

# CityPULSE

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p.13

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IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD**

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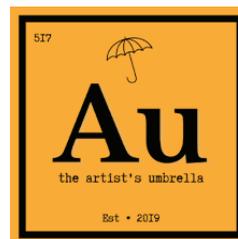
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Allen Neighborhood Center director steps down

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Greater Lansing Farmers Market Guide

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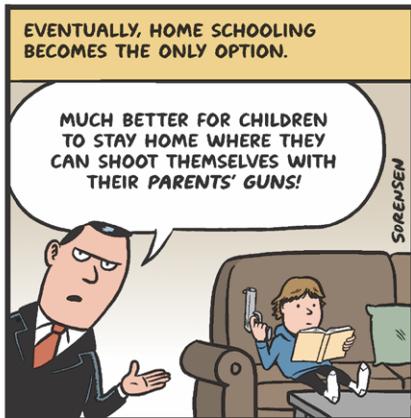
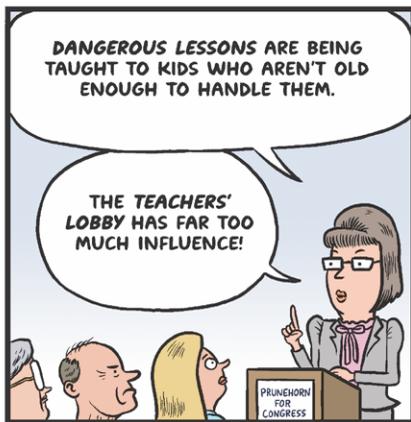
Runny Egg Pizza at Cosmos

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COVER ART Cover art by Vince Joy

Cover Art



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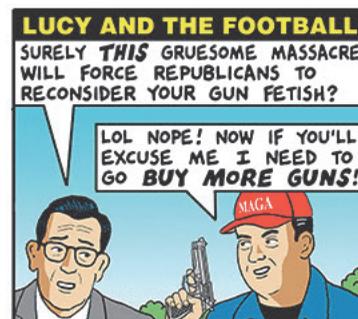
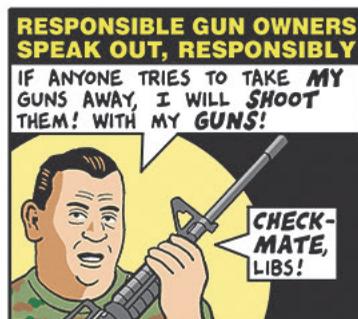
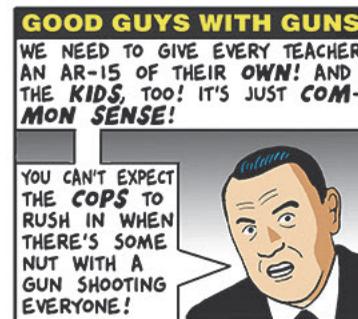
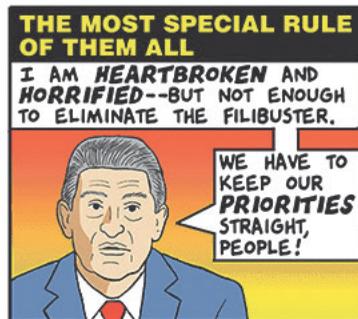
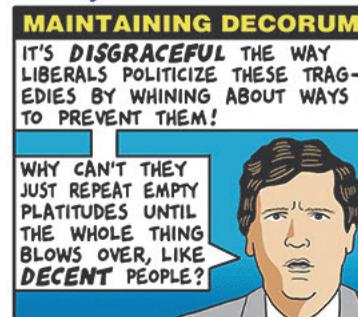
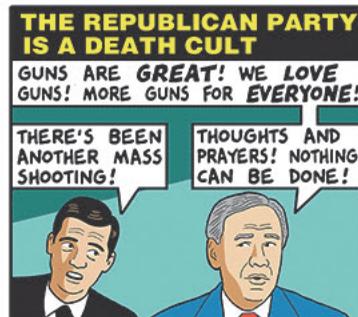
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## THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW



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# PULSE

# NEWS & OPINION

## Antisemitic incidents reportedly up sharply in Greater Lansing

Antisemitic behavior is on the rise across Greater Lansing, according to the Anti-Defamation League.

Reports from the international non-profit watchdog group listed at least 42 antisemitic incidents in Ingham, Clinton and Eaton counties over the last two years, with 32 last year alone.

It's an increase that's mirrored in trends across Michigan and the country, which saw more than 2,700 instances of bigoted harassment and vandalism reported to the ADL last year — up 34% from 2020 and the most reports since it started tallying them in 1979. In Michigan, incident reports more than doubled from 51 in 2020 to 112 in 2021.

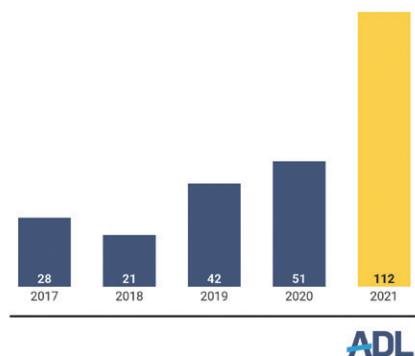
Andy Schor, Lansing's first Jewish mayor, labeled the trend "disturbing."

"Hate crimes of any sort — whether antisemitic, racial, ethnic, gender orientation or any other reason — are all reprehensible," he said. "This new data shows the continuing pandemic trend of anger and aggressiveness from a small minority of people who feel empowered to target others. Fortunately, I truly believe that Lansing is a welcoming community and know that a great majority of our residents do not stand for this behavior."

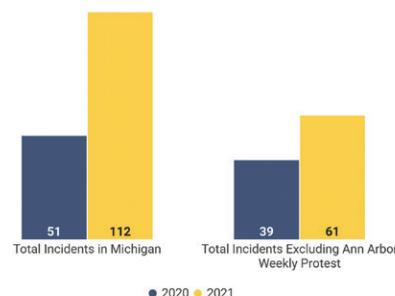
The ADL separated incidents into two categories: harassment, where Jews reported feeling harassed by antisemitic language or actions; and vandalism, where physical property was damaged (or spray painted) in a way that harmed or intimidated Jews. Antisemitic assaults would normally be a separate category, but none were reported last year in Michigan.

"The data reflects a disturbing all-time high, both in our state and across the U.S.," ADL Michigan regional director Carolyn Normandin said in a press release, which also noted that an average of seven incidents were reported daily across the country last year and that Michigan recorded more bigotry

Antisemitic Incidents | Michigan  
Five Year Review



Antisemitic Incidents | Michigan



There is a 56% increase in Michigan's total number of antisemitic incidents when excluding the weekly protests at an Ann Arbor synagogue. When including the protests, there is a 120% increase.



Schor

than 45 other states and Washington, D.C. Only New York, New Jersey, California and Florida surpassed Michigan.

In Michigan, hundreds of antisemitic incidents the ADL tracked over the last two years were reported in almost every major city and county, several colleges and universities, and even some far-flung municipalities miles north of the Mackinac Bridge.

The tri-county region of Ingham, Eaton and Clinton counties accounted for dozens of those reported incidents, most involving vandalism. None involved physical assault.

The vast majority were in East Lansing and Lansing, mostly literature, propaganda and other hateful symbolism from the Patriot Front, an image-obsessed white supremacist group that the Southern Poverty Law Center says promotes an explicitly fascist political agenda with theatrical rhetoric and garish patriotism.

Court records showed that Ingham County Prosecutor Carol Siemon has brought charges in seven cases that involved felony ethnic intimidation since she took office in 2017, including one in 2018 that involved antisemitism. It did not result in a conviction. The case involved a person harassing a Jewish person with threatening messages, ref-



Normandin

erences to Adolf Hitler and the Holocaust. Because of the offender's age, specific details regarding the case have been sealed from public view.

The Lansing Police Department also reported two antisemitic incidents over the last two years, both of which the ADL recorded. Ingham County Sheriff Scott Wriggelsworth also found one report in recent years. The East Lansing Police Department and the Michigan State Police did not respond to multiple requests for information.

Here's every incident of antisemitism in the tri-county region that was listed in the ADL's report, supplemented with additional data from media reports and local law enforcement agencies:

**January 2020:** Patriot Front distributed propaganda in Lansing that read: "Money does not rule you," "Reject poison" and "Life Liberty Victory." The white nationalist hate group formed after the 2017 "Unite the Right" rally in Charlottesville, Virginia, the South-

ern Poverty Law Center said. Its public "manifesto" includes a call for the formation of a white ethno-state and is reportedly explicit in its exclusion



of people of color from its conception of pan-European identity. The group's leaders also reportedly keep a fairly tight watch over their members, requiring regular activism (like littering propaganda across their cities) or they risk expulsion.

About one in five applicants have current or former military status, according to archives released to a nonprofit media organization and reported by NPR.

**February 2020:** A member of the Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity at Michigan State University spray-painted a swastika on the grounds of the fraternity, which suspended him. Nationwide, there were least 155 antisemitic incidents at colleges and universities at more than 100 campuses in 2021, — a 21% jump from 2020. Reports showed that Michigan State University played host to at least a dozen more incidents.

**March 2020:** Joe Jager, a candidate who was challenging Eaton County Sheriff Tom Reich in the Democratic primary, sent out thousands of flyers



Siemon



Wriggelsworth



that declared electing Reich to a third term would constitute a "Third Reich," a play on words with the Nazi regime of Adolph Hitler. Jager insisted that he meant no harm.

**May 2020:** ADL tracked an antisemitic "harassment" incident in Bath. No additional details were available.

See Antisemitic, Page 6

# Antisemitic

from page 5

**Oct. 2020:** A Zoom meeting hosted by Congregation Kehillat Israel on Forest Road in Lansing was briefly interrupted by a white man wearing a mask, police said. The man reportedly stood up, exposed himself and yelled antisemitic slurs before he was removed. At least 525 incidents of antisemitism nationwide were reported as occurring at Jewish institutions such as synagogues last year, up 61% from 2020. Many reports, like those in Greater Lansing, involved harassment, mostly in virtual forums.

"The fact that antisemitism is on the rise in our country and elsewhere is no surprise," said Rabbi Amy Bigman at Congregation Shaarey Zedek in East Lansing. "Our congregation and the Jewish community as a whole remain vigilant. Over the years synagogues, Jewish community centers and other Jewish organizations have invested heavily in security measures."



Bigman

Bigman didn't elaborate on those security measures, but she said they have been costly.

"It's very distributing, and it saddens me to know there are people out there who hate us simply because of our religion. I continue to teach that all people are created in God's image and should be treated accordingly."

Patriot Front also distributed more propaganda in Lansing, this time reading: "Reclaim America," "America is not for sale," and "Life Liberty Victory," according to the ADL's latest audit.

**November 2020:** America First podcaster Nicholas Fuentes participated in a "Stop the Steal" rally in downtown Lansing. "We have the president of the United States standing up to the banks, standing up to the mainstream media,

standing up to the big tax and the Democrats and the synagogue of Satan," Fuentes reportedly said. Jews have long been portrayed as possessing horns and other Satanic attributes in antisemitic materials.

Patriot Front flyers were seen in Lansing: "America First" and "For the nation against the state."

**December 2020:** Patriot Front propaganda cropped up in Dimondale and Potterville: "Revolution is tradition," "One nation against invasion" and "Better dead than red" flyers directed readers via QR code to the hate group's website and its online manifesto.



Additional Patriot Front flyers appeared in Lansing a week later: "Reject poison," "Reclaim America," "Stolen not conquered" and "To ourselves and our posterity."

**January 2021:** More Patriot Front propaganda was discovered on public fixtures across MSU's campus.

**March 2021:** Patriot Front hung a banner on a highway overpass in Lansing that read: "Strong Families Strong Nations." The group also spray painted some stencils on a wall: "Life Liberty Victory."

**April 2021:** Both the ADL and Lansing police tracked another Zoom meeting interruption at Kehillat Israel by someone who yelled antisemitic slurs.

**May 2021:** More Patriot Front propaganda is discovered in East Lansing. The ADL cited the conflict between Israel and Hamas as greatly heightening tensions across the globe last summer. The Michigan office received 13 incident reports that month, not all antisemitic.

"Roughly half of those were anti-Jewish or antisemitic," Normandin said. "The other half was a mixture of anti-Black, anti-LGBTQ, anti-Asian and anti-Muslim hate — by far the highest number of incidents reported in Michigan and a deeply troubling indicator of larger societal fractures."

By the time a ceasefire was announced, 13 people had been killed in

Israel and 248 people had been killed in Gaza following more than 4,000 rocket and missile attacks from Gaza.

**July 2021:** A mural beneath a bridge in St. Johns was reportedly defaced with swastika graffiti.

**Aug. 2021:** A string of Patriot Front propaganda and vandalism is discovered across the Greater Lansing

area, with separate incidents reported in Fowler, Eaton Rapids, East Lansing, Haslett and Ovid.

**September 2021:** Another string of antisemitic incidents occurred at MSU after the fall semester began:

An individual had reportedly joined an online biology class group chat using a Nazi swastika as a profile picture, claiming that biology proves "Jews are scum." The same individual posted "shut the hell up Jew Boy" in a local apartment complex's group chat, the Lansing State Journal reported.

Also that week: An artistic tribute to the 20th anniversary of 9/11 on the famous campus rock was defaced. The

word "never" from the phrase "never forget" was etched out, and the word "Israel" was spray painted over an image of the American Flag. No suspects were found.

**October 2021:** Patriot Front propaganda continued with several incidents reported in St. Johns, Delta Township, East Lansing, Dewitt, Grand Ledge, Potterville, Lansing and Dimondale. Sheriff Wriggelsworth said no arrests for vandalism have been made.

**November 2021:** A targeted focus of Patriot Front literature distribution was reported in Lansing, specifically at Lansing Community College. Another large banner was also found on an overpass in Lansing.

**December 2021:** More Patriot Front vandalism was reported in Eaton Rapids, Potterville, Lansing and Okemos.

**May 2022:** Rabbi Bigman said a congregant recently discovered multiple antisemitic flyers. She declined to provide images or elaborate on the nature of the materials except to call them "offensive." ADL officials said the materials were related to another antisemitic group called the Goyim Defense League.

- KYLE KAMINSKI

Visit [adl.org/resources/report/audit-antisemitic-incidents-2021](https://adl.org/resources/report/audit-antisemitic-incidents-2021) to view the full audit report.



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# REWIND

## NEWS HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE LAST 7 DAYS



By KYLE KAMINSKI



Courtesy

Local green thumbs who have dubbed themselves “The Guerrilla Gardeners” are invading the city this summer with one simple goal: To beautify Lansing, one plant at a time. Search “Lansing Area Guerrilla Gardeners” on Facebook for more information on how to get involved with the group.

### I-496 to close Thursday

A two-mile stretch of the highway between Lansing Road and the Grand River will be closed in both directions for road work beginning Thursday (June 2). Traffic will be detoured to side streets — like Malcolm X and St. Joseph streets — through at least Oct. 15. State officials anticipate increased traffic along Saginaw Highway and other side streets too. Expect traffic jams.

### LEAP makes awards to small businesses

Nearly two dozen small business owners from across Greater Lansing were selected in the Lansing Economic Area Partnership’s sixth cohort of its “One and All” inclusive entrepreneurship initiative, which provides two months of training, networking and a \$2,500 seed investment to local small business owners from underrepresented populations. Previous program participants have seen their average annual incomes increase by about \$10,000 within six months of graduation. Several have also gone on to open up brick-and-mortar storefronts.

### German high-tech firm coming

Germany-based ATESTEO, a global provider of testing services for electric vehicle drivetrains and other components, announced plans to open its North American headquarters on West Road in East Lansing. The move is slated to create 46 jobs and “boost Michigan’s efforts to position itself as the global leader in the future of mobility and vehicle electrification,” according to a press release. State officials lured ATESTEO to Michigan (over competing sites in Ohio and South Carolina) with help from a \$400,000 grant from the Michigan Strategic Fund.



