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June 25 - July 1, 2025

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Break Out of Your Shell Lansing's Third Places

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They Could End Hunger, But They'd Rather Bomb Iran.

In a world overflowing with wealth, it's hard to believe that hunger, homelessness, and poverty still exist. But they do – by design, not by accident. At the highest levels of wealth and power, the decision to let people suffer is often more convenient than the decision to help.

Consider this: The United Nations estimates it would take around \$40 billion a year to end global hunger. That's less than what Americans spend annually on lawn care. It's also a fraction of the wealth held by a single individual, such as Elon Musk, whose net worth has soared into the hundreds of billions. Jeff Bezos could house every homeless person in the U.S. and still have enough left over to keep buying rocket ships.

But they won't because there's no profit in feeding people experiencing poverty. There is no tax break for building permanent housing instead of another luxury resort. No Instagram fame in funding food banks. Many billionaires believe they're "changing the world," but only in ways that allow them to maintain control – launching satellites, acquiring media platforms, and donating to universities that already serve the elite.

Meanwhile, the real emergencies get ignored. Millions of Americans go to bed hungry every night. Tent cities sprawl across the wealthiest nation on Earth. Children are being raised in cars and shelters while empty condos and office towers rot in silence.

This isn't because the problem is too big to fix. It's because fixing it isn't a priority.

This brings us to the next moral disaster now in the headlines: Washington's growing appetite for war with Iran. Once again, the Pentagon rattles its sabers. Once again, the administration tells us that military action is on the table. Airstrikes. Escalation. Maybe more.

Ask yourself: Where was the debate when it came to ending child hunger? Where were the urgent press

briefings about homeless veterans? We can conjure up hundreds of billions for bombs, drones, and warships – but we can't find a fraction of that to feed people or build affordable housing?

It's a familiar story: when it comes to destruction, there's always a blank check. When it comes to compassion, the budget suddenly becomes tight.

Let's stop pretending we don't have the money. Let's stop pretending billionaires are doing all they can. Hunger, poverty, and homelessness persist not because we lack solutions but because we lack the will – and the courage – to hold the wealthiest and most powerful accountable.

The money is there. The means are there. What's missing is the morality.

Because, in the end, we don't live in a world where we "can't" end hunger.

Witness the poetic consistency of American politics – or rather, the lack thereof. Who could forget the Trump of yesteryear, furiously tweeting from his golden throne that only a desperate president would bomb Iran to boost sagging poll numbers? Fast forward a few scandals, indictments, and Diet Cokes later, and lo! The missiles fly, not unlike his approval ratings – both in need of serious elevation. It's heartwarming, really, to see a man so committed to his principles that he publicly violates each one in chronological order. In the grand tradition of "Do as I tweet, not as I do," Trump reminds us all that hypocrisy isn't a flaw – it's a branding strategy.

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CityPULSE

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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FUTURE HISTORY

THE YEAR 2065:
TIERRA DEL FUEGO
SURVIVAL OUTPOST

WHAT ARE YOU WATCHING?

A DOCUMENTARY ABOUT THE 2020s.

AN ENLIGHTENMENT-ERA DEMOCRACY HAD ITS ELECTIONS, MEDIA, AND SUPREME COURT SO CORRUPTED BY THE WEALTHY THAT IT BEGAN REVERTING BACK TO MONARCHY.

IT WAS LIKE A REMIX OF EARLIER DICTATORSHIPS—RUSSIAN AND NORTH KOREAN-STYLE PROPAGANDA, HUNGARIAN-STYLE ATTACKS ON UNIVERSITIES AND LGBTQ RIGHTS, THE AXIS POWERS' EMBRACE OF EUGENICS, AND THEOCRATIC SUBJUGATION OF WOMEN.

SOUNDS LIKE A NIGHTMARE. WHAT HAPPENED NEXT?

LET'S FIND OUT.

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Lansing Pride brings expanded offerings to Old Town streets

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THE GOIGREACH
a novel by
R.J. ERSKINE

RJ Erskine returns with Malcolm Cromarty series spinoff

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Tips for making the best tacos possible

Cover illustration by Dennis Preston

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THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW

AMERICA 2025: WE ARE ALL SO VERY TIRED (OF ALL THE WINNING)

AN ONGOING SERIES CHRONICLING THE NATION'S DESCENT INTO GREATNESS!

PROBLEMS IGNORED ARE PROBLEMS SOLVED!

HURRICANES AND PANDEMICS WON'T BE A PROBLEM IF WE ELIMINATE THE AGENCIES TRACKING THEM!

YES SIR! LIKE MAMMA ALWAYS SAID-- OUT OF SIGHT, OUT OF MIND!

WHO ARE YOU, AGAIN?

A.I. IMPROVING OUR LIVES IN EVERY POSSIBLE WAY!

HELLO, I'M YOUR NEW TALKING UNDERPANTS! WOULD YOU LIKE SOME BIZARRE MISINFORMATION ABOUT SCIENCE OR POLITICS?

ONLY IF YOU STATE IT IN A VERY AUTHORITATIVE MANNER!

DEFINITELY NOT A PROBLEM!

OPPOSITION LAWMAKERS REPEATEDLY DETAINED BY SECRET STATE POLICE!*

YOU HAVE NO AUTHORITY TO DO THIS!

AND YET, HERE WE ARE--DOING IT ANYWAY!

IT'S A FUNNY OLD WORLD, ISN'T IT?

***A NORMAL THING THAT OFTEN HAPPENS IN HEALTHY DEMOCRACIES!**

EVERY DAY IS A NEW ADVENTURE!

THE SUPREME COURT JUST RULED THAT TRANS PEOPLE CAN LEGALLY BE THROWN INTO VOLCANOES!

AND TRUMP POSTED THAT DEMOCRATS SHOULD BE HUNTED IN THE STREET FOR SPORT!

AND IT'S ONLY TEN A.M.! WHO KNOWS WHAT WILL HAPPEN BY DINNER-TIME!

NEVER A DULL MOMENT IN DONALD TRUMP'S AMERICA!

I MADE BIG BOMBS GO 'SPODEY! WE LOVE YOU, GOD!

THIS IS MY "SERIOUS" FACE!

OPERATION POUNDING HANGOVER IS A GO!

I CAN FEEL MY SOUL ESCAPING MY BODY.

NEXT: YOUR GUESS IS AS GOOD AS OURS!

TOM TOMORROW © 2025-06-23... JOIN SPARKY'S LIST: thismodernworld.com/subscriptions

PULSE

NEWS & OPINION

Fix the damn sidewalks: Lansing's are as bad as the roads

City has a \$12 million annual problem — and a \$1 million budget

One minute, Linda Gonzales was enjoying a beautiful Saturday in June as she walked to a mailbox along Jolly Road in south Lansing. The next, she was on the ground with a broken wrist.

The culprit was a mismatched sidewalk slab raised around 3 inches high relative to the next. It left her on the ground for around five minutes, her wrist broken and knees scraped, before she was able to get up and seek medical help.

Gonzales, who moved to Lansing around three months ago from Walker, was unaccustomed to the state of Lansing's sidewalks. Out of nearly 600 miles them, many sections "are very old and have shifted due to a number of factors," mayoral spokesperson Scott Bean said.

Fixing those sections has been a priority for City Council President Ryan Kost, who said that the city's sidewalk budget has continued to increase since he joined the Council. But even the new sidewalk budget of \$1 million, up from \$575,000 in the 2023-'24 fiscal year, falls well short of the estimated \$12 million Kost said is needed yearly.

"It's still not enough," he said. "And unfortunately, none of the road money can be used for sidewalks. It can only be used for the ramp entryways to sidewalks from the road."

In the meantime, current conditions present not just trip hazards for ordinary people like Gonzales but unnavigable situations



Leo V. Kaplan/City Pulse

Linda Gonzales' wrist is still wrapped from having broken it when she tripped over a sidewalk on Jolly Road in south Lansing.

for wheelchair and cane users.

Tamara Reid Bush is an engineering professor at MSU who studies biomechanics. She works frequently with older adults and people with mobility issues and has studied the difficulties sidewalks can pose.

She said mismatched sidewalks, like the one Gonzales tripped over, pose an additional threat to wheelchair users. They can cause "a tipping action that occurs as the chair abruptly stops due to hitting that elevated section."

"We've heard of some situations where a person is pushing a loved one in a wheelchair, and the wheel catches on this mismatch, and the person falls out of the wheelchair," she said.

Another common issue is an angled sidewalk, or one that is not level for a long stretch. Such a sidewalk requires not only

balance but more force to move a manual wheelchair.

A "huge problem" in Michigan, she said, are "cracks or potholes" at the bottom of curb cut-outs, where wheelchairs, walkers and knee scooters can get stuck. Often situated at the bottom of a ramp, these potholes can put pedestrians in danger from cars.

Zelith Zaneta, an ambulatory wheelchair user, interns downtown. She said the sidewalks were difficult to navigate with a wheelchair or cane. Alongside slanted sidewalks, "big divots" in the sidewalk itself make navigation difficult.

"Even if I'm using my cane, it can get stuck in those divots," Zaneta said.

The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 includes specifications that must be met by sidewalks built or altered after

Jan. 26, 1992. Those specifications include provisions that changes in level cannot be greater than a quarter inch, for instance, or half an inch if beveled with a slope.

But actually complying with the ADA can be impossibly expensive. In Los Angeles, for instance, a class-action lawsuit on behalf of disabled residents triggered a nearly \$1.37 billion repair program to fix the city's sidewalks in 2016. A 2021 report from the L.A. City Controller's Office found less than 1 percent of the city's sidewalks had been issued certificates of compliance in five years.

It is unclear what the consequence of a similar lawsuit would be in Lansing. Attempts to reach public service director Andy Kilpatrick for comment were unsuccessful. But it is clear that the disparity between the current budget and the needs of disabled residents has no immediate solution.

Kost said the bind could be at least partially alleviated if municipalities were allowed to spend funding for roads on repairing sidewalks. He said creating ADA-accessible ramps from roads to sidewalks had been a priority because the city can spend road funding on those ramps.

"I think another broken part of the state process is how road money is divided up, and I think the state would be smart to focus on not only roads, but sidewalks too," he said.

"There are communities that can put 8-foot-wide sidewalks in the whole community because they have a massive tax base without a lot of cost," he continued. "And then there's aging urban areas that simply do not have a big enough tax base

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Lansing's sidewalks pose a range of hazards to pedestrians. From left to right: A cracked sidewalk on the 200 block of Fairview Avenue on the east side leads to a slanted and mismatched sidewalk. The pink paint indicates the city has looked at the sidewalk. A cracked sidewalk on the 1200 block of Vermont Avenue in North Lansing is heavily slanted to one side, making it difficult for manual wheelchair

users to navigate. A missing sidewalk slab on Kalamazoo Street, opposite Hunter Park, could cause mobility problems for wheelchair, walker and cane users, especially during rainy weather. A pothole on the ramp leading to the road at the intersection of Holmes Street and Larned Street could lead a wheelchair or walker user to get stuck or fall.

**PUBLIC NOTICE
CITY OF EAST LANSING
PROPOSED PY 2025/2026
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT ANNUAL ACTION PLAN**

The PY 2025/2026 Annual Action Plan represents the fifth year of the City's current Consolidated Plan. The proposed projects and activities would be funded with federal government Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program funds awarded to the City by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The City's anticipated PY 2025/2026 CDBG Entitlement Grant is \$401,425. The proposed budget was unanimously approved by City Council as part of the City's Fiscal Year 2026 budget on May 27, 2025.

This is to provide notice that the comment period on the proposed Annual Action Plan commences on Thursday, June 26, 2025, and will conclude on Monday, July 28, 2025. During this period, copies of the Annual Action Plan may be reviewed at the City of East Lansing's Department of Planning, Building, and Development (410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, MI 48823) or online at <https://cityofeastlansing.com/2329/Active-Public-Notices>.

The proposed PY 2025/2026 CDBG Program Budget is as follows:

1. City of East Lansing Department of Community and Economic Development, Successful Leasing Program: \$5,715.00
2. City of East Lansing Department of Parks, Recreation, and Arts, Northern Tier Trail Extension Project: \$131,235.00
3. City of East Lansing Department of Parks, Recreation, and Arts, Youth Scholarship Program: \$4,765.00
4. City of East Lansing Department of Public Works, Sidewalk Improvement Project: \$131,235.00
5. Spartan Housing Cooperative, Rental Rehabilitation Project: \$18,865.00
6. Haven House, Emergency shelter and homeless assistance: \$20,955.00
7. MSU Safe Place, Domestic violence shelter and advocacy: \$7,820.00
8. Tri-County Office on Aging, Meals on Wheels program: \$9,525.00
9. MSU Migrant Students Services, Support Services for Low Income Migrant Students: \$11,430.00
10. Program Planning and Administration: \$59,880.00

Anticipated Program Income During PY 2025/2026: Program income from the repayment of second mortgages through the Homeownership Opportunity Assistance Program or Homeowner Rehabilitation Program is estimated at \$20,000. Please note that, although not funded using PY2025/2026 dollars, the Homeowner Rehabilitation Program will still be available to income-eligible homeowners during PY2025/2026 using funds from prior years.

Proposed Use of Program Income: Program income typically returns to the program which generated the income, i.e., recapture of second mortgage proceeds, through the Homeownership Opportunity Assistance Program (HOAP) and Homeowner Rehabilitation program, will be budgeted for additional homebuyer or homeowner assistance subsidy.

Beneficiaries: Activities under Project 2 serve an area benefit to Census Tract 112 Block Groups 2 and 3, as well as Census Tract 38.02, Block Group 1 (78.08% low-to moderate-income). Activities under Project 4 serve an area benefit to Census Tract 41, Block Group 4 (97.95% low-to moderate-income). Projects 1 and 5 will each serve a housing benefit to low-to moderate-income households. Projects 3, 6, 7, 8, and 9 serve limited clientele benefits, meaning that households and individuals assisted with these activities must meet the low-to moderate-income guidelines established by HUD or be considered by HUD to be members of a clientele generally presumed to be low-to moderate-income. Project 10 is for planning and/or administrative activities.

Displacement: As required by HUD regulations, the City will follow the Federal Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Properties Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, as amended and all applicable minimized to the greatest extent possible.

Range of Activities Eligible for CDBG Funding: Activities which may be undertaken with CDBG funds include, but are not limited to: acquisition, disposition, public facilities and improvements, clearance, public services, homeownership assistance, housing rehabilitation and preservation, renovation of closed buildings, lead-based paint hazard evaluation and reduction, special economic development activities, microenterprise development, technical assistance, and planning and administration. For additional information on eligible activities, refer to 24 CFR 570, Subpart C.

Further Information and Comments: If you wish to obtain further information regarding anything contained in this public notice, please contact East Lansing's Department of Planning, Building, and Development at 517-319-6930 between the hours of 8:00AM and 5:00PM, Monday through Friday. Comments may be submitted to the East Lansing Department of Planning, Building, and Development at City Hall, C/O Matt Apostle, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, MI 48823 or emailed to grants@cityofeastlansing.com.

Dated June 25, 2025
Amy Gordon, Interim City Clerk
City of East Lansing
Ingham and Clinton Counties

CP#25-200

Sidewalks

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to support it.”

One solution the city has been using is having citizens report trip hazards on the city's app, Lansing Connect. Kost said he used the app himself, to mixed results.

“I use it and I report sidewalks, and sometimes it's quick, and sometimes I have to remind them,” he said. “Typically, you'll see spray-paint on sidewalks that they've come out and looked at, and then the work will go on from there.”

“Unfortunately, some of those get lost in translation, so my hope is that as we move forward and sidewalks become a bigger issue, that we will address those a little faster.”

Another issue with the app is that residents are unaware of its existence. Both Gonzales and Zaneta said they had never heard of it.

“If I had known about that app, I would have got on it right away and sent pictures,” Gonzales said. “This is not the only sidewalk to report. There is uneven sidewalk everywhere.”

“I had no clue the app exists, and I follow a lot of the city's social media,” Zaneta said.

Kost said he expects sidewalks and other deteriorating infrastructure to be both



Leo V. Kaplan/City Pulse

The mismatched sidewalk that tripped Linda Gonzales, near the intersection of Jolly Road and Waverly Road in South Lansing. The elevation is around 3 inches.

a continued problem and priority as time goes on.

“It doesn't seem like a bunch, but in my three years on Council, we've doubled how much sidewalk repair money there is, and we'll continue to find that money every year,” he said.

“When you see those increases on property taxes, that's where we need to be investing that money: into our neighborhood infrastructure. Folks want to know what they're getting when they're paying these taxes, you know, what their return on investment is, and we need to start showing results.”

— LEO V. KAPLAN

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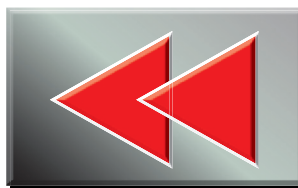
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REWIND

NEWS HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE LAST 7 DAYS

COMPILED BY STEVE UNDERWOOD FROM LOCAL NEWS SOURCES



Bridget Brink, the former U.S. ambassador to Ukraine, announced she is running as a Democrat to challenge U.S. Rep. Tom Barrett, R-Charlotte, in Michigan's 7th Congressional District in next year's election. Brink purchased a home on Moores River Drive in Lansing at the end of May with her husband, Nicholas Higgins, a Foreign Service officer. She is a career diplomat who grew up in Michigan and resigned her post over President Donald Trump's policies regarding the war with Russia.

The East Lansing City Council has approved a tentative \$7.8 million settlement to resolve a lawsuit over the 5% franchise fee it levied on its Lansing Board of Water & Light customers starting in 2017. The settlement is pending approval by Ingham County Circuit Judge Wanda Stokes. East Lansing resident Jim Heos sued the city in 2020 to challenge the fee, but the state Supreme Court ruled in February that the fee was, in fact, a tax and, therefore, would have required voter approval, which the city did not obtain. The city must establish a formula to determine individual refunds to residents, which Stokes must approve. Residents who paid BWL franchise fees in East Lansing between April 2, 2019, and April 30, 2025, are eligible for reimbursement.



