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February 12-18, 2025

CityPULSE

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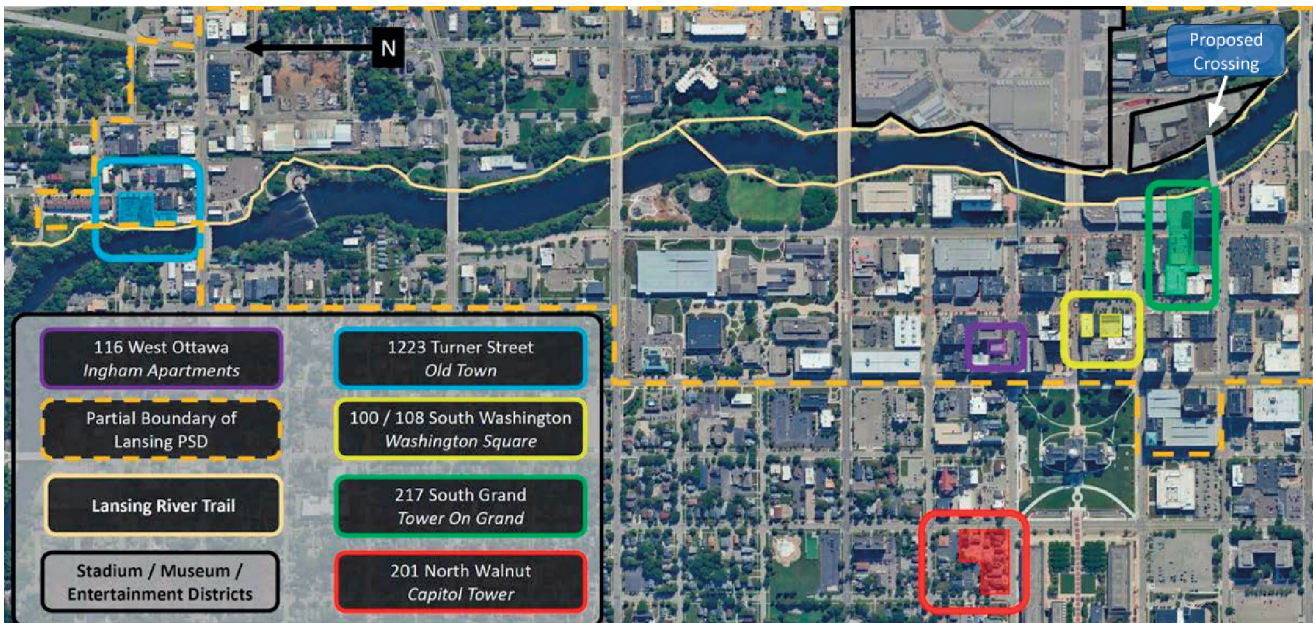


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CityPULSE

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ISSUE 27**

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THE CONSUMER FINANCIAL DESTRUCTION BUREAU

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MSU guest artist schools jazz students on Thelonious Monk

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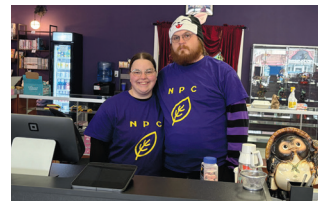
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Tanuki's Trading Post hopes to become haven for anime fans

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Beat winter blues with a cheery breakfast at Sunnyside Cafe

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Cover photo by Miryam Ramos

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THIS MODERN WORLD

Valentine's Day Cards for 2025

Valentine, are you America's vital financial, regulatory and data infrastructure?

Because I intend to seize unconstitutional control—of your HEART!

by TOM TOMORROW

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PULSE

NEWS & OPINION

Celebration amid uncertainty: MSU opens multicultural center

Ribbon-cutting ceremony coincides with federal DEI crackdown

On Friday, Michigan State University celebrated the opening of its new Multicultural Center.

The \$38 million building is the culmination of decades of advocacy by the Council of Racial and Ethnic Students' push for a freestanding multicultural center since the 1990s.

At the building's ribbon-cutting ceremony, MSU Black Alumni Inc. board President LaVerne Wilson said the Multicultural Center's opening "signifies our commitment to fostering a diverse and inclusive environment."

However, the ceremony comes during a federal crackdown on diversity, equity, and inclusion programs, which President Trump prohibited by a Jan. 21 executive order. The order, which calls DEI programs "illegal" and "discriminatory," calls for civil compliance investigations of "institutes of higher education with endowments over 1 billion dollars," which includes MSU.

While the American Association of University Professors has challenged the order in a lawsuit asserting it violates the Constitution, it remains in effect.

At the ceremony, there was much talk of the Multicultural Center's storied past, a legacy of student advocacy that predates the center's opening in 1999 in the MSU Union's basement. Continued sit-ins and marches led the center to be moved to the Union's second floor and renamed MO-SAIC in 2013.

Uncertainty lingers over the center's future.

Opening-ceremony speakers stressed the importance of MSU's commitment to DEI programs. University President Kevin Gusciewicz seemed to reaffirm this, saying the building was the product of "the commitment of this university to forging a community that is welcoming, safe, and inclusive for all." Gusciewicz also lauded MSU's 1855 Professorships program, which MSU's website describes as "advancing MSU's commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion."



Photo by Raymond Holt

MSU's first freestanding multicultural center opened Friday (Feb. 7) at the corner of North Shaw and Farm lanes. Lead architect Monteil Crawley designed the \$38 million building based on student suggestions.

But Samuel Saldívar, director of the Office of Multicultural Enrichment and Advocacy, which will manage the multicultural center, declined in an interview to reaffirm such a commitment.

"I still believe that our mission reflects a commitment to support students," he said when asked whether he considered DEI part of the multicultural office's mission.

The future of DEI programs at MSU was thrown into uncertainty after a Lunar New Year celebration scheduled for Jan. 29 was abruptly canceled the day before. In an email The State News obtained, Lauren Gaines, director of diversity, equity and inclusion at MSU, attributed the decision to community concerns regarding "Executive Orders related to immigration and diversity, equity, and inclusion."

After student backlash, the university apologized for the cancellation and rescheduled the event.

The Trump administration's crackdown is particularly relevant to the multicultural center, for which DEI was a significant consideration during the planning process. The center's feasibility report states it is intended "to be a tool to support MSU's diversity and inclusion mission."

The report also indicates that the building was intended as a hub for DEI programming, saying that students, faculty and staff expressed the necessity for a new building because "Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion initiatives have outgrown" the former multicultural center.

That mission seeps into the two-story

building itself. The entry corridor provides gallery space intended to "showcase the work of multicultural artists and artisans," per design firm SmithGroup's overview of the center. A community kitchenette serves as a meeting space, with the intention that students will share cultural foods. Reflection rooms offer spaces for meditation and prayer. An ablution station allows for ceremonial washing, and the North American Indigenous Student Organization will use a ceremonial fire pit for cultural ceremonies, as per an MSU press release.

Monteil Crawley, the multicultural center's lead design architect, said multicultural student organizations influenced the design process: "This is a project meant for students of diverse backgrounds, and you have to understand what their needs and wants and desires are, and that it actually functions for them."

Input for the design team was collected via a survey issued specifically to students "affiliated with the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) organizations and efforts on campus," according to the feasibility report. Crawley said their ideas were at the core of the process, and his team's role was merely to bring those ideas to fruition.

"It's a perfect example that MSU is committed to diversity and inclusion," says Crawley of the multicultural center.

Whether the multicultural center's planned operations run afoul of the Trump administration's guidance remains unclear. While the executive order is sweeping, it is also unspecific. The order primarily targets

what it alleges are "dangerous, demeaning, and immoral race- and sex-based preferences," which supposedly violate the Civil Rights Act of 1964. The civil compliance investigations that will target universities, including MSU, are meant to "deter DEI programs or principles (whether specifically denominated "DEI" or otherwise) that constitute illegal discrimination or preferences."

It is also unclear what the consequences of an infraction might be. However, federal support is integral to research at MSU. According to MSU's website, \$474 million came from federal sources — over half of total research expenditures.

Facing this uncertainty, Saldívar said that the Office of Multicultural Enrichment and Advocacy "is going to continue to support students." Though he did not reaffirm a commitment to DEI programs, he asserted that the office will continue to "strive" to create "a space where students feel included and feel supported."

Some speakers at the ribbon-cutting ceremony looked to the multicultural center as a beacon of hope for DEI programs.

Brady Velazquez, founder and chair of APIDA — Asian Pacific Islander Desi American/Asian — Spartans, said the ceremony proved "the power of community, resilience, and advocacy."

"This moment was not given to us — it was fought for," Velazquez said, referring to the protests that have accompanied each stage of the multicultural center's history.

"This center represents more than just brick and mortar," she continued. "It is a testament to those who came before us and a promise to those who will follow."

Maria Serrato, president of the Latino Spartans alumni club, spun this legacy of activism into a call to action.

"The question is, now that the multicultural center is built, what is MSU's commitment to preserving ethnic studies programs and diversity initiatives?" she asked, to applause.

"With everything that is happening today," she continued, "we have to keep fighting for a more inclusive campus, more representation, and retention. Will you help us?"

— LEO V. KAPLAN

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Where do I start? So much has happened in the last few weeks that I can't keep up. I am sure that between the time I put pencil to paper on Monday morning, there will undoubtedly be some more shenanigans that will not be a part of this essay or whatever my type of writing is. I won't likely even hit on everything that has already happened. I don't know if I need to touch on everything, but we'll see.

What I can't comprehend the most is that we are watching government institutions being ransacked. Look, I remember when I was a kid, and there were commercials on TV talking about how the government paid \$300 for a hammer that you could buy at Ace Hardware for \$10, so I do not doubt that there are things we could do that the government has neglected to address, but frankly, that is not what is happening here.

What makes this insane to me is that we have a guy who gave a Nazi salute at the inauguration. He claimed it wasn't a "siege heil," but his response was to act like we were all making something out of nothing. When someone in the spotlight does something offensive, even if mistaken, they will try to set the record straight and apologize for any harm caused, but we saw nothing like that. Worse yet, nobody in the sitting administration batted an eye. Instead, they gave him free rein to do as he pleases with some wet-behind-the-ears hackers. We have a Nazi running loose, and he has the blessing of the president of the United States. I cannot believe what I am seeing with my own eyes.

Orange Lucifer has his own troubled past about defending Nazis. Even more troubling is that his base seems to applaud everything they do. In the campaign before the 2016 election, Orange Lucifer said he could stand in Times Square and shoot someone, and he wouldn't lose any voters; well, apparently, you can do a Nazi salute, and if the president doesn't object, then neither will his people. Within days, we have seen demonstrations of Nazis in public, obviously emboldened by this administration's lack of condemnation. I can only imagine that we'll see more of this.

Something of equal concern should be that there is a conflict of interest with the builder of swastikas. He has a vested interest in damaging departments investigating Starlink, which received payments for USAID. The guy has a history of retaliatory behavior, and he was instrumental in firing the

head of the FAA, along with the safety board that OL dismissed just before the tragic plane crash in DC, because they fined SpaceX for safety violations. There is no reason to believe that he didn't target USAID because he thinks the rules don't apply to him. And yet, people who voted for this somehow think they are on the same level. I have seen several claims of what they found when they siphoned information, but people are spreading the claims as accurate without evidence.

This administration expects us to just take them at their word. Inconceivable. I think I am a logical person, and my first thought would be to investigate the department that has failed seven audits to the tune of trillions of dollars, but I guess the Department of Defense doesn't fit their narrative. And just one more thought on this, democrats can't fire the builder of swastikas, and if he has all of Orange Lucifer's financial, business, and personal information, including everything the IRS, the CIA, and the FBI know about him, what will stop him from using that against him if the shit hits the fan. These two nazi-loving apologist billionaires are somehow looking out for the little guy? GTFATWOH

Back on December 10, Orange Lucifer posted on Truth Social that "Any person or company investing ONE BILLION DOLLARS, OR MORE, in the United States of America, will receive fully expedited approvals and permits, including, but in no way limited to, all Environmental approvals. GET READY TO ROCK!!!"

More recently, they have said they will get rid of OSHA. The CFPB has been ordered to shut down. The list of policies impacting the poor and middle class continues to grow. Without strict prohibitions of environmental waste, protections in the workplace for employees, or protections from the wealthy credit card companies gouging people when they are already struggling, please tell me how any of this positively impacts people. These protections were implemented because businesses polluted the air or water, which harmed poor communities for profit. These protections provided safer working conditions for everyone working for someone else, not because the employer cared but because they were forced to.

Credit card companies had a free-for-all until they were reined in, and it looks as though they may be on their way to getting even richer at the expense of those who are already drowning in

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the capitalist machine we have built that puts profits over people at every turn. None of this says this administration is looking out for the little guy. NONE. OF. IT. Unless you consider tax breaks for the wealthiest to trickle down to us.

Pardoning people who were convicted in a court of law for the January 6 violence doesn't equate to their message of being a country of law and order. They can pretend all they want that it wasn't an insurrection, but ask the families of people who were there and were injured or killed. The president pardoned 1,500 of them. Apparently, not even one of them did anything wrong. They did what they did at the president's behest. By doing so, we now have many people who will be emboldened to do similar stunts if and when he urges them.

We are not dealing with people living. My wife was at the hospital with her mother, who was having surgery. While sitting in the waiting room, she was close enough to a sweet little old lady conversing with another lady. The sweet old lady asked the other lady if she saw that the president had opened the water in California to help with the wildfires. The other lady responded that he had saved California by doing what should have already been done. Two sweet ladies. Except that they have no idea what really happened. I probably don't need to explain that his actions did not impact the fires and were actually reserves for farmland in Northern California that would have been used for the spring crops. Billions of gallons of wastewater were involved in this publicity stunt. Look it up.

I feel like we are living in between *Idiocracy* and *Don't Look UP*. Somehow, the MAGA movement is cheering on the thought of annexing a sovereign nation. Think about that. Seriously. Look, Canada didn't ask for this. The people of Canada love their country. They certainly may have policy disagreements, but does anyone recall them asking America to save them? Imagine Canada saying they would take over America. What the actual hell? Whether we would benefit or if the citizens of Canada would benefit is not the issue. Nobody has any right to come out and say we should take over their neighbor's land for any reason.

We have pulled out of the Paris Climate Treaty and appointed a loyalist to head NOAA, pulled out of the World Health Organization, and threatened to take over the Gaza Strip. They've introduced a bill to allow a 3rd term for POTUS, created a White House Faith Office to be led by a

less-than-credible Paula White to investigate the imaginary bias against Christianity, denied trans rights, ended birthright citizenship, took down fundamental government websites like reproductiverights.gov that help women find health care and understand their rights, and that's just the shortlist.

But hey, he saved TikTok.

My biggest fear, as he continues to wreak havoc, is the silencing of media. The sweet little old ladies at the hospital are living in an illusion and are not alone. Whatever they are watching, it is propaganda at best if they believe he put out the fires in California. OL has no interest in the truth; he wants loyalty and will eventually find a way to control the media. As distorted as reality is now, nothing is scarier than the direction they'll take it. Things will get worse if he has his way in the Department of Education. Our public education system has failed generations in the past but has steadily made progress, and now we may very well see the next generations fail to understand how we got here. I am concerned that the media is being soft and bending the knee. I will support media that tells the truth, not when it is convenient, but consistently and without political pressure.

