glass

DELPHI GLASS

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Lansing, MI 48910
www.delphiglass.com

The urgency of now

The clock is running on human civilization. It's time to take climate change seriously.

Last week, a canvasser from a progressive advocacy group knocked on my door and asked me to fill out a survey. It was mostly basic stuff, like whether my job offers health insurance or whether I'd faced discrimination. But at the end, it presented a conundrum.

I was given eight policy choices and asked to choose the three that were most important. But they all were: raising the minimum wage and improving health care, ending mass incarceration and police brutality, lowering child care and housing costs, improving education and expanding voting rights. How do I choose, when the right answer is all of them?

This is a microcosm of the dilemma progressives face, both in next year's elections and if they gain power: What do you prioritize when there are so many big problems to confront, and in a system inherently resistant to sweeping progressive change?

I could name a half-dozen issues that could legitimately be called crises and demand the government's full attention. Start with wealth inequality, which is rising like we haven't seen since before the Great Depression. Even with the economy nearing full employment, 40% of Americans can't cover a \$400 emergency, as Bloomberg reported last month.



JEFFERY C. BILLMAN

INFORMED DISSENT

Contrast that with this line, from Axios, on June 6: "Wealthy people and corporations have so much money they literally don't what to do about it."

There's also the crisis of democracy itself — a Senate and Electoral College overwhelmingly weighted toward white, rural states, as America is becoming more diverse and urban, not to mention frontal assaults on voting rights and equal representation in the form of voter ID and gerrymandering. Also: education and health care, the burgeoning affordable housing and eviction crises in cities, the attacks on abortion rights, mass incarceration and racial disparities in the criminal legal system.

These are all real problems — emergencies, even — that shouldn't be minimized. But there's one that's first among equals, and the media and our political parties need to treat it that way. Quite literally, the fate of the world depends on it.

Human civilization will trudge on if right-wing populists and their plutocrat allies dominate, if Trump's brand of authoritarianism rises, if the social safety net is starved, if America's political system degenerates. These outcomes are dystopian. But they're not apocalyptic.

Climate change is.

In an extreme but terrifyingly plausible warming scenario, a study from an Australian think tank reported last week, by 2050 civilization as we know it will end. More than half of the world's population will experience more than 20 days of lethal heat

per year, some parts of of Africa and Southeast Asia being literally unlivable a third of the year; billions of people will move, creating a migration crisis unlike the world has seen.

Meanwhile, Arctic ice sheets, the Amazon rainforest, and coral reef systems will vanish, food production will

Human civilization will trudge on if right-wing populists and their plutocrat allies dominate, if Trump's brand of authoritarianism rises, if the social safety net is starved, if America's political system degenerates. These outcomes are dystopian. But they're not apocalyptic. Climate change is.

collapse, and rising seas will drown coastal cities.

As the report quotes Professor Hans Joachim Schellnhuber, director emeritus of the Potsdam Institute, as writing: "There is a very big risk that we will just end our civilisation. The human species will survive somehow but we will destroy almost everything we have built up over the last two thousand years."

It's alarmist, sure, but by necessity. If this isn't our reality in 2050, it probably will be by 2100. Our window to act is closing.

Yet the Trump administration, in thrall to the fossil fuel industry, is actively burying its head in the sand. On Saturday, The Washington Post reported that the White House blocked a State Department intelligence agency from submitting written testimony to the House Intelligence Committee that said climate change could be "possibly catastrophic," after

the State Department refused to edit the document to reflect the Trump administration's efforts to minimize the problem.

This line from the Post story should tell you everything

you need to know (emphasis mine): "Critics of the testimony included William Happer, a National Security Council senior director who has touted the benefits of carbon dioxide and sought to establish a federal task force to challenge the scientific consensus that human activity is driving the planet's rising temperatures."

In other words, the world's most powerful country and second largest carbon polluter is led by a president (and a political party) who doesn't even acknowledge the problem, let alone the urgency and existential risk.

This is intentional ignorance that will inexorably lead to the deaths of millions of people — and, in itself, criminal negligence that warrants removal from office.

But somehow, we talk about the Green New Deal like it's radical.

The GND's flaw, if you want to call it that, is that it tries to do everything in a system inherently resistant to progressive change: not just a switch to clean energy a zero-emissions future, but while we're at it, a fairer economy, union rights, expanded health care, a sustainable food system, and so on.

Again, all of those things are important, vital even, and they all tie together. But even in Democrats' best-case scenario next year, such an all-encompassing plan to fully reorient the American economy seems unlikely.

Still, the GND sets the goalposts, and it frames the problem. It's also forced Democratic presidential contenders to craft their own climate plans, some better than others, but all giant leaps forward from what was even thought possible a decade ago. Gov. Jay Inslee of Washington, who is running for president solely to address climate change, wanted one of the DNC's 12 planned debates focused only this issue. Sen. Elizabeth Warren signed on, too.

The Democratic National Committee refused. Chairman Tom Perez told activists in Florida this weekend that it's "just not practical" because "all of these issues are important."

Where Perez fails is that climate change isn't just another issue. It's the issue. And if Democrats won't even treat it like an existential threat, how can they expect the rest of the country to get on board with the sweeping policy changes that threat demands?

(Jeffrey Billman is editor of INDY Week, in Durham, North Carolina.)

CITY OF LANSING NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Public Hearing will be held on Monday, June 24, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, 10th Floor Lansing City Hall, 124 W. Michigan Ave., Lansing, MI for the purpose of considering:

An Ordinance of the City of Lansing, Michigan, for the purpose of an amendment to chapter 1615, sections 1615.02 and 1615.06 to provide for the regulation of the days and times permitting the unlicensed ignition, discharge and use of consumer fireworks and the penalties for violation of the regulations; and to conform the regulations and penalties to the requirements of Michigan 2018 p.a. 635 regarding local government ordinances.

For more information, please call 517-483-4177. If you are interested in this matter, please attend the public hearing or send a representative. Written comments will be accepted between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. on City business days if received before 5 p.m., on the day of the Public Hearing at the City Clerk's Office, Ninth Floor, City Hall, 124 West Michigan Ave., Lansing, MI 48933 or email city.clerk@lansingmi.gov.

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

CP#19-168

STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT COUNTY OF INGHAM NOTICE TO CREDITORS Decedent's Estate File No. 19-628-DE

Estate of Cheryl A. Anderson. Date of Birth: 9-30-34.
TO ALL CREDITORS: "NOTICE TO CREDITORS: the decedent, Cheryl A. Anderson, died March 28, 2019. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Leslie V. Anderson, personal representative, or to both the probate court at 313 W. Kalamazoo St., Lansing, MI 48933 and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice."

Date: June 7, 2019
Leslie V. Anderson
1019 Bedford Road
East Lansing, MI 48823
517-203-9143

CP#19-167

ARTS & CULTURE

ART • BOOKS • FILM • MUSIC

Calling all visual artists: Summer of Art cover series begins

By **AUDREY MATUSZ**

Artists: Want your work featured on the cover of City Pulse this summer?

For the fourth year City Pulse is teaming up with the Arts Council of Greater Lansing on the Summer of Art project. Each week in July and August, original local art will appear on the front of the paper.

Past years have featured the works of visual virtuosos excelling in oil pastels

as well as local emerging artists who turned common resources, such as paper and markers, into eye-catching arrays of color.

The original works will be auctioned to benefit the Arts Council.

All submissions are collected online at lansingarts.slideroom.com and will be accepted on a rolling basis now through Aug. 15. Applicants will be notified upon acceptance if they have

been chosen as a cover artist. If selected for one of the nine issues, a short bio on the artist will appear in City Pulse. Cover artists must donate their original artwork to the Arts Council's Young Creatives Program. Artists will be compensated 30% of the auction price.

Anyone who lives in Ingham, Eaton and Clinton counties may submit to the "Summer of Art" contest. Applicants may choose up to two high resolution

images (300 dpi) that will best translate to 9.5 inches by 6.5 inches. It is important artists understand that the City Pulse reserves the right to crop any artwork to fit the aforementioned space.

Work submitted does not need to fit a particular theme, but those interested in submitting for the July 3 issue should consider Independence Day-themed art.

'Indecent' traces complex history of Judasim, love and control

By **MARY CUSACK**

Review

Peppermint Creek Theatre Co.'s final play of the season is a must-see for more reasons than can be covered in one review. Key among those reasons is that "Indecent" serves as a cautionary

"Indecent"

Peppermint Creek Theatre
Through Sunday, June 16
Alternating showtimes:
8 p.m. and 2 p.m.
\$17 general admission
\$12 students & seniors
6025 Curry Lane, Lansing
(517) 372-0945
peppermintcreek.org

tale about history repeating itself, which is especially relevant as national political movements attempt to oppress women and mem-

bers of the LGBTQ community.

The play tells the true story of the rise and fall of a Yiddish play called "God of Vengeance." Written in 1906 by Sholem Asch (Connor Kelly), a Jewish writer living in Poland, the play was controversial from its creation because it dealt with the seedy underworld of prostitution in the Jewish community. Against that background, a forbidden love develops as the daughter (Sally Hecksel) of the brothel owner (Mark Zussman) and his most lucrative prostitute (Janet Colson) fall in love. In his fury upon discovering the relationship, he defiles a Torah.

"Indecent" is a play-within-a-play, tracing the evolution of "God of Vengeance" over several decades, as it is successfully produced across Europe, and eventually lands in New

York City. The play is successful until a butchered adaptation is introduced on Broadway that draws the attention of a prominent Jewish rabbi (Jim Coyer), who conspires to have the cast arrested and charged with a violation of obscenity laws. Although the cast continue to defend themselves and the artistic merit of the play, Asch turns his back on it and them. The cast returns to Europe to continue performing the play at the most inopportune time, the brink of the Holocaust.

The structure of "Indecent" may seem a bit confusing at first, but it pays off in the long run. The bulk of the play is bookended by the premise that the cast of "God" is replaying the history of the play's production. A denouement wraps up Asch's complex relationship with his brainchild. Along the way, helpful and clever overhead projections provide key guidance for navigating shifting languages and "blinks in time."

The cast members perform multiple roles, playing both the actors and the characters that they portray in "God," as well as the historical figures who influenced the creation and suppression of the work. The Klezmer musicians played by Tamara Hicks-Syron, Jeff Boerger and Andy Callis, fill in various roles as well.

While "Indecent" serves as important documentation of the historical importance of Yiddish theatre, it is much more than just that. Even though



Courtesy Photo

Janet Ehrlich Colson (left) and Sally Hecksel portray a forbidden love affair between a prostitute and a brothel owner's daughter.

Asch is crushed by the overwhelmingly inhuman events of the Holocaust and McCarthy's Red Scare, the fact that "Indecent" is keeping his story alive provides hope. Additionally, without providing spoilers, audiences are ultimately rewarded with a hauntingly beautiful scene of human connection.

Director Mary Job took on an incredible challenge to produce this complex piece at the community theatre level. Fortunately, the Lansing area has a wealth of talent, and the cast is solid. There is particular veracity in the connections between the characters portrayed by Kelly, Hecksel and Colson. While portraying more minor characters, Judith Evans has several oppor-

tunities to display her considerable acting and singing chops. As the naïf, Lemml, Joe Clark guides his character through a maturation that sees the earnest stage manager become the champion of "God of Vengeance."

The selection of "Indecent" is a fitting denouement to Peppermint Creek's 2018-19 season. The conclusion of the play mirrors the eternal optimism of the value of theaters in the world, as this is the last play it produces in the Miller Performing Arts Center. Just as a hopeful young director pledges to Asch that he will keep "Indecent" alive, Peppermint Creek will persist in life a new location for its 2019-20 season.



ARTS NIGHT

JUNE 14 OUT

Bella Grande

The Hen House

Missy's Shop of Style

PAE Plumbing

The Thirsty Bird

Windwalker Underground Gallery

And More!

Arts Night Out Charlotte

Arts Night Out returns to Charlotte on June 14 from 5 - 8pm! Explore a variety of unique venues as they showcase some of the town's best local artists!



CityPULSE

Redhead Design Studio



WOMEN VETERANS 5K RUN/WALK



SATURDAY, JUNE 22, 2019

Registration Opens at 7:30AM
Race Begins at 9:00AM

LANSING CENTER - 333 E. MICHIGAN AVE., LANSING

All women veterans and their friends, families and supporters are encouraged to attend this inaugural race hosted by the **Michigan Women's Commission** and the **Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency**!

For more information and to register, visit Run Sign Up:
<https://runsignup.com/Race/MI/Lansing/MIWomenVeterans5K>



'Timeless' Hairspray still holds

By **PAUL WOZNAK**

Can you hear the bells? That '60s R&B and the hiss of aerosol cans is the sound of "Hairspray" the musical at Riverwalk Theatre. Riverwalk last staged the retro-themed hit in 2011 to audience and critical fanfare and its reprise is welcome.

Review

Based on John Waters' 1988 cult classic film, the musical, written by Mark O'Donnell, Thomas Meehan, Marc Shaiman and Scott Wittman, is just as relevant and funny as it was when the show debuted in Broadway in 2002. Although this staging with a fresh cast and crew doesn't quite have the same spark and cohesion of Riverwalk's 2011 production, it still moves and shows the potential for greater things to come.

"Hairspray" tells the story of Tracy Turnblad (Kayla Henry), a fearless teenager living in 1962 Baltimore, and her quest to join — and ultimately integrate — the cast of the local TV program The Corny Collins Show. Fueled by her family and friends, a killer soundtrack and an enviable level of self-confidence and integrity, Turnblad ultimately inspires her friends and foes alike to embrace change, diversity and themselves.

"Hairspray"

Riverwalk Theatre
Through Sunday, June 16
\$26 General Admission,
\$22 Senior, Student and Military
228 Museum Dr., Lansing
(517) 482-5700
For showtimes,
visit riverwalktheatre.com

As Tracy, Henry blends the perfect amount of unshakable optimism and quirky charm along

with tight dancing. Henry's voice wavers sometimes, but her chemistry with her onstage family and friends powers the production from scene to scene.

As Tracy's mother Edna, Drew Doman may be dressed in drag (per show tradition), but his portrayal of a protective, yet insecure mother who struggles with her body is honest and straight. Doman shines along with stage husband Wilbur (Luka Pawsek), particularly in Act II's Cole Porter send-up "You're Timeless to Me."