### East Lansing says no to psychedelics

The City Council voted, 3-2, to reject a proposal to decriminalize the cultivation, use and possession of entheo-

genic plants, including all-natural plants, cacti-like peyote and psychedelic “magic mushrooms.” Mayor Ron Bacon and members Lisa Babcock and George Brookover were the three buzzkills.

Read more at [lansingcitypulse.com](http://lansingcitypulse.com).

### Lansing rolls out ‘Free Parking Fridays’

On-street metered parking is free on Fridays only through Sept. 2. Mayor Andy Schor said the new initiative is designed to encourage more customers to shop at local businesses.



### Stimulus cash considered in Meridian Twp.

Nearly 160 township employees could receive up to \$3,000 each to help fight inflation, if the Meridian Township board approves a one-time “Stimulus Inflationary Payment” at its meeting on Tuesday (June 7), the Lansing State Journal reported.

### Over the Ledge Theatre Co. on pause

The Grand Ledge theater group’s first show of the year, “The Realistic Joneses,” has been canceled after an inspection revealed structural problems at the Ledges Playhouse. Over the Ledge is working to find an alternate venue, officials wrote on Facebook.



### 2 teenagers charged in Lansing murder

Two 17-year-old boys were charged with open murder in the May 6 shooting death Kalen Mathews, 19, in the 900 block of Bensch Street, the Journal reported. Prosecutors have not yet decided whether the unnamed teens should be charged as adults. Mathews’ murder is among nine homicides that have been tracked so far this year in Lansing, down from 14 this time last year.

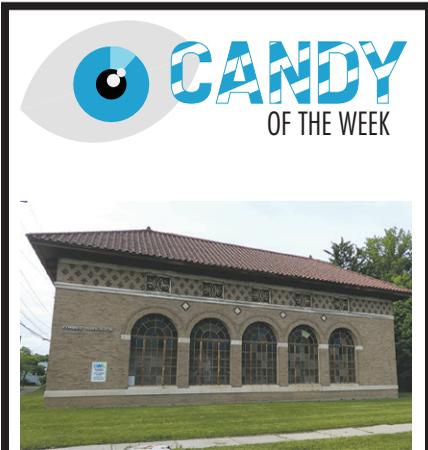
### Okemos Schools OKs bond proposal

Voters will decide in November whether to approve the \$275 million request by the school board to rebuild Cornell, Chippewa and Kinawa elementary schools. Cornell would be redone in the same spot rather than relocating it to empty district-owned green space on Powell Road near Grand River Avenue, reported FOX 47 News.



### First 54B judge was ‘remarkable’

The East Lansing City Council honored the life and legacy of the “remarkable” Maurice Schoenberger, the first judge to serve on the 54B District Court, who died May 12 after a struggle with Parkinson’s disease, the Journal reported.



The featured Eye Candy for this week is the BWL Forbes Substation on the corner of Forbes Street and Verlinden Avenue. Substations like this one convert high voltage electricity into low voltage electricity for homes and businesses. You have probably seen the more common substation look: a mess of gray boxes and wires surrounded by a chain-link fence. Few electrical substations are this beautifully concealed.

The canvas starts with a brick rectangle. Three horizontal limestone bars keep the building grounded, and limestone details are used sparingly throughout the façade to give the brick some life. The giant stained-glass windows are the most prominent feature, their arches contrasting the straight lines and sharp corners of the building. The top layer of brickwork leaves spaces open, possibly for ventilation. This is a creative design choice: Instead of plain, square openings, the masons were able to create a pattern of diamond-shaped openings while maintaining structural integrity.

The building is topped off by what appears to be a Spanish-style concrete tile roof with some hefty overhangs. This was likely not the cheapest roofing option, but whatever was paid, it was worth it. The roof has held up nicely, and its color and texture are a wonderful addition to the structure.

The metal framework of the windows has begun to rust, and the colorful stained glass has dulled, yet thanks to good construction and thoughtful design, the building’s character has only improved over time.

— JAMES KNARIAN

“Eye Candy of the Week” is our look at some of the nicer properties in Lansing. It rotates with Eyesore of the Week and Eye for Design. If you have a suggestion, please e-mail [eye@lansingcitypulse.com](mailto:eye@lansingcitypulse.com) or call Berl Schwartz at 999-5061.

# A transformative leader

It's not often a community leader comes along who combines extraordinary vision with relentless action, who persists in her chosen endeavor for decades and who, in the end, transforms the very fabric of the place that was the focus of her attention. We're talking, of course, about Joan Nelson, the subject of our cover story today. Nelson is the pioneering powerhouse of community engagement and neighborhood development who has led the Allen Neighborhood Center as its executive director for the past 23 years.

A trailblazer whose diligent work improved the lives of generations of east-siders, Nelson is ending her longstanding stewardship of the ANC. It's been an amazing ride. Her achievements speak for themselves: A community transformed and connected, the lives of myriad families lifted up in countless ways.

Deeply grounded in community, connectivity and social justice, Nelson was the conductor of an orchestra of programs and services that aimed to build a healthier, more resilient and more sustainable community. An innovator and a doer with a knack for translating vision into actionable, impactful work, Nelson has been, among many other endeavors, the driving force behind a wildly successful, systematic campaign to create a healthy, local food ecosystem on the east side.

She built the Hunter Park GardenHouse to provide a focal point for community-based agriculture with year-round growing capabilities. From its humble beginnings in 2004, the award-winning Allen Farmers Market hums with life every Wednesday of the season, offering an astonishing cornucopia of local produce, farm fresh eggs, prepared ethnic delights, and vastly more. Naturally, it was the first farmers market in Michigan to accept EBT/SNAP because, well, that's how Joan Nelson rolls. The market also plays a key role in the community's connectivity, bringing neighbors together to interact and build relationships that strengthen the social fabric that ties it all together.

Nelson envisioned and then built a full-blown entrepreneurial incubator for food product startups, now called the Allen Marketplace, with its Maker Kitchen and Prep and Pack Kitchen providing the tools for food entrepreneurs to launch and grow their enterprises — and to succeed with the help of wraparound training in financial management, business development and food safety. The ANC's Veggie Box, a multi-farm, community supported agriculture (CSA) program, connects eastsiders with local, healthy, sustainably-raised produce, 14 weeks a year from June to September.

These are just the headlines. Dig deeper into the vast array of programs and services offered by ANC and you begin to understand the completeness of Nelson's vision and her relentless devotion to pulling every possible lever to overcome barriers in food security, access to quality affordable housing, public health, community safety and the special concerns of senior citizens. Amid oceans of well-deserved accolades, Nelson's genuine humility prompts her to remind us she didn't do it alone. Of course that's true, but every successful team effort has

a leader who holds the vision, sets the agenda and guides the execution. Nelson was all of that and more — and we all noticed.

Her capstone achievement, her parting gift to the east side as it were, is the remarkable transformation of the ANC headquarters itself. The organization's formerly ramshackle facility on East Kalamazoo Street is now a shining model of smart urban redevelopment that will serve surrounding neighborhoods for generations to come. The new development integrates Allen Place Apartments, the Allen Community Health Clinic, Rathbun Accelerator Kitchen and the new home of the East Lansing Food Co-op.

Along the way, Nelson mentored and inspired generations of young people, from Americorps Vista staffers to legions of community volunteers, encouraging them all to change the world one doable thing at a time.

We would be remiss not to mention her encouragement over the years to this publication, which she warmly welcomed when it moved onto Michigan Avenue in 2004 and for which she always managed to find time when her advice was sought. We doubt it was special treatment, for one of Nelson's leadership gifts is she makes you feel special.

Her influence has resonated far beyond the east side. Nelson has been a role model and mentor to neighborhood leaders across the city, both by her example of decency and her habit of generously sharing her knowledge with anyone who asked for it. She's been a key adviser to mayors, City Council members and state lawmakers who sought her keen insights into the challenges of community development and the opportunities to make strategic decisions that improve the quality of life in

neighborhoods across the city.

Nelson recently noted on Facebook that she's not, in fact, riding off into the sunset. Her retirement from ANC merely closes one chapter and begins another, marking a transition to whatever she chooses to do next. We have at least one idea. The city surely could use someone of her caliber, character and commitment on the City Council. She's been asked before and declined. She is a resident of the east side, which is particularly in need of strong representation reflective of its progressive views. We encourage her to reconsider.

Her transcendent work also makes us think that a permanent reminder of her legacy should be established for future generations. Toward that end, we ask city leaders to consider renaming Hunter Park in Nelson's honor. We can't confirm how the property came to be named Hunter Park all those years ago, but we're pretty sure it's not the surname of the family that donated the land to the city. If the origins of the naming are as obscure as we think, then rededicating the park to honor Nelson likely won't offend anyone.

Whatever path she follows from here, we know Joan Nelson will continue to make the world a better place. It's an inescapable part of her DNA. We're thankful that she chose to make Lansing the focus of a lifetime of service and deeply grateful for her faithful commitment to the city and especially to the people of the east side.



Illustration by Vince Joy

## The CP Edit

### Opinion

**Have something to say about a local issue or an item that appeared in our pages? Now you have two ways to sound off:**

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# Another Republican nothing burger after Uvalde, Texas, mass shooting

A day after an 18-year-old fatally shot 19 students and two teachers and wounded 17 others at an Uvalde, Texas, school, Michigan Senate Democrats wanted to talk about it.

## Opinion

In the Michigan

Senate, it's customary to go through an agenda item called "state-ments." It's where any member can talk about whatever is on their mind for five minutes.

Last Wednesday (May 25), Sen. Rosemary Bayer, D-Beverly Hills, was planning to use her five minutes to talk about the need for a "safe storage" bill package, which makes leaving a gun reachable by a minor who then injures or kills another a five-year, \$5,000 felony.

Other members were planning to take the floor, as well.

That moment didn't come. Senate Republicans skipped the "statements" item on the agenda and swiftly adjourned before any of the Democrats had a chance to talk.

The next day, the same thing happened. Session was coming to a close, the Republican floor leader didn't move to the order of statements. Session ended and the Democrats were left not being able to say their piece.

This week, Senate session was essentially canceled since so many of the senators were up on Mackinac Island. It's the Detroit Regional Chamber conference after all. Another opportunity to address gun control is gone.

"The last time I checked, this was still a representative democracy," said Sen. Stephanie Chang, D-Detroit. "My colleagues and I were elected by the same number of people to serve our residents and to speak up about the issues that they care about. We had four members who were ready to give statements and apparently the majority party does not want to hear what we have to say."

Clearly, the Democratic members aren't banned from talking outside of an allotted five minutes on the Senate floor. They can talk with news reporters independently. They can go on social media. They can hold their own forum. They do all of that already.

It's not about getting their voices heard. It's about Democrats delivering their statements directly to the majority party, broadcast over Senate TV and recorded in the journal for prosperity.



KYLE MELINN

POLITICS

Senate Majority Floor Leader Dan Lauwers, R-Brockway Township, indicated that "statements" were skipped last Wednesday after Chang attempted a procedural maneuver to discharge the "safe storage" bills onto the Senate floor from committee.

On Thursday, the reasoning was that the five-minute open comment period was being "misused" to spout off commentary that wasn't constructive. He said claims the Republicans were wrapping up session early to avoid conversations on the Texas school shooting are "inaccurate."

The perception here is clear. Republicans do not want to revisit the gun control argument. They are smart enough to know that they're not swaying anybody by repeating their positions. Talking about guns after these shootings is a political loser for Republicans.

How do you combat the visual of grief-stricken parents? How many times can you say "guns aren't the problem" when these mass school murders aren't happening with bombs or knives?

Re-plowing the same political arguments is like running in place. The Republicans' base likes their Second Amendment. They like their guns because they, in part, make them feel safer.

The rapidly disappearing political moderate doesn't want to hear this. They're busy visualizing the horror of their own child in a classroom under siege.

The more that mild gun control is talked about after a shooting like Uvalde, the more it makes sense to independents. If someone you know is acting erratically and he's in possession of a new firearm (all of these mass shooters are male), shouldn't you alert authorities?

If an 18-year-old is buying an AR-15 style rifle with 375 rounds of ammunition like the Uvalde gunman used, wouldn't some questions from a store clerk be in order?

Until uncompromisingly pro-gun Republicans start losing general or primary elections, gun laws in Michigan aren't changing. In the meantime, gun control will remain the issue Republicans will avoid talking (or doing anything) about it.

*(Email Kyle Melinn of the Capitol news service MIRS at melinnky@gmail.com.)*



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**CITY OF EAST LANSING, MICHIGAN**

**NOTICE OF ADOPTION  
ORDINANCE 1514**

**AN AMENDMENT TO ORDINANCE SECTION 44-372  
OF THE CITY CODE REGARDING PARKING BUREAU SCHEDULE OF FINES**

**THE CITY OF EAST LANSING ORDAINS:**

**Sec. 44-372. Schedule of penalties. (9.7)**

**PARKING VIOLATIONS BUREAU  
SCHEDULE OF FINES**

Uniform Traffic Code Section	City Code Section	Offense	Fine If Paid Within 14 Days
8.21	44-545	Meter violation	\$ <del>20.00</del> 30.00*
8.10(1)(r)		No parking 8:00 a.m.– 4:00 p.m.	35.00
8.10(1)(r)		No parking zone	35.00
8.13		Alley parking	45.00
8.1		Over one foot from curb	35.00
8.10(1)(a)		Parking on sidewalk	45.00
8.10(a)(f)		Within 20 feet of crosswalk	35.00
8.1		Wrong way to curb	35.00
8.25	44-298	Parking 2:00 a.m.—6:00 a.m.	35.00
8.3, 8.22	44-543	Improper parking	35.00
8.30	44-303	Yard parking	35.00
5.58		Keys in ignition	35.00
8.10(1)(r)		No permit (reserved or city lot)	35.00
	44-544	Gated lot—failure to pay	40.00
8.16, 8.17		Loading zone	35.00
8.10(1)(d)		Within 15 feet of fire hydrant	55.00
8.10(1)(r)		Fire or sanitary lane	55.00
8.5, 8.10(1)(k)		Obstructing traffic	55.00
8.10(1)(l)		Double parking	55.00
8.10(1)(s)		Parking in handicapper space	115.00
8.27	44-300	Private property	45.00
8.10(1)(r), 8.24		1-hour zone	35.00
8.10(1)(r), 8.24		2-hour zone	35.00
8.10(1)(f)		Too close to intersection	45.00
8.10(b)		Blocking driveway	45.00
8.10(1)(r)		Disobeying signs controlling parking	35.00
	44-339	Residential parking permit	35.00
8.20		Parking in bus or taxi cab stand	40.00
8.4, 8.6, 8.7, 8.9, 8.10(1)(c, e, g, h, i, j, m, n, o, p, q), 8.12, 8.14, 8.15, 8.18, 8.20		All other parking violations	35.00

\* Meter violation fines are reduced by \$10.00 if paid by the end of the next business day after receiving the violation.

**Jennifer Shuster**  
City Clerk

**CP#22-126**

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**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING  
EAST LANSING PLANNING COMMISSION**

**Notice is hereby given** of the following public hearing to be held by the East Lansing City Council on **Tuesday, June 21, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. at the East Lansing Hannah Community Center**, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing, MI, 48823.

Request from Coratti Real Estate, LLC for Special Use Permit and Site Plan approval to renovate the building at 321 E. Grand River Avenue to open a restaurant licensed for the sale of alcoholic beverages for on-site consumption. The .103-acre parcel is zoned B-3 (City Center Commercial District).