Michigan Attorney General Dana Nessel's office executed a search warrant June 18 at the Lansing offices of the Michigan Economic Development Corp. and a home in Farmington Hills, officials confirmed. The Detroit Free Press confirmed that investigators were at the home of a major MEDC grant recipient. Neighbors interviewed said the house belonged to Fay Beydoun, president of the nonprofit corporation Global Link International. The office would not disclose details about the investigation's nature. Otie McKinley, an MEDC spokesperson, called the raid "unwarranted and unnecessary," adding, "MEDC has been fully and voluntarily cooperating with the Attorney General's investigation for more than two years." MEDC awarded a \$20 million grant to Global Link International, and The Detroit News reported that early expenditures from the grant proceeds included a \$4,500 coffee maker, an \$11,000 first-class plane ticket and \$408,000 in salaries to two individuals over a three-month period.



Delta Township officials are discussing assessing property owners 1.5 mills to help it complete a tentative deal with Eaton

County to fund police and fire service. Township Manager Brian Reed told the township board that state law permits certain types of local governments to fund police and fire services with a special assessment on real property, just as they would with a typical millage. Residents, however, will not have a chance to vote on it. "We need police services here, so it's a matter of 'we have to act,'" Reed told the Lansing State Journal. A 1.5-mill special assessment would generate about \$2.7 million a year and help the township pay for police services for its 33,000 residents following the failure in May of a countywide 2-mill tax increase aimed at funding Sheriff's Office road patrol in rural areas. Delta Township voters supported both of those millage proposals.

Stephanie Anthony, the director of the MSU Office of College Access Initiatives and a presidential adviser for relationship violence and sexual misconduct, claimed in a notice of intent filed with the Michigan Court of Claims that Vice Provost for University Outreach and Engagement Kwesi Brookins, her direct supervisor, repeatedly broke state and federal civil rights laws by discriminating against her and subjecting her to a hostile work environment. Anthony claimed Brookins made false reports alleging her misconduct to the university, withheld money intended to support her in her dual roles and retaliated against her for reporting discrimination and taking leave.



Grammy-winning country music artist Billy Strings announced his mother's death at a show in Lexington, Kentucky, Friday, the night after his homecoming performance at the Charlotte Bluegrass Festival. Debra Apostol, who lived in Muir, Michigan, with Strings' dad, Terry Barber, died in her sleep after his Charlotte show.

Strings, who was born in Lansing, recalled his parents' bringing him to his first bluegrass festival in Charlotte when he was 4. Barber, a bluegrass artist himself, had joined Strings on the stage Thursday. Strings asked his Lexington fans, instead of a moment of silence, to make as much noise as possible in honor of his mother.

Public safety

Lansing police said a man suffered a non-life-threatening stab wound on the 1400 block of Roselawn Avenue Saturday. Police did not identify the victim or a suspect they were seeking. ... Firefighters from three departments fought a blaze at the St. Johns Motel Saturday. No one was injured, but the motel has been closed as the owners determine whether they can repair the damage.



Artstorm 2025

Murals find their way on to some unusual spaces, including street crosswalks, communication boxes and walls and windows in the downtown. And now drain grates and catch basins will be getting a makeover with murals painted by local artists Victoria Taava Ericks (an example is above) and Maricela Tapia as part of a creative way to spiff up grates across the region while highlighting environmental messages.

The two artists will paint 17 murals on grates in 17 communities across Mid-Michigan. They recently started painting murals at installations near Spartan Stadium and the Veterans Memorial Gardens in Delhi Township.

Artstorm 2025 is a joint project of the Tri County Regional Planning Commission and the Greater Lansing Regional Committee for Stormwater Management. It's funded by the Michigan Economic Development Corp.

Each installation will provide an educational message to engage tri-county residents. The murals are one of the many ways in which area communities collaborate to reduce stormwater pollution and improve waterway health.

Communities having their grates touched up are Dewitt, Lansing, East Lansing, Grand Ledge and Mason along with Meridian, Delhi, Delta and Dewitt townships.

You'll also see other installations completed by the Ingham, Eaton and Clinton drain commissions and the Lansing and Waverly school districts.

A video will record the installations' progress and underline the importance of drains in the scheme of directing water from storm runoff.

The Arts Council of Greater Lansing is managing the ArtStorm project, which is expected to be completed by August.

Expect to see frogs and other creatures peeking out from the drain grates or maybe even Michelangelo from the Teen Age Mutant Turtles hanging out at a catch basin.

BILL CASTANIER

Public Art of the Week is a new feature that rotates with Eyesore of the Week. If you have an idea for either, please email eye@lansingcitypulse.com or call (517) 999-6704.

CITY OF EAST LANSING
(Counties of Ingham and Clinton, Michigan)
Ordinance No. 1551

AN ORDINANCE SUPPLEMENTING ORDINANCE NO. 1296 TO AUTHORIZE AND PROVIDE FOR THE ISSUANCE OF ADDITIONAL SERIES OF REVENUE BONDS TO PAY THE COST OF ACQUISITION AND CONSTRUCTION OF IMPROVEMENTS TO THE CITY OF EAST LANSING'S SEWAGE DISPOSAL SYSTEM AND TO PROVIDE OTHER MATTERS RELATIVE TO THE ADDITIONAL REVENUE BONDS

Councilmember Altman supported by Councilmember Mayor Brookover moved the adoption of the following Ordinance:

WHEREAS, the City of East Lansing (the "City") has previously enacted Ordinance No. 1296 authorizing the issuance of revenue bonds to pay the cost of acquisition and construction of sewage disposal system improvements to be operated as part of the City's Sewage Disposal System (the "System") pursuant to Act 94, Public Acts of Michigan, 1933, as amended ("Act 94"); and

WHEREAS, the City Council of has determined to make additional improvements to the System; and

WHEREAS, the improvements will enable the City to provide more efficient and better quality public services to the users of the System, and

WHEREAS, the improvements shall be financed in part by the issuance of revenue bonds in accordance with Act 94; and

WHEREAS, the bonds will be sold to the Michigan Finance Authority pursuant to the Clean Water State Revolving Fund program; and

THE CITY OF EAST LANSING ORDAINS:

Section 1. DEFINITIONS. Except as provided in this Ordinance, the definitions contained in the Prior Ordinance (defined below) shall apply to the terms in this Ordinance. In addition, whenever used in this Ordinance except when otherwise indicated by context, the following definitions shall apply to the terms in this Ordinance:

(a) "Authorized Officer" means the Mayor, the City Manager, the Treasurer, and the Chief Finance Officer of the City, or any one of them acting alone or any number of them acting together.

(b) "Authority" means the Michigan Finance Authority created by Executive Order 2010-2, which, among other things, transferred to the Michigan Finance Authority the powers, duties and functions of the Michigan Municipal Bond Authority, created and established pursuant to Act 227, Public Acts of Michigan, 1985, as amended.

(c) "Bonds," "Additional Revenue Bonds," "Outstanding Revenue Bonds" and "Revenue Bonds" as defined in the Prior Ordinance shall **include** the Series 2025 Bonds which are being issued as Additional Revenue Bonds under Section 20 of Ordinance 1296.

(d) "Construction Fund" shall mean the 2025 Sewage Disposal System Revenue Bonds Construction Fund created pursuant to Section 13 of this Ordinance.

(e) "Contract Documents" means the Purchase Contract between the City and the Authority, the Supplemental Agreement by and among the City, the Authority and the State of Michigan acting through the Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy, and the Issuer's Certificate for the Series 2025 Bonds or such other closing documents required by the Authority for the issuance of the Series 2025 Bonds.

(f) "Improvements" means the design, acquisition and construction of improvements to the System, including without limitation: (1.) the separation of combined sewers in the River Street, Waters Edge, Woodmere Street, Gunson Street, Milford Street, and Wilmarth Area, through the conversion of eKisting combined sewers to either separate storm sewers or sanitary sewers and the construction of new complimentary storm sewers or sanitary sewers as appropriate, relocation of water mains as necessary, the reduction of sanitary sewer and combined sewer overflows to the Red Cedar River, stormwater quality improvements, and the construction of a flow control structure; (2.) improvements to the Water Resource Recovery Facility (WRRF) administration and controls building, including without limitation, repurposing of building spaces occupied by obsolete and abandoned equipment previously used for incineration, solids storage, solids dewatering, and handling processes in order to construct staff offices, a central control operations center, and laboratory improvements; provide ADA improvements; provide equitable facilities for female employees; utilization of excess heat from the combined heat and power unit to heat the administration building and galleries; and upgrading the laboratory and the sampling system; and (3.) improvements to the WRRF treatment system's operations and controls, including without limitation, solids handling piping modifications and instrumentation improvements, improvements to the aeration tank instrumentation and controls, modifications to the WRRF effluent reaeration chamber, RAS headbox modifications, construction of a vector dump station, and modifications to the equalization basin; as well as all work, equipment, and appurtenances nec-

essary or incidental to these improvements and such other improvements to the System as the City may determine to make.

(g) "Prior Bonds" means the Series 2013 Bond, Series 2015 Bond, Series 2017 Bond, Series 2019 Bond and Series 2021 Bond.

(h) "Prior Ordinance" refers collectively to Ordinance No. 1296, as supplemented by Ordinance No. 1345, Ordinance No. 1410, Ordinance No. 1452, and Resolution No. 2021-11.

(i) "Ordinance" means this Ordinance and all amendments hereto.

(j) "Series 2013 Bond" means the City's Sewage Disposal System Revenue Bond, Series 2013.

(k) "Series 2015 Bond" means the City's Sewage Disposal System Revenue Bond, Series 2015.

(l) "Series 2017 Bond" means the City's Sewage Disposal System Revenue Bond, Series 2017.

(m) "Series 2019 Bond" means the City's Sewage Disposal System Revenue Bond, Series 2019.

(n) "Series 2021 Bond" means the City's Sewage Disposal System Revenue Bonds, Series 2021 (Junior Lien).

(o) "Series 2025 Bonds" means the City's Sewage Disposal System Revenue Bonds, Series 2025 issued pursuant to this Ordinance.

Section 2. NECESSITY, PUBLIC PURPOSE: It is hereby determined to be necessary for the public health, safety, and welfare of the City to acquire and construct the Improvements to the System in accordance with the maps, plans, and specifications therefor prepared by the City's engineers, which are hereby approved.

Section 3. ESTIMATED COST: PERIOD OF USEFULNESS: The cost of the portion of the Improvements to be financed pursuant to this Ordinance has been estimated by the engineers not to exceed \$46,000,000 including the payment of legal, engineering, financial, and other expenses, which estimate of cost is approved and confirmed, and the period of usefulness of the Improvements is estimated to be greater than forty (40) years.

Section 4. ISSUANCE OF BONDS. To pay a portion of the cost of designing, acquiring, and constructing the Improvements and to pay the legal and financial expenses and all other expenses incidental to the issuance of the Series 2025 Bonds, the City shall issue its revenue bonds pursuant to the provisions of Act 94. The balance of the costs of the Improvements shall be paid by other bonds, grants, and other funds appropriated by the City. The Series 2025 Bonds shall be issued in the aggregate principal sum of not to exceed \$46,000,000, as finally determined by the Authorized Officer at the time of sale, or such lesser amount thereof as shall have been advanced to the City pursuant to the Contract Documents.

The City Council determines that if the Series 2025 Bonds are issued within the parameters of this Ordinance with interest as provided in the Contract Documents, then during the preceding operating year the Adjusted Net Revenues of the System shall be at least equal to one hundred percent of the maximum amount of principal and interest thereafter maturing in any operating year on the Outstanding Revenue Bonds and the Series 2025 Bonds as required by Section 20 of Ordinance No. 1296 for the issuance of Additional Revenue Bonds, and the Adjusted Net Revenues of the System for the last two preceding twelve-month operating years or the Adjusted Net Revenues for the last preceding twelve-month operating year, if the same shall be lower than the average, shall be equal to at least one hundred percent of the maximum amount of principal and interest thereafter maturing in any operating year on the Outstanding Revenue Bonds and the Series 2025 Bonds as required by Section 15 of Resolution No. 2021- 11. The City Council determines that the City is not in default in making its required payments to the Operation and Maintenance Fund or the Revenue Bond Redemption Fund established by Ordinance No. 1296. Therefore, the City Council finds that the conditions of the Prior Ordinance for the issuance of the Series 2025 Bonds as Additional Revenue Bonds have been met.

During the time funds are being drawn down by the City under the Series 2025 Bonds, the Authority will periodically provide the City a statement showing the amount of principal that has been advanced and the date of each advance, which statement shall constitute prima facie evidence of the reported information; provided that no failure on the part of the Authority to provide such a statement or to reflect a disbursement or the correct amount of a disbursement shall relieve the City of its obligation to repay the outstanding principal amount actually advanced, all accrued interest thereon, and any other amount payable with respect thereto in accordance with the terms of the Series 2025 Bonds.

Section 5. SERIES 2025 BOND TERMS. The Series 2025 Bonds shall be issued as one fully registered manuscript bond, shall be sold and delivered to the Authority in any denomination. The Series 2025 Bonds shall be dated the date of delivery to the

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Authority, or such other date approved by the Authorized Officer, and shall be payable on the dates and in the amounts determined by the Authorized Officer at the time of sale provided the final maturity shall be no later than forty years after the date of issuance. The Series 2025 Bonds shall bear interest at a rate as provided in the Contract Documents, payable semiannually on the dates determined by the Authorized Officer at the time of sale. Within the limitations provided above, the final amount of any maturity and the terms of the Series 2025 Bonds shall be as provided in the Contract Documents and will be finally determined by the Authorized Officer.

Section 6. PAYMENT OF BONDS. PLEDGE OF NET REVENUES. The Series 2025 Bonds and the interest thereon shall be payable solely and only from the Net Revenues, and to secure such payment, there is hereby created a statutory lien upon the whole of the Net Revenues which shall continue until payment in full of the principal of and interest on the Series 2025 Bonds, or, until sufficient cash or Sufficient Government Obligations have been deposited in trust for payment in full of the principal of and interest on the Series 2025 Bonds to maturity, or, if called for redemption, to the date fixed for redemption, together with the amount of the redemption premium, if any. Upon deposit of cash or Sufficient Government Obligations, as provided in the previous sentence, the statutory lien shall be terminated with respect to the Series 2025 Bonds, the holder of the Series 2025 Bonds shall have no further rights under this Ordinance or the Prior Ordinance except for payment from the deposited funds, and the Series 2025 Bonds shall be considered to be defeased and shall no longer be considered to be outstanding under this Ordinance or the Prior Ordinance. As an Additional Revenue Bond the Series 2025 Bonds shall have equal standing and priority of lien as to the Net Revenues of the System with the outstanding Prior Bonds.

The Series 2025 Bonds, including both principal and interest thereon, shall not be a general obligation of the City and shall not constitute an indebtedness of the City for the purpose of any debt limitations imposed by any applicable constitutional, statutory, or charter provisions.

Section 7. PRIOR REDEMPTION: The Series 2025 Bonds issued and sold to the Authority shall be subject to redemption prior to maturity by the City only with the prior written consent of the Authority and on such terms as may be required by the Authority.

Section 8. PAYING AGENT AND REGISTRATION.

(a) The initial bond registrar, paying agent, and transfer agent for the Series 2025 Bonds shall be the City Treasurer.

(b) Registration of the Bonds shall be recorded in the registration books of the City to be kept by a Paying Agent. Except as may be provided for Additional Revenue Bonds in the ordinance authorizing issuance of those Bonds, Bonds may be transferred only by submitting the same, together with a satisfactory instrument of transfer signed by the Registered Owner or the Registered Owner's legal representative duly authorized in writing, to the Paying Agent, after which a new Bond or Bonds shall be issued by the Paying Agent to the transferee (new registered owner) in any denomination, in the same aggregate principal amount as the Bond submitted for transfer. No transfer of Bonds shall be valid unless and until recorded on the bond registration books in accordance with the foregoing. The person in whose name any Bond is registered may for all purposes, notwithstanding any notice to the contrary, be deemed and treated by the City and the Paying Agent as the absolute owner thereof, and any payment of the principal of and interest on any Bond to the Registered Owner thereof shall constitute a valid discharge of the City's liability upon such Bond to the extent of such payment. No Bond shall be transferred less than fifteen (15) days prior to an interest payment date nor after the Bond has been called for redemption.

(c) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Ordinance, so long as the Authority is the owner of the Series 2025 Bonds, (a) the Series 2025 Bonds are payable as to principal, premium, if any, and interest in lawful money of the United States of America at U.S. Bank Trust Company, National Association, or at such other place as shall be designated in writing to the City by the Authority (the "Authority's Depository"); (b) the City agrees that it will deposit with the Authority's Depository payments of the principal of, premium, if any, and interest on the Series 2025 Bonds in immediately available funds by 12:00 noon at least five business days prior to the date on which any such payment is due whether by maturity, redemption or otherwise; in the event that the Authority's Depository has not received the City's deposit by 12:00 noon on the scheduled day, the City shall immediately pay to the Authority as invoiced by the Authority an amount to recover the Authority's administrative costs and lost investment earnings attributable to that late payment; and (c) written notice of any redemption of the Series 2025 Bonds shall be given by the City and received by the Authority's Depository at least 40 days prior to the date on which such redemption is to be made.

Section 9. SALE OF BONDS. The Series 2025 Bonds shall be sold by a negotiated sale to the Authority. The City determines that a negotiated sale is in the best interest of the City because the terms offered by the Authority are more favorable than those

available from other sources of funding.

Section 10. BOND FORM: The Series 2025 Bonds shall be substantially in the form attached hereto as Exhibit A, and incorporated herein, with such completions, changes and additions as may be required by the Authority or as recommended by the City's Bond Counsel and approved by the officers of the City signing the Series 2025 Bonds.