We are in a constitutional crisis, but we are also in a climate crisis that will make the constitutional crisis pale in comparison.

A quote from author and scholar Jason Hickel: *"Children born today will never know the stable climate and species richness that characterized the past millennia. Unless we achieve a dramatic change in direction, they will know only climate chaos and a biosphere in collapse. It is sorrowful beyond words."*

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A sure thing for Schor? Incumbent has big edge in mayoral contest

At-large Council race is where action is in Lansing politics

Lansing Mayor Andy Schor is for sure running for a third term, but the question remains who will run against him.

It's not going to be Councilmember Peter Spadafore, who is not seeking a third term after being the top vote-getter in his previous two runs for office.

It's not going to be 2nd Ward Councilmember Jeremy Garza, who is going for an at-large seat, now that his family is looking for a bigger house and may want to move.

Councilmember Adam Hussain remains a rumored possibility, but he did not return a call requesting comment.

Councilmember Jeffrey Brown is more than a rumored possibility: He has a web address "jeffreybrown-forlansingmayor.com" parked on GoDaddy. Her also didn't return a



KYLE MELINN

POLITICS

call. If he does run for mayor, he will have to relinquish his Council seat. That would mean both at-large seats will be on the primary ballot in August, setting up a November showdown among the top four vote-getters.

Whatever he runs for, Brown has a target on his back. He angered the unions, the Lansing chamber, Schor and Ron Boji, whose company was counting on selling the old Masonic Temple to the city for a new city hall. Brown supposedly promised to support its purchase, but instead he led a revolt against the plan, which sank it, 4-4.

Whatever Brown's plan, it's late in the game for any opponent to start fundraising against Schor.

Schor won reelection in 2021 with 64% of the vote after an, at times, tumultuous 2020, and isn't seen as particularly vulnerable this go-around after some major development news in his second term.

The long-discussed City Hall construction project is happening, with the current city hall being slated to become a mid-century modern hotel/restaurant. There's the big Gentilozzi housing project that's

See Melinn, Page 10



Courtesy Andy Schor for Mayor Campaign

Lansing Mayor Andy Schor, who announced his candidacy for a third term Feb. 4, makes a point at the campaign kickoff at Gregory's Soul Food restaurant on the north side.

MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP EST. 1842

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN, INGHAM COUNTY
LEGAL AD NOTICE: MARCH BOARD OF REVIEW
MARCH 4, 10, 11 AND 12, 2025

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
BOARD OF REVIEW MEETINGS
5151 MARSH ROAD, OKEMOS, MICHIGAN 48864
(517) 853-4400
MUNICIPAL BUILDING

The Charter Township of Meridian Board of Review will conduct its organizational meeting on Tuesday, March 4, 2025 at 10:00 a.m. at the Township Municipal Building, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, Michigan 48864.

2025 Tentative Factors:

Commercial Real Property	1.00000
Industrial Real Property	1.00000
Residential Real Property	1.00000
Personal Property	1.00000

The Board of Review will meet for assessment appeals at the Township Municipal Building on the following days:

Monday, March 10, 2025: 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Tuesday, March 11, 2025: 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon and 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Wednesday, March 12, 2025: 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon

For an appointment to appear before the Board of Review, call (517)853-4400 by 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 11, 2025.

Written appeals will be accepted if received by 12:00 noon on Wednesday, March 12, 2025. Appeals must be in office by this time, post marks are not accepted.

ANGELA DEMAS
MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP CLERK

CP#25-035

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Public Notice

The Ingham County Land Bank is requesting qualifications for **Lawn Maintenance on Vacant and "For Sale" Properties**. The RFQ packets are available February 12, 2025 at the Ingham County Land Bank, 3024 Turner St, Lansing, MI, 48906, 8:00 am to 4:00 pm Monday-Friday or at www.inghamlandbank.org/contractors. Responses are due at the Land Bank offices by 9:00am on March 6, 2025 and will be opened at 9:00am March 6, 2025. The Ingham County Land Bank is an Equal Employment Opportunity Employer. Women- and Minority-Owned Businesses are encouraged to apply.
 RFQ #: Lawn-2025-28; RFQ # LawnForSale2025-28

CP#25-040

State of Michigan Probate Court, County of Ingham, Publication of Notice of Hearing, Files 25-000174-GA and 25-000175-GA. In the matter of Linda Spataro. TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS including: Melodi Mitchell, John Grimm, Rachel Grimm, Robert Vawter, and all additional children of Linda Spataro, and any other interested parties whose address(es) is/are unknown and whose interest in the matter may be barred or affected by the following: TAKE NOTICE: A hearing will be held on March 26, 2025 at 9:45 am at 341 S. Jefferson St., Mason, MI 48854 before Judge Richard J. Garcia for the following purpose: Uncontested Hearing - Petition for appointment of Guardian and Conservator. 2/12/2025. Petitioner: Emily Presendieu, 5303 S. Cedar St, Lansing, MI 48911, 517-488-4156.

CP#25-045

Eagle Township, Clinton County
Special Board Meeting Synopsis

February 5, 2025, at 6:00 pm - Present: Supervisor Stroud, Clerk Briggs-Dudley, Treasurer C. Hoppes, Trustee Strahle, Trustee M. Hoppes and 6 citizens.

Board Actions:

- 1) Appointment of Trustee for a partial term through November 2026.
- 2) Approved commitment to purchase road gravel for FY 25-26.
- 3) Approved maintenance person to provide services to LGRFA dependent on approval from Watertown Charter Township and LGRFA.

A complete copy of the minutes is available by contacting Laurie Briggs-Dudley, Clerk. Next regular meeting of the Eagle Township Board is February 20, 2025, at 6 pm at Eagle Township Hall, 14318 Michigan St, Eagle, MI. See www.eagletownshipmi.gov for latest updates.

Prepared by: Laurie Briggs-Dudley, Eagle Township Clerk
 Approved by: Troy Stroud, Eagle Township Supervisor

CP#25-046

CityPULSE

Grassroot anti-Trump protest draws hundreds to the state Capitol



Now more than ever

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Melinn

from page 8

going to remake the Lansing skyline. There's \$1 million that's coming to help make the six-restaurant-option Macotta Club in the old Knapp's Building happen.

In politics, anyone can always get beat, but Schor is looking strong at this point.

Over at the clerk's office, Chris Swope is looking to run for a sixth four-year term. Swope, who turns 58 this year, is a westsider who is involved in his husband's business at Bradly's Home and Garden in Old Town.

Swope wasn't challenged in 2021, 2013 or 2009. His opponent in 2017, Jerimic Clayborn III, got 15% of the vote.

The big news this week is coming out of the 2nd Ward, where Jeremy Garza is running for an at-large seat in his bid for a third term. He said his family have outgrown its house

on the southeast side and they are keeping their options open on where in the city of Lansing they expect to move.

"Because of my love for Lansing — All of Lansing — I have decided to run for Lansing City Council At-Large in this year's election, so I can continue giving back to the city I love," said Garza, who turns 49 this year. "I want to amplify the voices of everyday people throughout our city, from the Northside to the Southside, the Westside to the Eastside, and all points between.

"No matter where folks live in our city, they deserve to have their voice heard at City Hall."

Former city Councilwoman Ellen Beal in 1995 is the most recent example of a candidate going from a ward seat to an at-large seat.

There must be at least three candidates for mayor, clerk or the two ward-based City Council seats in order for there to be a primary. That doesn't apply at the moment. However, the filing deadline is more than

two months off. Races that bypass the Aug. 5 primary will be on the November general election ballot.

However, it appears there will be a primary for the at-large seats now that Spadafore is out and Brown could have his sights set on something bigger.

Garza and four other candidates have filed for the at-large seats, with a fifth, Julie Vandenboom, having pulled petitions and having officially announced.

Other candidates filing to seek one of two at-large seats are:

– **Olivia Vaden**, who turns 29 this year. They live in the north part of Churchill Downs. Most recently, they were the research and policy director for the Michigan Growth Office. Prior to that, Vaden was researcher for Flint Councilwoman Tonya Burns.

Vaden is a queer Black woman and a first-generation college graduate. They are the executive board president of the Southwest Action Group.

– **Jonah Stone**, who turns 31 this year, lives near REO Town south of Interstate 496. For close to four years, he's been a forensic scientist for the Michigan State Police. He's also been a medical technologist and laboratory assistant

He's running on an agenda of affordable housing, more homeless shelters/warming centers, more rapid transit and public art on the River Trail and other public spaces.

– **Nick Pigeon**, who turns 29 this year, lives on the east side. Most recently, he was the executive director of the Michigan Campaign Finance Network. He studied public policy at Michigan State. Originally from Macomb County, Pigeon has been a field director for a Detroit City Council candidate and several other campaigns.

He's an advocate for the disclosure of money in politics, government transparency and community revitalization.

– **Tristan Walters**, who turns 26

this year, lives over by Hunter Park on the east side. He's a projects coordinator with the Michigan State Police. He was a technician for the Department of Health and Human Services.

He was appointed to the Mayor's Neighborhood Advisory Board and sits as at-large member of the Lansing Parks Board. Walters moved to Lansing from Lapeer in 2019 when he transferred to Michigan State University to finish his bachelor's in geography.

– **Julie Vandenboom**, who turns 51 this year, lives on the east side after having spent a decade in the Turner Dodge neighborhood. She's been a resident since 2000. Her son graduated from Lansing Eastern High School in 2019.

She's worked for the state as a policy analyst and specialist for more than 15 years. She missed an elected spot on the Lansing City Charter Commission by 18 votes last May, finishing 10th out of 36 candidates.

No one has filed to run in 2nd Ward, yet, but the Garza announcement is pretty fresh, so there's time.

Over in the Fourth Ward, Brian Jackson, is checking out physically from City Council after arguably doing so mentally for years.

Only one candidate has filed for the seat: Heath Lowry, 33 this year, the president of the Westside Neighborhood Association and former executive officer of the Ingham County Democratic Party. Professionally, he is a staff attorney and policy specialist for the Michigan Coalition to End Domestic and Sexual Violence.

Lowry serves on the Board of Zoning Appeals and once worked as the legislative director for a former state legislator. He ran unsuccessfully for the Lansing City Charter Commission in 2024, finishing 18th out of 36 candidates.

Public Notice

The Ingham County Land Bank is requesting proposals for **Asbestos Containing Material (ACM) Survey Services** at various properties in Ingham County. The RFP is available on February 12, 2025, at Ingham County Land Bank, 3024 Turner St, Lansing, MI 48906, or at www.inghamlandbank.org/contractors. Bids are due at the Land Bank office by 10:00am on March 5, 2025. Bids will be opened March 5, 2025, at 10:00am. The Ingham County Land Bank is an Equal Employment Opportunity Employer. Women- and Minority-Owned Businesses are encouraged to apply. RFP# ACM-2025-28

CP#25-041

Public Notice

The Ingham County Land Bank is requesting bid proposals for **Comprehensive Energy Audit Services for Residential Properties in Ingham County**. The RFP is available on February 12, 2025, at Ingham County Land Bank, 3024 Turner St, Lansing, MI 48906, or at www.inghamlandbank.org/contractors. Bids are due at the Land Bank office by 2:00pm, on March 5, 2025. Bid Review will begin March 5, 2025, at 2:00pm. The Ingham County Land Bank is an Equal Employment Opportunity Employer. Women- and Minority-Owned Businesses are encouraged to apply. RFP# EnergyAudit-2025-28

CP#25-042

Public Notice

The Ingham County Land Bank is requesting bid proposals for **Lead Based Paint Hazard Risk Assessment and Clearance Services**. The RFP is available on February 12, 2025, at Ingham County Land Bank, 3024 Turner St, Lansing, MI 48906, or at www.inghamlandbank.org/contractors. Bids are due at the Land Bank office by 12:00pm, on March 5, 2025. Bid Review will begin March 5, 2025, at 12:00pm. The Ingham County Land Bank is an Equal Employment Opportunity Employer. Women- and Minority-Owned Businesses are encouraged to apply. RFP# LBP-2025-28

CP#25-043

Public Notice

The Ingham County Land Bank is requesting bid proposals for **Stake Surveys** for various properties in Ingham County. The RFP is available on February 12, 2025, at Ingham County Land Bank, 3024 Turner St, Lansing, MI 48906, or at www.inghamlandbank.org/contractors. Bids will be due at the Land Bank office by 9:00am on March 5, 2025. Packet opening will begin March 5, 2025, at 9:00am. The Ingham County Land Bank is an Equal Employment Opportunity Employer. Women- and Minority-Owned Businesses are encouraged to apply. RFP# StakeSurvey-2025-28.

CP#25-044

State of Michigan Probate Court, Ingham County, Notice to Creditors, Decedents Estate. File No. 25-43-DE. Estate of Richard Leonard Comming. Date of birth: 04/24/1945. NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Richard Leonard Comming, died October 25, 2023. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Samuel Comming, personal representatives, or to both the probate court at 313 W. Kalamazoo, Lansing, MI 48933, 517-483-6300, and the personal representatives within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice, 2/12/25. Samuel Tyrone Comming, 6013 Rutherford Ave., East Lansing MI 48823. 517-477-0853.

CP#25-039

H&H Mobil Abandoned Auto Auction
Viewing 2/20/25 By Appointment
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Call 517-332-6335
Bids must be submitted by 8 am 2/24/25
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For more info go to www.hhmobil.com

CP#25-019

REWIND

NEWS HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE LAST 7 DAYS

COMPILED BY STEVE UNDERWOOD FROM LOCAL NEWS SOURCES



The Lansing School Board has approved a policy change to eliminate information about students' addresses, birth places and tele-

phone numbers in the district's directory. The district will not release directory information for students to any person or party other than the student or their parents without a parent's written consent. Such directory information is typically not released publicly but shared only with state and federal agencies such as education departments. The Michigan Immigrant Rights Center and the ACLU of Michigan released guidance last month that schools should limit information collected from students, parents and guardians.

East Lansing city officials said they will comply with a Michigan Supreme Court ruling that a 5% franchise fee imposed on Lansing Board of Water & Light customers by the city since 2017 was an illegal tax.

The city sent a letter to BWL general manager Richard Peffley directing BWL to stop collecting the franchise fee and asking it to refund customers any fees already collected but not yet sent to the city. The fee generated about \$1.4 million for East Lansing's general fund each year.



The Fretail Store, an extension of nonprofits Cardboard Prophets and Capital Area Diaper Bank, will close its Lansing Mall location at the end of March after a dispute with mall management, officials with

the nonprofit said. Fretail's agreement with mall management for the space expires in May, and the mall has asked the store to relocate to a smaller, 3,800-square-foot space. The store opened in the mall in 2021 and provides diapers, clothing, toys and other necessities to people in need. It moved to a 6,280-square-foot storefront previously occupied by Victoria's Secret in 2023. The new space the mall offered Fretail needs renovation and renting it would cost \$500 a month more. The nonprofit invested \$20,000, including a \$17,000 grant, to remodel the storefront that it occupies. The mall posted a statement on its Facebook page that said, "It has become clear that the traditional shopping mall environment no longer aligns with its expanding needs." The Fretail Store and Capital Area Diaper Bank outreach efforts will cease if they can't reach an agreement with mall management or find a new location.