Meghan Eldred-Woolsey brings the requisite sneer to show baddie Velma Von Tussle. As the producer of "The Corny Collins Show" who makes statements such as, "They're kids. We need to steer them in the white direction," Von Tussle is already a broad caricature of a racist stage mom. Eldred-Woolsey's choice to play Von Tussle with the cackle of a Disney villain, plays up the show's humor, but it takes some of the bite out

of the satire. That said, she and her entitled daughter Amber (Taylor Rupp), play the perfect "mean girl" couple to root against.

Other standouts include Janell Hall as Motormouth Maybelle and her stirring civil rights-inspired ballad "I Know Where I've Been," Sean Holland II as the slick footed Seaweed J. Stubbs,



Courtesy Photo

Kayla Henry as Tracy Turnblad.

Alex Quinlan as the smooth talking Corny Collins, Taren Going as Tracy's daft friend Penny Pingleton and Robert Mueller (not that one) as Baltimore's Elvis-lite Link Larkin.

Amanda Tollstam's tight choreography, inspired by the show and film, is effortlessly executed by the cast and ensemble of over a dozen dancers. Their moves seem even smoother with help from Ashley Hampton's pastel popping costume design and Lori Bailey-Smith's perfectly coiffed hair design. Other production elements such as Aja Jenk's set design, lighting design by James B. Brunk III and Bernie Lucas' properties design bring the early '60s Technicolor world to life.

Where "Hairspray" struggles is to be heard and to keep pace. A few years ago, Riverwalk sequestered its pit orchestra from onstage to a room up the hall to better balance the singers with their musical accompaniment. Overall, this decision has aided the sound mix for musicals. However, Friday's production mix sounded muddy and dull with the audience struggling to hear both the singers and the orchestra led by Angie Constien-Schwab. Friday's performance also struggled to maintain its energy following dance numbers, with the dialogue lacking the kick of the choreography.

Overall, first-time director Sarah Hayner should be proud of her accomplishment. Broadway musicals are a logistics nightmare to stage, but Hayner with her cast and crew make that feat — along with the height of their hair — appear effortless.

PRIDE 2019

Lansing Pride celebrations honor past, future of the movement

By **AUDREY MATUSZ**

One can't help wondering what organizers of the Stonewall Bar protest in New York 50 years ago, bringing global attention to state sanctioned violence against LGBTQ+ people, would have thought of a national month-long observance where fly-over cities around the world draw crowds waving rainbow flags.

Stonewall's organizers would probably be even more shocked to learn about the expansion of the movement, which now includes over a dozen LGBTQ+ flags recognizing various genders, sexual orientations and preferences. With the evolution of the movement in mind, Leigha Faith, co-chairwoman for Michigan Pride, was intentional about highlighting

the voices of transgender and racial minorities in this year's festivities.

"Honestly we wouldn't be here today if it weren't for the people who came before us," Faith said.

Saturday's events will begin with a march to the Capitol from Adado Riverfront Park, led by Mayor Andy Schor, the grand marshal for the second year in a row. On its ivory steps, four speakers have been invited to address the crowd at the Capitol, in addition to board members of Michigan Pride and Lansing residents. The speakers offer a range of perspectives from a state politician to a transgender teenager navigating the public school system.

As the march begins, the festival will get underway on Turner Street in

Old Town from noon to 10 p.m. with a loaded line-up of entertainers, vendors and adult beverages.

Musicians from the mitten and beyond will appear on the Old Town stage, including New-York hip hop duo New Fame at 5:30 p.m., who opened for hip-hop icons such as Talib Kweli and comedian Hannibal Burrell. Tell Yo Mama will close the show at 8 p.m. delivering the classic pop and rock hits that have been turning Lansing parties into sing-alongs for years. And it wouldn't be Michigan Pride without appearances from Emma Sapphire and Sabin, who have returned to Lansing to serve high-heeled energy in their drag performances.

A \$10 donation is requested but

not required for entry. Faith said the LGBTQ nonprofit is still in need of volunteers to help with day of activities. Signing up to volunteer will result in a free event t-shirt and wristband. To find volunteer requirements and more, go to the events page on michiganpride.org.

"Not a single penny is paid to people to who run, execute, organize or has anything to do with the pride events and we are one of the few in the state where that is true," Faith said.

Faith added that the proceeds made from selling wristbands will "go back into the community" whether it be a donation to Salus Center, a local LGBTQ resource center, or next year's production.



Kaitlin Grant/City Pulse

2019 Pride Rally Speakers:

Lansing Mayor and Grand Marshal Andy Schor

Dana Nessel, attorney general of Michigan

Phiwa Langeni, director of Salus Center

Shane Shananaquet, trans teen

Pride Michigan board members

See pride events
guide:
Page 25

PRIDE 2019



LANSING ASSOCIATION
FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

LOVE
LIVES
HERE

**PRIDE 2019
ALL YEAR LONG!**

A MOVEMENT THAT DOESN'T WORK AT THE INTERSECTIONS STANDS STILL.

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SEXUALITY, ABILITY STATUS, CITIZENSHIP STATUS, SOCIOECONOMIC STATUS, HEALTH, AND FAMILY STRUCTURE.
WE ENCOURAGE AND COMMIT TO COLLABORATIVE WORK WITH PARTNERS IN JUSTICE WORK FOR THE GOOD OF OUR LARGER COMMUNITY.

FOLLOW LAHR ON FACEBOOK AND SUPPORT OUR GOOD WORK! LANSHUMANRIGHTS

FOLLOW OUR PARTNERS ON FACEBOOK: SALUS CENTER SALUSCENTERMI AND BLACK LIVES MATTER LANSING BLMLANSING!

PRIDE 2019

‘We can do better’

Michigan Attorney General Dana Nessel talks about LGBTQ rights, church and state, the Great Lakes and the ‘penis ad’

By **LAWRENCE COSENTINO**

Michigan Attorney General Dana Nessel and her home state have taken a dizzying ride on the ridge of history in the last 15 years.

“It’s sort of surreal sometimes,” Nessel said in a phone interview Monday. “Sometimes I can’t believe it’s my life.”

Nessel will be honored tonight at the 4th Annual City Pulse LGBTQ+ Inclusion Awards. See page 19 for more information.)

It started in the nadir of 2004, when the state passed a constitutional amendment barring same-sex marriage, and continued through an epic legal fight, with Nessel in a leading role, that culminated in the Supreme Court’s 2015 recognition of same-sex marriage as a constitutional right.

Nessel’s election in 2018 as the state’s first openly gay holder of statewide office — replacing a notoriously homophobic predecessor, Bill Schuette — completed a trajectory so dramatic even a Hollywood screenwriter would be reluctant to pitch it.

Nessel is not into melodrama. She was reluctant to single out a lightning-bolt moment when she resolved to run for office. But she does recall sitting in a federal district court in Detroit in 2014, with her wife, Alanna Maguire, beside her, enduring insulting “expert” testimony while arguing for the plaintiffs in the *DeBoer v. Snyder* case challenging Michigan’s same-sex marriage ban. (The case, combined with others, led to *Obergefell v. Hodges*, the U.S. Supreme Court case that resulted in national recognition of same-sex marriage.)

“Here we are, we’re parents with twin boys, and we had to listen to fabricated testimony, paid for with my tax dollars, that families like ours did not deserve to have legal rights to our own children, and we shouldn’t have the right to marry because we couldn’t possibly appreciate and revere the institution of marriage the way an opposite sex couple could,” she said. “All I could think is, ‘We’re sitting right here, man.’ It’s hard enough as an attorney to hear people talk about your clients that way, but this is very personal.”

Few same-sex marriage-related cases wandered into the weeds of junk social science, but *DeBoer v. Snyder* was one of them. Nessel recalled a 26-year-old philosophy major telling the judge, on behalf of the state of Michigan, that what really makes a marriage is the act of coitus.

“I think the state paid that kid \$30,000,” Nessel said. “Here I’m watching people called to testify by the attor-



Courtesy Photo

Michigan Attorney General Dana Nessel.

ney general’s office to make these specious arguments that were discounted by every court in the land and widely mocked and disparaged because they were so ridiculous. I think that was the moment I thought, ‘My God, Michigan, we can do better than this.’”

“Whiplash” is the word most often used to describe Nessel’s breathtaking reversal of Schuette’s priorities as attorney general, from protecting LGBTQ rights and guarding the Great Lakes to keeping church and state separated.

Where the LGBTQ community is concerned, Nessel invoked Martin Luther King Jr.’s maxim that “the arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice.”

But she quickly added that the arc is “bending back a little bit right now.”

Several areas of current federal action, she said, should be “very concerning” to the LGBTQ community.

Trump administration rules barring transgender people from serving in the armed forces are well known, but it gets worse.

What worries Nessel most are recently proposed rules from the Department of Health and Human Services that would cut funding from states unless health care providers are allowed to deny medical services to people based on religious viewpoints.

“It’s the biggest breach of the separation between church and state I’ve ever seen in my career,” Nessel said. “It’s horrifying. I can’t think of anything more serious than the thought of a medical professional could legally deny you emergency medical services.”

Nessel’s idea of religious freedom, a phrase often used to justify such denials

of treatment, is “to protect people who are being discriminated against because of their religion — a shield.”

“What’s happened lately is that the religious zealots, the right-wing conservatives, are using the First Amendment as a sword, to skewer the rights of others. To me, that is repugnant to all the ideas and concepts of what we’ve been taught to believe our nation was founded on. We are not a theocracy.”

Federal regulations can be reversed if the 2020 elections bring change in Washington, D.C., but that leaves Nessel with a far bigger concern.

“What won’t change is the numbers of federal appointees in the courts by the Trump administration, after the Obama appointees were held up for so long under the auspices of Mitch McConnell and the Republican Senate,” she said.

Courts at every level, from district to appellate to the Supreme Court, are undergoing extreme makeovers.

“As soon as you had a Republican senate and a Republican President — boom, they went and filled all of them pretty quickly, with inexperienced young attorneys with a philosophical bent that’s very dangerous to the LGBTQ community,” Nessel said.

Consequently, even if Trump serves “four years or less,” she predicted “his reach will be very far, for decades to come — for the rest of my lifetime, certainly.” She has already declared that even if *Roe v. Wade* is overturned by the U.S. Supreme Court, she will not enforce a state abortion ban.

Nessel is hip-deep in plenty of high-profile issues such as prosecuting sex offenders in the Catholic church and investigating culpability in the Flint wa-

ter crisis, but she’d also like to draw attention to issues she feels are not getting as much ink as they should.

One of these is consumer protection, from suing pharmaceutical companies when they “fraudulently inflate the price of medications” to keeping a lid on utility rate increases. “We are some 30 percent higher than most other states when we pay our gas and electric bills,” she said. “Schuette never challenged the utilities on rate increases, never, so of course the rates went up.”

She is also doing a set of “senior summits” around the state, working with the Supreme Court, both houses of the Legislature and 80 senior advocacy groups to redraw laws against elder abuse and economic exploitation.

Another top priority of Nessel’s is to restore the state’s once-vaunted status as proud steward of the Great Lakes.

“Nothing else that we do, from an economic standpoint, matters, if people can’t access clean drinking water,” she said. “It hasn’t been a priority for the Attorney General’s Office and it should be. We’ve had people who care more about protecting the oil and gas industry and protecting chemical manufacturers. Whether it’s decommissioning Line 5, attacking the PFAS epidemic in our state, going after CAFOs or managing invasive species, we have to have utmost concern for our Great Lakes, because once that’s compromised we’ll never get it back.”

Prior to her historic win in 2018, Nessel, 50, was widely known as the candidate who ran the “penis ad,” which ran in the midst of daily revelations about high-profile men harassing women. The pitch went: “So, when you’re choosing Michigan’s next attorney general, ask yourself this: Who can you trust most not to show you their penis in a professional setting? Is it the candidate who doesn’t have a penis? I’d say so.”

“Are they still talking about that?” she asked. The ad made a lot of people smile, but it drove home a point she strongly wanted to make.

“I was getting so much blowback about how we couldn’t possibly have an all-female ticket for the Democrats, that the voters would never go for it,” she said. “I was horrified by that. I knew that if you had more women in positions of power, you’d have less sexual harassment. I was tackling both issues at once. As it turned out, I was right. Every woman at the top of the ticket won for the Democrats. Maybe it’s a lesson that we should work harder to be a little less sexist and value people for who they are.”

FOURTH ANNUAL CITY PULSE LGBTQ+ INCLUSION AWARDS

Profiles by Lawrence Cosentino



Zoe Russick Steinfield:
Hard conversations

There's only one problem giving Zoe Russick Steinfield an Inclusion Award, according to Emily Dievendorf, former director of Equality Michigan.

"She's too humble and she plays her accomplishments down," Dievendorf said. Dievendorf nominated Steinfield for the award.

Steinfeld, 29, is a clinical social worker at the nonprofit Child and Family Charities and a therapist for adolescents and adults struggling with substance abuse disorders.

When a tragedy involving an LGBT student struck a local school, Steinfield arrived on the scene to lead a quick response, volunteering her time to counsel students and staff. She juggled her therapy work to establish a daily drop-in therapy hour for anybody who needed it.

"It's so typical of her," Dievendorf said. "She puts herself out there, vulnerable and available, to take on the students' hurt. And that wasn't the only time; only the most recent."

As a therapist, Steinfield helps all kinds of people, but as a trans woman, she informally mentors and advises trans people in the community, especially younger people, who are finding their way in life.

That kind of mentoring is more nuanced than a simple "if I can do this, so can you."

"When I'm offering a listening ear, or guidance, I have to do it from a place of humility, because a lot of people are facing a lot more barriers than I did," she said.

Steinfeld had a mostly supportive family. Many trans people don't.

"The basic idea of coming to accept who you are and rejecting what society has planned for you is pretty hard," she said.

Fortunately, self-acceptance is not just a worthy goal in itself. Steinfield turns it into a potent force multiplier.

"It helps you offer that acceptance to others, and they can pass on that gift to the next people," she said. "It's exponential."

Two issues come up most frequently as Steinfield counsels trans and queer people: finding transition-related health care and helping people find community.

"They've lost relationships with their family of origin, so finding a chosen

family, a family of belonging, is a huge thing," Steinfield said.

