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August 20-26, 2025

CityPULSE

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Lansing's largest circulation newspaper

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See Page 10



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Acai

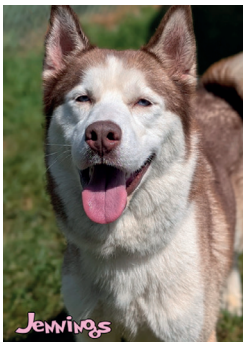
is a gentle and friendly 2-year-old hound/shep mix with the sweetest soul. She was found as a stray and is currently recovering from some hair loss from allergies. Acai enjoys the company of other dogs and would do best with calm, gentle friends who can help her continue to build confidence. She has a soft, easygoing nature and is ready to find a home where she can feel safe, loved, and finally relax.



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Copper Falls

is a beautiful tabby who came to the shelter after her owner passed away and next kin was unable to care for her. She was a little worried at first and she still tends to stay in her box waiting patiently for someone to come offer her an ear rub, but she's quick to come out to say hello. She has never lived with other cats but she doesn't seem bothered by them. She probably wouldn't enjoy living with a pouncy kitten but might enjoy an easy-going friend.



Sponsored by "The Fonz"

Jennings

is a handsome husky who came to us from another shelter. This is what they had to say: Calling all husky lovers-Jennings is ready to steal your heart and maybe your snacks. This handsome, red-and-white fluffball is 4 years old and bursting with classic husky energy and charm. He knows his basics-sit, shake, and down-and he's always ready to show off for a treat or a little attention. Like most huskies, he's got a lot to say, and he's not shy about telling you how he feels. If you're looking for a quiet companion... he's probably not your guy. But if you're into chatty trail buddies and snow-day zoomies, Jennings could be your perfect match. He LOVES to play, especially with other dogs, and would thrive in a home with a playful canine companion. He's shown some polite curiosity around cats, but we'd recommend a slow, supervised introduction to be safe-he didn't seem overly focused on them, which is a good sign! One of his favorite things in the world? Balls. Toss one and watch this guy light up with joy!



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Amble

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



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Whitefish

was adopted from us a couple of years ago and was recently returned when her owners divorced. She is scared and confused but trying really hard. She tends to stay in her box but if you reach in and scratch her gently she leans in asking for more. She would probably thrive in a quieter home with gentle people.



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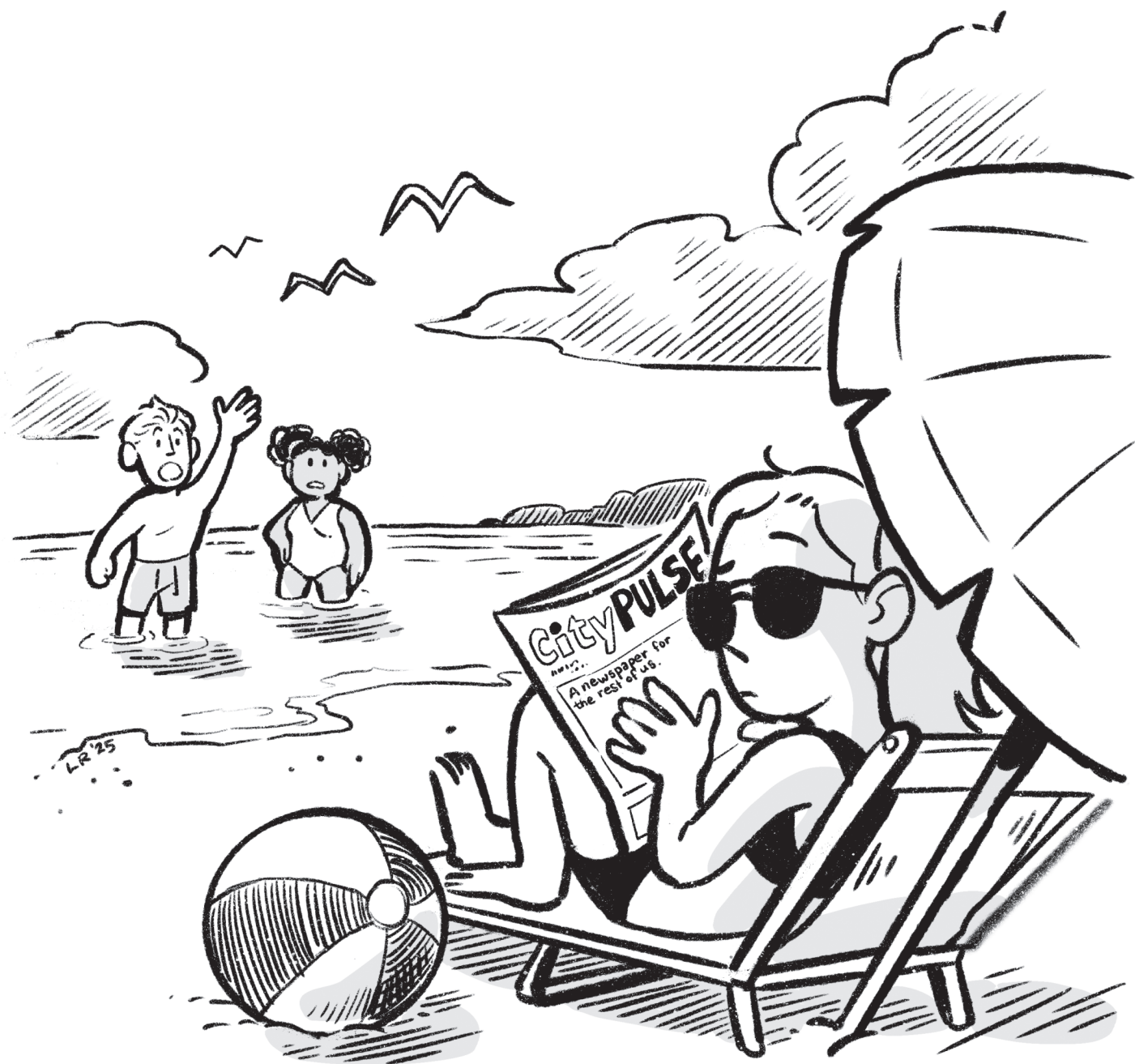
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Thank you!

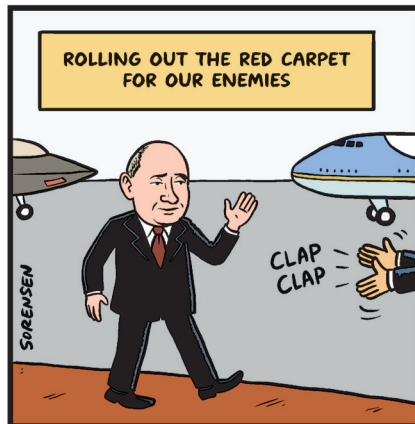
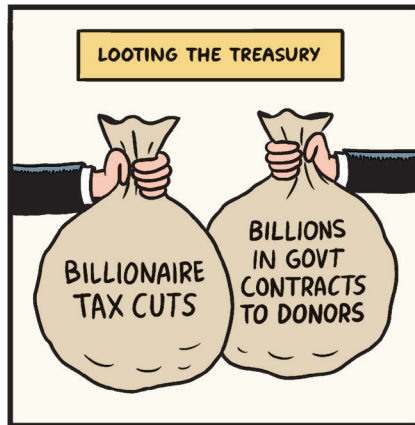


CityPULSE

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**VOL. 25
ISSUE 2**

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



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Mature Magazine celebrates its one-year anniversary

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Cover illustration by Leo V. Kaplan via ChatGPT

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City Pulse was founded as an alternative weekly by Berl Schwartz in 2001.

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THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW

**AMERICA 2025:
COULDN'T BE BETTER,
WHY DO YOU ASK**

AN ECONOMIC MIRACLE
SIR, HERE ARE THE **REVISED** JOB
NUMBERS! I USED A **SHARPIE**,
LIKE YOU SUGGESTED!

EXCELLENT WORK, WHO-
EVER YOU ARE!



**THE MAN WITH THE VERY
GOOD BRAIN**

I **ACED** THE COGNITIVE TEST!
THE DOCTORS SAID, SIR, NO ONE
HAS EVER DRAWN A CLOCK OR
IDENTIFIED AN ELEPHANT AS WELL
AS **YOU**!

(FASCINATING. DO
GO ON.)

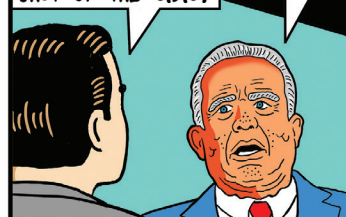


MAKING AMERICA HEALTHY AGAIN

WE'RE PULLING FUNDING FOR THESE
SO-CALLED MRNA VACCINES--AND
PUTTING IT ALL INTO **TESTICULAR
TANNING LAMPS!** MAHA! MAHA-
HAHAHAHA!

MR. SECRETARY, ANY
COMMENT ON THE
ANTI-VAXXER WHO
SHOT UP THE C.D.C?

THE WHO
THAT DID
WHAT, NOW?



THE ALL-NEW SMITHSONIAN

WOW, I SURE LEARNED A LOT
ABOUT HOW UNFAIRLY PRESIDENT
TRUMP HAS BEEN TREATED!

WHY DOES HE
NOT HAVE THE
NOBEL PRIZE
HE SO RICHLY
DESERVES?

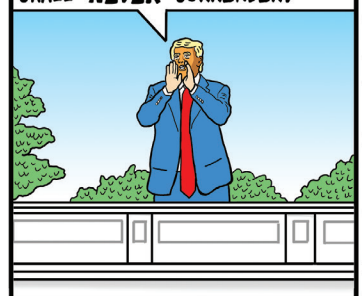
AT LEAST HE
CAN GIVE HIM-
SELF A **KEN-
NEDY CENTER**
AWARD NOW!