The Michigan Labor and Economic Opportunity Department announced it will distribute \$5.65 million in need-based grants to 41 symphony orchestras throughout the state



through the new, one-time Symphony Economic Recovery Program, including two in Greater Lansing. The Lansing Symphony Association will receive \$95,016, while the Mason Orchestral Society will receive \$1,074. The largest award, of \$1.25 million, is going to the Detroit Symphony Orchestra. The grants will support needs such as the renovation of music halls, instruments, musician staff, administrative staff, professional development and marketing and outreach to expand attendance, a press release said.

Jaivion Husband, 21, has died from injuries suffered in a Jan. 27 shooting, said Ingham County Prosecutor John Dewane Thursday in a news release. Five people were charged in connection with the shooting of Husband, who was found in the passenger seat of a vehicle near the intersection of Willow Street and Grand Avenue with a gunshot wound to the head.

"Our office had previously charged five co-defendants with two separate counts of assault with intent to commit murder arising out of this incident, along with other felony charges," he said. "We are now reauthorizing criminal charges to include open murder and discharge of a firearm from a vehicle causing death along with other criminal charges." Garrard Young, 19; Davuion Forrest, 19; Anthony White Jr., 20; Dayjian Lenoir, 21; and Tshara Lynch, 35, were each charged in the incident.



525 S Hayford Ave., Lansing

This 800 square-foot home between Marcus and Elizabeth streets, a block and a half south of Kalamazoo Avenue, has been red-tagged by the city since 2019. The owner, Clear Sky's Property Solutions & Development LLC, of Greenville, bought it from Esteban Perez in 2023 after it had been unoccupied and red-tagged for two years. Ingham County Treasurer Alan Fox said Clear Sky's owes \$13,761 for 2022 and 2023 taxes, plus another \$5,600 that is due to the city before March 1. "They've been good about keeping out of foreclosure," he said. Fox added that there is no building permit for the property on the city website. The home, built in 1936, has an assessed value of \$60,000 (which doesn't take into account its current condition). Efforts to reach the owners for comment were unsuccessful.

STEVE UNDERWOOD



The MSU Board of Trustees removed a proposal to demolish the university's IM West building from the agenda of its meeting last Friday, delaying a vote due to concerns raised by some trustees.

MSU President Kevin Guskiewicz told the Lansing State Journal that the trustees want to understand better how the transition from IM West to the new Student Health and Recreation Center will occur regarding operations. MSU expects to open the \$200 million center next year. The board's Budget and Finance Committee had recommended that IM West, built in 1959, be demolished in spring 2027 at a cost of about \$5 million.

MSU's Board of Trustees has agreed to meet with pro-Palestinian student organizers from the Hurriya Coalition April 10. Students from the coalition interrupted the board's meeting Friday, causing them to go into recess for more than 20 minutes.

The coalition has been pushing MSU to divest from financial holdings in Israel and organized the protest after trustees declined to attend a town hall the students planned. After the town hall, about 100 students marched to Cowles House, where Guskiewicz lives, leading chants and taping a list of questions and demands to the front door.



"Eyesore of the Week" is our weekly look at some of the seedier properties in Lansing. It rotates with Public Art, by Bill Castanier. Have a suggestion? Email eye@lansingcitypulse.com or call in a nomination at 517-999-5061.



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LET'S BOOGIE!

Bob Baldori & David Small



A NATION OF IMMIGRANTS: Go away

"Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free, the wretched refuse of your teeming shore. Send these, the homeless, tempest-tossed to me, I lift my lamp beside the golden door!"

Poetry worth reviewing in these fraught times. This country's greatness and true genius lies in its diversity. So forget all of those lofty, inspiring thoughts, completely, as Bozo's train wreck picks up speed, still encountering minimal resistance. Bozo and his clown posse, including shadow president Musk, are going to actual war with a significant demographic totally integrated within the fabric of the country.

The orders Bozo signed on his first day in office are mean-spirited and destructive beyond description. And exactly what he promised and exactly what anyone with a grip on the real world should be expecting.

Where is the resistance?

Former presidents, a friend and retired U.S. State Department careerist points out, "seem to be adhering to the an antiquated practice of not commenting on their successor's actions. This needs to change.

"Barack Obama, George W. Bush and Bill Clinton, if they joined hands (perhaps along with Mitt Romney)," my friend said, "would have enough clout to counter Trump and shadow president Musk. Media would have to pay attention, as would moderate Republicans (if there still are any), centrist Democrats and large numbers of independents.

"This quartet could issue joint statements, appear (separately or together) on major media outlets and cut through the daily barrage of White House diversionary idiocy. And by standing together, they could provide courage to the court system, besieged federal employees, centrist governors and to the wider public that there is still hope our most basic values can be preserved. Even John Thune and the handful of other Republican senators and representatives who perhaps are not entirely without scruples would have cover to push back against some of the wilder actions that will inevitably emerge in the coming months." Is that too fanciful? There is a glaring lack of leadership as of right now.

Time to start dealing with reality. Beyond the time to organize. Instead of a golden door, Bozo and his minions have opened the door to the gates of hell for everyone but the unscrupulous billionaire class they represent.

Something must be done — immediately!

(The Boogie Kings is an e-newsletter written by Bob Baldori, with art by David Small. The Boogie Kings Newsletter is published several times a week. To subscribe, go to theboogiekings.substack.com.)

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It's Monk's time

Pianist Rick Roe swings into MSU with a Thelonious assault

By LAWRENCE COSENTINO

Don't get pianist Rick Roe started on the subject of his favorite musician and composer, Thelonious Monk, unless you're ready for an instant and intensive lesson in music, psychology, philosophy and life in general.

So, let's get him started.

"One of the amazing things Monk said is, 'Every time I sit down at the piano, I find something,'" Roe said.

The same could be said for Roe, who surprises himself every time he improvises, finding butterflies and bee stings in every brilliant corner of the keyboard.

Roe is spending the week teaching, rehearsing and touring with Michigan State University jazz students, concluding in a grand finale concert packed with Monk's spiky, swinging music Friday night (Feb. 14) at Murray Hall.

Monk's musical sphere is unique, born of jazz yet beyond it, endlessly challenging to musicians yet instantly appealing to people who don't play, or listen, to jazz.

Few musicians have absorbed Monk's ugly beauty and complicated simplicity as thoroughly as Roe has. He can tell you all about the major seventh interval, the tritone and other recurring Monk-isms, but that's not the heart of the matter.

One of Monk's albums is called "It's Monk's Time." Roe savored the double meaning.

"It's beyond just knowing the ingredients," he said. "It's a feeling. It's not just harmony and dissonance. It's his time. That's one of the things I'll say to the students: 'Can that swing anything like him?' Because if it does, now you're in a whole other place with the power of the music."

Roe is no clone of Monk, nor does he want to turn a student into one. It's Monk's spirit, his deeply personal quest, that Roe hopes to tap into as he and the students tackle some of the freshest tunes ever written.

"You look at Monk and think, 'Who could be more brave?'" Roe said. "He's a link between early jazz, stride piano,



Photo by Jeff Dunn

Rick Roe, this week's guest artist in residence at MSU jazz studies, plays at the Blue Llama Jazz Club in Ann Arbor.

to bebop and the avant-garde. He's not in any category."

Roe is steeped in jazz history, but his passion and knowledge bounce lightly off the keyboard.

Growing up in Ann Arbor, he started playing piano at about age 4, for exactly the right reason: It was fun. "I just started improvising," he said. "I didn't really like to learn to read music, play what's on the page, because I didn't find it that interesting."

His mom, a jazz singer and teacher, and his dad, an opera singer, encouraged him and made sure the house was full of music. When he was 12, a piano teacher at Community High School in Ann Arbor added some meat to his jazz back-ground.

"He hipped me to the theory," Roe said. "I thought, 'Wow, it's like painters learning the colors and how they're made.'"

He studies the jazz greats like a Talmudic scholar, but he still follows saxophonist Charlie Parker's advice to "learn all you can, then throw it away

and play."

In the concert heyday of the student-run Eclipse organization at the University of Michigan and the Ann Arbor Jazz and Blues Festival, Roe soaked up the great jazz musicians of the 1970s in person, from Ella Fitzgerald to Ray Charles, Sun Ra and Charles Mingus.

Barely in his 20s, he played heady gigs with great drummers like Detroit's Roy Brooks and MSU Professor Randy Gelispie at long-lost venues like the Del Rio bar.

"Coming up at an early age, I got to play with some really great musicians, and I got to experience what deep swing feels like," Roe said. "They have so much love for the swing that it becomes really personal, really amazing when the band connects with the beat. It's like flying."

In 1981, he left Ann Arbor to finish high school in Los Angeles and study jazz at the University of Southern California, where his father taught. When plugged-in fusion began to dominate the Southern California jazz scene, Roe returned to the more bop-friendly terrain of Michigan, especially Detroit.

Never big on self-promotion, Roe

poured his passion into the piano, performing and patching together teaching gigs at MSU, U of M and several universities and schools in the Western states. He became the house pianist for the now-defunct Bird of Paradise in Ann Arbor and regularly played at the Firefly Club and the Gandy Dancer.

Roe doesn't go in for showmanship, but audiences instantly connect with his soul-deep enthusiasm, often expressed with uninhibited body language at the keyboard. His shoes might not be the sharpest, but he's well established as a musician's musician whose bandmates and peers cherish him for his unquenchable passion, fine ear and childlike wonderment. (Wynnton Marsalis, on a visit to Ann Arbor, deemed him a "motherfucker.") He took first place in the Great American Jazz Piano Competition in 1994 and was a semifinalist in the Thelonious Monk Institute of Jazz's International Piano competitions in 1993 and 1999. His 1994 album, "Monk's Modern Music," is considered by many to be an original jazz classic in a crowded and largely superfluous field of Monk tribute records.

Now living in Saline, Roe is a regular at the Kerrytown Concert House, the Blue Llama and the Earle.

When he does make a record, he makes it count. "Swing Theory," a 2013 trio album with bassist Robert Hurst and drummer Karriem Riggins, delighted critics and listeners.

Only last month, "Tribute," a trio album devoted to the compositions of Lansing composer and jazz patron Gregg Hill, climbed to single-digit spots on national charts and is still rising.

The chance to dive into Hill's fresh music with longtime colleagues Hurst on bass and Nate Winn on drums hit Roe's sweet spot, but he also loves to play for live audiences, even if the venue isn't a strict listening room.

"I like to have fun, even if it's background music and we're not supposed to be playing too loud," he said. "It's like being a surfer. You can't always determine where those waves are coming from, or when, but when you get into it, you get a lift from that energy, that beat. You become more awake and energized."

MSU jazz nonets

Rick Roe, piano

8 p.m. Friday, Feb. 14
Murray Hall
333 W. Circle Drive, East
Lansing
(517) 353-5340
music.msu.edu

HOMETOWN REPORT

FISCAL YEAR 2024

A message from Dick Peffley, BWL General Manager

As Michigan's largest municipal utility, the Lansing Board of Water & Light (BWL) has supplied utility services to the Greater Lansing area for 140 years, delivering clean, reliable and affordable energy and water. I've been proud to work here for nearly 50 of those years, and I know our workforce is dedicated to serving our customers and our community.

Like our customers, we want Lansing to be a clean and thriving region. That's why our goal is 50% clean energy by 2030 and carbon neutrality by 2040 - while also doing so affordably and reliably. Our recent rate adjustments will allow us to invest in cleaner energy to successfully hit

these goals and meet state mandates while also maintaining our aging infrastructure.

To further save our customers money, BWL opted into PA 95 in 2023, ending the winter heating season shut-off moratorium, meaning electric shut-offs due to non-pay continue year-round. This allowed BWL customers to be eligible for approximately \$1.2 million more dollars for families struggling and at risk of shut-off.

We want to listen to and help our customers, which is why we continue to host Community Resource Fairs twice a year, bringing together over a dozen local partners to offer information and financial assistance to Lansing citizens. BWL recently held two Customer Open Houses where we welcomed in customers to answer questions about their utility bill and usage. And of course, our customer service team is always ready to take your calls and answer your questions throughout the year.

BWL has been your local hometown utility, providing you with reliable services for 140 years. It's why we will continue investing in our community and strive to be the best utility we can be. Our customers mean everything to us, and we promise to serve you in the cleanest, most affordable way.



Richard R Peffley



Hometown People. Hometown Power.



Fiscal Year 2024 (July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024)

Electric Utility

Cust. Class	Customers	Sales (MWh) ^A	Revenues
Residential	87,130	533,012	\$97,299,935
Commercial	12,120	935,031	\$136,203,304
Industrial	107	478,378	\$60,234,014
Resale		534,135	\$21,022,840
Other		23,391	\$27,216,172
Total	99,357	2,503,947	\$341,976,264

^A 1 MWh = 1 Megawatt hour = 1,000 kWh

Water Utility

Cust. Class	Customers	Sales (CCF) ^B	Revenues
Residential	50,778	2,715,526	\$22,514,769
Commercial	6,994	2,747,476	\$21,632,527
Industrial	103	287,882	\$1,735,715
Sales for Resale		2,140,641	\$4,641,232
Other		112,644	\$5,233,064
Total	57,876	8,004,169	\$55,757,307

^B 1 CCF = 100 cubic feet of water = 748 gallons

Steam Utility

Cust. Class	Customers	Sales (Mlb) ^C	Revenues
Residential	5	806	\$16,985
Commercial	140	374,548	\$9,609,689
Industrial	1	124,765	\$2,984,035
Other		1,489	\$175,219
Total	146	501,608	\$12,785,928

^C 1 Mlb = 1,000 pounds of steam

Chilled Water

Cust. Class	Customers	Sales (MThr) ^D	Revenues
Commercial	19	9,239	\$6,915,341
Total	19	9,239	\$6,915,341

^D 1 MThr = 1,000 ton-hours

Statement of Net Assets

Assets	June 30, 2024	June 30, 2023
Current Assets	\$340,327,699	\$306,243,498
Other Assets	\$426,736,674	\$166,997,036
Utility Plant	\$1,273,860,080	\$1,183,308,967
Deferred Outflows	\$11,790,726	\$26,805,492
Total Assets	\$2,052,715,179	\$1,683,354,993

Liabilities

Current Liabilities	\$141,545,826	\$113,906,593
Other Long Term Liabilities	\$35,350,319	\$29,460,242
Long Term Debt	\$1,131,994,669	\$794,911,441
Total Liabilities	\$1,308,890,814	\$938,278,276
Deferred Inflows	\$20,978,370	\$32,122,944
Net Assets (Equity)	\$722,845,995	\$712,953,773
Total Liabilities & Net Assets	\$2,052,715,179	\$1,683,354,993

Statement of Revenues, Expenses & Changes in Net Assets

	June 30, 2024	June 30, 2023
Operating Revenues	\$417,434,840	\$448,876,759
Operating Expense	\$(387,930,455)	\$(406,253,381)
Operating Income	\$29,504,385	\$42,623,378
Nonoperating Income (Expenses)	\$(19,612,163)	\$(26,574,541)
Change in Net Assets	\$9,892,222	\$16,048,837

BWL Board of Commissioners Serving in FY 2024

Semone James, Chairperson
David Price, Vice Chairperson
Beth Graham
Deshon Leek

Tony Mullen
Dale Schrader
Tracy Thomas
Sandra Zerkle

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Colorful new book highlights historic Michigan food brands

By **BILL CASTANIER**

If Gail Offen and Jon Milan weren't the authors of the new book "Classic Michigan Food and Drinks," they could easily make a living as circus barkers, and I mean that in a good way.

