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June 18-24, 2025

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Operation Chardonnay: How Trump Saved the Avocado Toast Class from Their Own Deportation Policies

In a stunning twist that shocked precisely no one with a working Wi-Fi connection and a functioning memory, President Donald J. Trump—champion of "law and order," protector of American jobs, and patron saint of border walls—has decided to pump the brakes on immigration enforcement in industries like farming, hospitality and meatpacking. Why? Because apparently, it turns out America's finest golf courses, \$300-a-plate steakhouses and heirloom tomato farms don't run on Fox News talking points. They run on immigrant labor.

Yes, you heard that right: the same administration that once tried to increase ICE arrest quotas from 650 to 3,000 a day is now telling agents to take a coffee break—just as long as that coffee was harvested, roasted, packed and poured by someone who'll never be allowed to vote.

ICE, once instructed to patrol everything short of Chuck E. Cheese ball pits, is now being told: "Whoa there, cowboy. Easy on the raids—Jared's kombucha distributor is starting to panic."

The reasoning, naturally, is as noble as it is obvious: America's elite cannot be expected to survive without their \$18 Cobb salads, freshly ironed hotel linens and prime rib dinners served by invisible hands. The optics of a vineyard-owning billionaire having to wash his own grapes? Unthinkable.

Let's be honest—this isn't policy reform. It's concierge cruelty. It's an immigration strategy tailor-made for the Napa Valley set: deport the help only when it won't interfere with brunch. The message is clear: undocumented immigrants are a threat to the Republic—unless they're scrubbing your marble countertops or slaughtering chickens at the rate of 120 per minute.

This abrupt shift in ICE priorities isn't an admission of past overreach. No, no—it's just a convenient hiccup in enforcement, a pause in persecution, scheduled to align perfectly with harvest season. And don't worry, folks: if the labor shortage ever gets too bad, we can always let ICE go back to raiding school buses and cancer clinics.

Because remember, the American Dream isn't about equality under the law. It's about which laws get suspended to preserve your Wagyu supply chain.

Let's take a moment to thank the true victims in all this: the hedge fund managers, resort owners and artisanal cheesemongers who almost had to lift something heavier than a wine glass. Trump heard their cries—from his climate-controlled Florida palace—and answered with the only humane response he's ever had: a sudden, selective change of heart ... and policy.

So here's to President Trump, who finally figured out that when it comes to immigration, what really matters is not the law—but the lobster bisque.

This administration is probably itching a scratch that they can't reach because their cruelty is what gets them off. While this change may satisfy the billionaires' pocketbooks, it's not in their nature, and trying to pretend otherwise is like watching a crocodile try to cry—awkward, insincere and mostly just a prelude to biting someone in the face.

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HAPPY PRIDE MONTH!



Come join us and stop by our booth at the Lansing PRIDE Festival June 28 in Old Town!

We look forward to meeting you and celebrating our LGBTQ+ community, as we continue to report on the issues and stories that matter to you.

Meanwhile, won't you please support local journalism that makes a difference? Please donate using the QR code, by visiting lansingcitypulse.com/donate, or by mailing your check to 1905 E. Michigan, Lansing, MI 48912. To discuss tax-deductible contributions to the City Pulse Fund, please contact Steve at 517-999-6704.

THANKS and see you June 28!



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Wharton Center benefactor honored by Broadway League

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"Haunted" museum welcomes Deadtime Stories location

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Bento Kitchen Cravings' food worth braving Frandor traffic

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Cover illustration by Nevin Speerbrecker

CityPULSE

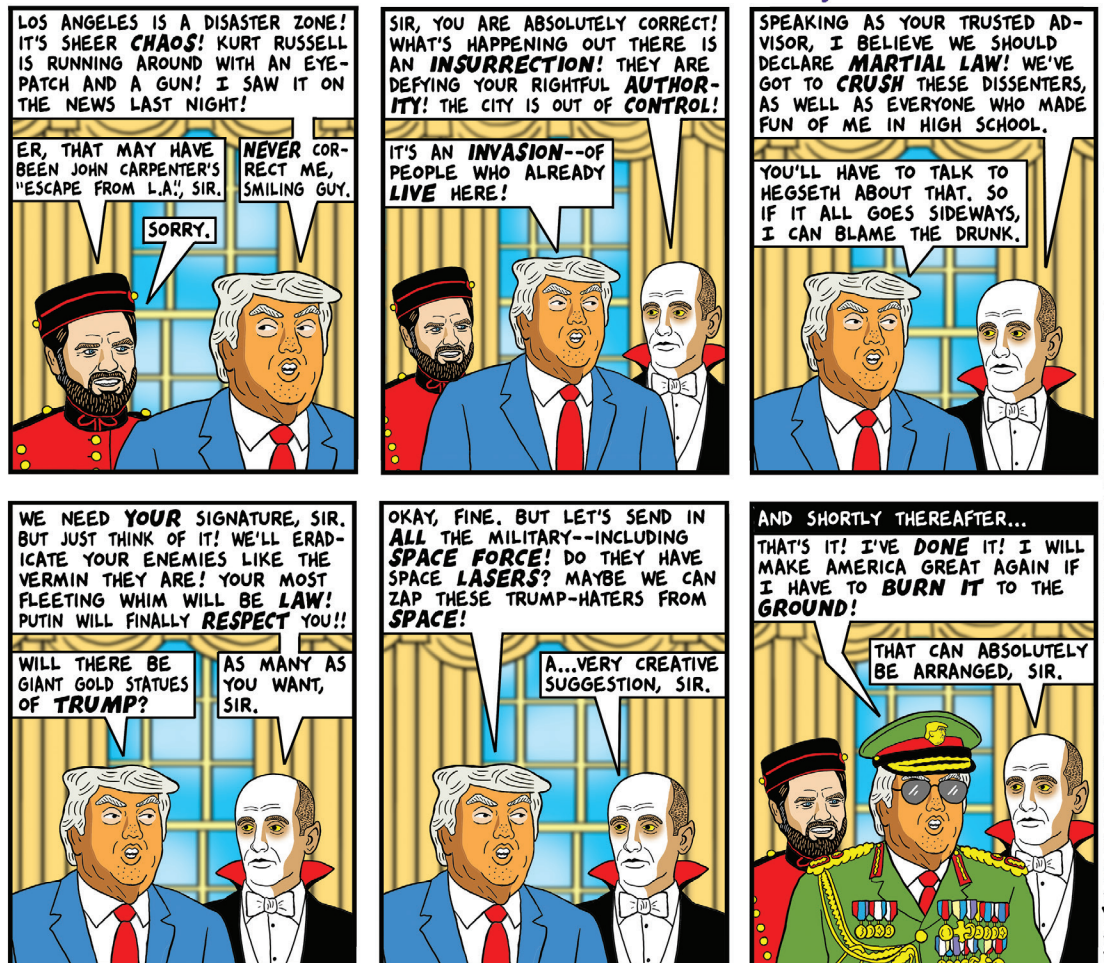
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THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW



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PULSE

NEWS & OPINION

Embezzlement up to \$180,000 hits Webberville's youth athletic association

Ingham Co. Sheriff's Office investigating former member of organization's board

The Ingham County Sheriff's Office is investigating embezzlement of as much as \$180,000 from the Webberville Junior Athletic Association.

"A large sum of money was embezzled over five years by one individual who was on the board," the lead investigator, Deputy Sheriff William Vincent, said. "Anywhere from \$30,000 to \$180,000 was taken."

The Webberville Junior Athletic Association is an independent non-profit organization that provides local school students with extracurricular athletic activities. These include volleyball, softball, baseball basketball, t-ball, soccer and football.

Multiple board members identified the suspect as Tiffany West, the association's treasurer for five years until recently, when board members discovered that the organization's bank account had been virtually emptied.

Efforts to reach West for comment were unsuccessful. Sources said West confessed in writing to the board in a letter that included an apology.

One association official spoke on the record.

Jacqueline Sholty, the girls volleyball commissioner, said West "has been taking money from us for the last five years."

She said that in May, the association discovered that the apparent suspect "had two accounts open for the program, and we were only supposed to have one. We did some investigating, and it turned out that there was no money in them."

Sholty was aware of at least some of the money that was missing.

"I always have a record of how much money my program brings in through concessions," she said.

"By April, volleyball had accumulated \$6,000, and it was all gone. And that's just volleyball. All the money for the entire association was gone."

"We have monthly meetings with



Webberville Junior Athletic Association website

The Webberville Junior Athletic Association is facing a financial crisis after it discovered that its bank account had been emptied. The Ingham County Sheriff's Office is investigating. A former board member is suspected.

our board, including the president, vice president, secretary and treasurer, plus all the commissioners for each sport," Sholty said.

"We found out that the treasurer had been taking this money for five years. At each of these meetings, the treasurer is supposed to present a financial report. All those years she had been telling us that we had the money we were supposed to have," she said.

"We have relieved her from her position, and now we are trying to rebuild our programs, because we have nothing. She took every penny. We use that money to provide the equipment, to provide the officials, the activities that we all love, and now we are out here begging our community to help us or we are not going to be able to offer these sports to our children," she said.

"She also wrote a letter admitting what she had done and apologizing to us," she said. "We are seeking charges,

and there is an ongoing investigation."

"This isn't something we are trying to hide," Sholty said. "We need to be open and honest with our community that it wasn't just us wronged, it was all of them as well," she said.

Sholty said the association held a public meeting May 31 to explain to what had happened and answer questions. She said an investigating officer attended.

An association board member, who preferred to remain anonymous, said the misappropriation was discovered when "we were trying to access funds and we were rerouted by the bank," she said.

In May, the source added, association officers discovered that the bank accounts had been emptied. Suspicion fell on West, who had direct access to the accounts. Parents were informed of these facts at the community meeting last month.

Association President Tracy Bu-

channon and other officers went to the bank and found only \$11.65 remaining in the account, another source said. "They explained all this at the community meeting," she said. "It's no secret."

"This is terrible," the source said. "They do all the sports up to middle school, and some up to high school. They won't be able to run their programs this year."

"Hundreds of kids are affected," Sholty said. "This has been offered since I was in high school in 2005. There are a lot of youth that have grown up in the athletic association, and parents who volunteer."

The association is trying to make up the lost funds through fundraising. "We need \$600 for softball fees, that's what we're trying to raise now" she said.

"Our goal is to raise \$5,000 before fall season, because when school starts, we have everything from kindergarten to eighth grade football. The kids benefit so much from it," she said.

"We are doing fundraising right now to support our summer sports. We are trying to raise money to pay our referees and game officials and also field maintenance. Going into football season, we will need money for equipment like safety pads.

A community garage sale is scheduled June 27-29 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. each day at 11495 Bell Oak Road.

Deputy Sheriff Vincent that once the investigation determines the exact amount of money that was taken, charges will be brought.

He said the Sheriff's Office is still seeking search warrants to collect more evidence before giving it to the prosecutor.

"I would hope to conclude within the next month or two. It might take longer," he said.

This kind of crime is very uncommon in Ingham County, he added.

"An embezzlement of this size hasn't happened since I've been on the force," he said.

— VICTOR WOODDELL

'Joyful resistance': Thousands rally at Capitol for No Kings protest



Raymond Holt for City Pulse

The Capitol lawn Saturday as Greater Lansing participated in the nationwide No Kings day of protest against President Donald J. Trump. Speaking was Nichole Keway Biber, an Indigenous activist representing Clean Water Action.

On the heels of violent protests around the U.S., Lansing activists threw a carnival.

Several thousand rallied on the Capitol grounds beginning at noon Saturday as part of the nationally coordinated "No Kings" protest.

Blending protest with pleasure, the event featured circus games and drag performances as organizers both opposed and diverted attention from Trump's military parade marking the Army's 250th anniversary.

"We need to use joy as an act of resistance," the rally's host, who identified himself as Moxie, said of the aesthetic. "Do not let them take your joy from you."

Ari Stewart, an organizer with 50501 Michigan who manages booth operations, said the aesthetic was inspired by similar protests hosted by the national Women's March organization. She called it "satirical."

"Satire, mockery and clowns have always been used as a weapon against authoritarianism," she said, "and in addition to the historical use, this is about poking tyrants in the ego."

As with the April 5 "Hands Off!" protest, attendees opposed a litany of Trump actions and speakers represented a diverse coalition of organizations. Nichole Keway Biber of Clean Water Action linked the fossil-fuel sector to "anti-trans propaganda." Other speakers touched on disability rights, legal abortion, the Israel-Palestine conflict, ICE detention centers and environmental protections.

"They're all here because they're all being attacked," said protester Tabrian Joe of the broad



Raymond Holt for City Pulse

A protester on Michigan Avenue heading to the Capitol.

range of causes. A Detroit resident, Joe said he had been involved in political activism since 2006, when he fought against the 2006 ballot proposal that banned affirmative action in Michigan public universities. He said he was concerned by the Trump administration's crackdown on diversity, equity and inclusion programs.

"They want to call it DEI, but it's not at all illegal," he said. Trump banned DEI programs in an executive order calling them illegally discriminatory against majority groups.

Robin Young, of Okemos, said she had been "called to the cause of immigrants" amid Trump's immigration crackdown. The daughter of a Canadian immigrant, she said she was from an "agricultural family" and had recently become politically involved during the Latino Legislative Advocacy day June 10.

After two hours of speeches and a march downtown, stilt walkers from the Motley Misfits circus collective pranced about the Capitol lawn. Children competed to dunk a Trump-masked volunteer in the Central United Methodist Church parking lot. Attendees tossed rubber chickens into taco-shaped decorations — a reference to the acronym TACO, for "Trump always chickens out."

Some marchers never joined the revelry, instead sticking around downtown and holding signs on street corners. Some even took to the roads, holding signs out of car windows to marchers' cheers.

While the rally followed violent anti-ICE demon-

See NO KINGS, Page 7

NO KINGS

from page 6

strations in Los Angeles that saw protesters clash with the police, it stayed peaceful. Stewart said that had been a major focus.

“We have a very strong culture of peaceful resistance,” she said. “All our marshals have undergone at least one of two hour-long de-escalation trainings, and we prioritize putting anyone with de-escalation certifications in lead positions.”

Stewart also said 50501 Michigan has “a good relationship with the Lansing Police Department.”

“We have a police liaison,” she said, “and the police know our marching route.”

Safety was another focus, with organizers passing out water and sunblock and a volunteer medical team on-call. The medical team rushed into the crowd at least once to assist an elderly woman who had collapsed in the heat.

The rally was preceded by a one-hour memorial for Ted Lawson, the local Democratic Party activist who was shot and killed in October 2023 while canvassing for a Lansing City Council candidate. State Sen. Sarah Anthony, D-Lansing, Ingham County Clerk Barb Byrum and other speakers championed gun control and political involvement in a memorial hosted by the Ingham County Democratic Party.

The combined memorial and protest was a compromise, according to local activist David Hopkinson. Hopkinson was involved with both Indivisible MI 7 and the memorial, which he said had



Raymond Holt for City Pulse

American flags were an important theme at Lansing’s No Kings rally, as this protester demonstrates.

been in the works “for months” when the national Indivisible and 50501 organizations chose June 14 as a protest day.

“The permit was already pulled and everything,” he said.

Though the planned memorial was “whittled down” to a one-hour event, Hopkinson said everyone involved was “very accommodating” of each other. The march, originally planned in Lawson’s memory, was reworked to incor-

porate both group’s visions. The final event was co-hosted by the Ingham County Democratic Party, 50501 Michigan, the Crowded Table Coalition and Indivisible MI 7.

Though Lansing’s rally remained peaceful, there were instances of violence in other “No Kings” protests nationwide. In Salt Lake City, a bystander was shot and killed by armed peacekeepers during a confrontation with a rifle-bearing assailant. In Culpeper, Virginia, a man drove an SUV into a crowd of protesters. A riot was declared at a Portland, Oregon, ICE facility following the protest.

The fear of similar violence, and the shadow of violent protests in the week prior, hung over Saturday’s rally.

“I’m seeing a lot of people here who look like me,” said speaker Marie Lowry, an older white woman. “Who is not here because it is not safe for them to be?”

While the causes represented were diverse, there was a strong focus on anti-authoritarianism and grassroots



Raymond Holt for City Pulse

“We’re all here for the same reason,” said Marcos Zamora: “Supporting our community.”

democracy. One speaker, Jamie Hill, is running for Michigan’s 2nd Congressional District and asked attendees to run for local office as well.

“How many school board races have you voted in with only one candidate?” Hill asked. “Maybe you think you’re not qualified, but if you can find your way to the Capitol building and find your way home, you’re more qualified than most establishment candidates.”

“They make it to the Capitol building and forget how to come home and listen to their constituents.”

— LEO V. KAPLAN



Raymond Holt for City Pulse

“We love our country,” David Slaggett said about why he took part Saturday. “We need to stand up.”

Zoning changes allow more neighbor-initiated, bottom-up housing

By JOAN NELSON

Two new Lansing ordinances may not provide dramatic and immediate relief from our housing shortage. But over time they should gently densify our neighborhoods.

The ordinances, which the Council approved May 5, establish and clarify regulations around shared housing, including rooming houses, boarding houses, cooperative housing, cottage developments, and ADUs or Accessory Dwelling Units (aka, granny flats.) Their goal is to increase the number and types of housing options.

The ordinances are the end result of efforts by the Shared-Use Housing Advocacy Network, comprising members of AARP (the nation's biggest fan of ADUs) and representatives from several civic organizations, among others. They were in the Council chambers to witness the zoning changes' 7-0 endorsement. Network members participated in countless meetings of the city Public Service Commission, Council's Planning and Development Committee on Development and multiple public hearings during the 20-month-long process.

The network formed in October 2023 when 40 people came together to discuss ways to address the city's housing shortage other than with huge apartment buildings or single-family homes. Our vision was small-scale development that would be neighbor-initiated, incremental and supportive of more diverse housing types.

We met with Andy Fedewa, city government's forward-thinking principal planner, to discuss zoning barriers to this approach. Fedewa and his team had already begun crafting two proposals to separate ADUs from other forms

of shared-use housing in anticipation that ADUs might be a tougher sell.