PEACE THROUGH STRENGTH

AMERICA IS NOW AT **WAR--WITH
AMERICAN CITIES!**

WE SHALL FIGHT IN THE STREETS
AND IN THE BODEGAS--AND WE
SHALL **NEVER SURRENDER!**

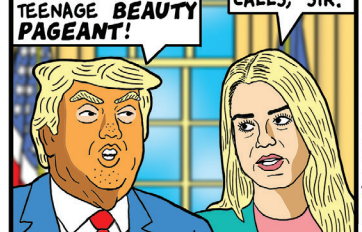


NOTHING TO SEE HERE

GHISLAINE MAXWELL HAS BEEN
APPROVED FOR WORK RELEASE, FOR
TOTALLY LEGITIMATE AND ABOVE-
BOARD REASONS!

GREAT! NOW GET
HER A JOB SHE'S
QUALIFIED FOR--
LIKE RUNNING A
TEENAGE **BEAUTY
PAGEANT!**

I'LL, AH,
MAKE SOME
CALLS, SIR.



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PULSE

NEWS & OPINION

Can Lansing's pod homeless plan succeed where Kzoo's failed?

In November 2021, The Kalamazoo Gazette reported that a “pod community” of 50 ModPods — portable, tiny homes — was in the works and could begin serving as transitional housing for Kalamazoo’s homeless community within a month.

That didn’t happen. It didn’t happen in 2022 either, or 2023. Each time Housing Resources Inc., the nonprofit that purchased the pods, proposed a potential location, it was met with community opposition. After running through a dozen possible sites, HRI finally settled on one in April 2024 with the hope of opening it that coming winter. But six months later, the Gazette reported that the project had been canceled altogether, with HRI still at least \$3.5 million short of the necessary set-up cost. The \$1 million pods went up for auction.

Last week, The Lansing City Council unanimously approved \$640,000 in internal funding reallocation for the Lansing Department of Human Relations and Community Services to purchase those very same pods. Dozens came out to speak in support of the plan and urge councilmembers to approve the funding, which HRCS Deputy Director Delvata Moses said would house 66 homeless city residents in a facility that would also include onsite security and assistance to help residents transition into permanent housing. The department hopes to break ground in March and be operational by June.

But the purchase was made so quickly that the department was left with more of a plan to make a plan than anything concrete. Without an immediate path forward, Lansing’s situation bears an uncomfortable resemblance to Kalamazoo’s.

“Because the purchase was time-sensitive, we moved quickly to address an urgent need,” HRCS Director Kimberly Coleman said Sunday. She acknowledged “that speed came at the expense of upfront planning in some areas,” adding the department is only now working on developing a plan with “clear milestones.”

While the structures were purchased suddenly, the idea of a modular pod



The City of Lansing purchased 50 portable ModPod housing units last week to set up a transitional housing community for the city’s homeless residents. The ModPods were purchased at auction following the failure of a similar project by Housing Resources Inc. in Kalamazoo.

community in Lansing is not new. A homelessness study prepared for the HRCS department by local research firm Public Policy Associates in April recommended exploring “sanctioned encampment or safe outdoor spaces that provide access to basic needs (e.g., restrooms, showers)” as a “stopgap” while shelter options are expanded.

Coleman said the department had already discussed ModPods before the purchase. She said a request for proposal had been conducted in 2024 to explore “safe outdoor spaces,” and that ModPods were one of several options identified. They were unaffordable at a proposed cost of over \$1.2 million, making the \$640,000 cost — which includes handling and storage for the pods — worth jumping quickly on.

Another benefit Lansing has over Kalamazoo is that the pods are owned by the city, rather than a nonprofit. Lansing’s chief strategy officer, Jake Brower, said the high setup cost in Kalamazoo included site acquisition.

“We’re still looking at whether we would be using city property, versus private property or other options that would be provided by partnerships,” he said at the meeting.

Potential locations may still face community opposition, but Neighborhood and Civic Engagement Director DeLisa Franklin said her department

will work to “engage” with neighborhoods once the top three locations have been chosen.

“A lot of the times the pushback comes from misinformation,” she said. “We would be a part of the entire process and have a seat at the table while this is happening, so that it’s not happening to them, but with them,” she said.

The plan comes amid opposition to the Schor administration’s handling of the homelessness. In July, the city sued two property owners over allowing a homeless encampment near Dietrich Park to exist on their property, seeking an injunction that would order the owners to clear the encampment. Over a dozen advocates spoke to oppose the lawsuit at the July 28 City Council meeting, including state Rep. Emily Dievendorf, D-Lansing, and Schor’s November opponent, Kelsea Hector. Last week, a judge ruled the encampment could stay as long as the property owners provided portable toilets and trash removal services.

In a statement, Schor said the ModPods would complement other approaches the city is taking to combat homelessness.

“Solving issues surrounding our homeless and unhoused neighbors is never going to be a quick and easy answer,” he said. “Overall, we need more

housing in Lansing, and we are working toward that now with several projects in various stages of development all across the city.”

He added the City Rescue Mission’s upcoming expansion would help as well, and that the ModPods are “a unique chance for the city to provide some additional services and shelter for those in need as well.”

Hector spoke in favor of the ModPod community last week, though she said she supports it as an alternative, rather than a complement, to evangelical organizations like the City Rescue Mission.

“Too often, we really do hear stories about our trans and queer neighbors who completely avoid shelters,” she said. “It’s not just because they’re afraid, but because they’ve actually experienced harassment or even a push to detransition in order to provide services.”

“A program like this is unique in that it takes that out of the equation,” she said.

The homelessness study backs that up. It concluded a prominent barrier to homeless residents accessing services was the “inflexible or discriminatory policies, particularly for people that are LGBTQIA+.”

Another benefit to the pods is their quick setup time and flexibility, Coleman said. If the city breaks ground in March, the pods could be operational by June, allowing the city to quickly address homelessness.

With unanimous support from the City Council, there is clear hope for the plan. But echoes of the Kalamazoo debacle could be heard even at the Council meeting where the purchase was approved. One resident, Brad Clark, spoke between supporters of the ModPod community to ask the city to clear the Dietrich Park encampment, in part because of its impact on property values.

“The Vallarta supermarket has been vacant for years,” he said. “Do you really expect someone to redevelop that property knowing there’s an encampment of homeless people a five-minute walk away?”

— LEO V. KAPLAN

'A sweetheart of a man'

Longtime Lansing journalist Mark Nixon dies at 76

It's hard to believe that Lansing had a newspaperman who was roundly admired, imitated and loved as a writer, as a human being and even as an editor, but there was such a person: Mark Nixon, who died Thursday (Aug. 14) at 76.

Nixon's witty, no-nonsense prose was best known to City Pulse readers as half of the "He Ate/She Ate" restaurant review series, but he spent most of his career with the Lansing State Journal.

"You get kind of jaded in the news business, but Mark never got cynical," retired longtime Journal photographer Bruce Cornelius said.

Cornelius said Nixon's death was related to a heart condition.

Hugh Leach, a retired veteran Journal reporter, described Nixon as "one of the best people I've ever met, in all aspects, professionally and personally."

Tales of Nixon's generosity are legion. As recently as Aug. 1, a group of stellar LSJ alumni met for lunch at Corey's Lounge in Lansing, including Nixon, Leach, Cornelius, Michigan Hall of Fame journalist Norm Sinclair and Detroit News sports writer Lynn Henning.

Nixon left early, claiming he had a prior appointment.

When the rest of the party got up to leave, they found that Nixon had paid the tab.

"He didn't say anything about it — he just did it," Leach said.

Cornelius said he considered Nixon a "brother."

"I'm a little bit pissed off at him," Cornelius grumbled, in classic hard-boiled newsroom mode. "We had plans for lunch Wednesday, but he died just to get out of it. I think that's a little excessive."

John Schneider, a longtime Journal columnist, started out as a reporter in 1977, about a year after Nixon joined the paper.

They worked together on many stories, including the grisly Donald Miller "East Lansing Serial Killer" case, which started on New Year's Eve 1976 and dragged on for years.

One busy day, Schneider overheard Nixon at the police rewrite desk, interrupting phone dictation from veteran police reporter Dan Poorman.

"How do they know it was \$12,000 worth of poker chips? They have no value," Nixon asked Poorman.

Poorman's reply: "Just get off the phone, Nixon, and type."



Monique Goch for City Pulse

Mark Nixon, who died last week, was the original "He Ate" of the City Pulse restaurant review feature "She Ate/He Ate." This photo was taken in 2012.

In a 2012 City Pulse story, Nixon recalled long conversations with Schneider, not about the grind of reporting, but about the craft of writing.

"We'd talk about sweating bullets looking for the right analogy, the right verb," Nixon said.

"We thought of ourselves more as writers than reporters," Schneider said. "We tried to be a little daring in our writing and dazzle the readers with prose. Both of us were influenced by the New Journalism — Tom Wolfe, Hunter Thompson, Joan Didion."

Some days, the eggs were more soft-boiled.

"I don't want to detract from the seriousness of many things Mark did, but we also had a lot of fun," Cornelius said.

In the early 1980s, Nixon and a team of reporters "set expense account records" looking for the area's best burgers and ribs, according to Cornelius.

"We'd sit around and think of ways to gouge the company — in a good way," Cornelius said. One Christmas, Nixon and crew went to the Upper Peninsula to conduct a mock interview of the state's Christmas tree.

Nixon was an editor and writer of the spoof Journal edition published each

Christmas to support the Old Newsboys charity drive, and not just because the charity was dear to heart.