Offen and Milan can't wait to pull readers into Michigan food culture and history as they excitedly share information about brands like Faygo, Vernors and Trenary Toast, an Upper Peninsula staple.

The authors' 205-page book is a combination travel guide, history text and foodies' delight, containing details about more than 150 popular Michigan brands.

Offen said that "three well-known Michigan brands changed how America eats," pointing to the contributions of Gerber baby food and Kellogg's and Post cereals.

But the book isn't just about the "big three" of Michigan food brands — it

also delves into the little guys, like the Jampot in Eagle Harbor, where monks toil making jam.

In compiling the book, Milan said he and Offen conducted more than 150 interviews.

"We overwrote the book, and the publisher, the History Press, ended up cutting one-third of the text," Offen said.

The duo had to set some criteria for inclusion and exclusion. It was decided up front there would be no listings of alcohol-related businesses.

"There are books for that," Milan said.

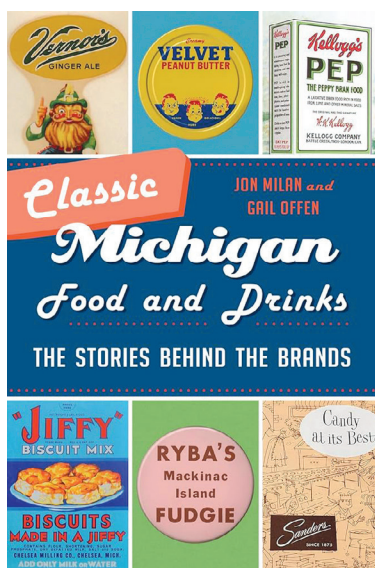
Also, the products had to be readily available in retail outlets or online.

Lansing companies included in the book are Paramount Coffee Co., Biggby Coffee, Cravings Gourmet Popcorn and the Peanut Shop. Offen said she would have liked to include Fabiano's Candies, but it doesn't ship.

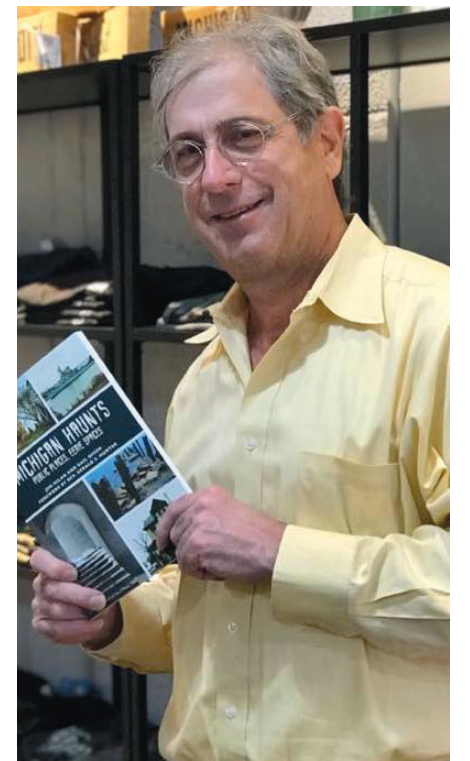
What helps make the book pop are the scores of product photos, both historic and contemporary, including numerous color plates of people, places and products.

The authors also peppered the book with stories of immigrants who started food-related businesses and became famous for their products, like Dearborn Brand, which was founded by a Hungarian immigrant and manufactures sausages, hams and hot dogs. The company sells 75,000 to 80,000 hams each year at Easter time.

Another meat packer, Grobbel's, which was founded in Detroit's Eastern Market in the late 1800s, typically ships 25 million pounds of corned beef around St. Patrick's Day.



Courtesy photo



Courtesy photo

Authors Gail Offen (left) and Jon Milan's new book, "Classic Michigan Food and Drinks," is an excellent travel guide for exploring the origins of Michigan food culture.

Milan said his favorite product in the book is Vernors.

"I grew up on it," he said.

One of Offen's favorites stories is that of Germack Pistachio Co. in Detroit, which was founded in 1924 and became the first company to import pistachios into the United States, which were dyed red and sold in vending machines for a penny. The book describes the simple reason for the red dye: It covered flaws in the nut's shell. It was also a promotional device, branded as "red lips." The red dye was discontinued in 1970, but for a nostalgia trip, Germack still dyes some nuts during the Christmas season.

Speaking of nuts, St. Laurent Brothers in Bay City was a pilgrimage for my grandfather, who during the Christmas season would make a trip to the

candy and nut purveyor to buy candied fruit for my mother's scores of fruit cakes. He'd also pick up roasted peanuts and popcorn balls, which were put away until Christmas day.

Offen and Milan have definitely struck it big with the food nostalgia milieu; their book is an excellent travel guide for exploring the origins of Michigan food culture.

You don't have to look much further than the late Harry Ryba, who almost singlehandedly created the fudge industry in Michigan from his shop on Mackinac Island. Milan said, "He was known as the king of fudge, and he was the first guy to make fudge in a window." He also installed fans in his shop to pull in customers.

The book is also dedicated to telling the story of mom-and-pop shops that grew into larger enterprises, like American Spoon, founded by Justin Rashid in Petoskey in the 1980s.

Milan said Rashid was the "grandfather of foraging" and helped create the farm-to-table movement in this country, fed by his relationship with Larry Forgione, a noted New York chef.

The authors are pondering a volume two; if you have suggestions or ideas, contact them at classicmichigan-food@gmail.com.



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Photo by Miryam Ramos

Don Was is a six-time Grammy Award winner who's produced records for Bob Dylan, the Rolling Stones, Brian Wilson, Elton John, Bonnie Raitt and the B-52s, to name just a few artists. The bassist makes his Lansing debut with his latest group, Don Was & the Pan-Detroit Ensemble, Feb. 23 at Grewal Hall in downtown Lansing.

Detroit accents

The City **PULSE** interview with Don Was

By **RICH TUPICA**

Detroit native Don Was has performed worldwide, recorded the Rolling Stones at his house and won six Grammy Awards over his decades-long career, but one thing he's never done is perform in Lansing.

That bummer streak ends on Feb. 23, when he brings his latest band, Don Was & the Pan-Detroit Ensemble, to Grewal Hall at 224. The dynamic outfit comprises top-shelf Motor City musicians who play a mix of covers and originals from Was' catalog, including songs by Was (Not Was), the funky pop-rock outfit he co-founded with David Jay Weiss, aka David Was. The band scored a Billboard hit with "Walk the Dinosaur," an undeniable 1987 earworm.

Don Was & the Pan-Detroit Ensemble

Feb. 23
Doors 7 p.m., show 8 p.m.
Grewal Hall at 224
224 S. Washington Square,
Lansing
hall224.com

City Pulse spoke with the multifaceted Don Was (born Don Edward Fagenson) from his home in Los Angeles, though the Detroiter and president of Blue Note Records still owns a house in Michigan with his wife, Gemma Corfield. Was, 72, discussed everything from his unforgettable day producing "Love Shack" for the B-52s to his relaxing day watching the Super Bowl with Roy Orbison.

You started your production work in Detroit in the 1970s, but your first big break was cutting Carly Simon's 1985 album, "Spoiled Girl," would you agree?

Don Was: Absolutely. I'd produced some English bands, and we'd made that first Was (Not Was) album, but Carly Simon was the first established, big artist to take a

chance on me. She was at a point in 1983 where she wanted to be in the modern age, and she was looking for a young, new producer so her record wouldn't sound like everybody else's. She called me up, which I couldn't believe.

What do you remember most about first meeting Carly?

She flew me to her place on Martha's Vineyard. She picked me up at the local airport barefoot and took me out to dinner. I moved to New York while we were working on her record, and I was broke. It was very difficult for me to sublet an apartment in New York City. I found a place and had to go before the building's board to get accepted. I had no credit. I had no credit cards. I had no money. And Carly Simon went with me to the interview. In 1984, you can imagine that she was the queen of New York City. She authenticated me and got me the apart-

ment.

After that, you moved to Los Angeles, but you grew up in Oak Park, Michigan, correct? What was your childhood like?

Yes, that's correct. My parents were both teachers. They were counselors. My dad was a counselor at Clinton Junior High School when I went there, and then he was at Oak Park High School when I was there.

I imagine it was hard to get in trouble at school without your father finding out quickly, huh?

I got into some trouble, and he knew. He was a pretty cool guy and understood the difference between mischief and criminal behavior. He was a forgiving, tolerant cat.

Growing up in the '60s, did your parents support your early love of music?

They were always supportive of it. My

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mom was maybe a little too supportive. Not only were they supportive during my youth, like driving us to gigs before we could drive, but even when I was an adult. Man, it was tough in the late '70s. I was always wearing those "Whip Inflation Now" buttons. Times were hard. I was married to my first wife and had a kid. I was playing five nights a week. I couldn't sustain a family even on a very minimal lifestyle, and my folks helped me out into my 30s. I worked and played, but they ensured I didn't fall too far into debt.

The "lean period," they call it.

Yeah, and it was a long lean period, too. It was a big moment for me. One time, I posed for an ad in a magazine. I was sitting there listening to Harman Kardon speakers. They took pictures of me and ran them in a bunch of magazines. I made more than my dad had made in a year as a teacher just sitting there doing nothing for two hours. I took the bread, and I bought him a Lexus. It was a big moment.

Your first high school band was the Saturns. Was that a typical Beatles-influenced garage band?

This was early, like 1963. We started pre-Beatles. It's hard to imagine now, but there was one summer when the cool alternative band was Peter, Paul and Mary. I got to present an award to Paul Stookey, who's from Birmingham, Michigan. I got to tell him, "Before the Beatles, everyone was trying to be Peter, Paul and Mary." So, we were 12 years old in a folk group, and then everything changed when we saw the Beatles on "The Ed Sullivan Show."

What first made you realize you wanted to make a career out of music?

I never thought of doing anything else, even before the Beatles. I'd come home from school, and I'd start playing music. I was just one of those kids, man. There was no plan B ever. I'd sit at the piano for hours. I tell people to look for it in their kids. If they won't go to bed because they're playing, and you can't get them to put their guitar or instrument down, that's a good sign. I tell people, "Don't make your kids practice. Don't force lessons." It's supposed to be fun and combat all of your responsibilities. It's supposed to be an escape and your rebellion. You play music, you don't work music.

Many producers leave Michigan and hire session players in LA or Nashville, Tennessee. What made you move back to Detroit and form the Pan-Detroit Ensemble?

In the '90s, there was a period where



Photo by Ron Adelberg

Don Was & the Pan-Detroit Ensemble performs a mix of covers and originals, including songs by Was (Not Was), the band Was co-founded in 1979.

I got to work with all of my great heroes almost right in a row: Bob Dylan, Willie Nelson, Kris Kristofferson, the Rolling Stones, Brian Wilson. They're all great songwriters. And then a writer's block set in. Every time I sat down at the piano to come up with something, I thought, "Well, what's the fucking point of this? Brian Wilson is just down the street." It haunted me. Finally, I realized I was nev-

er going to be as good as Willie Nelson, but Willie Nelson never dropped acid and went to see the MC5 at the Grande Ballroom in Detroit. There are certain things you had to grow up in to appreciate and absorb. So, I thought, "Don't try to be anyone. Be the best version of who you are. Take that as far as you can." That's what I tell all the artists I sign to Blue Note Records, and that's the advice

I give to artists I produce. I made it apply to myself. Be who you are. And that's who I am: a Detroit musician.

Sonically, what was your initial plan for the Pan-Detroit Ensemble? Did you achieve the sound you had in your head?

We were trying to get there with Was (Not Was) and achieved it at moments. It was trying to combine the horn ap-

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Photo by Kory Thibeault

The Pan-Detroit Ensemble features some of Was' longtime collaborators.

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proach of Miles Davis in the '60s when he and Wayne Shorter were playing together. It was the kind of soul grooves I grew up listening to. Add to that the energy and edge I picked up from Iggy and the Stooges, Mitch Ryder and the MC5. There's just a raw energy to Detroit music, whether it's in jazz, R&B or rock 'n roll — it's a reflection of the people who live in the city. It's a very honest population. No one is too concerned with putting on airs and impressing other people.

And there's a regional sound difference. Musicians from Detroit just play differently.

They absolutely do. When all nine of us got in a room together for the first time, we hadn't all played together before, but it clicked in the first 10 minutes. We knew that not only would the show be fine, but something here also merited further exploration.

Do you prefer studio work or live performances these days?

I don't see them necessarily as disconnected. I can tell you that I was just down in Cancún, Mexico, playing a week of shows with Bob Wier for a bunch of Grateful Dead fans who took over a resort. There's nothing like playing shows. There's a moment that will occur when you can feel this force moving through you. It doesn't originate with you. It comes from beyond, but you can feel it when you get connected to it. You stop thinking about holding a piece of wood and moving your fingers. Your fingers start moving on their own. You hear what everyone else is doing, and you feel a connection with the musicians. You can feel that connection with the audience. I don't know what kind of ecstasy equals that feeling.

Bob Seger said he asked you to help produce his 1991 album, "The Fire Inside," because of your work with Bonnie Raitt. Do you make similar musical connections inside recording studios?

Any work I have subsequent to 1989 is either because of Bonnie Raitt or the B-52s. I recorded "Love Shack" and Bonnie's "Nick of Time" a month apart. They both took off. I went from being a pariah to still riding the wave of those two albums.

With "Love Shack," did you know it was a hit when you were producing it?

Yeah, and sometimes that's not a guarantee that it will be a hit record. There are a lot of other factors that enter into it that have nothing to do with music. You know when magic hits the room. "Love Shack" is definitely one of those songs.

When she did the "tin roof ... rusted" line, even the band was flummoxed. She infused this meaningless line with so much gravitas that the band fell apart. Her delivery is so powerful, and she runs the gamut of emotions. It's like a mini-manic moment. She literally started crying at the end of it. I thought, "Wow, this is as powerful as 'A Love Supreme.'"

You cut Raitt's big hit "Something to Talk About" and many others. Did you have a similarly heavy moment with her?

I felt the same when we cut "I Can't Make You Love Me" with Bonnie. When she did that performance with Bruce Hornsby, it was so intensely personal. We only had to fix the two lines where she started crying. It was somewhere in the middle. We had to go back and punch those lines up.

In 1990, you recorded an album for fellow Michigander Iggy Pop. He can be kind of wild. What was that like?