The public may attend and participate at all meetings in person. Additionally, members of the public may participate electronically in all meetings. Please contact the City Clerk or visit the City's public meeting portal for electronic access information:

Jennifer Shuster – City Clerk  
410 Abbot Road  
East Lansing, MI 48823  
jshuster@cityofeastlansing.com  
<https://cityofeastlansing.civicweb.net/Portal/>

Materials related to the request are available for viewing at the Department of Planning, Building, and Development, East Lansing City Hall, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, MI, 48823 between the hours of 8:00 am and 5:00 pm or on the City's website located at [www.cityofeastlansing.com/currentapplications](http://www.cityofeastlansing.com/currentapplications). Written comments may be sent prior to the public hearing to City Council, City of East Lansing, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, Michigan, 48823, or by email to [council@cityofeastlansing.com](mailto:council@cityofeastlansing.com)

The City of East Lansing will provide reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as interpreters for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting, to individuals with disabilities upon request received by the City seven (7) calendar days prior to the meeting. Individuals with disabilities requiring aids or services must contact the City Manager's Office, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, MI, 48823, (517) 319-6920 (TDD Number: 1-800-649-3777) or via email at [nmostel@cityofeastlansing.com](mailto:nmostel@cityofeastlansing.com).

**This notice is posted in compliance with P.A. 267 of 1976 as amended (Open Meetings Act) and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and published in compliance with the Michigan Zoning Enabling Act, 2006 P.A. 110.**

Dated: May 25, 2022  
East Lansing, MI 48823

Jennifer Shuster  
City Clerk

**CP#22-125**

**STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT INGHAM COUNTY. NOTICE TO CREDITORS, Decedent's Estate. Case No. 22-560-DE.** Estate of Roger Lee Dreyse. Date of birth: 12-2-1945. TO ALL CREDITORS: NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Roger Lee Dreyse, died 2-8-22. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Anna Ruth Dreyse, personal representative, or to both the probate court at 313 W. Kalamazoo, Lansing, MI 48933, and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice. 5-9-2022. Kathryn M. Russell P59395, PO Box 241, Hastings, MI 49058. 269-945-4243. Anna Ruth Dreyse, 4360 Holt Rd. #7, Holt, MI 48842. **CP#22-127**



## You are invited to a celebration and ceremony for Okemos Music Academy!

At Okemos Music Academy we've been doing our thing, teaching the songs you love, since 2000. We were planning a big 20 year celebration but that didn't work out, so we moved to a big, beautiful building instead and now we're celebrating 22 years in 2022!

The festivities that we have planned for our big celebration of our new building on Friday June 10th include:

### Noon-2pm Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

- Live music
- Refreshments by our friendly neighbor Dunkin' Donuts
- Tours of the Academy «The Music Palace of Okemos»
- 1pm Ribbon Cutting by the Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce and the Lansing Economic Area Partnership (LEAP)

### 4-7pm Family Friendly and Fun Open House

- American Idol contestant Jacob Moran
- Refreshments by our friendly neighbor Culver's
- Face painting and balloon animals by Miracle
- Tours of the Academy «The Music Palace of Okemos»
- Live music lesson demonstrations

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- 2nd prize:** Electric guitar and amp!
- 3rd prize:** Karaoke machine!
- 4th prize:** Electric keyboard

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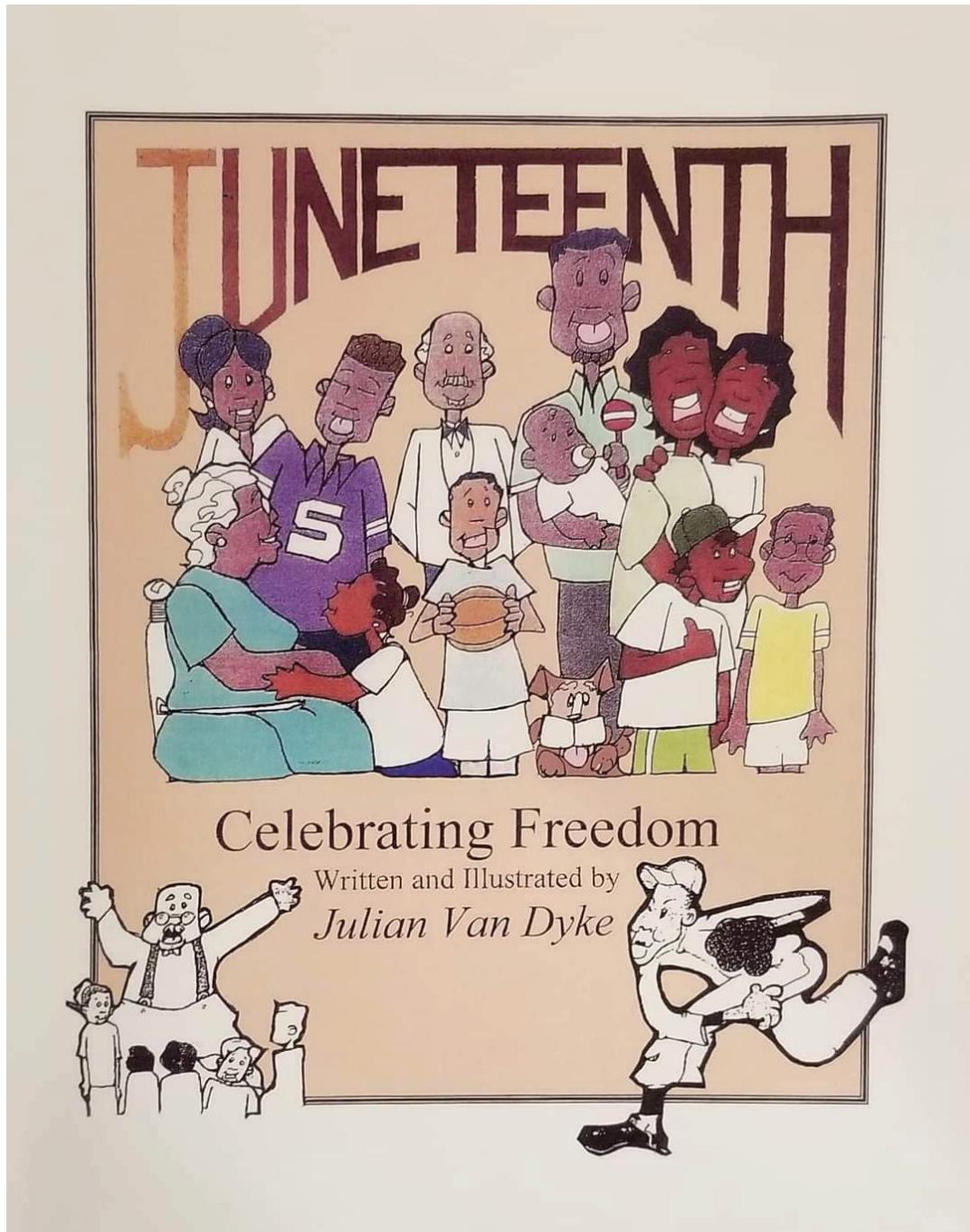
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Lawrence Cosentino/City Pulse

Joan Nelson huddled with East Lansing Food Co-op President Stephen Gasteyer at Wednesday's Allen Farmers Market to plan ELFCO's imminent move into Allen Place this summer.

# LIFT, LIFT, LIFT

## Allen Neighborhood Center director steps down after 23 years

**BY LAWRENCE COSENTINO**

For the past 23 years, Allen Neighborhood Center executive director Joan Nelson has bent every ear in reach about the latest great thing on Lansing's east side. She always closed with a teaser: "Now we're working on something really great, but I can't tell you yet."

It was never hype. In a few months, or a couple of years, everyone would find out.

A trashy, neglected park would come back to life. A tiny farmers market would grow into a weekly community event and a model for dozens of farmers markets across the state. Homes lost to flooding would morph into urban farms.

Last month, readers across the nation found out about the east side's latest "really great" thing on the front page of The New York Times. Allen Place, a city block of do-gooding synergy, with a community health clinic and 20 mixed-rate apartments that are already full, powered by a solar array and festooned with a big, bold mural by artist Brian Whitfield, is now a reality on humble Kalamazoo Street, the un-glamorous shadow corridor a few blocks south of Michigan Avenue.

With the capstone of over 20 years of work settling into place, Nelson, 73, stepping down as ANC director this summer. Her

departure is not just a chance to recite her many achievements.

Community leaders blaze into view and burn out left and right. Nelson's quiet effectiveness and staying power demand that we open the book of her life and draw a bone-deep lesson with more relevance than ever.

Another longtime Lansing stalwart, Eric Schertzing, served as Ingham County treasurer and chaired its pioneering land bank for 21 years until he left the post this year. He and Nelson toiled in many of the same community-scaled vineyards, but Schertzing is unequivocal in his "worship" of Nelson.

"Joan is my superior in this work," Schertzing declared. "She labored as hard or harder than I did, for longer, and her compensation was less. I'm not sure I would do half of what

Joan has done for twice the money."

Nelson began her life of activism and advocacy in the early 1970s, amid war, poverty, racial division and environmental disaster, speaking out against the Vietnam War and training women in self-defense.

People marvel at her indestructible optimism, but she knows full well that all four horsemen of the apocalypse are circling again, with powerful new allies.

She also knows from tragic personal experience that the human condition can be unspeakably bleak.

And yet, if you are biking along Kalamazoo Street, chances are she'll be there, picking up trash in the right of way, chatting up a passerby, taking a break from poring over the grant proposals, spreadsheets and community surveys that lead to "the next great thing."

Nelson has a black belt in karate. She knows how to leverage trouble and lift, lift, lift.



Courtesy photo

Nelson, seen here on her way to a martial arts conference in the early 1970s, worked with anti-Vietnam War and feminist groups as a student at MSU.

See Lift, Page 14

# Lift

from page 13



Courtesy photo

Nelson in karate uniform, from the 1970s.

## Tough duty

In May 1974, Joan Nelson's younger brother, David, suffered massive head injuries after being hit by a car while riding a bicycle near the family home in Michigan's Bay County.

Part of his brain was removed, leaving him unable to move or speak.

There wasn't much hope for recovery, but after David spent seven months in the hospital, the family couldn't bear to leave him in a nursing home.

The family decided to try a grueling, long-shot rehabilitation technique that required teams of five volunteers to move David's limbs and "pattern" various movements, three times a day, for three hours at a time, six days a week.

Insurance didn't cover the regimen, but other people stepped up in ways that influenced Joan Nelson's concept of community for the rest of her life.

Both of her parents were pillars of little Bangor Township, about a mile from Bay City State Park. Nelson's father,

Otis, helped develop the township's recreation program from one small ball field to more than 20 in about 10 years.

Young Joan was already community minded, having spent many summer afternoons helping her mother, Eva, sell potato chips and pop at every ballgame.

"My mom was president of the PTA, a den mother for my brother's scout troop," she said.

She admired her parents, but by the mid-'70s, her anti-Vietnam War and feminist activism as a student at MSU put some distance between them.

"I had become somewhat estranged from my folks during all those years of political activism, because they felt very different from me," she said.

But now it was time to circle the wagons.

To Nelson's astonishment, some 100 volunteers from the surrounding community stuck with David's "patterning" regime, day after day, for three years.

"I have a lot of great volunteers at the Allen Neighborhood Center, but I'm pleased when someone stays for a year, or a semester," she said.

Her mother stayed upbeat and kept the therapy going, scheduling the teams, baking fresh cookies and rolls for the volunteers.

"There were high school teams, teams from the church," Nelson said. "There were steelworkers in the Wednesday night crew."

The camaraderie led to unexpected blessings.

"People met one another by being part of the same patterning team and got married," Nelson said. One couple had a child, and made David the honorary godfather.

Every year, Nelson's parents threw a big "patterner's picnic" and barbecue.

But David's progress was slow and painful.

"He learned to crawl, and to turn over, and he spoke a few times — to curse," Nelson said. "But the damage was so serious."

David died three years after the accident.

"There was never much hope, but for three years, they kept coming every week," Nelson said. "That was tough duty. I learned about people's capacity to care, and to keep giving, even when the prospects were pretty bleak."



Courtesy photo

In the 1980s, Nelson's Feminist Self-Defense and Karate Association broadened into Movement Arts, a school for martial arts and dance in Lansing's oldest firehouse on Prospect and Bingham streets in Lansing.



Courtesy photo

Nelson did a brief stint as first mate on a Key Largo fishing boat in 1968.

## 'Let this song be a warning'

Nelson arrived at MSU at 18, in fall 1967, at the height of the Vietnam War. By the following spring, she was organizing antiwar events on- and off-campus. She found herself mingling with hardhats from Lansing's Motor Wheel

factory at Joe's Bar, a Quonset hut where workers grabbed a quick lunch.

By then, she was part of a group called the Mother Jones Anti-War Memorial Collective.

More than once, someone put a quarter in the jukebox and Merle Haggard's voice crooned, "If you don't love it, leave it. Let this song be a warning."

"I'd talk to them about the fall of Dien Bien Phu and they could care less," Nelson said. "They teased me, called me 'The Politician.' That time formed me permanently."

Soon after, she

joined a group of women from various antiwar groups to form a women's liberation "rap group," not in a musical sense, but in its 1970s sense of blunt talk. Inspired and provoked by the group's discussions, she trained as a rape counselor with The Listening Ear, but she quickly ran into her own limitations.

"I had no more idea about how to prevent an assault than the women I was counseling," she said. "I felt really vulnerable for a moment."

The key phrase: "for a moment." Nelson joined the MSU Karate Club and spent the next 25 years training and teaching in the martial arts.

In 1974, she felt the itch to "get out of Dodge."

She packed everything she owned into her 1968 Delta 88 Oldsmobile and drove to the Florida Keys, where she did a brief stint on a 26-foot commercial fishing boat known as the "Blue Bath-tub."

A self-educated retired Navy lifer named Bob Eddington took her on as first mate.

"He loved to fish. He went out, no matter the weather," Nelson recalled.

Often, after a day of fishing, Eddington would duck below decks, swap his dirty hat for a clean one and solemnly return to the bow with a container of human ashes.

"He was the go-to guy for people who



Courtesy photo

In the 1970s, Joan Nelson earned a black belt in karate and pivoted from counseling rape victims to teaching self-defense for women.

# Lift

from page 14

wanted their Aunt Tillie's ashes scattered at sea," Nelson said. "He took it quite seriously."

As Captain Bob scattered the ashes, he would say "Vaya con dios" ("Go with God") or, alternatively, "Que sera sera."

## The art of movement

After her brother died, Nelson earned a master's degree in exercise physiology. In 1984, she opened Movement Arts at Firehouse No. 4, the oldest firehouse still standing in Lansing, at the corner of Bingham and Prospect streets.

There, Nelson taught martial arts and formed a club of about 50 people. There were groups doing tai chi, African and Chinese dance, Pilobolus workshops and meditation classes.

"I loved every piece of it," she said. "I've always loved movement. I still know my tap routines from when I was 5 years old."

But Movement Arts was a labor of love that took over 70 hours of work to keep afloat.

She created a consulting firm, Safesense, and began teaching workplace violence prevention, mostly for people whose jobs put them at some risk — field agents for the state Natural Resources Department, protective service workers, prison nurses.

She kept the firm going until 1997, working out of her home, spending time with her son, Peter.

Nelson said she has had "three long term partnerships/relationships" in her life.

"One of them involved marriage to the father of my son, Peter," she said. She is not married now.

While Safesense involved traveling across the state to work with clients for about half the week, it let her spend time with Peter, a creative soul who is now an accomplished jazz musician.

"He could come up and show me costumes he had designed, pictures he had painted," Nelson recalled.

By 1997, she was burning out on anti-violence work and ready to expand her purview.

Her thoughts drifted back to 1971, when, fresh out of college, she worked as a community organizer in the federally funded Model Cities program. Model Cities ended in 1974, and the results are debated to this day, but Nelson learned a lot from its neighborhood approach. Instead of imposing top-down measures like bulldozing "blighted" neighborhoods and putting up massive housing projects, a policy board packed with neighborhood representatives oversaw the distribution of Model Cities money.

"The first conversations about public transportation that led to CATA, solid waste pickup, community health initiatives and many other things came out of Model Cities," Nelson said.