"It gave us a chance to let down our hair and make shit up, which is what we wanted to do anyway," Schneider said.

In 2006, when Nixon left the Journal to become a spokesman for the Lansing Board of Water & Light, he treated reporters with extra courtesy.

Even reporters who were critical of the BWL got an encouraging, under-the-radar vibe from Nixon, as if he were inwardly cheering them on.

"You could not get that reporter out of him," Schneider said. Schneider grilled Nixon more than once about the BWL's tree-trimming practices.

"He would admit that they butchered them sometimes," Schneider said. "That's the way he was. He recognized that we had a job to do, unlike many people who work for institutions like that."

In 2001, City Pulse editor and publisher Berl Schwartz took notice of a column Nixon wrote that panned Lansing's restaurant scene.

"Of all of the columns I've written, that one probably garnered the most reaction, positive and negative," Nixon told WKAR's "Current State" 15 years



Courtesy Nixon family

Mark Nixon

later.

Impressed by Nixon's willingness to tweak potential advertisers, as well as his long-proven writing skills, Schwartz paired Nixon with a newly hired food writer, Gabrielle Lawrence, in a long-running dual restaurant review column, "He Ate/She Ate."

Lawrence was nervous about going up against a veteran writer and well-traveled food connoisseur, but Nixon made her feel at ease and encouraged her to relax and develop her own voice.

"I loved it that he would weave in trips he took with his family," Lawrence said. "I just thought, 'What a memory, to remember this bit of cheese he had in France.'"

They worked together mostly via email but ran into each other at various venues, including Old Newsboys events.

"He always had a big smile on his face, and he knew absolutely everyone in town," Lawrence said. "He was just such a friendly presence."

After City Pulse's "He Ate/She Ate" column paused for the pandemic, Bryan Beverly took over Nixon's role, but Nixon continued to email Lawrence with tidbits of encouragement and restaurant news.

Lawrence treasures a May 2020 email in which Nixon shared a memory from his days as editorial page editor at the Journal, interviewing candidates who were running for office.

"By the way, I don't know if I ever told you this, but you remind of someone," Nixon wrote to Lawrence. "She was young, highly intelligent and ambitious for a role in public life. Her name was Gov. Gretchen Whitmer."

"That was the nicest thing anyone could say to me," said Lawrence — who two years later was elected an Ingham County commissioner. "He was a sweetheart of a man."

— LAWRENCE COSENTINO

TV turns away ads for All Star Mechanical's Larry Kirchhoff

Larry Kirchhoff likes to make his views known.

Kirchhoff owns the local HVAC service company All Star Mechanical. In 2022, he bought a full-page ad in City Pulse in which he tied his business to his opinion on the U.S. Supreme Court ruling that had overturned Roe v. Wade, which protected a woman's right to an abortion.

"Gun fetishes are being prioritized, women are no longer in control of their own bodies, the earth is heating up ... Honestly, at this point, who gives a SH*T about HVAC. But if you're hot, give us a call."

That ad went viral, garnering over 123,000 likes and 17,000 retweets on Twitter, now known as X. Since then, he has placed more than 100 such "Sponsored Content" ads in City Pulse, sharing his views, often in a personal way. His company logo is frequently the only reference to his business.

Kirchhoff doesn't limit marketing to City Pulse. He also runs ads on television — or did until recently.

Two local stations, WLNS and Fox 47 News recently rebuffed two commercials.

"I have been advertising with WLNS

and Fox 47," Kirchhoff texted. "I sent both my sales reps the scripts, and they both approved them."

Based on that, Kirchhoff said he spent \$13,500 to produce the 30-second spots.

One of them mocked the 13 men who were arrested and charged with plotting to kidnap Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer in 2020. The other depicts flag wavers shouting, "He made America great again" as they prepare to burn a cross on an African American family's home.

Kirchhoff said that while his previous ads on both stations "poked the bear," these were "more bold."

Kirchhoff cited text messages from his sales representatives in which he said they approved the scripts.

"These might be over the top," Susan Angel from WLNS wrote him. "I will air them if you want," she continued, but she counseled him to "take the high road."

WLNS never aired them. Fox pulled them after a day.

Angel declined to comment and said

she didn't know who at WLNS would.

Gary Baxter, Fox 47's longtime station manager, declined to comment as well.

Kirchhoff shared an email he received from a Grand Ledge viewer about the commercial depicting the mob on the African American family's lawn.

"I was outraged," it said. "I found it to be insensitive and very offensive. I couldn't believe any TV station would agree to air it."

But then the email took a surprising turn.

The writer said that the next day, she went to All Star Mechanical's website for contact information "so I could give you a piece of my mind."

"That's where I found your article about Juneteenth and our current state of affairs," she wrote. "Thanks for the education! Your ad is an attention-grabber, for sure. It got me to the real message. You're a smart man whose heart is in the right place. Keep up the good work!"

Said Kirchhoff, "I'm thankful she was of a like mind. It gives me a little hope for humanity. It was heart-warming."

He said the stations' action "feels like suppression of free speech. And it is right out of the fascist playbook. Somebody

higher up at the stations is scared."

He added, "It's fascinating Susan Angel specifically mentioned it was politically charged when clearly they run some extremely questionable ads during the political campaigns. I've seen political ads that lie through their teeth that shouldn't be on the airwaves."

Kirchhoff was uncertain about his next step, both on the free-speech front and regarding the \$13,500 he spent after he thought the stations had greenlit his scripts.

"Honestly, I am pretty naive when it comes to legal matters," he said. "My initial thought is that they have more money to fight me than I do them. I do wonder though, is this a free speech issue and would any lawyers consider it something worth pursuing? I don't know."

TV stations have some legal obligation to run ads from candidates but not opinion ads in general, satirical or otherwise.

"I'm going to talk with them later this week," he said. "I'm not exactly sure what I want to do at this point."

— BERL SCHWARTZ



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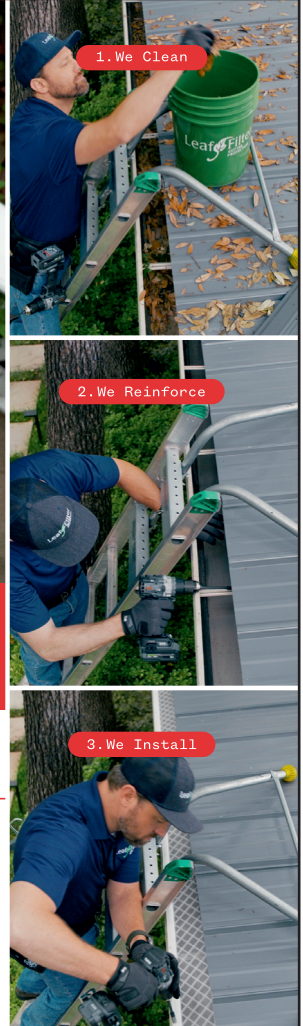
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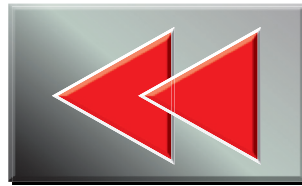
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REWIND

NEWS HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE LAST 7 DAYS

COMPILED BY STEVE UNDERWOOD FROM LOCAL NEWS SOURCES



Ingham County Circuit Judge Rosemarie Aquilina has ruled that the homeless encampment near Lansing's Dietrich Park, north of Old Town, may continue as long as

the property owners provide porta-potties and trash removal services. She also ruled that those living there cannot use propane or other fuel tanks. The city of Lansing had sued the two property owners, 113 W. Michigan LLC of Jackson and JAJ Property LLC of West Bloomfield Township, to force them to break up the encampment. If they don't comply with the new order, the city has the authority to enter the premises, perform the necessary cleanup and bill the businesses for the costs. Aquilina set a hearing date of Sept. 24 for a status conference/pre-trial conference.

City Council President Ryan Kost and Councilmember Trini Pehlivanoglu introduced a resolution that would halt private curbside trash collection in Lansing and make the city the sole provider for waste removal.

Council members referred the resolution to the Public Safety Committee without discussion. Mayor's Office spokesperson Scott Bean said the city collects trash from about 17,000 Lansing residences, which is about 46%, meaning more than half use four licensed waste haulers: Granger, Waste Management, Eric's Refuse and Better Done Disposal. The city is looking to hire at least six seasonal solid waste workers. The Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce has asked Council how the city plans to add waste staff, given current workforce shortages.



Several Old Town businesses are uniting for a late-night shopping event Thursday, planning to donate portions of their sales to local non-profits, WLNS-TV reported. The event is a response to the July 30 vandalization of businesses with racist and homophobic speech and symbols. Odd Nodd Art, Bad Annie's and Twiggies will donate part of their sales to Safe & Just Michigan, an organization whose goal is to

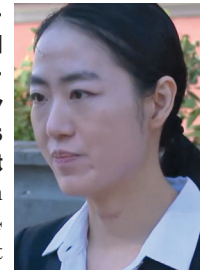
reduce harm caused by the criminal legal system. Meanwhile, Seams Sewing and Mercantile will contribute a sales percentage to the Refugee Development Center, a support organization for Mid-Michigan refugees. "The late-night event offers the community an opportunity to send the message that such hate will not be tolerated here," said Odd Nodd owner Casey Sorrow.

The Ingham County Sheriff's Office will oversee the operation of its 911 center on an interim basis starting Sept. 1. The dispatch center, struggling with high turnover and excessive overtime, has 13 vacancies out of 52 positions. Dispatchers recently ratified a three-year deal with the county, rais-



ing salaries. But center director Barb Davidson has announced she will resign, and the county's Board of Commissioners said it is considering spending \$548,000 on a six-month contract with a Colorado-based company to provide temporary dispatcher services.