I love him, man. The thing about Iggy is every wild story you've heard about him has some basis in truth. But that's just part of him. He's one of the smartest people. He's extremely well read and quite knowledgeable about art and all kinds of things. He's a distinguished gentleman, but he's also that guy, too. It's not a stage act. It's not like Alice Cooper, a showman who becomes a character to do the show. Iggy is 100% real.

Another eccentric rock star you've worked with is Brian Wilson of the Beach Boys. You even made an excellent documentary about him (1995's "I Just Wasn't Made for These Times"). How'd that happen?

I was producing my high school buddy Doug Fieger, who was in the group the Knack. I was doing a Knack album, and they were pretty hung up on the bootleg version of the Beach Boys' "Smile" album. I was unaware of that part of Brian's history, and I started listening to those things. I thought, "This is the greatest record maker ever." I got deep into it. Then I found myself at this party for an AIDS charity. Elizabeth Taylor was there. It was a very Hollywood kind of thing. Suddenly, I was in this buffet line with Brian. It was at the height of



Photo by Bob Staszcz

Was' multifaceted career includes work as a music director, film composer and touring bassist.

my being obsessed with him. I couldn't believe I was meeting him. I couldn't stop raving about everything I was listening to, so he invited me to his studio, and we became good friends. I started playing one-off gigs with him.

Looking back, do any Wilson gigs you played stand out?

We played one where it was just Brian and me. I played bass, and he played piano and sang. It was for the Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation. It was a benefit at someone's house, a mansion in Mandeville Canyon (in Los Angeles). It was another weird event. Ronald Reagan was there. Jackson Browne and Brian Wilson were the entertainment for the night. Brian comes out, and we do "California Girls." It was a mess. He forgot the words. At the end of it, he said, "Man, I really fucked that one up." All these people are sitting there with their little kids. Then we ruined another Beach Boys classic. It was a bizarre gig.

Were you two able to save the gig?

Yeah. Brian had just written his song "Love and Mercy." It's brilliant. He started singing it as the sun was going down over the mountain in front of us. He was so present. It was such a moving inter-

pretation of the song. I think I stopped playing. I couldn't believe I was standing there watching Brian Wilson go that deep into something. I thought, "Man, if people could see this." That's where the idea for the documentary came from.

Producing the Rolling Stones must've been unreal. "Love is Strong" was all over MTV in 1994.

It was surreal. I was a huge fan. I went to that 1964 show at Olympia Stadium in Detroit before they were famous. There were like 200 people. I saw them with Brian Jones at Cobo Hall. I bought all their records the day they came out, right up to "Voodoo Lounge," which I already had because I worked on it. We recorded a lot of the overdubs in my house. I couldn't believe they were hanging out at my pool for months. It was mind-blowing, but I also had a job to do. I couldn't fawn over them.

You worked with another pioneer, Bob Dylan, on his 1990 album, "Under the Red Sky." Who contacted you to do the LP?

He just called me and asked if we could do something together, then sent me the song "God

Knows." He said, "Let's try cutting that. Put together a band for me, and we'll go from there." I'd heard stories about him being difficult in the studio, so I thought, "Let's put a band together that's so great that he'd be happy." I called Stevie Ray Vaughan, Jimmie Vaughan and David Lindley. Those were my three guitar players. Kenny Aronoff played drums. I played bass. We cut the song in about 15 minutes. We had this great band all set up, so we cut four more songs Bob was in the process of writing. I loved being in the studio with him.

How does Dylan work in the studio?

He's got a real sense of what feels good and what doesn't. He's ambitious, and he'll chase things until he gets them right. If you listen to any of the outtakes from any of his albums, he never does the same song twice. Each take is different. He just keeps searching until he lands on the thing. He's got a really good sense of when it feels honest and real. He knows what it should be, and he's not willing to accept less. He's looking for the next gear.

You worked with another Traveling Wilburys member, Roy Orbison, on his posthumously released "King of

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Tanuki's Trading Post offers collectibles and community

By LEO V. KAPLAN

When anime enthusiast Brandon Carlson became frustrated with the lack of Japan-centric hobby shops in Lansing, he saw an opportunity. In 2024, he left his 13-year position as a production worker at General Motors to begin work on Tanuki's Trading Post with his wife, co-owner Onyx Bart.

Tanuki's Trading Post

1910 E. Michigan Ave.,
Lansing
Noon-9 p.m. daily
(517) 763-5300
tanukistradingpost.com

After a few delays, the hobby and collectible shop, located at 1910 E. Michigan Ave., held its grand opening Tuesday (Feb. 11).

First-time customers might feel like they've stepped off Michigan Avenue and into a slice of an anime convention. Shelves of anime figures, model build kits and manga novels line the vivid purple walls, with merchandise from iconic franchises like "Demon Slayer," "My Hero Academia," "One Piece" and "Yu-Gi-Oh!" in abundant supply. A "Pokémon" shelf contains plushies, puzzles and backpacks.

But what separates Tanuki's Trading Post from other hobby shops is what's behind it: a screening room, complete



Leo V. Kaplan/City Pulse

Co-owners Onyx Bart (left) and Brandon Carlson at the grand opening of Tanuki's Trading Post on Tuesday (Feb. 11).

with seating and a projector. Carlson intends to host anime screenings there and is focused on providing a welcoming environment for anime and manga fans.

"I want people to have someplace they feel included and fit in," Carlson said. "Like a spot to hang out."

Eventually, Bart said they want to use the space to host the types of events often found at anime conventions.

"A cosplay contest would be fun," she said. "Trivia would be fun." Since the

shop offers model kits for franchises like "Gundam," Carlson and Bart also hope to offer build days.

While these events aren't set in stone yet, those interested can follow Tanuki's Trading Post on Facebook or Instagram for updates on official plans.

The shop's focus on the anime community stems from Carlson and Bart's lifelong love for anime and manga. Carlson, 33, said his father unintentionally fostered the passion through VHS rent-

als: "When Blockbuster was still around, he'd always rent me the random anime they had in there, just because they looked like cool cartoons."

Bart's family passed down the hobby intentionally — her grandfather kept a repurposed sewing machine cabinet full of anime VHS tapes.

While their own fandom originated when analog media was standard, their shop offers both newer and legacy brands. Carlson said the offerings are informed by the community and will evolve over time. Rather than offering what's popular online, Carlson wants Tanuki's Trading Post to cater to local customers.

Looking forward, Carlson hopes to take Tanuki's Trading Post to anime conventions. An online store is also in progress.

The business is open from noon to 9 p.m. daily, though Carlson and Bart may take some days off eventually — it's just them, after all. For now, their focus is on getting as many people involved as possible.

Local anime fans would be wise to keep Tanuki's Trading Post on their radar, both for its merchandise and for the community Carlson and Bart hope to grow through their event space.

"I don't think you can go anywhere else and just watch anime," Bart said.

Williamstown Township March 2025 Board of Review Notice

Tuesday, March 4, 2025 at 11:00 am (Organizational Meeting)
The Williamstown Township Board of Review for 2025 will be hearing assessment appeals at the Williamstown Township Hall, 4990 Zimmer Rd, Williamston, MI on the following dates by appointment:

Monday, March 10, 2025
9:00 am-12:00 pm, 1:00-4:00 pm, & 6:00-9:00 pm (Assessment Appeals)
Tuesday, March 11, 2025
6:00 pm - 9:00 pm (Assessment Appeals)
Contact Kerri Danstrom at 655-3193 for an appointment.

Residents unable to attend may protest by letter, *provided protest letter is received at the Williamstown Township office by 4:00 pm Tuesday, March 11, 2025.*
Board of Review Members: Brian Johnston-Chairperson, Gerald Eidt, Mike Rice, and Lisa Fletcher, alternate.

Williamstown TWP Tentative Ratios 2025

Agriculture	Commercial	Industrial	Residential
50.25	46.72	49.68	46.88

The Williamstown Township Board of Review will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services to individuals with disabilities at the meeting upon five a (5) day notice to the Williamstown Township Board of Review. Individuals with disabilities requiring these services should contact the Township Clerk at (517) 655-3193 or clerk@williamstowntownship.com to request assistance.

Robin A. Cleveland, MiPMC
Clerk, Williamstown Township
clerk@williamstowntownship.com

CP#25-051

Don Was

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Hearts" LP. Did you spend much time with him?

They called me in to help finish the record. David Was did it with me. Roy and I became good friends. He was funny, just a good guy. We used to hang out with him. Me, David and Roy went to Big Sur, California, once. We got three cabins in a row and just sat there writing songs and hanging out. I remember watching the Super Bowl with him.

The late Glenn Frey of the Eagles was a Detroit native as well. How'd you get along with him when you produced his "Strange Weather" LP?

He was a good friend. Our kids ended up going to school together and being in a band. He had a heart of gold, and he was a great artist, man. To cut a song with him and hear his voice coming through the speak-

ers was unreal. We grew up about a mile away from each other. I didn't know him back then in Detroit, but that's a bond. We hit the consonants the same.

You and Glenn shared the Detroit accent, huh?

Stevie Wonder pointed that out to me. When I met Stevie for the first time in the '90s, we were doing a TV show, and I had to talk to him about the arrangement of a song. Stevie's brother Milton said, "You have one minute, and then I'm taking you out." I went in there, and we were talking about the song. The one minute was up, and Milton came to pull me out. Stevie said, "No, no, no. Let him stay. He sounds like home." He liked hearing the Detroit accent. It made him comfortable. We sat around talking for another half hour. It was the same with Glenn. Hearing that Detroit accent, we felt like brothers.

Jonesin' Crossword

By Matt Jones

“Et Al” -- some extra stuff.
by Matt Jones
© 2025 Matt Jones

ACROSS

- 1. Drive-thru drink extra
- 6. Goblet piece
- 10. Baby kangaroo
- 14. Pet problem?
- 15. Adidas rival
- 16. Killer whale
- 17. Valuable item
- 18. Novel-identifying digits
- 19. Mister, in Münster
- 20. Pail exclusively for celebrities?
- 22. Mad Libs prompt
- 23. Denver clock reading
- 24. Kong, e.g.
- 25. Tournament seeding
- 27. Pond dwellers
- 29. Encompassed by
- 33. Roll up
- 36. “Nick at ____”
- 38. More wintry
- 39. German attack craft of WWII
- 41. Swanson on “Parks & Recreation”
- 42. Play in the NHL
- 43. Metronome measurement
- 44. Italian beach resort
- 46. “What ____ can I do?”
- 47. Sneaky kind of horse?
- 49. One of Santa’s reindeer
- 51. Savage of “MythBusters”
- 53. Office machine still used by some businesses

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
14					15				16				
17					18				19				
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33	34	35			36		37		38				
39				40		41			42				
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47					48		49		50				
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57	58	59			60		61			62			
63					64				65				
66					67				68				
69					70				71				

- 54. Text messaging letters
- 57. On a grand scale
- 60. Squishy space shuttle propeller?
- 63. Lean and tall
- 64. Former Missouri Congresswoman
- 65. Company behind “Space Invaders” and “Bubble Bobble”
- 66. Remote button
- 67. Reunion attendee
- 68. Acquired relative
- 69. Coin-op opening
- 70. Intense fury
- 71. Honeycomb units
- 5. Home beverage center
- 6. Baby, for instance
- 7. Walrus feature
- 8. Add to a website, as a video
- 9. Repeated phrase
- 10. The average cricket player?
- 11. Cookie with a limited-edition Post Malone flavor
- 12. Grayish earth tone
- 13. Knitting store supply
- 21. Fairy tale’s second word
- 26. Author Kingsley
- 27. Cold-weather wear that’ll help you get off the ground?
- 28. Poker-faced
- 30. Old phone feature
- 31. Collectors’ completions
- 32. Ash, e.g.
- 33. Bounty hunter
- 34. Over, in Hanover
- 35. Former Cowboys quarterback
- 37. Theoretical stopping point
- 40. Mario Kart character
- 45. “The Wire” role
- 48. Org. with pit workers
- 50. Rare and unusual
- 52. Slangy cash
- 54. Expertise
- 55. Mercury, for one
- 56. Puts in the overhead
- 57. Shade providers
- 58. Singer Anka
- 59. Engaged by
- 61. 1960s fad dance
- 62. Sugar source

- DOWN**
- 1. Twitch
 - 2. Pushes to the limit
 - 3. Held another meeting
 - 4. Affirm with certainty

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Answers on page 25

SUDOKU

Advanced

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

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Here's How It Works:
Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

Free Will Astrology

By Rob Breznsky

Feb. 12-18, 2025

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Love requires stability and steadiness to thrive. But it also needs unpredictability and imaginativeness. The same with friendship. Without creative touches and departures from routine, even strong alliances can atrophy into mere sentiment and boring dutifulness. With this in mind, and in accordance with astrological omens, I offer quotes to inspire your quest to keep togetherness fertile and flourishing. 1. “Love has no rules except those we invent, moment by moment.” — Anaïs Nin. 2. “The essence of love is invention. Lovers should always dream and create their own world.” — Jorge Luis Borges. 3. “A successful relationship requires falling in love many times, always with the same person but never in quite the same way.” — Mignon McLaughlin.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): In celebration of the Valentine season, I suggest you get blithely unshackled in your approach to love. Be loose, limber and playful. To stimulate the romantic and intimate qualities I think you should emphasize, I offer you these quotes: 1. “Love is the endless apprenticeship of two souls daring to be both sanctuary and storm for one another.” — Rainer Maria Rilke. 2. “Love is the revolution in which we dismantle the prisons of our fear, building a world where our truths can stand naked and unashamed.” — Audre Lorde. 3. “Love is the rebellion that tears down walls within and between us, making room for the unruly beauty of our shared becoming.” — Adrienne Rich.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): To honor the rowdy Valentine spirit, I invite you to either use the following passage or compose one like it, then offer it to a willing recipient who would love to go deeper with you: “Be my thunderclap, my cascade of shooting stars. Be my echo across the valley, my rebel hymn, my riddle with no answer. Be my just-before-you-wake-up dream. Be my tectonic shift. Be my black pearl, my vacation from gloom and doom, my forbidden dance. Be my river song in F major, my wild-eyed prophet, my moonlit debate, my infinite possibility. Be my trembling, blooming, spiraling and soaring.”

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Cancerian author Elizabeth Gilbert wrote, “The universe buries strange jewels deep within us all.” One of those strange jewels in you is emerging from its hiding place. Any day now, it will reveal at least some of its spectacular beauty — to be followed by more in the subsequent weeks. Are you ready to be surprised by your secret self? Are your beloved allies ready? A bloom this magnificent could require adjustments. You and yours may have to expand your horizons together.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): In 2025, the role that togetherness plays in your life will inspire you to achieve unexpected personal accomplishments. Companionship and alliances may even stir up destiny-changing developments. To get you primed, I offer these quotes: 1. “Love is a trick that nature plays on us to achieve the impossible.” — William Somerset Maugham. 2. “Love is the ultimate outlaw. It won’t adhere to any rules. The most any of us can do is sign on as its accomplice.” — Tom Robbins. 3. “Whatever our souls are made of, his and mine are the same. Yet each day reveals new constellations in our shared sky.” — Emily Brontë.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Psychotherapist Robin Norwood wrote that some people, mostly women, give too much love and kindness. They neglect their own self-care as they attend generously to the needs of others. They may even provide nurturing and support to those who don’t appreciate it or return the favor. Author Anne Morrow Lindbergh expressed a different perspective. She wrote, “No one has ever loved anyone too much. We just haven’t learned yet how to love enough.” What’s your position on this issue, Virgo? It’s time for you to come to a new understanding of exactly how much giving is correct for you.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Are you ready to express your affection with lush and lavish exuberance?