Section 11. AUTHORIZED OFFICER: The Authorized Officer is hereby designated, for and on behalf of the City, to do all acts and to take all necessary steps required to effectuate the sale, issuance, and delivery of the Series 2025 Bonds to the Authority. The City hereby approves the Contract Documents in the form presented by the Authority with such changes as are approved by the Authorized Officer. The Authorized Officer is hereby authorized to execute and deliver the Contract Documents in substantially the form presented to the City, with such changes, additions, and completions as are approved by the Authorized Officer.

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Ordinance, the Authorized Officer is authorized within the limitations of this Ordinance to determine the specific interest rate or rates to be borne by the bonds, not exceeding the maximum rate allowed by law, the principal amount, interest payment dates, dates of maturities, and amount of maturities, redemption rights, the title of the Series 2025 Bonds, date of issuance, and other terms and conditions relating to the Series 2025 Bonds and the sale thereof provided, however, the last annual principal installment shall not be later than provided in the Contract Documents. The Authorized Officer is further authorized to alter or adjust the covenants made pursuant to this Ordinance and the Prior Ordinance, including without limitation the covenants provided in Sections 11 and 20 of the Prior Ordinance. The Authorized Officer's approval of the terms shall be evidenced by his or her signature on the document or agreement stating such terms. The Authorized Officer is hereby authorized for and on behalf of the City, without further City Council approval, to do all acts and take all necessary steps required to effectuate the sale, issuance, and delivery of the Series 2025 Bonds. The Authorized Officer, or any one or more of them, are authorized to execute any orders, receipts, agreements, pledge agreements, documents or certificates necessary to complete the transaction, including, but not limited to, any issuers certificate, any certificates relating to federal or state securities laws, rules or regulations, any election or designation under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended or any regulation promulgated thereunder, any applications to the Michigan Department of Treasury, and any revenue sharing pledge agreement and to make any elections or designations under the Code. The City hereby approves the Revenue Sharing Pledge Agreements in the form presented by the Authority, with such changes as are approved by the Authorized Officer, and authorizes the Authorized Officer to execute and deliver the Revenue Sharing Pledge Agreement if it is required by the Authority or if the Authorized Officer determines it is in the best interests of the City.

Section 12. EXECUTION OF BONDS: The Mayor or the Mayor Pro Tern and the Clerk or the Deputy Clerk of the City are hereby authorized and directed to sign the Series 2025 Bonds, either manually or by facsimile signature, on behalf of the City. Upon execution, the Series 2025 Bonds shall be delivered to the purchaser thereof.

Section 13. CONSTRUCTION FUND. The proceeds of the Series 2025 Bonds shall be deposited in the Construction Fund. Such moneys shall be used solely for the purpose for which the Series 2025 Bonds were issued. Any unexpected balance in the Construction Fund remaining after completion of the Improvements may be used for such purposes as allowed by law. After completion of the Improvements and disposition of remaining Series 2025 Bond proceeds, if any, pursuant to the provisions of this Section, the Construction Fund shall be closed.

Section 14. RATES AND CHARGES. The rates and charges for the services of the System shall be those in effect on the date of adoption of this Ordinance or as may be adopted prior to the issuance of the Series 2025 Bonds. The rates and charges are in amounts that are sufficient to pay the expenses of administration and the costs of operation and maintenance of the System, to provide an amount of revenues adequate for the payment of principal of and interest on the Bonds, reserve, replacement, and improvement requirements and to otherwise comply with all requirements and covenant provided herein.

Section 15. CONDITIONS PERMITTING ISSUANCE OF SENIOR LIEN BONDS.

The City reserves the right to issue Additional Revenue Bonds of senior standing and priority of lien on the Net Revenues of the System to the Series 2025 Bonds (the "Senior Lien Bonds"). If Senior Lien Bonds are issued, then Net Revenues of the System would be used first to pay debt service on the Senior Lien Bonds prior to providing for payment of the Series 2025 Bonds.

Section 16. TAX COVENANT. The City covenants to comply with all requirements of the Code necessary to assure that the interest on the bonds will be and will remain eKclUdable from gross income for federal income tax purposes. The Authorized Offi-

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cer and other appropriate officials of the City are authorized to do all things necessary (including the making of such covenants of the City as shall be appropriate) to assure that the interest on the Series 2025 Bonds will be and will remain excludable from gross income for federal income tax purposes.

Section 17. APPOINTMENT OF BOND COUNSEL. The firm of Dickinson Wright PLLC is hereby approved as bond counsel to the City.

Section 18. MUNICIPAL ADVISOR. MFCI, LLC is hereby employed as municipal advisor for the Series 2025 Bonds.

Section 19. PRIOR ORDINANCE. Except to the extent supplemented or otherwise provided in this Ordinance, all of the provisions and covenants provided in the Prior Ordinance shall apply to the Series 2025 Bonds issued pursuant to this Ordinance.

Section 20. PUBLICATION AND RECORDATION. This Ordinance shall be published once in full in a newspaper of general circulation in the City qualified under state law to publish legal notices, and the same shall be recorded in the records of the City and such recording authenticated by the signature of the City Clerk.

Section 21. ORDINANCE SUBJECT TO MICHIGAN LAW. The provisions of this Ordinance are subject to the laws of the State of Michigan.

Section 22. SECTION HEADINGS. The section headings in this Ordinance are furnished for convenience of reference only and shall not be considered to be a part of this Ordinance.


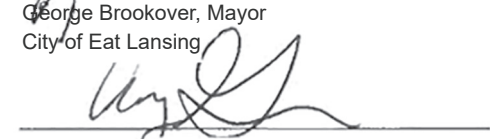
Section 23. SEVERABILITY. If any section, paragraph, clause or provision of this Ordinance shall be held invalid, the invalidity of such section, paragraph, clause or provision shall not affect any of the other provisions of this Ordinance.

Section 24. CONFLICT. Except as provided above, all Ordinances or parts thereof, insofar as the same may be in conflict herewith, are hereby repealed to the extent of the conflict; provided, that the foregoing shall not operate to repeal any provision thereof, the repeal of which would impair the obligation on the Series 2025 Bonds or the Prior Bonds.

Section 25. EFFECTIVE DATE OF ORDINANCE. Pursuant to Section 6 of Act 94, this Ordinance shall be approved on the date of first reading and this Ordinance shall be effective immediately upon its adoption.


YEAS: 4
NAYS: 0
ABSTAIN: _____
ABSENT: 1 _____

ORDINANCE DECLARED ADOPTED.


George Brookover, Mayor
City of East Lansing

Amy Gordon Interim Clerk City of East Lansing

CERTIFICATION

1, Amy Gordon, the duly qualified and acting Interim Clerk of the City of East Lansing, Ingham and Clinton Counties, Michigan do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of an Ordinance adopted by the City Council at a regular meeting held on June 17, 2025, and that notice of said meeting was given pursuant to Act 267, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976, as amended.


Amy Gordon Interim Clerk
City of East Lansing

Dated: June 17, 2025

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Probed for bilking taxpayers, suspect checks in from Ghana

A professed aerospace manufacturing expert, whom the attorney general is investigating for doing nothing tangible with \$2.5 million in grants he received in 2020 and 2021, says he's in Ghana.

And as long as Attorney General Dana Nessel is around, he's not coming back to Michigan.

Gavin Brown, the executive director of the Michigan Aerospace Manufacturers Association, told MIRS News that he believes the review of how his organization spent the taxpayer money it received is politically motivated and that he no longer feels safe in Michigan.

It could also be that he doesn't want to get arrested and plastered on the front pages, like David Coker Jr., the former legislative staffer, who allegedly spent part of a \$25 million no-bid grant he somehow received on silver bullets and expense cars.

Or Fay Beydoun, the well-connected Democratic operative who received state grants that The Detroit News reported went toward elaborate travel and the most expensive coffee maker you'll ever find.

Brown took advantage of legislators with their eyes in the stars in 2018 and 2019. He convinced them to set aside \$2 million to develop a low-orbit launch site in Michigan for space travel and \$500,000 to build a maintenance garage to fix rockets.

Instead, the \$2.5 million went toward a \$325,000 study that concluded building a launch site in Michigan doesn't work. The rest bailed out a terribly in-debt organization and then kept it afloat for a few years until 2022 when it was back in the hole.

Brown's kept getting his \$150,000-a-year salary. He had someone else working for him as well. They expensed meals, travel and all the rest. More than \$1 million went to unspecified "administrative" expenses, according to IRS filings.

But no rocket ships are blasting out of Michigan, nor could there be. Mike Dudzik, whose firm, IQM in Ann Arbor, Brown hired to conduct his study, explained why.

For one, Elon Musk's Space X basically had cornered the market. For anyone who needed a satellite shot into space, SpaceX was able to do it at a lower cost due to its volume of work.

According to The Motley Fool, SpaceX accounted for 72% of the rocket launches in 2022.

The other issue is logistics. The only potential Michigan location to launch rockets without worrying about debris falling on people from space is the northern Michigan coast overlooking Lake Superior, but even that comes with concerns. Unlike the ocean, Lake Superior is a freshwater lake that roughly 40 million people drink from. Allowing rocket fuel or debris to fall into that water source isn't exactly eco-friendly.

Also, if the rocket separated from the booster late in the launch, the booster could fall in Canada, which the Canadians weren't thrilled about, regardless of whether it fell on inhabited ground or not.

Now, if you're saying to yourself, "I could have told state legislators that, and I would have done it for less than \$325,000," you wouldn't be the first one.

In fact, Dudzik never got the full amount. Brown didn't pay him the final \$35,000 because he felt Dudzik hadn't properly sourced some of this information, which Dudzik said was "absurd."

Meanwhile, Dudzik has written off the chances he'll get that last check. Brown said his association had suspended its operations since Nessel's "whisper campaign" against him chased all of his members away.

He thinks Nessel has it out for him because his attorney is a big fan of President Donald Trump.

The good news in all of this is that the House and the Senate have vowed not to enact these ridiculous middle-of-the-night budgets. All of these so-called "earmarks" (such as the grants mentioned above) must undergo a transparency process before a legislator can return them to the budget-making process.

Speaker Matt Hall has threatened not to include any of this wasteful pork in the state budget this year. Maybe, maybe not. We'll see.

I do know this. The chances of real reform (as hard as it is to believe) blasting off and falling into the Legislature's orbit are better than a real rocket ship launching on Michigan's soil.

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



Black music for sinners and everyone else

BY DEDRIA HUMPHRIES BARKER

People talk about two things when they talk about director Ryan Coogler's new film, "Sinners." The vampires and the juke joint scene. Forget the vampires. All around us every day they suck. But the juke joint? Now that is something. It's mesmerizing. It's hypnotic. It leaves your blood racing. It IV drips music straight into the veins.

Perched on the edge of my movie theater seat, I peered into the past and glimpsed the future. I occupied here, and there. Music its heart; Africa its heart-beat. Got me thinking, it makes so much sense that the celebratory month for Black Music is June, the month of joining people together.

Too many Black musicians sowed but never reaped the rewards of creating American cultural master work. Like the color, Black music includes it all: gospel, blues, rhythm and blues, Motown, Philly Sound, gutbucket, hip-hop, rap, and jazz, and Texas country singer Beyonce.

Who cares that Michael McDonald appropriated Black sound? His duets with Patti LaBelle are magic. Herbie Hancock teamed John Legend with Pink in a duet of "Don't Give Up." Black musicians dominate Justin Timberlake and Miami rapper Pitbull's orbits. Black music has abandoned discrimination, because musical genius is a stable.

Quincy Jones, or just Q. So many Black boys named in honor of the producer of "Killer Joe" and Michael Jackson's "Thriller."

Marvin Gaye asks "What's Going On" while straddling the Motown sound with jazz and politics.

Questlove, who doesn't care what you think about his hair. Leader of a jazz/hip-hop band, the Roots, Questlove was famous before becoming, in 2009, the house band for the "Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon." His music documentaries preserve Black musical history, including Sly Stone, of Sly and the Family Stone in the 2025 documentary "Sly Lives!"

Aretha Franklin.

Full stop for the Queen of Soul. Gratitude for African American music standouts circles the world.

The best appreciation came from the Rev. C.L. Franklin, Aretha's father. At the live recording of her first gospel album, "Amazing Grace," the good reverend introduces his daughter with a story from her European tour. "Many of them did not speak English, not conversationally," he said, and that was clear when fans cheered for "Aretha. Arethra."

Opinion

The wrong pronunciation of his daughter's name mattered little to the Rev. Franklin, a renowned and eloquent orator himself. What mattered lay akin to Shakespeare's "Romeo and Juliet": "a rose by any other name would smell just as sweet." But sometimes sweet failed to describe.

I think Wayne Shorter went on too long on his drum solos for the Jazz Crusaders, but the colonials in South Carolina had their own personal reasons for banning the instrument.

According to Henry Louis Gates and Nellie Y. McKay, the general editors of "The Norton Anthology of African American Literature," laws against drum mastery came after the 1739 Stono Rebellion, the largest uprising of enslaved Black people in the colonies before the American Revolution.

The law stated that it is "absolutely necessary" for "safety" to restrain the wanderings and meetings of negroes and other slaves, at all times, and more especially on Saturday Nights, Sundays and other holidays. It promised a fine in "current money" for any master, owner or overseer who shall permit his or their negro or other slave or slaves to at any time beat drums, blow horns or use any other loud instruments.

Restraint of sound kept people standing still. Freedom-seeking African Americans plowed through civil rights struggles singing the anthems "We Shall Overcome" and "Lift Every Voice."

Live music brings an unequalled energy. I have danced to the Four Tops. In Lansing! But radio — that is the people's medium, and media top dog DJ Metro Melik excels. Summer festivals fire the desire of students to learn classical jazz from professional bass player Rod-

ney Whitaker, director of the MSU jazz studies program.

Music and movement refuse to be separated.

Remember when the school-to-prison pipeline was news? When third-grade reading levels helped determine how many prison beds would be needed in a decade? When more Black young men languished in prison than studied in college? And Black women were sitting, not dancing, at parties?

These were all consequences of a social-economic-political problem: mass incarceration of young Black men. American society has done little to solve that, but Stevie Wonder came to the rescue of wall-flowered African American women.

His 1987 hit "My Eyes Don't Cry" came complete with the line dance called the Hustle. Jarring the hetero-norm that an African American woman must partner with a man to dance, the Hustle ushered in a bittersweet liberty: Black women could dance alone or with each other.

The nearly four decades since the release of "My Eyes Don't Cry" has seen many new hustle songs and hustles. My past fav was the "Cupid Shuffle." Now the rage is "Boots on the Ground." This Texas hustle is accented by sound effects from dancers whapping their handheld fans.

A choreography showcasing resiliency, the Hustle is the African American woman's tribal dance. Now at the first thump of the bass line, men and women hit the floor. Africa in full bloom on the dance floor.

Black music eases trials, produces joy, helps make great memories and vanquish bad ones. With incredible power it helps heart, mind and soul triumph over evil, to endure, to savor this one good life with joy.

(Lansing resident Dedria Humphries Barker of Lansing is the author of "Mother of Orphans: The True and Curious Story of Irish Alice, A Colored Man's Widow.")



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| Attraction | Check-in | Price |
|----------------------------------|----------|--------|
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| Charlotte Performing Arts Center | Check-in | 200 pp |
| Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum | Check-in | 300 pp |
| Fitzgerald Park | Check-in | 100 pp |

ARTS & CULTURE

ART • BOOKS • FILM • MUSIC

Queer-centric Old Town a perfect fit for Lansing Pride

By NICOLE NOECHEL

Along with the east side, Old Town is known as an epicenter for Lansing's LGBTQ+ community. But it hasn't always been that way. Though Cheryl VanDeKerkhove, a longtime LGBTQ+ rights activist and owner of the now-defunct LGBTQ+ bookstore Real World Emporium, called Esquire Bar "a first gay anchor" in the neighborhood, Old Town underwent a revitalization in the '90s, which she credits as the spark that transformed it into what it is today.

"Before the 1990s, Old Town was partly old buildings being used mainly as warehouse storage and partly the seeding of an artists' enclave with a bohemian vibe," VanDeKerkhove said. "The artist community that was making a home there seemed to consider the LGBTQ+ community kindred spirits."

As she worked to open her bookstore, thanks to a lease from the late "Mayor of Old Town," Robert Busby, who was "on board with our vision and supportive of our mission to create LGBTQ+ community and a safe space in Old Town," she said some of the owners of buildings that were abandoned or being used as warehouses began dying, opening up the spaces to be renovated and developed into businesses.

"That was the springboard for the arts community and the LGBTQ+ community to really build something special in Old Town," she said.

She called that period Old Town's "gay '90s," noting that the neighborhood "was even more LGBTQ+-centric than it is today."

"When the Real World Emporium was in Old Town, there was a time when I could count 12 to 13 lesbian- or gay-owned businesses within the two main blocks," she said.

Old Town continues to be a bastion for the community, home to Pride-flag-laden storefronts, a shop dedicated to selling Pride merch and the area's biggest queer-focused celebration of the year, the Lansing Pride festival.

"Old Town has historically been the arts district, which has been very welcoming and inclusive, especially to the LGBTQ+ community, for many years," Lansing Pride Board President Ben Dowd said. "So, it made a natural fit.



Steve Underwood/City Pulse

Attendees embrace at the 2024 Lansing Pride festival in Old Town.

This will be our fourth year as our organization, but other groups that did Pride before held it there. There were and are gay bars there, and there's a lot of support from the community."

Several venues around the neighborhood — Esquire, Sir Pizza, UrbanBeat, Copper Moon and Zoobie's — will serve as gracious hosts of the annual White Party bar crawl, offering drink specials, DJs and drag shows to hordes of white-clad guests from 8 p.m. to midnight. (UrbanBeat will open at 10:30). Wristbands are \$10 and will be sold at all venues.

"We're doing our afterparty at Copper Moon, and they'll be part of the White Party. It was really them that reached out and wanted to know how they could be more involved as the building was the former Spiral Dance Bar," Dowd said. "That's a good example of the community reaching out to us and saying, 'Hey, what more can we do?' Which is pretty great."