Fortunately, resources are getting easier to find. "What it feels like being trans here in the Lansing area is so different than a decade ago," she said. "It's so much easier to meet other trans people, to talk about being trans."

If somebody in the community reaches out for help, or if there is organizing happening, Steinfield will gladly dig into her personal time. "But my official role — I have to leave it at work," she said. "I have to carve out time to engage in the parts of life that give me joy beyond service. I try to maintain a very strict separation between work and home life, which is not as easy as it sounds."

Fortunately, lots of things give her joy, such as learning guitar and violin, swing dancing, and role-playing games. She has also traveled to some fantastic places, including Madagascar and Kenya.

"I have more hobbies than I have time for," she said.



Sister Misty Meanor:
Drag with a purpose

The first Sunday of every month, at the Hayloft in Detroit, a crowd of regulars basks in the loving abuse of a large, brassy nun named Sister Misty Meanor.

Sister Misty's alter ego, Shawn Finnerty, described Bad Habits Bingo as "three hours of bingo nonsense and shenanigans," called by Sister Misty in a "mouthy" manner.

The bingo is campy fun, but Sister Misty is part of an exalted order of missionaries and prefers the term "sister" to "drag queen."

The "sistory" of the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence Inc. goes back to San Francisco in 1979. The order uses drag and religious trappings to call out, and satirize, bigotry and intolerance.

The order started as "a little bit of a joke," Finnerty said, but as the AIDS epidemic ravaged the gay community in the 1990s, the fun got serious, generating chapters in several nations around the world and 47 cities over the United States, including Detroit's Motor City Sisters, of which Finnerty is a member.

Finnerty, 42, did drag for a while when he was younger but he got bored with it.

"It wasn't doing anything for me anymore," he said. He met a few Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence while living in

Portland, Oregon.

"I love everything the organization stands for," he said. The sisters' mission statement is to "promulgate omniversal joy and expiate stigmatic guilt."

They fulfill that magniloquent vow through charity, education, safer sex outreach, anything they can do to help their brothers and sisters and other marginalized people in the community.

"It's drag with a purpose," he said. "It doesn't matter if I have an eyelash out of place because it's not about me, it's about the community we're helping."

At recent demonstrations in support of Drag Queen Story Hour in suburban Detroit, the sisters faced some serious abuse and heckling.

"It can get pretty heavy, but I know what I got myself into and I got myself into it for a reason."

Soaking up abuse, almost in the tradition of medieval martyrs, comes with the territory. It's a serious — dare we say holy? — business, despite the wisecracks, and meshes perfectly with Finnerty's journey to sobriety.

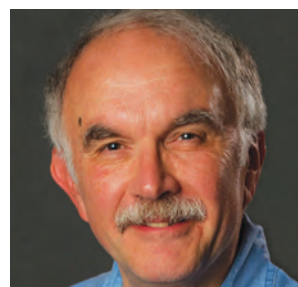
"Sister Misty and the other sisters are a huge part of why I got sober," he said. "I can't do my ministry as a sister if I'm wasted and incoherent. I've never been wasted as Sister Misty."

Sister Misty also helps Patrick express the lunar "far side" of his personality.

"I'm not very much into going out, especially since I became sober," he said. "Sister Misty, on the other hand, is a firecracker. She makes friends with everybody."

At the order's 40th anniversary celebration in San Francisco, Finnerty got to meet sisters from all over the world. To his surprise, he found that many of them had been following social media posts on his journey into sobriety and embraced him as a friend.

"It's a good thing I shellacked my face on, because otherwise I would cry it all off," he said.



Dr. Peter Gulick:
New day, new chapter

Dr. Peter Gulick likes to tell the tale of the "stupid orthopedist" (or S.O.) to dramatize the attitudes he faced in the 1990s, treating patients living with HIV and AIDS. Over 20 years ago, an orthopedist in Gulick's office came into the break room and scarfed down a piece of coffee cake.

Wednesday, June 12 at Urban Beat, 1213 Turner St.

Cash bar begins at 6:30 p.m., followed by the ceremony at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door if seats remain. Buy tickets online at www.lansingcitypulse.com or call Suzi at (517) 999-6704. They include a wristband courtesy of Spiral Dance Bar (a \$10 value) to the White Party in Old Town on Friday.

"This is great, who made it?" the S.O. asked.

"One of my patients," Gulick replied.

The S.O. blanched, rushed to the men's room and spat the cake out. "What's going to happen to me?" he pleaded on his return.

"Better be careful. We're going to have to test you for six months," Gulick said with a straight face. "In the meantime, no sex with your wife."

"Oh, I was brutal," Gulick recalled with a grin.

"What can I say? Some people are just stupid."

Don't get the wrong idea. With most people, brutality isn't Gulick's style. He sees about 1,000 patients living with HIV at clinics in Lansing, Saginaw and Harrison, the only rural HIV clinic in the state. He's been on the HIV beat since the 1980s.

"When I started out, it was a bedside deathwatch," he said. "We'd make the rounds of the HIV patients and residents would say, 'we're going to rotate on the morgue.'"

In 1995, newly discovered protease inhibitors were added to a cocktail of treatments, ushering in the "Lazarus period" in HIV. The cocktail has since been refined into a single pill with fewer side effects. Today a person with AIDS can expect to live for 40 years on average; a person with HIV can be expected to live a normal life span.

"It's incredible how much advancement we've learned about the immune system, how viruses interact with human cells," Gulick said. People with HIV now "can live normal, productive lives. They can have families, they can have children. Babies are born without HIV to an HIV-infected mother as long as she takes the medicine."

Medicine is advancing toward a "functional cure," where even dormant reservoirs of HIV virus are located, awakened and wiped out so they can never come out of hiding and ambush the immune system.

But the same health pressures that are crushing the population at large exert a double whammy on patients with HIV. Mental health and substance abuse are the two main stumbling blocks. Gulick makes sure his nurse practitioners and assistants get patients access to anti-depressants or other treatment they need and he's working on opening an opioid abuse clinic.

At 69, he has no plans to retire.

"No other area, even oncology, gave me the satisfaction I get from working here," he said. Daily pills will soon evolve into monthly, then quarterly, injections. Gulick doesn't want to miss whatever comes next.

"Each time it's a new chapter in a book," he said. "I go to a meeting and it's exciting because they talk about the

Inclusion

from page 16

cure now. You never want to put the book down because there's always some new thing you want to read."



Ligia Romero Balcarel:
Never routine

Ligia Romero Balcarel loves her job and her colleagues at the Lansing Area AIDS Network, where she's been a medical case manager for 19 years.

But it hasn't all been smooth sailing. "I've gotten in trouble for not following protocol, but that comes with the territory," she said.

We're not talking about your usual frolic and detour. She once tracked down a homeless and sick client in the dead of winter to a cluster of tents in the woods near Kalamazoo Street.

Her director reminded her that there were safety concerns about making such a solo sally. He gave her a light reprimand and they returned to the homeless camp together.

Romero Balcarel, 60, came to the U.S. as a child, a political refugee from Guatemala. Her parents were strong on family.

"As a little girl, I was told that you don't leave anybody behind," she said.

Her father was the private chauffeur for American ambassador John Gordon Mein. Her mother was a nurse in Guatemala City.

"She was a huge advocate for the poor," she said.

In 1968, Guatemalan rebels ambushed and killed Mein. Romero Balcarel's family went into hiding because her father had witnessed the killing. The U.S. government quietly put them on a redeye flight to Miami.

The family ended up in Lansing at the invitation of her uncle, who worked in the auto industry.

In Lansing, Romero Balcarel worked at Cristo Rey Community Center as a substance abuse administrator and counselor. She applied to LAAN after a close friend got HIV and died.

Early in her career at LAAN, 10 of her clients died in one year.

"I checked out," she said. "I was angry and bitter."

She credits her directors' compassion for pulling her through.

"Brenda Stoneburner and Audrey Matisoff took me aside and encouraged me to find peace," she said. "They gave

me the space and I had to surrender and say, 'OK, I can't do everything.'"

Nearly 20 years is a long tour of duty, but her zeal for the job hasn't waned.

"It's never routine," she said. "There's never a day that's the same or an hour that's the same and I love that."

The medical prognosis for people living with HIV has improved dramatically, but there's still a lot of work to do.

"We deal with a lot of people who have multiple issues — mental health, substance abuse and on top of that they have their HIV," she said.

Mental health and substance abuse damage is bad enough on its own, but for people living with HIV, it's a deadly double jeopardy that blurs crucial focus on health, whether it's going to medical appointments or taking life-saving medications.

No matter how invested she is in the well-being of her clients, she knows there will be setbacks and bad outcomes.

"There are days when a case has impacted me so much," she said. "Their lives are just never very stable. It's OK. I've learned that it's OK for me to go



Lorenzo Lopez:
Step out

Lorenzo Lopez deserves more than a story in the newspaper. You need the whole newspaper — preferably a Sunday Times — to do him justice. In the arts section, you would read about his lifelong passion for the music and dance forms of Latin America, especially Mexican dance. In the food section, readers could drool over his skill at making enchiladas, tortilla chips and other traditional Mexican foods.

In the news section, where politics take center stage, Lopez's tireless activism on behalf of the Latinx and LGBTQ communities in Lansing.

This year, Lopez became the first Latino chair of Suits and the City, a Lansing-based LGBTQ networking organization.

"There are still so many Latino guys who are afraid to come out, to be who they are," Lopez said. "That's sad to me, because you're never going to be who you are until you step out."

Lopez is a highly visible role model and mentor. His house is well known in the Latino community as a safe house for gay men who have been rejected from their homes or suffered other traumas.

"I give them meals, they can shower, shave, refresh, relax, for a day or two until I can find the resource they need,"

he said. "I can make them good enchilada, rice and beans, whatever."

Lopez grew up in Lansing, but he moved to Mexico City for several years to study Mexican and Spanish dance more intensively.

"It gave me a whole new perspective on being gay," he said. "A city that large and cosmopolitan, you see all this stuff and meet all these people. It enriched my belief in who I am as an American."

This summer, Lopez is leading a three-weekend class in Cumbia, the Colombian dance form avidly absorbed by Mexicans and Mexican-Americans.

"I'm not a little gay man just sitting in the corner," he said. "I'm out there." From the steps of the Capitol to community centers and classrooms, Lopez goes to meetings, leads rallies, advocates, organizes, defends, assists.

"My life is a whirlwind of activity, politics, culture, music, dance, food," he said.

Hard as it may be to imagine, Lopez is sometimes lonely. He speculates that he comes on so strong people are intimidated.

"There are guys I would have loved talk to me but they didn't, or won't," he said.

Last week, Lopez noticed a couple of men, probably out-of-towners, he had never seen at the Esquire Bar. Contrary to frequent gay bar behavior patterns, Lopez went right up to them and introduced himself.

"My name is Lorenzo," he said. "I don't know you, but I want to welcome you here and want you to know you can feel safe here. In our gay world, a lot of men are clique-y and afraid to talk to each other and I'm not. I want you to have a good time."

Thus, Lopez chalked up two more friends. In the past few days, he has seen the men twice more at the Esquire. He still doesn't know where they are from.



Michigan Civil Rights Commission: Breaking new ground

On May 21, 2018, Michigan's six-member Civil Rights Commission voted, by a margin of 5-0 with 1 abstention, to expand its interpretation of the state's Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act to include discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identification.

It was a major breakthrough in LGBTQ rights, on a par with the U.S. Supreme Court's recognition of same-sex marriage.

From that day forward, all those who would deny LGBTQ people equal rights in employment, housing, education, public accommodations and public service were on notice: no longer could they do so under the cover of law.

The next morning, the commission began to accept sex discrimination complaints from members of the LGBTQ community.

It would be hard to find a more persistent advocate for the commission's historic "interpretive statement" than Nathan Triplett, former policy and political director of Equality Michigan. Through decades of frustration, near-misses and can-kicking inaction, Triplett and a coalition of over 30 LGBTQ advocacy groups beat the drum relentlessly to convince the Commission the resolution was essential to the well-being of Michigan's LGBTQ community — and legally sound.

Federal agencies have broadened existing civil rights protections to include LGBTQ people, but the Michigan vote was the first time in the country that such an interpretive action was made at the state level.

"They were really breaking new ground," Triplett said. Since then, Pennsylvania and Missouri have followed suit, the former by an interpretive ruling from the state's equivalent of the Civil Rights Commission; the latter, via court ruling.

It's a substantive step, insofar as the Commission is already fielding discrimination complaints from LGBTQ citizens, but it's not time to "pack up and go home," Triplett said.

To avoid reversal of the interpretive statement from future administrations, Triplett wants the Elliott-Larsen protections to be cemented in place by legislative action. Support for such a measure is growing, both in the general public and among legislators.

The bravery of the commission is all the more remarkable, in Triplett's estimation, because it was made in a "hostile political environment."

In response, then-Attorney General Bill Schuette issued an opinion that the commission lacked the authority to do what it did. (The commission declared Schuette's opinion "non-binding" and went on processing discrimination complaints.)

There's a little known reason the commission took so long to take this step, and Triplett said he doesn't want it to be "lost to history."

While the commission was mulling over the statement, assistant attorney general Ron Robinson advised them that they didn't have the authority to issue it, and if they did, they would waive government immunity and expose themselves to personal legal liability in any future lawsuit over the matter.

Nobody likes to face financial ruin for doing their job. Triplett and a phalanx of lawyers had to work overtime to convince the commissioners, most of whom aren't attorneys, that Robinson's threat had no legal basis.

"They had this authority and the duty to exercise it," Triplett said. "In the end, they got where they needed to go."

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PRIDE 2019

How one artist dug deeper into acceptance

By **AUDREY MATUSZ**

For art educator Jessica Kovan, words often fail to express what connects all humankind.

Last fall, when Chad Swan-Badgero, founder of the Peppermint Creek Theatre Co., asked her to create an exhibit synchronous with its production of “Indecent” — which opened Thursday — she knew she couldn’t say no. With years of experience assigning colors and textures to intangible feelings, Kovan,

“Hineni: Here I Am”

Exhibition

Peppermint Creek Theatre Co.
Ends 2 p.m.
Sunday, June 16
6025 Curry Ln., Lansing
peppermintcreek.org
(517) 927-3016

56, wanted to go beyond retelling the true events that inspired the controversial play.