Said Schertzing: "The Joan Nelson who was able to accomplish so much these past 20 years, the Joan Nelson we know and love, goes back to Model Cities. That's the culmination of 50 years of training and learning and doing. These things are complex and they are difficult to do well."

Nelson's interests were already expanding from self-defense to the link between movement and health and



Lawrence Cosentino/City Pulse

At Wednesday's Allen Farmers Market, Joan Nelson caught up with Jane Bush (left), one of the original four farmers — all women — who piloted the Allen Street Farmers Market in 2004, before it went on to become a community event, a local lifeline to healthy food and a national model for community markets.

beyond. Her interest was caught by a new program at Sparrow Hospital, the Healthy Communities Initiative. The program aligned with the World Health Organization's expanding definition of "health," taking in housing, income, education and other factors.

"I loved that broad definition of community health," she said.

Ten hours a week ballooned into a full-time job.

She knew they were onto something when a "community health summit" in March 2000 drew 300 people to Eastern High School. Teams of "health navigators" and "housing ambassadors" were assembled to help residents navigate health and housing issues on the east side — "neighborhood center without walls," Nelson called it.

The March 2000 summit produced a manifesto of sorts, "Growing in Community: A Plan for Lansing's East Side," aka "the Heinz Plan," because it listed 57 strategies. The plan became the blueprint for the Allen Neighborhood Center.

Bruce Bragg, longtime director of the Ingham County Health Department, got funding for a brick-and-mortar headquarters enabled the eastside com-

munity summits to evolve into the Allen Neighborhood Center, Nelson's base of operations for over 20 years.

## One thing builds on another

The original "gang" of four members of the Allen Neighborhood Center's Board of Directors were Nelson, Rick Kibbey, former military nurse Diane Harte and local florist and longtime local organizer Ruth Leyrer.

Nelson had known Kibbey since her days at MSU, when she first saw him leaving the Administration Building after an antiwar protest. Kibbey went on to chair the Lansing Parks board.

It didn't take long for the board to appreciate Nelson's potential as a community leader.

"I was kicked off the board and asked to apply for the position of director," Nelson said.

She lost no time and set immediately to taking the pulse of the neighborhood.

When Nelson and her staff fanned out into the neighborhood, they found that 29 percent of households ran out of food money before the end of the month. Immediately, Nelson focused the center's attention on food, which is still the nucleus of its proliferating pro-

grams. The first step was setting up a food pantry that still distributes about 1,000 pounds of baked goods and produce a week.

But Nelson is always looking for ways to build capacity, not just do triage. She envisioned a neighborhood farmers market, with the goal of bringing fresh, locally grown, nutrient-dense food to the east side.

"More than any other program we did, we knew it had to be a happening, a part of developing the identity of the east side," Nelson said.

When market started in 2004, there were only two others, the downtown Lansing City Market and the Meridian Farmers Market, both of them municipally owned. A 10-week pilot program with four farmers, all women, was such a success that the program went to a full May-to-September schedule the following year.

The last thing Nelson wanted to do was to drop a boutique market into the struggling east side, where well-off visitors picked up baby arugula while sipping lattes.

"We knew all the foodies would love a farmers market," Nelson said. "Who wouldn't? But we wanted to make sure the market was for everybody in the neighborhood." In the days before wi-fi, Nelson and her staff strung wires over the building to set up an EBT machine in the parking lot. Now over 26 markets in mid-Michigan, and 70 across the state, take food stamps.

"Our little market does about \$300,000 of business a year," Nelson said. "That's the power of a neighborhood farmers market."

It was also clear to Nelson that real food security would mean growing food in the neighborhood.

Working with local residents and officials like Schertzing and Ingham County Drain Commissioner Pat Lindemann, Nelson encouraged the conversion of acres of land into urban farms on the flood-prone east side.

"Urbandale is in the floodplain," Lindemann said. "Rather than lose that neighborhood to a flooding condition, Joan attempts to save it, and I think that's wonderful. She's an advocate after my own heart."

Jacquelyne Borden-Conyers, an eastside resident, worked with Nelson over a decade ago as spokeswoman for the Kellogg Foundation, one of the Allen's Neighborhood Association's funders.

"From the start, I thought she was authentic and had brilliant ideas," Borden-Conyers said. "What I love is that her vision for community is all-encompassing. When she came to Kellogg, it was about food, but one thing just builds on another thing, and another."

## 'This will be great'

In the mid-2000s, Nelson worked with then city parks director Murdock Jemerson to develop a plan for spacious, rolling, 13-acre Hunter Park, at the heart of Lansing's east side. About 50 people attended the first public meeting. Their demands were daunting. They wanted the pool fixed and the penitentiary-like perimeter fence torn down. They wanted lights, a walking path, a bike repair station. One woman suggested a greenhouse.

A few incredulous heads turned at



Lawrence Cosentino/Lansing City Pulse

Nelson is already fending off post-retirement offers while wrapping up work at Allen Neighborhood Center: "I just need a couple of months before I figure out what comes next."

## Lift

from page 15

that last request, but within three years, every point brought up at the meeting was checked off, thanks to a grant from the DNR and funding from multiple sources.

The greenhouse is home, not just to tubers and greens, but also to gardening classes, tai chi and various other events. “The greenhouse has made all the difference,” eastside resident Dedria Humphries Barker said. “There are people there, using the park. Now Hunter Park is such an asset to the east side.”

Humphries Barker described Nelson as “authentic.”

“She’s able to do so much because she lives in the neighborhood,” Humphries Barker said. It’s so key that people are a part of the community. They’re not coming in to help. It might be their vision, but it’s not being foisted upon people.”

By this time in Nelson’s career, her personality seems to dissolve into a mist of projects, programs and initiatives, and she seems to like it that way.

“One of the things that makes her very effective is that she doesn’t take credit,” Allen Neighborhood Center board Chairman Jonathan Lum said. “She always props up the people around her. Her humility is genuine.”

In 2011, the board decided to put the Allen Neighborhood Center on a more stable financial footing, reducing its

85% dependency on grants.

Nelson and her team raised \$850,000 to build Allen Market Place, a “multi-faceted food resource center,” brought the market indoors for year-round activity and launched one of its most popular programs, Veggie Box, a coalition of 30 Community Supported Agriculture — CSA — farms that now has 700 subscribers a year.

An “incubator kitchen” has nurtured 66 businesses, 25% of which now have a brick and mortar operation.

Every element of Nelson’s strategies serves more than one purpose. The incubator kitchen brings in rent money, creates opportunities for food entrepreneurs and gives locals more places to eat things like Peruvian and Korean food, cheesecake and doughnuts.

“I love the incubator kitchens,” said Borden-Conyers. “I go and eat there all the time. I just came from a walk at Hunter Park. I love it that there’s a community there you can walk with.”

Lum said the center has reduced its grant dependency to 40 percent, laying a foundation of stability for the next director.

In the late 2010s, Nelson and her staff approached its apotheosis, buying out the rest of the surrounding block, with the help of a loan and a \$300,000 gift from an anonymous benefactor from New York. With loans and funding from multiple sources, the Allen Place project includes a new Accelerator Kitchen, which opened in March 2021, and 21 mixed-income apartments, fully occupied by January of this year — another

hedge against future fluctuations in grant money. Bringing the ANC full circle to its origins in the eastside health summit, a federally qualified Ingham County health clinic will move into the project this summer. To put an organic cherry on top of it all, a revived East Lansing Food Co-op will join the complex in August.

Schertzing said the public has little idea how complex such projects are.

“She had to bring the community along, she had to figure out the zoning, the rules, the construction process to create the physical space,” Schertzing said. “She had to figure out how all the Health Department and other rules applied to both the raw material and the product created there, and figure out how to do it all well.”

“It was amazing to watch her work,” Lum said. “She was able to identify all the partners that made it happen. She made it look easy.”

When the Allen Neighborhood Center board asked Nelson to be director 23 years ago, her first thought was, “I think I have one more start-up in me.”

“Little did I know it would offer the opportunity of doing a lot of start-ups,” she said. “It’s been so much fun. There’s nothing more rewarding than working with a group to create interesting projects that address a need.”

“She’s able to work with so many different people with respect and dignity, and that’s not easy in this business,” Schertzing said.

People often try to persuade Nelson to run for public office, but she is in no mood to blow a hole in the reservoir of social and personal capital that has filled her rain barrel over the decades.

“I don’t like pissing people off,” she said. “And oh my God, I’ve known people who hold public office and looked at the packets of things they have to read.



Lawrence Cosentino/Lansing City Pulse

Joan Nelson tries out a pedicab at Wednesday’s Allen Farmers Market Wednesday with drivers Zach Whaley (center), David McCarthy (right) and Haley Alderman (not pictured). Free pedicab rides from nearby eastside parking lots are the latest innovation at the Allen Farmers Market, the first farmers market in the state to accept EBT cards and food stamps.

It’s not me.”

Borden-Conyers added, “I think she’s done what she wanted to do with Allen Center and she has other visionary plans for the community. I don’t think she’s going to retire and sit on her porch.”

For now, Nelson just wants a couple of months to chill. She’s going to learn to play piano from Big Al, the longtime volunteer who is frequently heard playing the piano behind Allen Place.

But she already confesses to looking at some “neighborhood scaled” ideas. After food, affordable housing, especially for the city’s refugee population, is a pressing need.

“I get really excited thinking about the next possibilities for the east side,” she said. “We’ve embarked on fleshing out a potential project I can’t share with you yet. This will be a big deal. This will be great.”

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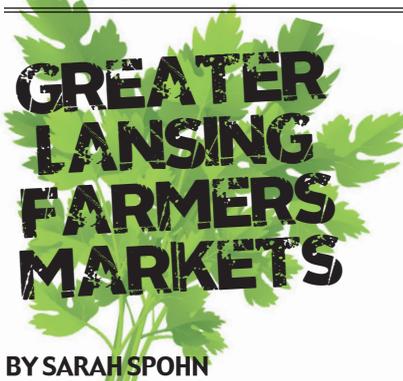
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# So fresh and so local

## Farmers markets offer options during shortages and inflation

BY SARAH SPOHN

The phrase “support local” might be a buzz phrase these days, but with grocery store supply shortages and skyrocketing inflation of prices, now is perhaps the best time to seek out fresh food at neighborhood farmers markets.

And there are plenty to choose from across Greater Lansing, including the Allen Street Farmers Market, which launched in 2004. Today, its Wednesday market remains a regular go-to for families in search of fresh, locally grown food and products — no matter the budget. Market manager Jenny Wagemann said the market was the first in the state to accept EBT/SNAP food assistance. Outside of flexible payments, the diverse market is also stacked with a variety of foodie delights.

One of those dynamic vendors is Grazing Fields, known at Allen Street for its selection of pork bacon, sausage, ground lamb, steaks, roast, eggs, honey and maple syrup.

Jane Bush, Grazing Fields’ general manager, said she witnessed a sizeable increase in shoppers at the start of the pandemic, back in March 2020 — when many shelves were stripped clean.

But even though local farmers market vendors don’t operate like the big-chain stores, Bush said even their local oper-

ation was negatively impacted by the economic effects of COVID-19. For instance, she witnessed a sudden shortage in containers for one of their most-sold items: eggs.

“All the restaurants shut down,” Bush recalled. “In the egg business, at least 50% of the U.S. egg production goes into institutions, restaurants or some kind of food service. Overnight, all the eggs either had to be liquified and frozen, or go to retail. The egg carton manufacturer had to start pumping out a lot of retail egg cartons, and it created a huge shortage and a huge price increase for us. Our egg cartons are 100% recycled pulp, so it was a big mess for a while, but we recovered.”

Along with the shortage of some materials, at the same time, Bush said it was hard to keep up with the demand of devoted shoppers in search of pork products.

“Once people get the taste of fresh eggs or pork, it’s really hard to go back to the regular, run-of-the-mill eggs and pork,” she said. “People who come here are very loyal customers.”

Another local vendor, Magnolia Farms, started in 2013 as a single-lot garden, and has evolved over the years. Co-Manager Aliza Ghaffari said the farm, which has grown to five lots, has been a vendor at Allen Street for the past four seasons. Last year, Magnolia also began vending at the East Lansing Farmers Market. Ghaffari

“I think seeing empty shelves in grocery stores and price increases have made the fragility of our current situation more immediately apparent to more people,” Ghaffari said.

Outside of keeping money in Lansing, Ghaffari said shopping at farmers markets offers plenty of other benefits to area consumers. Produce often stays fresh in the fridge longer than grocery store bags of lettuce, which have already been sitting for a while and can go bad in just a few days. It’s that added value that keeps people coming back.

For Magnolia Farms, that steady customer base has enabled the farm to expand.

“When you shop at the market you are investing in the strength of our local food system,” Ghaffari said. “Your dollars make a big impact on our farm. Every year we are putting the profits we make back into the farm. This is directly helping us to grow more food for more people.”

“In all honesty, we see this as a form of emergency preparedness,” Ghaffari added. “We want to be ready to meet the growing needs of people who want or need to be

able to get their food locally if prices at the store keep rising and food shortages return.”

With prices are on the rise, Magnolia Farms offers free vegetables for anyone struggling financially. They are available in a cooler in front of Reads, 2019 E. Michigan Ave., and seasonally, in a free fridge in front of The Fledge, 1300 Eureka St. “Food is a right, not a privilege,” Ghaffari said, “you deserve to eat well. We are also happy to do work trades. (You can) come help out at the farm and shop free at the market that week.”

On the other side of this homegrown industry are the shoppers, like Southside Lansing resident Bee Queener. She said she makes it a weekly ritual to walk to nearby farmers markets to complete her grocery shopping.

“Once the growing season takes off, we plan our meals around market hauls,” Queener said. “We know we will get the best bread on Wednesday from Stone Circle Bakery, micro greens from Highwater Farms, veggies from Magnolia Farms



Photo courtesy of Bee Queener

Local farmers market shopper Bee Queener cooks with fresh food bought from local vendors, including kale from Magnolia Farms and bread from Stone Circle.

said she is happy to see more people expressing interest in not only buying local, but also growing their own food.



**The summer market runs from the last Thursday in May through the last Thursday in October from 3:00 – 6:30 p.m.**

**Bath Farmers Market**

**James Couzens Memorial Park  
13751 Main Street, Bath, MI 48808.  
www.facebook.com/BathTownshipFarmersMarket/**

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facebook.com/CharlotteArtisansAndFarmersMarket/



# South Lansing Farmers Market

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# Farmers

from page 17

and lettuce from Blue Mitten Farms. Oh, and you can't forget the mushroom people, NOM! On Thursdays, we know we can re-up on other veggies from our favorite farmers that come to the Southside market. It's such an event for us, especially now with our kiddo in tow — she makes friends at every stand."

Queener, who said she is inspired by local growers and makers, enjoys meeting with the folks who produce or grow what her family consumes. She said she considers it an educational resource for her and her daughter.

"Not only are we hoping to inspire her to make local market trips as she grows up, I'm also hoping that seeing other farmers growing grub, like we do on a tiny scale, drives home the fact that access to fresh and local food options is a human right," Queener said. "By growing our own food, we feel connected to our meals and the experience of eating as a whole.

"Even if folks can't grow their own food at this very moment, seeing others do it makes it real and can hopefully inspire others to try it out," she added. "Farmers markets plant seeds in so many ways."



### Allen Farmers Market

Wednesdays: 2:30 p.m.-7 p.m.  
 Through Oct.  
 1629 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing  
 (517) 999-3911  
[allenneighborhoodcenter.org/market/](http://allenneighborhoodcenter.org/market/)

### Andy T's Farmers

Daily, year-round: 8 a.m.-7 p.m.  
 3131 S. US Highway 27, St. Johns  
 (989) 224-7674  
[andyts.com](http://andyts.com)

### Bath Farmers Market

Thursdays: 3-6 p.m.  
 Through Oct. 27  
 James Couzens Memorial Park  
 13753 Main St., Bath Twp.  
 (517) 641-6728  
[Shopbfm.org](http://Shopbfm.org)

### Charlotte Artisans and Farmers Market

Thursdays: 2-6 p.m.  
 Through Oct. 27  
 Beach Market  
 120. W. Lovett St., Charlotte

See Farmers, Page 19



# ALLEN FARMERS MARKET

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## East Lansing Farmers Market

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 Visit [cityofeastlansing.com/farmersmarket](http://cityofeastlansing.com/farmersmarket) for more details.  
 The first 100 market shoppers will receive a free market tote.