Ultimately, ADUs did prompt more questions from decision-makers, but they also drew a larger number of strong supporters. It helped to be able to share with people that 22 Michigan cities (and scores more around the country) have already approved backyard dwellings and report consistently positive outcomes.



Opinion

Fedewa shepherded the ordinances through the approvals process, all the while responding patiently to network members' endless questions about the proposed changes.

Here, with Fedewa's help, are a few of the new ordinances' highlights:

Rooming houses

A rooming house is a single-family dwelling that is the owner's principal residence. Rooming houses are ideal for empty nesters with extra space to share and a welcome option for students, traveling medical staff and young professionals searching for an affordable rental.

Some specifics:

- The owner may rent rooms to no more than three unrelated lodgers (up from two). In addition to a private room, renters often have access to shared living space, e.g., kitchen, dining room, laundry.

- Rooming houses are limited to residential zoning districts.

- As the owner's principal residence, a rooming house does not need to be inspected and licensed as a registered rental.

Boarding houses

These differ from rooming houses in that they are considered a commercial enterprise (allowed only in commercial districts) and are not occupied by the owner. They have individual rooms for

rent and may have shared facilities, such as bathrooms and kitchens.

They are required to be inspected and licensed as registered rentals. Staff responsible for the property must be on-site or on-call 24/7.

Similar to the YMCA/YWCA model of yesteryear, boarding houses offer rooms to those who may be new to town or in transitional situations.

Housing cooperatives

These are shared by member-owners. Spartan Housing Co-operative owns 18 local sites, largely in East Lansing but also in Lansing, such as the multi-generational Rivendell Co-op. They recently purchased two homes to convert to co-ops just down the street from the Asante Co-op, under construction in Allen Place on Lansing's east side. Housing young adult refugees as well as native born young people, Asante Co-op is a collaboration between Allen Place, Refugee Development Center and Spartan Cooperative.

Generally, housing cooperatives have private or shared rooms, while bathrooms, living rooms, and kitchens are shared by members.

Co-ops must be registered with the Michigan Licensing and Regulatory Affairs Department.

No portion of the house may be rented to people outside of the organization. A property manager or member-owner must be on file with the city as the responsible party.

Different cooperative models — those with private units and no shared household facilities, e.g., cooperative apartment houses or scattered sites — are not subject to the new zoning rules.

Housing cooperatives are allowed in the R-3 and R-MX residential districts as well as most commercial districts.

Cottage developments

Also known as cottage courts, they permit 3 – 6 dwellings on a single property in the R-3, R-MX, MFR, R-AR,

and DT-1 districts. One of the only cottage developments in Lansing is Dave Muylle's Cottage Lane on the east side project. While people of all ages live in Cottage Lane, it is particularly appealing to retirees who enjoy gathering in the shared courtyard.

Dwellings may be detached or duplexes of 400 to 1,200 square feet. Each dwelling must have a minimum of 120 square feet of private outdoor space (patio, porch, deck).

Cottage courts are meant to be organized around a shared street, courtyard or pathway. Vehicle parking may be consolidated to help save space on the site.

Cottages are not meant to be short-term rentals, and each unit must be properly inspected and licensed as a registered rental.

ADUs or accessory dwelling units

These are now permitted in most residential zoning districts. Either the principal house or the ADU must be occupied by the property owner.

ADUs may be detached in a rear yard or an addition to a garage.

Due to building code requirements, an existing garage may not be easily converted into an ADU. The foundation must have proper footings, i.e., not just consist of a slab-on-grade as is the case with most existing garages.

For more information on requirements for ADUs, contact the city's Planning Office at (517) 483-4066.

To provide guidance to residents, Fedewa's team has created info-sheets on the specific forms of shared use housing and a separate webpage for ADUs. You can check this out at lansingmi.gov/planning.

Keep in mind that new zoning changes went into effect June 5, so now is the time for energetic neighbors to help reduce the housing shortage by initiating shared-use projects of their own.

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REWIND

NEWS HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE LAST 7 DAYS

COMPILED BY STEVE UNDERWOOD FROM LOCAL NEWS SOURCES



Former Michigan House Speaker Tom Leonard, R-DeWitt, has entered the race for governor. Leonard, 44, a rep from 2013 to '18, lost as the GOP nominee for attorney general in 2018 to Dana Nessel. Leonard is a partner at Plunkett Cooney law firm's Lansing office, serving in government relations and public policy. "A positive vision, hard work, and a lot of grit are what it's going to take to turn this state around," he posted on X.

dismissed five counts, including two additional charges of aggravated possession and three counts of using a computer to commit a crime.

The New York-based bookstore chain Barnes & Noble will open in Frandor Shopping Center in Lansing in November. Its Lansing Mall store will remain open. The company hasn't announced how many people it will employ in the storefront that was home to Party City. Its website said it will include a café. The chain operates over 600 stores in 50 states. It will Frandor's first full-service bookstore since Community Newscenter closed in 2008.



The New Hope Community Center, one of Greater Lansing's largest shelters, has reduced its daily meals by eliminating lunch while maintaining breakfast and dinner, the Lansing State Journal reported.



Holy Cross Services operates the facility at the corner of Larch and Shiawassee streets. Its CEO, Steve Adamezyk, said reducing the meals was partially for financial reasons and reflects the lower demand for lunches during warmer months. He said the organization is seeing donations drop, along with having fewer veteran clients. He added that Holy Cross has continued to work to complete a 60-unit expansion project by the end of the year with the help of an \$800,000 grant from the city of Lansing.

The International Association of Fire Fighters Local 421 has withdrawn its endorsement of incumbent Mayor Andy Schor over a dispute about retiree health care and the language in a 12-year-old labor contract. Union officials said that more than 100 retired Lansing firefighters, who had been paying between \$0 and about \$200 a month for health-care, saw their premiums increase by \$500 to \$900 a month. The union filed a grievance, alleging the city had misinterpreted the 2013 contract. The retirees were protected because the city incorrectly calculated the costs to retirees until it uncovered the error, Schor spokesperson Scott Bean said. Local 421 President Brad Jorae said the union has not endorsed any other mayoral candidate.



The MSU Board of Trustees voted Friday to raise's tuition up to 4.5%, depending on the cap yet to be set by the state Legislature for in-state students. The tuition increase was

part of the \$3.69 billion operating budget the board passed for the fiscal year 2025-'26.

Alison Gaudreau, a former MSU assistant vice president for university advancement, has filed a notice of intent to sue the school, claiming MSU fired her due to her reporting of sexual harassment and discrimination on campus. Gaudreau claims that MSU officials, including Vice President for University Advancement Kim Tobin, retaliated against her for reporting sexual harassment and discrimination happening in her office, violating state and federal civil rights laws. She's seeking at least \$122,000 for lost income and any other damages she's eligible to receive.



Madison Mackenzie Wright of St. Johns, 20, faces criminal charges after police said she falsely reported two men assaulted her on the Fred Meijer Clinton-Ionia-Shiawassee Trail near the Business 27 overpass. St. Johns police said that Wright reported the attack 12 minutes after it happened and officers found no one when they searched the area about 30 minutes later. Wright's claims "did not align with evidence accumulated to substantiate her statements," officials said, and a follow-up investigation proved her statements false. Wright faces two felony counts of false felony report.



Former MSU business Professor Iskandar Arifin, 50, was sentenced by Ingham County Circuit Judge Morgan Cole to at least two years in prison after he pleaded guilty to one count of aggravated possession of child sexually abusive material. The plea agreement



921 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing

Purchased at auction by Brian Tillery II and Kabuba R. Mwilima in 2022, this house, seven blocks north of the State Capitol, is one of the more glaring eyesores in the city.

The residence is in such bad shape that it's unsafe even to walk up the badly damaged steps to the porch. Much of the porch surface is missing or rotted through. The roof covering the porch between the first and second stories is also missing much of its structure and partially caved in.

Ingham County Treasurer Alan Fox stated in 2021 that the property was forfeited to the treasurer by RRL Properties, LLC. He said the county foreclosed on it in 2022 and sold it at auction for \$25,000 to Tillery.

"As of three years ago, it had some real potential because of some well-preserved interior woodwork," Fox added, "but also some other issues as a result of it not being occupied for a long time. I had hoped for more progress on rehabbing the property."

The 119-year-old, 2,510-square-foot, two-story home has an assessed value of \$53,300, according to Lansing's BS&A website. It has been on the city's red-tag list since June 2024 and also has a pink tag, which prohibits a landlord from renting a property to a new tenant until the property has been inspected and approved for occupancy by the city.

Tillery, whom a Google search associates with Kabuba Enterprises, LLC, could not be reached by any phone numbers available online.

— STEVE UNDERWOOD

"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.

**CITY OF EAST LANSING
EAST LANSING CITY COUNCIL**

AMENDED RESOLUTION DETERMINING NECESSITY AND ADVISABILITY OF VACATING THE PUBLIC RIGHT-OF-WAY BETWEEN 533 ARDSON RD AND 535 ARDSON RD AS DESCRIBED IN THE PLAT OF ARDSON HEIGHTS ADDITION IN THE CITY OF EAST LANSING, INGHAM COUNTY, MICHIGAN AND SETTING A PUBLIC HEARING:

WHEREAS, it is deemed advisable and necessary for the health, welfare, comfort and safety of the people of the City of East Lansing to discontinue and vacate the platted public right-of-way between 533 ARDSON RD and 535 ARDSON RD as described in the plat of Ardson Heights Addition and legally described as follows:

That part of the Northeast 1/4 of Section 13, T4N, R2W, City of East Lansing, Ingham County, Michigan described as: Beginning at the northeast corner of Lot 83 Ardson Heights Addition according to the plat thereof recorded in Liber 6, Page 41 Ingham County Records; thence northwesterly along the north line of said Lot 83, 108.4 feet to the northwest corner of Lot 83; thence northeasterly 16.7 feet more or less to the southwest corner of Lot 84; thence southeasterly 115.7 feet along the south line of said Lot 84 to the southeasterly corner of Lot 84; thence southwesterly along the westerly right-of-way line of Ardson Road 15 feet to the Point of Beginning.

and,

WHEREAS, there are no public utilities of note thereon, thereover, or thereunder.

NOW THEREFORE IT IS RESOLVED, that the City Council deems it advisable and necessary for the health, welfare, comfort and safety of the people of the City of East Lansing, to discontinue, vacate, and abolish said premises described above, and,

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Council will meet on the 15TH day of July, 2025, in the East Lansing Hannah Community Center at 819 Abbot Rd, East Lansing, Michigan for the purposes of hearing objections thereof; and,

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Clerk is directed to give notice of such hearing by publication of a copy of this Resolution through a media release for not less than four (4) consecutive weeks preceding such hearing in accordance with the statutes of the State of Michigan, to wit, the Michigan Land Division Act at MCL 560.257.

CP#25-184

**CITY OF EAST LANSING SUMMARY
OF ADOPTED ORDINANCE # 1547**

On April 22, 2025, the East Lansing City Council adopted an Ordinance of the City of East Lansing, Michigan, to AMEND CHAPTER 2, ARTICLE V, DIVISION 4, ARTS COMMISSION, OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF EAST LANSING.

Effective date: Amended Ordinance 1547 will be effective June 18, 2025

Notice: The full text of this Ordinance is available for review at the City Clerk's Office, 1st Floor, City Hall, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, Michigan.

**Amy Gordon
East Lansing Interim City Clerk**

CP#25-190

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS
EAST LANSING HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION**

Notice is hereby given of the following public hearings to be held by the East Lansing Historic District Commission on **Thursday, July 10, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.**, at East Lansing Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing, Michigan 48823:

1. A public hearing to receive and discuss consideration of a Notice to Proceed from Sarah and Robert George located at 358 Kensington Road. The applicant request is for an after-the-fact vinyl fence on the south and west sides of the property.
2. A public hearing to receive and discuss consideration of a Certificate of Appropriateness from Wayne Hiner located at 609 W. Grand River Avenue. The applicant request is to replace aluminum windows with vinyl windows.
3. A public hearing to receive and discuss consideration of a Certificate of Appropriateness from Wayne Hiner located at 348 Oakhill Avenue. The applicant request is to replace vinyl windows with vinyl windows.
4. A public hearing to receive and discuss consideration of a Certificate of Appropriateness from Wayne Hiner located at 542 Sunset Lane. The applicant request is to replace a flagstone retaining wall with precast concrete block.
5. A public hearing to receive and discuss consideration of a Certificate of Appropriateness from Timothy Mrozowski located at 613 Grove Street. The applicant request is to replace a seven (7) foot-wide concrete and brick driveway with an 8'6"-wide concrete driveway.
6. A public hearing to receive and discuss consideration of a Certificate of Appropriateness from Holly Jo Sparks located at 711 W. Grand River. The applicant request is to replace vinyl windows with vinyl windows and add new aluminum flashing.
7. A public hearing to receive and discuss consideration of a Certificate of Appropriateness from Corey Green located at 923 Huntington Road. The applicant request is to replace roof shingles and trim the roof with 1" x 4" pvc trim.
8. A public hearing to receive and discuss consideration of a Certificate of Appropriateness from Dorrie Bath located at 346 Marshall Street. The applicant request is to replace existing k-style aluminum gutters and downspouts with new k-style aluminum gutters and downspouts and install additional on the upper level and sides of the house.

Owners of structures containing more than four (4) dwelling units or other distinct spatial areas owned or leased by different persons are requested to post this notice at the primary entrance to the structure.

A staff report (Agenda Item Report) for the public hearing will be published on the City's website the Friday before the meeting. To locate staff reports, please visit the City's public meeting portal at <https://cityofeastlansing.civicweb.net/Portal/> and select the meeting date.

For more information on the request please contact Alycia Reiten at (517) 319-6941 or areiten@cityofeastlansing.com. Materials related to the request are available for viewing at the Department of Planning, Building, and Development, East Lansing

City Hall, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, MI, 48823 between the hours of 8:00 am and 5:00 pm or on the City's website located at www.cityofeastlansing.com/currentapplications. Written comments may be sent prior to the public hearing to the Historic District Commission, City of East Lansing, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, Michigan, 48823, or by email to coelhdc@cityofeastlansing.com.

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

Dated: June 12, 2025
East Lansing, MI 48823

Amy Gordon
Interim City Clerk

CP#25-187

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'No Kings': Getting riled up about being riled up

An estimated 3,000 to 4,000 protesters gathered on the Capitol lawn last Saturday in Lansing's version of the "No Kings" rally. Organizers hoped it would be the largest gathering ever seen there.

It didn't come close. In the last 25 years of Capitol rallies, I can come up with, off the top of my head, at least seven larger demonstrations. I can come up with several more that were much more newsworthy.



KYLE MELINN

POLITICS

But that's not the point. The point is that the event happened. Again. And likely will take place over and over again. The significance of the "No Kings" rally is the breadth of the events, not necessarily the depth of this one.

The decentralized grassroots activists at 50501 organized dozens of rallies across the state, providing Michigan-ers agitated by President Donald Trump's North Korea-like military parade on Flag Day (and his birthday and the Army's 250th anniversary) with numerous gathering places.

This was 50501's most recent effort.

The loose grassroots network has sponsored six rallies since the beginning of the year. The most recent one previously was the Women's March on April 19.

The "Hands Off" rally of April 5 likely drew a bigger crowd in Lansing than "No Kings." A few others took place earlier in the year.

Spawned off of Reddit in January and with no big-name political figure stirring the pot, 50501 is keeping people's agitation with Trump and his administration at a constant boil.

That's what makes "No Kings" and its predecessor and successor protests significant. Many more union organizers protested Gov. Rick Snyder on right to work, the emergency manager law and the repeal of prevailing wage. But those were based on when those pieces of policy were before the Legislature.

Once Snyder and Republicans passed their laws, the protests ended and everyone moved on.

Progressives aren't moving on from Trump. They've taken the mentality that it's not less vitriol we need. It's more vitriol and more often.

For as long as Trump is in office, 50501 has taken the advertising approach that seeing more agitated

people more often is good for the movement.

Jane and Bill may not have come to the Feb. 5 "No Kings On President's Day," but they heard about it from friends.

Perhaps Jane and Bill wanted to do "No Kings" but had other plans. But maybe the next time 50501 comes to town, Jane and Bill will be there with their homemade, clever Donald Trump sign.

It's saturation, not with paid advertising, mailers, or text messages, but in political activity. It's giving people more opportunities to yell at a building. It's standing with people who agree with you (or are at least as pissed off as you are, but about a different issue).

Conservatives did this on a more limited scale in 2020 with their Operation Gridlock and Operation Haircut to protest Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's movement-restricting executive orders.

That movement was issue-based, though. Once the Michigan Supreme Court ruled that the governor could no longer issue endless executive orders, the rallies subsided.

The 50501 rallies are 100% attached to themes related to Donald Trump. Until he's gone, there's no reason to think they won't continue — on and on and on.

If organizers wanted to create the largest rally the Capitol had ever seen, you could see the playbook.

It would have to be a special, one-day, Lansing-only deal. It would have to be another clever theme based at least loosely on something Trump is doing. They would want to bring in a big speaker or two. The more gubernatorial or U.S. senatorial candidates, the better.

The political temperature is hot enough that you could see it happen.

But, again, that doesn't seem to be the point.

The 50501 protests are about the quantity of events, not the quality of any single event. It's about being consistent. It's keeping their issues at the forefront of their minds. It's not about one big event that people will forget in a week or two.

"No Kings" wasn't the biggest rally Lansing had ever seen. So, what?

It's part of something that may turn out to be much bigger.

(Kyle Melinn is the editor of the Capitol news service MIRS. You can email him at melinnky@gmail.com.)