“Indecent” is inspired by the 1923 Broadway debut of Sholem

Asch’s “God of Vengeance,” for which the entire cast was arrested for obscenity. The play was not only written in Yiddish, but it followed the love story of two Jewish women, marking it as a seminal work of Jewish culture to some, and blasphemy to others. As a straight, cis-woman who grew up in Lansing’s Jewish community, Kovan took the opportunity to dive deeper into the nation’s history of anti-Semitism, homophobia and fear.

Kovan said she started interviewing “queer Jewish women” from Lansing and across the U.S. in January. She spoke with two lesbian rabbis from out of state who explained the effects of the Holocaust that still are felt in many Jewish communities today.

“It’s all about fear,” Kovan said. “Speaking to the rabbis, I realized that part of that was the Holocaust, as well as the anti-Semitism.”

The artist was most fascinated to hear the women’s experiences of having a “double minority” status. Similarly, “Indecent” gives backstory to the cast from “God of Vengeance,” who after a successful European tour were vilified by fellow Jews and New York at large. As someone who identifies as “culturally Jewish,” the artist connected her love for the women she interviewed with her gratitude for Mother Nature.

To highlight the complexities of the identities portrayed on and off stage, the exhibit uses paper clippings, cardboard and acrylic paint to make multimedia collages. Framed on a cherry red wall she painted herself are smaller collages that speak to the unique ways birds choose to position themselves in nature — some are hidden among the foliage, others out and forthright. The metaphor demonstrates how human behavior is reflected by nature, but arguably points to a universal desire to



Kovan

be seen and heard.

“When I started working on cardboard, it was that sense of we dive in, we cut in and we also add on top,” Kovan said referring to the intention behind using recyclable materials. “I think we would be better off if nothing lasted forever. Also, we have to believe in change, so that we continue.”

In a press release, Kovan said the inspiration behind the exhibit’s title came while conducting interviews. The Hebrew phrase “hineni,” which translates to “behold, here I am,” came to mind while she listened to each of the women share their journeys to reclaiming their various identities — whether it be Jewish, rabbi, lesbian, mother or

all four. During the interviews, Kovan had each woman complete “I AM” statements, a common practice used in art therapy, and incorporated their responses into the gallery wall.

In addition to collecting the personal narratives, Kovan consumed various forms of media, including Ria Brodell’s book “Butch Heroes.” The intersectional, feminist art-text compiles stories of unsung LGBTQ figures from the 15th through the 20th century. Kovan said Brodell’s ability to create visual components for such narratives was crucial to her when thinking of ways to showcase, rather than reinterpret, the “strength that these women have.” As stated on GLAAD’s website, an American LGBTQ organization, allies attributing “bravery” to individuals for identifying on the spectrum is counter-productive to the goal for normalization. Instead, Kovan created a space for the women to tell their own stories.

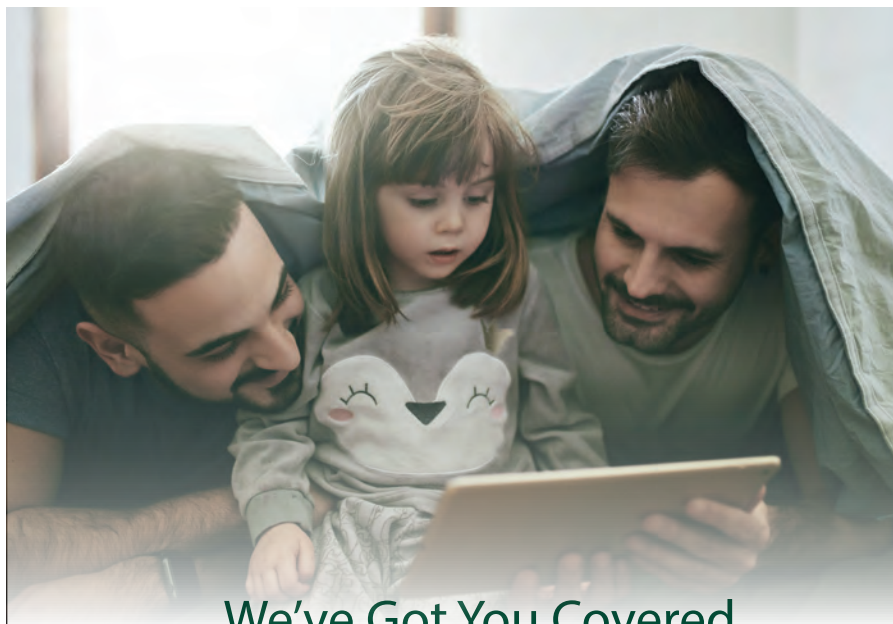
While two of Kovan’s siblings identify on the LGBTQ spectrum, Kovan said she was still “shocked” to learn about the history of homophobia within Judaism. However, her preparation for making “Hineni: Here I Am” allowed her to convey the generational effects of the Holocaust in the context of the LGBTQ community, which she sees as pertinent “especially in today’s political climate.”

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Prosecutors crack down on LGBTQ-related hate crimes

Fair Michigan Justice Project expands into Ingham County

By KYLE KAMINSKI

Ingham County is learning a few more lessons in how to handle crimes against its LGBTQ community.

As the number of hate crimes rises nationwide, cops and prosecutors from across Greater Lansing were trained late last month in how to better investigate and pursue cases that involve victims targeted for their sexual orientation or gender identity. And the Ingham County Prosecutor's Office is leading the charge.

"The benefit we can offer here and now is the idea that we're getting conversations started with people who have had issues coming forward in the past for fear of how they'll be treated," said Assistant Prosecutor Angela Tripi.

Prosecutor Carol Siemon entered into a partnership in March with the statewide nonprofit Fair Michigan Justice Project, founded in 2016 by Dana Nessel, who was elected attorney general last year. The goal: Train local officials on how to be more respectful of those within the LGBTQ community, learn to identify inherent biases that motivate crimes and better defend victims in the courtroom.

"They've been working at prosecuting crimes but it's also about having more consistent representation throughout the process with people who are specially trained to deal with hate crimes and understand the need behind it," Tripi added. "It made sense to have protections extended where they currently are not right now."

Michigan tallies the fourth-highest number of reported hate crimes in the country with nearly 400 incidents listed in 2016. That represents about a 30% spike from the number of reports in 2015 and pales in comparison to the average national increase of 4.6% during that same timeframe.

And officials suggested those numbers could actually be much higher. Michigan is one of 16 states that



McGuire



Salman

doesn't statutorily label crimes against those in the LGBTQ community as hate crimes — which provides officials all the more reason to ramp up support for those victimized by an increasing level of nationwide bigotry.

"It's a cultural competency test," explained Fair Michigan President Alanina McGuire. "It shows the proper way to deal with LGBTQ victims so they can feel more comfortable. Historically, we've seen a lot of mistrust in the way they deal with law enforcement. Our program is geared to bridge that divide and restore some of that trust."

A 1988 ethnic intimidation statute makes it a felony to "maliciously and with specific intent" harass someone because of their race, color, religion, gender or national origin. Sexual orientation is not included. And while gender has been interpreted to include transgender people, courts have yet to



Siemon

set any sort of formal precedent.

"There's no statute that allows the prosecution of an additional offense for a felony hate crime," McGuire added.

"This is about sending a message to the LGBTQ community that people are willing to take crimes against them seriously and make resources available to them. I'd love to amend the ethnic intimidation statute but that's full of all sorts of red tape. In the meantime, I think we've been sort of lagging behind in a lot of basic protections."

The partnership begins with county-wide training sessions that focus on basic sensitivity. But Tripi, with continued support from Fair Michigan officials, will also remain a permanent advocate for the local LGBTQ community as all criminal cases that deal in anti-gay or anti-transgender bigotry are shuffled directly to her desk.

Fair Michigan officials point to an overall lack of education and sensitivity toward gay and transgender lifestyles — especially among law enforcement. By better understanding victims of hate-based crimes and putting an advocate directly in their corner of the courtroom, justice will be able to move much more swiftly, McGuire said. The program first launched in Wayne County in 2016. Since then, prosecutors there have managed to secure 23 convictions for various capital crimes against lesbians, gays, bisexual and

transgender victims, representing a conviction rate of 100%. Officials said outreach provided through Fair Michigan also helps identify more crime.

"I think for certain segments of the population, this program can make it easier for them to come forward," said Assistant Wayne County Prosecutor Robert Spada. "We're finding a lot more crimes targeted against transgender individuals. A lot of it is also about community outreach, and we've been seeing some great results."

McGuire said the program helps show the LGBTQ community that justice can work for them too.

"Within any community, there has been a historic criminalization of being LGBT and being LGBT in public spaces," said Zekiye Salman, president of the Lansing Association for Human Rights. "There has been a targeting of LGBT people across the country. There's a real need for training to eliminate those biases."

Sheriff Scott Wriggelsworth, for his part, plans to attend the training but doesn't have many expectations for improvements. He thinks deputies already "serve that community very well," but remains open to suggestions.

"We preach training all the time," Wriggelsworth added. "I'm always happy to get in some additional training."

As attorney general, Nessel has launched a statewide hate crimes unit to better document incidents that might not necessarily rise to a criminal charge.

"When we look at the mental health impact and the suicide rates and the rates of violence against the LGBT community, I think it's really important to get the basics down," Salman added. "I'm proud to be part of a community that's really recognizing the need for these improvements and working to repair those relationships."

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PRIDE 2019

Neither side yielding in Country Mills case

East Lansing a battleground over LGBTQ rights

By KYLE KAMINSKI

As a federal discrimination lawsuit goes on against the city of East Lansing, its elected officials aren't backing down from what they see as a national fight in defense of basic civil liberties and equal protections for LGBTQ citizens.

"This is one of those cases that extends far beyond East Lansing," said Mayor Mark Meadows, also an attorney. "The issue at stake is about a core principle for the city of East Lansing. We were among the first in the nation to extend these protections based on sexual orientation. It's a basis for how



we identify ourselves."

In 2016, city officials denied Country Mill Orchard and Cider Mill a return to its usual booth at the city farmers market because its owner, Stephen Tennes, had refused to host same-sex marriages at his business in Charlotte. A city ordinance, officials argued, prohibited vendors who engage in discriminatory "general business practices."

Tennes sued. A court order allowed his return. The case remains ongoing in front of U.S. District Judge Paul Mahoney in Grand Rapids. And Tennes is still selling apples.

The lawsuit — costing the city of East Lansing about \$182,000 to date — touches on a hotbed of societal issues that many expect will eventually bring the issue to the U.S. Supreme Court. And city officials think the legal costs are worth the preservation of LGBTQ rights amid a nationwide effort to curb discriminatory business practices.

"This case is about keeping our city



protected," said Councilman Aaron Stephens. "This is about the farmer's market, but it's also much bigger than that. They want the ability to discriminate and that's just not something we allow in East Lansing. This isn't about the farmer's market anymore. This is about full-blown civil rights."

Tennes argued that the denial of his license — because of its direct connection to his unwillingness to host same-sex marriages at his business — was a violation of his constitutional right of free speech and discriminates against his religious beliefs. The lawsuit maintains the regulations are "hostile" to traditional, Catholic ideals.

Messages left for Tennes (and his high-profile attorneys at the Alliance Defending Freedom) were not returned.

Attorney John Bursch, one of many lawyers that have since represented Country Mill, said recent case law lends credence to his arguments that East Lansing has demonstrated "re-

ligious animus" in evicting Country Mill.

"The evidence here will conclude that Country Mill was targeted because of their faith," Bursch said.

Bursch pointed to similarities in last year's Supreme Court ruling in favor of Masterpiece Cakeshop against the Colorado Civil Rights Commission in support of Country Mills' lawsuit. In that case, a bakery was found to be within its legal rights to refuse to bake a wedding cake for a gay couple based on the owner's religious beliefs.

While the court didn't rule on the broader intersection of anti-discrimination laws, free exercise of religion and freedom of speech, it did decide the commission had overstepped its bounds by imposing unconstitutional restrictions. Bursch said he's willing to take Country Mills' case to the U.S. Supreme Court if necessary.

"I've argued 11 cases in the U.S. Supreme Court and I'm well prepared to do it again," Bursch added.

John Corvino, a philosophy professor at Wayne State University, said the case is "complex and peculiar" because Tennes was booted based largely on discriminatory practices occurring well outside the city of East Lansing. The ban on gay weddings at Tennes' Charlotte orchard, however, is "perfectly legal in Michigan," Corvino explained.

"On the other hand, there's a real irony in the owners' complaining about being excluded from the market in the same breath in which they insist on their own rights to exclude same-sex couple from their orchard," Corvino added. "Freedom of association cuts both ways."

Both sides have since filed a motion for summary judgment with hopes of resolving the issue without a trial. But officials aren't afraid to keep up the fight either.

"We think we have a strong case and we're going to do our best to make some good law," said Mayor Pro-Tem Erik Altmann. "We get sued all the time and it costs us a lot of money. Most of time there's no good reason or upside. Here, we have a chance to do some good for our community and for people around the country."

Added Councilwoman Ruth Beier: "It's not like we have a lot of choices at this point. We told them they were violating our law. They challenged our law. We either say we don't have to protect human rights and toss out the ordinance or we keep the case moving. That's not really an option. We can't allow discrimination in our city."