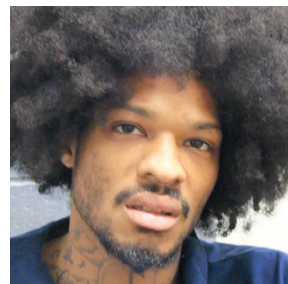
LingLong Wei, a student research assistant at MSU from 2008 to 2011, filed a \$100 million lawsuit against the university, alleging that it ignored safety protocols and exposed her to dangerous chemicals without protective equipment or safety training. Wei was diagnosed with papillary thyroid carcinoma in July 2024 and has had her thyroid removed. The suit alleges that MSU was aware of the chemicals' dangers and failed to provide the training and equipment after Wei requested it. She and others were required to spray pesticides and herbicides, including glyphosate and oxyfluorfen, which studies have linked to thyroid cancer.



An Ingham County Circuit Court jury convicted Christopher Woolf, 45, of child sexually abusive activity, accosting a child for immoral purposes and two counts of using a computer to commit a crime. Woolf is a former administrative law judge for the Michigan Public Service Commission. The charges stemmed from an internet child predator sting conducted by Michigan State Police and Lansing police. Woolf was placed on unpaid leave in November 2023 and resigned from his position last September. Judge Clinton Canady III set sentencing for Sept. 8.

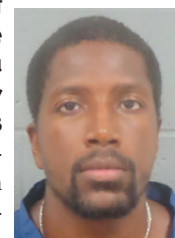


Andrial Ortiz of Lansing, 30, accused of disarming police officers and shooting an officer before he was shot by police last April in south Lansing, was arraigned Aug. 8 in 54A District Court on charges that include resisting and obstructing police, causing serious impairment. He



faces a total of 17 felony counts in state court in an incident for which a federal court already indicted him on a weapons charge. The court will hold a hearing Aug. 29 to determine whether Ortiz should stand trial on the state charges.

Terrance James Jones, 38, and one of three men charged in connection with the killing of a man found dismembered in a Lansing home last year, has pleaded guilty in Ingham County Circuit Court to acting as an accessory to a felony after the fact. Prosecutors agreed to dismiss a count of mutilation of a body and a fourth-time habitual offender notice. Jones' co-defendants, Marcus Lee Hayes and Leonard Felton Hayes III, are charged with murder and mutilation of a body in connection with the death of Zaccari Marquise Taylor, 25, of Battle Creek.



Memorial pond

For more than a half century, students, faculty and staff have found the quiet pond hidden behind the Student Services Building at Michigan State University a place to go for solitude. When I worked for The State News in the 1960s, we could often find staff hanging out around it.

The pond and the surrounding area just south of the building are being converted to a \$3.2 million memorial to the students killed and affected by the 2023 mass shooting event on campus.

The area's remake will include white marble and black, reflecting granite. A pedestrian area will be set off with three circular stones representing the lives lost. At the perimeter will be a stone seating area.

After a nationwide search, MSU selected a design by two designers with no MSU connections. It always seemed to me that MSU grads should design a memorial to MSU students.

Memorials of loss often take on their own life of how visitors use and perceive them. Who would have known, for example, when the Vietnam Memorial Wall was constructed that visitors would leave personal mementoes and trace names on the wall with their fingers.

The new memorial's design and location could end up being quite a dramatic reflection of the loss that students and alumni feel every time they walk on campus.

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.

The unintended result of today’s politics: Michigan government heads for a shutdown

It seems silly to even be talking about this subject, but we’re here, folks.

State government is around 40 days away from operating without a budget. In my opinion, it’s better than 50/50 that will happen.

Those responsible hope you’ll agree with them on the why: It’s the other person’s fault. The Senate won’t reveal its long-term road funding plan (if it has one). The House won’t reveal its full budget proposal (if it has one). Forging compromise isn’t in the governor’s skill set.

Go ahead. Pick none, one, two or all three of the canned above reasons, but the reality is a bit more nuanced than that.

This isn’t like 2007 or 2009 when state government shut down briefly in the middle of the night as Republican lawmakers sucked up tax-increase votes to balance budgets badly weakened by the Great Recession.

In 2025, a potential government shutdown is the product of a dug-in Democratic Senate majority and a Republican House majority that our hyper-partisan society has fueled.

The backdrop is this: House Speaker Matt Hall is breaking the rules in crafting a spending plan that’s sailed adrift from the typical Lansing timeline.

He wants a budget crafted and released when he’s good and ready to reveal it. He’s endeared himself to Gov. “Fix the Damn Roads” Whitmer by calling for a long-term road funding fix, something that has evaded her in her six years in office.

The problem is that Hall is stuck on this idea that they can pull off the long-sought permanent road-funding scheme without a tax increase. (If that were possible, don’t you think Gov. Rick Snyder and a Republican House and Senate in 2017 would have done it?)

The Senate Democrats are trying to call Hall’s bluff by telling him to show how he gets to \$3 billion for the roads without a tax increase. He won’t do it. Instead, he’s telling the Senate to come up with a roads plan.

The Senate majority leader and House speaker haven’t talked one-on-one since July 1. There are apparently conversations between staffers and some members, but nothing is really



happening.

Hall’s House caucus passed a continuation budget of sorts back in March that funds the bare bones of state government. He’s daring the Senate to pass it by the Sept. 30 budget deadline.

It’s a win for him either way. The Senate can:

1. Give him the budget he wants.
2. Pass his continuation budget. He can take credit for having the foresight to put it out there.
3. Tell Hall to stick it, let the government shut down and blame him. They can do that, but Hall’s anti-government caucus and political base would lionize him for sticking to his guns and beaching a screwed-up government.

For the Republican speaker, he only loses if he caves in and negotiates a traditional budget without a roads plan. He won’t do that.

Shutting down state government suits Hall better than if he doesn’t. Whatever hardship and annoyances come with non-essential state employees not working, he can blame on the Senate Democrats. So, some road construction projects are abandoned temporarily. State parks are closed temporarily. As far as he’s concerned, so what?

The governor OKs the shutdown plans. She can own the aftermath.

The situation is terrible, but it’s a statement of our times.

We’re so exasperated by government dysfunction that we’re expecting it. In a way, we demand it to prove our suspicions right. How else do you explain Republicans celebrating giving the governor only nine bills to sign into public acts this entire year?

They are celebrating the fact that government isn’t working.

We elect people on ideological grounds that are based on an agenda of fear. Who was the last state legislator elected based on a platform of cooperation and collaboration?

Keep thinking. Let me know whom you come up with.

We’re demanding that our elected leaders fight, dig in and stand their ground.

It shouldn’t be surprising when they do exactly that.

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

NOTICE OF DAY OF REVIEW OF APPORTIONMENTS

DATE: September 4, 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 apportionment of benefits for the Drains listed below. Maps of the Drainage District boundaries may be found on the Ingham County Drain Commissioner’s website at: drain.ingham.org.

Drain ID#	Drain Name	Municipalities
H20-00	HERITAGE HILLS DRAIN	CITY OF EAST LANSING, MERIDIAN CHARTER TOWNSHIP
K05-00	KIERSTEAD DRAIN	CITY OF EAST LANSING, MERIDIAN CHARTER TOWNSHIP
R03-00	RANKEY DRAIN	CITY OF EAST LANSING, CITY OF LANSING
R07-07	BONE DRAIN	CITY OF EAST LANSING, MERIDIAN CHARTER TOWNSHIP
R07-08	CARRIAGE HILLS ESTATES DRAIN	CITY OF EAST LANSING, MERIDIAN CHARTER TOWNSHIP
R29-01	RED CEDAR RIVER INTERCOUNTY DRAIN	LEROY TOWNSHIP, LOCKE TOWNSHIP, STOCKBRIDGE TOWNSHIP, VILLAGE OF WEBBERVILLE, WHITE OAK TOWNSHIP, WILLIAMSTOWN TOWNSHIP
T05-01	TOWAR SNELL DRAIN	CITY OF EAST LANSING, MERIDIAN CHARTER TOWNSHIP
W55-00	WEST CEDAR RIVER INTERCOUNTY DRAIN	LEROY TOWNSHIP, STOCKBRIDGE TOWNSHIP, VILLAGE OF WEBBERVILLE, WHITE OAK TOWNSHIP

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 determination of apportionments to the Ingham County Probate Court within ten (10) days after the Day of Review.

August 13, 2025 Patrick Lindemann
Ingham County Drain Commissioner



Leo V. Kaplan/City Pulse

Will old St. Lawrence Hospital, on Lansing's near west side, face the same fate as old Eastern High School. Like Eastern's historic original building, University of Michigan Health System acquired the 1924 St. Lawrence complex as part of buying Sparrow Health System. This year, UM-Sparrow tore down old Eastern.

Saving old Lansing

What buildings are most at risk? Here are 10

By **LEO V. KAPLAN**

In July, a single word was changed on the Richard and Deborah Glaister House's Wikipedia page: "is" was replaced with "was."

The building had been listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2017, but it had no local historic designation. That meant there was nothing to prevent its demolition. It was demolished by its final owner, the City Rescue Mission of Lansing, to make room for a rainwater retention pond.

The Glaister House was one of 10 historic structures on a 2022 list of "at-risk" historic structures compiled by Historical Society of Greater Lansing President Bill Castanier and longtime preservation activist Dale Schrader, then president of Preservation Lansing. The list, published in City Pulse, also singled out the historic Eastern High School building as endangered. Castanier and Schrader's concerns were proven right when both buildings came down this year.

This year, they have released another list of at-risk structures, published once again in City Pulse, with the intent of encouraging preservation conversations before it's too late.

"Part of what Dale and I were talking about and looking at, was what policies allow a structure to fall into disrepair," Castanier said.