WILLIAMSTOWN TOWNSHIP Board Meeting June 11, 2025 Synopsis

The Williamstown Township Board held a regular meeting on Wednesday, June 11, 2025 with Supervisor Poth, Clerk Cleveland, Treasurer VanErp, Trustee Brinker, Trustee Creagh, and Trustee Steinberg present. The Board approved the following:

- Consent Agenda
- Historical Committee to move forward with State historical designation for Branch School
- River Trail Resolution #136-2025 for DNR designation
- Purchasing Policy
- Financial Policy

The Board tabled action on the Red Cedar Bend Apartments to the July 9th meeting for additional information.

The next regular Board meeting will be at 6:30 PM on Wednesday, July 9, 2025 in the Community Room of the Township Hall, 4990 Zimmer Rd., Williamston. Visit williamstownmi.gov for the latest agenda, documents, and updates. Phone (517) 655-3193.

Robin A. Cleveland, MiPMC
Township Clerk

CP#25-186

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING EAST LANSING PLANNING COMMISSION

Notice is hereby given of the following public hearing to be held by the East Lansing Planning Commission on Wednesday, July 9, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. at the East Lansing Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing, MI, 48823.

1. A public hearing to receive comments on a request from Graduate East Lansing (Lee Cote) for approval of a Special Use permit located at 133 Evergreen Avenue. The applicant request is to add a private dining area and expand the rooftop deck with alcohol service. Mechanical rooftop screening is also proposed. The property is zoned B-3 City Center Commercial.

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

Landon Bartley, AICP, Principal Planner
410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, MI 48823
517.319.6930 or lbartley@cityofeastlansing.com
<https://cityofeastlansing.civicweb.net/Portal/>

A staff report (Agenda Item Report) for each public hearing will be published on the City's website the Friday before the meeting. To locate staff reports, please visit the City's public meeting portal at <https://cityofeastlansing.civicweb.net/Portal/> and select the meeting date.

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

The City of East Lansing will provide reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as interpreters for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting, to individuals with disabilities upon request received by the City seven (7) calendar days prior to the meeting. Individuals with disabilities requiring aids or services must contact the Planning, Building and Development Office, (517) 319-6930 (TDD Number: 1-800-649-3777) or via email at ldegarmo@cityofeastlansing.com.

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

Amy Gordon
Interim City Clerk

Dated: June 12, 2025
East Lansing, MI 48823

CP#25-188

ARTS & CULTURE

ART • BOOKS • FILM • MUSIC

The 'heartbeat' of the Wharton Center Bonnie Knutson wins Star of Touring Broadway Award

By KURT ANTHONY KRUG

Bonnie Knutson, a professor of business at Michigan State University and a longtime patron of the school's Wharton Center for Performing Arts, is positive that her love of theater and the arts runs in her blood.

"I think my love of theater began at birth," Knutson, a three-time alumna of MSU, said. "Growing up in an Italian family, music, dancing, singing and 'performing' for the family was just part of my life. When I was 2, I would stand on my dad's shoes to dance at weddings."

Last month, the Broadway League, the trade association for the Broadway industry, announced Knutson as a recipient of its 2025 Star of Touring Broadway Award. The award recognizes individuals and organizations that have demonstrated outstanding support and advocacy for touring Broadway productions in their communities — in Knutson's case, mid-Michigan. She and Bob, her late husband of 52 years, were fierce advocates of the arts, specifically the Wharton Center.

Knutson received the award at the Wharton Advisory Council's June 9 meeting. She's been a member of the council for 20 years, even serving as president from 2007 to 2008.

"It's beautiful!" she said of the award. "I'm still in awe. I'm so honored — for me and for my late husband."

Established in 1992, the Star of Touring Broadway Award celebrates the behind-the-scenes champions of the arts — board members, donors, government officials and volunteers — whose efforts ensure the success and growth of Broadway shows across the nation. For more than 35 years, Knutson has been a devoted advocate, volunteer leader and philanthropist for the Wharton Center.

In 2013, the Bonnie & Robert Knutson Endowment for Musical Theatre was founded. This endowment supports the costs associated with bringing Broadway productions to Wharton, in addition to supporting musical



Courtesy photo

Bonnie Knutson shows off her Star of Touring Broadway Award, granted for her decades of service to promoting the arts in mid-Michigan.

theater education programs. Knutson also played an essential role in supporting the Wharton Center's 2022 leadership transition, helping to connect executive director Eric Olmscheid with the Wharton family. (The Wharton Center is the namesake of the late Clifton R. Wharton Jr., MSU's first Black president, who was in office from 1970 to 1978. Wharton died in 2024 at age 98. His wife, Dolores, an arts advocate and author, died June 7 at 97.)

"Knutson is more than a supporter; she's part of the heartbeat of Wharton Center," Olmscheid said. "Her passion, leadership and generosity have helped to shape Wharton's identity and continue to guide its future. Whether through her philanthropy, her service or simply her belief in the power of the arts to bring people together, Bonnie is a constant force for good."

Knutson had just finished working out when Olmscheid and Wharton director of development Kristen Calabrese called her to inform her about the award. To say she was gobsmacked



Photo by Julieta Cervantes

In addition to supporting musical theater education programs, the Wharton Center's Bonnie & Robert Knutson Endowment for Musical Theatre supports the costs associated with bringing Broadway productions to mid-Michigan, such as the upcoming run of "The Book of Mormon."

by this news is an understatement.

"Never in a million years!" Knutson said. "I don't do what I do for recognition, but because I firmly believe that the arts are essential to life. Clifton Wharton once said — and I'm paraphrasing — 'Art is in the middle.' Just look at the name of the WhARTon Center!"

Growing up in Joliet, Illinois, Knutson said her high school had a very strong performing arts program: band, chorus, theater, musicals, speech. It was in choir that she met Bob. The two were later cast as Jean and Charlie in the Alan Jay Lerner musical "Brigadoon," in which two American tourists stumble upon the eponymous, enigmatic Scottish village that appears for one day every 100 years.

"We jokingly said that we got married on stage and it worked out well, so why not in real life? That was the genesis of our life together," Knutson said. "After we were first married, Bob continued to sing at weddings, events and even in a barbershop quartet. We both did some amateur shows for

churches, et cetera.

"I still 'dance' in my workout room," she continued. "In fact, one of the connections I had with Dolores Wharton was dance, particularly modern dance. We both had the privilege to study with Martha Graham, who once said that being a dancer permits life to use you in a very intense way. I often think that's part of the genesis of our passion for the Wharton Center."

Knutson can't emphasize the value of the Wharton Center enough.

"Just as a miner sifts through countless stones to find that one gleaming gold nugget, mid-Michigan is filled with a multitude of buildings and infrastructure," she said. "Nestled among them, the Wharton Center shines. It's a rare gem that brings beauty, value and excitement to its surroundings. The miner's gold transforms his day. The Wharton Center transforms the spirit of mid-Michigan by bringing people together, sparking creativity and enriching the cultural landscape of today's and tomorrow's generations."



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Courtesy photo

Michigan State University guitar maestro Randy Napoleon, in his first year as artistic director of East Lansing's Summer Solstice Jazz Festival, is aiming for a sunny event that will ensnare passers-by as well as passionate jazz lovers.

A sunburst of jazz

East Lansing's Summer Solstice Jazz Festival blends musical excellence with summer fun

By **LAWRENCE COSENTINO**

You can pack a lot of fun into two of the longest days of the year.

Michigan State University guitar maestro Randy Napoleon, in his first year as artistic director of this weekend's Summer Solstice Jazz Festival, aimed for a sunny event that would ensnare passers-by as well as passionate jazz lovers, kids as well as connoisseurs.

"I made an effort to have something for everybody at this festival musically, as well as keeping the quality uncompromisingly high," Napoleon said. "And there are games in the street, a very casual atmosphere. You can come and go as you like."

As usual in jazz-musclebound East Lansing, the blend of local and MSU-based talents, Midwest stalwarts and national stars is hard to sort out because so many of the artists belong to all these categories.

The festival's two stages will serve up a wide range of performers, from the swinging hard bop of veteran drummer Randy Gelispie, still going strong at age 90 (7:30 p.m. Friday) to the cutting-edge trombone artistry of Nanami Haruta, a young MSU student from

Japan who has already earned international acclaim for her debut album, "The Vibe" (4 p.m. Saturday).

The sonic flavors are diverse, from the bubbling mix of R&B, world music and jazz produced by west Michigan collective Tenth World (3 p.m. Saturday) to the undulating Latin dance rhythms of Orquesta Ritmo (9 p.m. Saturday). There is no shortage of straight-up jazz, from the trumpet wham of MSU's Anthony Stanco (6 p.m. Friday) to the sophisticated swing of master pianist Rick Roe (6 p.m. Saturday).

To up the ante until you cry "uncle," Napoleon has organized a saxophone summit featuring a trio of the nation's top horn masters (9 p.m. Friday; see accompanying story).

Napoleon is a guitarist, so it's no wonder he jumped at the chance to invite Peter Bernstein as the festival's big guest star (7:30 p.m. Saturday; see accompanying story). Napoleon called Bernstein "one of the all-time greats" and "the most influential guitarist on the scene today."

As always, the festival is free and open to the public, but this year, the advisory board is kicking off the festivities with a ticketed fundraiser Thursday evening at Beggar's Banquet. The three-hour kickoff

event will feature incandescent vocalist Tiffany Gridiron and a top-notch band (see accompanying story for details).

There's another new wrinkle to this year's festival. To enrich the musical experience at the Education Stage, where student groups usually hold sway, Napoleon is launching a series of Legendary Mentor concerts, each one featuring a leading Michigan-based jazz musician with a distinguished record of teaching and mentoring younger musicians. Ann Arbor bassist, composer, educator and bandleader Paul Keller will lead a student quintet at 5:30 p.m. Friday. (Keller often plays with Napoleon on guitar at Red Cedar Spirits on Sundays.) Consummate Detroit drummer Sean Dobbins will command the Education Stage with a tribute to legendary jazz drummer Art Blakey at 8:30 p.m. Friday.

To close out the Legendary Mentor series, Detroit-based trombonist and composer Vincent Chandler is bringing a suite of all-original music for a nonet featuring top local students at 8:30 p.m. Saturday. These three pairings of veteran jazz masters and talented young students cut to the heart of the festival's mission: to keep the torch of jazz burning and pass it to younger hands eager to light up realms unknown.

Summer Solstice Jazz Festival

Thursday, June 19-Saturday, June 21
Downtown East Lansing
See pages 16-17 for schedule, map and performer bios

Another string, another thing

Peter Bernstein brings supreme guitar artistry to SSJF

By LAWRENCE COSENTINO

The stars are dotted across the night sky in a grand, continuous scroll, but if you look closer, you see that each dot burns with its own chemistry and life story.

Peter Bernstein, one of the world's greatest jazz guitarists and headliner of the Summer Solstice Jazz Festival, plays with a bright, spacious sound and a twinkling, panoramic flow. But if you listen more closely, you can hear him shape each note according to the rhythm, chemistry and emotion of the moment.

Am I flying too high? In a phone interview last week, Bernstein gently reminded me of a tune he wrote called "Useless Metaphor."

"It's about all the ways we talk about music," he said. "Music is music. All these metaphors really don't help you get to anything that improves it."

Clearly, this man isn't going to blow his own horn. (He doesn't even have a horn.) Fortunately, Summer Solstice Jazz Festival artistic director Randy Napoleon filled the gap.

"I truly believe he is one of the all-time greats," Napoleon declared. "I put him in the same category as Wes Montgomery and Django Reinhardt. He's the most influential guitarist on the scene today. He doesn't want to hear that, but it's real. He's in a league of his own."

Bernstein isn't a shredder or a show-off.

"There's no way to flow if you're constantly filling up all the space," Bernstein said. "If everything is foreground, there's no background. You can't have that joyous feeling, that groovy feeling, without the ebb and flow, tension and release."

When it comes to flow, the guitar, like the piano, has one key advantage.

"The great thing is you don't have to stop to breathe," he said. "You can always keep going, keep picking. There's another string, another thing to play."

But that advantage can also be a trap. Like the greatest jazz pianists (Bill Charlap comes to mind), Bernstein resists the temptation to overplay and maintains an inner breath.

"My favorite musicians deal with space," he said. "Miles Davis was confident enough not to play something. How he framed the phrase was just as important as how he played it."

The guitar may be the most geek-attracting instrument around, but Bernstein doesn't make a fetish out of it. Some guitarists have a closet full of axes, but Bernstein has been playing the same guitar since 1998, a 1981 "archtop with a floating humbucker."

He loves to play with singers, most recently performing with singer-songwriter Sasha Dobson and on "Lady of the Lavender Mist" with 21-year-old Anaïs Reno.

"I try not to have a guitar-centric approach to music," he said. "When I take a solo, I'm thinking about singers and horn players as well as guitar players. Everyone has their own fingerprint, their own personality."

His many interests and influences extend to non-musical creators as well.



Courtesy photo

Summer Solstice Jazz Festival artistic director Randy Napoleon called Peter Bernstein "the most influential guitarist on the scene today." Bernstein will headline the festival with a performance at 7:30 p.m. Saturday.

The 13th-century Persian poet Rumi was the inspiration for a soulful tune called "Dance in Your Blood."

"I love the feeling of his writing," Bernstein said. "It's very musical to me. They're kind of like meandering thoughts, but each one is really about something specific, which I dig."

"Ditty for Dewey," a track from Bernstein's latest album, "Better Angels," glows with a warm, noble simplicity that's fitting for a tune dedicated to his 11-year-old son.

"The melody is simple," he said. "I don't like to write note-y and dense melodies. You use the melody to improvise around."

Bernstein has loved music from a young age and got his first guitar at 11. He was originally attracted to rock and blues, but then he got a taste of jazz from his dad's record collection.

He met the great jazz guitarist Jim Hall while studying at The New School

in New York. Present-day guitar legends like Pat Metheny, John Scofield and John Abercrombie were all in Hall's orbit, and Hall invited Bernstein to jump in, despite his "little baby" Polytone amp.

Since then, Bernstein has made many finely crafted recordings, both as a leader and a sideman, with like-minded musicians such as keyboardist Larry Goldings, organist Melvin Rhyne and "Kind of Blue" drum legend Jimmy Cobb. In the early '90s, he recorded a string of albums with legendary jazz saxophonist Lou Donaldson.

On a break during a recording session, Rhyne once confronted him with an intriguing question: Which is more important, melody or rhythm?

Bernstein diplomatically replied that they're both equally important "to keep the conversation going," but Rhyne wasn't buying.

"He said rhythm is more import-

ant," Bernstein recalled. "You can tap out a rhythm on a table, a four-bar phrase, and it sounds like music, not just something falling on a table. A melody has to exist in time."

Grounded in rhythm, Bernstein has pared his art over the years to maximum expressiveness.

"I don't know if I'm moving toward simplicity, but I'm trying to play more when I want to play more and less when I want to play less," he said.

Based in his hometown of New York City, Bernstein doesn't make it to Michigan often, aside from appearances at the Detroit Jazz Festival and a visit to MSU a decade ago. He's bringing a stellar quartet to the Summer Solstice festival, featuring Aaron Goldberg on piano.

The group's secret weapon, Goldberg is a philosopher, and not just on the piano. He was the first person to receive a degree in mind, brain and behavior at Harvard University and got his master's in analytic philosophy at Tufts University, with no less a figure than Daniel Dennett as his adviser. Goldberg's passion for Brazilian music will likely put a subequatorial spin on the quartet's set.

"Aaron is a great musician," Bernstein said. "He's got his own thing, but he can absorb anything, and he's great to have on any gig."

Vicente Archer will play bass, with Billy Drummond on drums.

"Billy is one of my New York favorites," Bernstein said. "He's super modern and has a beautiful feel, a distinct personality. He was in New York when I started going around there, going back to the early '90s."

A fuzzy 1992 camcorder video of Bernstein and Drummond with vibraphonist Joe Locke, another frequent collaborator, popped up recently on YouTube.

"Billy and Larry had a lot of hair back then," Bernstein said with a laugh. "We were really young."

Goldberg and Drummond are both longtime collaborators. Archer is a more recent addition to Bernstein's circle of collaborators and appears on "Better Angels."

"I've played with him for five or six years," Bernstein said. "He's a great bass player, rooted yet searching and very abstract when he wants to be. He can do anything on the bass."

Each member of the band shares Bernstein's capacity to listen and respond from both mind and heart, staying in the moment.

"All these guys have a very distinct personality," Bernstein said. "That's what I like about them, but they're generous musicians, willing to play for the good of the team. We'll play a couple of tunes from the new album and some familiar things, things that we can stretch out on."

2025
SUMMER SOLSTICE
JAZZ FESTIVAL

JUNE 20-21, 2025 ELJAZZFEST.COM



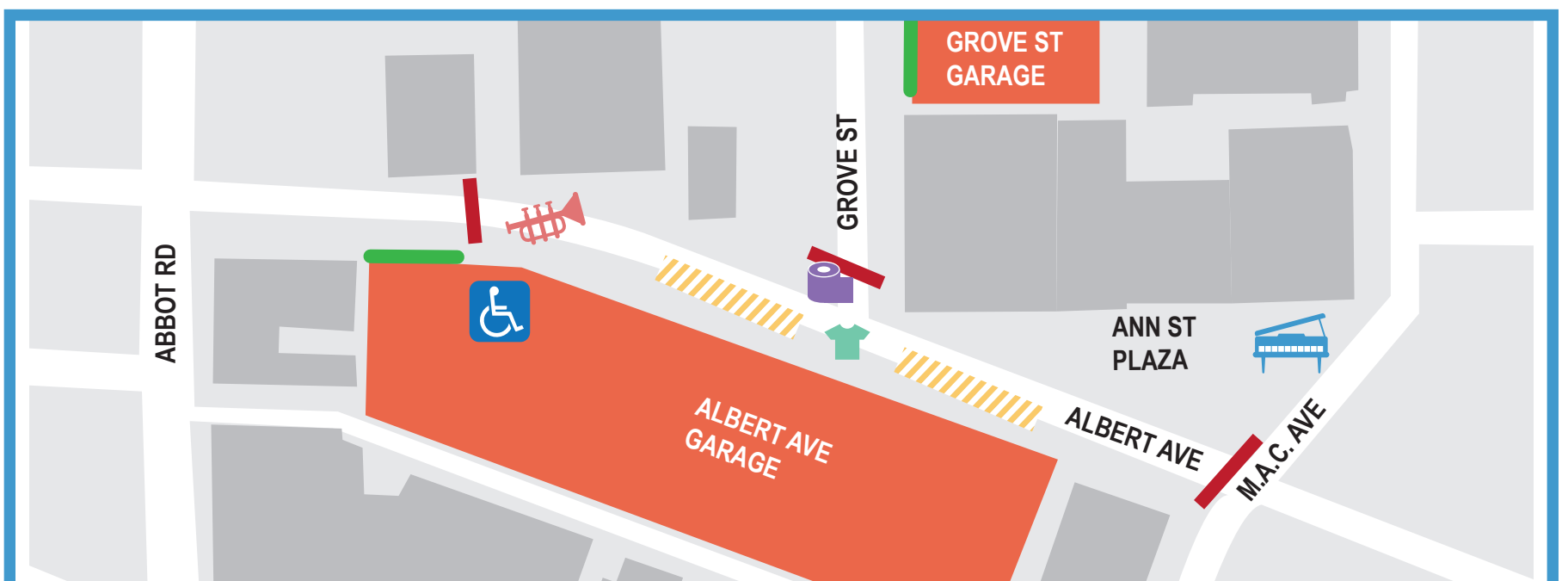
THE BEST OF JAZZ IN THE HEART OF EAST LANSING



WELCOME TO THE 2025 SUMMER SOLSTICE JAZZ FESTIVAL!