New this year, Saturday's Pride festival, expanded to include three more blocks of space, will feature two stages of live entertainment, including performances by the Lansing Symphony Orchestra, the Glenn Douglas Packard Institute of Dancers, Lansing women's chorus Sistrum and All-of-Us Express

Children's Theatre, plus a two-hour block of Latin Pride programming in partnership with the governor's Hispanic/Latino Commission.

A host of drag artists will take the stages throughout the day, with headline performances by Adore Delano, a trans woman who took the world by storm with her bubbly, airheaded personality and fierce vocal skills on season six of "RuPaul's Drag Race" and season two of "RuPaul's Drag Race All Stars."

"Not only is she a great name for us, but she also represents our trans community within Pride. That's super important," Dowd said. "She's been well received as a positive influence in the queer community since before her debut on "RuPaul's Drag Race," but since then, especially, she's been viewed as somebody to kind of ensure that our trans folks are represented within Pride across the country."

Another new addition is Pure Options' cannabis consumption lounge at Sir Pizza, which Lansterdam columnist Chris Silva previews on page 15. For those who prefer to catch a buzz the old-fashioned way, there will be a beer tent on Beaver Street. Those who work up an appetite at either area will find a slew of food trucks near the main stage.

For younger attendees, the Free to Bee family zone at Copper Moon will



Courtesy photo

Adore Delano, who took the world by storm with her bubbly, airheaded personality and fierce vocal skills on "RuPaul's Drag Race," will be the headline performer at this year's Lansing Pride.

offer drag artist storytimes, robotics demonstrations, athletic activities, face painting, chalk art, bubbles, balloon animals, a bounce house and, weather permitting, a Preuss Pets lizard exhibit. Elementary, middle and high school students are invited to participate in a sticker design competition, beginning at Pride and continuing through July 31, for the opportunity to have their artwork featured in Lansing Pride's official sticker collection and win prizes.

Though the Pride festival is just one day, Dowd has encouraged all Old Town businesses to support Pride throughout the entire month, a request he said has received strong support.

"If you drive through now, you'll notice there are flags all over and all sorts of window fronts that are set up to really showcase the support of Pride in Old Town," he said.

VanDeKerkhove said that because the LGBTQ+ community played such an integral role in creating the Old Town we know today, the neighborhood will "always feel like home to us."

"There's an ethos of Old Town being a welcoming, diverse, eclectic, fun, thought-provoking and interesting space. It's a place to celebrate community and to find joy in our shared respect for — and loving embrace of — what makes each of us unique. These things haven't changed over the years, and these are things among which the LGBTQ+ community is truly at home," she said.



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Questions? E-mail: marcus.wells@lansingmi.gov
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Register Here!

Leo V. Kaplan/City Pulse

The Allen Farmers Market, hosted by the Allen Neighborhood Center, was designed to be a third place.

More than gathering spots: Lansing's third places

By **LEO V. KAPLAN**

As someone who enjoys tinkering with bikes and fixing things around the house, Scot Wright has watched craftspeople do “some pretty amazing things” on YouTube.

But four months ago, he learned there was a space to learn and practice those same crafts locally: the Lansing Makers Network. Last week, he stopped in to learn about woodworking.

“All these amazing things are happening right here in town,” he said, “and you can learn from people who are really bright and talented. It’s so exciting.”

The Makers Network is one of many spaces that function as “third places” — spots separate from home or work where people find community. The term, coined by sociologist Ray Oldenburg in 1989, has seen a resurgence in recent years as an increasingly lonely population covets community spaces.

The Survey Center on American Life found in 2021 that 44% of Americans lack a third place. And finding a new community can be difficult for people who lack connections or experience in the area.

Jed Magen, chair of Michigan State University’s Psychiatry Department, has written about the effects of loneliness. He said the obvious gathering spots are unreliable for those looking to build community.

“The disadvantage of going to a bar or something similar is that you’ve got no commonality, except that you’re in the same space with people,” he said. “A shared interest is key.”

Luckily, as loneliness has risen, locals have been

working to create spaces that help bring people together. From farmers markets to game shops, Lansing abounds with potential third places.

Makerspaces

Magen said the need for community has become clearer as political polarization, social media use and lifestyle changes have left people alone more often. An ideal solution, he said, is a space where people reliably have something in common.

“In a religious organization like a church, synagogue or mosque, you’ve immediately got this shared interest with people and are so much more likely to connect with people,” he said. “Similarly, if you have other shared interests or hobbies and you go to a place where people are doing those things, those are places where you’re going to share some commonalities with people.”

He said finding community is often easiest for people like college students, who can simply join interest-based campus organizations.

For other hobbyists, though, makerspaces like the Lansing Makers Network are ideal spots to meet like-minded crowds. The space has tools for woodworking, machine sewing, jewelry making, blacksmithing and far more. For a monthly fee of \$50, members have access to the space during open hours, which includes training for more specialized machines.

“The real thing that keeps people here is the other people,” executive director Brian Adams said.

“They’re just the coolest you’ve ever worked with, and you don’t want to work at home alone anymore because you miss leaning over to someone and saying, ‘Hey, does this look good?’”

Many libraries, already common gathering places, have been building makerspaces in recent years. Though it doesn’t have the grand woodshop of the Makers Network, a space like the East Lansing Public Library’s maker studio can be a good place to find community, especially for kids.

Farmers markets

Joan Nelson, the retired executive director of the Allen Neighborhood Center, said the Allen Farmers Market was intended as a third place from the onset.

“Right from the get-go, the farmers market had music, and we made sure we put up plenty of small tables and chairs so people could sit and chat with neighbors and such,” she said. “We tried to make sure that people of all backgrounds would be comfortable at the Allen Farmers Market, that it would be a neighborhood place appealing to almost everybody.”

“Long time no see” is a common phrase heard at the market, which serves as a weekly congregating spot for some eastsiders.

“You see friends or neighbors come together who haven’t seen each other for a while,” Joe Cesario, who runs a booth at the market, said. “It’s great to see them connect, give each other hugs and just experi-

See **Third places**, Page 14

Third places

from page 13

ence that connection here. It's definitely a place that facilitates those random run-ins."

Other local farmers markets provide similar environments. Liz Kruger, a local baker, sells at the South Lansing Farmers Market because of the camaraderie between both shoppers and vendors.

"We're a big, goofy family," she said. "We love each other dearly."

At the South Lansing market, many customers have a rapport with vendors. One shopper, Lisa Norwood, said she frequents the market "to meet people and to get the discount," referencing the Double Up Food Bucks program for EBT recipients.

Kathie Dunbar, founding executive director of the South Lansing Community Development Association, said programs like that bring the community out and foster connections.

But Dunbar also said the market draws people in merely by existing in an area where grocery stores are scarce.

"There's nothing further west, there's no grocery store," she said, "so we started this to answer a need in the community. We wanted to make sure it was affordable and accepted EBT so that all income levels could commune together, and it became a community gathering place."

Dunbar said farmers markets are more social than spaces like cafes because shoppers share a common purpose.

"Being in a crowd does not mean community," she said. "This has a common cause, and it's social. We all want to support these businesses — they want to make money, we want to eat well. But it's a good community. People will come to meet their friends and have dinner here."

Hobby shops

When they opened Tanuki's Trading Post in February, co-owners Onyx Bart and Brandon Carlson said they wanted the Japanese collectibles shop to give people "someplace they feel included and fit in." To that end, the shop has an event space where Bart and Carlson regularly host game nights and anime screenings — no purchase required.

Chase Curtin said the space provides a reliable hangout spot.

"It's really fun just knowing I can go out on a Friday, hang out with people and play the Final Fantasy card game," Curtin said. "I've definitely made new friends here."

Victor Herman said the shop has helped him build community as a newcomer to the area.

"I didn't really have a lot of friends in the area after I moved here from Clinton Township, so this has been a great place to make some new friends," he said.

Part of the shop's inviting nature is the ability to connect with its owners, something that sets small businesses apart as third places.

"My spouse and I stopped in and instantly became friends with Onyx and Brandon," shop regular Cody Cantrell said. "I really feel like I'm



Leo V. Kaplan/City Pulse

Tony Kuhlman (left), woodworking area manager at the Lansing Makers Network, gives Scot Wright (center) safety training in the makerspace's woodshop while welding area manager Adam Tait (right) watches.



Leo V. Kaplan/City Pulse

Cody Cantrell (left) is a regular at Tanuki's Trading Post. He said he instantly became friends with co-owners Onyx Bart (center) and Brandon Carlson (right) after stopping in for the first time and has found a community at the shop.

part of a community here."

Equally nerdy but less anime-inclined audiences may be interested in tabletop game shops. Once catering to a very niche audience, the shops have seen a renaissance in recent years as "actual play" web shows such as "Critical Role" have introduced tabletop role-playing games to a wider audience.

Samantha Schnepf has been frequenting game stores since she was 8, when she became a regular at East Lansing's Fortress Comics and Games, which has since closed. She said events at game shops are a great way to make friends because they bring together people with common interests.

"The easiest way to make friends is to start with the prior understanding between both parties that you're interested in the same thing," she said, "so with game stores, you automatically have something to talk about."

Having been involved in the community for over 15 years, Schnepf now works part-time at Hoplite Games, where she was a regular before being hired for her specialized knowledge of the popular trading card game Magic: The Gathering. She said game stores have become much more inclusive spaces in that time, especially for women and LGBTQ+ people.

She also said the tabletop and trading-card scenes have become more community-based in general. She's seen Magic games shift from more esoteric, competitive play formats to a more accessible format called Commander that includes more players.

"Not only is Commander now the biggest money maker for card game stores, it's also one of the most accessible card games for community building," she said. "I've seen Commander nights with upward of 50 people."

LGBTQ+ community organizations

The LGBTQ+ community has long favored bars as congregating spots for a variety of reasons. The area's traditional gay hangout is Esquire Bar in Old Town, while younger LGBTQ+ community members have adopted the east side's Avenue Cafe as their own, despite it not technically being a "gay bar."

But those who favor community over cocktails may find their place at the Salus Center, Lansing's LGBTQ+ community center. The downtown nonprofit has near-daily events, from game nights to writing workshops to identity-based support groups. The center also works with community members who want to set up something new.

Lee Flowers was one such person.

In 2022, she noticed there was no transfeminine support group at the Salus Center, despite there being similar groups for transmasculine and nonbinary people. She reached out to the center by email to ask why.

"They said there was one that had been around at the start of the pandemic," she said. "I told them I would like to see about setting it back up."

Shortly after, she became co-facilitator of the newly reestablished Lansing Transfem Support Group, which has since grown into a community of its own. Alongside regular meetings, the group has a server on the social media app Discord with over 200 members. Flowers said the group still offers support but has also helped transfeminine locals find friends and community.

"It's not just a social group, but the support has become more secondary to it being a spot for transfems to meet each other and know they're not alone," she said. "Folks come, meet each other and make plans outside of the support group."

Flowers stepped down as co-facilitator last year to join the Salus Center as a board member. She urged those who don't see a group for their specific community to reach out to the center.

"Support may already exist, but if it doesn't, Salus is always happy to help start something up," she said.

The center also regularly hosts events for broader audiences, including its yearly prom.

Making spaces more communal

While shared interests can bring people together more easily, Chengdu Teahouse owner Elyse Ribbons thinks establishments like hers can still help patrons find community.

Ribbons spent the bulk of her career in China, where she learned that teahouses were much more than the country's equivalent of a Starbucks.

"It was the place where ideas were shared, where culture was passed down," she said. "One of the most famous plays in China is called 'Teahouse,' and the reason it works is that teahouses in Chinese culture were, at the time, the epicenter of society. You would find people from all classes and backgrounds inhabiting a teahouse."

In theory, Ribbons sells tea, but in practice, she's a conversational matchmaker, introducing patrons to each other and fostering unexpected connections: a professor and a dropout, a journalist and an engineer.

"In China, if you show up at a teahouse and every table is full, you just find a table with an extra seat," she said. "And sharing a table naturally invites conversation. I'm trying to bring that here, a space where people of any background can sit in the same space, share ideas and connect."

After all, community is more than the people one spends their time with. It's an essential part of life, Magen said.

"If you don't have social support, it impacts your biology," he said. "It makes you more susceptible to diseases, it makes you less likely to take action when you have problems. Humans are big-time social animals."

Pure Options lights up Lansing Pride with a cannabis oasis

By CHRIS SILVA

Get ready to unfurl those rainbow flags and maybe a blunt wrap or two. Pure Options is bringing a whole new dimension to this year's Lansing Pride festivities Saturday. The business isn't just showing up; it's setting up shop on the hallowed asphalt of the Sir Pizza parking lot in Old Town, promising a chill, cannabis-friendly gathering space for all Pridegoers.

If you've been watching Michigan's green scene evolve, you know we've come a long way from the days of hushed whispers and back-alley deals. Pure Options is leading the charge, proving that cannabis and community celebrations can mix — and mix well. We're talking about an on-site, legit cannabis consumption area in the Sir Pizza parking lot. Mind blown.

Let's be clear, this isn't some out-of-towner cashing in on our vibrant city. Pure Options is Lansing-based, local through and through. It's not just slinging product; it's sinking its roots deep into the community. It's local love, with a healthy dose of terpenes.

The genius of the location can't be overstated. Sir Pizza is a Lansing institution — the perfect pre-party slice, the post-event pick-me-up, the place you somehow always end up. Now, imagine that classic smell of baking dough mingling with the sweet, distinct aroma of your favorite strain. It's like your favorite sweater just got a



anindambanergee/Shutterstock

Pure Options' consumption lounge promises a chill, cannabis-friendly gathering space for all Pridegoers.

dazzling new tie-dye.

According to the folks at Pure Options, this special area isn't just a spot to spark up. It's designed to be "a safe and welcoming space for attendees to relax, socialize and enjoy cannabis responsibly." The "responsibly" part is key. Pure Options is clearly thinking about everyone, from the seasoned connoisseur to the cannabis curious, ensuring it's a comfortable zone for all.

So, what's on tap once you step into this little slice of green paradise? Expect good times. I'm talking DJs spinning tunes, setting the perfect

soundtrack for your Pride celebrations. Local food vendors will be on hand because munchies are real, and nobody wants to wander far when they're in their happy place. And, of course, cannabis will be available for purchase, with products from Pro Gro, Wyld, Trap House and Good Tide.

This whole endeavor isn't just about fun, though that's certainly part of it. It's a powerful statement about progress. The LGBTQ+ community has always championed freedom and challenged the status quo. The increasing acceptance of cannabis, par-



ticularly here in Michigan with our robust adult-use market, perfectly aligns with that spirit of liberation. By openly sponsoring Pride and offering this unique experience, Pure Options isn't just serving a demographic; it's standing with a movement, fostering an environment where all forms of expression are welcomed and celebrated.

Think of it as an educational moment, too. For those who still cling to outdated stereotypes about cannabis, seeing it integrated responsibly into a public event could be an eye-opener. It demonstrates that cannabis consumers aren't boogeymen; they're your neighbors, your friends and fellow members of the community. It helps normalize what has, for too long, been pushed to the fringes.

So, as Lansing Pride unleashes its vibrant colors on Saturday, keep an eye on the Sir Pizza parking lot. Pure Options is shaping the future of how we celebrate in the Capital City. Get ready to be loud, proud and perhaps a little elevated.

**CITY OF LANSING
NOTICE OF REGISTRATION
FOR THE TUESDAY, AUGUST 5, 2025 ELECTION**

To the qualified electors of the City of Lansing:

Please take notice that the City of Lansing will hold an Election on Tuesday, August 5, 2025.

For the purpose of nominating candidates to the following offices:

City: Mayor, City Council Member At Large (2), Council Member Ward 4

For the purpose of voting on the following proposals:

City: Proposal to Renew a Levy of One Mill for Operation of Parks and Recreation System

Shall the City of Lansing, Counties of Ingham, Clinton, and Eaton, Michigan renew a levy of one mill (\$1.00 per \$1,000) for five years commencing July 1, 2026 on all taxable real and personal property in the City of Lansing for the purpose of operating, maintaining, and providing capital improvements to the City's Parks and Recreation System?

Any qualified elector who is not already registered, may register to vote at the office of their local clerk, the office of their county clerk, a Secretary of State branch office, or other designated state agency. Registration forms may be obtained at www.Michigan.gov/vote and mailed to or dropped off at the office of the local clerk. Any qualified elector that has a Michigan Driver's License or Personal ID can also register to vote at www.Michigan.gov/vote. Voters who are already registered may update their voter registration at www.Michigan.gov/vote.

The last day to register in any manner other than in-person with the Lansing City Clerk's Office is **Monday, July 21, 2025**.

After this date, anyone who qualifies as an elector may register to vote in person with proof of residency (MCL 168.492) at the following locations and times:

| Location | Address | Regular Business Hours June 26 – August 1 |
|---|---|---|
| Lansing City Clerk – City Hall | 124 W Michigan Ave Lansing, MI 48933 | Mon – Fri 8am – 5pm |
| Lansing City Clerk – Reo Elections Office | 1221 Reo Rd. Lansing, MI 48910 | Mon – Fri 9am – 5pm Wednesdays 9am – 7pm |

Additional times outside of the above listed regular business hours are as follows:

| Location | Address | Additional Hours |
|---|---|--|
| Lansing City Clerk – City Hall | 124 W Michigan Ave Lansing, MI 48933 | Monday August 4 8am – 4pm Election Day August 5 8am – 5pm |
| Lansing City Clerk – Reo Elections Office | 1221 Reo Rd. Lansing, MI 48910 | Monday August 4 9am – 4pm Saturday August 2 10am – 4pm Sunday August 3 10am – 4pm Election Day August 5 7am – 8pm |

ABSENT VOTER BALLOTS

Any registered voter may request an Absent Voter Ballot. No reason required.

The Lansing City Clerk's Office must have a signed application from the voter to issue an Absent Voter Ballot. Applications are available at the locations referenced in the above tables or by visiting our website at lansingvotes.gov.