Referring to the Glaister House specifically and historic buildings in general, he added, "You leave a house empty for 10 years, it's going to fall apart. It doesn't take much, frankly — it's kind of surprising to watch how fast buildings deteriorate."

"Is there a policy the city needs to embrace to take a look at these structures earlier on, or do we not care and just let them fall into disrepair until the point where they have to be torn down?" he mused. "I don't think that's a good strategy, but it appears to be the current strategy."

The list runs the gauntlet from highly endangered properties like St. Lawrence Hospital, which Castanier and Schrader are worried will soon be demolished by University of Michigan Health-Sparrow following its demolition of Eastern, to in-use properties they are worried will not be kept up. They are not presented in any particular order, with each at-risk for its own reasons. While Schrader stressed that no property is ever "too far gone" — As Ford Motor Co. proved in saving Detroit's Central Station and local nonprofit developer Capital Area Housing Partnership did in turning Lansing's old Walter French Junior High School into apartments. But even five years without maintenance can skyrocket rehabilitation costs.

Mary Toshach, a local preservationist who has served on the Lansing Historic District Commission and is the most recent president of the inactive Preser-

vation Lansing, said historic commercial districts like Old Town should be watched especially closely.

"Even though Old Town and downtown and all those buildings are listed on the National Register, those commercial districts don't have any local designation that protects them," she said.

Toshach said the lack of local historic district designation is particularly concerning because developers in other cities are putting increasing pressure on city governments to retract those designations.

"That's becoming an issue in Ann Arbor, where they're trying to re-designate areas because developers want to buy up properties and build high-rises," she said.

Schrader called it "hard to believe" that Old Town is not a local historic district.

"If it was, they'd have to have a plan for demolition," he said. "It's possible that the Historic District Commission would approve them tearing something down, but right now, it's just wide open."

There are two Old Town properties on this list: the Kilbourne-Mead house at 1214 Center St. and the Preuss Building in 308 E. Cesar E. Chavez Ave. The latter, which is in dire condition, is on the city's "make safe or demolish" list. In its current state, it is highly unlikely that the building could receive a local historic designation. Schrader said he hopes the list encour-

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ages conversations around what properties might receive such a designation. “They talked about doing it at Eastern, but it was kind of late in the game.

It really should be talked about earlier,” he said. While the list should be taken seriously, it is far from a harbinger of death for these properties. Two others that were included last time are the Moores Park Pool, which is being rehabilitated and is expected to open in summer

2026, and City Hall, which is expected to be converted to a hotel after its upcoming move. Castanier said he’s hopeful the list can succeed in encouraging upkeep, especially considering a trend he has observed with younger people getting more interested in history.

“Last night, we had a walking tour of Cherry Hill, and there were a significant number of younger people,” he said last week. “Two young women stayed afterwards for a pretty extensive period of time talking about the buildings and how cool they were. It was kind of a surprise, but in a good way.”

1. St. Lawrence Hospital

St. Lawrence Hospital was clearly designed to be a landmark. The brick-and-limestone edifice inspires awe in the same way a grand church might — an intentional choice, since the 1924 building was part of the “Collegiate Gothic” style that evoked a bygone era even then. But the layered masonry and arched windows also evoke another familiar building: the historic Eastern High School, which was on the 2022 iteration of this list and which University of Michigan-Sparrow Health demolished this year. Even the copper dome on the build-

ing’s northeast side brings to mind Eastern’s iconic cupola. And, since UM-Sparrow also owns St. Lawrence Hospital, the outlook is grim. “It’s almost inevitable that they’re going to take it down after what they did with Eastern,” Schrader said. “Sadly, I don’t think it has much of a chance.” St. Lawrence Hospital, the second of its kind in Lansing, began operating in 1920 in a sanitarium on Willow Street, but it moved into the 125-bed facility thanks to a \$100,000 donation from industrialist Lawrence Price. UM-Sparrow spokesperson

John Foren said in a statement that the health system “has not formalized any plans for the University of Michigan Health-Sparrow St. Lawrence campus but the location continues to play an important role as a home to behavioral health services, hospice, our sleep center and other services.” But those services are mostly performed in a newer building next door. A sign on the historic hospital’s door reads, “Lab is CLOSED.” Castanier said the neighborhood would lose not just “a piece of architectural history,” but “a sense of history and permanence” if the landmark is demolished.

2. Preuss Building

Constructed in 1875, Old Town’s Preuss Building gets its name from Frank Preuss, the German immigrant who extensively remodeled it in 1924. A stained-glass star remains of the Frank Preuss and Son Star Market, a meat and sausage market established the same year. Little else does. The building is the eastern end-cap to a block of brick buildings that was described as “characteristic of the non-descript American commercial style which prevailed during the building boom that followed World War I” in the nomination form that led Old Town to be designated a national historic district in 1976. Since Old Town is not a local historic district, though, there is nothing to prevent the building’s demolition. That demolition is likely. Years of neglect have left the property derelict, and it is now on the city’s “make safe or demolish” list. It appears in the Ingham County Land Bank’s auction next Tuesday (Aug. 26) following a foreclosure, and city spokesperson Scott Bean said in July that new owners would have to “immediately” submit construction documents and quickly begin work to avoid demolition.

Multiple Old Town residents attempted at one time or another to urge the building’s upkeep over decades of decline, including Frank Preuss’ grandson Rick, who owns Preuss Pets just down the street. None succeeded, and the property continued to deteriorate as it switched owners. “What creates a situation that a building, which at one time was very usable and open to restoration, is put in a position where it has to be torn down?” Castanier asked.



3. Lansing Women’s Club

Passers-by are sure to be taken with the unique stonemasonry of this 1886 house, but 301 N. Butler Blvd. is equally significant for its history. The house was originally the 10-room home of Lansing pioneer Ulysses D. Ward, but earned its spot on the city’s African-American Heritage Trail through its role as a daycare center and meeting site for Black clubs during the Jim Crow era. It was purchased in 1992 by the Lansing Association of Women’s Clubs, a minority women’s club founded in 1945. The Eastside Community Action Center bought it in December. The nonprofit uses the building as the office

for its housing opportunity program, with plans to expand use of the building for other programming, Executive Director Stan Parker said. “Right now we’re fighting against the city because we’re nonprofit and they don’t want to give us the tax exemption for the property,” Parker said. While the building remains occupied, the need to maintain its upkeep is essential to the city’s African American history, Castanier said. “It’s not been well-cared for the last half a decade or longer,” he said, “and it is very important to the concept of African American history in this city.”



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4. Kilbourne-Mead house / 1214 Center St.



As Old Town expands eastward, new developments in the historic district are good for its economy — but worrying for its historic architecture. Since Old Town is not a local historic district, its historic structures have no protections. That includes the Kilbourne-Mead house at 1214 Center St. a pre-Civil War house that likely dates back to around Lansing's designation as the state capital in 1848.

The house, along with other properties on Center Street, was purchased last year by Oldtown Center Street Holdings LLC, whose registered agent is local developer Eric Hanna. Hanna is the president of

Michigan Community Capital, which renovated Temple Lofts in Old Town in 2022. But it's unclear what the new owners' intentions are for the property. Hanna could not be reached for comment.

A 1992 newsletter by the Historical Society of Greater Lansing described the house as the first house of James I. Mead, one of Lansing's original pioneers. Built in the Greek Revival style of the 1850s, the structure is relatively intact, Castanier said.

"It's the oldest, or very close to the oldest, house in Lansing, and it's in pretty decent shape," he said. "So that's got to be watched very carefully."

5. Townhouse 617 Capitol Ave.

In 2016, developers announced plans to start work on "South Edge Lofts," a luxury apartment project that would have incorporated the front side of this 1920 row house-style townhouse. They were supposed to break ground that spring, the Lansing State Journal reported.

But ground was never broken, and the development was quietly forgotten. A Google search for "South Edge Lofts," in quotes, returns only seven results.

And the building's condition has only continued to deteriorate.

"They're looking worse and worse every year," Schrader said. "It would take an awful lot of dedication from somebody to save them."

The townhouse's significance is owed less to its particular historic value — the Historical Society could not identify an architect, and its first occupant was an insurance underwriter, not a local historic figure — but to townhouses' scarcity. Once a ubiquitous feature of any downtown, townhouses have declined in number in Lansing and across the country. Even this one's neighbors fell decades ago, and it seems likely to follow suit soon enough.

The property has gone through many owners. Its most recent is 601 Block LLC, whose registered agent is local developer Brent Forsberg. Forsberg could not be reached for comment.



6. 900 Block of West Saginaw Street

Once a vibrant commercial district, the 900 block of West Saginaw has been entirely vacant for years. A sign reading "Park Furniture" advertises the district's most recent tenant, which was closed by the city in 2020

due to "imminent safety issues."

On the property's eastern end, above the liquor bottles littering the road, a gutter has fallen off a building's roof and become tangled with the power lines. "Striking architecture," accord-

ing to Schrader, remains hidden beneath crumbling wood siding. From the front, the boarded windows and little square glass panes look a lot like Old Town's Preuss Building — a bad omen, since that building is likely to be demolished soon.

But unlike the Preuss Building, there is a plan to save this district. The five former Parks Furniture buildings were purchased by local Re'Shane L. Lonzo in 2023, and she intends to preserve them.

Lonzo said she had watched the property deteriorate over the last three decades and felt an urge to preserve it because of the sense of community the historic buildings invoked among locals.

"Some of the residents remember walking to school 30, 40 years ago and buying fresh donuts here," she said.

Lonzo is working on getting state and federal historic designations for tax benefits to help "close the financial gap," after which she hopes to break ground on a project that will result in 11 affordable housing units on the second floor and space for businesses on the first. But if her development succeeds, it may struggle with an issue the original shopping district encountered: the chaotic four-lane highway it sits alongside.