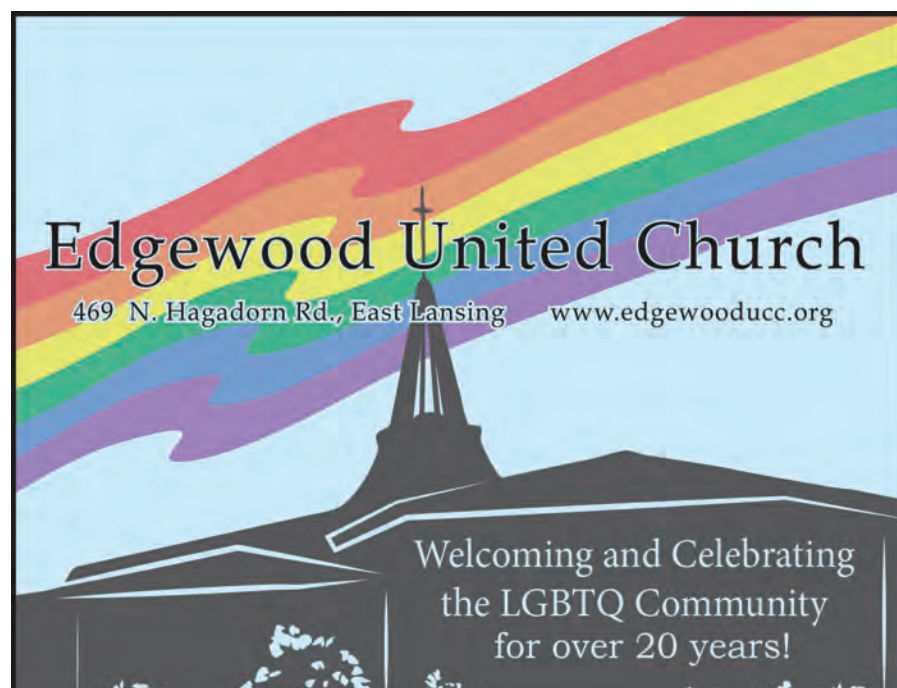


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Free Mom Hugs group aids abandoned LGBTQ youth

By DENNIS BURCK

A new national nonprofit with a Michigan chapter seeks to provide parental, social and physical support for LGBTQ youth struggling to find acceptance in family and social spheres.

Free Mom Hugs was founded in Oklahoma in 2016. Since then, it expanded to over 10 states.

A hard look at the composition of homeless youth in the U.S. sees a stark picture of what it means to be LGBTQ in this country.

UCLA published its findings on homeless LGBTQ youth in the U.S. in 2015. What it found was despite self-identifying LGBTQ youth accounting for only 5% of the U.S. population, between 20 to 40% of all homeless youth in the U.S. identify as LGBTQ.

The large discrepancy is theorized by the study to be the result of “throwaway” or abandoned youth exiled by both parents and community for orientation and gender identity.

Furthermore, with this state of isolation, it is equally important to note the rate of LGBTQ youth suicides. Accord-

ing to a study by The Trevor Project, a suicide and crisis intervention mental health resource for the LGBTQ community under 25 years old, LGBTQ youth are five times more likely to attempt suicide than their straight, cisgendered peers.

The Michigan chapter of Free Mom Hugs started in January 2019. Its founder Vicki Larson of Grand Rapids, wanted to spearhead the movement in Michigan.

“While there is certainly more acceptance, there is still not as much as there should be,” Larson said.

For its first Pride week, Free Mom Hugs of Michigan will host events in Grand Rapids, Kalamazoo, Lansing and Detroit. Hundreds of moms have already signed up to pledge their support across the state, according to Larson.

“With some of them, you can feel their desperation when you hold these kids,” she added. “They just need to know they are accepted and loved for who they are.”

LGBTQ youth face particular challenges in rural communities, unaware of available LGBTQ resources and greater



Dennis Burck/City Pulse

Charlene Victoria, Lansing program coordinator of Free Mom Hugs.

LGBTQ community they belong to.

“This organization is necessary in Michigan,” Larson said. “I’ve met kids who were gay and thrown out of the house immediately.”

The group isn’t exclusive to just moms either. Dads can join too.

Lansing program coordinator Charlene Victoria said LGBTQ equality has always been a big issue to her.

“Growing up, my uncle was gay and always with our uncle Rich. I didn’t know any difference. Doug loved Rich and that was that,” Victoria said. “When I grew up and found out people had an issue with this and there are people who are against this blew my mind.”

Victoria said she struggled to conceive as a mother, and it put parents who abandon their children for being LGBTQ in a different perspective.

“I couldn’t imagine not loving my kids

regardless of who they love or what gender they are,” Victoria added.

Over a dozen Lansing moms thus far have volunteered to be posted at different stops along the Pride Parade for free hugs. There will also be a vendor booth handing out free water.

“Not only being hugged, but I think being heard is very important,” Victoria said. “It can make them realize they are not alone. It is crucial as a human being to realize you are not alone and not feel like you are the only one.”

There is no deadline to sign up for Free Mom Hugs for Lansing Pride.

“This is simply about love with no agenda involved. It is making sure kids know they are loved and exactly that,” Larson said.

(If interested, donations can be made and sign up sheets can be found at www.freemomhugs.org)



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PRIDE 2019

Meet MSU's new LGBT Resource Center director

By DENNIS BURCK

Days after commencement, Michigan State University hired Jesse Beal to take on the position of director for the LGBT Resource Center.

Beal previously worked as the director of The Women's and Gender Center of Amherst College in Amherst, Massachusetts, and acting director for the Office of Diversity Services at Suffolk University in Boston.

"There is an opening for action here that feels very hopeful to me," Beal said. "For me, next year is going to be a lot of listening to students. It would be a little bit presumptuous to come in and say I know exactly where I

MSU LGBT Resource Center

Student Services Building,
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lgbtrc.msu.edu

need to be."

They, Beal's preferred pronoun, planned on becoming a professor of LGBTQ and gender studies but fell in love with student affairs instead. They worked in LGBTQ activism for the past 15 years.

"Some of us do the work for the people they wish they had. I was inspired to do the work because of the

ing to be a lot of listening to students. It would be a little bit presumptuous to come in and say I know exactly where I



Dennis Burck/City Pulse

Jesse Beal, of Massachusetts, is MSU's new LGBT Resource Director.

amazing queer and trans professionals in my life as I was coming of age,"

Beal said.

As an undergrad, Beal interned at the University of Texas Austin at the Gender and Sexuality Center. It would propel Beal to get into community organizing work in the early 2000s, fighting a Texas adoption bill to ban gay and lesbian parents from fostering children.

"I've been a person who has to do work that matters to me, and I have really been driven by doing good in the world and wanting to make the world better for other people," they added.

Since coming out as bisexual at 19 years old, Beal said they understand how identity changes over the course of adulthood.

"Eventually I turned the corner to

genderqueer, nonbinary and pansexual. I've always been in the process of exploration with my identity."

For their work in 2015, Beal was awarded a National Voice and Action Advisor of the Year Award from Campus Pride, a national nonprofit working to create a safer college environments for LGBTQ students.

Beal said they are in discussion with MSU staff about several programs to build the school up to current standards for the LGBTQ community. Starting with training faculty on "how to create trans inclusive classrooms."

Another training session Beal is looking to implement is with the point of sale and front lines of campus staff. To avoid misidentifying students in a lunch line, for example, the new director said there are "very simple language shifts" that anyone can learn to address this. However, Beal's primary focus will always be on the students.

"Students are looking for policy change. They are looking for things like gender inclusive restrooms and all gender housing," Beal said. "They are looking for us to have a campus in line with serving all of who they are."

For incoming fall freshman, Beal plans to have six to eight welcoming events for LGBTQ students to be made aware of the resource center.

"My practice as a student affairs professional is very student-centered. I don't want to be making these decisions about the trajectory of this space without their buy in, support and guidance."

The student resource center space serves as a meeting ground and relaxing space for LGBTQ students and anyone interested in learning more about LGBTQ issues.


"They know better than anyone what they need. They are adults, so let us treat them that way," Beal said.

Beal added that the center is open to more than the LGBTQ population and offers "plenty of opportunities" for cisgender and straight students to access "in a different way." For example, relatives of LGBTQ members may need to be in the community "as a supportive force in action."

"I am learning everything from learning how to answer my voicemail to what our gender-inclusive policy is," Beal said. "I am excited to hear from students and to meet them. It is a good reminder when you are buried in a 100-page policy document why you do the work."

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PRIDE 2019

LANSING PRIDE EVENTS GUIDE

Thursday, June 13 >> Drag Queen Lauren Ordair at Urban Beat

With a show called “The Fat Lady Sings,” this Manhattan-based drag queen with a goosebump inducing voice brings her talent to Old Town for a night full of glamorous ballads.

Ordair is a native to St. Johns. Proceeds of the event will go toward the Lansing Area AIDS network.

9:30 p.m. to midnight, UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner St., Lansing, MI (517) 331-8440, urbanbeatevents.com

Friday, June 14 >> Spiral Dance Bar's Annual White Party

What’s a White Party? The occasion calling for all white attire was popularized by Sean Combs — aka Diddy — in the late ‘90s and has since been a party theme across the globe. Spiral’s event adds their unicorn-approved twist with go-go dancers, drag performances, shot boys and their premiere selection of local DJs. Music and free love will reign into the next morning and as co-host Caj Monet said in a recent post, “don’t be that person that comes in anything but white.”

8 p.m. to 2 a.m., Spiral Dance Bar, 1247 Center St., Lansing, MI (517) 371-3221, spiraldancebar.com

Saturday, June 15 >> Central United Methodist Church Rainbow Cafe

Hosting the Lansing Rainbow Cafe for years, the Central United Methodist Church is celebrating pride with a Rainbow Cafe hug table and participating in the Pride parade. Inside, the church will have on display 100 LGBTQ clergy stoles that were stripped from clergy members that were of the LGBTQ community. It is hosting a candlelight tribute in its chapel for the 49 Pulse victims of the mass shooting targeting the LGBTQ community in 2016.

9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Central United Methodist Church, 215 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing, (517) 485-9477, lansingcentralumc.net

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Saturday, June 15 >> 2019 Pride Festival

The 2019 Pride Festival hosted by Michigan Pride will be the end destination for the Pride parade starting at the Capitol steps. It will feature DJs, live bands and a drag show. Flanking the festivities will be artisan and food vendors.

Noon to 10 p.m., \$10 entry adults/\$5 entry kids 5-18, Old Town, Cesar E. Chavez Avenue. and Turner Street, Lansing, MI. Contact: pride@michiganpride.org. Event details can be found at michiganpride.org

Saturday, June 15 >> Spiral Dancebar Afterglow Party

The official afterparty for Michigan Pride features black light and all the video dance bar has to offer. The set up

See Events, Page 26

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Dennis Burck/City Pulse

A rainbow crosswalk at Kalamazoo Street and Washington Avenue for Pride.

Events

from page 25

will be similar to the previous night's "White Party," with two DJs, an outdoor tent serving delicious drinks and performances.

8 p.m. to 2 a.m., \$10 entry 21+ / \$15 18+,
Spiral Dancebar, 1247 Center St., Lansing, MI (517) 371-3221, spiraldancebar.com.

Sunday, June 16 >>
Mid-Mitten Cross Fit Pride Workout

In association with Queer Gear apparel, Mid Mitten Cross Fit will host an hour long workout session open to all in celebration of Pride. Both businesses are LGBTQ owned. All donations will be forwarded to the Salus Center in support of its programming

1:30 to 2:30 p.m., \$10 suggested donation, Mid Mitten Cross Fit, 701 E. South St., Ste. 2, Lansing, MI (517) 214-8148, MidMittenCrossFit.com

Wednesday, June 19 >> Mac's Funky Pride Celebration

For Pride, Mac's Bar is hosting a special funk night with musical performances by indie pop rock duo sister/sibling, neo-soul and old school artist V. Soul Entertainment and DJ Etta Unofficial. Bell's Brewery will be taking over the taps with its signature Sparkleberry ale. Band and brewery swag will be for sale.

8 p.m. to 2 a.m., \$5, Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing, MI. (517) 484-6795, macsbar.com

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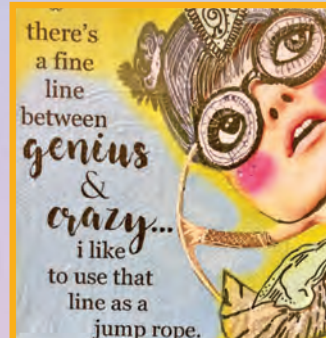
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Saturday, June 15 >> Grand Rapids Pride Festival

Noon to 11 p.m., Calder Plaza, 300 Monroe Ave., Grand Rapids, MI. (616) 458-3511, grpride.org/festival

Monday, June 17 to Sunday, June 23 >> Traverse City Pride

Rally Sunday June 23 from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m., F&M Park, 716 E. State St., Traverse City, MI. upnorthpride.com

Saturday, June 22 >> Flint Pride Festival

2 to 8 p.m., University of Michigan-Flint, 303 E. Kearsley St., Flint, MI. (810) 232-0888, michiganfun.com/event/flint-pride-festival

Saturday June 22 >> Holland PRIDE

Noon to 5 p.m., Centennial Park, 250 Central Ave., Holland, MI. outonthelake-shore.org/event/holland-pride-saturday

Saturday June 29 >> Great Lakes Bay Pride Festival

9 a.m. to midnight, Waterfront Lawn, DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel, 1 Wenonah Park Place, Bay City, MI. (989) 891-1429, perceptionsmi.org

Sunday June 30 >> 50th annual Chicago Pride Parade

Parade leaves at noon, Uptown, Montrose Ave. and Broadway St., Chicago, IL. Contact: m.me/ChicagoPrideCom. More information can be found at chicagoprider.org or lakesidepride.org

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Holland honors 'Wizard of Oz' author despite controversy

By **BILL CASTANIER**

The cooling waters and wind-swept beaches of Lake Michigan have attracted writers of all stripes to Michigan for more than 100 years. However, none have had a more lasting influence on American popular culture than L. Frank Baum, author of “The Wonderful Wizard of Oz.”

Baum summered for more than 10 seasons with his family at the southern end of Lake Macatawa in Holland.

Baum was 43 years old when his collection of poetry for children, “Goose Man,” became a national best-seller in 1899. He used the profits from the book to rent a Victorian cottage on Lake Macatawa naming it “Sign of the

Goose.”

In 1900, he finished writing “The Wonderful Wizard of Oz” and teamed up with Denslow to illustrate what would become America’s most famous fairy tale. Denslow previously illustrated Baum’s “Goose Man” and the two continued to collaborate on several other “Oz” books before the arrangement was dissolved due to a squabble over royalties.

It is widely thought by literary scholars that some scenes and people in the book are directly related to Lake Macatawa — especially his use of the Castle and the iconic “yellow brick road,” both of which can be seen from the private resort.