**Sundays**  
 June 5 - October 30  
 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

**Valley Court Park**  
 280 Valley Court



# Farmers

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(517) 543-8853  
facebook.com/  
CharlotteArtisans  
AndFarmersMarket/

## Downtown Dewitt Farmers Market

Tuesdays: 4-7 p.m.  
June 7 - Oct. 18  
Downtown Dewitt, Main St. & Bridge St.  
(517) 624-0286  
dewittdda.org/farmers-market

## Downtown Owosso Farmers Market

Saturdays: 9 a.m.-1 p.m.  
Through Oct.  
Exchange St., Owosso  
(989) 413-3728  
downtownowossofarmersmarket.com

## Dimondale Farmers Market

Thursdays, June - Sept.: 3-7 p.m.  
Oct.: 3-6 p.m.  
136 N. Bridge St., Dimondale  
(517) 646-0230  
villageofdimondale.org

## East Lansing Farmers Market

Sundays: 10 a.m.-2 p.m.  
June 5-Oct. 30  
Valley Court Park  
280 Valley Ct., East Lansing  
(517) 319-6823  
cityofeastlansing.com/farmersmarket

## Eastern Ingham Farmers Market

Sundays: 10 a.m.-2 p.m.  
Through Oct. 16  
McCormick Park  
123 High St., Williamston  
(517) 525-5293  
easterninghamfarmersmarket.org

## Eaton Rapids Community Market

Saturdays: 9 a.m.-noon  
Wednesdays from 3-6 p.m.  
Through Sept. 30  
116 Hall St., Eaton Rapids  
(517) 663-8118  
facebook.com/ERFarmersMarket

## Farmers Market at the Capitol

July 21, Aug. 18 & Sept. 29: 9 a.m.-2 p.m.  
East Lawn of the Capitol Building, 100 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing  
(517) 432-3381  
mifma.org/fmat-thecapitol

## Grand Ledge Farmers Market

Saturdays: 9 a.m.-1 p.m.  
Through Sep. 24  
Jaycee Park  
525 E. River St., Grand Ledge  
(517) 627-2383  
grandledgefarmersmarket.com

## Holt Farmers Market

Saturdays: 9 a.m.-2 p.m.  
Through Nov.  
2150 Cedar St., Holt  
(517) 268-0024  
holtfarmersmarket.org

## Howell Farmers Market

Sundays: 9 a.m.-2 p.m.  
June-Oct.  
N. Court St. & E. Clinton St., Howell  
(517) 546-3920  
howell.org/howells-sunday-farmers-market

## Lansing Mobile Farmers Market

Visit the website or call for schedule and locations  
(517) 999-2894  
facebook.com/lansingmobilefarmmarket/

## Mason Area Farmers Market

Saturdays: 9 a.m.-1 p.m.  
Through Oct. 9  
Lee Austin Park Pavilion  
320 W. Ash St., Mason  
(517) 676-4175  
facebook.com/MasonFarmersMarketMI

## Meridian Farmers Market

Saturdays, May-Oct.: 8 a.m.-2 p.m.  
Wednesdays, June-Oct.: 3-7 p.m.  
Marketplace on the Green  
1995 Central Park Dr., Okemos  
(517) 712-2395  
meridian.mi.us

## Open Air Market of Stockbridge

Fridays: 4-7 p.m.  
Through Oct.  
Stockbridge Town Square  
125 S. Clinton St., Stockbridge  
(517) 851-7437  
stockbridgemarket.org

## Peckham Farmers Market

Monday-Friday: 10 a.m.-6 p.m.  
May-Oct.  
Peckham Farmstand  
5408 W. Grand River Rd.  
(517) 316-4050  
peckham.org

## St. Johns Farmers Market

Saturdays: 8 a.m.-noon  
Through Oct.  
100 Maple St., St. Johns  
(989) 227-1717  
facebook.com/SaintJohnsFarmersMarket

## South Lansing Farmers Market

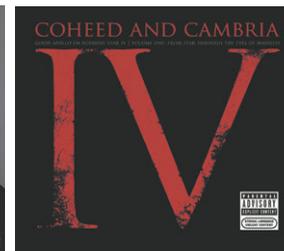
Thursdays: 3-7 p.m.  
St. Casimir Catholic Church  
800 W. Barnes Ave., Lansing  
(517) 374-5700  
southlansing.org

Compiled by Caleb Woloszyn-Duffy

# TURN IT DOWN!

Loud dispatches from Lansing's music scene BY RICH TUPICA

## LIFE CHANGING ALBUMS: JASON MARR TALKS COHEED AND CAMBRIA



Courtesy photo

Jason Marr has been in the Lansing music scene since the mid-2000s. He discovered Coheed and Cambria's "Good Apollo" LP in 2009, and it changed how he thought about music.

### Local musician on 2005's 'Good Apollo' LP

In the running for longest album titles ever printed on a record sleeve, Coheed and Cambria's "Good Apollo, I'm Burning Star IV, Volume One: From Fear Through the Eyes of Madness" has to be a top contender. The 2005 LP, released by Columbia Records, mixed hardcore, metal and progressive rock into one powerfully inspirational disc. One of those inspired was Jason Marr, a local vocalist/guitarist who got his start in the Lansing scene back in 2006 with his former band, Elliot Street Lunatic. Today, he is busy with a few musical projects, but still found time to talk about how this particular Coheed disc changed his life.

#### How did you first find "Good Apollo"?

**Jason Marr:** I was 21 years old when I discovered this album, back when I was just breaking into the Michigan music scene. I knew of this album and heard a few songs off of it when it came out in 2005. It wasn't until 2009 when my cousin dragged me to one of their shows and after watching them perform, I immediately went out and purchased every album I could from them. This album drew my attention after seeing them end their set with "Welcome Home."

#### Did the album have an immediate impact on you?

As soon as I finished listening to the album in its entirety, I immediately listened to it again. However, there were some songs on it that seemed like filler songs — but the more I listened, the more special each song became to me. What touched me the most was the amazing musicianship of these four guys and how incredible each of them is at playing their instruments.

#### For those who haven't heard it, what does the LP sound like?

"Star Wars" meets Rush. The album is part of a bigger story. Each of their albums connects a story that's complex and keeps me wanting more. This album made me want to write albums that had a connecting story. Back in the day, I played in a local band called Elliot Street Lunatic. Our two full-length albums have a story to them that connect from a different person's point of view. I always thought it would be cool to try to tackle the "concept album" idea.

#### When is the best time to listen to a record like this?

I find that I listen to it most often in the winter, but I do listen to it all year round. Listening to this album, and every other album they released, inspires me to be as on point as I can while performing with any group I play with. If you ever get a chance to see Coheed and Cambria live — you should. Watching them perform these songs spot on to the record changed the way I think about performing.

#### What's up with your own music?

I am playing with Rachel Curtis. We dropped her new album at the end of May. Also, TIOLI (Formally Young Pioneer) is still writing music but has not stepped back onto the stage since COVID. Recently, I joined a modern pop cover band called JP and The Energy. You'll be able to see us all around the state soon. I also fill in occasionally with the '90s cover band called Off the Ledge. You can find me bouncing around with Wil Pruitt and his projects too. Keeping busy!



**B&I Bar**  
5247 Old Lansing Rd., Lansing  
**Liv Conaty**  
Thurs., June 2, 7:30-10:30 p.m.  
**Rollon Brummette**  
Sat., June 4, 7:30-10:30 p.m.

**Blue Owl**  
1149 S Washington, Lansing  
**Elden Kelly and Gregg Hill**  
Thurs., June 2, 6-8 p.m.

**Green Door**  
2005 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing  
**Miranda & the M-80s**  
Fri., June 3, 8:30 p.m.  
**Corzo Effect**  
Sat., June 4, 8:30 p.m.

**Eaton Rapids Craft Co.**  
204 N. Main St., Eaton Rapids  
**Justin Holcomb/Cat Story**  
Friday, June 3, 7-10 p.m.  
**Krista Cady**  
Sat., June 4, 7-10 p.m.

**Lansing Brewing Company** LIVE + LOCAL  
518 E. Shiawassee St., Lansing  
**Zane Lamprey Comedy**  
Thurs., June 2, 8:15-10 p.m.  
**Dueling Pianos**  
Fri., June 3, 8:30-11:30 p.m.

**Reno's East**  
1310 Abbot Rd., East Lansing  
**The New Rule**  
Fri. & Sat., June 3-4, 6 p.m.

**Robin Theatre**  
1105 S. Washington, Lansing  
**Matthew Adkins & Christopher Faulkner**  
Wed., June 1, 8 p.m.

**Urban Beat**  
1213 Turner Rd., Lansing  
**Jackalope**  
Thurs., June 2, 6-8:30 p.m.  
**The Dangling Particles**  
Fri., June 3, 7-10 p.m.



# ARTS & CULTURE

ART • BOOKS • FILM • MUSIC

## 'West Side Story' hits the streets of downtown Lansing

BY TODD HEYWOOD

Welcome to *Behind the Curtain*, a new monthly feature spotlighting the local theater community.

### BEHIND THE CURTAIN



Longtime Lansing community theater maven Linda Granger has led the ragtag Starlight Dinner Theater since 2005. Over the years, she's steadily delivered longtime audience favorites, including a laundry list of outstanding comedies, like last month's "Harvey." But this month, she's taking her vision of producing modern classics in a new direction and an unlikely location. She's producing and directing the classic musical "West Side Story" on the streets of downtown Lansing.

The show will happen on the back of 310 S. Grand Ave., a building near the CATA bus station. The unique performance space is located across from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services building at Grand and Kalamazoo Street. This allows actors to use the already existing building features, like a fire escape, for the performance. The established infrastructure, along with a set of scaffolding, adds not only more levels to the set, but a fitting realness to the production.

Granger said her sister, Lori Arendsen, is developing the choreography. Both women first saw the show in downtown Lansing in 1974 and again in 1978 when it was performed outside near Lansing Community College. It hooked both of them.

"West Side Story, a retelling of "Romeo and Juliet" with New York street gangs, debuted on Broadway in 1957 with the score by Leonard Bernstein and the words by newcomer Stephen Sondheim. It was turned into a successful film in 1961.

Stephen Spielberg directed and released a movie version of the musical last year. The version featured a script by Tony Award-winning playwright Tony

Kushner, but the script and film were widely panned as feeding into, rather than challenging, the racial stereotyping and overall racism of the show.

Granger said she reached out to local schools, and Lansing community theater and Latinx groups to ensure she effectively represented The Sharks, the Latinx gang. She said she is proud to introduce Lansing theater-goers to a new group of actors of color, most of whom are Latinx.

Tianna Leon, 28, spent her youth moving from community to community as a child of a military family. Even with the frequent relocations, she discovered a love for performance while attending high school in Utah. A decade later, she's returning to the stage here in Lansing.

Leon, who works with the maternal and child health division at the Ingham County Health Department, was cast as Anita, the sarcastic and bossy recent immigrant from Puerto Rico. She plays a protective sisterly role to Maria, the female romantic lead character in the show.

"She's trying to fit into this world she's just immigrated to," Leon said of her character. "As someone who moved around a lot, I understand that."

As for doing the iconic musical outdoors behind the Edge Partnerships building in downtown, she said that was part of the draw for auditioning. That outdoor space, she said, will add to the realism and story telling.

"I think it will really pull people into the story," she said.

As a person of color, she said she walked away from theater for nearly a decade. The departure was, in part, because she felt she was not being afforded the experience in playing roles not traditionally seen as characters of color.

"Are they looking for somebody who

looks like me to be in these roles? Because I have never seen anyone that looks like me in these roles," she said of the auditioning process. "I really like the idea that I can show others who look like me that we can make a name for ourselves in the theater. That we can be seen, instead of invisible."

The Lansing theater community has been much less judgmental and supportive, she said, than her previous experiences. In fact, she said, her Riverwalk Theater cast mates directed her to the production. Working in this "West Side Story" production, she said it's been "surreal" to see other people of color on the stage and having

fun.

Joining Leon in the show is Carlos Lenz, 22, an LCC theater program graduate. He works at Quality Dairy and you might recognize him as a featured employee on QD marketing materials. He laughs about being in a musical, noting he never thought of himself as a singer or dancer.

He said shifting his theater education to online was one of the most difficult things he'd experienced, but fought through it. He found out about "West Side Story" from a co-worker at another job and called Granger.

"It feels different," he said. "We don't just have people pretending to be Latino."

While he is Latino, he said he was adopted and didn't really begin to explore

his roots until his senior year at Holt High School.

"I don't feel isolated," he said of being in a multiracial production, adding that he is thrilled about performing under the sky.

"The location is perfect," he said. "I have never done a show where it was so right on. This is not a stage. It was never meant to be a stage, it's a parking lot. We're making a space."

The show was made possible by a partnership with Downtown Lansing, Inc. and a mini-grant from the Arts Council of Greater Lansing and the Michigan Arts and Culture Council. A rain date is set June 27, if weather causes a cancellation.

### June: Live Theater Schedule

**"Tracy Jones":** Williamston Theater, May 21-June 19, [williamstontheatre.org](http://williamstontheatre.org). This comedy follows the attempts by Tracy Jones to find connection in an isolated world. Tracy has invited every woman named Tracy Jones she can find to a meet and greet. Directed by Tony Caselli.

**"Fun Home":** Peppermint Creek, June 2-12, [peppermintcreek.org](http://peppermintcreek.org). With the sudden death of Alison's father, she takes a deep dive into his story and her own. It's a story about love, family, secrets and acceptance. Directed by Mary Job.

**"The Realistic Joneses":** Over the Ledge Theater, **CANCELED**, [overtheledge.org](http://overtheledge.org). This show, which was supposed to run June 2-12, has been canceled. The city of Grand Ledge has red tagged the venue because of safety concerns.

**"The Revolutionists":** Riverwalk Theater, June 9-19, [riverwalktheatre.com](http://riverwalktheatre.com). This comedy introduces the audience to four "beautiful badass women" who are beheaded during the French Revolution. Directed by Tom Ferris.

**"Romeo and Juliet":** Lansing Community College, June 22-26, [facebook.com/LCCPerformingArts](https://facebook.com/LCCPerformingArts). Free outdoor production in the center of campus. The classic, by William Shakespeare, is brought to life by LCC, featuring guest artist and LCC graduate Paul Molnar as Old Capulet and fight choreographer. Directed by Kevin O'Callaghan.



Todd Heywood/City Pulse

Tianna Leon, who portrays Anita in "West Side Story," and Carlos Lenz, who plays one of the Shark gang members, on the fire escape where the show will be performed outdoors at 310 S. Grand Ave. It's located across from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services.

### Starlight Dinner Theater presents:

"West Side Story"  
310 S. Grand Avenue  
June 24, 25 and 26  
\$22, curtain 8:30 p.m.  
[starlightdinnertheatre.com](http://starlightdinnertheatre.com)

# Half imagination, half machine

## Imachinations nerds out in Meridian Mall

BY SARAH SPOHN

Matt Schultheiss considers himself a maker. The Saint Johns native is former theater kid, haunted house enthusiast and steampunk aesthetic appreciator — he also owns Imachinations.

“It’s a combination of imagination and machine,” Schultheiss explained. “And what you can build with your imagination. That’s what it means to me.”

The deluxe costume rental shop sells cosplay accessories and various nerdy home goods. The niche store celebrated its grand reopening April 30 at its new Meridian Mall location. The move was a definite upgrade. Schultheiss said the 3,200-square-foot space is double the previous space.