Schrader said he believes Saginaw's expansion from two lanes to four is "absolutely" a main reason behind the shopping center's downfall.

"I wish they would close one lane and make parking or something, but I can't imagine that ever happening," he said.



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7. Genesee Street School

Open from 1912 to 1984, this former elementary school was designed by Edwyn Bowd of the Bowd–Munson Co., which designed many iconic local buildings, including the downtown Masonic Temple and the Lewis Cass Building. It is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. But since appearing on the 2022 iteration of this list, the Genesee Street School’s condition has notably deteriorated. At the time, City Pulse reported that Lansing investor Ju-

lian Darden intended to convert the building into 30 lofts. A foreclosure hearing notice, standing out bright red amid the ashy scars of a fire on the building’s western facade, may indicate how that’s going. Darden could not be reached for comment, but Ingham County Treasurer Alan Fox confirmed payments have been made to keep the property out of foreclosure. A potential buyer is seeking a Low-Income Housing Tax Credit and



other financing, Fox added. Castanier said the school was the most at-risk historic school building in Lansing “because it has been abandoned for quite some time.” “It’s in the middle of a neighborhood, it’s a blight on that neighborhood and people are probably going to start agitating even more to have something happen to it,” he said.

8. Otto Junior High School

This building is so big that it costs around \$30,000 a month just in utilities, said Derrick Knox, Jr., president of The Advancement Corp., which owns the building. For his part, Knox has every intention of continuing and growing the community center operated in the building. He said the gym is leased out for basketball, volleyball and indoor soccer events, the computer labs have been redone and are in use, the auditorium and stage have been repaired and updated with new lighting and the kitchen has been redone with refrigerators and even grills. But money remains an issue, he said. “The renovation project is going

to be a few years long, because we haven’t received any type of substantial capital for renovations, so we do what we can do, when we can do it,” he said. He added an EPA grant to add solar energy and cut costs was lost amid federal cuts. The high maintenance cost is a problem, but Castanier said it becomes a greater one as the property value rises and makes selling a money-drain more enticing. “It is a historic junior high school and a beautiful building,” he said, “but it is also a massive piece of property, and it sits on an even more massive piece of property. So, if Lansing continues to thrive, it is going to continue to become more valuable. That’s just the way it is.”



9. Downtown Masonic Temple

The reason this building made the list is simple, Castanier said: It’s empty. “It’s empty, and it’s been empty for a number of years, and that is the first indication of a structure that could be at risk,” he said. Like the Genesee Street School, Edwyn Bowd designed the temple. It was constructed in 1924, and in 1976 Cooley Law School purchased it and operated it until 2014. In 2021, Boji Group bought it. Mayor Andy Schor wanted to buy it from Boji to move City Hall into the historic structure. That effort failed last year after City Council rejected it in an unexpected vote. The current City Hall, which was on the 2022 iteration of this list, will be converted into a hotel after the city completes construction of a new government headquarters at the corner of Grand and Lenawee Street. But there are no plans for the Masonic Temple. “I was disappointed to see the City Council veto the plan,” Schrader said. “It looks like a real city hall should look, and now that it didn’t get that, I’m very worried about what’s going to happen with it.”



10. Washington Apartments, REO Town

Constructed in 1922 as housing for Reo Motor Car Co. Plant workers, Washington Apartments was designed by Judson N. Churchill, who also designed the Walter French school. Despite changing hands several times, the building has been mostly unmodified. It has, however, been unoccupied since September 2019, when the city ordered it vacated because its ownership group

did not have a valid rental certificate. Last year, it was put on the National Register of Historic Places, leading City Pulse to report that it may soon get a facelift. So far, that hasn’t happened. By the time it was vacated, the building was already known to be plagued by bedbugs and security concerns, leading the city to issue citations in

2012 and 2015. Castanier said renovating the building was a logical step because of its location. “It is on the entrance to REO town, which the city is trying to make extremely active again,” he said. “And it’s a destination now, so this is right on the entrance to that destination neighborhood.” (Lawrence Cosentino contributed to this story.)



ARTS & CULTURE

ART • BOOKS • FILM • MUSIC

Mature Magazine aims to inspire a generation of millennials

By NICOLE NOECHEL

Growing up, Lansing native Oliver Brown was often told he was mature for his age. Those remarks stuck with him into adulthood, when he found himself questioning, “At what age does maturity start to show up in our lives?”

As a professional stylist, Brown, 31, saw a generation of millennials redefining what it means to be “mature.” At the same time, while working with magazines such as Harper’s Bazaar and Vogue, he was becoming disillusioned with the rigorous editorial standards and rules he had to follow. He decided to develop his own millennial-focused publication, Mature Magazine.

“I wanted to create something that I could write my own rules for. I could go against the grain,” he said.

He began to piece together what he wanted the magazine to look like and the types of stories he wanted to tell. The driving force was his own story of teaching himself the ins and outs of being a stylist, without any mentors or apprenticeships.

“I feel like those stories are so important to tell. I wanted to highlight other millennials who have similar stories,” he said. “Whether they’re in fashion or arts or politics or whatever, I just feel like the millennial generation is really redefining what working in these industries looks like on our own terms, and that’s really the basis of what this magazine is and what I wanted to start with.”

The digital magazine launched with the publication of its first cover story on Aug. 1, 2024, an interview with actress and singer Raven-Symoné and her wife, Miranda Maday.

“Our first one being Raven and Miranda, that was huge for us,” Brown said.

Since then, Mature has published cover stories on Los Angeles-based singer-songwriter Alex Isley, the niece of Ronald Isley of the Isley Brothers, and New Orleans-based singer Dawn Richard, who began her career as a member of the girl group Danity Kane and musical trio Dirty Money



Photo by Amari Kelley

Lansing native Oliver Brown founded Mature Magazine to highlight millennials who are redefining what it means to be “mature,” like himself.

in the 2000s and early 2010s.

“She’s been an artist for so long,” Brown said of Richard. “She was actually the first celebrity client that I styled, I went to New Orleans to work with her, so that was a full circle moment for us.”

The magazine also publishes a range of shorter profiles, essays and Q&As focusing on fashion, design, arts and culture.

“With our interviews, I feel like that’s where our goal lies right now.

We just really want to uncover the hidden techniques of artists,” Brown said.

Past interview subjects have included actors Fiona Rene and Evan Hofer, DJs Sky Jetta and BuddhaFly Wolf, pop musician Ashlee Keating and fashion designer Viola Wan.

“We’ve been blessed and very grateful to highlight some people who are outside of Michigan that have an impact, whether that’s on TV, on the radio, whether that’s just an influencer in their own right,” he said. “We’re cultivating stories that are inspiring people based off of these amazing people in these different industries.”

Brown said there’s a sense of education in Mature’s stories because, to him, he’s “still that little boy from



Mature launched with the publication of its first cover story on Aug. 1, 2024, an interview with actress and singer Raven-Symoné and her wife, Miranda Maday. Since then, the magazine has published two more cover stories, on musicians Alex Isley and Dawn Richard.

Lansing who Googled everything to get to where I am today.”

“If it’s inspiring, if it’s moving, and if it can show you how to be a better person and how to choose yourself and put yourself first, those are the stories that we want to tell,” he said.

Mature’s staff consists of 11 people, including Brown, who serves as editor in chief.

“I wouldn’t be able to do any of this without them,” he said. “We’re growing, and I’m so happy that they’re growing with me.”

The team creates content “when we’re feeling inspired,” he said, not sticking to a set publishing schedule.

“We’re not following the rules of, you know, a cover a month or four covers a year. We’re creating based on feeling, based on time, based on what is moving us and moving the culture.”

Brown’s work as a stylist often takes him to major cities like New York and Los Angeles, but his full-time home is Lansing, where his family lives.

“I find myself, when I’m in these larger cities, needing a time to breathe, needing a time to be in a place that’s familiar to me, and Lansing is that for me,” he said.

Mature’s launch party was in LA so the cover stars could attend, but this time around, for the magazine’s one-year anniversary, Brown is bringing the party to the Lansing Shuffle.

“I wanted to celebrate with my friends and family who really have supported me throughout the whole years, who really have been there from the beginning,” he said. “It was

important for me to have this party here in Lansing, to give the community a chance to see what was built right here in our own city.”

The event aims to highlight local millennials “who are redefining what it means to be mature” through a panel discussion, performances by hip-hop artist MikeyyAustin and pop/funk/R&B band The Love Effect, a fashion contest and a dance party with DJ JMT.

In the magazine’s next year, and beyond, Brown hopes to start publishing an annual print edition, offer some subscriber-only based content, feature more big-name cover subjects — Keke Palmer and Ciara came to mind — and launch a podcast.

“We really want to dominate the digital space,” he said. “I feel like people don’t read as much as they used to anymore, so how can we create content to meet people where they are? I feel like podcasting is the next step for us.”

The ultimate goal? To eventually cultivate a global following, far beyond the borders of Lansing.

“I mean, our first cover star was Raven-Symoné. She’s a millennial who not only redefined what it means to be mature, but she’s still doing it. It doesn’t get more national than Raven, if you ask me,” Brown said. “We want to reach the world, but we’re starting with our community first.”

Mature Magazine one-year anniversary party

6 p.m.-1 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 23
Lansing Shuffle
325 Riverfront Drive, Lansing
facebook.com/maturemag

100 years in, 'Gatsby' still ranks high in American fiction

By **BILL CASTANIER**

Who turned the green light off?

To depress us teenagers even more, my high school English class had us read "The Great Gatsby" and "The Catcher in the Rye" back to back and write essays about each. I always thought it was F. Scott Fitzgerald's Catholic upbringing that made our nuns want to teach his wanton novel, but I'm not sure about "Catcher," since suicide was contemplated and a nasty word was written on the wall.