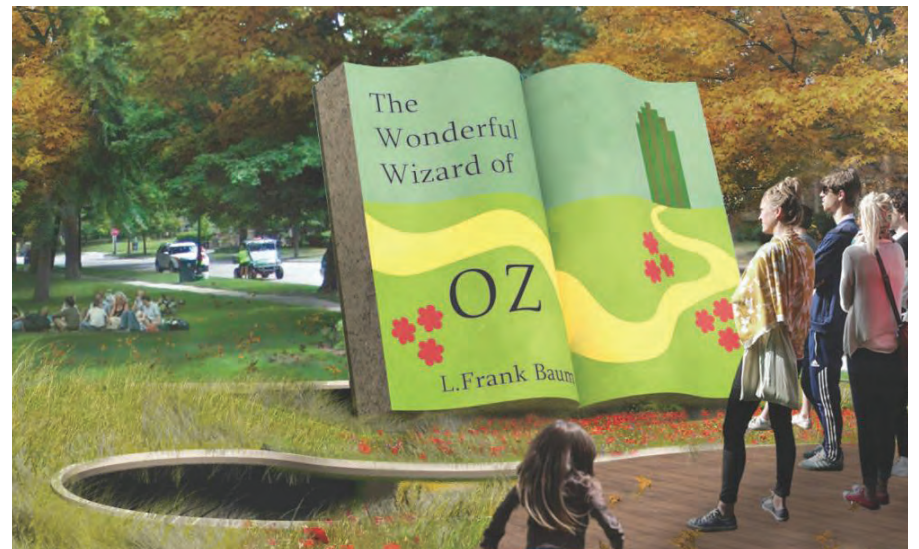
This summer, you will be able to “follow the yellow brick road” in the city of Holland, which is installing life-size bronze sculptures of Dorothy and Toto, Tin Man, Scarecrow, Cowardly

Lion and a Fighting Tree with a Flying Monkey perched in its branches.

Last week, Holland’s

Centennial Park unveiled a 10 x 12-foot flower mosaic depicting the original book cover. In August, the bronze sculptures will be installed across the street on the north side of the Herrick Public Library.

Sally Laukitas, executive director of the Holland Area Convention and Visitors Bureau, is among community leaders who helped spearhead the art project — which is estimated to cost \$300,000. Private fundraising will be generated by selling bricks and benches along the yellow brick road. She said donors can buy a brick on the road for



Courtesy Photo

A mock-up of the floral mosaic set to unveil at Holland’s Centennial Park.

\$100 or one in front of a sculpture for \$200. Bricks will be for sale through July 31.

Laukitas said, “The idea to recognize Baum’s book was a no-brainer but has taken five years to come to fruition.” She added that the sculptures will be based on the original artwork of W.W. Denslow, so visitors will see different versions of Dorothy and the Flying Monkeys than those represented in the 1939 movie based on the book.

The executive director expected in coming years there will be numerous spin-off programs associated with Baum and his works. One might be an encore presentation of one of the numerous plays he wrote. Baum, who failed as a play producer, wrote an estimated 42 plays and movie scripts in his lifetime. In addition to the 14 “Oz” books, Baum penned 41 other novels and 83 short stories.

His first book was on a breed of fancy poultry. He later founded and

edited “Show Window” magazine for retailers.

Like many prolific authors, his body of work is not without controversy. As the former owner of The Aberdeen Saturday Pioneer newspaper in South Dakota, he penned an editorial calling for “the total annihilation of the few remaining Indians...better to die than live the miserable wretches they are.”

Additionally, several of his children’s books use the “N-word.”

His seemingly innocuous book “The Wonderful Wizard of Oz” was also banned by the Detroit Public Library until 1972, partly because in 1957, a chief librarian thought the book was “encouraging negativism and misleading young minds to accept a cowardly approach to life.” Michigan State University Press published a book on the subject, “The Wizard of Oz and Who He Was,” by Martin Gardner and Russell B. Nye, a Pulitzer Prize-winning MSU professor who created the concept of American Popular Culture in the ‘60s.

Gardner and Nye’s book explores some of the lesser known aspects of “Wizard” such as the influences it draws from the era’s Populist Movement, the silver versus gold debate and the alleged pro-Communism debate it stirred during the era of McCarthyism.

But the children who visit the sculptures will be oblivious to the more controversial aspects of the book. Instead they can enjoy having their pictures taken with a reposing Cowardly Lion or a kneeling Tin Man while shouting “we’re not in Kansas anymore.”

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You DONUT want to miss this special Father’s Day story time! Bring dad, brother, uncle or grandpa for donuts, a fun story and a craft.

MAGIC / KEYFORGE GAME NIGHT Tuesday, June 18 - 6pm

Come play Magic or KeyForge in a casual, friendly environment. Commander is the most popular Magic format these nights. *Additionally, all Magic products are 20% off for those who attend.*

FIND MORE INFO ON OUR WEBSITE AND FACEBOOK PAGE

SchulerBooks.com/Event
Meridian Mall • Okemos
1982 W. Grand River Ave.

“The Holland Oz Project”

Centennial Park
250 Central Ave., Holland
(616)394.0000
www.hollandozproject.com

Curious Book Shop

307 E. Grand River, E. Lansing
332-0112 ♦ We validate parking
Mon. - Sat. 10-7 pm, Sun. 12-5 pm
www.curiousbooks.com

*We have books you always
wanted but never knew existed!*

Quality Used Books at Great Prices!



Archives Book Shop

519 W. Grand River, E. Lansing
332-8444 ♦ Free Parking
Mon. - Sat. 11-6 pm, Sun. 12-5 pm
thearchivesbookshop@gmail.com

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 Suzi at (517) 999-6704.

Wednesday, June 12

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Artisan Hands-On Basic Cheese Making Workshop - 9 a.m. MSU Meat Lab, 474 S. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. canr.msu.edu.

East Lansing Roller Derby Summer Bootcamp - 8:30-10 p.m. Court One Training Center, 7868 Old M-78, East Lansing.

Inside Our Mind: Hidden Biases - Participants develop the ability to recognize and reduce the impact of biased decision making. 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Mich. Dept. of Community Health, 400 S. Pine St., Lansing.

Kellie Duggan - YOU: Your Best Advantage Creating Personal Brand through Image Management Development - 11:45 a.m.-1 p.m. UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner St., Lansing. urbanbeatevents.com.

Math Seminar Series - Advanced Mathematical Thinking 9:10 a.m.-Noon 212 N. Kedzie, East Lansing. events.msu.edu.

Mental Health First Aid (ADULT) \$25 - 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. CMHA-CEI, 812 E. Jolly Rd, Lansing.

What's So Funny - Learn about humor. 11 a.m.-12 p.m. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Rd., East Lansing. 517-337-1113.

EVENTS

2019 Mayor's Ramadan Unity Dinner - 5:30-7:30 p.m. Lansing Center, 333 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. lansingmi.gov.

Allen Farmers Market - 2:30-7 p.m. Allen Market Place, 1629 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. 517-999-3911.

Food Frenzy - Good food and entertainment! 5-8 p.m. Holt Farmers Market, 2150 Cedar St, Holt. delhitownship.com.

Great Lakes Track & Field Community Fun Run - Waverly High School Mon. - Wed. - Fri. 160 Snow Rd., Lansing. 517-388-3862. gltrackandfield.wordpress.com.

Grief and Loss - Drop in sessions for anyone who just needs a safe place to share about their loss. 2:30-3:30 p.m. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Rd, East Lansing. 517-337-1113.

ART

Growth Charts-Megan Hildebrandt - Through June 28. 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Lansing Art Gallery, 119 N Washington Square, Lansing. 517-374-6400. lansingartgallery.org.

MMAG 12th Annual 12x12 Show - June 5-27 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Framers Edge, 1856 W Grand River Avenue, Okemos. 517-347-7400.

Painting Outside the Lines - Watercolor Art Exhibit 12-4 p.m. The Peoples Church, 200 W. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. 517-332-6074.

Springtime Magic Wood Door Hanger - 7-9 p.m. Painting with a Twist, 580 Frandor Ave, Lansing. 517-483-2450. paintingwithatwist.com.

Summer Art Camp: June 10-14, 2019 - Kids ages 7-12 - 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Lansing Art Gallery, 119 N, Washington Square, Lansing.

MUSIC

Concerts in the Park - 6-9 p.m. Moores Park, 400 Moores River Dr., Lansing. lansingmi.gov.

Thursday, June 13

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Artisan Hands-On Basic Cheese Making Workshop - 8 a.m. MSU Meat Laboratory, 474 S. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. canr.msu.edu.

CAITC June Tech Talk - CAITC June 2019 Tech Talk 5-7 p.m. East Lansing Technology Innovation Center, 325 E Grand River Ave., East Lansing.

Inside Our Mind: Hidden Biases - Develop ability to recognize/reduce the impact of biased decision making. 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. MI Dept. of Community Health, 400 S. Pine St., Lansing.

LITERATURE AND POETRY

Chipmunk Story Time - 10-11 a.m. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road, Okemos. 517-349-3866. meridian.mi.us.

Lansing Horror Book Club Meeting - 6:30-7:30 p.m. Blue Owl Coffee, 1149 S Washington Ave, Lansing. 517-575-6836.

EVENTS

Chamber 360 - 8-10 a.m. Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce, 500 E. Michigan Ave., Suite 200, Lansing. lansingchamber.org.



Lansing Juneteenth Celebration

The Juneteenth celebration dates back to the end of the Civil War when the news was brought to African-American slaves in every corner of the U.S. that they were truly free. Kicking off the storied festival in Lansing in its 15th year will be a ceremony with keynote speaker Lt. Gov. Garlin Gilchrist II at Lansing Community College's Gannon

Juneteenth

- Event kickoff with keynote speaker Thursday, June 13 from 5:30-7:30 p.m.
- Lansing Community College Gannon Center Building, 411 North Grand Ave., Lansing, MI
- Freedom Festival Friday, June 14 at 3-9 p.m.
- Saturday, June 15 from 11 a.m.-4 p.m.
- St. Joseph Park 2125 W. Hillsdale St., Lansing, MI
- Parade Saturday June 15 at 10 a.m., Letts Community Center, 1220 W. Kalamazoo St., Lansing, MI (517) 394-6900 lansingjuneteenthcelebration.org

Christian Women Business Organization 11:30 a.m. Grille in the Ville, 115 E Grand River Ave, Fowlerville.

Clinton County Open Food Distribution - T 8-10 a.m. Bath Community Center, 5959 Park Lake Rd, Bath. bathtownship.us.

Healing Hearts - Support group for families with children with mental health disorders. 6-8 p.m. ALIVE, 800 W Lawrence Ave, Charlotte. myalive.com.

The Importance of Being Earnest - Summer Circle Theatre, 8-10 p.m. MSU Auditorium, Lansing. calendar.cal.msu.edu.

Thursday Night Dance Exchange

THURSDAY JUNE 13 >> "THE GOV" RELEASE PARTY AT LANSING BREWING CO.



Building. Joining him will be U.S. senators Gary Peters and Debbie Stabenow, Lansing Mayor Andy Schor and State Rep. Sheldon Neely, chairman of the Michigan Legislative Black Caucus. Friday, further festivities will start at St. Joseph Park, where there will be family activities and a baseball game to commemorate the Negro League. Saturday morning features a parade from the Letts Community Center to St. Joseph Park on Kalamazoo Street, where area artists will take the stage. Entertainment includes Renee King Jackson, Lady Champagne, R. Denard McCrary and the Metro Detroit Area Fellowship Choir and Michelle Miller-Bell. Artisan and food vendors will be at the park both days. Attendees are asked to bring lawn chairs if seating is desired.

- Detroit Ballroomers, Chicago Steppers, Hustlers, and Two Steppers! 7-10 p.m. Lucky's, 400 Baker St.

ARTS

Lakeside Beach Time - 7-9 p.m. Painting with a Twist, 580 Frandor Ave, Lansing. 517-483-2450. paintingwithatwist.com.

Studio (in) Process - The studio is (in) Process! 5-8 p.m. MSU Broad Art Lab, 565 E Grand River Ave, East Lansing. events.msu.edu.

MUSIC

Grand Ledge SINGS! - Contestants "Sing Out"

See Out on the town, Page 34

WEDNESDAY JUNE 12 >> HISTORY HOUNDS: WWII POWS IN MICHIGAN



Michigan hosted 6,000 German and Italian prisoners of war during WWII throughout both peninsulas. According to the Historical Society of Michigan, escape attempts were rare and many enjoyed their stay in the U.S. As part of its History Hounds series, hear about how these prisoners lived and worked canning fruit and cutting pulpwood in the mitten.

7 to 8:30 p.m., \$7
Historical Society of Michigan
5815 Executive Dr., Lansing
(517) 324-1828
hsmichigan.org

The Lansing Brewing Co. just put the finishing touches on Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's signature IPA. Celebrate its release and see Gov. Whitmer make remarks at 5 p.m. before raising a glass with the governor herself.

4 to 6:30 p.m.
Lansing Brewing Co.
518 E. Shiawassee St.
Lansing (517) 371-2600
lansingbrewingcompany.com

Jonesin' Crossword

By Matt Jones

"Pairin' Up"---
they both come
together.
by Matt Jones

Across

- 1 Photo session
6 Flame followers
11 Current measure
14 Barbera's
animation partner
15 "So long"
16 "Come Get It
" (2014 Pharrell
Williams single)
17 Snacks in sleeves
18 Fred who
directed "High
Noon" and "From
Here to Eternity"
20 Baseball arbiter
21 Really cold
temperature range
23 Quickly
24 False cover?
26 John of "Star
Wars: The Rise of
Skywalker"
28 "Walking on Broken
Glass" singer
32 Singer Lana ____ Rey
33 Involuntary movements
34 "____ kidding, right?"
35 Transportation link
between Folkestone, Kent
and Coquelles, Pas-de-
Calais
41 "____ of many colors"
42 Words of confession
44 Prominent NASCAR
sponsor
47 Role revived in "Fuller
House"
50 Second-smallest
Teletubby
52 Apprehensive
53 Geneva girlfriend
54 Polecat
57 Sch. week start
58 Super Bowl X MVP
61 Ranking higher than

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9	10		11	12	13
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63					64					65				
66					67					68				

- 63 Raw metal source
64 Pestered
65 Lyft transactions, e.g.
66 Magazine with "Spy
vs. Spy"
67 Bisected
68 Allèges as fact

Down

- 1 Scold loudly
2 Consonant, musically
3 ____ Man (anime series
about an extremely
powerful hero)
4 "Happy Xmas (War Is
Over)" cowriter
5 ____-Freez (soft-serve
chain mentioned in "Jack
and Diane")
6 Activity on a placemat
7 Slayer of Ymir, in myth
8 Baking pans
9 One with a nest egg?