“We were in Grand Ledge for a while, and loved it out there. The community was great,” Schultheiss said. “I just wasn’t getting the traffic I needed to make it viable. We moved here to Meridian Mall and it’s been really good. We get a lot of people who walk through the mall and are like, ‘Oh, we didn’t know you were here.’”

Stationed next to Gaming Cantina and High Caliber Karting and Entertainment, Schultheiss said mall walkers often stumble in after noticing the shop’s unique vibe.

“We have a 12-foot skeleton in the middle of our store,” he said. “He grabs a lot of attention.”

Imachinations has a combination of vintage, handmade and new costumes, wigs, shoes, hats and accessories year-round for rentals and purchase.

“We also offer costume classes from local experts like leatherworking, airbrushing and makeup classes,” Schultheiss said. “We have a space in the back people can rent if they need to work on large projects — ones they might not have room for at home.”

Imachinations also has a division called The Troubadorks, which is a team of live entertainers available for home, office or special event visits. Costumed characters like Santa Claus, Captain Skully, the Easter Bunny, princesses and various superheroes can provide personalized greetings.

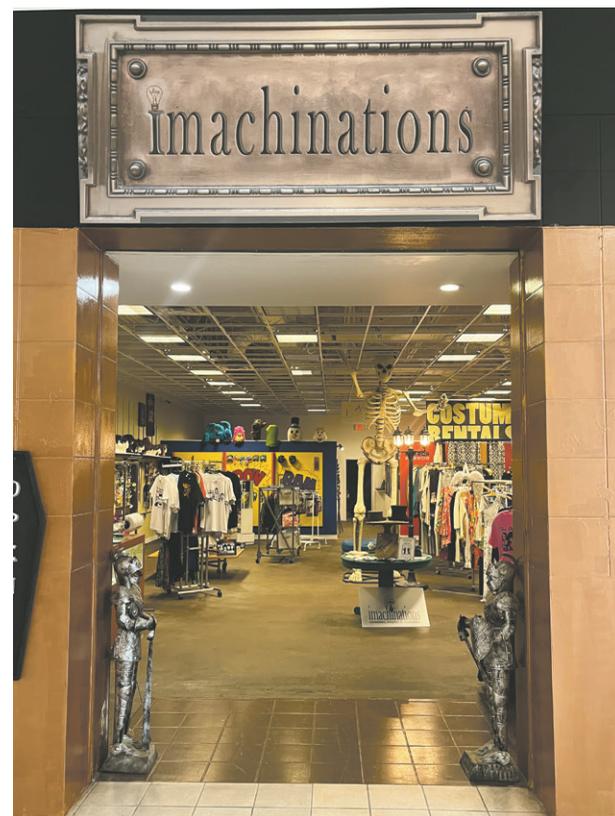
The store also features a local artist sec-



### Imachinations

1982 W. Grand River Ave.,  
Suite 400  
Meridian Mall, Okemos  
Tuesday–Friday:  
11 a.m.–8 p.m.  
Saturday: 10 a.m.–8 p.m.  
Sunday: noon–6 p.m.  
(989) 906-3584  
imachinations.com

tion of handmade goods, including homegrown 3-D prints and assorted other custom-made items. And while many costume shops thrive on seasonal booms, or operate as pop-ups, Imachinations aims to stay busy year-round.



Courtesy photo

Imachinations relocated from Grand Ledge to the Meridian Mall.

“I definitely want to be that go-to for costumes and nerd-centric things,” he said.

## Williamston Theatre is keeping the Joneses up

BY MARY CUSACK

“Late Night” host Seth Myers has a recurring feature called “The Kind of Story We Need Right Now” where he offers Review stories that reinvent our faith in humanity. Williamston Theatre’s production of “Tracy Jones,” by Stephen Kaplan, that kind of story, cutting to the heart of the human need for connection.

Tracy Jones #1 (Emily Sutton-Smith) is a lonely woman who comes up with a plan to expand her social circle. She has rented the backroom of Jones Street Bar and Grill for a party for all the women in the world also named Tracy Jones. An hour-plus after the scheduled start time, Tracy Jones #1 is nervously pacing an empty room while sucking down Diet Coke as if her life depended on it. She is waiting for the other Tracy Joneses to arrive.

Although she does not mention the

specific isolation of the COVID pandemic, it is clear to the audience why Tracy Jones #1 reacts in horror when asked why she didn’t plan the event as a Zoom gathering. She insists the event needed the human touch because “we just don’t know how to do that anymore.” Although she is really speaking about her own need for the human touch, audiences will empathize.

Unintentionally feeding Tracy Jones #1’s anxieties, while assisting with the event, is the Jones Street Bar and Grill Personal Party Server/Host with the Most (Allison Megroet). Perky and perfectly prepped by the establishment, the Host with the Most gleefully embraces her role as she rattles off procedures, policies and practices from her corporate training. Megroet delivers the most challenging dialogue, which is filled with acronyms and alliteration, flawlessly and with infectious enthusiasm.

In her first performance at William-

ston Theatre, Madelyn Porter plays Tracy Jones #2, a bibliotherapist who prescribes literature to help her clients. Porter is elegant yet hilarious, shimmering in a sparkly Vera Wang gown while rattling off dialogue in both Middle English and Middle-earth Elvish. While Porter has many powerful moments, the story about how she is judged for her smoking habit is especially heartbreaking.

The excellent cast is rounded out by Steve DeBruyne as awkward Tracy Jones #3, who obviously missed a key qualification on the invitation. Tracy Jones #3 has the odd affectation of not finishing his sentences, which is an important device in the script when he shares his own story of woe. The audience easily fills in the blanks, making what is not said even more heartbreaking than what is said.

Tracy Jones #1 is not always a sympathetic character. In her desperation to make everything perfect she becomes an

Tracy Jones

Williamston Theatre

122 S. Putnam St., Williamston  
Through June 19  
8 p.m. Thursdays, Fridays  
3 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturdays  
2 p.m. Sundays  
Tickets start at \$28  
(senior, military and student  
discounts available)  
(517) 655-7469  
williamstontheatre.org

overbearing perfectionist, and when the other Tracy Joneses fail to meet her expectations she lashes out in almost unforgivingly hurtful tirades. Sutton-Smith captures the delicacy of Tracy Jones #1’s emotional state perfectly. She is that woman you work with that you know almost nothing about. She is the person that, at best, is the butt of jokes behind her back. At worst, she is a non-entity.

A sort of “Breakfast Club” for contemporary adult audiences, “Tracy Jones” is a poignant reminder that human beings are complex, flawed and fragile and that we can relate to each other under the most tenuous connections.

# The next pot shop coming to Lansing is all about the ‘feels’

## Pure Roots plans third Michigan location near Stadium District

Some readers like to gripe every time a new pot shop opens in Greater Lansing. I already know what some of them are going to say: Really? Another dispensary? Do we really need that?

Well, NIMBYs, the answer is a resounding “yes.” The Capital City just can’t get enough of that sweet, danky goodness. At least one more dispensary is expected to open here this month.

If you’re keeping count: Twenty pot shops are open across Lansing. City ordinances allow for eight more — with four of them set to open sometime this summer, city officials estimated.

The next one on deck: Pure Roots, which was licensed this year for a medical and adult-use (i.e., recreational) dispensary at 515 N. Larch St. Company officials haven’t set a grand opening date. They also ignored my messages this week, probably because they’re not ready to announce any details.

Undeterred, I took a trip last week to its first retail store in Ann Arbor in order to give readers a sneak peek of what’s coming. And it looks like we’re all in for a (rather expensive) new treat.

Pure Roots opened its Ann Arbor shop in 2020 and expanded this year to include a second location in Centerline. In addition to its plans here, the company operates a cultivation facility in Lansing and also plans to open a fourth store in Battle Creek. It also reportedly



City Pulse/Kyle Kaminski

Pure Roots is expected to open its third dispensary this month in the former Ellis Cleaning Co. building.

holds licenses for at least a dozen other yet-to-open stores across Michigan.

Budtenders there boast about how they only sell “non-remediated” cannabis, meaning the weed on the shelves isn’t treated with chemicals to remove traces of mold and mildew. In turn, that’s designed to provide customers with a smoother smoke and more aromatic terpene profile.

After checking in at the front desk, I was offered a bottle of Fiji and then shown to a couch in the lobby. A flatscreen mounted on the wall was playing an instructional video on how to roll a joint.

A budtender eventually greeted me at the lobby like it was a doctor’s appointment and showed me over to a glass display filled with several unlabeled jars — all lined up in order by “feels.”

Pure Roots’ in-house flower brand “Forté” is marketed by four categories based on each strain’s terpene profile and the resulting “feeling” that each variety is designed to provide customers.

Eighters ranged from \$35 to \$65, making some strains among the priciest weed in the state. Hopefully Pure Roots recognizes that Lansing isn’t used to shelling out that much cash on weed unless it’s some sort of supercalifragilistic birthday bud that’s hand-rolled by Willie Nelson.

### Reflect No. 6

(Triangle Mints X TK Triangle Mints)

— \$35/3.5g at Pure Roots

The “Reflect” category is designed to help you “find your Zen and soothe your mind, body and soul.” These sativa-leaning strains incorporate terpene combinations that promote feelings of introspection, improved mood and enhanced focus. My budtender recommended an in-house hybrid of two varieties of Triangle Mints for a more uplifting, euphoric and energetic sort of high.

He was spot on. This stuff gets the job done. These beautifully dense, trichome-caked buds had just the right amount of moisture content to make for a perfectly smooth, even-burning joint. The flavor was also uniquely sweet, earthy, cheesy and nutty with just the mildest touch of mint.

And a few puffs led to a level-headed sort of high that was great for deep thoughts, even deeper conversations and finding the motivation to follow through on sudden bursts of creativity.



Sativa-dominant “Revive” strains are also designed to boost energy, focus and mood.

### Relief No. 7

(Wedding Cake X Grape Pie)

— \$45/3.5 g at Pure Roots

The indica-leaning “Relief” category is geared toward helping smokers find the cozier side of the terpene spectrum. Smokers may find these strains help with chronic pain, appetite loss, inflammation, insomnia and anxiety while promoting an overall sense of rest and relaxation.

Relief No. 7 (otherwise known as Wedding Pie) is an indica-dominant hybrid of Wedding Cake and Grape Pie that’s almost always best served for dessert — mainly because you won’t be doing much of anything after you smoke this stuff. It’s pure relaxation, rolled up into a joint.

These sticky little nuggets were fruity, creamy and even smoother than the last. But don’t be fooled: This stuff packed a stress-relieving punch, making it perfect for rainy days at home.

The last category, aptly named “Rest,” also leans toward those couch-locking indica strains.

*Kyle Kaminski is a journalist and cannabis enthusiast. Editor & Publisher magazine has also labeled him as “arguably, the state’s authority on everything you need to know about cannabis. Have a suggestion for a dank new product or a feature idea? You can reach him at [kyle@lansingcitypulse.com](mailto:kyle@lansingcitypulse.com).*

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## CityPULSE



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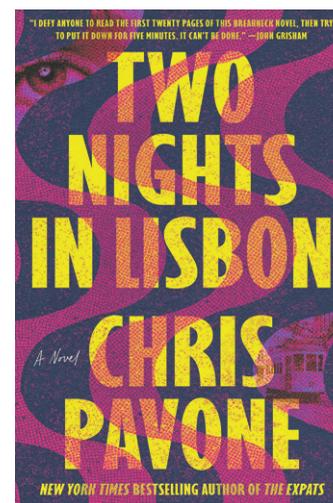
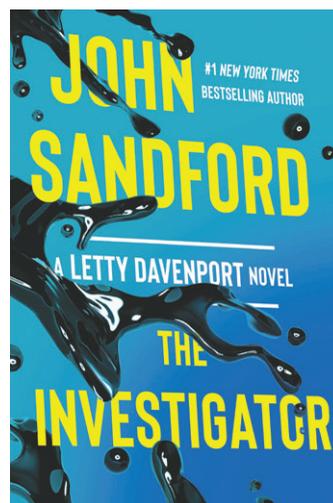
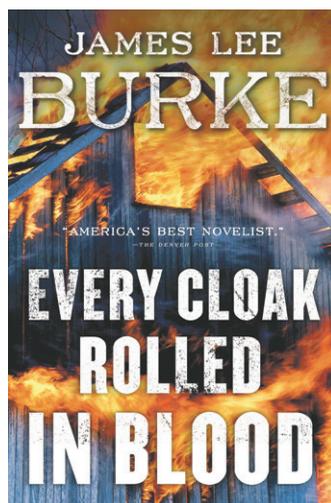
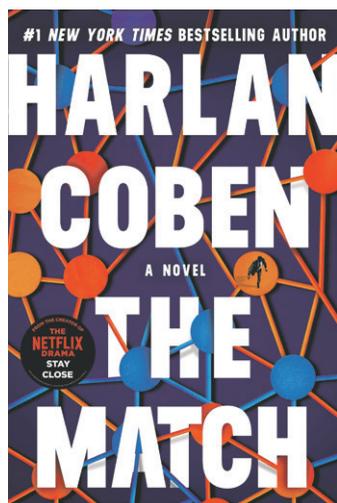
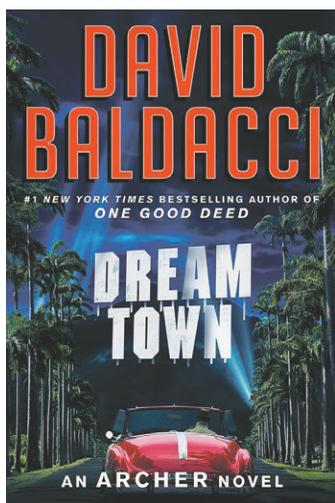


Spores

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**BY BILL CASTANIER**

Summertime and the reading is easy. Summer is the time to put the 1,000-page classics and political biographies on the shelf at least until the leaves fall and turn your reading to the much more titillating and exciting mystery and thriller genres to get your kicks.

Here are a few of my no-guilt reading suggestions for summertime relaxation.

Always at the top of my list is anything that acclaimed writer James Lee Burke puts on paper. His new book, “Every Cloak Rolled in Blood,” will not let you down despite the author’s detour to the supernatural. I know some readers will be disappointed that Burke takes a side trip leaving behind his gruff gossamer New Iberia cop Dave Robicheaux to reflect on his own mortality. Burke carries this off seamlessly through the eyes of a fictional ex-cop who has made a bundle as a fiction writer and who has a home base in one of Burke’s favorite locales: Montana.

The book is filled with right-wing crazies, addled drug dealers and a Civil War Union officer who has returned to the firmament and takes its direction from contemporary politics and society. The book’s protagonist, Aaron Holland Broussard, is still grieving the recent loss of his daughter, who has not moved on fully to the afterlife and is hanging around making unannounced visits to her father as he confronts some really bad guys and women. In many ways the book is Burke’s way of saying goodbye to his daughter Pamala, who died nearly two years ago. One thing that hasn’t changed is Burke continues to write some of the most remarkable and lyrical prose in modern literature regardless of genre.

Summer readers will also find that several others of their go-to favorite writers have new books out in time for late-night reading, including John Sandford’s “The Investigator,” Harlan Coben’s “The Match,” Chris Pavone’s “Two Nights in Lisbon” and David Baldacci’s “Dream Town.”

# Murder, they wrote, just in time for summertime reading

Let’s dig a bit into each of those titles.

Sandford’s newest book features the first appearance of Letty Davenport, the adopted daughter of one of his main characters, investigator Lucas Davenport, who like her father has a penchant for violence and intuitive investigation. Letty, who is working for a U.S. senator, is tasked with tracking some mysterious oil thefts, which are soon traced to a militia group with dubious and scary goals. The youthful Letty gives some of Sandford’s popular characters a run for their money and gives Sandford a character who is more contemporary for younger readers.

Coben has once again gone to his tried and successful literary technique of a lost boy who emerges from the woods with no history and who as an adult track down his cloudy past. His stalwart character, known as “Wilde,” brings some of his feral survival experiences to this exciting thriller. Coben’s techniques never get old.