Friday, August 1, 2025 at 5:00 pm is the deadline to request an absentee ballot be mailed to you.

Monday, August 4, 2025 at 4:00 pm is the deadline to request an absentee ballot in person, except for those who register to vote on Election Day.

Those registering to vote on Election Day, Tuesday, August 5, 2025, are eligible to receive an absent voter ballot at the Lansing City Clerk's Office, locations referenced in the above table.

Chris Swope, MMC/MIPMC
Lansing City Clerk
Phone: 517-483-4131
Email: city.clerk@lansingmi.gov
Website: www.lansingvotes.gov
www.facebook.com/LansingClerkSwope



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Green Door takes semi-breather as owners search for a buyer



Steve Underwood/City Pulse

The Green Door Bar & Grill, long a staple of eastside Lansing's nightlife, is for sale. The owners say they will keep it running until they find someone who shares their vision.

By STEVE UNDERWOOD

The Green Door, an eastside Lansing institution for more than three decades, serving up the blues and a wide variety of other music while also thriving as an old-school neighborhood bar and grill, is for sale — but there are no plans to shut it down.

Co-owner Jen Costigan announced on Monday that she and her partner are seeking a buyer. Meanwhile, she said she will discontinue live entertainment on Fridays and Saturdays for the rest of the summer while staying open on Thursdays.

The asking price is \$200,000, as listed on bizbuysell.com, for the 2005 E. Michigan Ave. establishment. On the Support & Training part of the page, it states, "Management will stay on during transition and possibly to run the business post-sale."

Co-owner Jon Woolston said Tuesday that it's time for someone else to take the reins, but the goal "is to sell it to somebody who will keep it the way it is. They will have their own vision, but hopefully, it correlates with the vision we have."

Meanwhile, MiLife Sports & Social Club and DJ karaoke will continue on Thursdays (except for July 3).

"The game plan is that if we can't find a buyer, we'll just open back up in September for three days a week and go from there," Woolston said.

Costigan invited the community to join her this Saturday, June 28, for a farewell party of sorts to close out the final weekend of service and entertainment, which will feature the Big Willy Band and Root Doctor, fronted by Freddie Cunningham.

She didn't provide any reason for the decision in the release other than wanting to "start the next chapter of my life" and address her knee problems "before I actually have a peg leg."

"It's an emotional thing for Jen," Woolston said. "This has been her life. She started working here when she was 18. If this works out, she wants to go out on her own terms with the going-away party."

As was the case for many businesses, the pandemic severely tested The Green Door's livelihood. It closed for about 18 months and eventually reopened on Sept. 24, 2021, operating on a Thursday-through-Saturday schedule. The establishment closed the grill and stopped serving food shortly after it reopened but allowed patrons to bring in outside food.

The Green Door's website notes that the establishment began as a restaurant called The Green Door Lounge in the mid-1960s. Over the years, it transitioned from offering live music only on weekends to providing live entertainment nightly, as well as hosting special events on Sundays and Mondays. It became known not just as a blues bar but also for its wide variety of music featured in recent years and its lively dance floor.

The Green Door was a perennial top-three placer in City Pulse's Top of the Town contest.

Costigan thanked all the musicians and bands that had performed over the years, as well as friends, co-workers, employees and "the best customers ever."

"Most of you have become GD familia. I will never forget you."

From sidekick to protagonist

Devyn Lawers takes the lead in new RJ Erskine thriller

By **BILL CASTANIER**

Local author RJ Erskine begins his new paranormal thriller, “The Coigreach,” like many other books in the genre: A young, enigmatic traveler has car trouble and settles in a quiet, rural town until he can get back on his feet. Or so he thinks.

Soon, the traveler finds a nearby garden filled with what the author calls “unsettling” sculptures, which are a little too lifelike.

Erskine will hold a release party for “The Coigreach” from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Tuesday, July 1, at EagleMonk Pub and Brewery.

“Coigreach,” which roughly translates to “stranger” or “foreigner” in Gaelic, finds Devyn Lawers on the road, escaping the everyday drudge of Pennsylvania coal country. Those who have read Erskine’s three other coal country mysteries will recognize Lawers, who was introduced in a previous book as a young teenager with uncanny and unnatural skills in dealing with animals.

“I’ve always been interested in legends, myths and fables,” Erskine said. “On my 60th birthday, my family and I visited the Scottish Highlands.” While there, he discovered St. Fillan, whose deeds are legendary and mythic in Scot-

land. In addition to having unusual powers over animals, Fillan is said to have developed extraordinary healing powers. Erskine weaves Fillan’s mythic powers throughout the book.

As he makes his way west in a restored International Scout, Lawers discovers a world unlike any other he’s

ever encountered. Yes, there are cows and farms, but when he settles with a couple that’s scratching out a living in a land of corporate farming, he’s thrown into a totally unexpected situation.

Adjacent to his newfound home is Robert Allerton Park, which in real life is located in central Illinois. Developed by an eccentric, wealthy entrepreneur, the park is located on a 5,500-acre estate that also serves as a nature preserve, conference center and sculpture garden with unusual animal sculptures. This location is the setting for most of the goings-on in Erskine’s novel.

See ‘The Coigreach,’ Page 18

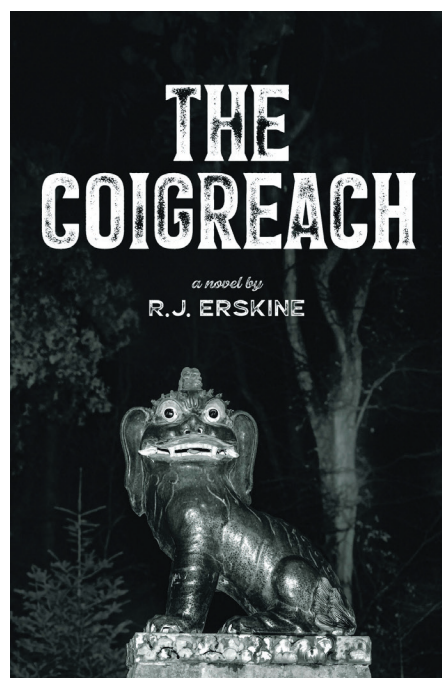


Courtesy photo

Local author RJ Erskine took inspiration from Stephen King’s “The Shining” and Scottish legends for his new paranormal thriller, “The Coigreach.”

“The Coigreach” release party

5-7 p.m. Tuesday, July 1
EagleMonk Pub and Brewery
4906 W. Mount Hope Hwy.,
Lansing
(517) 708-7350
facebook.com/
strayvoltagepress



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'The Coigreach'

from page 17

“The Shining’ inspired me, especially the scene in the movie when Nicholson finds himself in the topiary garden,” Erskine said.

As Lawers stumbles across unusual sculptures of a bear mauling a hunter and a gorilla grasping a naked girl, which can be found in the real garden, readers immediately

know something irregular is afoot.

While exploring the garden, the young traveler discovers spectral visitors, and the paranormal thriller takes off from there.

“The book has a lot of threads that come together,” Erskine said. “However, it’s the reverse of a typical thriller: There’s no body at the beginning of the book.” Don’t fret, readers will soon hear the menacing music in their heads, warning them that there will be a body or two to find.

Erskine said he was hesitant about

the title because it’s difficult to pronounce, sounding somewhat like someone clearing their throat. Ultimately, he decided to use the Gaelic word in keeping with the book’s feel.

In addition to Lawers, Erskine introduces a fellow animal whisperer, a farm woman. Each character recognizes the other’s supernatural skills but is reluctant to discuss them until unusual circumstances begin to envelop the Allerton estate.

“I like to reflect on rural life and what seems normal until it goes into

total disarray,” Erskine said. “This is not a typical thriller — I like the challenge of the mundane.”

Erskine’s former career as a veterinarian kept him traveling a lot. In the course of his travels, he came across numerous small businesses sprouting up on the backroads of Michigan. Inspired by Studs Terkel’s “Working,” he’s turning that idea into a coffee table book that will include interviews with unique small business owners and photographs of their enterprises.

NOTICE OF DAY OF REVIEW OF DRAINAGE DISTRICT BOUNDARIES AND REVIEW OF APPORTIONMENTS

DATE: July 7, 2025
TIME: 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
LOCATION: Ingham County Drain Commissioner’s Office
 707 Buhl Avenue
 Mason, MI 48854
QUESTIONS: (517) 676-8395
drainoffice@ingham.org

The Day of Review is an opportunity to review the Drainage District boundaries and/or for a review of the apportionment of benefits for the Drains listed below. Maps of the current Drainage District boundaries – and the proposed Drainage District boundary revisions, if necessary – may be found on the Ingham County Drain Commissioner’s website at: drain.ingham.org.

A licensed professional engineer has recommended lands be added or removed from certain Drainage Districts listed below, and a general description of the lands by section number proposed to be added or deleted from the Drainage Districts is as follows:

| Drain ID# | Drain Name | Municipalities | Portions of Sections Added/Removed |
|-----------|--|--|------------------------------------|
| B21-00 | MATTHEW L. BUGBEE DRAIN | LEROY TOWNSHIP VILLAGE OF WEBBERVILLE | 10, 11, 15 10, 11, 15 |
| C17-01 | CLUCKEY, HEARTHSIDE ACRES BRANCH DRAIN | DELHI CHARTER TOWNSHIP | 13 |
| C35-00 | CRANDALL DRAIN | WHITE OAK TOWNSHIP LEROY TOWNSHIP | 3, 4 33, 34 |
| D08-00 | DELHI NO. 1 DRAIN | DELHI CHARTER TOWNSHIP | 22, 27 |
| D08-03 | MEADOW WOODS BRANCH OF DELHI NO. 1 DRAIN | DELHI CHARTER TOWNSHIP | 22 |
| D08-04 | GLENS OF DELHI BRANCH OF DELHI NO. 1 DRAIN | DELHI CHARTER TOWNSHIP | 22 |
| G02-00 | GIDDINGS DRAIN | WHITE OAK TOWNSHIP | 4, 9 |
| G38-00 | GLEN DOR DRAIN | LEROY TOWNSHIP LOCKE TOWNSHIP | 6 31 |
| H33-00 | HERRICK DRAIN | LEROY TOWNSHIP | 24, 25 |
| H66-00 | HUSKE DRAIN | LEROY TOWNSHIP | 1, 12 |
| K01-02 | KALAMINK CREEK DRAIN, WEBBERVILLE INDUSTRIAL PARK BRANCH DRAIN | LEROY TOWNSHIP VILLAGE OF WEBBERVILLE | 10, 11, 14, 15 10, 11, 14, 15 |

| | | | |
|--------|--------------------------------|---|--|
| M10-00 | MILLVILLE DRAIN | WHITE OAK TOWNSHIP | 21, 22, 27, 28, 34 |
| M53-00 | MCCMAHON DRAIN | WHITE OAK TOWNSHIP LEROY TOWNSHIP | 1, 2, 11, 12, 13, 14, 23, 24, 25, 26 35, 36 |
| N11-00 | NIMS DRAIN | WHITE OAK TOWNSHIP LEROY TOWNSHIP | 1, 2 35, 36 |
| S07-00 | SEYMOUR DRAIN | LEROY TOWNSHIP VILLAGE OF WEBBERVILLE | 2, 3, 10, 11 10 |
| S30-00 | STROBEL DRAIN | LEROY TOWNSHIP | 22, 27 |
| S35-00 | SWEET DRAIN | ONONDAGA TOWNSHIP AURELIUS TOWNSHIP | 5 32 |
| T14-01 | TOBIAS, LINN ROAD BRANCH DRAIN | WHEATFIELD TOWNSHIP CITY OF WILLIAMSTON | 1, 2, 11, 12, 13 1, 2, 11, 12 |
| U05-00 | URBANDALE DRAIN | LANSING CHARTER TOWNSHIP CITY OF LANSING | 14, 23 14, 23 |

The Drain Commissioner, engineers, and/or other staff members will be available to assist individuals throughout the day and make revisions where necessary. There is no need to schedule an appointment for a specific time on the Day of Review. Written statements may be mailed or emailed to the Drain Commissioner at the postal or email address listed above. Comments submitted in advance must be received by the Drain Commissioner before the date of the meeting to ensure consideration.

The computation of costs for the Drains and the tentative apportionments against the parcels and municipalities within the Drainage Districts will be available at the Day of Review. Drain assessments are collected in the same manner as property taxes and will appear on your winter tax bill. If drain assessments are being collected for more than one (1) year, you may pay the assessment in full with any interest to date at any time and avoid further interest charges. Comments on the apportionment of benefits may be submitted in writing before the date of the meeting to review the apportionment or may be submitted in writing or orally at the review.

Persons with disabilities needing accommodations for effective participation in the Day of Review should contact the Ingham County Drain Commissioner’s Office at the phone number listed above (voice) or through the Michigan Relay Center at 7-1-1 (TTY) at least 24 hours in advance of the Day of Review to request mobility, visual, hearing, or other assistance.

You may appeal the Drain Commissioner’s decision to revise the Drainage District boundaries to the Ingham County Circuit Court within ten (10) days after the decision is entered, and you may appeal the determination of apportionments to the Ingham County Probate Court within ten (10) days after the Day of Review.

June 16, 2025

Patrick Lindemann
 Ingham County Drain Commissioner

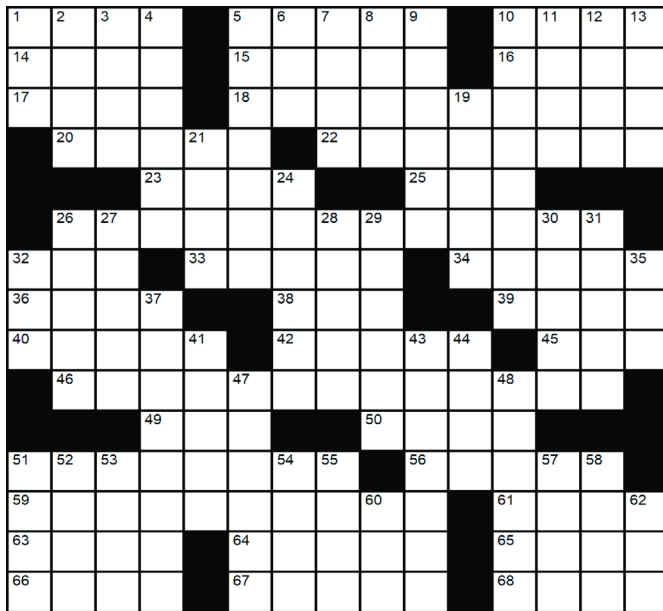
Jonesin' Crossword

By Matt Jones

“Ocean’s Four” -- the bodies you know.
by Matt Jones
© 2025 Matt Jones

ACROSS

- 1. Hurt
- 5. Sound at the door
- 10. Round objects
- 14. Underground part
- 15. Allow, as a coupon
- 16. Glowing presence
- 17. 1 on the Mohs hardness scale
- 18. Ocean that’s really amused?
- 20. Eldest von Trapp child in “The Sound of Music”
- 22. Like a ghost town
- 23. Perfect match
- 25. Half of hex-
- 26. Ocean that’s not real?
- 32. Spicy
- 33. ___ Picchu (Peruvian landmark)
- 34. Carpentry joint component
- 36. “Got it, man”
- 38. A, in German
- 39. Boots’s travel companion
- 40. In stacks
- 42. Little pieces of paper
- 45. Beam of sun
- 46. Ocean that’s a bit of a letdown?
- 49. Suffix after “station”
- 50. Songwriter Bareilles
- 51. Issue with a drafty home
- 56. Third-to-last country alphabetically
- 59. Ocean full of pink flowers? (yeah, there aren’t many options)



- 61. Author of “A Court of Thorns and Roses”
 - 63. French city with Interpol’s headquarters
 - 64. V make up
 - 65. Pharaoh’s serpents
 - 66. Streaming delays
 - 67. Baby that stays up at night?
 - 68. Rest (on)
- DOWN**
- 1. Sculpture and such
 - 2. Snowman’s eyes, traditionally
 - 3. Colorful Hindu celebration
 - 4. Redundant abbreviation for “and the rest”
 - 5. He’s a real Wiz
 - 6. Word after “Neither a borrower”
 - 7. How some audiobooks are presented
 - 8. ___ d’Ivoire (Ghana neighbor)
 - 9. Skater Yamaguchi
 - 10. Like shady paths full of trees
 - 11. Actress Lenska
 - 12. Poison’s singer Michaels
 - 13. One-named Nigerian Grammy winner
 - 19. “Dance of the Nymphs” painter
 - 21. Take to the pool
 - 24. Least nasty
 - 26. Lecture hall platforms (if you want to be fancy)
 - 27. On an incline
 - 28. Wendy’s side
 - 29. Ancient Greek garments
 - 30. Best Picture of 2024
 - 31. Dr. Seuss book, with “The”
 - 32. Joint near the waist
 - 35. “All opposed” answer
 - 37. Jiggly desserts
 - 41. “Little Rascals” girl
 - 43. It usually comes with swings and a slide
 - 44. “Your Majesty”
 - 47. Actress Lupita
 - 48. Ox or fox, e.g.
 - 51. Mountain, but smaller
 - 52. One-named Irish Grammy winner
 - 53. Work like ___
 - 54. Soup, but thicker
 - 55. “A Light in the Attic” author
 - 57. Facility
 - 58. California wine valley
 - 60. Employ
 - 62. IRS identifier

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Answers on page 25

SUDOKU

Beginner

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

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 25-July 1, 2025

ARIES (March 21–April 19): The Hawaiian word “pō” refers to a primal darkness from which all life flows. It’s not a fearsome void, but a fertile mystery rich with future possibilities and ancestors’ hopes. In the coming weeks, I invite you to treat your inner life as pō. Be as calm, patient and watchful as an Aries can be as you monitor the inklings that rise up out of the deep shadows. Have faith that the cloudy uncertainty will ultimately evolve into clarity, revealing the precise directions you need.