This **FREE** festival features two days of live, outdoor jazz performances. The SSJF is presented by the City of East Lansing and the MSU College of Music, with artistic direction by Randy Napoleon.

	Friday, June 20		Saturday, June 21	
	Al & Beth Cafagna Founders' Stage	MSU Outreach & Engagement Education Stage	Al & Beth Cafagna Founders' Stage	MSU Outreach & Engagement Education Stage
2 p.m.				
3 p.m.			Kevin Jones & Tenth World 3-4 p.m.	JAMM Scholarship Group 2:30-3:30 p.m.
4 p.m.				Nanami Haruta 4-5 p.m.
5 p.m.			Noah Jackson Trio 4:30-5:30 p.m.	
6 p.m.	Anthony Stanco Quintet 6-7 p.m.	Legendary Mentors: Paul Keller 5:30-6:30 p.m.	Rick Roe Trio 6-7 p.m.	Olivia Van Goor and Reuben Stump 5:30-6:30 p.m.
7 p.m.		Jeff Shoup Trio with Freddie Cunningham 7-8 p.m.		Faith Quashie 7-8 p.m.
8 p.m.	Randy Gelispie & Friends 7:30-8:30 p.m.		Peter Bernstein Quartet 7:30-8:30 p.m.	
9 p.m.	The State of Saxophone Summit: Greg Tardy, Sharel Cassity & Diego Rivera 9-10 p.m.	Legendary Mentors: Sean Dobbins 8:30-9:30 p.m.	Orquesta Ritmo 9-10 p.m.	The Vincent Chandler Experience 8:30-9:30 p.m.
10 p.m.				



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- LOT ENTRANCES

TWO NIGHTS OF FREE, LIVE PERFORMANCES

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Listed in order of performance

For more information about the artists performing at the Summer Solstice Jazz Festival, including full-length bios, please visit eljazzfest.com/performers.

Paul Keller: Paul Keller is a bassist based in Michigan. Keller leads several jazz ensembles, including the Paul Keller Orchestra, and is a composer, arranger, jazz educator, recording company owner, producer, and a nationally recognized recording artist.

Anthony Stanco: Stanco, a trumpet virtuoso from southeast Michigan, draws from Detroit's rich musical legacy, mentored by Marcus Belgrave and Rodney Whitaker. A seasoned performer, he leads his own quintet and has toured internationally.

Jeff Shoup Trio featuring Freddie Cunningham: Shoup is a versatile Lansing-based drummer who hosts the weekly jazz music series Jazz Tuesdays at Moriarty's Pub and is well versed in a variety of styles of music. Freddie Cunningham is from Mississippi and is the soul of Root Doctor. Cunningham is from a musical background, and his dynamic and powerful voice has drawn comparisons to such greats as Joe Williams, Lou Rawls, Sam Cooke, and others.

Randy Gelispie: Randy Gelispie is an instructor of jazz drums at Michigan State University's College of Music and has been a professional drummer since he started playing with a 10-piece band in the ninth grade.

Sean Dobbins: Sean Dobbins has received the Woody Herman Jazz Award and the Louis Armstrong Scholarship, celebrating his outstanding musicianship. Dobbins' sound can best be described as hard-driving solid rhythm with refreshing melodic sensibility.

State of the Saxophone Summit

Sharel Cassity: Saxophonist, flutist, and educator Sharel Cassity is prominent in the New York and Chicago jazz scenes. Voted the 2023 "Rising Star Alto Saxophone" and having a cover feature in DownBeat magazine, Sharel has appeared on "Today", "Good Morning America," and "The Late Show with Stephen Colbert." She is in the Oklahoma Jazz Hall of Fame and is a recipient of the ASCAP Young Jazz Composer Award.

Diego Rivera: A world-class musician, composer, arranger and educator, Diego Rivera has entertained audiences for over 20 years. Rivera is known for his muscular tone and unique blend of straight-ahead jazz with music inspired by his Latino background and heritage. He currently serves as the director of jazz studies at the Butler School of Music, University of Texas at Austin.

Greg Tardy: Saxophonist, multi-reedist, and composer Gregory Tardy is a versatile jazz musician equally comfortable in a variety of musical and improvisational situations. As a sideman, he has been featured on several DownBeat Albums of the Year and several Grammy-nominated recordings. He has also recorded 14 CDs under his own name featuring his unique compositions, blending his love of traditional jazz with a more modern-seeking style.

JAMM Scholarship Group: The Jazz Alliance of Mid-Michigan (JAMM) was formed in 2009 to explore possibilities for preserving and promoting live jazz in mid-Michigan. As a part of JAMM's mission, the organization awards a music scholarship annually to a deserving young jazz musician. The JAMM Scholarship Group comprises past and present scholarship winners.



Diego Rivera - photo courtesy of the artist

PLUS, MORE FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!

	Friday	Saturday
Face Painting	5-7 p.m.	3:30-7 p.m.
Kids' Crafts	5-9 p.m.	3:30-9 p.m.
East Lansing Public Library	5-8 p.m.	2-5 p.m.
Black History 101 Mobile Museum	5-9 p.m.	3-9 p.m.
Meridian Winds: Instrument Petting Zoo	6-8 p.m.	3-6 p.m.

Be on the lookout for WKAR in the Kids' Area as well!

Kevin Jones & Tenth World: Kevin "Bujo" Jones is a percussionist, bandleader, producer, and educator. Over the years, he has formed an increasingly comprehensive approach to percussion, commanding respect from artists throughout the world. He has worked with some of the most iconic artists in jazz, soul, and pop. Tenth World is a group formed by Jones and pianist/composer Kelvin Sholar that has become a collective of master musicians, combining the harmonic sensibilities of jazz and soul with the rhythms of the African diaspora.

Nanami Haruta: Trombonist Nanami Haruta made the move from her native Sapporo, Japan, to Tokyo as a teenager and quickly established herself as a dynamic and inspired player. Her latest release, "The Vibe" documents the respect she's garnered from her mentors and showcases her significant musical voice.

Noah Jackson Trio: Noah Jackson is a bassist, cellist, composer, and curator from Detroit. Jackson has performed internationally to critical acclaim. His latest album, "The Balance", released in 2019, reached No. 3 on the Billboard jazz charts.

Olivia Van Goor and Reuben Stump: Olivia Van Goor is an award-winning jazz vocalist from Detroit, recently honored at the 2025 Michigan Music Awards for Best Jazz Album and Best Jazz Single/Performance. Reuben Stump is a vocalist and bassist from Lansing who plays music across the Great Lakes region.

Rick Roe Trio: Jazz pianist, composer, and educator Rick Roe is the winner of the 1994 Great American Jazz Piano Competition and a two-time semifinalist in the Thelonious Monk Institute of Jazz International Piano Competition.

Faith Quashie: Embarking on a rhythmic journey that intertwines her West Indian roots with the vibrant heartbeat of Brooklyn, New York, is an artist who resonates far beyond sound waves. Faith Quashie is a contemporary vocalist and a beacon of musical innovation.

Peter Bernstein Quartet: Peter Bernstein is a jazz guitarist from New York City who has been playing and recording with notable musicians and groups since 1990. Bernstein played in Lou Donaldson's group for 10 years and has appeared on over 300 recordings with other musicians, as well as 14 records under his own name.



Peter Bernstein - photo courtesy of the artist

The Vincent Chandler Experience: Vincent Chandler is a jazz trombonist, composer, arranger, bandleader, mentor, and professor of jazz studies at Wayne State University. Born in Detroit, Chandler is a protégé of local musicians and is a bandleader who employs younger musicians in a mentoring capacity.

Orquesta Ritmo: Orquesta Ritmo director Michael Eyia, born in Cuba, wanted to entertain the American public with the electrifying genre of Latin music. The group has evolved over time and is now a 10-piece group that performs nationally and internationally. Orquesta Ritmo earned a special tribute from the Michigan Legislature for promoting Cuban culture in Michigan.



Sharel Cassity - photo courtesy of the artist



Vincent Chandler - photo courtesy of the artist

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'So much sunshine'

Summer Solstice kickoff concert showcases vocalist Tiffany Gridiron

By LAWRENCE COSENTINO

It's high time for "Summertime," in more ways than one.

Tiffany Gridiron, a spellbinding singer in the tradition of Ella Fitzgerald, Sarah Vaughan and Nancy Wilson, is the perfect choice to open this year's Summer Solstice Jazz Festival.

"It's such a beautiful time of year. There's so much sunshine, it's so joyful, there's so much music," Gridiron enthused.

Backed by a top-notch band featuring organist Clif Metcalf, saxophonist Sam Corey and drummer Jeff Shoup, Gridiron will headline a special kickoff concert from 6 to 9 p.m. Thursday at Beggar's Banquet.

She'll work her vocal magic on a wide-ranging set of tunes from the Great American Songbook ("Summertime" included) and several of her own lyrical, swinging originals.

Unlike the festival proper on Friday and Saturday, Thursday's concert is a ticketed fundraising event, hosted by the festival's advisory board.

As a passionate festival supporter, Gridiron jumped at the opportunity to kick it off.

"The festival is free to the public, and it's such a generous offering to the community," she said. "I have a number of friends who, for a variety of reasons, just won't go to clubs. This festival gives them a chance to engage with the music."

Thursday's event "will give people who appreciate the festival an opportunity to make a contribution," she said. "I just love the festival so much and have a deep personal relationship with it, so it's great to participate in this way."

Gridiron has officially performed



Photo by Eva Kapanadze

Tiffany Gridiron, pictured at Smalls Jazz Club in New York, will kick off the Summer Solstice Jazz Festival with a ticketed performance to raise money for the free festival Thursday evening at Beggar's Banquet.

twice at the festival, but an unofficial appearance with Shoup's group in 2019 was a significant turning point in her life.

"I had a kind of musical hiatus for a few years where I thought I could put away singing," she said. "But it turns out that I couldn't."

Shoup invited her up to the stage to sing "Save Your Love for Me," recorded in 1960 by Nancy Wilson.

Gridiron responded with a relaxed,

soulful reading that made the song sound as if it was written just for her.

Soon, Gridiron was back on the scene, singing with a newfound depth and maturity. She also developed her skills and voice as a composer, recording a 2023 album of original songs, "From My Heart to Yours."

When she says she's looking forward to "playing" with the band Thursday, her choice of verb says it all. Despite her charisma and vocal skills, Gridiron is a

musician to the root.

"The vocalist is part of the band, and I love that," she said. "You can do the same song 20 times and never do it the same way."

"Tiffany is a rare talent, and we're so lucky to have her in the community," Shoup said. Shoup placed Gridiron in the select coterie of singers who somehow seem to play all the instruments at once.

"I remember people talking about playing with Thelonious Monk, saying that it felt like he was somehow playing their instruments from the piano," Shoup said. "That applies to Tiffany as well."

The ensemble backing Gridiron at Beggar's Banquet will offer her a mix of familiar and fresh experiences.

She's worked with Shoup many times and has sung with Corey as her bass player, but she's never worked with Corey on saxophone or with Metcalf.

"I'm really excited to work with Clif, and I'm excited to work with Sam on saxophone," she said. "He's an equally exquisite musician on both instruments."

She'll sing a few original tunes and a generous selection of classics, including "Billie's Bounce," a favorite of drummer Randy Gelispie, and a bag of Duke Ellington tunes.

"It's going to be fun and hot, like a summer kickoff — just joyful and playful," she said.

"I know we're going to do 'Save Your Love for Me,' because that brings it full circle," she added. "And it's a great song to do when you have an organ available."

'Every saxophonist's dream'

Sax summit puts three fire breathers on one stage

By LAWRENCE COSENTINO

King Ghidorah, the golden, winged monster of "Godzilla" fame, comes at you with three fire-breathing heads.

This year's Summer Solstice Jazz Festival features a Ghidorah of a gig, a "saxophone summit" that unleashes three of the nation's top players.

The three heads belong to Diego Rivera, familiar to local fans as a longtime stalwart of MSU's jazz studies program and now jazz studies director at the University of Texas at Austin; Gregory Tardy, a New Orleans-born saxophone titan who cut his teeth playing with iconic drummer Elvin Jones and has made many classic recordings; and Chicago-based Sharel (stress on the second syllable) Cassity, one of jazz's ascendant saxophone stars and a teacher at DePaul University.

Festival artistic director Randy Napoleon diplomatically calls it the State of the Saxophone, but it's OK to call it a saxophone battle.

Rivera admitted that there's "an element of competition," but it's "the best kind."

"Playing with Greg and Sharel is every saxophonist's dream," he said. "In



Photo by Brenda Ladd

Longtime MSU jazz studies stalwart Diego Rivera will return to East Lansing Friday to participate in a one-of-a-kind saxophone summit with Gregory Tardy and Sharel Cassity.

order to compete with somebody, you're first forced to acknowledge that person's greatness, their skill and level of musicianship."

Every true-blue jazz fan cherishes classic horn-battle albums like Johnny Griffin's "A Blowing Session," where the tenor great tussles with fellow saxophonists John Coltrane and Hank Mobley, and the two-headed "Tough Tenors" sessions matching Griffin with Eddie "Lockjaw" Davis.

Napoleon kept these classic clashes in mind when he planned Friday's summit.

"We have so many powerful voices on saxophone in the world of jazz today, and I picked three of my favorites," Napoleon said. "All three of them are masters and bring a different concept, different sounds, but they're all exciting virtuosos, the kind of players you can really feel."

"It was Randy's brainchild," Rivera acknowledged. "He just called me up and asked me if I would come back and play. I'm excited to do it, so I won't question his methods."

The trio will be backed by a crackling rhythm section of Michael Reed on drums, George DeLancey on bass and

See Sax, Page 20



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Sax

from page 19

Will Hill on piano.

Rivera has known Cassity for over a decade, since they played together in MSU trombonist Michael Dease's big band. Cassity has also played in the Jimmy Heath Big Band and the Dizzy Gillespie All-Stars.

"I've been a fan of hers for a long time," Rivera said. "She's a consummate musician. You can hear the depth of the tradition, Charlie Parker and Johnny Hodges and Sonny Stitt, but you also hear things that are uniquely her."

Napoleon called Cassity a "no-nonsense bebop alto player."

"She draws some of that wisdom from her mentors, like Jimmy Heath and James Moody, but she also has elements that speak to our generation," Napoleon said. "I've heard her play really great on funk tunes. She really has it all."

Napoleon grew up listening to Tardy's albums on Impulse Records, along with those of Tardy's illustrious labelmate, John Coltrane.

"They both have a spiritual seriousness," Napoleon said of Tardy and Coltrane. "Greg is a very profound person and musician. But he can re-

ally burn, too."

For local jazz lovers, the sax summit is also a chance to catch up with an old friend who's cutting a big swath in the jazz world.

"Diego can play the whole history of the music," Napoleon said. "There's no mood he cannot evoke. He brings a lot of intensity and fire."

In 2022, after 20 years at MSU jazz studies, Rivera left Michigan to become director of jazz studies at the University of Texas at Austin's Butler School of Music, where he's maintained a super-human schedule of teaching, performing, recording and touring.

This year, Rivera took the University of Texas Jazz Orchestra to Japan for a whirlwind tour of eight performances in 11 days.

"It was transformative for the students," he said. "Some of the students had never left the state of Texas. For some of them, it was their first time on a plane."

He was delighted to see the band cohere into a distinctive, high-level ensemble with its own unique sound.

"Now they know there's a community abroad, a different level of appreciation for the music," he said. "They all can't wait to go back."

After a busy academic year, Rivera isn't exactly kicking back.

"Knowing I'm going to play on stage



Photo by Jeff Dunn

Sharel Cassity at the Detroit Jazz Festival in 2014.



Courtesy photo

Gregory Tardy at the Jerusalem Jazz Festival in 2017.

with Sharel and Greg is certainly going to make me practice more between now and then," he said. "My creativity, my voice, my soulfulness and my clarity all need to be on point if I'm playing next to

Sharel. My sound, my integrity, my confidence and my depth all need to be on point if I'm playing with Greg. You just try to enjoy it, and hopefully they'll have a good time, too."



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By popular demand, Deadtime Stories gets a sequel

By LEO V. KAPLAN

Deadtime Stories wasn't made with a sequel in mind.

"Owning a small business is not for the weak, especially these days," owner Jenn Carpenter said. "So, there was no point at which I ever thought, 'You know what? I should double my workload.'"