Pavone fans have come to expect misdirection, misdirection and more misdirection from this thriller writer who loves international drama entangled with great characters and long-held secrets and indiscretions. Newly married Ariel Pryce accompanies her husband, John, on a business trip to Lisbon. Their idea of mixing business with pleasure soon goes awry when John is kidnapped and Ariel is given three days to come up with \$3 million in ransom. For a thriller, the plot seems simple and straightforward at first. But it heads in directions that go back in time and are a lot more nefarious than readers will expect, involving a rapist, blackmail and bad deeds.

Baldacci’s “Dream Town” takes us back to 1953 and the heady day of Hollywood starlets and gumshoes. Private detective Aloysius Archer has come to Los Angeles to help celebrate the New Year with an old friend who is on the fringes of stardom. The celebration is derailed when a screenwriter-friend disappears and Archer discovers a body in her ocean-front bungalow. The book is aglow with characters like Frank Sinatra, Groucho Marx and a bevy of starlets who make walk-on appearances in this novel that pays tribute to the great genre writers Raymond Chandler and Ross Macdonald. The book has enough action and flip-flops to keep you reading throughout a rainy day at the cottage.

If you are looking for another throwback mystery intertwined with an alternative history, the recently published “Beat the Devils,” by Josh Weiss, will keep you entertained through a long night.

It’s 1958 and Joe McCarthy is the new president. Hunting Communists has

become America’s newest sport and the long reach of the staunch anti-Communist McCarthy has the ability to ruin lives and careers. Enter a couple of detectives, including one who is a Holocaust survivor, who are sent to investigate a double homicide.

Since the unlikely victims are film producer John Huston and journalist Walter Cronkite, this is where the fun begins. McCarthy’s investigators chalk it up to a “better dead than red” scenario and want to move on, but the cops see it in another way, which leads to an enjoyable and creative read.

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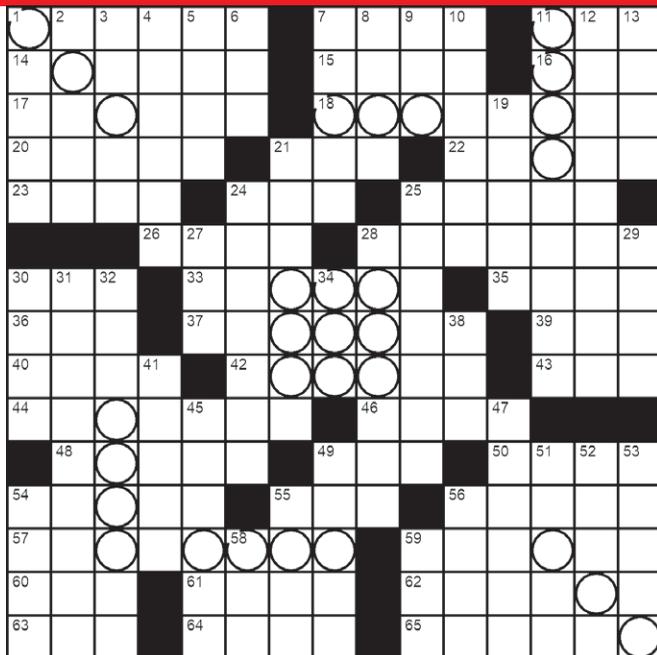
# Jonesin' Crossword

By Matt Jones

"Sandwiched In"--one thing between two other things.  
by Matt Jones

**Across**

- 1. Some 1990s Toyotas
- 7. Chicken \_\_\_\_
- 11. Big Sky Conference sch.
- 14. Low-tech counting device
- 15. Skater Kulik who won gold at Nagano
- 16. Sounds of hesitation
- 17. Get back into
- 18. Instructions within instructions
- 20. Bacon hunks
- 21. Kin, informally
- 22. Prefix for "venous"
- 23. City northeast of Reno



- 24. Ill, to Jr.
- 25. Hawkins of school dances
- 26. Ballet wear
- 28. Lovecraftian entity with tentacles
- 30. Prefix before "laryngologist"
- 33. More agile
- 35. Yale graduates, slangily
- 36. TV room, perhaps
- 37. Nassau's country
- 39. "\_\_\_\_ be my honor"
- 40. Pt. of many airport names
- 42. Audience member who isn't bawling at the end, metaphorically
- 43. Word repeated in an Iris Murdoch title
- 44. Dangerous callout while bike riding
- 46. Monologue fodder
- 48. State a new way

- 49. Inc. relative
  - 50. Nelson Muntz's catchphrase
  - 54. Manufacturer of the SURFboard modem
  - 55. Twice, in music
  - 56. A.C. \_\_\_\_ (Serie A squad)
  - 57. Readers' haven
  - 59. Rake it in
  - 60. \_\_\_\_ mode
  - 61. Like a souffle
  - 62. Baskets for fish
  - 63. Pixar's "Turning \_\_\_\_"
  - 64. McEntire with a part in "Barb and Star Go to Vista Del Mar"
  - 65. Most peeved
- 4. Self-sustaining automaton
  - 5. Some votes in Quebec
  - 6. IRS info
  - 7. Leaning Tower city resident
  - 8. Returning grad
  - 9. "Spare" meat
  - 10. "Emotions" singer Carey
  - 11. Country singer Pam's father (and singer of "I Ain't Never")
  - 12. Sexologist with a 1976 report
  - 13. Fictional former space agency in the game Fallout
  - 19. Excessive
  - 21. Remarkable showing on a baseball box score (or 1/6 of a day)
  - 24. March parade honoree, as preferred in Ireland
  - 25. Went off track
  - 27. Charging port, maybe
  - 28. Bonds securely
  - 29. Abbr. on some beef
  - 30. Valhalla host
  - 31. Don JosÈ or Otello, in opera circles
  - 32. Kerouac novel
  - 34. Stadium cheer
  - 38. Replace a button, say
  - 41. Eye surgery technique
  - 45. Earnhardt's org.
  - 47. Black eye
  - 49. Tripoli's nation
  - 51. Playwright Edward who won three Pulitzers
  - 52. Comes down hard
  - 53. Unsettling feeling
  - 54. "A guy walks into \_\_\_\_"
  - 55. Commuter's home, for short
  - 56. Spanish surrealist Joan
  - 58. Prevarication
  - 59. British lavs

**Down**

- 1. Analyze, as grammar
- 2. "Nope, doesn't ring \_\_\_\_"
- 3. "Wheel of Fortune" social correspondent Maggie

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Answers on page 25

# Free Will Astrology

By Rob Breznsky

June 1-7, 2022

**ARIES (March 21-April 19):** Who loves the truth better than you Aries people? Who has the greatest potential to speak the real story in every situation, even when it requires extra courage? Who has more fun than you in discovering and defining and expressing the raw facts? In my Book of Life, you Rams are radiant beacons of candor—the people I go to when I need accuracy and honesty. And all I'm saying here will be especially crucial in the coming weeks. The whole world needs concentrated doses of your authenticity. Now read this pep talk from Aries philosopher St. Catherine of Siena: "Let the truth be your delight; let it always be in your mouth and proclaim it when it is needed. Proclaim it lovingly and to everyone, especially those you love with a special love—but with a certain congeniality."

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20):** Before the 20th century, you couldn't buy a loaf of bread that was already sliced into thin pieces. Then in 1912, the American inventor Otto Frederick Rohwedder developed a slicing machine. But all his work, including the blueprints and the machine prototypes, was destroyed in a fire. He had to seek new funding and begin again. Sixteen years later, his innovation was finally ready for broad public use. Within five years, most of the bread in the US was sold sliced. What does this have to do with you? I am picking up an Otto Frederick Rohwedder vibe when I turn my visions to you, Taurus. I suspect that in the coming months, you, too, will fulfill a postponed dream.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20):** A blogger named Sweetlikeacherry reminds us, "Some epiphanies are only possible when you put away your phone and go completely offline for a while." She adds that sometimes you also need to at least partially avoid your phone and the internet if you hope to incubate new visions of the future and unlock important discoveries in your creative work and summon your untamed genius. According to my astrological analysis, all these possibilities are especially likely and necessary for you in the coming weeks. I trust you will carry out the necessary liberations to take full advantage.

**CANCER (June 21-July 22):** Poet Carolyn Kizer (1925-2014) won a Pulitzer Prize for her poetry. She was smart! But when she was young and still studying her craft in college, a professor objected to one of her poems. He said, "You have pigs in this poem; pigs are not poetic." Kizer was incensed at such ignorance. She testified, "I got up and walked out of that class and never went back." Judging from the astrological omens, I suspect you may have comparable showdowns headed your way. I advise you to be like Kizer. You are the only one who truly knows the proper subjects of your quest. No one else has the right or the insight to tell you what your work (or play) should be about.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):** Leo author James Baldwin said it wasn't often "that two people can laugh and make love, too—make love because they are laughing and laugh because they're making love. The love and the laughter come from the same place: but not many people go there." Your assignment, Leo, is to be the exception to Baldwin's rule during the coming weeks. According to my analysis of the astrological omens, there's a high possibility that interesting eros can converge with humorous fun in a glorious synergy. You will have a knack for conjuring up ribald encounters and jovial orgasms. Your intuition will guide you to shed the solemnity from your bliss and replace it with sunny, carefree cheer.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):** I'm worried you will over-indulge in your pursuit of perfection during the coming weeks. It's fine to be exquisitely skillful and masterful; I hope you do that. But if you get obsessed with flawlessness, you will risk undoing your good intentions. As an antidote, I offer you two pieces of advice. The first is from actor and activist Jane Fonda. She said, "We are not meant to be perfect; we are meant to be

whole." The second counsel is from philosopher and psychologist William James, who wrote, "Perfection is not attainable, but if we chase perfection, we can catch excellence."

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):** Author Mustafa Mahmoud described the signs of love between two people: 1. feeling a comfortable familiarity; 2. having no urge or need to lie; 3. being natural, not trying to be different from who one is; 4. having little or no possibility of being embarrassed in front of the other person; 5. experiencing silence as delicious, not alienating; 6. enjoying the act of listening to the other person. I bring these pointers to your attention, Libra, because the coming months will be a favorable time to define and redefine your understandings about the signs of love. How do you feel about Mahmoud's ideas? Are there any more you would like to add?

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):** "We do not love each other without changing each other," wrote author Madeleine L'Engle. Meditate on that gem, Scorpio. Now is a perfect time for you and your loved ones to acknowledge, honor, and celebrate the ways your love has changed each other. It may be true that some transformations have been less than ideal. If that's the case, the coming weeks will be a favorable time to correct those trends. As for the positive changes that you and your allies have stimulated in each other: I hope you will name them and pledge to keep doing more of that good work.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** "I always deserve the best treatment, because I never put up with any other," wrote Sagittarian novelist Jane Austen. Sagittarian politician Stacey Abrams said, "From the moment I enter a room, I am clear about how I intend to be treated and how I intend to engage." You'll be wise to cultivate those attitudes in the next seven weeks, Sagittarius. It's high time for you to raise your self-respect in ways that inspire others to elevate their appreciation and regard for you.

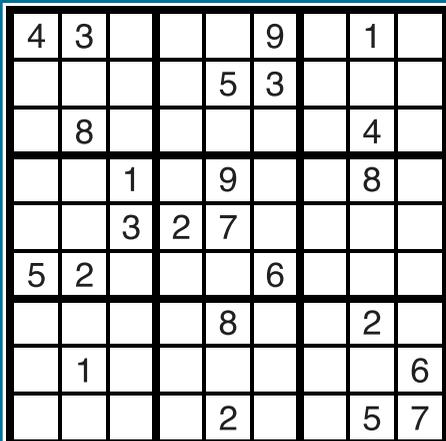
**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):** In 1963, Jim Munro and Alice Munro founded Munro's Books, a store in Victoria, British Columbia. After being on the job for a few months, Alice found she was not impressed with many of the products they sold. "I can write better books than this," she told Jim. Five years later, she published her first collection of short stories, *Dance of the Happy Shades*. Fourteen books later, she won the Nobel Prize in Literature. Will the coming months bring your equivalent of Alice Munro's pivotal resolution? I suspect they could.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):** "True love for whatever you are doing is the answer to everything," proclaimed performance artist Marina Abramovic. Amen to that righteous attitude! I hope you will embrace it in the coming weeks. I hope your heart and imagination will reveal all you need to know to bring tender fresh streams of true love to the essential activities of your life. Now is an excellent time to redefine the meaning of the word "love" so it applies to all your relationships and pursuits.

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20):** A homeless woman in a wheelchair stopped where I was sitting outside a café. She was pushing her belongings in a small shopping cart. "Would you like to go dancing?" she said to me. "There's a nearby park that has a great grassy dance floor." "Maybe another day," I told her. "My energy is low. I've had a lot of personal challenges lately." I'm sure the expression on my face was less-than-ebullient. "Cheer up, mister," she told me. "I'm psychic, and I can tell you for sure that you will live a long life and have many more fine adventures. I'll be in the park if you change your mind." My mood instantly brightened. "Thanks!" I yelled toward her as she rolled away. Now I predict that you, Pisces, will have comparable experiences in the coming days. Are you willing to welcome uplifting surprises?

# SUDOKU

# 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 25

Go to [RealAstrology.com](http://RealAstrology.com) to check out Rob Breznsky'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.

# OUT on the TOWN

## Events & Happenings in Lansing This Week

Events must be entered through the calendar at [lansingcitypulse.com](http://lansingcitypulse.com). Deadline is 9 a.m. Monday for the upcoming Wednesday edition. Charges may apply for paid events to appear in print. If you need assistance, please call Suzi at (517) 999-6704.

### Wednesday, June 1

**50 over Fitness** - Meridian 50 Plus Stretch and Flex Exercise group. 9-10 a.m. Central Park Pavilion, 5151 Marsh Rd., Okemos. 517-853-4600. [meridian50plus.com](http://meridian50plus.com).

**Adult and Child Yoga** - 5-6 p.m. Schavey Elementary Gym, 1721 Shavey Rd, DeWitt.

**Allen Farmers Market** - Corner Shepard/ Kalamazoo. 2:30-7 p.m. Allen Market Place, 1611 E Kalamazoo, Lansing.

**Join us for the 15th Annual MMAG 12x12 Art Show!** - through June. 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Framers's Edge, 1856 Wt Grand River Avenue, Okemos. [framersedge.net](http://framersedge.net)

**Meridian Township Summer Concert Series** - 6-8:30 p.m. Marketplace on the Green, 1995 Central Park Dr., Okemos. 517-853-6400.

**Michigan Young Birders Network Virtual Meeting** - 7 p.m. via Zoom. Michigan Audubon, 2310 Science Parkway, Suite 200, Okemos. [michiganaudubon.org](http://michiganaudubon.org).

**Pagan Community Night** - Join us online or in-person. 6-8 p.m. Weavers of the Web, 809 Center St., #7A, Lansing. 517-657-5800. [weaversoftheweb.org](http://weaversoftheweb.org).

**Painting Night** - 3:30-8:30 p.m. MP Social, 313 N. Cedar, Lansing. [paintyourpoison.com](http://paintyourpoison.com).

**Sensory Friendly Movies** - we turn the lights up and turn the sound down! 1-3 p.m. CADL-Downtown, 401 S, Capitol Ave., Lansing. 517-367-6350. [cadl.org](http://cadl.org).

**Wine Wednesday** - Wine & Cheese tasting at 6:00 or Wine & Chocolate tasting at 8:30pm. 6-10 p.m. Hooked, 3142 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. 517-721-1330.

### Thursday, June 2

Capital Area Audubon Society June Meeting - 7-8:30 p.m. Fenner Center, 2020 E. Mt. Hope, Lansing. [capitalareaaudubon.org](http://capitalareaaudubon.org).

Dimondale Farmers' Market - 3-7 p.m. 136 N Bridge St, Dimondale. 517-230-0520.