TAURUS (April 20–May 20): In the 17th century, the Taurus polymath Athanasius Kircher constructed a fantastical machine called the Aeolian harp. It wasn’t designed to be played by human fingers, but by the wind. It conjured music with currents invisible to the eye. I nominate this sublime contraption as your power object for the coming weeks, Taurus. The most beautiful and healing melodies may come from positioning yourself so that inspiration can blow through. How might you attune yourself to the arrival of unexpected help and gifts? Set aside any tendency you might have to try too hard. Instead, allow life to sing through you.

GEMINI (May 21–June 20): The painter Vincent van Gogh wrote, “Great things are done by a series of small things brought together.” That’s good advice for you right now. Your ambitions may feel daunting if you imagine them as monumental and monolithic. But if you simply focus on what needs to be done next — the daily efforts, the incremental improvements — you will be as relaxed as you need to be to accomplish wonders. Remember that masterpieces are rarely completed in a jiffy. The cumulative power of steady work is potentially your superpower. Here’s another crucial tip: Use your imagination to have fun as you attend to the details.

CANCER (June 21–July 22): Welcome to a special edition of “What’s My Strongest Yearning?” I’m your host, Rob Breznsky, and I’m delighted you have decided to identify the single desire that motivates you more than any other. Yes, you have many wishes, hopes and dreams, but one is more crucial than all the rest! Right? To begin the exercise, take three deep breaths and allow every knot of tension to dissolve and exit your beautiful body. Then, drop down into the primal depths of your miraculous soul and wander around until you detect the shimmering presence of the beloved reason you came to this planet. Immerse yourself in this glory for as long as you need to. Exult in its mysterious power to give meaning to everything you do. Ask it to nurture you, console you and inspire you.

LEO (July 23–Aug. 22): In certain medieval maps, unexplored territories were marked with the Latin phrase “hic sunt dracones” — “here be dragons.” It was a warning and a dare, a declaration that no one knew what lay beyond. In the coming weeks, Leo, you may find yourself traveling into one of those unlabeled regions. Rather than flinching or dodging, I invite you to press forward with respectful curiosity. Some of the so-called dragons will be figments. Others are protectors of treasure and might be receptive to sharing with a bright light like you. Either way, productive adventures are awaiting you in that unmapped territory. Go carefully, but go.

VIRGO (Aug. 23–Sept. 22): In traditional Japanese carpentry, joints are made so skillfully that they need no nails, screws or adhesives. Carpenters use intricate joinery techniques to connect pieces of wood so tightly that the structures are strong and durable. They often require a mallet for assembly and disassembly. In metaphorical terms, you are capable of that kind of craftsmanship these days, Virgo. I hope you will take advantage of this by building lasting beauty and truth that will serve you well into the future. Don’t rush the joinery. If it’s not working, don’t force it. Re-cut, re-measure, breathe deeply and try again.

LIBRA (Sept. 23–Oct. 22): Here’s one of my unruly rules about human competence: In every professional field, from physicians to lawyers to psychics to teachers, about 15 percent of all the practitioners are downright mediocre, even deficient. Seventy-five percent are at least satisfactory and sometimes good. And 10 percent are surpassingly excellent, providing an extraordinary service. With this in mind, I’m happy to say that you now have a knack for gravitating toward that exceptional 10 percent in every domain you are drawn to. I predict that your intuition will consistently guide you toward premium sources.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23–Nov. 21): The Japanese concept of “shinrin-yoku” means “forest bathing.” It invites people to immerse themselves in the natural world, drawing on its restorative power. In accordance with astrological portents, I urge you Scorpios to maximize your forest bathing. To amplify the enrichment further, gravitate toward other environments that nourish your soul’s need for solace. The naked fact is that you need places and influences that offer you comfort, safety and tender inspiration. Don’t apologize for making your life a bit less heroic as you tend to your inner world with gentle reverence.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22–Dec. 21): The camera obscura was a precursor to modern cameras. It projected the outside world upside down onto interior walls. Artists loved it because it helped them see reality from new angles. I hereby proclaim that you, Sagittarius, will be like both the artist and the camera obscura lens in the coming weeks. Your perceptions may feel inverted, strange, even disorienting, but that’s a gift! So, let unfamiliarity be your muse. Flip your assumptions. Sketch from shadow instead of light. Have faith that the truth isn’t vanishing or hiding; it’s simply appearing in unfamiliar guises. Don’t rush to turn things right side up. Relish and learn from the tilt.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22–Jan. 19): I’m sure you enjoy gazing into some mirrors more than others. It’s amazing how different you might look in your bathroom mirror and the mirror in the restroom at work. Some store windows may reflect an elegant, attractive version of you, while others distort your image. A similar principle is at work in the people with whom you associate. Some seem to accentuate your finest attributes, while others bring out less flattering aspects. I bring this to your attention, dear Capricorn, because I believe it will be extra important in the coming weeks for you to surround yourself with your favorite mirrors.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20–Feb. 18): Leonardo da Vinci filled thousands of pages with sketches, notes and experiments. He never finished many of them. He called this compilation his “codex of wonder.” It wasn’t a record of failures. It was an appreciation of his complex process and a way to honor his creative wellspring. Taking a cue from da Vinci’s love of marvelous enigmas, I invite you to be in love with the unfinished in the coming weeks. Make inquisitiveness your default position. Reconsider abandoned ideas. Be a steward of fertile fragments. Some of your best work may arise from revisiting composted dreams or incomplete sketches. Here’s your motto: Magic brews in the margins.

PISCES (Feb. 19–March 20): In the remote Atacama Desert of Chile, certain flowers lie dormant for years, awaiting just the right conditions to burst into blossom in a sudden, riotous explosion of color and vitality. Scientists call it a superbloom. Metaphorically speaking, Pisces, you are on the verge of such a threshold. I’m sure you can already feel the inner ripening as it gathers momentum. Any day now, your full flowering will erupt softly but dramatically. You won’t need to push. You will simply open. To prepare yourself emotionally, start rehearsing lively shouts of “HALLELUJAH! HOORAY! WHOOPEE!”

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

OUT on the TOWN

Events & Happenings in Lansing This Week

Events must be entered through the calendar at lansingcitypulse.com. Deadline is 4 p.m. Wednesday for the upcoming Wednesday edition. Charges may apply for paid events to appear in print. If you need assistance, please call Nicole at (517) 999-5066.

Wednesday, June 25

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

Allen Farmers Market - Craft vendor: Gwenavre's Garden. Live music by Alonso Umaña Chan. 3-6:30 p.m. Allen Neighborhood Center, 1629 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. allenneighborhoodcenter.org/allen-farmers-market.

"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.

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.

Can't Cancel Comedy Open Mic - One of four open mics leading to our ticketed feature showcase on June 29. This is a safe space for both new and established comedians or anyone who just needs a laugh. 8-10 p.m. Henry's Place, 4926 Marsh Road, Okemos. facebook.com/profile.php?id=61575507265092.

CharLit Adult Book Club: "Unlikely Animals," by Annie Hartnett - 6 p.m. Charlotte Community Library, 226 S. Bostwick St., Charlotte. charlottelibrary.org.

East Lansing Planning Commission Meeting - 7 p.m. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing. cityofeastlansing.com.

"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.

Intro to Fly Fishing, with Red Cedar Fly Fishers - Learn more about fly fishing at this hands-on workshop! Ages 12+ Registration req. 6 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. gladl.org.

It's Elementary - After learning how eyes distinguish color, students will study the color wheel by mixing primary colors to create secondary and tertiary colors. Grades 3-6. Registration req. 2:30 p.m. Charlotte Community Library, 226 S. Bostwick St., Charlotte. charlottelibrary.org.

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

Lansing Concerts in the Park: Kathy Ford Band (variety) - Free. 7 p.m. Reutter Park, 400 S. Capitol 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.

Lansing Lugnuts vs. Dayton Dragons - Game highlight: Every Wednesday home game, dogs are welcome at Jackson Field. Game highlight 2: For the first time ever, corgis will race on the field! 7:05 p.m. Jackson Field, 505 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. milb.com/lansing.

Meridian Summer Concert Series: Oxymorons ('60s-'70s) - 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.

Middle Village 2025 Grand Opening - Middle Village's next cohort includes BeBe's Boutique, BHouseOriginals and Blueprint of Beauty Boutique. Check out the shops and welcome them to the community with a day of shopping, celebration and connection. 11 a.m. 215 S. Washington Square, Lansing. facebook.com/TheShopsAtMiddleVillage.

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. Framers' 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.

"A Midsummer Night's Dream," by William Shakespeare - 7 p.m. LCC Outdoor Amphitheatre, 500 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing. lcc.edu/showinfo.

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. iamcsangha.wordpress.com.

Parkinson's Social Lunch - Join us for a relaxed social time. Order off the menu and pay your own bill. 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Coral Gables, 2838 Grand River Ave., East Lansing. 517-449-1722. lpsg.org.

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.

Portland Sounds of Summer Concert Series: B-Side Growlers (vintage blues/jazz/country) - Free. 7 p.m. Two Rivers Park, 201 Divine Hwy., Portland. facebook.com/MiPortlandDowntown.

St. Johns Concerts in the Park: Miranda & the M80s ('80s) - Free. 7 p.m. St. Johns City Park, 801 W. Park St., St. Johns. facebook.com/StJohnsCityParkPerformanceShell.

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.

Team Puzzle Competition - Teams of up to four competitors will have two hours to complete a

Celebrate Meridian Festival

5-7 p.m. Thursday, June 26

6-9 p.m. Friday, June 27

4-11 p.m. Saturday, June 28

Marketplace on the Green

1995 Central Park Drive,

Okemos

Central Park

5153 Marsh Road, Okemos

The annual Celebrate Meridian Festival invites community members to gather with family and friends for three days of free entertainment.

The festival kicks off with a children's concert Thursday evening at the Marketplace on the Green, featuring interactive bubble play with BubblesRFun and a performance by musical duo Zippity2Dads.

Friday's teen night, also at the Marketplace on the Green, will offer live music by East Lansing's School of Rock, laser tag, a video game trailer, food trucks, gaga ball games and crafts with Capital Area District Libraries.

The main event, Saturday's block party, will feature live music by party band Geech and '80s tribute group Starfarm at the Marketplace on the Green; food trucks and vendors along Central Park Drive between the Marketplace on the Green and Central Park; inflatables, rides, games and League of Enchantment characters at Central Park; building tours, demonstrations, jewelry vendors and more at Nokomis Cultural Heritage Center; building tours, a performance by folk band Whoa, Nelly! and an ice cream social at the Meridian Historical Village; and cultural vendors and performances in the Municipal Complex parking lot. Alcoholic beverages can be purchased at both the Marketplace on the Green and Central Park. The festival will conclude with a Firefly drone show at the Marketplace on the Green.

For more information, including a schedule of activities, visit meridian.mi.us/about-us/calendar/celebrate-meridian-festival.



500-piece puzzle. Prizes will be awarded to the first two teams to finish. Registration req. 6-8 p.m. Central Park Pavilion, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos. meridian.recdesk.com.

Weaving the Web: Elementals - 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.

Wine Down Wednesday - Enjoy \$1 off glasses of wine all day! Come wine down with us! Noon-7 p.m. Burgdorf's Winery, 4212 E. Holt Road, Weberville. facebook.com/wine.burgdorfs.

Your Money, Your Goals - Free financial empowerment training. Learn about the CFPB's Your Money, Your Goals Toolkit. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Clinton Transit - Watkins Conference Center, 215 N. Scott Road, St. Johns. Register at canr.msu.edu/mimoneyhealth/index.

Thursday, June 26

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.

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

"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.

Bath Farmers Market - 3-6:30 p.m. James Couzens Memorial Park, 13753 Main St., Bath. shopbfm.org.

Blood Drive - Schedule your appointment at redcrossblood.org (sponsor code: Service) or call 1-800-733-2767. Noon-5:45 p.m. Delta Township Administration Building, 7710 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing. facebook.com/deltatownship.

Bookend Gallery Display - Enjoy mixed-media artist Nanette Mathe's acrylic pour pieces and photography through the end of June. Noon-6 p.m. Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. cadl.org/about/our-locations/haslett.

See Events, Page 21

Events

from page 20

Celebrate Meridian Festival Children's Concert

Enjoy live entertainment by Zippity2Dads and BubblesRFun. 5-7 p.m. Marketplace on the Green, 1995 Central Park Drive, Okemos. meridian.mi.us.

Charlotte Summer Concerts on the Square: DeWayne Spaw (country)

Free. 6:30 p.m. Courthouse Square, 100 W. Lawrence Ave., Charlotte. facebook.com/charlottechamberofcommerce.

Colorful Chemistry! - We'll read the story "A Bad Case of Stripes" and engage in chromatography and color-mixing activities. Ages 4-7. Registration req. 11 a.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. gladl.org.

Colorful Jitter Critters! - Use your artistic abilities and engineering skills to design and create your own battery-powered critter. Ages 8-12. Registration req. 2 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. gladl.org.

Community Listening Session Clinton County - What's your vision for your community's future? Make your voice heard at a community listening session for residents of Clinton County. 6-7:30 p.m. East Olive Community Center, 2583 Green Road, St. Johns. Register at pscinc.com.

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

Creative Mixer: Shared Shapes & Sounds - Arts Council member artists will showcase original works inspired by the theme "connection" to highlight how diverse art forms can speak to a shared idea in unique ways. 6-8 p.m. Hooked, 3142 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. facebook.com/ArtsCouncilGL.

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

Downtown Lansing Volunteer Open House - Enjoy free shuffleboard, refreshments and actionable ways you can get involved in the transformation of Downtown Lansing. 5 p.m. Lansing Shuffle, 325 Riverfront Drive, Lansing. facebook.com/downtownlansing.

East Lansing Age-Friendly Communities Committee Meeting - 8:30 a.m. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing. cityofeastlansing.com.

East Lansing Charter Review Committee Public Hearing - 6:30 p.m. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing. cityofeastlansing.com.

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

Golf Fore Giving - Catholic Charities' annual Golf Fore Giving supports our basic needs programs on the Cristo Rey Campus. Join us and golf for a good cause! Registration 8 a.m., tee time 9 a.m. Wheatfield Valley Golf Course, 1600 Linn Road, Williamston. catholiccharitiesec.org.

Grand Ledge Music in the Park: The Frog King (Neil Diamond tribute), opener Brian Bristol - 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.

"Incident at Our Lady of Perpetual Help" - This wild and tender comedy explores the foolishness of first love, the pains of Catholic guilt and, ultimately, the power of family. 7:30 p.m. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam St., Williamston. williamstontheatre.org.

June Business Huddle - Join DLI for its June Downtown Business Huddle! This is a fun way to end the workday with valuable networking and useful insights. 4 p.m. Firefly Hot Yoga Bar, 118 S. Washington Square, Lansing. facebook.com/downtownlansing.

Laingsburg Music in the Park: Tad and the Fat Katz (blues/classic rock) - 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 Lugnuts vs. Dayton Dragons - Game highlight: Every Thursday home game, enjoy \$3 domestics (cans/drafts), \$5 seltzers and \$3 16-ounce soft drinks! Game highlight 2: It's country night at the ballpark as Cooper Johnson provides pre- and post-game performances. 5:45 p.m. Jackson Field, 505 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. milb.com/lansing.

Leadership Lansing 10-Year Celebration - Reconnect with your cohort and meet others from the program's history during the Lugnuts game. The Tailgate Terrace provides the perfect spot to relax and reminisce. 6 p.m. Jackson Field, 505 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. Register at lansingchamber.org.

Live from California: Carl Winters, "The Kalimba King" - Carl Winters has developed an extensive songbook with the kalimba and loves to share his music with audiences, especially children. Come hear, see and learn about this amazing cultural instrument. Registration req. 6 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. gladl.org.

Live Music Thursdays at Nelson Gallery: No One You Know - Frontmen Mike Ferland and Dave Reggle-bruege play a mix of classic rock, country, folk and blues classics, plus some not-so-classics. Free. 4:30 p.m. 113 S. Washington Square, Lansing. facebook.com/NelsonGalleryLansing.

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.

Madison Olivia Live at Cleats Bar & Grille - 7 p.m. 5801 N. Aurelius Road, Lansing. 517-574-4008. cleats-barandgrille.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.

"A Midsummer Night's Dream," by William Shakespeare - 7 p.m. LCC Outdoor Amphitheatre, 500 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing. lcc.edu/showinfo.

MSUFCU Backyard Bash Concert Series: Home Free (a cappella country) - Bar service will be available, as well as various food truck vendors. Doors open at 6 p.m., show at 7 p.m. MSUFCU Headquarters lawn, 3777 West Road, East Lansing. sharethemusic.org.

Parkinson's Exercise: Rock-Steady Boxing - 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 and drinks on our patio in the heart of Old Town. No cover! 1213 Turner St., Lansing. urbanbeatevents.com.

The Shuffle Jazz Band & Cocktail Class - 7-10 p.m. Lansing Shuffle, 325 Riverfront Drive, Lansing. lansingshuffle.com.

Sleep Basics Workshop - Learn about the importance of sleep for both physical and mental health. 1 p.m. Virtual — register at canr.msu.edu/events/sleep-basics-workshop-62625.

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

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.

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.



Photo by Karley's Photography

'Pride and Prejudice'

7 p.m. Friday, June 27
2 and 7 p.m. Saturday, June 28
Schmidt Community Center
5825 Wise Road, Lansing

Alive Theatre, Lansing's newest theater group, presents Jane Austen's classic Regency-era rom-com "Pride and Prejudice" this weekend at Schmidt Community Center. This version of the show was adapted by Andrew Davies, screenwriter of the critically acclaimed 1995 TV series. The plot follows the tumultuous relationship between Elizabeth Bennet, the second-oldest of five daughters whose mother is looking to marry them off to well-to-do suitors, and Mr. Darcy, a wealthy aristocrat. The show explores themes of class and reputation as the duo must overcome their differences and prejudices if they are to fall in love. Meanwhile, the other Bennet daughters experience their own encounters and escapades with potential beaux. "Whether you're a lifelong Austen fan or new to the world of Elizabeth Bennet and Mr. Darcy, this timeless tale of wit, romance and social satire is not to be missed," the Facebook event page enthuses. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$17.50 for seniors (63+) and students at masterarts.ludus.com.