I hope so. Now would be an excellent time, astrologically speaking. I dare you to give the following words, composed by poet Pablo Neruda, to a person who will be receptive to them. “You are the keeper of my wildest storms, the green shoot splitting the stone of my silence. Your love wraps me in galaxies, crowns me with the salt of the sea and fills my lungs with the language of the earth. You are the voice of the rivers, the crest of the waves, the pulse of the stars. With every word you speak, you unweave my solitude and knit me into eternity.”

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Among its potential gifts, astrology can raise our awareness of the cyclical nature of life. When used well, it helps us know when there are favorable times to enhance and upgrade specific areas of our lives. For example, in the coming weeks, you Scorpios could make progress on building a strong foundation for the future of love. You will rouse sweet fortune for yourself and those you care for if you infuse your best relationships with extra steadiness and stability.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): I want you to be moved by intimacy and friendships that buoy your soul, inspire your expansive mind and pique your sense of adventure. To boost the likelihood they will flow your way in abundance during the coming weeks, I offer you these quotes. 1. “Love is a madness so discreet that we carry its delicious wounds for a lifetime as if they were precious gems.” — Federico García Lorca. 2. “Love is not a vacation from life. It’s a parallel universe where everything ordinary becomes extraordinary.” — Anne Morrow Lindbergh. 3. “Where there is love, there is life. And where there is life, there is mischief in the making.” — my Sagittarius friend Artemisia.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Every intimate alliance is unique, has its own rules, and shouldn’t be compared to any standard. This is a key theme for you to embrace right now. Below are helpful quotes. 1. “Each couple’s love story is a language only they can speak, with words only they can define.” — Federico Fellini. 2. “In every true marriage, each serves as guide and companion to the other toward a shared enlightenment that no one else could possibly share.” — Joseph Campbell. 3. “The beauty of marriage is not in its uniformity but in how each couple writes their own story, following no map but the one they draw together.” — Isabel Allende. 4. “Marriages are like fingerprints: Each one is different, and each one is beautiful.” — Maggie Reyes.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Borrowing the words of Aquarian author Virginia Woolf, I’ve prepared a love note for you to use as your own. Feel free to give these words to the person whose destiny needs to be woven more closely together with yours. “You are the tide that sweeps through the corridors of my mind, a wild rhythm that fills my empty spaces with the echo of eternity. You are the unspoken sentence in my every thought, the shadow and the light interwoven in the fabric of my being. You are the pulse of the universe pressing against my skin, the quiet chaos of love that refuses to be named. You are my uncharted shore.”

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Love and intimacy and togetherness are fun, yes. But they’re also hard work — especially if you want to make the fun last. This will be your specialty in the coming months. I’ve assembled four quotes to inspire you. 1. “The essence of marriage is not that it provides a happy ending but that it provides a promising beginning — and then you keep beginning again, day after day.” — Gabriel García Márquez. 2. “The secret of a happy marriage remains a secret. But those who follow the art of creating it day after day come closest to discovering it.” — Pearl Buck. 3. “Love is a continuous act of forgiveness.” — Maya Angelou. 4. “In the best of relationships, daily rebuilding is a mutual process. Each partner helps the other grow.” — Virginia Satir.

Go to 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. Deadline is 4 p.m. Wednesday for the upcoming Wednesday edition. Charges may apply for paid events to appear in print. If you need assistance, please call Nicole at (517) 999-5066.

Wednesday, Feb. 12

18th Annual MSUFCU Student Art Exhibit - Artists from mid-Michigan high schools showcase their work, hoping to earn votes from the public and a group of judges. 9 a.m.-5:30 p.m. MSUFCU Headquarters Building 1, 3777 West Road, East Lansing. msufcuart.com.

"A Course of Love" Zoom Discussion Group, with Lucille Olson and Bill Dietrich - Group reads a section of the book each week and discusses the insightful ideas. 7 p.m. Zoom ID: 177 417 886. Passcode: 601744. unitylansing.org.

Acting & Glee Music Class for Kids - 15-week class. Ages 5-12. 4:30 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

Al-Anon Meeting - 6 p.m. Okemos Community Church, 4734 Okemos Road, Okemos. cmialanon.org.

Beginning Ballet for Adults - 6:45 p.m. The Studio Performing Arts Center, 5015 Park Lake Road, East Lansing. 517-336-4088. dancesingact.com.

Beginning Tap Dance for Teens & Adults - 7:45 p.m. The Studio Performing Arts Center, 5015 Park Lake Road, East Lansing. 517-336-4088. dancesingact.com.

Broadway Jazz Dance for Teens & Adults - 15-week class, meets biweekly. 7 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

Check Out the Art! - Beat the winter blues with a visit to Okemos Library's Event Room to see unique and interesting artwork by members of the Lansing Women Artists Collective. 9 a.m.-8 p.m. 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. cadl.org/about/our-locations/okemos.

Code Club - Learn to make websites, apps, animations and more! No coding experience necessary. Grades 3+ . 6 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. gladl.org.

"Farmland: Food, Justice, and Sovereignty" - 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, East Lansing. broadmuseum.msu.edu.

Fitness Over 50! Exercise Group - The Meridian Township Parks and Recreation Stretch and Flex Exercise group exercises at the Meridian Mall food court through April. 9-10 a.m. 1982 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. meridian50plus.com.

Improv Acting for Teens & Adults - 15-week class, meets biweekly. 8:30 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

Intro to Fly-Tying Workshop - Members of Red Cedar Fly Fishers will go over the tools, materials and techniques needed to tie fishing flies for trout, bluegill and bass. Ages 12+. Registration req. 6 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. gladl.org.

Karaoke at Lansing Shuffle, hosted by Starlight Entertainment - 7:30-11 p.m. 325 Riverfront Drive, Lansing. lansingshuffle.com.

Lansing Live Open Stage Night - Whether you're experienced or just starting out, the stage is open to all. Not a performer? Enjoy dinner, drinks and live music. No cover, all ages welcome. 6 p.m. UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner St., Lansing. urbanbeat-events.com.

Mindfulness Meditation in the Thich Nhat Hanh tradition - All are welcome to join our weekly practice! 7-9 p.m. Van Hanh Temple, 3015 S. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Lansing. lamcsang-ha.wordpress.com.

"MJ" the Musical - 7:30 p.m. Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. whartoncenter.com.

MSU Women's Basketball vs. University of Wisconsin - 6:30 p.m. Breslin Center, 534 Birch Road, East Lansing. msuspartans.com/sports/womens-basketball.

Parkinson's Support Group Social Lunch - Join us for an informal, friendly lunch gathering and get to know people who understand. Open to people with Parkinson's, their caregivers and family members. 11:30 a.m. Coral Gables, 2838 Grand River Ave., East Lansing. lapsg.org.

Stanislav Khristenko, piano - This solo recital presents an evening of preludes from a variety of composers, including Bach, Chopin, Debussy, Gershwin and Rachmaninov, among others. 7:30 p.m. Cook Recital Hall, 333 W. Circle Drive, East Lansing. music.msu.edu.

Tap II for Teens & Adults - 15-week class. 6 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

Weaving the Web: Initiation - Join us online or in person every Wednesday for discussions, rituals, meditations and more! 6 p.m. Weavers of the Web, 809 Center St., Lansing. weaversoftheweb.org.

Thursday, Feb. 13

18th Annual MSUFCU Student Art Exhibit - Artists from mid-Michigan high schools showcase their work, hoping to earn votes from the public and a group of judges. 9 a.m.-5:30 p.m. MSUFCU Headquarters Building 1, 3777 West Road, East Lansing. msufcuart.com.

"A Case for the Existence of God" - A sweet, thoughtful story about fatherhood, family and friendship. 2 p.m. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam St., Williamston. williamstontheatre.org.

Acting 101 for Teens & Adults - 15-week class, meets biweekly. 7 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

Acting Ensemble Class for Teens & Adults - 15-week class, meets biweekly. 8 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

Al-Anon Meeting - 6:45 p.m. Mason Sparrow Urgent Care, 800 E. Columbia St., Mason. cmialanon.org.

Al-Anon Meeting - 8 p.m. Eastminster Presbyterian Church, 1315 Abbot Road, East Lansing. cmialanon.org.

Alexandria McMath at the Graduate Rock Bar - 8 p.m. 133 Evergreen Ave., East Lansing. 517-348-0900. facebook.com/graduaterockbar.

Charlotte Community Library Birthday Book Club: "I, Robot," by Isaac Asimov - 6 p.m. 226 S. Bostwick St., Charlotte. 517-543-8859. charlottelibrary.org.

Check Out the Art! - Beat the winter blues with a visit to Okemos Library's Event Room to see unique and interesting artwork by members of



'We Laugh' Comedy Show

6 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 15

Grewal Hall at 224

224 S. Washington Square, Lansing

The Women's Center of Greater Lansing, founded in 2005, will celebrate its 20th anniversary with a comedy show 6 p.m. Saturday (Feb. 15) at Grewal Hall, featuring performances by five Michigan comedians. The nonprofit organization, which provides resources and support to Greater Lansing women and families in need, from career development to mental health services and advocacy, aims to raise funds for its programming and to build a larger center since the number of clients it has served has tripled the past two years in a row. Raffle tickets for donated prizes will be available for purchase, with proceeds also supporting the organization's programming.

The featured performers include Johnny Mocny, a Lansing-based high school teacher, stand-up comedian, host of the podcast "We Are Movies" and rotating host of the weekly open-mic night at Crunchy's; Nicole Melnyk, winner of Best Comedian in City Pulse's Top of the Town contest in 2021, 2022 and 2023; Nardos Osterhart, winner of the 2013 Funniest Person in Grand Rapids contest and creator of the 2019 comedy album "Nice Try," which hit No. 1 on iTunes; Pat Sievert, winner of the 2019 Funniest Person in Grand Rapids contest and former co-host of Mac's Bar's Monday comedy night; and Emily Clark, a 2019 Michigan State University graduate and fresh face in the Michigan comedy scene who may be better known for performing in numerous plays, musicals and improv shows over the last 15 years.

A complimentary dinner will be served. Tickets are \$79, plus a \$22 service fee, at hall224.com. Groups of eight can use the code "EIGHT" at checkout to save \$40. For more information on the show, visit lansingwomen.org/we-laugh-comedy-show.

the Lansing Women Artists Collective. 9 a.m.-8 p.m. 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. cadl.org/about/our-locations/okemos.

Chipmunk Story Time - Story time comes alive as children interact with puppets Chicory Chipmunk and his animal friends. Stories followed by nature activities and a guided walk. 10 a.m. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road, Okemos. meridian.mi.us/hnc.

College Night at Lansing Shuffle - Free shuffleboard with student ID, half off well drinks, \$5 pitchers. 7-11 p.m. 325 Riverfront Drive, Lansing. lansingshuffle.com.

Crafty Vibes - Bring your knitting, crochet or any other portable craft project and immerse yourself in an evening of creativity, conversation and community. 5 p.m. Weavers of the Web, 809 Center St., Lansing. weaversoftheweb.org.

"Farmland: Food, Justice, and Sovereignty" - 10

a.m.-6 p.m. Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, East Lansing. broadmuseum.msu.edu.

"First Date" - A charming and hilarious modern musical comedy that follows the awkward yet endearing first encounter between two unlikely singletons. 7 p.m. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. riverwalktheatre.com.

Ladies Silver Blades Skating Club - Join other adult women for fun, exercise, friendship and skating practice. 9:30-11:30 a.m. Ice Cube, 2810 Hannah Blvd., East Lansing. ladiessilverblades.org.

The Mike Geeter & Friends Comedy Show, with Adam Degi & Ricarlo Winston - Another excellent night of comedy at the Robin Theatre, presented by SamRose Entertainment! Doors 7 p.m., show 7:30 p.m. 1105 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. therobintheatre.com.

Valentine's events for those struck by Cupid's arrow

For many, celebrating Valentine's Day means spending quality time with a significant other, whether hitting the town for a date night, Netflix and chilling at home or video chatting from across the globe. For others, it's a day to show all your loved ones how much you care, from family members to best friends. However you observe, a range of themed events in the next few days will ensure everyone has a fun-filled holiday — even if you haven't been bitten by the love bug.

Wednesday, Feb. 12

Sweetheart Ball - Youth, along with a parent or caregiver, can enjoy a Valentine's-inspired night featuring a DJ, dancing, snacks and refreshments, a photo booth, a craft table and more. 7-8:30 p.m. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing. cityofeastlansing.com.

Thursday, Feb. 13

Galentine's at the Studio - Join Brooke Clay, Dori Pynnonen Hopkins and Sarah Stein for 20-minute reiki, reflexology and massage sessions for \$30! Indulge in snacks and visit with friends between services. Registration req. 4-8 p.m. 113 W. Main St., Suite 1, DeWitt. brooketheintuitive.com/galentines.

Galentine's Horror Paint Party - Paint your choice of Ghostface or Sydney Prescott. Crush it in horror-themed trivia for killer prizes, including a gift card from Midtown Brewing Co! 6:30 p.m. Midtown Brewing Co., 402 S. Washington Square, Lansing. paintyourpoison.com.

Galentine's Day at Middle Village - Enjoy fun music, crafts, giveaways, special shopping deals and more while spending quality time with your besties. 5:30-7 p.m. 215 S. Washington Square,

Lansing. facebook.com/TheShopsAtMiddleVillage.

Sweetheart Ball - Youth, along with a parent or caregiver, can enjoy a Valentine-inspired night featuring a DJ, dancing, snacks and refreshments, a photo booth, a craft table and more. 7-8:30 p.m. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing. cityofeastlansing.com.

Friday, Feb. 14

Audio Air Force presents: "Acts of Love 3.0" - Enjoy a series of original love-themed audio plays written by the AAF troupe. We may also throw in an oldie. 7 p.m. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing. 517-881-9746. audioairforce.com.

Dine-in Fish Supper - Enjoy a Valentine's Day dinner with family and friends! Dine-in price is \$18 in advance or \$20 at the door. Carry-out is \$15. 4:30-7:30 p.m. Wacousta-DeWitt Masonic Lodge, 9030 W. Herbison Road, Grand Ledge. eventbrite.com/o/wacousta-fish-suppers-104361303971.

Greater Lansing Valentine's Day Scavenger Hunt - A trail of clues will guide couples to local

businesses, where they'll stop for Valentine's Day supplies. The grand finale? A fun event to heat up the night. 5 p.m. To register, visit remarkabledatenight.com.

LCC Jazz Band: "Sway with Me" - Program includes jazz standards such as "Summertime," "Almost Like Being in Love" and "Sway." Dancers from Happendance will perform alongside five of the pieces. Free. 7 p.m. Dart Auditorium, 500 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing. lcc.edu/showinfo.