- 10 Take legal action
11 Put down
12 Be in charge of
13 Long-distance letter
writer
19 Theresa who
announced she'll resign in
June 2019
22 Wriggly animal
25 Galileo Galilei Airport
locale
26 Ancient Irish king Brian
____ (anagram of O, RUB)
27 Yoked team
29 "____ Springfield" (Kent
Brockman show)
30 Baseball Hall-of-Famer
Ryan
31 Wacky
36 Zip
37 "March Madness"
hoops org.
38 Billiard ball with a
yellow stripe
39 Designer in "The
Incredibles"
40 Is on top of
43 Chardonnay feature
44 Skiing event with gates
45 Singer/actress Gray
who was on Season 1 of
"American Idol"
46 Like a winner's
expression
48 Large wine cask
49 World capital that lent
its name to a type of goat
or rabbit
51 "Dancing With the
Stars" judge Goodman
54 It's often iodized
55 Had more than a
feeling
56 Edit menu option
59 ____ Lanka
60 Score an upset, say
62 1990s R&B group Bell
____ DeVoe

Free Will Astrology

By Rob Brezсны

June 12 - June 18, 2019

ARIES (March 21-April 19): We may not have to travel to other planets to find alien life. Instead of launching expensive missions to other planets, we could look for exotic creatures here on earth. Astrobiologist Mary Beth Wilhelm is doing just that. Her search has taken her to Chile's Atacama Desert, whose terrain has resemblances to Mars. She's looking for organisms like those that might have once thrived on the Red Planet. In accordance with astrological omens, I invite you to use this idea as a metaphor for your own life. Consider the possibility that you've been looking far and wide for an answer or resource that is actually close at hand.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Philosopher Martin Buber believed that some stories have the power to heal. That's why he said we should actively seek out stories that have the power to heal. Buber's disabled grandfather once told Buber a story about an adored teacher who loved to dance. As the grandfather told the story, he got so excited that he rose from his chair to imitate the teacher, and suddenly began to hop and dance around in the way his teacher did. From that time on, the grandfather was cured of his disability. What I wish for you in the coming weeks is that you will find stories like that.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): In the 1960s, Gemini musician Brian Wilson began writing and recording bestselling songs with his band the Beach Boys. A seminal moment in his development happened while he was listening to his car radio in August 1963. A tune he had never heard before came on: "Be My Baby" by the Ronettes. Wilson was so excited he pulled over onto the shoulder of the road and stopped driving so he could devote his full attention to what he considered a shockingly beautiful work of art. "I started analyzing all the guitars, pianos, bass, drums, and percussion," he told *The New York Times*. "Once I got all those learned, I knew how to produce records." I suspect a pivotal moment like this could unfold for you in the coming weeks, Gemini. Be alert!

CANCER (June 21-July 22): My dear Cancerian, your soul is so rich and complicated, so many-splendored and mysterious, so fertile and generous. I'm amazed you can hold all the poignant marvels you contain. Isn't it sometimes a struggle for you to avoid spilling over? Like a river at high tide during heavy rains? And yet every so often there come moments when you go blank; when your dense, luxuriant wonders go missing. That's OK! It's all part of the Great Mystery. You need these fallow phases. And I suspect that the present time might be such a time. If so, here's a fragment of a poem by Cecilia Woloch to temporarily use as your motto: "I have nothing to offer you now save my own wild emptiness."

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): America's premier eventologist is Leo-born Adrienne Sioux Koopersmith. When she was going through a hard time in 1991, she resolved to buoy her spirits by creating cheerful, splashy new holidays. Since then she has filled the calendar with over 1,900 new occasions to celebrate. What a perfect way to express her radiant Leo energy! National Splurge Day on June 18 is one of Adrienne's favorites: a time for revelers to be extra kind and generous to themselves. That's a happy coincidence, because my analysis of the astrological omens suggests that this is a perfect activity for you to emphasize during the coming weeks.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): "Let me keep my mind on what matters, which is my work, which is mostly standing still and learning to be astonished." Virgo poet Mary Oliver made that statement. It was perfectly reasonable for her, given her occupation, although a similar declaration might sound outlandish coming from a non-poet. Nonetheless, I'll counsel you to inhabit that frame of mind at least part-time for the next two weeks. I think you'll benefit in numerous ways from ingesting more than your minimum daily dose of beauty, wonder, enchantment, and astonishment.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Libran philosopher Michel Foucault articulated a unique definition of "criticism." He said that it doesn't dish out judgments or hand down sentences. Rather, it invigorates things by encouraging them, by identifying dormant potentials and hidden beauty. Paraphrasing and quoting Foucault, I'll tell you that this alternate type of criticism ignites useful fires and sings to the grass as it grows. It looks for the lightning of possible storms, and coaxes codes from the sea foam. I hope you'll practice this kind of "criticism" in the coming weeks, Libra—a criticism that doesn't squelch enthusiasm and punish mistakes, but instead champions the life spirit and helps it ripen.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Help may be hovering nearby, but in an unrecognizable guise. Rumpled but rich opportunities will appear at the peripheries, though you may not immediately recognize their value. A mess that you might prefer to avoid looking at could be harboring a very healthy kind of trouble. My advice to you, therefore, is to drop your expectations. Be receptive to possibilities that have not been on your radar. Be willing to learn lessons you have neglected or disdained in the past.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): As much as I love logic and champion rational thinking, I'm granting you a temporary exemption from their supremacy. To understand what's transpiring in the coming weeks, and to respond with intelligence, you will have to transcend logic and reason. They will simply not be sufficient guides as you wrestle and dance with the Great Riddle that will be visiting. You will need to unleash the full power of your intuition. You must harness the wisdom of your body, and the information it reveals to you via physical sensations. You will benefit from remembering at least some of your nightly dreams, and inviting them to play on your consciousness throughout the day.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): For the sake of your emotional and spiritual health, you may need to temporarily withdraw or retreat from one or more of your alliances. But I recommend that you don't do anything drastic or dramatic. Refrain from harsh words and sudden breaks. For now, seal yourself away from influences that are stirring up confusion so you can concentrate on reconnecting with your own deepest truths. Once you've done that for a while, you'll be primed to find helpful clues about where to go next in managing your alliances.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): I've got a list of do's and don'ts for you. Do play and have fun more than usual. But don't indulge in naïve assumptions and infantile emotions that interfere with your ability to see the world as it really is. Do take aggressive action to heal any sense of abandonment you're still carrying from the old days. But don't poison yourself with feelings of blame toward the people who abandoned you. Do unleash wild flights of fantasy and marvelous speculations about seemingly impossible futures that maybe aren't so impossible. But don't get so fixated on wild fantasies and marvelous speculations that you neglect to embrace the subtle joys that are actually available to you right now.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): "At times, so many memories trample my heart that it becomes impossible to know just what I'm feeling and why," writes Piscean poet Mark Nepo. While that experience is familiar to everyone, it's especially common for you Pisceans. That's the bad news. But here's the good news: in the coming weeks, your heart is unlikely to be trampled by your memories. Hence, you will have an excellent chance to know exactly what you're feeling and why. The weight of the past will at least partially dissolve and you'll be freer than usual to understand what's true for you right now, without having to sort through confusing signals about who you used to be.

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.

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Answers Page 34

SUDOKU

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					6			
7		4	2			8	5	
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Intermediate

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 34

TURN IT DOWN!

A SURVEY OF LANSING'S MUSICAL LANDSCAPE

BY RICH TUPICA

Friday, June 14

GREG NAGY PERFORMS AT URBANBEAT



Greg Nagy, a former member of Root Doctor, returns to Lansing with his own band for a Friday show at UrbanBeat. Here, Nagy is shown performing on WKAR's "Backstage Pass."



Want a free CD? Mention this City Pulse story at UrbanBeat on June 14 and say, "Rich sent me." Nagy will give you a complimentary copy of "Stranded."

Soulful Michigan-based bluesman returns to Old Town

Friday, June 14 @ UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner St., Lansing. 18+, \$5, 8 p.m.

Flint native Greg Nagy isn't your run-of-the-mill bluesman. His dynamic skillset incorporates elements of R&B, rock and gospel into one rootsy hybrid. His latest solo album, "Stranded," was released in 2015 via Big O Records and promptly garnered high praise from a stack of notable music mags, like Soul Bag, DownBeat and Vintage Guitar. Friday, the guitarist/vocalist brings his powerful sound to UrbanBeat in Old Town.

Nagy, a former member of Lansing's own Root Doctor, chatted with City Pulse, here's what he had to say.

It's been awhile since the "Stranded" LP hit stores; have anything new in the works?

Greg Nagy: I am back in the studio working up for a release in the fall. I've got some pretty eclectic material and the most recent track we've done is a co-write with legendary writer Jeff Paris and my friend

Jim Alfredson. Jeff has worked with Rod Stewart, Keb Mo and Bill Withers. The list is long. The guy has really inspired Jim and I in so many ways, and to co-write with such a guy is an amazing experience. Jeff heard me sing about a decade ago and our relationship grew from there. Also, I've been asked to sing with the legendary Bobby Murray on several shows and on his upcoming album. Bobby was the guitarist for Etta James for nearly 30 years. As a vocalist, it's a huge honor to work with such an iconic figure. I'm also playing guitar on a track—so excited ... I'm also knocking around the idea of recording an acoustic album, at some point.

Going back in time, when you were growing up in Flint, when did you first pick up a guitar?

I first picked up guitar when I was in junior high school. My parents had divorced and it was a messy one, so I just locked myself

up in my room and would noodle around for hours. Sometimes I fell asleep with the guitar on my chest. I think it really helped me get through those angst-ridden years. In fact, music continues to be a healing force in my life, both playing and listening.

Today, you're a music scene vet with a distinct style. Do you still get inspired by other vocalists and guitarists?

Vocally, I'm inspired by any singer who tells a compelling and believable story. I'm generally not big on overly embellished singers. Jeff Paris and my friend Earl Thomas told me a few years back, "The best singers are simply the ones who make you believe the story." On guitar, it's pretty much the same thing.

People should also note that I am not purely a blues musician. Rather a fairly eclectic and open roots-based musician

who just happened to get some attention from the larger blues community. You don't have to be a blues lover to enjoy what I'm doing.

Looking back at your own discography, what's your favorite original song?

That's a tough one, depends on my mood. I will say that a lot of people have written me about "I Won't Give Up" and said it got them through a rather difficult period in their life. That's very meaningful to me.

Can you offer some advice to newbie musicians?

Stay in school. Be versatile. Don't pigeonhole yourself. Keep your peripheral vision open and let your own unique talents take you where they will.



Upcoming show? Contact
Suzi@lansingcitypulse.com

DESTINATION	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
The Avenue Café, 2021 E. Michigan Ave.	Trivia Night: Always Sunny 10PM	Free DJ Show	Free GTG Show	Free DJ Show
Classic Pub & Grill, 16219 Old US 27	DJ Trivia 8PM	Live Music 8PM	DJ Nick Knox 8PM	Velocity Shift 8PM
Crunchy's, 254 W. Grand River Ave.		Karaoke, 9PM	Karaoke, 9PM	Karaoke 9PM
El Azteco West, 1016 W. Saginaw			Karaoke 6:30PM	
The Exchange, 314 E. Michigan Ave.	Good Cookies Band 8PM	Jeff Shoup & Friends 8:30PM	Showdown 9:30PM	Showdown 9:30PM
Green Door, 2005 E. Michigan Ave.		Karaoke Kraze	Mix Pack	The Rotations
Lansing Brewing Co., 518 E. Shiawassee	Trivia with Sporcle 9 PM			
The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave.			White Reaper 7PM	Electric Open Mic 7PM
Macs Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave.	Punk with a Camera 6PM	The Spotlight 8PM	Grey Matter 7PM	Conspicuous Bystanders 8PM
Reno's North, 16460 Old US 27, Lansing				Tony Thompson Band
Reno's West, 5001 W. Saginaw Hwy.				The New Rule 7 PM
Robin Theatre, 1105 S. Washington Ave			In Absentia (Jazz) 8PM	
Unicorn, 327 Cesar E. Chavez, Lansing			Jummy G and The Capitols 9PM	FB2 9PM
UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner St.		Tony Thompson 5PM, Laura Ordair 9PM	Greg Nagy Band 6PM	

From Page 31

Winners chosen. 7-8 p.m. Music in the Park, Jaycee Park, Grand Ledge. grandledge.lib.mi.us.

Friday, June 14

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Artisan Hands-On Basic Cheese Making Workshop - 8 a.m. MSU Meat Laboratory, 474 S. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. canr.msu.edu.

Ladies Night Make and Take Workshop - Screenprint tees. 6 p.m. ALT Printing, 1139 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. altprintingco.com

EVENTS

Build & Destroy - Impression 5 Science Center, 200 Museum Dr, Lansing. 517-485-8116. impression5.org.

Cardboard Circuits - 4 p.m. Impression 5 Science Center, 200 Museum Dr, Lansing. 517-485-8116. impression5.org.

Golf Fore Giving - Cristo Rey's annual fundraiser. Cristo Rey Community Center, 1717 N High St, Lansing. cristoreycommunity.org.

Grassroots USA Pizza and Politics Everyone is welcome. 7-10 p.m. Karoub and Assoc, 121 W. Allegan, Lansing.

Holt Farmers Market Mini-Market - 2-6 p.m. Holt Farmers Market, 2150 Cedar St, Holt. delhitownship.com.

Howl at the Moon: Guided Night Walk. Dogs on non-retractable leash welcome. 9-10 p.m. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Rd., Okemos. 517-349-3866. meridian.mi.us.

The Importance of Being Earnest - Summer Circle Theatre - T 8-10 p.m. MSU Auditorium, Lansing. calendar.cal.msu.edu.

Lansing Juneteenth Celebration - 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Lansing. For schedule, lansingjuneteenthcelebration.org

Michigan Pride March, Rally & Festival - Celebration of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer community and allies. 100 N Capitol Ave., Lansing. michigan.org.

Science of Marvel - 4 p.m. Impression 5 Science Center, 200 Museum Dr, Lansing. 517-485-8116. impression5.org.

Secret Agent Scientist - 4 p.m. Impression 5 Science Center, 200 Museum Dr, Lansing. 517-485-8116. impression5.org.