I'm uncertain about what the nuns were trying to impart, but some themes did overlap, despite eras that were 30 years apart.

"The Great Gatsby" came out in 1925. Fitzgerald's two previous novels had been knockouts. "Gatsby," not so much. However, despite its slow start, the book's staying power has been immense.

Was it the novel's bad boys or the naughty girls (for the time) who were bored by their world and sought a life that would make them happy? Was it the lost love of youth, the glitz and glamor of Long Neck and locales with odd names like East and West Egg? And who could keep from laughing about those odd names?

Even though it's set in the aristocratic East, the book seems to catch the flavor of the Midwest in retelling the universal story of unrequited love. When all the trappings are stripped away, it's about love — the theme of many tunes from the rock era and modern-day romance novels.

Today, we would call "Gatsby" a novella, one that could be read during a long lunch hour.

So, 100 years later, why are we still fixated on what has come to be

thought of as Fitzgerald's greatest novel and one of America's greatest as well?

I thought maybe I could get some insight into what makes "The Great Gatsby" so special by reading the 1966 CliffsNotes.

I started with the introduction, which has the disclaimer, "These notes are in no way intended to serve as a substitute for the actual reading of 'The Great Gatsby.'" Wink, wink.

First and foremost, the CliffsNotes propose that it is "the conscious artistry that fuses a work into a unified whole." They go on to say that "important as content is, however, it is form that shapes the novel's unity."

There are really only five characters: Jay Gatsby; Daisy Buchanan, his lost love; Tom Buchanan, Daisy's evil husband; Nick Carraway, the narrator; and Jordan Baker, Nick's paramour, who is easily forgettable but serves the purpose of connecting Nick to the plot, according to the CliffsNotes.

One thing I learned from reading the CliffsNotes is that they don't delve into some significant plot lines. For example, the horrific car accident that kills one of the characters and Gatsby's murder are given little mention. But if you're looking to determine the novel's symbolism, the CliffsNotes have you covered. The car, contemporary music, a foghorn and, of course, the mysterious green light take on momentous meaning in Fitzgerald's novel. You can imagine 17-year-olds writing an essay on the green light's symbolism. I'd say green represents envy.

A typical question the CliffsNotes want you to ponder is, "Choose any example of Fitzgerald's use of color

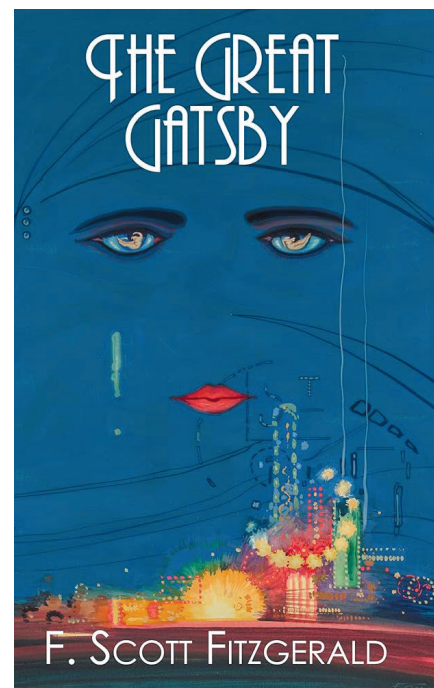
and relate it to ideas in the novel."

And they do ask the reader to consider Nick's 30th birthday, which happens simultaneously with the death of Buchanan's mistress, and its meaning in the novel. Is that the origin of "over the hill" that became a '60s standard?

I particularly loved how the CliffsNotes focus on Gatsby's dress shirt collection, which he shows off to Daisy as an example of his success.

When it comes down to it, "The Great Gatsby" has proven to be somewhat autobiographical for Fitzgerald. Is it about his own chase of Zelda, his wife for 20 years? Is Daisy her literary stand-in, and is Fitzgerald's own pursuit of affluence and stature elicited in Gatsby's ill-fated search for wealth and happiness? You could ask, as the CliffsNotes do, whether anyone is left unscathed — even Nick, the narrator, who sets the plot in motion.

For those who feel that the CliffsNotes leave you hanging with little satisfaction, you could still read the novel, or even watch one of the movies, or just write an es-



say on how "The Great Gatsby" has permeated popular culture. In the meantime, identify five instances of foreshadowing in the novel. And remember, 100 years later, we are still reading it.

WILLIAMSTOWN TOWNSHIP Board Meeting August 13, 2025 Synopsis

The Williamstown Township Board held a regular meeting on Wednesday, August 13, 2025 with Supervisor Poth, Clerk Cleveland, Treasurer VanErp, Trustee Brinker, Trustee Creagh, Trustee Duffy, and Trustee Steinberg present. The Board approved the following:

- Consent Agenda & July 30, 2025 minutes
- Red Cedar Bend Apartments Planned Development, without PILOT, at 2365 E. Grand River Ave., Williamston
- Donation & Sponsorship Policy
- To allow distribution of the draft Master Plan to contiguous communities
- Resolution #138-2025 to reserve the right to approve or reject the Master Plan
- Park User (sports teams) Fee Schedule

The next regular Board meeting will be at 6:30 PM on Wednesday, September 10th, 2025 in the Community Room of the Township Hall, 4990 Zimmer Rd., Williamston. Visit williamstownmi.gov for the latest agenda, documents, and updates. Phone (517) 655-3193.

Robin A. Cleveland, MiPMC
Township Clerk

CP#25-271

Choose LANSING

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From hands-on museums to outdoor adventures—check in, save, and make the most of your visit.

Scan this QR Code to get your FREE pass!

[Lansing.org](https://www.lansing.org)

The dangerous rise and potential fall of kratom's opioid extract

By CHRIS SILVA

Products with bright, candy-like labels sit on the counters of local tobacco stores, easily mistaken for energy shots or wellness supplements. They're often displayed right next to water bottles and soft drinks, a seemingly harmless impulse buy. But behind the bold branding lies a potent and dangerous substance: 7-hydroxymitragynine, a concentrated kratom extract that's a far cry from the plant it's derived from.

The federal government is taking decisive action. In a joint press conference July 29, the Food and Drug Administration recommended the Drug Enforcement Administration classify 7-hydroxymitragynine as a Schedule I controlled substance. This recommendation, if adopted, would place the extract in the same category as heroin, LSD and ecstasy, a clear signal of its serious pub-



Courtesy photos

Head shops, vape shops and convenience stores are a primary retail channel for products containing 7-hydroxymitragynine, a concentrated kratom extract. These products are often stocked in glass display cases alongside other "legal highs," branded with bright, eye-catching labels that downplay their potent opioid nature.

lic health threat. The DEA's review of the recommendation is underway, and public comments will be taken into consideration before a final decision is made.

The peril of potency

The key to understanding the FDA's recommendation is the distinction between the natural kratom plant and its concentrated extract. Kratom leaves, sourced from a tropical tree native to Southeast Asia, have been used for centuries for their stimulant (low dose) and sedative (high dose) effects. The two major psychoac-

tive alkaloids are mitragynine and 7-hydroxymitragynine. In the natural leaf, 7-hydroxymitragynine is present in only trace amounts.

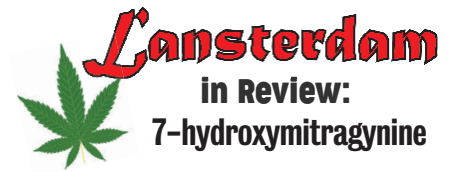
The concentrated extract, however, is a different beast entirely. As FDA Commissioner Dr. Marty Makary noted in the press conference, scientific studies have shown that 7-hydroxymitragynine is an opioid that's 13 times more potent than morphine. The stark difference in strength is what makes the extract so dangerous. It directly targets the brain's mu opioid receptors, the same receptors responsible for the powerful euphoric and addictive effects of substances like prescription pain pills and heroin.

The health risks associated with this extract are severe. The FDA has warned of addiction, liver toxicity, seizures and respiratory depression, which can be fatal. Unlike the natural leaf, which has a much lower potential for abuse due to its milder effects, the concentrated extract delivers a powerful, addictive hit that can quickly lead to physical dependence.

The broken dopamine cycle

One of the most insidious dangers of 7-hydroxymitragynine is its effect on the dopamine cycle. In simple terms, dopamine is the brain's "feel-good" chemical, released in response to pleasurable activities. The human brain is naturally equipped to regulate this process.

When a person uses an opioid like 7-hydroxymitragynine, it floods the brain with an unnaturally high amount of dopamine. While this may initially create a feeling of euphoria, the brain eventually adapts by reducing its natural dopamine production. This leads to



a shortened dopamine cycle. The user no longer gets pleasure from normal, everyday activities. Instead, they require the substance just to feel normal and avoid the severe symptoms of withdrawal. This creates a relentless cycle of dependence in which the user must consume more and more of the substance just to function.

Nationwide, taking action against concentrated kratom extract is a critical step to prevent a new wave of the opioid epidemic. As Makary said, "We've seen a disturbing rise in reports of overdoses, poisonings and emergency room visits linked to products containing 7-hydroxymitragynine. Let's not get caught flat footed again."

A problem in plain sight

Products containing 7-hydroxymitragynine are not being sold on the streets; they're being sold in plain sight. Head shops and tobacco stores are a primary retail channel for these products. They're often stocked in glass display cases alongside other "legal highs," marketed with deceptive branding that downplays their potent opioid nature.