Love is a Monster: An Anti-Valentine's Day Party - Destroy all notions of this corporatized holiday with a party just for MSU students! We'll have sweet treats and all the stuff to make custom cards that express how you're feeling. 7-9 p.m. Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, East Lansing. broadmuseum.msu.edu.

Love Vibes: Valentine's Day Special - Join us for an unforgettable evening with a jazz quintet featuring internationally acclaimed vibraphonist and drummer Chuck Redd! Doors 5 p.m., show 7 p.m. UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner St., Lansing. urbanbeatevents.com.

See Valentine's events, Page 24

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Events

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"MJ" the Musical - 7:30 p.m. Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. whartoncenter.com.

Parkinson's Exercise: Rock-Steady Boxing - Free exercise class for people with Parkinson's and their caregivers. 1 p.m. Michigan Athletic Club, 2900 Hannah Blvd., East Lansing. To register, call 517-364-8800. lapsg.org.

Ruhala Broadway Ensemble for All Ages - 15-week class, meets biweekly. 5:30 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

The Rusty Snails - This brother-sister folk duo blends rich harmonies and heartfelt storytelling, drawing from Michigan's deep musical roots. Doors 5 p.m., show 7 p.m. UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner St., Lansing. urbanbeatevents.com.

Spirit of Michigan Chorus Rehearsal - We're an inclusive community of women who sing a cappella in the barbershop style. We welcome all levels of musical experience. 6:45 p.m. Church of the Nazarene, 4851 Holt Road, Holt. spiritofmichiganchorus.com.

Teen Taste Test Challenge: Oreos - We'll have a variety of different Oreos. Eat the cookies without knowing which is which and see if you can correctly guess each flavor! Ages 13-18. 6 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. gladl.org.

Thursday Night Open Forge - Try your hand at blacksmithing and create your own metal masterpieces! 6-9 p.m. Artfire Michigan, 4567 Churchill Road, Leslie. artfiremichigan.com.

Take Off Pounds Sensibly - Weight-loss support group. Weigh-in 5:30 p.m., meeting 6-7 p.m. Haslett Middle School, 1535 Franklin St., Haslett. 800-932-8677. facebook.com/HaslettTops.

Friday, Feb. 14

18th Annual MSUFCU Student Art Exhibit - Artists from mid-Michigan high schools showcase their work, hoping to earn votes from the public and a group of judges. 9 a.m.-6 p.m. MSUFCU Headquarters Building 1, 3777 West Road, East Lansing. msufcuart.com.

"A Case for the Existence of God" - A sweet, thoughtful story about fatherhood, family and friendship. 7:30 p.m. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam St., Williamston. williamstontheatre.org.

Check Out the Art! - Beat the winter blues with a visit to Okemos Library's Event Room to see unique and interesting artwork by members of the Lansing Women Artists Collective. 9 a.m.-8 p.m. 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. cadl.org/about/our-locations/okemos.

Country Night at Lansing Shuffle - Enjoy line dance instruction from 8-9 p.m., followed by modern country music playing until midnight! We'll have drink specials all night. No cover! 325 Riverfront Drive, Lansing. lansingshuffle.com.

Divination Roundtable - Learn a new divination method, get a reading and compare notes with others in your field. All readings free, all systems of divination welcome. 5 p.m. Weavers of the Web, 809 Center St., Lansing. weaversoftheweb.org.

"Farmland: Food, Justice, and Sovereignty" - 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, East Lansing. broadmuseum.msu.edu.

"First Date" - A charming and hilarious modern musical comedy that follows the awkward yet endearing first encounter between two unlikely singletons. 8 p.m. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. riverwalktheatre.com.

Fitness Over 50! Exercise Group - The Meridian Township Parks and Recreation Stretch and Flex Exercise group exercises at the Meridian Mall food court through April. 9-10 a.m. 1982 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. meridian50plus.com.

Jake Blount, Nic Gareiss and Simon Chrisman - Dancer Nic Gareiss, old-time musician Jake Blount and hammered dulcimer player Simon Chrisman unite to present an evening of exceptional performances. 7:30 p.m. University Lutheran Church, 1020 S. Harrison Road, East Lansing. tenpoundfiddle.org.

Jazz Nonets with Rick Roe, Piano - Roe, a distinguished jazz pianist, blends intricate harmonies and lyrical improvisation, crafting compelling musical narratives. 8 p.m. Murray Hall, 333 W. Circle Drive, East Lansing. music.msu.edu.

Lansing Parks and Recreation Travelogue: Iceland - Take a journey with Susan Aten and experience the culture of this small but remarkable island. 7 p.m. Foster Community Center, 200 N. Foster Ave., Lansing. lansingmi.gov/985/Travelogue.

Love Effect at Mash Bar - 9:30 p.m. 212 Albert Ave., East Lansing. 517-858-2100. mashbar.net.

"MJ" the Musical - 7:30 p.m. Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. whartoncenter.com.

Night Out in Nature for Kids - No need to book a sitter, send your kids to Harris Nature Center! We'll explore the trails, enjoy nature activities and meet live animals. Pizza dinner included. Registration req. 5:30-7:30 p.m. 3998 Van Atta Road, Okemos. meridian.mi.us/hnc.

Parkinson's Exercise: Movement with Vitality - Free exercise class for people with Parkinson's and their caregivers. 1 p.m. Michigan Athletic Club, 2900 Hannah Blvd., East Lansing. To register, call 517-364-8800. lapsg.org.

Parkour for Littles at ALIVE - You and your little one will learn to safely maneuver obstacles using the whole body. Build strength, balance,

focus and problem-solving skills after listening to related stories. Ages 3-6. 10 a.m. 800 W. Lawrence Ave., Charlotte. myalive.com.

Saturday, Feb. 15

18th Annual MSUFCU Student Art Exhibit - Artists from mid-Michigan high schools showcase their work, hoping to earn votes from the public and a group of judges. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. MSUFCU Headquarters Building 1, 3777 West Road, East Lansing. msufcuart.com.

"A Case for the Existence of God" - A sweet, thoughtful story about fatherhood, family and friendship. 2 and 7:30 p.m. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam St., Williamston. williamstontheatre.org.

Cats & Crafts, Card-Making Edition - Join us for an awesome afternoon at Cats & Crafts! We'll hang out, eat snacks and make adorable handmade cards with our rescue kitty friends. 2 p.m. 621 S. Grand Ave., Fowlerville. eventbrite.com/o/the-cat-connection-65515147103.

Check Out the Art! - Beat the winter blues with a visit to Okemos Library's Event Room to see unique and interesting artwork by members of the Lansing Women Artists Collective. 9 a.m.-7 p.m. 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. cadl.org/about/our-locations/okemos.

Contra and Square Dance - Wear loose clothes, comfortable shoes and be prepared to have a good time! Come at 6:30 p.m. for a quick workshop on contra dance moves. Caller: River Abel. Band: Banjo Tramps. 7-10 p.m. Central United Methodist Church, 215 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing. tenpoundfiddle.org.

"Farmland: Food, Justice and Sovereignty" - 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, East Lansing. broadmuseum.msu.edu.

"First Date" - A charming and hilarious modern musical comedy that follows the awkward yet endearing first encounter between two unlikely singletons. 8 p.m. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. riverwalktheatre.com.

Game Night - Bring your favorite game to share, whether it's a tabletop RPG, a card game, a board game or something else. You're also welcome to bring food and beverages. 5-8 p.m. Keys to Manifestation, 809 Center St., Lansing. manifestlansing.com.

Intermediate Ballet for Teens & Adults - 15-week class, meets biweekly. 11 a.m. Ruhala Performing

Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

Meridian Township Farmers Market - 10 am.-2 p.m. Meridian Mall, 1982 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. 517-712-2395. meridian.mi.us/Farmers-Market.

"MJ" the Musical - 2 and 7:30 p.m. Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. whartoncenter.com.

MSU Department of Theatre: "9 to 5," the Musical - 8 p.m. Fairchild Theatre, 542 Auditorium Road, East Lansing. theatre.msu.edu.

Potato Derby - Race your decorated potato vehicle against other potatoes to see which vehicle is the fastest. Ribbons for every participant! Potatoes are supplied by the library and can be picked up beginning Feb. 1. Registration req. Noon. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. gladl.org.

Tiger and Dragon Kenpo Martial Arts Training - Based on a variety of martial arts systems, tiger and dragon kenpo is designed to develop self-confidence in the warrior. 1 p.m. Keys to Manifestation, 809 Center St., Lansing. weaver-softheweb.org.

Sunday, Feb. 16

"A Case for the Existence of God" - A sweet, thoughtful story about fatherhood, family and friendship. 2 p.m. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam St., Williamston. williamstontheatre.org.

Bottle and Can Collection for Eastern Ingham Farmers Market - We collect your Michigan-returnable bottles and cans from your trunk while you stay warm in your vehicle. 11 a.m.-1 p.m. McCormick Park, 123 High St., Williamston. easterningham-farmersmarket.org.

Check Out the Art! - Beat the winter blues with a visit to Okemos Library's Event Room to see unique and interesting artwork by members of the Lansing Women Artists Collective. Noon-6 p.m. 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. cadl.org/about/our-locations/okemos.

Euchre - 6 p.m. Esquire Bar, 1250 Turner St., Lansing. 517-487-5338.

Family Snuff & Lunch at Lansing Shuffle - Featuring free shuffleboard for kids, video game tournaments, cornhole, giant Jenga and two-for-\$10

See Events, Page 25

Valentine's events

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Pinter Whitnick at Summerlands Brewing Co. - Join us for a special Valentine's Day performance by Pinter Whitnick. Chef Kevin is working on some specials you won't want to miss! 7:30 p.m. 1957 Cedar St., Holt. facebook.com/summerlandsbrewing.

TGIF Valentine's Day Dance Party - Doors open at 7 p.m., Texas waltz dance lesson at 7:15 p.m., dance 8 p.m.-midnight. Dinner buffet provided, free refills on soft drinks, cash/credit bar. Eagle Eye Golf & Banquet Center, 15500 Chandler Road, Bath. tgifdance.com.

Valentine's Party - Enjoy live music by Once Removed from 7-10 p.m., plus Valentine's basket raffles, 50/50 raffles and a fundraiser bake sale. Great bar food available. 5-11 p.m. VFW Post 701, 123 N. Rosemary St., Lansing. 517-485-1656. vfw701.org.

Saturday, Feb. 15

Chappell Roan Night - Celebrate gay Valentine's Day with DJ Whitney Who! Dance along to your favorite songs from 2024's biggest breakout

star, Chappell Roan, and other pop queens! Ages 18+. 9 p.m. UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner St., Lansing. urbanbeatevents.com.

Hearts and Crafts Story Time - Enjoy Valentine's-themed stories, songs and a craft. 11 a.m.-noon. Charlotte Community Library, 226 S. Bostwick St., Charlotte. charlottelibrary.org.

LCC Jazz Band: "Sway with Me" - Program includes jazz standards such as "Summertime," "Almost Like Being in Love" and "Sway." Dancers from Happendance will perform alongside five of the pieces. Free. 7 p.m. Dart Auditorium, 500 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing. lcc.edu/showinfo.

Singles Valentine's Party - Ditch the typical Valentine's plans and join us for a night to remember! We'll start with love-themed games to break the ice, then pianist Ann Bell will take the stage to serenade the audience. Grab your friends and come make some new connections! 6:30-8:30 p.m. UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner St., Lansing. urbanbeatevents.com.

Tease A Gogo Presents: A Va-Va Voom Valentine's - Shake off those winter blues and bring in some romance with most alluring and sensational performers in the Midwest! Ages 18+. Doors 8 p.m., show 9 p.m. The Studio at 414, 410 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. teaseagogo.com.

Happy Valentine's Day



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Events

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mimosas. 11 a.m.-4 p.m. 325 Riverfront Drive, Lansing. lansingshuffle.com.

“Farmland: Food, Justice, and Sovereignty” - 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, East Lansing. broadmuseum.msu.edu.

“First Date” - A charming and hilarious modern musical comedy that follows the awkward yet endearing first encounter between two unlikely singletons. 2 p.m. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. riverwalktheatre.com.

GLAD Drum Circle - Join the Greater Lansing Area Drummers for a fun and energetic afternoon of rhythm and drumming. All ages and experience levels welcome. 2-4 p.m. Bath Community Center, 5959 Park Lake Road, Bath. facebook.com/GreaterLansingAreaDrummers.

Harmony Sundays - Weekly DJ event featuring Aura the Brave and special guests. 9 p.m. Mac’s Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. 517-484-6795. instagram.com/macsbarmus.

Ingham Festival Chorale Rehearsal - The chorale invites you to sing. Membership fee is \$60 and includes all music. No audition necessary. 2-3:30 p.m. University United Methodist Church, 1120 S. Harrison Road, East Lansing. facebook.com/inghamfestivalchoralemi.

JUGGLERS AND WOULD-BE JUGGLERS - Jugglers meet at the Orchard Street Pump House 2 p.m. Sundays. 368 Orchard St., East Lansing. mikemarhanka@gmail.com.

Lansing Roller Derby Adult Boot Camp Orientation - Our four-month Basic Skills Boot Camp is a comprehensive roller derby training course focused on developing skaters to their full potential, regardless of prior skill or experience. Attend our orientation session to learn more. 2-6 p.m. Court One Training Center, 7868 Old M-78, East Lansing. lansingrollerderby.com.

Mental Health, SALT Presentation by Rosario - Mental health is one of our most ignored yet widely experienced illnesses. Let’s take it out of the shadows and into the light of guilt-free conversation. 9:30 a.m. Unity Spiritual Center, 2395 Washington Road, Lansing. unitylansing.org.

“MJ” the Musical - 1 and 6:30 p.m. Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. whartoncenter.com.

MSU Department of Theatre: “9 to 5,” the Musical - 2 p.m. Fairchild Theatre, 542 Auditorium Road, East Lansing. theatre.msu.edu.

Philip Sinder, Tuba - This recital highlights faculty member and tuba player Philip Sinder, who’s celebrating his 43rd and final year at MSU. The program will feature a variety of solo and chamber repertoire, performed by Sinder and friends. 3 p.m. Cook Recital Hall, 333 W. Circle Drive, East Lansing. music.msu.edu.

Summerlands Sunday Brunch - Noon-4 p.m.

Summerlands Brewing Co., 1957 Cedar St., Holt. facebook.com/summerlandsbrewing.

Unity’s Monthly Euchre and Games - Self-serve event. Bring your own board games and organize euchre tables. Potluck snacks. Noon. Unity Spiritual Center, 2395 Washington Road, Lansing. unitylansing.org.

Monday, Feb. 17

18th Annual MSUFCU Student Art Exhibit - Artists from mid-Michigan high schools showcase their work, hoping to earn votes from the public and a group of judges. 9 a.m.-5:30 p.m. MSUFCU Headquarters Building 1, 3777 West Road, East Lansing. msufcuart.com.

Al-Anon Meeting - 8 p.m. St. Michael’s Episcopal Church, 6500 Amwood Drive, Lansing. cmialanon.org.