Deadtime Stories: The Sequel

100 W. Lawrence Ave.,
Charlotte
5:30-8 p.m. Thursday
Noon-6 p.m. Friday
11 a.m.-6 p.m.
Saturday
11 a.m.-4 p.m. Sunday
facebook.com/
screamatorium517

However, she recently chose to do just that, opening Deadtime Stories: The Sequel on June 7.

Her decision to open a second store took an offer she couldn't refuse from a location she was willing to put in the work for: Charlotte's Courthouse Square

Museum.

"It's probably not something I would have said yes to anywhere else," she said. "It was just the opportunity to be in this building."

Built in the late 1800s, the courthouse has its own chapter in Carpenter's book "Haunted Lansing." It served as Eaton County's courthouse for nearly a century before being restored and repurposed into a museum.

"There was a different courthouse on the property before this one was built," Carpenter said, "and the first woman ever convicted of murder in Michigan was convicted there. There have been so many historic cases and trials, and the building has just got such a history that it's easy to look at and say it's haunted."

The courthouse museum was a destination in the Demented Mitten paranormal tours that Carpenter formerly led. Then it became a chapter in her book. Then it became the home of the Festival of Oddities, an annual celebration of the strange that she runs.

"It's been such a great relationship, so I'm excited to evolve it this way," she said.

While the merchandise is similar to the REO Town location, from books about crime and spooky history to gothic gifts, there are a few differences.

"The vibes are a bit different," Carpenter said. "The old store has a bloody mannequin leg in an old bathtub and portraits from horror movies. In the

new location, we did kind of a pastel goth theme, so it's very sophisticated and pretty looking, but that's juxtaposed with all this strange, weird, fun stuff."

Carpenter is excited to have a physical storefront for the festival.

"For the most part, people who come to the festival have been in before and know who we are, but there are always some people who have never heard of us," she said. "It'll be nice to be able to say, 'There's a location right behind you.'"

The shop is open Thursday through Sunday. Carpenter said those are summer hours, a consequence of limited manpower, and she plans to change them



Leo V. Kaplan/City Pulse

Jenn Carpenter chats with a customer at her new Deadtime Stories location in Charlotte's Courthouse Square Museum.

as she gets "a feel for the community."

"At the Lansing location, Saturdays and Sundays are our busiest days, but

I've been warned that Sundays are pretty dead in Charlotte," she said. "That proved to be true our first weekend."

She said the shop opened on a Saturday with "a line down the block" but served only seven customers the next day.

"It's all brand new," she said.

Deadtime Stories may have gotten a sequel, but fans shouldn't expect it to turn into a trilogy any time soon. The courthouse museum was a special case, and Carpenter has enough on her plate already. That said, there's always a chance.

"There are no plans for a third location," she said, "but we'll see. I wasn't expecting a second one, so who knows?"



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How crime novelist Elmore Leonard changed his biographer's life

By **BILL CASTANIER**

(This is the second in a two-part series on Detroit's famed writer.)

C.M. Kushins was 11 when his mother gave him a copy of "Get Shorty." It led to a life of writing. He writes in the postscript to his newly released biography of Elmore Leonard, "Cooler Than Cool," that "I discovered the narrative voice that excited me."

Kushins was an inveterate crime-fiction reader as a teen when he sent a short-story manuscript to Leonard. The unbelievable happened three weeks later when he received a manila envelope in the mail postmarked Bloomfield Hills. Leonard wrote the teenager back, making corrections and suggestions "carefully typed on his official letterhead," Kushins recalled.

"My hands shook while I read his suggestions," Kushins writes in the book. "It was like we'd collaborated."

Kushins has written major biographies of rock 'n' rollers Warren Zevon and Led Zeppelin. He spent three years research-

ing his newest book at the University of South Carolina, which holds Leonard's papers.

When Kushins was delving into Leonard's "copious boxes" of fan mail and flipping through his daily planner for 1988, he came across an entry that stopped him in his tracks. "Leonard had written in his planner that he took time off to respond to me," he said.

He recalled meeting Leonard six months later at a book signing in New York, where Leonard remembered him. Leonard inscribed his book "Tonto Woman," saying, "Write every day, whether you feel like it or not."

"That manila envelope changed the course of my life," Kushins recalled.

Fast forward to 2025, and the young boy is now an accomplished biographer. He's provided a 100th birthday gift posthumously to Leonard, a masterful biography of one of the world's most famous, most prolific and best writers of crime fiction of all time.

This past Saturday, Kushins flew from his home in Berlin for a release party at

the Detroit Public Library for his new book, which is a detailed examination of the writing life of a former adman from the Detroit area.

Kushins spent three years writing the book, starting by first rereading Leonard's entire body of work. He moved to Columbia, South Carolina, to spend his days at state university's Leonard archives.

"I read all his work in chronological order," Kushins said — 47 books and countless short stories and movie scripts.

The vast collection of Leonard's work includes everything imaginable, including a Nine Inch Nails T-shirt, from the life of the noted author who wrote Westerns, gritty crime fiction, a writing guide and innumerable screenplays and treatments during his career.

Leonard saved everything from drafts, story ideas, research from his researcher Gregg Sutter and day books listing his meetings, along with journals.

Kushins found fan letters Leonard had squirreled away from Margaret Atwood ("The Handmaid's Tale"), Sir Alec Guinness and Donald Fagen of Steely Dan.

Being around his five baby-boomer children influenced Leonard's musical tastes, Kushins said. The writer blasted "the soundtrack of Woodstock in his home."

"His favorite rocker was Joe Cocker," Kushins said. Leonard developed a close relationship with the band Aerosmith.

Also included in the fan letters was a note from Jim Harrison, another renowned Michigan author. Of Leonard's books, Harrison wrote: "You can cut your fingers and eyes on their lucidity."

Another "dirty realist," Raymond Carver, sent a letter in June 1988 telling Leonard that he "loved" the book "Glitz," his first New York Times bestseller.

"You can see the development of his writing over time and the internal strug-



Photo by David Audrey

Author C.M. Kushins' new book, "Cooler Than Cool: The Life of Elmore Leonard," is a masterful biography of one of the world's most famous and most prolific crime-fiction writers of all time.

gles he had writing. He really woodshedded his work," Kushins said.

"Dutch," as Leonard was called throughout his life, was named after Major League Baseball pitcher Emil "Dutch" Leonard, a knuckleballer. That turned out to be quite fitting for a writer whose style was similarly unpredictable.

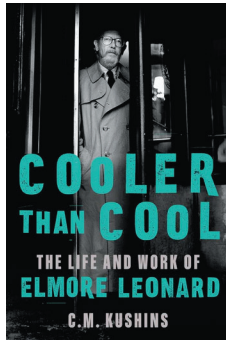
Kushins was also surprised to learn of Leonard's philanthropy and personal generosity from conversations with his children.

Leonard's writing traverses generations, Kushins observed, from 80-year-olds to younger generations who followed Raylan Givens, the protagonist in "Justified," a modern-day Western that ran for six seasons on cable TV.

Kushins describes his new book as being "cradle to grave."

It holds nothing back, from Leonard's fight with alcoholism (he became sober in his 50s) to his favorite strain of cannabis (Blue Dream).

Maybe the best gift Kushins can give Leonard, he said, is that he's working on his own crime novel.



Lansing's Concerts in the Park 7-9pm

6.11 Root Doctor MOORES PARK	Sea Cruisers TURNER-DODGE HOUSE 7.16
6.18 Black Rock 201 WAINWRIGHT PARK	Frog & the Beeftones FULTON PARK 7.23
6.25 Kathy Ford Band REUTER PARK	Grupo Dezeo WILSON PARK 7.30
7.09 Cooper Johnson FENNER NATURE CENTER	Lansing Symphony Orchestra FRANCES PARK 8.06

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Jonesin' Crossword

By Matt Jones

“Roll With It” -- rice to the occasion.
by Matt Jones
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- ACROSS**
1. Itinerary portion
 4. Low-priced
 9. Class reunion attendees
 14. Prefix before skeleton
 15. Throw with great effort
 16. Burgundy grape
 17. Windows 98 card game that as of 2005 was the most played game on Windows PCs
 20. Sub tracking device
 21. Sources of feta cheese
 22. Thing
 23. Cocoa vessel
 25. Determine
 27. Colorful 1980s animated series with the villain Murky Dismal
 33. Decent-sized lot
 34. Introspective
 35. Student stat
 38. Crystal-bearing rock
 40. Action suffix
 41. Duplication is their name
 43. ID on a 1040
 44. Great song, in slang
 47. Viewpoint
 48. Conqueror of a mythical flying beast
 50. Fireworks noise
 53. Abbr. on a remote
 54. Supercollider bit
 55. Rainy weather wear
 59. Artist Frida's artist husband

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14			15					16				
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50	51	52						53				
54				55	56	57	58	59		60	61	62
63				64				65				
66					67					68		
69					70					71		

63. 1965 hit co-written by the late Brian Wilson
 66. Supreme Court justice Kagan
 67. “It’s the Hard Knock Life” musical
 68. Toothpaste variety
 69. Words on some election signs
 70. A bunch
 71. Plastic ___ Band (Lennon group)
- DOWN**
1. Not as much
 2. World’s fair
 3. Enter
 4. Angel
 5. One possible H in HRH
 6. Simplicity
 7. Admit frankly
 8. Former minister of sport of Brazil
 9. Fitting
 10. Serve as a go-between
 11. Bring together
 12. Social conventions
 13. Sunflower stalks
 18. The ___ (“New Rose” punk band with guitarist Captain Sensible)
 19. “To repeat ...”
 24. Wad of gum
 26. River to the underworld
 27. Dish cleaners
 28. Deck foursome
 29. Element #26
 30. Twist and squeeze
 31. One of a pair of drums
 32. “The Studio” star Seth
 35. Slaty color
 36. Prod with a stick
 37. Callous boss, maybe
 39. River through Spain
 42. “And others,” in a citation
 45. Chain whose ads featured a car horn honking twice
 46. Vaccine recommended for older adults
 48. Double-ended game piece
 49. Rustic accommodations
 50. Grammy-winning Musgraves with the album “Deeper Well”
 51. “___ of Two Cities”
 52. Tree trunks, botanically
 56. Type of exam
 57. A as in A.D.
 58. Oldest of the “Bob’s Burgers” kids
 60. Therefore
 61. Country singer Campbell
 62. Northerly capital city
 64. Devotee
 65. Assistance

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Answers on page 31

SUDOKU

Advanced

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

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

June 18-24, 2025

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Aries writer Joseph Campbell was a world-renowned mythologist. His theories about the classic hero archetype have inspired many writers and filmmakers, including “Star Wars” creator George Lucas. As a young man, Campbell crafted the blueprint for his influential work during a five-year period when he lived in a rustic shack and read books for nine hours a day. He was supremely dedicated and focused. I recommend that you consider a similar foundation-building project, Aries. The coming months will be an excellent time for you to establish the groundwork for whatever it is you want to do for the rest of your long life.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): In Japan, “komorebi” refers to the dappled sunlight that streams through tree leaves. It names a subtle, ephemeral beauty that busy people might be oblivious to. Not you, I hope, Taurus! In the coming weeks, I invite you to draw on komorebi as an inspirational metaphor. Tune in to the soft illumination glimmering in the background. Be alert for flickers and flashes that reveal useful clues. Trust in the indirect path, the sideways glance, the half-remembered dream and the overheard conversation. Anything blatant and loud is probably not relevant to your interests. PS: Be keen to notice what’s not being said.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): In Finnish folklore, the Sampo is a magic artifact that generates unending wealth and good fortune. Here’s the catch: It can’t be hoarded. Its power only works when shared, passed around or made communal. I believe you are close to acquiring a less potent but still wonderful equivalent of a Sampo, Gemini. It may be an idea, a project or a way of living that radiates generosity and sustainable joy. But remember that it doesn’t thrive in isolation. It’s not a treasure to be stored up and saved for later. Share the wealth.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Tides don’t ask for permission. They ebb and flow in accordance with an ancient gravitational intelligence that obeys its own elegant laws. Entire ecosystems rely on their steady, cyclical rhythms. You, too, harbor tidal forces, Cancerian. They are partially synced up with the Earth’s rivers, lakes and seas and are partially under the sway of your deep emotional power. It’s always crucial for you to be intimately aware of your tides’ flows and patterns, but even more than usual right now. I hope you will trust their timing and harness their tremendous energy.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Some jewelers practice an ancient Korean art called keum-boo, in which they fuse pure gold to silver with heat and pressure. The result is gold that seems to bloom from within silver’s body, not just be juxtaposed on top of it. Let’s make this your metaphor for the coming weeks, Leo. I believe you will have the skill to blend two beautiful and valuable things into an asset that has the beauty and value of both, plus an extra synergy of valuable beauty. The only problem that could possibly derail your unprecedented accomplishment might be your worry that you don’t have the power to do that. Expunge that worry, please.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Some Indigenous cultures keep track of time not by clocks but by natural events: “the moon when the salmon return,” “the season when shadows shorten,” “the return of the rain birds.” I encourage you to try that approach, Virgo. Your customary rigor will benefit from blending with an influx of more intuitive choices. You will be wise to explore the joys of organic timing. So, just for now, I invite you to tune out the relentless tick-tock. Listen instead for the hush before a threshold cracks open. Meditate on the ancient Greek concept of “kairos”: the prime moment to act or a potential turning point that’s ripe for activation.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Botanists speak of “serotiny,” a plant’s ability to delay seed

release until the environment is just right. Some pinecones, for instance, only open after a fire. What part of you has been patiently waiting, Libra? What latent brilliance has not been ready to emerge until now? The coming weeks will offer catalytic conditions — perhaps heat, perhaps disruption, perhaps joy — that will be exactly what’s needed to unleash the fertile potency. Have faith that your seeds will draw on their own wild intelligence.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): One of your superpowers is your skill at detecting what’s unfolding beneath the surface. It’s almost like you have X-ray vision. Your ability to detect hidden agendas, buried secrets and underground growth is profound. But in the coming weeks, I urge you to redirect your attention. You will generate good fortune for yourself if you turn your gaze to what lies at the horizon and just beyond. Can you sense the possibilities percolating at the edges of your known world? Can you sync up your intuitions with the future’s promises? Educated guesses will be indistinguishable from true prophecies.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Sagittarius-born Wassily Kandinsky (1866-1944) got a degree in law and economics and began a career teaching those subjects at the university level. But at age 30, he had a conversion experience. It was triggered when he saw a thrilling exhibit of French Impressionist painters and heard an enthralling opera by Richard Wagner. Soon, he flung himself into a study of art, embarking on an influential career that spanned decades. I am predicting that you will encounter inspirations of that caliber, Sagittarius. They may not motivate you as drastically as Kandinsky’s provocations, but they could revitalize your life forever.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): The ancient Egyptians revered the Nile River’s annual flooding, which brought both disruption and renewal. It washed away old plant matter and debris and deposited fertile silt that nourished new growth. In the coming weeks, Capricorn, I suspect you will experience a metaphorical flood: a surge of new ideas, opportunities and feelings that temporarily unsettle your routines. Rather than focusing on the inconvenience, I suggest you celebrate the richness this influx will bring. The flow will ultimately uplift you, even if it seems messy at first.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Medieval stonemasons worked not just in service to the immediate structures they made. They imagined eternity, laying foundation blocks in cathedrals they knew they would never live to see completed. I think you are being invited to do similar work: soulful construction whose fruits may not ripen for a while. A provocative conversation you have may soon echo for years. A good habit you instill could become a key inheritance for your older self. So, think long, wide and slow, dear Aquarius. Not everything must produce visible worth this season. Your prime offerings may be seeds for the future. Attend to them with reverence.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): In the frigid parts of planet Earth, some glaciers sing. As they shift and crack and melt, they emit tones: groans, pulses, crackles and whooshes. I believe your soul will have a similar inclination in the coming weeks, Pisces: to express mysterious music as it shifts and thaws. Some old logjam or stuck place is breaking open within you, and that’s a very good thing. Don’t ignore or neglect this momentous offering. And don’t try to translate it into logical words too quickly. What story does your trembling tell? Let the deep, restless movements of your psyche resound.

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, June 18

“A Course of Love” Zoom Discussion Group, with Lucille Olson and Bill Diedrich - 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.

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

“The Artful Journey” - A special exhibit in honor of all the volunteers who help the Mid-Michigan Art Guild function. 9 a.m.-8 p.m. Okemos Library, 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. midmichiganartguild.org.

Ballet for Teens & Adults - 10-week class. 6 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. ruhalacenter.com.

Beaded Bracelets for Tweens/Teens - Make bracelets using pony beads and other findings to show off your unique style! 6 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. gladl.org.

Bingo - Every Wednesday. Doors open at 4:30 p.m. Bingo cafe 5 p.m. Early bird 6 p.m. Eaton Rapids Senior Center, 201 Grand St., Eaton Rapids. facebook.com/EatonRapidsSeniorCenter.

Bookend Gallery Display - Enjoy mixed-media artist Nanette Mathe's acrylic pour pieces and photography through the end of June. Noon-4 p.m. Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. cadl.org/about/our-locations/haslett.

Broadway Jazz Dance for Teens & Adults - 10-week class, meets biweekly. 7:30 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. ruhalacenter.com.

Capital Area Modelers Society Build Night - Join fellow modelers to share tips, tricks and stories. Bring your current project or let us know that you need something to build. 6:30-9 p.m. AFK Games, 2495 N. Cedar St., Holt. capitalareamodelerssociety.org.

East Lansing-Meridian Water & Sewer Authority Meeting - 11 a.m. Water Treatment Plant, 2470 Burcham Drive, East Lansing. cityofeastlansing.com.

Emergency Services - 6 p.m. LSW Emergency Services, 7425 Woodbury Road, Laingsburg. laingsburg.us.

Fairytales Dance Camp - A three-day camp (Wednesday-Friday) filled with dance technique, movement exploration, stories, crafts and more! 9 a.m.-10:30 p.m. for ages 3-5, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. for ages 5-8. Greater Lansing Academy of Dance, 15643 Old U.S. 27, Lansing. greaterlansingballet.com.