Thursday Night Live Concert Series: Sea Cruisers ('50s-'70s) - Free. 6:30 p.m. Ingham County Courthouse lawn, 315 S. Jefferson St., Mason. facebook.com/masonchamber.

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.

Tour de España Wine Night - Join us for a night of Spanish fun! Enjoy four tastings of our sommelier's hand-picked favorites from Spain, paired with beautiful Spanish tapas! 6-8 p.m. Zynda's, 150 E. Grand River Ave., Williamston. facebook.com/zyndas.

See Events, Page 22

SUMMER ON THE COMMONS
Saturday Nights just got cooler
FREE CONCERTS

June 28 6 pm
Nikki Holland
& The Dirty Elizabeths

July 12 5pm
Baseline Band

July 26 5 pm
Konstantin Polyakov
Community Jazz Band

Aug. 23 5 pm
The Rolling Hills

Sept. 13 5 pm
Alex Teller, Jen SYBIT TRIO

Bring a lawn chair and a friend!

Congregational Commons 128 S Bostwick St, Charlotte

Events

from page 21

The UrbanBeat Walter Blanding Series: "Better Get Hit in Your Soul," the Music of Charles Mingus - Join renowned saxophonist and composer Walter Blanding as he brings the fiery spirit of Charles Mingus to life. 7:30 p.m. UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner St., Lansing. urbanbeatevents.com.

Williamston Summer Concert Series: Black Barn Band (rock) - Free. 7 p.m. McCormick Park, 300 N. Putnam St., Williamston. facebook.com/williamstonconcerts.

Friday, June 27

Alexandria McMath Live at the Peanut Barrel - 8 p.m. 521 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. 517-351-0608. peanutbarrel.com.

An Evening with Djangophonique - Djangophonique, led by guitarist Andrew Brown, brings the joy and swing of Django Reinhardt's jazz manouche to life with a fresh, fearless twist. 7 p.m. UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner St., Lansing. urbanbeatevents.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.

Ben Awrey Live at Dublin Square - 9 p.m. 327 Abbot Road, East Lansing. 517-351-2222. facebook.com/dublinsquare.

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.

Celebrate Meridian Festival Teen Night - Rock out

with live entertainment from School of Rock East Lansing while enjoying laser tag, crafts, a video game trailer, gaga ball and bites from food trucks. 6-9 p.m. Marketplace on the Green, 1995 Central Park Drive, Okemos. meridian.mi.us.

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.

Craft Club - Make a stenciled tote bag! Grades 4-12. Registration req. 4 p.m. Charlotte Community Library, 226 S. Bostwick St., Charlotte. charlottelibrary.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.

"Incident at Our Lady of Perpetual Help" - This wild and tender comedy explores the foolishness of first love, the pains of Catholic guilt and, ultimately, the power of family. 7:30 p.m. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam St., Williamston. williamstontheatre.org.

Lake Lansing Bandshell Concert Series: Slick Jimmy ('80s), opener Nicky and Ricky - 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 Lugnuts vs. Dayton Dragons - Game highlight: Celebrate 75 years of "Peanuts!" The first 1,000 fans will receive a Woodstock bobblehead, and the Lugnuts will take the field in "Peanuts" jerseys! 7:05 p.m. Jackson Field, 505 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. mlb.com/lansing.

Lansing Pride White Party - Join Sir Pizza, Copper Moon, UrbanBeat, Zoobie's and Esquire Bar for a party in Old Town! Wristbands are only \$10 and will get you into all the participating bars. 8 p.m.-midnight. lansingpride.org/whiteparty.

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.

"A Midsummer Night's Dream," by William Shakespeare - 7 p.m. LCC Outdoor Amphitheatre, 500 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing. lcc.edu/showinfo.

Out & Proud Drag Show - Hosted by Matty B and Chip Brewer. Performances by Thon Zillennial, Holly Looyah, Leo Pratt and more. Music by DJ McCoy between drag performances. 10:30 p.m. UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner St., Lansing. urbanbeatevents.com.

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. lapsrg.org.

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.

"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.

Pride Prom 2025 - Join us for a "myth and magic"-themed prom open to queer teens and allies. Enjoy crafts, dancing, snacks, games and giveaways! 7-10 p.m. Howell Opera House, 123 W. Grand River Ave., Howell. qtlivco.org.

ReFashion Upcycle Drop-in - Try altering your clothes or making something wearable from scratch at this casual drop-in day with Spartan Upcycle. No sewing experience necessary! 11 a.m.-3 p.m. MSU Surplus & Recycling, 468 Green Way, East Lansing. msurecycling.com.

Shelby & Jake Live at Mash Bar - 8:30 p.m. 212 Albert Ave., East Lansing. 517-858-2100. mashbar.net.

TGIF Beach Dance Party - Remembering Brian Wilson of the Beach Boys: wear casual beachwear. No swimsuits. Doors open at 7 p.m., line dance lesson at 7:15 p.m., dance runs 8 p.m. to midnight. Hawk Hollow Banquet Center, 15101 Chandler Road, Bath. tgifdance.com.

Saturday, June 28

"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.

Big Willy & Root Doctor at the Green Door - Take a trip down memory lane and see Root Doctor at the Green Door one last time, with an opening set by

Big Willy. Tickets are \$15 at the door. 8:30 p.m. 2005 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. facebook.com/thegreendoorlive.

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.

Celebrate Meridian Festival Block Party - Make the most of your summer with live music, food, children's activities, a drone show and more! 4-11 p.m. Marketplace on the Green, 1995 Central Park Drive, Okemos. meridian.mi.us.

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

David Salvador Live at Dublin Square - 9 p.m. 327 Abbot Road, East Lansing. 517-351-2222. facebook.com/dublinsquare.

Divination Roundtable - Learn a new divination method, get a reading and compare notes with others in your field. All readings free, all systems of divination welcome. 5-8 p.m. Weavers of the Web, 809 Center St., Lansing. weaversoftheweb.org.

Dixon's Violin - The world's premier visionary violinist, Dixon improvises on a five-string electric violin with a looping system he developed to create a one-man symphony, guided by his personal story of life transformation. 7 p.m. Howell Opera House, 123 W. Grand River Ave., Howell. dixonsviolin.com.

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

"Incident at Our Lady of Perpetual Help" - This wild and tender comedy explores the foolishness of first love, the pains of Catholic guilt and, ultimately, the power of family. 2 p.m. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam St., Williamston. williamstontheatre.org.

Lansing Lugnuts vs. Dayton Dragons - Game highlight: Join us as the Lugnuts take the field in Marvel-inspired jerseys! Dress up as your favorite Marvel superhero, and don't miss the Lugnuts comic book giveaway for the first 1,000 fans through the gates! 7:05 p.m. Jackson Field, 505 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. mlb.com/lansing.

Lansing Pride Official Afterparty - For those of you who remember Club Spiral, the space has gotten a glow-up, and she's ready to welcome you back as Copper Moon for a one-night-only party! 10 p.m.-2 a.m. 1247 Center St., Lansing. lansingpride.org.

Mastermind Prayer Circle on Zoom - Support each other in envisioning our hearts' desires. Facilitator Lisa Schmidt. 8 a.m. Zoom ID: 177 417 886. Passcode: 601744. unitylansing.org.

Meet Your Doula - This event is held speed-dating style, so come any time during the event and spend some time with each of our available doulas. 4-5:30 p.m. Willow Tree Family Center, 1141 N. Pine St., Lansing. facebook.com/LansingDoula.

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

"A Midsummer Night's Dream," by William Shakespeare - 7 p.m. LCC Outdoor Amphitheatre, 500 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing. lcc.edu/showinfo.

Monthly Scrapbooking Open Crop - Whether you're a seasoned scrapbooker or just getting started, our events offer an opportunity to learn new techniques and share your passion with others. 10 a.m.-10 p.m. Art & Soul Gallery, 215 N. Clinton Ave., St. Johns. facebook.com/ClintonCntyArts.

Out & Proud After-Pride Party - Hosted by Matty B and Happy Birthday. Performances by Fantasthma, Shylo Chanel, Chip Brewer and more. Ages 18+. 10 p.m. UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner St., Lansing. urbanbeatevents.com.

Out & Proud All-Ages Drag Shows - Hosted by Matty B and Holly Looyah. Performances by Thon Zillennial, Chip Brewer, Miz Googly Pop and more. Free. 1 and 4:45 p.m. UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner St., Lansing. urbanbeatevents.com.



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CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN, INGHAM COUNTY
LEGAL AD NOTICE: VARIANCE REQUEST #25-07
MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP
WEDNESDAY, JULY 16, 2025

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
LEGAL NOTICE
Variance Request #25-07
2770 Bennett Road
Public Hearing

Notice is hereby given that the Zoning Board of Appeals of the Charter Township of Meridian will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, July 16, 2025 at 6:30 p.m. in the Meridian Municipal Building, Town Hall Room, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI, 48864 (phone 517.853.4560) to hear all persons interested in a variance request from Meridian Township. The applicant is proposing to construct a pathway that will cross the Hoskins Drain located near 2770 Bennett Road. The subject site is zoned RR, Rural Residential.

Information may be examined at the Department of Community Planning and Development, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, Michigan 48864-1198, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Written comments may be sent prior to the public hearing to the Zoning Board of Appeals, Charter Township of Meridian, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, Michigan, 48864, or by email to chapman@meridian.mi.us, or at the public hearing.

Angela Demas
Township Clerk

CP#25-197

A PRIME COMMUNITY
meridian.mi.us

Providing a safe and welcoming, sustainable, prime community.

Events

from page 22

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.

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

Rory Nevins Live at Pins & Pints - 7 p.m. 2120 E. Saginaw Hwy., East Lansing. 517-337-7000. pinsandpints.net.

Sapphic Factory: Queer Joy Party - Dance and be free to the music of MUNA, Chappell Roan, boygenius, Kehlani, Rina Sawayama, Kail Uchis, Kim Petras, Girl in Red and more. Ages 18+. 8 p.m. Grewal Hall, 224 S. Washington Square, Lansing. hall224.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.

Silent Breathwork+ Yoga Nidra with Jojo - Feeling overwhelmed, anxious, or just craving a reset? Come breathe it out and drop into stillness with Jojo. Noon. Firefly Hot Yoga Bar, 118 S. Washington Square, Lansing. facebook.com/fireflyhotyogabar.

Summer on the Commons Concert Series: Nikki Holland & the Dirty Elizabeths - This group's American reggae-fusion music is beach-bonfire ready. Bring a lawn chair and a friend! 6 p.m. Congregational Commons, 128 S. Bostwick St., Charlotte. uucccharlotte.org.

VFW National Home 100-Year Anniversary Community Celebration - Help us celebrate 100 years of service to veteran families. With food trucks, a classic car show, a laser light show and more, this is an event not to be missed. 11 a.m.-11 p.m. 3573 S. Waverly Road, Eaton Rapids. vfwnationalhome.org.

Women's Weekend 2025 - Our annual Women's Weekend, June 28 and 29, will celebrate the theme "A Woman's Walk with Jesus," uplifting the scriptures 1 John 2:6 and Colossians 2:6-7 (NIV). St. Stephen's Community Church, UCC, 1007 Kimberly Drive, Lansing. ststephenscc.org.

Sunday, June 29

"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.

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.

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

"Incident at Our Lady of Perpetual Help" - This wild and tender comedy explores the foolishness of first love, the pains of Catholic guilt and, ultimately, the power of family. 2 p.m. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam St., Williamston. williamstontheatre.org.

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

Lansing Lugnuts vs. Dayton Dragons - Game highlight: Entertainment for kids throughout the game and an opportunity for kids to run the bases after the game. Plus, show your ticket stub at Capital City Market for 25% off your purchase and free ice cream! 1:05 p.m. Jackson Field, 505 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. milb.com/lansing.

"A Midsummer Night's Dream," by William Shakespeare - 7 p.m. LCC Outdoor Amphitheatre, 500 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing. lcc.edu/showinfo.

MSU Music and the Garden - Featuring the Moderno Trio, a versatile ensemble based in the College of Music, this event explores the theme "Nourishing Our World." Family-friendly activities at 1 p.m., concert at 2 p.m. Beal Botanical Garden, 330 W. Circle Drive, East Lansing. music.msu.edu.

Next Gen Market - A youth vendor fair featuring 10 young entrepreneurs who are turning passion into profit. Enjoy food, music and hear youth speakers share their journeys as rising entrepreneurs. 4-7 p.m. D.U.S. Couture, 5330 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing. mansionofdreams.org.

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.

Spell Oils Workshop - Looking to deepen your practice with custom-crafted spell oils? Join us for a hands-on workshop where you'll learn to create and empower your own oils. Registration req. 4-6 p.m. Keys to Manifestation, 809 Center St., Lansing. manifestlansing.com.

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

Williamston Farm & Artisan Market - Shop for produce, baked goods, handmade artisan products and more while enjoying live music, craft activities for the kids and interactive art. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. McCormick Park, 123 High St.,

Williamston. williamstonfarmmarket.org.

Monday, June 30

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

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.

See Events, Page 24

NOTICE OF DAY OF REVIEW OF DRAINAGE DISTRICT BOUNDARIES AND REVIEW OF APPORTIONMENTS

| | | |
|-------------------|---|--|
| DATE: | July 7, 2025 | |
| TIME: | 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. | |
| LOCATIONS: | Eaton County Drain Commissioner's Office 1045 Independence Boulevard Charlotte, MI 48813 | Ingham County Drain Commissioner's Office 707 Buhl Avenue Mason, MI 48854 |
| QUESTIONS: | (517) 543-3809 drain@eatoncounty.org | (517) 676-8395 ppratt@ingham.org |

The Day of Review is an opportunity to review the Drainage District boundaries and review of the apportionment of benefits for the Clarke Intercounty Drain. A map and description of the proposed Drainage District boundary revisions can be found on the Eaton County Drain Commissioner's website at: eatoncounty.org/554/Calendar-of-Events; and on the Ingham County Drain Commissioner's website at: drain.ingham.org. A licensed professional engineer has recommended lands be added or removed from the Drainage District. A general description of the lands by section number proposed to be added or deleted from the Drainage Districts is as follows:

| Drain Name | Municipality | Portions of Sections Added/Removed |
|--------------------------|-------------------|------------------------------------|
| Clarke Intercounty Drain | Hamlin Township | 13 & 24 |
| | Onondaga Township | 18 & 19 |

The Drain Commissioners, engineers, and/or other staff members will be available to assist individuals throughout the day and make revisions where necessary. There is no need to schedule an appointment for a specific time on the Day of Review. Written statements may be mailed or emailed to the County Drain Commissioner(s) at the postal or email address(es) listed above. Comments submitted in advance must be received by the Drain Commissioner(s) before the date of the meeting to ensure consideration.

The computation of costs for the Drain and the tentative apportionments against the parcels and municipalities within the Drainage District will also be available at the Day of Review. Drain assessments are collected in the same manner as property taxes and will appear on your winter tax bill. If drain assessments are being collected for more than one (1) year, you may pay the assessment in full with any interest to date at any time and avoid further interest charges. Comments on the apportionment of benefits may be submitted in writing before the date of the meeting to review the apportionment or may be submitted in writing or orally at the review.

Persons with disabilities needing accommodations for effective participation in the Day of Review should contact the Drain Commissioners' Offices at the phone numbers listed above (voice) or through the Michigan Relay Center at 7-1-1 (TDD) at least 24 hours in advance of the Day of Review to request mobility, visual, hearing, or other assistance.

You may appeal the Drainage Board's decision to revise the Drainage District boundaries to the County Circuit Court within ten (10) days after the decision is entered, and you may also appeal the determination of apportionments to the County Probate Court within ten (10) days after the Day of Review.

Richard Wagner
Eaton County Drain Commissioner

Patrick Lindemann
Ingham County Drain Commissioner

CP#25-195



CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN, INGHAM COUNTY
LEGAL AD NOTICE: VARIANCE REQUEST #25-08
MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP
WEDNESDAY, JULY 16, 2025

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
LEGAL NOTICE
Variance Request #25-08
1982 Grand River
Public Hearing

Notice is hereby given that the Zoning Board of Appeals of the Charter Township of Meridian will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, July 16, 2025 at 6:30 p.m. in the Meridian Municipal Building, Town Hall Room, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI, 48864 (phone 517.853.4560) to hear all persons interested in a variance request from Dagher Signs & Graphics. The applicant is proposing to install two wall signs on the north and south facades that are not permitted located at 1982 Grand River. The subject site is zoned C-3, Commercial.

Information may be examined at the Department of Community Planning and Development, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, Michigan 48864-1198, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Written comments may be sent prior to the public hearing to the Zoning Board of Appeals, Charter Township of Meridian, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, Michigan, 48864, or by email to chapman@meridian.mi.us, or at the public hearing.

Angela Demas
Township Clerk

CP#25-198

Events

from page 23

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 Dance Camp for Kids & Teens - This camp will focus on teaching young dancers choreography to classic and contemporary Broadway songs. Ages 5-18. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Monday-Thursday. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. ruhalacenter.com.

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.

Department of Public Works Meeting - 5:30 p.m. City Hall, 114 Woodhull St., Lansing. 517-651-5374. laingsburg.us.

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

Fiber Circle - Knitters, crocheters and stitchers of all ages and skill levels welcome. Although formal instruction isn't provided, attendees assist each other with techniques and skills. 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.

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.

S'more Stories Storytime - We'll read stories about summer and the outdoors, sing songs and make s'mores. 6 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. gladl.org.

The Weekly Crunch - Laugh your ass off with the best local comedians every Monday night. 8 p.m. Crunchy's, 254 W. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. crunchyseastlansing.com.

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

Tuesday, July 1

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" - 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.

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.

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.