Small Town, Big Engines - The Dimondale Business Association hosts 10th annual

Oldsmobile Car Show. 6-8 p.m. Downtown Dimondale. 517-646-8358. dimondale.org.

TGIF Dance Party - 7 p.m.-12 a.m. Hawk Hollow,, 15101 Chandler Rd., Bath. 734-604-5095. tgifdance.com.

Under the Sea - 12 p.m. Impression 5 Science Center, 200 Museum Dr, Lansing. 517-485-8116. impression5.org.

ARTS

Glitz and Glam Add Bling! - 7-10 p.m. Painting with a Twist, 580 Frandor Ave, Lansing. 517-483-2450. paintingwithatwist.com.

Open Call Idea Night - 6-8 p.m. Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum, 547 E Circle Dr, East Lansing. 517-884-4800.

Wicked River - 7:30-9:30 p.m. Painting with a Twist, 580 Frandor Ave, Lansing. 517-483-2450. paintingwithatwist.com.

Saturday, June 15

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Everything You Need to Know About Parenting - 2:30-5 p.m. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Rd, East Lansing. 517-351-2420. bestbabykit.com.

Creating Mandalas - free. All ages. To register call 517-381-1410. 1-3 p.m. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Rd., East Lansing.

Stengthen, Stretch, Roll - Move well, move daily and stay healthy. 11-11:30 a.m. ALIVE, 800 W Lawrence Ave, Charlotte. myalive.com.

EVENTS

7th Annual Lansing Beer Fest - 4-9 p.m. REO Town - Washington Ave. between Elm St. and South St., Lansing.

Bunks Across America - SHP will be building 40 beds for kids sleeping on the floor in Lansing! 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Lowe's Parking Lot, 6821 S Cedar St., Lansing. (844) 432-2337 x5507.

Father's Day Family Health Event - Enjoy activities and a FREE cookout. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. ALIVE, 800 W Lawrence, Charlotte. myalive.com.

How To Make Friends and Then Kill Them - Summer Circle Theatre - 10 p.m. Next to MSU auditorium, East Lansing. calendar.cal.msu.edu.

June Mobile Food Pantry - Must bring valid state ID/driver's license. 9-11 a.m. St. Casimir Church, 800 W. Barnes, Lansing. lansingmi.gov.

Kintla Yoga Grand Opening Kintla Yoga Studio, 2025 Abbot Rd., Suite 300, East Lansing. 517-667-0081. kintlayoga.com.

Lansing Juneteenth Celebration - 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Lansing. For schedule, lansingjuneteenthcelebration.org

Michigan Pride March, Rally & Festival - Celebration of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer community and allies. 100 N Capitol Ave., Lansing. michigan.org.

Night at the Museum - 4-6:30 p.m. R.E. Olds Transportation Museum, 240 Museum Drive, Lansing. 517-372-0529. reoldsmuseum.org.

Oldsmobile Homecoming - R.E. Olds Transportation Museum, 240 Museum Drive, Lansing. 517-372-0529. reoldsmuseum.org.

Stewardship Mornings - Every day is Earth Day at the Harris Nature Center! 9-11 a.m. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road, Okemos. 517-349-3866. meridian.mi.us.

Uplift Our Youth Foundation - Judges Panel

Discussion 12-2 p.m. LCC, West Campus, 5708 Cornerstone Dr., Lansing.

Where's Willy Scavenger Hunt- Williamston. williamston.org

ARTS

A New Day - 4-6 p.m. Painting with a Twist, 580 Frandor Ave, Lansing. 517-483-2450. paintingwithatwist.com.

AVENGERS Family Event 1-3 p.m. Painting with a Twist, 580 Frandor Ave, Lansing. 517-483-2450. paintingwithatwist.com.

Midnight Milky Way Swim! 7:30-9:30 p.m. Painting with a Twist, 580 Frandor Ave, Lansing. 517-483-2450. paintingwithatwist.com.

MUSIC

MiCUP Ukulele June 2019 Planes, Trains and Autos - 10 a.m.-12 p.m. Okemos Branch Library

See Out on the town, Page 36

SATURDAY JUNE 15 >> LANSING BEER FEST



Over 20 breweries and 100 craft beers from Michigan will be showcased at the seventh annual Lansing Beer Fest. Additionally, there will be live bands, vendors and food trucks. Handsome Pete and The Gasoline Gypsies will open up for headliner The Band Mint. Michigan hand crafted cider and spirits also available. General admission does not include tasting tickets.

4 to 9 p.m., \$15 GA
REO Town, Washington Avenue, between South Street and Elm Street, Lansing
(517) 331-0528
lansingbeerfest.com

SUNDAY JUNE 16 >> AMERICAN OPERA AND SARAH BURTON AT THE ROBIN THEATRE



The Robin Theatre hosts a duo of Americana songwriting forces from for a night of indie music revelry. To open up the show, Toronto native Sarah Burton will play tunes hot off her record release of “Give Me What I Want,” a love letter to the Texas music scene. Afterward, American Opera will take the stage with its folk rock prowess. The band opened for the likes of The Avett Brothers and Josh Ritter along with performing at multiple Warped Tour shows.

8 to 11 p.m., \$15 Door
The Robin Theatre
1105 S. Washington Ave., Lansing
(989) 878-1810
therobintheatre.com





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From Pg. 32

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CROSSWORD SOLUTION

From Pg. 32

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M	A	D			I	N	T	W	O		A	V	E	R

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From Page 34

CADL, 4321 Okemos Rd, Okemos.

St. Johns Soap Box Derby Concert - 3-11 p.m. Uncle John’s Cider Mill @ 8614 N, US 127, St. Johns.

Sunday, June 16

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Juggling - Learn how to juggle! 2-4 p.m. Orchard Street Pumphouse, 368 Orchard Street, East Lansing.

EVENTS

2019–20 Ixion Season Launch Potluck Picnic - 1-3 p.m. Sharp Park, 1401 Elmwood Rd, Lansing.

Day at the Ballpark with Dad - 10:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Cooley Law School Stadium, 505 E Michigan Ave, Lansing. 517-483-7400. visit-lenawee.ticketleap.com.

East Lansing Farmers Market - 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Valley Court Park, 300 Valley Court, East Lansing. cityofeastlansing.com.

Father’s Day at the Zoo – Dads Get FREE Admission - 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Potter Park Zoo, 1301 S Pennsylvania Ave, Lansing. potterparkzoo.org.

The Importance of Being Earnest – Summer Circle Theatre - 4-6 p.m. MSU Auditorium, East Lansing. calendar.cal.msu.edu.

Red Cedar Jubilee - June 16-23. Williamston. williamston.org/events

St. Johns Soap Box Derby Race Day - 9:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Downtown St. Johns, 100 Clinton Ave. sjssoapboxderby.com.

Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) - 6:30-8 p.m. Ingham County Fairgrounds, 700 E Ash, Mason. canr.msu.edu.

ARTS

Michigan Summer Roadtrip - 3-5 p.m. Painting with a Twist, 580 Frandor Ave, Lansing. 517-483-2450. paintingwithatwist.com.

Spring Moon or Summer Sun - 6-8 p.m. Painting with a Twist, 580 Frandor Ave, Lansing. 517-483-2450. paintingwithatwist.com.

Monday, June 17

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

4 Ever Young Drumming - Core and lower body strengthening as well as balance and flexibility. 3-4 p.m. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Rd, East Lansing. 517-337-1113.

Airplanes & Drones - 6-12th grade - LCC East. To enroll, lcc.edu/community/youth-programs

Charlotte Area Sports Performance Training - 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. ALIVE, 800 W Lawrence Ave, Charlotte. myalive.com.

Photography - 6-12th grade - LCC East. To enroll, lcc.edu/community/youth-programs

EVENTS

CanHope Support Group - for cancer patients, survivors, family and friends and caregivers. 6:30-7:45 p.m. ALIVE, 800 W Lawrence Ave, Charlotte. myalive.com.

Inside Me! - 9 a.m. Impression 5 Science

Center, 200 Museum Dr, Lansing. 517-485-8116. impression5.org.

Lansing Community College: Advanced C# Student Presentations - 9-11 a.m. LCC West Campus, 5708 Cornerstone Drive, Lansing.

Life Hacker - 9 a.m. Impression 5 Science Center, 200 Museum Dr, Lansing. 517-485-8116. impression5.org.

Mason Chess & Backgammon Club - 6-8 p.m. Bestsellers Books, 360 S. Jefferson St, Mason. business.masonchamber.org.

Potions & Eruptions - 9 a.m. Impression 5 Science Center, 200 Museum Dr, Lansing. 517-485-8116. impression5.org.

Slime Entrepreneur - 9 a.m. Impression 5 Science Center, 200 Museum Dr, Lansing. 517-485-8116. impression5.org.

Techno City - 9 a.m. Impression 5 Science Center, 200 Museum Dr, Lansing. 517-485-8116. impression5.org.

ARTS

REACH AM Camp Week 1: Drawing projects and techniques - 9 a.m.-12 p.m. Reach Studio Art Center, 1804 S Washington Ave, Lansing. 517-999-3643. reachstudioart.org.

REACH PM Camp Week 1: Create expressive paintings and prints - 1-4 p.m. Reach Studio Art Center, 1804 S Washington Ave, Lansing. 517-999-3643. reachstudioart.org.

Refugee Youth Art Exhibit - by refugee youth in foster care. 6-7 p.m. Tabooli Restaurant, 515 W Grand River Ave., East Lansing.

Tuesday, June 18

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Babysitting Workshop - For teens 12 and up. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Grand Ledge Library, 131 E Jefferson St, Grand Ledge. grandledge.lib.mi.us.

Consumer Education Series - Phone, Mail & E-Scams 10-11 a.m. Meridian Senior Center, 4000 N. Okemos Rd., Okemos.

Cornerstone Connection Happy Hour - Presentation. 4:30-6 p.m. Cornerstone Wealth Partners, 2525 Jolly Rd., Okemos.

Fly Fishing Class with Nomad Anglers - 6-8 p.m., 2850 E Grand River Ave, East Lansing.

Fly Fishing 101 - Learn to Fly Fish. 2-4 p.m. Meridian Senior Center, 4000 Okemos Rd, Okemos. 517-706-5045.

Grateful Living - Explore all the benefits of gratitude. 1-2:30 p.m. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Rd., East Lansing. 517-337-1113.

Goldberg Variations - 7-8:30 p.m. Michigan Princess Riverboat, Grand River Park, Lansing Rd, Lansing. 616-292-1884.

Latin In The Garden - Learn about garden terminology in Latin and why it’s important. 7-9 p.m. 5815 Wise Road, Lansing.

Math Seminar Series - Research on Advanced Mathematical Thinking. 9:10 a.m.-Noon 212 N. Kedzie, East Lansing. events.msu.edu.

Summer Activity by Parks & Recreation - Why do some animals have fur while others have feathers? 11 a.m.-12 p.m. Bath Middle School, 13675 Webster Rd, Bath. bathtownship.us.

LITERATURE AND POETRY

Paws for Reading - Practice reading aloud to a certified therapy dog. 6-7 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E Jefferson St, Grand Ledge. grandledge.lib.mi.us.

Picnic StoryTime - 11 a.m.-12 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E Jefferson St, Grand Ledge. grandledge.lib.mi.us

EVENTS

100 Women Who Care quarterly meeting 5-6 p.m. The University Club, 3435 Forest Rd., Lansing. 517-353-5111. greaterlansing100womenwhocare.com

Alzheimer’s Support Group - 3:30-4:30 p.m. ALIVE, 800 W Lawrence Ave, Charlotte. myalive.com

Cameron Zvara: Comedy, Magic & Juggling! 2-3 p.m. Willow Ridge Elementary School, 12840 Nixon Rd., Grand Ledge. grandledge.lib.mi.us.

Injury Clinic - Free consult with a sports or health professional. 5:30-7 p.m. ALIVE, 800 W Lawrence Ave, Charlotte.

Kiwanis of Grand Ledge Member Meeting - All Welcome! 6-7 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E Jefferson St, Grand Ledge.

Queen Up Your Magick at Coyote Wisdom - with Angela Kaufman, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Coyote Wisdom, 2432 N. Grand River Ave., Lansing.

Try IT Works! - 6:30-9:30 p.m. UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner St. Old Town, Lansing.

ARTS

Day 1 of 4–Art Camp 1-4 p.m. Painting with a Twist, 580 Frandor Ave, Lansing. 517-483-2450. paintingwithatwist.com.

Hydrageas in Pink – 7-9 p.m. Painting with a Twist, 580 Frandor Ave, Lansing. 517-483-2450. paintingwithatwist.com.


Teen Open Studio - 4:30-6:30 p.m. Reach Studio Art Center, 1804 S Washington Ave, Lansing. 517-999-3643. reachstudioart.org.



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FOOD & DRINK

DINING OUT IN GREATER LANSING

A sour stew for any season

By **DAVID WINKELSTERN**

Lansing's Zaytoon Mediterranean has a menu so enormous it practically takes up an entire wall. From numerous choices, I picked a combo meal with vegetarian gallayas as my main course and soup — instead of salad — for my side. All Zaytoon's combos come with rice.

When I stepped to the counter to place an order, I was told “gallayas” means “stew.” I chose a cabbage vegetable soup to go with it. Including tax, the ample meal was only \$10.59.

The soup — with three pieces of pita — arrived to my table quickly. It was noticeably hot with a zesty aroma. At

first, I wasn't sure if the medium-sized bowl contained my stew. The scrumptious and slightly spicy soup was loaded with thick chunks of carrots, celery, zucchini and cauliflower. A fork seemed more appropriate than a soup spoon.

The steaming stew arrived in a larger bowl, surrounded by an embankment of perfectly cooked, mixed rice. A fork easily stood up in the thick blend of mushrooms, tomatoes, sweet peppers, onions and carrots.

The colorful amalgamation had an immediate sourness that was more tangy than mouth puckering. It came from Zaytoon's secret, vinegar-based salad dressing with nine different spices.



David Winkelstern/City Pulse

Zaytoon's soup

The invigorating blend had my tongue's full attention.

Mixing the rice with the tasty stew tamed the sourness and made the feast even grander. The chef suggested spooning the gallayas onto the rice. The combo was utterly satisfying, no matter the utensil employed.

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