Family Night Cruise-In - We'll have a bounce house, games and goodies for kids, plus popcorn and popsicles for all ages! All drivers and passengers receive free admission to the museum. 5-7:30 p.m. R.E. Olds Transportation Museum, 240 Museum Drive, Lansing. reoldsmuseum.org.

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

Finding Balance in a World That Needs Us - Staying informed on issues of peace and justice can feel overwhelming. Join us for a conversation with therapist Lauri J. Rowe on how to protect your mental health while staying actively engaged. 6 p.m. Red Cedar Friends Meeting House, 1400 Turner St., Lansing. peacecenter.org.

Fitness Over 50! Exercise Group - The Meridian Township Parks and Recreation Stretch and Flex Exercise group exercises at Central Park Pavilion every Monday, Wednesday and Friday. 9-10 a.m. 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos. meridian50plus.com.

Fostering Futures Scholarship Trust Fund Pizza Party - Help raise money for the fund, which helps youth who have experienced foster care achieve a college education. 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Capitol lawn, 100 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing. michigan.gov/setwithmet/scholarship.

Grant Workshop - If you're a dues-paying Arts Council member interested in applying for a FY 2026 Chris Clark Fellowship or Young Creatives Grant, attend this workshop to learn about the guidelines and application process and receive tips and support. 4 p.m. 311 Abbot Road, Suite 301, East Lansing. facebook.com/ArtsCouncilGL.

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

Kindergarten Craft Club - Make a 3D paper dog! Registration req. 4:15 p.m. Charlotte Community Library, 226 S. Bostwick St., Charlotte. charlottelibrary.org.

Lansing Concerts in the Park: “Black Rock 201” - Free. 7 p.m. Wainwright Park, 4115 Stillwell Ave., Lansing. lansingmi.gov/994/Concerts-in-the-Park.

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. 6-9 p.m. UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner St., Lansing. urbanbeatevents.com.

Medicare 101 - Learn essential Medicare information from a Tri-County Office on Aging representative. Registration req. 2 p.m. DeWitt District Library, 13105 Schavey Road, DeWitt. dewittlibrary.org.

Meridian Summer Concert Series: Stone Street Revival - SSR is a premier musical group focusing on great songs you don't often hear and '70s hits. Free. 6:30 p.m. Marketplace on the Green, 1995 Central Park Drive, Okemos. meridian.mi.us.

Meridian Township Farmers Market - 3-7 p.m. Marketplace on the Green, 1995 Central Park Drive, Okemos. meridian.mi.us/FarmersMarket.

Messy Art Day - Unleash your inner artist with splatter paint, spray bottle painting and more! 1-3 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. gladl.org.

Mid-Michigan Art Guild 12-by-12 Show - Featuring an array of compositions contained within 12-by-12-inch squares. 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Framer's Edge, 1856 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. midmichiganartguild.org.

Mid-Michigan Art Guild Spring Art Show - 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Neighborhood Empowerment Center, 600 W. Maple St., Lansing. midmichiganartguild.org.

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. lamcsangha.wordpress.com.

Patio Party at UrbanBeat - Join us every Wednesday-Saturday from 5-7 p.m. for live music, dinner and drinks on our patio in the heart of Old Town. No cover! 1213 Turner St., Lansing. urbanbeatevents.com.



Red Cedar Jubilee Through Sunday, June 22 Williamston

Williamston's largest event of the year, the 54th annual Red Cedar Jubilee, will bring a wealth of entertainment to parks, streets and other venues around town for the next five days.

An Arnold Amusements carnival at Howard Dahlstrom Park will offer rides, games and food from Wednesday through Sunday. Alongside additional bites, the food and beverage tent at Dahlstrom Park, open Wednesday through Saturday, will offer live music by ukulele quintet The Ukettes on Wednesday, country artist Blake James on Thursday, rock band Crash Landing on Friday and dual sets by country music cover band Pots Road and rock band Swamp Donkey on Saturday.

Single-day activities include pony rides Wednesday at Dahlstrom Park, a kids' parade Wednesday from McCormick Park to Dahlstrom Park, a cruise-in Thursday along Grand River Avenue downtown, a performance by '60s and '70s tribute group Itchycoo Park Thursday at McCormick Park, a car show and chicken barbecue Saturday at the Fraternal Order of Eagles Hall, antique car rides Saturday on High Street near Putnam Street, a .5K race Saturday at Dahlstrom Park, the Grand Parade Saturday along downtown streets, fireworks Saturday at Dahlstrom Park, the Williamston Farm and Artisan Market Sunday at McCormick Park and a Boy Scouts pancake breakfast Sunday at Dahlstrom Park.

Most events are free. For a complete schedule of happenings, visit facebook.com/profile.php?id=100057232068767.

Portland Sounds of Summer Concert Series: Russ Holcomb (acoustic covers and originals) - Free. 7 p.m. Two Rivers Park, 201 Divine Hwy., Portland. facebook.com/MiPortlandDowntown.

Selling MI Honey & Maple Syrup - Learn how to safely handle, package and store honey and maple syrup and understand the exemption guidelines for selling these products in Michigan. Noon. Virtual — register at canr.msu.edu/isabella/index.

Speed Dating for Lansing Singles Ages 23-38 - Meet real, quality people looking for meaningful connections. 7:30 p.m. Buddy's Pizza, 2010 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. Register at pre-dating.com.

Speed Dating for Lansing Singles Ages 35-49 - Meet real, quality people looking for meaningful connections. 6 p.m. Buddy's Pizza, 2010 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. Register at pre-dating.com.

St. Johns Concerts in the Park: General Assembly Big Band (jazz) - Free. 7 p.m. St. Johns City Park, 801 W.

Park St., St. Johns. facebook.com/StJohnsCityPark-PerformanceShell.

Strawberry Festival at Allen Farmers Market - Come to the market for strawberry scone-cooking demos, entertainment by The Dangling Particles and this week's craft vendor, 1991 Greenery! 3-6:30 p.m. Allen Neighborhood Center, 1629 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. allenneighborhoodcenter.org/allen-farmers-market.

Summer Strings Rehearsal - MSU Community Music School's summer adult orchestra. Open to all adults. You should know the basics of your instrument and be able to read some music. 7 p.m. 4930 Hagadorn Road, East Lansing. cmsaemusic.weebly.com.

Unveiling the Self Ritual - 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.

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Events

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Will Wood - Singer-songwriter and comedian Will Wood brings his "Mr. Wood is Dead" 10-year anniversary tour to Grewal Hall, with support from the Ruen Brothers. 8 p.m. 224 S. Washington Square, Lansing. hall224.com.

Wine Knot - Love knitting, crocheting, weaving or other forms of fiber art? Love wine? This is the event for you! Connect with others and work on projects while sipping wine! 5-7:30 p.m. Burgdorf's Winery, 4212 E. Holt Road, Webberville. facebook.com/wine.burgdorfs.

Thursday, June 19

Acting Scene Study Class - 10-week class, meets bi-weekly. Ages 12-adult. 6:30 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 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.

"The Book of Mormon" - This outrageous musical comedy follows the adventures of a mismatched pair of missionaries sent halfway across the world to spread the good word. 7:30 p.m. Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. wharton-center.com.

Charlotte Community Library Board Meeting - The board meets the third Thursday of every month in the library's Spartan Room. 7 p.m. 226 S. Bostwick St., Charlotte. charlottelibrary.org.

Charlotte Summer Concerts on the Square: Jimmy & the Mortals ('60s-'70s rock) - Free. 6:30 p.m. Courthouse Square, 100 W. Lawrence Ave., Charlotte. facebook.com/charlottechamberof-commerce.

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.

Creative Drawing Workshop - Mark Crilley, professional comic creator, artist, children's book author and illustrator, will share drawing techniques and tips for ages 15+. Registration req. 6 p.m.

Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. gladl.org.

Dimondale Farmers Market - 3-7 p.m. Village Square, 136 N. Bridge St., Dimondale. facebook.com/dimondalefarmersmarket.

Drawing Comics/Manga Workshop - Mark Crilley, professional comic creator, artist, children's book author and illustrator, will share drawing techniques and tips for ages 8-14. Registration req. 2 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.

Finger Family & Friends Live at Cleats Bar & Grille - 7 p.m. 5801 N. Aurelius Road, Lansing. 517-574-4008. cleatsbarandgrille.com.

Friendship Force Potluck & Program - Potluck followed by a presentation on the Davies Project, which provides transportation for seriously ill children and pregnant women to essential healthcare. 6-8 p.m. Unitarian Universalist Church of Greater Lansing, 5509 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. friendshipforcelansing@gmail.com.

Good Morning, Mason! - A Chamber event with a

quick-paced agenda of local news and community updates. Continental breakfast is provided with admission fee. 7:15-8:30 a.m. Ingham County Fairgrounds Community Building, 700 E. Ash St., Mason. masonchamber.org.

Grand Ledge Music in the Park: Three Men and a Tenor (a cappella), opener Easton Childs - Free. 7 p.m. Jaycee Park, 525 E. River St., Grand Ledge. grandledgechamber.com/music_in_the_park.php.

Improv Acting for Teens & Adults - 10-week class, meets biweekly. 8 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. ruhalacenter.com.

Laingsburg Music in the Park: Atomic Annie (party band) - Open mic at 6 p.m., band starts at 7 p.m. Free. McClintock Park, 299 McClintock St., Laingsburg. laingsburgbusiness.org/music-in-the-park-1.

Lansing Fiesta & Carnival - Embark on a vibrant journey of cultural discovery and fun. Over 100 businesses will be in attendance, accompanied by food trucks, carnival rides, live music, dancing, a beer tent and more! 4 p.m.-midnight. 201 E. Shiawassee St., Lansing. lansingfiesta.com.

See Events, Page 26

Help Cats and Dogs Find A Home

INGHAM COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTER

TO ADOPT ONE OF THESE PETS, VISIT ICAS AT 600 BUHL ST., MASON, CALL (517) 676-8370 TO MAKE AN APPT. OR GO TO AC.INGHAM.ORG



In memory of Rodica's cats

Lil E Tee

Not all cats are great candidates for living in a home full time. Our "Blue Collar Cats" are working cats who are used to being outside and would love a warehouse, barn, garage, etc. where they can stay out of the weather and get fed but still have access to roam. They are friendly but have definite ideas on how much attention they are interested in getting at any time!



Sponsored by Kato and Mouse

Philadelphia

and a large group of her friends came to the shelter when their owner could no longer care for them. Usually, when we take large groups of cats, many of them are sick and undersocialized, but this group came to us fixed, friendly, and for the most part healthy. They were all a little worried at first, but most are now out of their boxes and coming up for attention. A few still need a little coaxing but are quick to come out with a little encouragement. If you are looking for a social, cat-friendly cat, come meet the crew!



In memory of Sanchez's cats

Brisbane

is one of our adorable kittens waiting for new homes. They are spayed/neutered, up to date on shots, and microchipped. They would love to have you stop by!



Sponsored by Anne and Dale Schrader

Chennai

is a tiny girl who came to us as a neglected stray. She is the size of a three-month-old puppy, underweight, and urine stained. She appears to have stunted growth from poor nutrition, so it's possible that she could grow a bit now that she's on better food, but it's not likely given her age. She is a bouncy, outgoing little girl who holds no grudges and is more than ready to find a family who will love her. If you love the pittie attitude but need a small dog, you can't go wrong with Chennai. All the love and enthusiasm of a 50-pound dog packed into a forever-puppy-sized 22-pound package



In memory of "The Fonz"

Santiago

is a sweet little lab/pittie mix who came to the shelter with his friend/mom/significant other, Chennai. They were found wandering in the country, and no one came to claim them. We suspect they've had a rough go of it recently (they both smelled badly of urine as if they'd been crated for long periods of time). Despite everything, they are social, friendly dogs who should do well in any home looking for a happy, bouncy friend!

Your ad here. Just \$35

Your ad here. Just \$35

Your ad here. Just \$35

Your ad here. Just \$35

Thanks to these ads, City Pulse has donated more than \$10,000 to the Ingham County Animal Shelter.

Please help. Email publisher@lansingcitypulse.com or call Berl Schwartz at (517) 999-5061

Ads appear in the 3rd issue of each month. The next deadline is July 16th.

Events

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The Local Group and Guests - Join us Thursday nights for free music, good food and summertime vibes. 7-9 p.m. UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner St., Lansing. urbanbeatevents.com.

Mid-Michigan Art Guild 12-by-12 Show - Featuring an array of compositions contained within 12-by-12-inch squares. 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Framer's Edge, 1856 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. midmichiganartguild.org.

Mid-Michigan Art Guild Spring Art Show - 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Neighborhood Empowerment Center, 600 W. Maple St., Lansing. midmichiganartguild.org.

Nation Outside Chapter Meeting - We're a statewide advocacy organization working to drive policy and practice innovation that builds systems of support for justice-impacted families and communities. 5 p.m. The Fledge, 1300 Eureka St., Lansing. trishaw@nationoutside.org.

Open Jam! | Third Thursday of Every Month - Whether you play guitar, banjo, fiddle, mandolin, dobro, bass or another instrument, you're invited to join in — even if you know only a few songs or chords. 5-6:30 p.m. Elderly Instruments, 1100 N. Washington Ave., Lansing. elderly.com.

Parkinson's Exercise: Rock-Steady Boxing - Free exercise class for people with Parkinson's. Caregiv-

ers are welcome to participate if space permits. 1 p.m. Michigan Athletic Club, 2900 Hannah Blvd., East Lansing. To register, call 517-364-8800. lapsg.org.

Pathways to Wholeness: 517 Juneteenth Weekend Seminar & Mixer - Explore key dimensions of wellness with a powerful panel of Michigan-based leaders. After the panel, enjoy a mixer with drinks, light bites and music by DJ Kaels. 6:30 p.m. The Cadillac Room, 1115 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. 517juneteenth.com.

Patio Party at UrbanBeat - Join us every Wednesday-Saturday from 5-7 p.m. for live music, dinner and drinks on our patio in the heart of Old Town. No cover! 1213 Turner St., Lansing. urbanbeatevents.com.

South Lansing Farmers Market - 3-7 p.m. Feeders Pet Supply parking lot, 5016 S. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Lansing. facebook.com/SouthLansing-FarmersMarket.

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.

Stoneware Summer Painting Club - Explore the beauty of stoneware pottery with a hands-on, two-session class where you'll paint unique, functional pieces in a guided setting. No experience necessary. 6 p.m. Playing Picasso, 300 N. Clippert St., Suite 15A, Lansing. playingpicasso.com.

Summer Solstice Jazz Festival Kickoff Concert - Featuring vocalist Tiffany Gridiron with Clif Metcalf, Jeff Shoup and Sam Corey. 6 p.m. Beggar's Banquet, 218 Abbot Road, East Lansing. eljazzfest.com.

Summer Solstice Rosé Wine Tasting - Let's celebrate the longest day of the year! Taste 10 delightful rosés, served with light appetizers. 6-7:30 p.m. Dusty's Cellar, 1839 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. dustyscellar.com.

Summerlands Brewing Co. Crossword Challenge - Each team is given a copy of the same crossword puzzle. The first team to complete the crossword correctly wins a \$10 certificate valid for a future visit. Start at 7 or 8 p.m. 1957 Cedar St., Holt. facebook.com/summerlandsbrewing.

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.

Williamston Summer Concert Series: Itchycoo Park ('60s-'70s rock) - Free. 7 p.m. McCormick Park, 300 N. Putnam St., Williamston. facebook.com/williamstonconcerts.

Friday, June 20

517 Juneteenth Weekend Ice Cream Social - Celebrate community, culture and connection at the 4th annual Juneteenth ice cream social, a family-friendly evening filled with music, movement and free treats! 5:30-8 p.m. Riverview Church parking lot, 1115 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. 517juneteenth.com.

"The Artful Journey" - A special exhibit in honor of all the volunteers who help the Mid-Michigan Art Guild function. 9 a.m.-8 p.m. Okemos Library, 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. midmichiganartguild.org.

The Barney Awards - Preshow refreshments start at 6 p.m. Awards ceremony starts at 7 p.m. Cocktail attire is suggested, but come as you're most comfortable. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. riverwalktheatre.com.

"The Book of Mormon" - This outrageous musical comedy follows the adventures of a mismatched pair of missionaries sent halfway across the world to spread the good word. 7:30 p.m. Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. wharton-center.com.

Bookend Gallery Display - Enjoy mixed-media artist Nanette Mathe's acrylic pour pieces and photography through the end of June. Noon-4 p.m. Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. cadl.org/about/our-locations/haslett.

Car Cruise-In - Bring your wheels, stroll the lot and enjoy an evening of engines and community. Stop by Burgdorf's Tasting Room and enjoy a glass of wine while you're taking in the classics. 5-8 p.m. Choice Farm Market, 4212 E. Holt Road, Webberville. choicefarmmarket.com.

The Coffeehouse at All Saints - Monthly showcase of Michigan-based musical and spoken-word talent. Bring a snack/drink to share. Free. 7:30 p.m. All Saints Episcopal Church, 800 Abbot Road, East Lansing. facebook.com/TheCoffeehouseAtAll-Saints.

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.

Eastern Michigan Arabian Association Horse Show - 2 p.m. Ingham County Fairgrounds, 700 E. Ash St., Mason. emaa.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 Central Park Pavilion every Monday, Wednesday and Friday. 9-10 a.m. 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos. meridian50plus.com.

Firefly Family Painting Night - All ages welcome! Ticket price includes supplies, instruction by a professional local artist and a take-home painting. 6 p.m. Nina's Notions, 104 N. Clinton Ave., Suite A, St. Johns. wineandcanvas.com.

Lake Lansing Bandshell Concert Series: The Leaky Tikis (Jimmy Buffett tribute), opener Aaron Johnson - Kids can enjoy big-wheel tricycles at the tricycle track, a bounce house and a giant inflatable slide! Free. 6 p.m. 1621 Pike St., Haslett. facebook.com/Lakelansingbandshell.