Photo by Maraf Azzam



Adrienne Torf and Voices of the Revolution

12:15 p.m. Sunday, June 29

Unitarian Universalist Church of Greater Lansing

5509 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing

San Francisco-based pianist and composer Adrienne Torf, alongside Lansing feminist spoken-word ensemble Voices of the Revolution, will perform selections from her new album, "Here I Am," at a free concert Sunday afternoon. The performance will also feature selections from Torf's collaborative work with the late author, teacher and activist June Jordan, one of the most widely published and acclaimed African American writers of her generation, as well as poetry by Jordan. The show is a preview of Torf and Voices' performance at the National Women's Music Festival next week in Madison, Wisconsin.

Alongside her new album and collaborations with Jordan, Torf's piano and synthesizer work appear on two solo albums, both of which were recognized as among the best of the year by the National Association of Independent Record Distributors, and more than a dozen releases by other artists. Her recent project "Poetry for the People: The June Jordan Experience," co-created by Raymond Caldwell and produced by Washington, D.C.'s Theater Alliance, received the Helen Hayes Award for outstanding new play or musical adaptation. She also serves as a consulting CFO and board member for several nonprofit arts, media and social justice organizations.

Sunday's performance is recommended for adult audiences due to coverage of serious topics such as misogyny, racism and violence. For more information, visit adriennetorf.com or facebook.com/voicesoftherevolutionlansing.

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

Find the Bulldog - Our plush Mason Public Schools mascot is visiting several Mason Area Chamber of Commerce members from July 1-31. Grab a passport from any of our member stops and let the hunt begin. Collect stamps at 25 or more stops to be entered into a drawing for your own plush Mason Bulldog. facebook.com/mason-chamber.

Good Neighbor Concert Series - Our final concert of the season will feature Michigan singer-songwriter Blake Elliott. We'll be raising funds for the Alzheimer's Association's Greater Michigan Chapter. 6:30 p.m. Stage One at Sycamore Creek Eastwood, 2200 Lake Lansing Road, Lansing. facebook.com/TheGoodNeighborConcertSeries.

Grand Ledge Community Food & Personal Supplies Drive - Drop off donations at the Grand Ledge Area District Library from July 1-30. 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. gladl.org.

How Much Home Can You Afford? - Looking to buy a home? Learn how to calculate how much home you can afford based on your income during this one-hour webinar. 2 p.m. Virtual — register at canr.msu.edu/mimoneyhealth/index.

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

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.

River Walk Trash Cleanup - Join us in caring for the Earth and her waterways by picking up trash along the Lansing River Trail and the areas around our building! 11 a.m.-noon. Weavers of the Web, 809

Center St., Lansing. weaversoftheweb.org.

Summer in the Park: Red, White & Blue Day - Celebrate America's birthday with festive stories, songs, crafts and more! 11 a.m. Oak Park, corner of Clinton and Seminary streets, Charlotte. charlottelibrary.org.

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

Wednesday, July 2

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

Allen Farmers Market - Craft vendor: Slick Beauty Oils. Live music by Matty Marvin. 3-6:30 p.m. Allen Neighborhood Center, 1629 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. allenneighborhoodcenter.org/allen-farmers-market.

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

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.

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.

Fanning The Flames 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.

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

See Events, Page 25

Events

from page 24

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.

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.

Meridian Summer Concert Series: Serita's Black Rose Duo (funk/rock/blues/Americana) - 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.

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.

MSU Summer Carillon Concert Series: Annie Gao - Gao will perform works by Bach, Haydn and Clementi, plus selections of romantic 19th- and 20th-century melodies. Free. 6 p.m. Beaumont Tower, 375 W. Circle Drive, East Lansing. music.msu.edu.

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.

St. Johns Concerts in the Park: Lansing Concert Band - Free. 7 p.m. St. Johns City Park, 801 W. Park St., St. Johns. facebook.com/StJohnsCityParkPerformanceShell.

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.

Switch Gaming: Super Smash Bros. - Join us for an afternoon of fun and friendly Switch gaming! Feel free to bring your Switch to play between turns. All skill levels welcome. 3-5 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. gladl.org.

Thursday, July 3

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.

Bath Farmers Market - 3-6:30 p.m. James Couzens Memorial Park, 13753 Main St., Bath. shopbfm.org.

Capital Area Modelers Society Meeting - Learn about building scale models, display what you're working on and get to know others interested in the hobby. 6:30-8 p.m. Judson Baptist Church, 531 Glendale Ave., Lansing. capitalareamodelerssociety.wordpress.com.

Charlotte Summer Concerts on the Square: Home-spun (country/classic rock) - Free. 6:30 p.m. Courthouse Square, 100 W. Lawrence Ave., Charlotte. facebook.com/charlottechamberofcommerce.

Crafty Vibes - Bring your knitting, crochet or any

other portable craft project and immerse yourself in an evening of creativity, conversation and community. 5 p.m. Weavers of the Web, 809 Center St., Lansing. weaversoftheweb.org.

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

CROSSWORD SOLUTION

From Pg. 19


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SUDOKU SOLUTION

From Pg. 19

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CRIMINAL DEFENSE



**Drunk Driving
Embezzlement
Drugs
Homicide
All Federal
and State Crimes**


45 YEARS -
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SHAFFER, P.C.**
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www.stushafer.com



CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN, INGHAM COUNTY
LEGAL AD NOTICE: ZONING AMENDMENT #25013
PARKING LOT LANDSCAPING
MONDAY, JULY 14, 2025


CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
LEGAL NOTICE
Zoning Amendment #25013 – Parking Lot Landscaping
Public Hearing

Notice is hereby given that the Planning Commission of the Charter Township of Meridian will hold a public hearing on Monday, July 14, 2025 at 6:30 p.m. in the Meridian Municipal Building, Town Hall Room, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI, 48864 to hear all persons interested in a proposed zoning amendment. The Meridian Township Planning Commission has proposed to amend Sec. 86-758 of the Zoning Ordinance to update the requirements for landscaping in off-street parking lots.

A complete copy of the amendment may be viewed at the Community Planning and Development office, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, Michigan 48864-1198 (phone 517-853-4560), between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Written comments may be sent prior to the public hearing to the Planning Commission, Charter Township of Meridian, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, Michigan, 48864, or by email to shorkey@meridian.mi.us.


Angela Demas
Township Clerk

CP#25-191



A PRIME COMMUNITY
meridian.mi.us

Providing a safe and welcoming, sustainable, prime community.



CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN, INGHAM COUNTY
LEGAL AD NOTICE: ZONING AMENDMENT #25104
ROOSTER REGULATIONS
MONDAY, JUNE 10, 2024


CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
LEGAL NOTICE
Zoning Amendment #25014 – Rooster Regulations
Public Hearing

Notice is hereby given that the Planning Commission of the Charter Township of Meridian will hold a public hearing on Monday, June 10, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. in the Meridian Municipal Building, Town Hall Room, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI, 48864 to hear all persons interested in a proposed zoning amendment. The Meridian Township Planning Commission has proposed to amend Sec. 86-368 of the zoning ordinance to update the regulations for roosters in the Township.

A complete copy of the amendment may be viewed at the Community Planning and Development office, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, Michigan 48864-1198 (phone 517-853-4560), between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Written comments may be sent prior to the public hearing to the Planning Commission, Charter Township of Meridian, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, Michigan, 48864, or by email to shorkey@meridian.mi.us.


Angela Demas
Township Clerk

CP#25-192



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CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN, INGHAM COUNTY
LEGAL AD NOTICE: VARIANCE REQUEST 25-06
3760 HULETT
WEDNESDAY, JULY 16, 2025


CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
LEGAL NOTICE
Variance Request #25-06
3760 Hulett Road
Public Hearing

Notice is hereby given that the Zoning Board of Appeals of the Charter Township of Meridian will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, July 16, 2025 at 6:30 p.m. in the Meridian Municipal Building, Town Hall Room, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI, 48864 (phone 517.853.4560) to hear all persons interested in a variance request from Norman & Carmen Gear. The applicant is proposing to construct a building addition that will encroach into the wetland setback at 3760 Hulett Road. The subject site is zoned RR, Rural Residential.

Information may be examined at the Department of Community Planning and Development, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, Michigan 48864-1198, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Written comments may be sent prior to the public hearing to the Zoning Board of Appeals, Charter Township of Meridian, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, Michigan, 48864, or by email to chapman@meridian.mi.us, or at the public hearing.

Angela Demas
Township Clerk

CP#25-196



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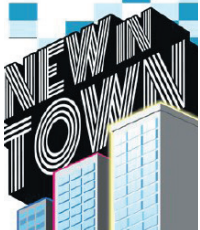
FOOD & DRINK

DINING OUT IN GREATER LANSING

La Mulata brings authentic Cuban cuisine to the south side

By LEO V. KAPLAN

Trucking company owners Yasmin Lopez and Juan Jose Alejandrez bought Lansing's old Elks lodge not for the building itself, but for the acre of empty space behind it.



La Mulata

5334 S. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Lansing
11 a.m.-9 p.m.
Tuesday-Sunday
(517) 614-1360

By the time they learned the zoning code forbade them from parking their trucks there, they were stuck with the property. But the building had a kitchen, and their daughter Gabriella was studying to be a chef.

"We used the space for private events, but it was causing some

problems, and this place is too nice to start wrecking," the couple's other daughter, Genesis, said. "So, my mother decided, 'Since my daughter wants to become a chef, why not get her some experience?'"

Months of renovations later, Gabri-

ella is the chef at La Mulata, a Cuban restaurant serving staples like empanadas and Cuban sandwiches, as well as fresh-squeezed orange juice and espresso drinks made with 517 Coffee Co. beans. Genesis is the barista and server, and Yasmin and Juan Jose deliver food and source ingredients, many of which are imported from Cuba or Florida. The restaurant had a soft opening on April 29 and is working toward an official grand opening.

Gabriella said authenticity is a priority, especially because her parents are Cuban immigrants.

"From my teachers, my chefs, I learned how to make bread, soups and salads," Gabriella said. "But the Cuban food, I learned from my grandma."

She makes her food fresh, the way she learned at home.

"We make most of our food from scratch," she said. "Our conгри (beans and rice), the fillings we put inside the empanadas, our orange juice and lemonade, we make all that from scratch because we don't want to serve frozen stuff."

The fresh orange juice was a must-have

for Yasmin, who drank it while growing up in Cuba. The orange juicer she purchased is a staple at Cuban restaurants in Miami, where some of La Mulata's ingredients are imported from.

Yasmin said she's working to obtain a liquor license, but La Mulata will have a bar as soon as she can get it. In the meantime, customers can order standard espresso drinks, which Genesis learned to make in part via latte art classes at Foster Coffee Co.

The menu is still changing as well. Yasmin said the current menu is much larger than the original.

"We have a small kitchen because it was a bar," she said, "so we started selling sandwiches, and our specialty was the Cuban sandwich. But then we started adding more Cuban cuisine and some Mexican dishes as well, and breakfast food."

Juan Jose said he was frustrated with the zoning issue, but he's grateful for the chance to bring Cuban culture to Lansing.

"I'm trying to integrate a little part of my culture into the community," he said.



Leo V. Kaplan/City Pulse

Yasmin Lopez (center right) and Juan Jose Alejandrez (far right) pose in front of a mural painted by their daughters, Gabriella (far left) and Genesis (center left), at the family's new Cuban restaurant, La Mulata.

While the chance to be a chef is a dream come true for Gabriella, Genesis said she's also excited to contribute. She's wanted to assist with her parents' business her whole life, and now she finally can.

"This is all out of love for our parents," she said. "Now that we're older, we can actually help out."

Run to Mi Sushi & Noodles for remarkable ramen

By LIZY FERGUSON

I don't have air conditioning in my house or car, yet despite this and the recent high temperatures, I couldn't deny a strange and sudden craving for ramen this past weekend. Since I'd just gone to NCG, it made sense to simply keep driving down Lake Lansing Road to visit my favorite Japanese restaurant in the area, Mi Sushi & Noodles.

As its name suggests, Mi Sushi has excellent sushi, which would be my usual (and, in this case, more rational and refreshing) choice, but once I get noodles in my head, there's no going back. The menu includes not only ramen but also udon and rice



Tonkotsu ramen

\$14.95

Mi Sushi & Noodles

3340 E. Lake Lansing Road, East Lansing

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

4-9 p.m. Saturday

(517) 816-8666

misushinoodles.com

noodle dishes, with several variations of each. I was torn between the tonkotsu and the volcano ramen, but I ultimately decided I would be pushing it by opting for the latter.

Tonkotsu ramen gets its white, almost creamy broth by way of the long-and-slow-boiled pork bones it's made from and the gelatin that's released through that process. Mi Sushi's was topped with chashu (pork belly), bean sprouts, corn, seaweed, fish cakes, bamboo shoots, green onion, a soft-boiled egg and, of course, ramen noodles.

The broth was rich and silky, and the noodles were perfectly chewy and satisfying, but the pork belly ended up stealing the show.

I rarely eat pork, so this was a special occasion, and I'm glad it didn't disappoint. The meat was tender and succulent, and I tasted soy, ginger and even five spice. I tried to space out bites of it as I ate my noodles since its flavor paired so deliciously with all of the ingredients. I also really loved the sweet corn and the soy-marinated, jammy egg, which should be served on top or alongside any savory dish, in my opinion.

My friend ordered the equally seasonally inappropriate and hearty tempura curry, and the bites I stole of that were delicious as well. I have yet to have anything from Mi Sushi that I haven't loved, and I appreciate its super-friendly staff and sparkling-clean, nicely decorated, cozy dining room. I'm definitely going to continue to explore the menu beyond sushi, but as I'm writing this in my 80-degree office, I sure could go for the eel and cucumber roll.



Lizy Ferguson for City Pulse

Though seasonally inappropriate, Mi Sushi & Noodles' tonkotsu ramen is worth breaking a sweat for, Lizy Ferguson says.

Taco cheat codes

By ARI LEVAUX

We shook hands to make it official. If my tacos were the best ever, as claimed, I would win the wager. Otherwise, victory would go to my adversary. It was admittedly the most audacious of claims, the longest of long shots. Out of how many hundreds of Mexican restaurants and taco trucks? She took a bite and stared at me, her eyes a blend of “OMG,” “WTF” and “up your nose with a garden hose.”

If this confidence sounds like braggadocio, it wouldn't be on my behalf. I didn't invent that runny, green sauce of cilantro, jalapeño, garlic and lime that you may have noticed at your local taco stand. I don't know where it came from or even its name — the recipes online refer to it with the same list of ingredients. I also didn't invent the trick that probably won me the wager. I learned that from a friend in California.

I did kind of invent the braised ox-tails, spiced with thyme and succulent

with red wine. Although they were leftovers from a non-Mexican meal, they were nonetheless stellar as a stand-in taco filler, the only true requirements of taco filling, as I understand it, being that it's delicious and savory, ideally with protein.



As for the tortilla trick, it feels like cheating. You heat the tortillas in a pan or griddle, and when they're piping hot on one side, you flip them and add grated cheese to the hot sides now facing up. The cheese must be of a melty variety, such as a Mexican orange, a northern cheddar or blue cheese, if you partake.

When the cheese melts, turn off the heat, load the tacos and enjoy the deliciousness, or bask in the glory of serving them to others. The warm cheese toughens the tortillas, making them less likely to fall apart if there's too much sauce on the tacos, as there frequently is.



Photo by Ari LeVaux

A mole taco with a glass of mayo verde to wash it down.

Mayo verde

This condiment goes well on steak, eggs, salad, sandwiches, veggie side dishes and basically anything savory. Or pour it into a glass, where it's as drinkable as a \$20 bottle of wine. I call it mayo verde because it's green and half mayo. We could also call it “game changer,” “performance enhancer” or “food improver.”

1 cup mayonnaise, ideally grapeseed oil
veganaisie
Three garlic cloves
Four jalapeños, seeds removed, roasted or raw
Half lime
2 cups cilantro, lightly packed
Salt and pepper to taste
Possibly a few tablespoons of water

If you're roasting the jalapeños, do so in a dry pan on medium heat or under a broiler until blistered on all sides. Then cool and peel them. Blend all the ingredients together until you have a smooth, green

liquid, adding water if necessary to help it vortex.

Citrus mole sauce

This taco filling came from ad-libbing with a combination of deer meat and deer heart. I came up with a citrus mole to counter the potential gaminess of the meat. The next time I tried this recipe, I used beef, and the result was similarly rich. But my favorite renditions have been with pieces of fatty, tender pork, like belly or sirloin.

The sauce is dark, rich, tart, sweet and fragrant with Mexican spices. While the recipe calls for grinding the whole spices, you can also use their powdered counterparts. If doing so, reduce the spice quantities by half.

1 pound meat
1/4 cup oil if the meat is lean
2 cups orange juice
1/4 cup lemon and lime juice
1 teaspoon whole fennel seeds
2 tablespoons whole cumin seeds
1 tablespoon whole coriander seeds
2 tablespoons unsweetened cocoa powder

Brown the meat in oil or its own fat. While it's browning, grind the fennel, cumin and coriander

Add the ground spices, salt, pepper, red pepper and garlic and simmer in orange, lemon and lime juice for at least 30 minutes, preferably an hour with the lid on. Finally, add the cocoa powder and simmer for 10 more minutes to thicken. Remove the meat with a slotted spoon and add it to the tacos.

Consider tomato salsa and garnishes like sliced radish, minced onion and pico de gallo.

TOP 5 DINING GUIDE
THE BEST RESTAURANTS IN GREATER LANSING AS DECIDED BY CITY PULSE READERS

TOP 5 LASAGNA

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

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. Pizza House

Laid-back restaurant with a spacious dining room offering deep-dish pies and other Italian eats
4790 Hagadorn Road, East Lansing
(517) 336-0033
pizzahouse.com
10:30 a.m.-4 a.m. daily

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

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4th OF JULY
LANSING

INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION

11AM PARADE | 8PM CONCERT | 10PM FIREWORKS

PARADE: CAPITOL LOOP
 CONCERT & FIREWORKS: ADADO RIVERFRONT PARK