Bingo Night at Summerlands Brewing Co. - Free to play, with fun prizes every game! 8-9:30 p.m. 1957 Cedar St., Holt. facebook.com/summerlandsbrewing.

Broadway Jazz Dance for Teens & Adults - 15-week class, meets biweekly. 7 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

Check Out the Art! - Beat the winter blues with a visit to Okemos Library’s Event Room to see unique and interesting artwork by members of the Lansing Women Artists Collective. 9 a.m.-8 p.m. 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. cadl.org/about/our-locations/okemos.

Eric Zuber, Romantic Masterpieces - An evening of quintessential romantic music performed by MSU pianist Eric Zuber. Program includes works by Schubert, Brahms, Chopin, Schumann and Chaminade. 7:30 p.m. Cook Recital Hall, 333 W. Circle Drive, East Lansing. music.msu.edu.

Fitness Over 50! Exercise Group - The Meridian Township Parks and Recreation Stretch and Flex Exercise group exercises at the Meridian Mall food court through April. 9-10 a.m. 1982 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. meridian50plus.com.

Improv Acting for Teens & Adults - 15-week class, meets biweekly. 8:30 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

Jazz/Ballet II for Kids - 15-week class. Ages 9-13. 4 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

Parkinson’s Exercise: Yoga - Free exercise class for people with Parkinson’s and their caregivers. 1 p.m. Michigan Athletic Club, 2900 Hannah Blvd., East Lansing. To register, call 517-364-8800. lapsg.org.

Rest with Music: Songbird Filomena - Take a break from your busy day and relax with a free concert under the “night sky” of the planetarium. Noon. Abrams Planetarium, 755 Science Road, East Lansing. health4u.msu.edu/courses/rest-with-music.

Ruhala Broadway Ensemble for All Ages - 15-week class, meets biweekly. 5:30 p.m. Ruhala Per-

forming Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

“The Untethered Soul” Zoom Book Study, with Kathi Frederick - “The Untethered Soul” embraces non-judgment, allowing ourselves and others to be as we are without imposing expectations or labels. 1:30 p.m. Zoom ID: 177 417 886. Passcode: 601744. unitylansing.org.

Work It Out Wombats: Step It Out - Join us for some problem-solving fun with the Work It Out Wombats. Over the three-week program, we’ll do hands-on activities, watch “Wombats” videos and listen to stories to learn computational thinking skills. Ages 4-6. 6 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. gladl.org.

Tuesday, Feb. 18

18th Annual MSUFCU Student Art Exhibit - Artists from mid-Michigan high schools showcase their work, hoping to earn votes from the public and a group of judges. 9 a.m.-5:30 p.m. MSUFCU Headquarters Building 1, 3777 West Road, East Lansing. msufcuart.com.

“A Course in Miracles” Discussion Group, with Lisa Schmidt - 7 p.m. Zoom ID: 177 417 886. Passcode: 601744. unitylansing.org.

Acting 101 for Teens & Adults - 15-week class, meets biweekly. 7 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

Acting Ensemble Class for Teens & Adults - 15-week class, meets biweekly. 8 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

Al-Anon Meeting - 9 a.m. Alano Club South, 3500 S. Cedar St., Lansing. cmialanon.org.

Al-Anon Meeting - 7 p.m. St. Jude Church, 801 N. Bridge St., DeWitt. cmialanon.org.

Beginning West Coast Swing Group Dance Class - Eight-week class. 8 p.m. Michigan Athletic Club, 2900 Hannah Blvd., East Lansing. To register, call 517-364-8800. uofmhealthsparrow.org/our-hospitals-services/michigan-athletic-club.

Check Out the Art! - Beat the winter blues with a visit to Okemos Library’s Event Room to see unique and interesting artwork by members of the Lansing Women Artists Collective. 9 a.m.-8 p.m. 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. cadl.org/about/our-locations/okemos.

Dmitri Berlinsky, Violin - Berlinsky joins alumni pianist Jiarui Cheng for a recital titled “The Muse,” featuring Johannes Brahms’ Sonata No. 3, Clara Schumann’s “Three Romances” and Robert Schumann’s Sonata No. 1. 7:30 p.m. Cook Recital Hall, 333 W. Circle Drive, East Lansing. music.msu.edu.

Intermediate Ballet for Teens & Adults - 15-week class, meets biweekly. 5:30 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

Jazz Tuesdays - Weekly series showcasing the best and brightest mid-Michigan jazz musicians. 7 p.m. Moriarty’s Pub, 802 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. facebook.com/jazztuesdaysatmoriarty.

Level I Dance for Kids - 15-week class. Ages 5-8. 4 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

Michigan Birding 101: Spring 2025 - Join Michigan Sea Grant as we explore the wonderful hobby of birding in four FREE and FUN classes. 7-8 p.m. Virtual — register at canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-birding-101-spring-2025.

MSU Men’s Basketball vs. Purdue University - 7 p.m. Breslin Center, 534 Birch Road, East Lansing. msuspartans.com/sports/mens-basketball.

Parkinson’s Exercise: Balance, Conditioning and Strength - Free exercise class for people with Parkinson’s and their caregivers. 1 p.m. Michigan Athletic Club, 2900 Hannah Blvd., East Lansing. To register, call 517-364-8800. lapsg.org.

Parkinson’s Support Group Education Meeting - Join us for our monthly afternoon of information, education and fun. The topic for February is services offered by the Tri-County Office on Aging. 3 p.m. Burcham Hills, 2700 Burcham Drive, East Lansing. lapsg.org.

Trivia at Lansing Shuffle - 7:30-9 p.m. 325 Riverfront Drive, Lansing. 517-940-4365. lansingshuffle.com.

YA Book Club - Each participant reads the same book beforehand and comes to the meeting ready to chat, eat snacks and have book-related fun. Grades 8-12. Registration req. 6 p.m. Charlotte Community Library, 226 S. Bostwick St., Charlotte. charlottelibrary.org.

Wednesday, Feb. 19

18th Annual MSUFCU Student Art Exhibit - Artists from mid-Michigan high schools showcase their work, hoping to earn votes from the public and a group of judges. 9 a.m.-5:30 p.m. MSUFCU Headquarters Building 1, 3777 West Road, East Lansing. msufcuart.com.

“A Course of Love” Zoom Discussion Group, with Lucille Olson and Bill Dietrich - Group reads a section of the book each week and discusses the insightful ideas. 7 p.m. Zoom ID: 177 417 886. Passcode: 601744. unitylansing.org.

Acting & Glee Music Class for Kids - 15-week class. Ages 5-12. 4:30 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

Al-Anon Meeting - 6 p.m. Okemos Community Church, 4734 Okemos Road, Okemos. cmialanon.org.

Beginning Ballet for Adults - 6:45 p.m. The Studio Performing Arts Center, 5015 Park Lake Road, East Lansing. 517-336-4088. dancesingact.com.

2/21 @12pm located at 1425 Rensen St No phone calls	10 Caravan 499360	19 Sportage 599151
10 Ram 154106	22 Encore 518829	09 Tiguan 536722
13 Volt 116687	07 Impala 124763	06 Suzuki 113571
19 Equinox 224731	06 Ram 138837	21 Ryker J000660
16 Elantra 693996	19 Versa 869846	12 Charger 158737
99 Econoline B91227	03 Mustang 308758	14 335 458895
10 Liberty 125424	24 Jeep 615383	04 Freightliner M33853
08 Charger 328589	14 Sonic 130213	
	12 Traverse 402102	

CP#25-047

State of Michigan Probate Court, Ingham County, Notice to Creditors, Decedents Estate. File No. 25-000090-DE-P33. Estate of Roberta Melanie Albert. Date of birth: Feb. 21, 1943. NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Roberta Melanie Albert, died Nov. 25, 2024. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to MaryAnne Walker, personal representative, or to both the probate court at 313 W. Kalamazoo, Lansing, MI 48933, 517-483-6300, and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice, 2/12/25. MaryAnne Walker, 1470 Ivywood Dr., Okemos, MI 48864.

CP#25-048

CROSSWORD SOLUTION

From Pg. 21

S	T	R	A	W		S	T	E	M		J	O	E	Y			
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SUDOKU SOLUTION

From Pg. 21

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

FOOD & DRINK

DINING OUT IN GREATER LANSING

Looking on the bright side at Sunnyside Cafe

By LIZY FERGUSON

It's been a dark and dreary winter full of even drearier breaking news; a respite must be found somewhere, and tasty food is a pretty reliable pick-me-up. Williamston's Sunnyside Cafe has plenty of options as well as a bright, welcoming, sunflower-filled atmosphere that can serve as a port in the storm.

The menu offers your usual diner favorites for breakfast and lunch, boasting waffles as well as pancakes. There's also a list of specials, which is always the first place I look.



Grits breakfast bowl

\$12

Sunnyside Cafe

725 W. Grand River Ave., Williamston
7:30 a.m.-2 p.m., 4:30-7 p.m. Monday-Wednesday

7:30 a.m.-2 p.m. Thursday-Friday

7 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday

8 a.m.-2 p.m. Sunday

(517) 655-7006

sunnysidecafemi.com

I almost went for the meatloaf sandwich since I find meatloaf difficult to resist, but in the end, because it was breakfast time, I opted for the grits breakfast bowl.

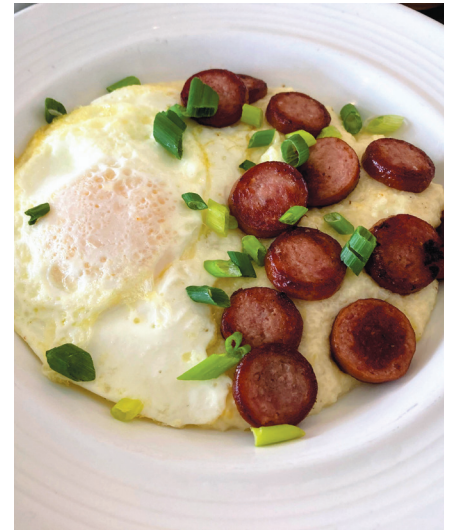
The grits were hot and creamy, with just the right amount of grit. They were wonderfully savory, thanks to the havarti cheese and sprinkling of green onion, but they were even more delicious after I added some spicy dashes of Cholula, a favorite hot sauce of mine. They were topped with a perfectly done over-medium egg and crispy

coins of kielbasa.

Not pictured (because it arrived a bit later and I couldn't wait to dig in) was a fluffy, buttery biscuit, which served as the perfect vessel to carry heaping bites containing all the delicious components. It was the kind of biscuit you'd imagine being served alongside some fried chicken, which just happens to be my favorite kind. I could have eaten at least one more, but it's probably best it only came with one.

A sweet component was needed after all that savoriness, and thankfully, a waffle had been ordered for the table to share. Crispy on the outside and cakey on the inside, with a lovely hint of vanilla, it was pretty close to perfection — it even came with real maple syrup. Ordering a waffle or pancake for the table is always a good idea.

The service is friendly, the food is delicious, and the decor leans heavily on mood-boosting shades of yellow. Whether you want a tuna melt, an omelet or a house-made cinnamon roll, Sunnyside Cafe has



Lizy Ferguson for City Pulse

Whether you're in the mood for grits and eggs, a tuna melt or a house-made cinnamon roll, Sunnyside Cafe has something to warm you up and make you smile during the dark and dreary winter.

something to warm you up and make you smile. Though it's a bit of a drive for me, I find every visit is well worth it.

Valentine's Day is quickly approaching.
Preorder your cookie cakes with our quirky sayings and other treats today!

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11 a.m - 9 p.m

TOP 5 CHINESE RESTAURANTS
Based on your votes in City Pulse's 2024 Top of the Town contest. Bon appétit!

- 1. Apple Jade**
Casual eatery serving typical Chinese dishes for lunch and dinner
300 N. Clippert St., Lansing
(517) 332-1111
applejadelansing.com
11 a.m.-9 p.m. Thursday-Tuesday
- 2. Bamboo Gardens**
Family-owned establishment serving Chinese staples at low prices
520 S. Clinton St., Grand Ledge
(517) 622-8818
get2bamboogardens.weebly.com
11 a.m.-10 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday
11 a.m.-11 p.m. Friday-Saturday
Noon-10 p.m. Sunday

- 3. Charlie Kang's Restaurant**
Chinese and Korean restaurant serving traditional entrees in relaxed surroundings
109 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing
(517) 332-4696
charliekangs.com
11 a.m.-9:30 p.m. Monday-Thursday
11 a.m.-10 p.m. Friday-Saturday
Noon-9:30 p.m. Sunday
- 4. Chen's Restaurant**
Chinese eatery offering a long menu of classic dishes in a simple setting
600 E. Thomas St., Lansing
(517) 372-7292
11 a.m.-10 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday
11 a.m.-11 p.m. Friday-Saturday
Noon-10 p.m. Sunday
- 5. House of Hsu**
Cozy Chinese restaurant offering a modern interpretation of classic dishes using fresh ingredients
639 E. Saginaw Hwy., Grand Ledge
(517) 627-4232
houseofhsu.com
11 a.m.-8:30 p.m. Monday-Thursday
11 a.m.-9 p.m. Friday
11:30 a.m.-9 p.m. Saturday
11:30 a.m.-8:30 p.m. Sunday

A decadent treat for Valentine's Day

From METRO CREATIVE CONNECTION

Tart, red cherries and Valentine's Day seem to be the perfect pair. Not only do cherries align with a Valentine's Day color scheme, but they even resemble little hearts when hanging from their stems.

Celebrating Valentine's Day involves many different traditions, including enjoying decadent desserts. Purchasing ready-made treats from a local bakery is one way to indulge in sugary confections, but crafting a recipe at home is a great way to show that special someone how much you care.

These cherry pie bars, from "Butter, Flour, Sugar, Joy," by Danielle Kartes, aren't exactly a pie but a pound cake with a pie-filling swirl. They can be enjoyed on many different occasions but make for something sweet on Valentine's Day.



Metro Creative Connection

Danielle Kartes' cherry pie bars can be enjoyed on many different occasions but make for something sweet on Valentine's Day

Cherry pie bars

- 2 cups sugar
- 1 cup butter, softened
- Four eggs
- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon salt

One 21-ounce can cherry pie filling
Preheat the oven to 350 degrees. Line a 9-by-13-inch pan with parchment paper.

In a stand mixer, or with a hand mixer, cream the sugar and butter on low speed. Add the eggs one at a time and beat until just combined.

Add the flour, baking powder and salt. Spread a little more than half the cake batter into the pan. Evenly spread the pie filling over the top, then spoon the rest of the cake batter over the pie filling. It's fine if the cherries show through.

Bake for 35 minutes or until the top has turned slightly golden. Don't overbake. Allow to cool and slice into squares. Enjoy!



As Seen On the Cover of CityPulse

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WARNING: USE BY PREGNANT OR BREASTFEEDING WOMEN, OR BY WOMEN PLANNING TO BECOME PREGNANT, MAY RESULT IN FETAL INJURY, PRETERM BIRTH, LOW BIRTH WEIGHT, OR DEVELOPMENTAL PROBLEMS FOR THE CHILD.