Lansing Fiesta & Carnival - Embark on a vibrant journey of cultural discovery and fun. Over 100 businesses will be in attendance, accompanied by food trucks, carnival rides, live music, dancing, a beer tent and more! 4 p.m.-midnight. 201 E. Shiawassee St., Lansing. lansingfiesta.com.

Meridian Township Juneteenth Celebration - Enjoy an afternoon of live music, dancing, yard games, small business vendors and more! 3-7 p.m. Marketplace on the Green, 1995 Central Park Drive, Okemos. meridian.mi.us.

Mid-Michigan Art Guild 12-by-12 Show - Featuring an array of compositions contained within 12-by-12-inch squares. 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Framer's Edge, 1856 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. midmichiganartguild.org.

Mid-Michigan Art Guild Spring Art Show - 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Neighborhood Empowerment Center, 600 W. Maple St., Lansing. midmichiganartguild.org.

Online Kinship Caregiver Lunch and Learn Class - Talking with kids about sex can be challenging and awkward. We'll explore how to have age-appropriate conversations with your child that build a relationship of open communication and trust. 11:30 a.m. Virtual — register at canr.msu.edu/parenting_education_classes.

Open Irish Jam! | Third Friday of Every Month - Open jam session focusing on Irish traditional music. All skill levels welcome. Bring your instruments and we'll share some tunes. 5-6:30 p.m. Elderly Instruments, 1100 N. Washington Ave., Lansing. elderly.com.

Open Mic at Dublin Square - Calling all poets, comedians, hip-hop artists, up-and-coming musicians and anyone else with a talent to share! Our open mic night welcomes all! 9 p.m. 327 Abbot Road, East Lansing. facebook.com/dublinsquare.

Parkinson's Exercise: Movement with Vitality - Free exercise class for people with Parkinson's. Caregivers are welcome to participate if space permits. 1 p.m. Michigan Athletic Club, 2900 Hannah Blvd., East Lansing. To register, call 517-364-8800. lapsg.org.

Patio Party at UrbanBeat - Join us every Wednesday-Saturday from 5-7 p.m. for live music, dinner

See Events, Page 27

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING EAST LANSING CITY COUNCIL

Notice is hereby given of the following public hearing to be held by the East Lansing City Council on **Tuesday, July 15, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.**, at Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Rd., East Lansing, MI 48823.

1. A public hearing to receive comments on a request from Joe David for approval of a Special Use permit located at 101 E. Grand River Avenue (The Landshark). The applicant request is to expand the bar and dining area with alcohol service. The property is zoned B-3 City Center Commercial.

2. A public hearing to receive comments on Ordinance 1550, an amendment to Section 50-147 to allow increased fence height in the C Community Facilities zone district.

A staff report (Agenda Item Report) for each public hearing will be published on the City's website the Friday before the meeting. To locate staff reports, please visit the City's public meeting portal at <https://cityofeastlansing.civicweb.net/Portal/> and select the meeting date.

The public may attend and participate at all meetings in person. Members of the public may also participate virtually via Zoom. Please contact Interim City Clerk Amy Gordon at 517.319.6891, agordon@cityofeastlansing.com, (410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, MI 48823) for additional information. Visit the City's public meeting portal at <https://cityofeastlansing.civicweb.net/Portal/> for electronic access information.

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

The City of East Lansing will provide reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as interpreters for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting, to individuals with disabilities upon request received by the City seven (7) calendar days prior to the meeting. Individuals with disabilities requiring aids or services must contact the City Council's Office, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, MI, 48823, (517) 319-6869 (TDD Number: 1-800-649-3777) or via email at sbent@cityofeastlansing.com.

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

Amy Gordon
Interim City Clerk

Dated: June 13, 2025
East Lansing, MI 48823

CP#25-189

H&H Mobil Abandoned Auto Auction
Viewing 6/19/25 By Appointment
2818 E. Kalamazoo St.
Lansing, MI 48912
Call 517-332-6335
Bids must be submitted by 8 am 6/23/25
at 1500 Haslett Rd. East Lansing, MI 48823
For more info go to www.hhmobil.com

CP#25-175

Events

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and drinks on our patio in the heart of Old Town. No cover! 1213 Turner St., Lansing. urbanbeatevents.com.

Pinter Whitnick Live at Summerlands Brewing Co. - 7:30 p.m. 1957 Cedar St., Holt. 517-709-3647. facebook.com/summerlandsbrewing.

"Pride & Prejudice" - Whether you're a longtime Austen fan or new to her Regency world, this witty and romantic classic promises an unforgettable evening. 7 p.m. Schmidt Community Center, 5825 Wise Road, Lansing. facebook.com/TheAliveTheatre.

Red Cross Babysitting Workshop - Learn emergency procedures, discipline techniques, age-appropriate activities and basic first aid skills needed while babysitting. Ages 12+. Registration req. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. gladl.org.

Summer Solstice Jazz Festival - 5-10 p.m. Albert Avenue, downtown East Lansing. eljazzfest.com.

Teen Pride Party - Celebrate Pride with a photo booth, games, activities, snacks, music, Just Dance and more! 3-5 p.m. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. elpl.org.

The Venue Live: Monthly Music Series - Get ready for a night of electrifying music with Geech, a powerhouse band delivering the best rock and pop hits with an unstoppable energy. 8 p.m. The Venue by Eleven 11 Events, 5660 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing. venue1111.com/venuelive.

Yoga at Lansing Lavender Co. - This outdoor yoga class will move at a slower, steady pace, perfect for tuning into your body and the rhythms of the season. 8 p.m. 1204 Cleveland St., Lansing. fireflyhotyogabarrefitness.com.

Saturday, June 21

2025 Litha Celebration - Join us in person or on Zoom as we celebrate the longest days of the year with our Litha ritual, plus a shared feast, a teacup raffle and an afternoon of fun in the woods. 1-9 p.m. Fenner Nature Center Scout campground, 2020 E. Mount Hope Ave., Lansing. weaversoftwareweb.org.

517 Juneteenth Festival - Enjoy live music, Black-owned vendors, food trucks, craft cocktails, a Kidz Zone, a dance party and more. 3:30-10:30 p.m. REO Town, Lansing. 517juneteenth.com.

Archive Your Life - Bring your memories to the library and digitize your past and present! 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. gladl.org.

"The Artful Journey" - A special exhibit in honor of all the volunteers who help the Mid-Michigan Art Guild function. 9 a.m.-7 p.m. Okemos Library, 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. midmichiganartguild.org.

"The Book of Mormon" - This outrageous musical comedy follows the adventures of a mismatched pair of missionaries sent halfway across the world to spread the good word. 2 and 7:30 p.m. Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. whartoncenter.com.

Bookend Gallery Display - Enjoy mixed-media artist Nanette Mathe's acrylic pour pieces and photography through the end of June. Noon-2 p.m. Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. cadl.org/about/our-locations/haslett.

Brush Drop-Off - 8 a.m.-noon. Delhi Township Recycling Center, 1418 Grovenburg Road, Holt. delhitownshipmi.gov.

Cocaine Anonymous Meeting - "We are here and we are free." 10 a.m. St. Michael's Episcopal Church, 6500 Amwood Drive, Lansing.

The Dinner Detective - We offer an amazing murder mystery experience paired with a fantastic dinner. Anyone in the room can end up being part of the

show, including YOU! 6:30 p.m. AC Hotel, 3160 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. thedinnerdetective.com.

Eastern Michigan Arabian Association Horse Show - 8 a.m. Ingham County Fairgrounds, 700 E. Ash St., Mason. emaa.org.

Energy Fair - Featuring green energy exhibitors, demonstrations and opportunities to ask questions about energy use both at home and in the community. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Marketplace on the Green, 1995 Central Park Drive, Okemos. meridian.mi.us.

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

Growing Queer Care - Join doctoral candidates Morgan Doherty and Taylor Hartson for a conversation about the work of queer farmers in the Midwest. 3 p.m. Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, East Lansing. broadmuseum.msu.edu.

Hometown Half Marathon/10K/5K - Races begin at 7 a.m. at Potter Park, 1301 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. runsignup.com/Race/MI/Lansing/HometownHalfMarathon5k10kLansing.

Lansing Fiesta & Carnival - Embark on a vibrant journey of cultural discovery and fun. Over 100 businesses will be in attendance, accompanied by food trucks, carnival rides, live music, dancing, a beer tent and more! Noon-midnight. 201 E. Shiawassee St., Lansing. lansingfiesta.com.

Lansing Roller Derby | 2025 Season Bout 4 - The doubleheader will start at 4:30 p.m. with Lansing Juniors vs. Great Lakes Juniors. The second bout starts at 6:30 p.m. with Lansing A vs. Great Lakes A. Afterparty at Haslett's Mayfair Bar. Court One Training Center, 7868 Old M-78, East Lansing. lansingrollerderby.com.

Max's Race 5K Run/Walk - The Davies Project's 20th annual 5K run/walk will support free rides to medical appointments for children facing serious health challenges. 8 a.m. Hubbard Hall, 964 Hubbard Road, East Lansing. runsignup.com/Race/MI/East-Lansing/MaxsRace.

Messy Art Fair - Don't be afraid to get messy while painting and making slime. There will also be face painting, popsicles and a bunch of bubbles! Noon-1 p.m. Dorothy Hull Library, 405 W. Jefferson St., Dimondale. facebook.com/DorothyHullLibrary.

Meridian Township Farmers Market - 8 a.m.-2 p.m. Marketplace on the Green, 1995 Central Park Drive, Okemos. meridian.mi.us/FarmersMarket.

Mid-Michigan Art Guild 12-by-12 Show - Featuring an array of compositions contained within 12-by-12-inch squares. 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Frammer's Edge, 1856 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. midmichiganartguild.org.

Natalie Cuomo & Dan LaMorte - For the last few years, this comedian couple has been touring the country and beyond with their unique show. Audiences first get to enjoy individual sets by Dan and Natalie, then the fan-favorite combo set. 8 p.m. Grewal Hall, 224 S. Washington Square, Lansing. hall224.com.

Patio Party at UrbanBeat - Join us every Wednesday-Saturday from 5-7 p.m. for live music, dinner and drinks on our patio in the heart of Old Town. No cover! 1213 Turner St., Lansing. urbanbeatevents.com.

Pickleball FUNdraiser Challenge & Ribbon Cutting - Check in at 8 a.m. Men's & women's 9 a.m.-noon, mixed teams 1-4 p.m. Ages 16+. Hayes Park, 851 E. Columbia St., Mason. facebook.com/masonchamber.

Positive Somebody's Free Family Mental Health Fun Day - Enjoy an instrument petting zoo, painting, yoga, crochet, a bouncy house, positive mental health stations, community resource tables, food, beverages, a raffle, free zoo entry and more. 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Potter Park, 1301 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. positivesomebody.org.

"Pride & Prejudice" - Whether you're a longtime Austen fan or new to her Regency world, this witty and romantic classic promises an unforgettable evening. 2 and 7 p.m. Schmidt Community

'Thank You, Ten'

7 p.m. Friday, June 20 - Saturday, June 21
3 p.m. Sunday, June 22
Stage One at Sycamore Creek Eastwood
2200 Lake Lansing Road, Lansing



Ixion Ensemble Theatre's final show of the season, "Thank You, Ten," celebrates the 10th anniversary of its annual short play festival by featuring one work from each year. The festivals highlight new and yet-to-be-produced playwrights, having received scripts from three continents and hundreds of writers over the past decade. Each cohort of plays is based around a theme, with past topics including Greek mythology, mothers, fears and secrets.

The plays featured in "Thank You, Ten," curated by director and Ixion associate artistic producer Heath Sartorius, are "Misfortune" and "Scripted," by Mark Levine; "Icarus Flying," by A.S. Freeman; "Family Tradition," by O.G. Ueberoth; "Pumps," by Brett Hursey; "Guess," by J. Bader; "Betrayal Among the Grinning Gators," by J. Weagle; "Legs," by Kathleen Barber; and "The Monster Inside," by Adam Carlson.

"We're excited to get reacquainted with these scripts, combined in a new way," Ixion artistic director Jeff Croff said. "Heath and his team have put together a love letter to short plays and writers that have made the shows possible. Even the name is in reference to the behind-the-scenes interaction between cast and stage managers as they prepare for a show to open and call out, 'Ten minutes to show!'"

Tickets are \$15 online at our.show/thankyou10 or at the door.

Center, 5825 Wise Road, Lansing. facebook.com/TheAliveTheatre.

Purse Bingo - A fun-filled evening of bingo where you can win stylish purses as prizes. 6-9 p.m. House of Ezekiel, 2470 S. Cochran Road, Charlotte. eventbrite.com/e/purse-bingo-tickets-1353992129909.

Salsa Party - Get ready for an exciting night of music and dancing as DJs Mingo and Adrian "Ace" Lopez bring the energy to the dance floor. 10:30 p.m.-1 a.m. UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner St., Lansing. urbanbeatevents.com.

Saturday Night Social Club - If you'd like to meet some new folks and play a few games, stop on by. \$10. 7-11 p.m. Homebrew Tabletop Game Lounge, 219 1/2 N. Bridge St., Grand Ledge. homebrew-gamelounge.com.

STEAM Color Carnival - Celebrate the science of color! In this drop-in event, we'll have a variety of stations where you can learn about and play around with colors in their many forms. 2-4 p.m. Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. cadl.org/about/our-locations/haslett.

St. Johns Pride - Enjoy live music, a DJ, an open mic, mural painting, food trucks, vendors, educational resource tables, inspiring speakers and our fabulous emcee, Crystal D'Light. Noon-4 p.m. Corner of Higham and Brush streets, downtown St. Johns. facebook.com/SJcallecoalition.

Summer Solstice Jazz Festival - 2-10 p.m. Albert Avenue, downtown East Lansing. eljazzfest.com.

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. weaversoftwareweb.org.

Yankee Doodle Day - This year's event will include a parade, a 5K, kids' activities, vendors, a beer tent, live music, fireworks and more. 8 a.m.-midnight. Jaycee Park, 525 E. River St., Grand Ledge. grandledgechamber.com/yankee_doodle_days.php.

Yoga at the Lavender Farm - Bring your mat and

flow with us. Proceeds benefit the Testicular Cancer Awareness Foundation. 10 a.m. Lansing Lavender Co., 1204 Cleveland St., Lansing. eventbrite.com/e/yoga-at-the-lavender-farm-tickets-1406925916289.

Sunday, June 22

517 Juneteenth Weekend Jazz Night - Enjoy a performance by Kevin Brewster & Black Renaissance, along with curated DJ sets and a special program highlighting the legacy of jazz and the influence of Black music on global culture, resistance and creativity. 6:30 p.m. The Cadillac Room, 1115 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. 517juneteenth.com.

"The Artful Journey" - A special exhibit in honor of all the volunteers who help the Mid-Michigan Art Guild function. Noon-6 p.m. Okemos Library, 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. midmichiganartguild.org.

"The Book of Mormon" - This outrageous musical comedy follows the adventures of a mismatched pair of missionaries sent halfway across the world to spread the good word. 1 and 6:30 p.m. Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. whartoncenter.com.

Capital Pro Wrestling - 3 p.m. The Fledge, 1300 Eureka St., Lansing. 517-894-4589. americanluchalibre.com.

Drum Circle at Lake Lansing Park North - 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. 6260 E. Lake Drive, Haslett. facebook.com/GreaterLansingAreaDrummers.

Eastern Michigan Arabian Association Horse Show - 8 a.m. Ingham County Fairgrounds, 700 E. Ash St., Mason. emaa.org.

East Lansing Farmers Market - 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Valley Court Park, 280 Valley Court, East Lansing. cityofeastlansing.com/farmersmarket.

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'When Life Gives You Flowers'

11 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday, June 20

9 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday, June 21

MSUFCU Community Room

4825 Mount Hope Road, East Lansing

Mesung Lee, longtime owner of the former Twichell's Cleaners and Tailors in East Lansing, which served customers for nearly a century, will celebrate her upcoming 80th birthday by exhibiting her live floral designs Friday and Saturday at MSUFCU's Mount Hope Road location. The show, titled "When Life Gives You Flowers," will close with a reception at noon Saturday.

"For over 40 years, my mother has brought joy to our community through her beautiful flower arrangements. From window displays at my parents' former business to meaningful creations for life's many milestones, she has shared her talent generously and with love," Michigan State University string music education coordinator Jean Lee, Mesung's daughter, said on the Facebook event page.

Admission to the exhibit is free. For more information, visit facebook.com/events/1219040579757594.

Events

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Family Brunch & Lunch at Lansing Shuffle - Featuring free shuffleboard for kids, video game tournaments, cornhole, giant Jenga and two-for-\$10 mimosas. 11 a.m.-4 p.m. 325 Riverfront Drive, Lansing. lansingshuffle.com.

Jugglers and Would-Be Jugglers - Jugglers meet at the Orchard Street Pump House at 2 p.m. Sundays. 368 Orchard St., East Lansing. mikemarhan-ka@gmail.com.

Lansing Fiesta & Carnival - Noon-8 p.m. 201 E. Shiawassee St., Lansing. lansingfiesta.com.

Meridian Community Band Outdoor Concert - Free. 2 p.m. St. Katherine's Episcopal Church, 4650 Meridian Road, Williamston. facebook.com/stkatherineepiscopalchurch.

Mid-Michigan Art Guild 12-by-12 Show - Noon-4 p.m. Framer's Edge, 1856 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. midmichiganartguild.org.

Peace Education Center Annual Meeting - An opportunity to connect with local peace advocates and learn about the PEC's work over the past year. The event includes an informal finger-food potluck. 2 p.m. Edgewood United Church, 469 N. Hagadorn Road, East Lansing. peaceedcenter.org.

Pre-Pride Drag Brunch - 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Wild Ferns Wellness, 2929 Covington Court, Lansing. eventbrite.com/e/pre-pride-drag-brunch-tickets-1319062574669.

Quaker Meeting for Worship - Rich communal silence that invites thinking deeply, developing spiritually, loving fully, speaking our truths. 10:30 a.m. Red Cedar Friends Meeting House, 1400 Turner St., Lansing. redcedarfriends.org.