MACC Courthouse Concert - Thursday Night Live - 7:30 p.m. Lawn in front of the Ingham County Courthouse, 315 S Jefferson, Mason.

Stitch 'n Bitch - Come hang out! 5-8 p.m. Keys To Manifestation, 809 Center St. #7, Lansing. 517-974-5540. [manifestlansing.com](http://manifestlansing.com).

### Friday, June 3

**50 over Fitness** - The Meridian 50 Plus Stretch and Flex Exercise group. 9-10 a.m. Central Park Pavilion, 5151 Marsh Rd., Okemos. 517-853-4600. [meridian50plus.com](http://meridian50plus.com).

**Clayworks Pottery Sale** - Visit us at our pottery studio and gallery during the Wacousta Community Yard Sale. Fri. 12-7 p.m., Sat. 12-7 p.m. Clayworks, 13121 Wacousta Rd., Wacousta.

**Friday Night Concert Series** - Hosted by the Friends of Ingham County Parks at the

## Jackalope

**Thursday, June 2**  
**FREE, 5 p.m. doors,**  
**music at 6 p.m.**  
**18+ (all ages until 9 p.m.)**  
**UrbanBeat**  
**1213 Turner St., Lansing**  
[urbanbeatevents.com](http://urbanbeatevents.com)



JACKALOPE

For those in search of rustic original songs along with some Americana-tinged covers, Jackalope's free show Thursday (June 2) at UrbanBeat could be the right ticket. The Lansing-based band comprises singer-songwriter and guitarist Charlie Richardson, bassist/vocalist Mike Lawrence, drummer David Stowe and vocalist Diana Farmer. From The Beatles to reggae classics, Jackalope delivers an eclectic evening of live musical stories and powerful ballads. Sample some selections by Charlie Richardson and Jackalope on Spotify, Apple, iTunes or Amazon.

Lake Lansing Park South Band Shell. 7 p.m. 1621 Pike St, Haslett. [pk.ingham.org](http://pk.ingham.org).

**Lansing 2600 Meeting** - a monthly gathering of local hackers, phreaks, nerds, geeks, sympathizers, and others of various labelability. 6-8 p.m. The Fledge, 1300 Eureka St, Lansing.

**"Say Hello to Summer" Concert & ArtPath Kick-Off** - Help us kick off the summer right! 5-9 p.m. Rotary Park, 325 Riverfront Dr, Lansing.

**Star Wars Trivia** - 7-9 p.m. Constellation Cat Cafe, 3320 E. Lake Lansing Rd., East Lansing.

**TGIF Dance Party** - All welcome. 7-11:59 p.m. Hawk Hollow, 15101 Chandler Rd., Bath. 734-604-5095. [tgifdance.com](http://tgifdance.com)

### Saturday, June 4

**Clayworks Pottery Sale** - Visit us at our pottery studio and gallery during the Wacousta Community Yard Sale. Sat. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Clayworks, 13121 Wacousta Rd., Wacousta.

**Elegant Encounters Celebration of Entrepreneurship** - Come enjoy live music, appetizers, business presentations and customized items for sale. 12-3 p.m. Lansing Christian Center, 5640 S. Waverly, Lansing. 517-882-1310. [encounterelegancenow.com](http://encounterelegancenow.com).

**Family Day: Art Zoo** - 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum, 547 E Circle Dr, East Lansing. [broadmuseum.msu.edu](http://broadmuseum.msu.edu)

**Trail Town 10K & Mayor's River Walk & Run 5K** - National Trails Day, Sat., 8:30 a.m.-12 p.m. Turner-Dodge House, 100 E North St, Lansing. 517-258-0246. [runsignup.com](http://runsignup.com).

**Wacousta Community Block Party** - 3-7 p.m. 9180 Herbison Rd., 9180 Herbison Rd., Eagle.

**Williamston Weekends Art & Grub Crawl** - 12-6 p.m. Downtown Williamston, 100 E Grand River Ave., Williamston.

### Sunday, June 5

**East Lansing Farmers Market** - 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Valley Court Park, 280 Valley Court, East Lansing. [cityofeastlansing.com](http://cityofeastlansing.com).

**Hawk Island Triathlon** - 6 a.m.-5 p.m. Hawk Island Park, 1601 E. Cavanaugh, Lansing. 517-374-5700. [southlansing.org](http://southlansing.org).

**Lansing Roller Derby Boot Camp | Summer 2022** - 8-week Basic Skills Boot Camp. 6-8 p.m. Court One, 7868 Old M-78, East Lansing. [eastlansingrollerderby.com](http://eastlansingrollerderby.com)

**Sunday School for Witches** - workshop series. 3-4:30 p.m. Keys To Manifestation, 809 Center St., #7A, Lansing. [manifestlansing.com](http://manifestlansing.com).

**Toxic Plant ID Walk** - 1-3 p.m. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Rd., Okemos. 517-349-3866. [meridian.mi.us](http://meridian.mi.us)

### Monday, June 6

**50 over Fitness** - Meridian 50 Plus Stretch and Flex Exercise group 9-10 a.m. Central Park Pavilion, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos. 517-853-4600. [meridian50plus.com](http://meridian50plus.com).

**Comedy Night** - 9-11:30 p.m. Crunchy's,

254 W Grand River Ave, East Lansing. 517-351-2506. [crunchyseastlansing.com](http://crunchyseastlansing.com).

**Scrabble Hour** - Recreational Scrabble 6-8 p.m. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Rd., East Lansing. [elpl.bibliocommons.com](http://elpl.bibliocommons.com).

### Tuesday, June 7

**Board Game Meet Up** - ages 18 & up. 6:30 - 10:30 p.m. 6:30-8:30 p.m. Spare Time Bowling Alley, 3101 E Grand River, Lansing.

**Lansing Roller Derby Boot Camp | Summer 2022** - 8-week Basic Skills Boot Camp. 6-8 p.m. Court One, 7868 Old M-78, East Lansing. [eastlansingrollerderby.com](http://eastlansingrollerderby.com)

**Parent Happy Hour** - Storytime for kids and wine flight specials for parents. 5-7 p.m. Hooked, 3142 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing.

**Sporcle Live! Trivia** - 7:30 & 8:30 p.m. Crunchy's, 254 W Grand River Ave, East Lansing. 517-351-2506. [crunchyseastlansing.com](http://crunchyseastlansing.com).

**Toastmaster Meeting** - in person and Zoom. 6:30-7:30 p.m. CADL-Downtown, 401 S. Capitol Ave., Lansing. [capitalcitytoastmasters.toastmastersclubs.org](http://capitalcitytoastmasters.toastmastersclubs.org)

CROSSWORD SOLUTION

From Pg. 24

P	A	S	E	O	S	P	A	R	M	M	S	U
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SUDOKU SOLUTION

From Pg. 24

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## BY ARI LEVAUX

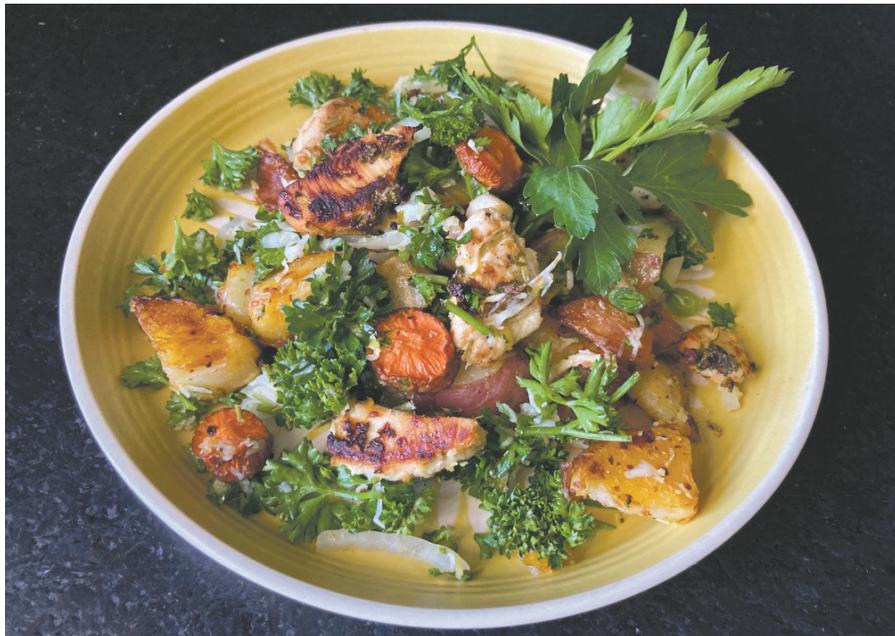
Curly parsley is widely scorned by the culinary elite. Aspiring chefs absorb this disdain from a young age, and quickly understand that getting ahead in this game requires committing instead to the flat-leafed version, also called Italian parsley. But in my parsley potato salad recipe, curly parsley does the heavy lifting.

Typecast as a garnish, curly parsley struggles to find any other purpose on the plate. It is admittedly tougher than flat, which means you have to work harder to extract the flavor. And while some eaters value an abundance of fiber in their diets, others will make a case for vegetables which lack the consistency of steel wool. Curly parsley can also be harder to clean, and the stems can curl over to make trimming them more of a chore.

Nonetheless, I have a soft spot in my heart for curly parsley because it was my first parsley. As a kid, I associated a solitary sprig of this crinkled leaf with dining out, which was one of my favorite activities. I could always count on that piece of parsley waiting on the edge of my plate. After dispatching the main event I would turn my attention to the parsley. Its chewy texture and herbal flavor was always a wonderful way to finish the meal.

# The pleasures of parsley

## This parsley potato salad is three recipes in one



Courtesy image

Curl Parsley Potato salad with flat leaf parsley garnish.

Elsewhere on the menu during that era, parsley was nowhere to be found. But those were different times. Mediterranean specialty items like pesto, aioli and flat leafed Italian parsley hadn't yet made the scene. The 98-percenters of America didn't yet have the freedom to be food snobs the way we do now.

But now that we have choices, and the freedom to diss curly parsley, I figured I should re-evaluate my position on the subject. I reached out to a farmer friend to ask if nostalgia is the only reason to keep using it.

"Curly is underrated," he said with the fervor of a salesman. "Chefs all prefer flat leaf. It's wonderful, but so is curly. Unfortunately, curly's role as a garnish at low-end chain restaurants gave it an undeserved bad name. Old curly parsley on plates of bad late-night food is not the same as a sprig from your garden."

My friend obviously dined at a different level than the establishments frequented by my parents and me. Poor guy probably never made it to Friendly's, Nickerson Farms or some of the other mid-level comfort food powerhouses we used to visit, where the bread arrived warm and the parsley was fresh.

In her garden, my wife grows both flat and curly parsley. Each summer they go to seed, at which point the leaves shrink back and the plant makes babies. Some of the seeds will sprout in the cool wetness of fall, and overwinter. Some seeds will wait until spring before sprouting. "I haven't planted parsley in five years," she says. They are both criminally easy

to grow, she says, though curly parsley is slower to bolt in summer.

At the table, she says, they both have their place. Curly parsley has more body, which is nice in a thick salad, like a summer tabbouleh. In

leafy salads, the shape of curly parsley can grab onto dressing and wrap itself in flavor.

My curly parsley potato salad makes the most of the three dimensionality of curly parsley. Tossed with warm potatoes, the sturdy herb wilts but doesn't fold, filling out the dish with its bulky flavor. This recipe includes several of my favorite techniques, including how to make insanely puffy oven potatoes, and for making my famous lemon chicken, which is a highly recommended non-vegetarian option. So basically, this parsley potato salad is three recipes in one.

### Barely Wilted Parsley Potato Salad

This warm, hearty salad combines many of the first crops of spring. It readily accepts proteins such as crumbled bacon or browned ground meat. But chunks of lemon chicken are my favorite.

#### Serves 4

- 1 tablespoon baking soda
- 1 tablespoon salt
- 1 pound potatoes, cut into large dices
- 2 large carrots, cut into pieces of similar size to the potatoes
- 1 teaspoon black pepper
- 1 tablespoon red pepper flakes
- ½ cup olive oil
- 1 medium onion, minced
- 1 lemon, juiced and zested
- ½ cup grated Romano cheese
- 1 clove garlic, pressed
- 1 large bunch of curly parsley, stems minced and leaves chopped

Recommended condiment: mayo

Non-Vegetarian Alternatives: bacon bits, or chunks of baked lemon chicken, recipe below

Add the baking soda and salt to a pot with 8 quarts of water, and bring to a boil. Add the potatoes and carrots and boil for 15 minutes. Drain the potatoes and carrots and spread them on a baking pan with four tablespoons of olive oil and the black pepper and red pepper flakes. Bake at 400 for about 30 minutes, or until the potatoes are a perfectly golden shade of crisp. Remove and let them cool.

If you're including the lemon chicken, you can start the marinade while the potatoes are boiling, and bake the chicken at the same time that you bake the potatoes.

While the potatoes and chicken, if using, are baking, add the garlic, onions, lemon juice, zest, cheese and the final four tablespoons of olive oil to a mixing bowl, and stir together. Add the potatoes and carrots and protein, if using to the mixing bowl, hot out of the pan. Stir it together. Season with salt and pepper. Stir in the parsley and serve.

#### Lemon Chicken

1 pound chicken breast, cubed  
Stems from your bunch of parsley, minced

- 1 lemon, juiced and zested
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon black pepper
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 2 tablespoons olive oil

Add all of the ingredients to a bowl and thoroughly mix. Let marinate for about 30 minutes. Transfer to a baking dish and spread evenly. Bake for 15 minutes at 400, or until they start turning golden.

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# Runny Egg Pizza is out of this world



Kyle Kaminski/City Pulse

Courtesy photo

Runny Egg Pizza is a staple at The Cosmos.

This \$15 pie has three eggs, spicy chunks of chorizo, and more.

## BY KYLE KAMINSKI

For this week's featured dish, I consulted with our readers to take a trip to one of their top-rated places in Lansing: Zoobie's Old Town Tavern & Bar. In addition to taking top prize for "Best Pub/Tavern" in last year's Top of the Town contest, it also won best place for kids to eat free and third place for most expansive beer list. But another badge of honor for the watering hole is that it also houses The Cosmos — a spot known for being a chef-driven, wood-fired pizza lover's paradise.

I had to see what all the fuss was about, so I ordered a recommendation from the table next to me: The \$15 Runny Egg Pizza, which included jalapeno Boursin cream instead of traditional pizza sauce, spicy chunks of chorizo, gooey mozzarella cheese, cilantro and roasted sweet peppers. Oh, and the crown jewel: Three perfectly runny

eggs. These oozing yolks, placed right in the center, may look out of place, but don't taste that way.

I pride myself in being a total pizza snob, so when I say this pizza was amazing, it was amazing. The contrast between the salty, lightly charred, wood-fired crust and the goopy richness of the egg yolk made for a sinful combination that paired perfectly with the smokiness of the chorizo.

Pro tip: Use a butter knife to ensure every piece is fully lathered in that yolky goodness for a more consistent bite. The runny egg cluster is slapped on top just before it's served, so it's up to you to distribute it across the pie.

I was on a bit of an egg kick last week, so for an appetizer I also ordered a \$7 plate of "Cosmic Devils" — four servings of exceptionally fresh deviled eggs that were topped with pickled onion and candied bacon. It all washed down

well with Zoobie's \$10 "West of the Sun" cocktail, a tangy and unique mix of Roku gin, blue curacao Campari, blood orange syrup and lemon.



Runny Egg Pizza at The Cosmos

## The Cosmos

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## Appetizers

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	<p><b>Eastside Fish Fry</b> 2417 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing (517) 993-5988 eastsidefishfry.com</p>	<p><b>GUY FIERI APPROVED!</b> We were featured on Food Network's Diners, Drive-Ins and Dives. Our fried home-style classics and fresh seafood are some of the best in Lansing. We've got the classics: fried chicken buckets, chicken wings, exotic fare, like frog legs and alligator tails and fresh seafood. Desserts, too!</p>
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