Summerlands Sunday Brunch - Noon-4 p.m. Summerlands Brewing Co., 1957 Cedar St., Holt. facebook.com/summerlandsbrewing.

Williamston Farm & Artisan Market - 10 a.m.-2 p.m. McCormick Park, 123 High St., Williamston. williamstonfarmmarket.org.

Monday, June 23

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

"The Artful Journey" - 9 a.m.-8 p.m. Okemos Library, 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. midmichiganartguild.org.

Bingo Night at Summerlands Brewing Co. - Free to play, with fun prizes every game! 7-8:30 p.m. 1957 Cedar St., Holt. facebook.com/summerlands-brewing.

Bookend Gallery Display - Noon-4 p.m. Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. cadl.org/about/our-locations/haslett.

Broadway Jazz Dance for Teens & Adults - 10-week class, meets biweekly. 7:30 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. ruhalacenter.com.

Broadway Summer Performance Class - Designed for teens and adults, this 10-week class will develop skills and techniques for singing and acting on stage. 6 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. ruhalacenter.com.

Community Listening Session Lansing - What's your vision for your community's future? Make your voice heard at a community listening session for residents of Lansing. 6-7:30 p.m. Eastern High School, 626 Marshall St., Lansing. Register at pscinc.co.

Downtown Development Authority Meeting - 7 p.m. City Hall, 259 Kent St., Portland. 517-647-5027. portland-michigan.org.

Discover Girl Scouts: Weeklong Troop Camping Experience - Learn about camping, art and how girls can change the world in this jump-start Girl Scout experience! 9 a.m.-noon or 2-5 p.m. Monday-Thursday. Camp Wacousta Holiday Haven,

13360 Wacousta Road, Grand Ledge. eventbrite.com/o/girl-scouts-heart-of-michigan-30324679174.

Euchre - 1-3 p.m. Eaton Rapids Senior Center, 201 Grand St., Eaton Rapids. facebook.com/Eaton-RapidsSeniorCenter.

Fiber Circle - Knitters, crocheters and stitchers of all ages and skill levels welcome. 5:30 p.m. Charlotte Community Library, 226 S. Bostwick St., Charlotte. charlottelibrary.org.

Fitness Over 50! Exercise Group - The Meridian Township Parks and Recreation Stretch and Flex Exercise group exercises at Central Park Pavilion every Monday, Wednesday and Friday. 9-10 a.m. 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos. meridian50plus.com.

Improv Acting Camp for Kids & Teens - Students will work with a variety of theater games to develop characters and scene work. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Monday-Thursday. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. ruhalacenter.com.

Mid-Michigan Art Guild 12-by-12 Show - Noon-5:30 p.m. Framer's Edge, 1856 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. midmichiganartguild.org.

Mid-Michigan Art Guild Spring Art Show - 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Neighborhood Empowerment Center, 600 W. Maple St., Lansing. midmichiganartguild.org.

Nailed it! Bad Art Night - Use yarn, pipe cleaners, dot stickers, feathers, straws, embroidery floss and other supplies to recreate a famous painting of your choice. 6-7:30 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. gladl.org.

Parkinson's Exercise: Yoga - Free exercise class for people with Parkinson's. Caregivers are welcome to participate if space allows. 1 p.m. Michigan Athletic Club, 2900 Hannah Blvd., East Lansing. To register, call 517-364-8800. lpsg.org.

Reiki for Kids & Teens - Fun, engaging, hands-on activities will teach students about reiki energy and its history. 10-week class. 5 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. ruhalacenter.com.

Sailing on Lake Michigan Paint and Sip - Join us for an evening of painting and drinks at the Wagon Wheel in Portland! No experience is needed for this guided session. 6 p.m. 7888 E. Grand River Ave., Portland. wineandcanvas.com/lansing.

Science Heroes: Adventure of the Missing Color! - Through hands-on experiments and interactive stories, Science Heroes gets kids excited about the science that's all around us. 2 p.m. Delta Center Elementary School Gym, 305 S. Canal Road, Lansing. gladl.org.

Start with Art: K-12 Educator Workshop - What can art do for you and your students? We'll introduce strategies for teaching with art from the museum's collection. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, East Lansing. broadmuseum.msu.edu.

Wetland Explorers - Four-day camp for grades 6-8. Participants will explore the abundance of life found in ponds through interactive experiments and observation. 9 a.m.-noon. LCC East, 2827 Eyde Parkway, East Lansing. Register at lcc.edu/seriousfun.

Women's AA Meeting - 6 p.m. Okemos Community Church, 4734 Okemos Road, Okemos. lansingdistrict6.org.

Tuesday, June 24

Acting Scene Study Class - 10-week class, meets biweekly. Ages 12-adult. 6:30 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 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.

"The Artful Journey" - 9 a.m.-8 p.m. Okemos Library, 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. [\[ganartguild.org\]\(https://ganartguild.org\).](https://midmichi-</p>
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Bookend Gallery Display - Noon-4 p.m. Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. cadl.org/about/our-locations/haslett.

Compulsive Eaters Anonymous-HOW Meeting - Meets in person and virtually. 5:30 p.m. St. Jude Catholic Church, 801 N. Bridge St., DeWitt. For Zoom info, call 989-620-0448 or go to ceahow.org/en/find-a-meeting.

Create Like a Famous Artist - Make art inspired by the work of American sculptor Alexander Calder and Ukrainian artist Sonia Delaunay! We'll learn a bit about the artists before we start creating. 3 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. gladl.org.

Dementia Caregiver Series - Three-session series that aims to reduce stress for those caring for a person with dementia by providing useful tools and information. 1 p.m. South Lansing Library, 3500 S. Cedar St., Lansing. To register, call 517-887-1465 or email histedc@tcoa.org.

Family Happy Hour - Join us every Tuesday for a free, all-ages playgroup in our safe and welcoming space. 4-7 p.m. Weavers of the Web, 809 Center St., Lansing. weaversoftheweb.org.

Grand River Connection - Monthly networking event for young Lansing professionals. 5-7 p.m. EagleMonk Pub and Brewery, 4906 W. Mount Hope Hwy., Lansing. lansing501.com.

Improv Acting for Teens & Adults - 10-week class, meets biweekly. 8 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. ruhalacenter.com.

Introduction to Watercolors - Learn the basics of watercolor painting: supplies, how to activate and use the paint, different ways to lay the paint on your paper and more. 6 p.m. Art & Soul Gallery, 215 N. Clinton Ave., St. Johns. facebook.com/ClintonCntyArts.

Lansing Lugnuts vs. Dayton Dragons - Every Tuesday home game, enjoy \$5 tacos (includes 2 tacos) and \$5 16-ounce tall boys. 7:05 p.m. Jackson Field, 505 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. mlb.com/lansing.

Mid-Michigan Art Guild 12-by-12 Show - Featuring an array of compositions contained within 12-by-12-inch squares. 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Framer's Edge, 1856 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. midmichiganartguild.org.

Mid-Michigan Art Guild Spring Art Show - 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Neighborhood Empowerment Center, 600 W. Maple St., Lansing. midmichiganartguild.org.

Parkinson's Exercise: Balance, Conditioning and Strength - Free exercise class for people with Parkinson's. Caregivers are welcome to participate if space allows. 1 p.m. Michigan Athletic Club, 2900 Hannah Blvd., East Lansing. To register, call 517-364-8800. lpsg.org.

Published! A Workshop for Writers - Learn about the book printing services available at MSU Libraries, how to self-publish and book design basics. Registration req. 6 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. gladl.org.

Rock Painting in the Park - Come and create a masterpiece. All supplies will be included. Noon-1:30 p.m. Grand Woods Park, 4500 W. Willow Hwy., Lansing. facebook.com/deltatownship.

The Rusty Snails Live at Cleats Bar & Grille - 7 p.m. 5801 N. Aurelius Road, Lansing. 517-574-4008. cleatsbarandgrille.com.

Summer Watercolor Mini-Retreat - Intended for intermediate-level watercolor painters who want to be guided through a couple of easy projects and maybe learn a new tip or two. 6:45 p.m. Art & Soul Gallery, 215 N. Clinton Ave., St. Johns. facebook.com/ClintonCntyArts.

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

FOOD & DRINK

DINING OUT IN GREATER LANSING



Lawrence

By **GABRIELLE LAWRENCE**

It was the tofu that first attracted my attention. During the thick of the pandemic, we were all staying home. My lunches had become centered around rice bowls with finely shaved carrot, green onion and sardines, and the ever-present rinsed-out tins in the kitchen

sink and their accompanying aroma were disturbing the household. (Read: Mr. She Ate thinks sardines are gross.) I saw a Facebook ad promoting Bento Kitchen Cravings' tofu rice bowls and decided that it couldn't hurt to try one. I've been ordering them ever since.

Tofu is another polarizing ingredient in our household. I find it to be a great source of protein when it's well seasoned and properly prepared. Mr. She Ate will eat it, begrudgingly, when I decide it's all I'm willing to prepare for dinner. Nowadays, I find myself ordering it in restaurants more frequently than preparing it at home, and Bento has my favorite tofu in town.

From 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., rice bowls are on special. I fire up the Toast app and order the seasoned tofu bowl (\$11.50), which comes with purple rice, steamed vegetables and hot sauce and kimchi if you prefer. (I always prefer). Let me talk about the health benefits briefly. Kimchi, or thinly sliced vegetables like cabbage and radish that are fermented and spiced to a varying degree of heat, is a ubiquitous condiment in Korean cooking. It's high in probiotics and fiber, and if you haven't tried it, I couldn't encourage you more to give it a whirl.

My second-favorite and second-most-ordered item at Bento is the orange shrimp rice bowl (\$14.50). The shrimp are huge and perfectly crisp, and the sauce complements and doesn't overpower. The purple rice is high in antioxidants, fiber, protein and iron. The vegetable medley — think zucchini, carrots and onion — is lightly steamed, never mushy.

Essentially, the tofu or the orange shrimp rice bowl is my dream lunch: high in flavor, topping the charts in nutritional value and easy to eat. By that, I mean that I love a giant salad wholeheartedly, but sometimes I don't have the time or inclination to be bothered with forking up all those bites of food and investing that much chew time. I need something that eliminates those barriers and, let's be honest, something that I can inhale in my car in between court hearings, county commission meetings and alternating nights of T-ball and machine-pitch baseball for my children. Consider all boxes checked.

Mr. She Ate can't quit the bulgogi burrito (\$12). He loves the light sweetness of the bulgogi with the heartiness of the burrito. We've also tried and loved the bulgogi-topped fries, which I'm telling myself are a more mature version of the bacon-cheese fries I ate so many times during college. The kids like the plain fries, which aren't "too spicy," and the chicken wings, which can be prepared without sauce the way they like them.

So as to not mislead the public, I've tried other dishes at Bento, and I haven't completely lost my mind over all of them. So

Bento's creative cuisine will cause cravings

bustling indoor complex of commerce where Cobbler's Bench, Seasons and my all-time favorite, Grande Gourmet, offered the latest in fashion, interior design and culinary arts. In the late

'90s, the shift back to an outdoor mall was a response to the competing shopping meccas on the far extensions of the Lansing area, the Meridian and Lansing malls. Since then, Frandor has seen many stores, restaurants and entertainment spots come and go. At one point, a single storefront was a sports bar, comedy club, billiards hall and poker hub, attempting earnestly to keep up with consumer demands.

Today, Frandor seems to be finding a new groove, anchored by a national grocery brand and several retail options for home, fashion or pet needs, including my co-reviewer's favorite spot to shop, World Market. Additionally, the Montgomery Drain project on Frandor's eastern border offers new biking and walking trails, holding ponds, rain gardens, waterfall features and fountains. The food scene also offers a wide variety of options, and this month's topic of review, Bento Kitchen Cravings, is the best of the bunch.

Opened as a Korean and Japanese fusion restaurant in 2019, the spot continues to add new items with Latin and American flair. Inside, the 10 or so tables offer diners space to enjoy Korean bibimbap bowls while they're still piping hot or a chance to imbibe boozy versions of boba teas. "Bento" is a Japanese-style takeout meal, often served for lunch, that comes in a portioned box with rice, protein and veggies. As I sat at midday, many people were taking advantage of the to-go option. Bento is also a popular carryout destination for the non-boozy versions of its boba teas, milk teas and smoothies.

What's good

Birria, the western Mexican slow-cooked meat dish, has grown in popularity over the last few years, thanks to a boost from social media. Bento's version is served in quesadilla, burrito, rice bowl or pizza forms and comes with the typical garnish of salsa and a cup of hot beef consommé for dipping. The birria pizza (\$16.50) is a pizza-sized quesadilla filled with meat and cheese, with more cheese crusted atop the tortilla shells. The consommé has depth of flavor, and the salsa has the right amount of acidity and heat. The beef brisket inside is tender and packed with adobo flavor (chilis, garlic and herbs).

I'm also a fan of the crab rangoons (\$7.50) and the chicken bites (\$9). The rangoons are bursting with a creamy seafood mix, with green onion thrown in for flavor and texture. The Korean fried chicken bites are crispy, with a mild dusting of spices that work so well with the accompanying spicy mayo.

What's really good

The spicy Sichuan dumplings (\$8.50), delicate pouches filled with ground chicken, garlic and ginger, could stand alone as a delectable entrée. Yet, when slathered in the fierce chili oil and topped with green onion, the bites reach another level. The heat isn't for weak palates, but those

**SHE ATE
HE ATE**

Bento Kitchen Cravings

310 N. Clippert St., Suite 6,
Lansing

11 a.m.-9 p.m. Tuesday-
Thursday

11 a.m.-9:30 p.m. Friday-
Saturday

Noon-8 p.m. Sunday

(517) 580-8103

bentokitchencravings.com



Beverly

By **BRYAN BEVERLY**



Bryan Beverly for City Pulse

The She Ate/He Ate reviewers agree that Bento Kitchen Cravings' orange shrimp is a must-try.



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She Ate

from page 29

many people in the Lansing Foodies Facebook group have been singing the praises of the birria pizza (\$16.50) that I had to try it. However, it's too rich for me. I need something to cut through the richness of the meat and cheese, like a pickled onion. But, based on the comments in the abovementioned Facebook group, I'm absolutely in the minority with this opinion.

Bento was, locally speaking, an earlier adopter of the Toast app, which makes ordering takeout incredibly easy. You can customize all the dishes, like asking for light rice in your rice bowl, double protein or no kimchi (although doing that is sacrilege). Bento also has an incredible array of teas, smoothies and desserts. If you're a newcomer, my advice is to start with a rice bowl so you can try a few different proteins over a few visits and then look for other dishes that include your favorites. When the colder weather returns, switch over to ramen. Bento is consistently one of my favorite places to eat, worth braving the insanity that is Frandor traffic.

He Ate

from page 29

who are brave enough will enjoy them without question.

The Sichuan udon with bulgogi (\$15) offers a delightful combination of sweet, savory and spicy. Bulgogi is beef marinated in soy sauce, sugar, sesame oil, garlic, ginger and onion. When combined with the wok-fried udon noodles and veggies, this dish is a hit. Make sure to get a side of the Korean sauce to take the flavor profile up several notches.

Best bite

Hands down, the winner this month is the orange shrimp (\$18). Served with purple rice (or forbidden rice, historically reserved for the wealthy in ancient China because of the health benefits), this dish hits on every cylinder. The shrimp are massive when compared to most other shrimp dishes, and the sauce is amazing. Think of the best General Tso's sauce you've ever had, and I guarantee this one's better. It's so good that I'm ordering more through DoorDash as I write this review, because Frandor's parking lot is still a nightmare.



TOP 5 ITALIAN RESTAURANTS

Based on your votes in City Pulse's 2024 Top of the Town contest. Bon appetit!

1. Bravo! Italian Kitchen

Upscale-casual Italian chain serving pasta, pizza, grilled dishes and cocktails
2970 Town Centre Blvd., Lansing (517) 485-3779
bravoitalian.com
11 a.m.-10 p.m. Monday-Thursday
11 a.m.-11 p.m. Friday-Saturday
11 a.m.-9:30 p.m. Sunday

2. Cugino's

Italian restaurant with bar and patio seating for pizza, pasta, sub sandwiches and other staples
306 S. Bridge St., Grand Ledge (517) 627-4048
cuginosmenu.com

4-8:30 p.m. Monday-Thursday
4-9 p.m. Friday-Saturday

3. Piazzano's

Bar and eatery serving pizza and other Italian fare, plus Mexican grub, sandwiches, burgers and breakfast
1825 N. Grand River Ave., Lansing (517) 484-9922
piazzanos.com
11:30 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday
7:30 a.m.-9 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday
9 a.m.-8 p.m. Sunday

4. Spagnuolo's Restaurant

Cozy, casual restaurant offering homemade Italian comfort food
662 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos (517) 349-9605
spagsinfo.com/spagnuolos
3-8 p.m. Monday-Tuesday
3-9 p.m. Wednesday-Thursday
Noon-9 p.m. Friday-Saturday

5. Tony M's Restaurant & Banquet Center

Eatery and event space serving familiar Italian fare, from pizza to lasagna, plus breakfast
3420 S. Creyts Road, Lansing (517) 322-2069
tonyms.com
10 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Friday
Noon-8 p.m. Saturday-Sunday

CROSSWORD SOLUTION

From Pg. 23

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SUDOKU SOLUTION

From Pg. 23

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Did you know?

Ice cream is a wildly popular dessert, with an estimated 15.4 billion liters consumed each year around the world, according to the World Atlas. New Zealand consumes more ice cream than any other country, followed by the United States. When it comes to ice cream flavors, the International Dairy Foods Association says vanilla is America's favorite flavor, followed by chocolate and strawberry. Butter pecan and cookie dough round out the top five flavors in the United States. Vanilla reigns supreme worldwide as well. Forty-six countries prefer vanilla over other options, according to research conducted by Premier Inn, a United Kingdom-based hotel chain. Worldwide, Neapolitan and chocolate are also popular ice cream flavors.

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