This accessibility is a major concern. The attractive packaging — often featuring bright colors and fruit flavors — is clearly designed to appeal to a younger demographic that may be unaware of the dangers. It's a chilling parallel to the early marketing of e-cigarettes and flavored tobacco, and it puts our youth at a heightened risk for addiction. While Michigan law prohibits the sale of kratom to minors, the products' easy availability in retail stores makes this difficult to enforce, especially when the substance itself is in a legal gray area at the federal level.

The federal push to classify 7-hydroxymitragynine as a Schedule I substance is not about demonizing the kratom plant; it's about protecting the public from a powerful and addictive opioid that's being sold legally, with the appearance of a harmless beverage or pack of gummies. To prevent another tragic chapter in the nation's ongoing addiction crisis, this ban is not only welcome — it's essential.

NOTICE OF INTENT TO RELEASE PORTION OF DRAIN EASEMENT FOR THE BOLTER DRAIN

The Ingham County Drain Commissioner ("ICDC") has determined that a portion of the Drain Easement held by the Bolter Drain Drainage District, a public body corporate ("Drainage District") established pursuant to the Michigan Drain Code of 1956, 1956 P.A. 40, as amended, MCL 280.1 et seq., ("Drain Code"), as amended, is no longer necessary for drainage purposes. The ICDC proposes to release, convey and abandon all of its rights, title and interests in a portion of the Bolter Drain easement ("Drain Easement"), dated November 29, 1907, and recorded on June 23, 1955 Liber 61, Page 142, Ingham County Register of Deeds, to the fee owner of the property herein described in accordance with Section 6 of the Drain Code, MCL 280.6.

The portion of the Drain Easement to be released, conveyed, and abandoned is located over and across the following land in the City of Lansing, County of Ingham, State of Michigan, described herein:

Parcel ID No. 33-01-05-09-401-22

Parcel Description: Part of the Kahres Farm No. 2 Plat, a subdivision on part of the East ½ of Section 9 and the West ½ of Section 10, T3N, R2W, City of Lansing, Ingham County, Michigan, more particularly described as commencing at the northwest corner of Lot 16, thence southwesterly along the south line Edgewood Blvd 66 feet, thence southeasterly along the east line of vacated Edgewood Circle 200.01 feet, thence southwesterly parallel with Edgewood Blvd 510.49 feet, thence north perpendicular to said Edgewood Blvd 200 feet, thence southwesterly along said Blvd 66 feet, thence southwesterly perpendicular to said Blvd 146.7 feet, thence south 435.92 feet to the north line of I-96, thence southeasterly along highway 963.95 feet to the southeast corner of lot 14, thence northeasterly on the easterly line of said Lot 14 and said Lot 14 extended 566.68 feet to the southerly line of Lot 15, thence northeasterly 85.69 feet to the southeast corner of Lot 15, thence northeasterly on the easterly lines of Lots 15 and 16 444.62 feet, thence southwesterly parallel with Edgewood Blvd 333.42 feet to the easterly line of vacated Edgewood Circle, thence northwesterly along the west line of Lot 16 252.97 to the beginning. Also parts of Lot 18 lying southerly of northly line of a private drive.

In accordance with Section 6 of Act 40 of the Public Act of 1956, as amended, at the office of the Ingham County Drain Commissioner, 707 Buhl Avenue, Mason, Michigan 48854, on September 22, 2025, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., the Drain Commissioner shall meet upon this proposed release of a portion of the Drain Easement and any taxpayer may appear to protest said release.

After said date, the Drain Commissioner may release and convey the above-described portion of the Drain Easement to the fee owner on behalf of the Bolter Drain Drainage District.

Dated: August 14, 2025

Patrick E. Lindemann
Ingham County Drain Commissioner

CP#25-272

Lansing Duckpin hopes to score a strike with ‘casual’ bowling

By LEO V. KAPLAN

Jessica Beach Pandoff is a competitive bowler, but she said the hobby can come with “a lot of baggage” between the special shoes and ball rental.

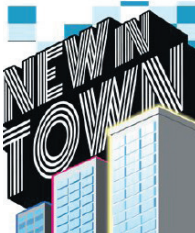
That’s why she and her friends enjoy duckpin bowling, a “casual” version of the sport with smaller balls and pins and shorter, elevated lanes. It allows players three turns instead of two and doesn’t require any special equipment.

“I love traditional tenpin bowling,

but sometimes when you have a large family or just want a quick, casual activity, it can be a lot,” she said.

Duckpin bowling is gaining popularity across the country, but Pandoff and her friends lacked an alley to visit in town. So, they decided to start one themselves.

Lansing Duckpin opens Friday. Situated across Michigan Avenue from the Frandor Shopping Center, it offers a bar, a patio with yard games and, of course, nine duckpin alleys for up to six



Lansing Duckpin

3224 E. Michigan Ave., Suite G, Lansing
Opens Friday, Aug. 22
Noon–10 p.m. Monday–Wednesday
Noon–1 a.m. Thursday–Saturday
Noon–8 p.m. Sunday
(517) 721-1196
lansingduckpin.com

people each. They can be rented for \$40 an hour.

Pandoff, the operations manager and one of five co-owners, said she and her colleagues hope to cultivate a casual atmosphere that appeals to a wide demographic.



Leo V. Kaplan/City Pulse

Co-owner Jessica Beach Pandoff shows off the smaller bowling equipment at Lansing Duckpin, which opens Friday.

“You’re going to be able to have your own lane,” she said, “and our bar ranges from nonalcoholic to alcoholic beverages, so there’s something for everyone in the family, from toddlers all the way up to adults.”

Pandoff expects the business, which is on the ground floor of the University Edge apartment building, to appeal particularly to college students. She said 800 students live in the apartments above Lansing Duckpin, and its proximity to MSU means it’s sure to become a “college bar,” to an extent. However, she stressed that the business aims to be “inclusive to everybody.”

“We’re still catering to the college kids, but we’re also family friendly,” she said. “If I want to go down by Michigan State’s campus with my 3-year-old, I’ll

think, ‘Okay, what time of year am I going down there? Is the place going to be prepared for a 3-year-old?’ Everything here fits all ages.”

As word of Lansing Duckpin spreads, Pandoff said she hopes the business will become increasingly connected with the community.

“All five of us owners really love supporting local, and we’re not a franchise. What you see here is what we and our team have come up with,” she said. “We want to become a go-to spot, not just for the bowling, but for people to come hang out on our patio, get a drink or anything along those lines. We love the local community and want to be part of it.”

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS EAST LANSING HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

Notice is hereby given of the following public hearings to be held by the East Lansing Historic District Commission on **Thursday, September 11, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.**, at East Lansing Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing, Michigan 48823:

1. A public hearing to receive and discuss consideration of a Certificate of Appropriateness from Wayne Hiner located at 609 W. Grand River Avenue. The applicant request is to replace aluminum windows with vinyl windows.
2. A public hearing to receive and discuss consideration of a Certificate of Appropriateness from Wayne Hiner located at 348 Oakhill Avenue. The applicant request is to replace vinyl windows with vinyl windows.
3. A public hearing to receive and discuss consideration of a Certificate of Appropriateness from Wayne Hiner located at 542 Sunset Lane. The applicant request is to replace a flagstone retaining wall with precast concrete block.
4. A public hearing to receive and discuss consideration of a Certificate of Appropriateness from Holly Jo Sparks located at 711 W. Grand River. The applicant request is to replace vinyl windows with vinyl windows and add new aluminum flashing.
5. A public hearing to receive and discuss consideration of a Certificate of Appropriateness from John Munn located at 531 Dorothy Lane. The applicant request is to replace diamond pattern shingles with architectural asphalt shingles.
6. A public hearing to receive and discuss consideration of a Notice to Proceed from Jim Dershem located at 217 Beech Street. The applicant request is to add 2.91 sf of concrete to the south side of the original paved area.
7. A public hearing to receive and discuss consideration of a Certificate of Appropriateness from Emily Koryto located at 328 Chesterfield Parkway. The applicant request is to install an egress window well and cover at the front of the house.

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

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

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

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

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

Dated: August 14, 2025
East Lansing, MI 48823

Amy Gordon
Interim City Clerk

CP#25-270

State of Michigan Probate Court, Ingham County, Notice to Creditors, Decedent’s Estate, Case No. 25-60583-DE. Estate of Ruth Ann Thuma, deceased – Date of Birth: 10/15/1936. To All Creditors:** Known and Unknown. Notice to Creditors: The decedent, Ruth Ann Thuma, died 06/22/2025. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Rodney Thuma, personal representative, or to both the probate court at 1045 Independence Blvd., Charlotte, MI, 48813, 517-543-7500, and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice, 08/20/2025. Attorney: Benjamin L. Cwayna, #P70266, 11973 Sweetwater Dr., Grand Ledge, MI 48837, 517-622-1900. Personal representative: Rodney Thuma, 1322 S. Stewart, Charlotte, MI 48813, 616-550-4416.

CP#25-274

H&H Mobil Abandoned Auto Auction
Viewing 8/21/25 By Appointment
2818 E. Kalamazoo St.
Lansing, MI 48912
Call 517-332-6335
Bids must be submitted by 8 am 8/25/25
at 1500 Haslett Rd. East Lansing, MI 48823
For more info go to www.hhmobil.com

CP#25-259

Public Notice

The Ingham County Land Bank is seeking a qualified Developer/Builder/Owner to purchase an 11-acre parcel and build an approved multi-family development in the City of Leslie, MI. The Request for Proposal and instructions to submit a complete response can be found on our website: www.inghamlandbank.org/contractors. Proposals are due on or before 3:00 p.m. October 8, 2025 will be accepted by e-mail, USPS mail, or hand delivered to the Land Bank office located at 3024 Turner St, Lansing, MI, 48906. The Ingham County Land Bank is an Equal Employment Opportunity Employer. Women and Minority-Owned Businesses are encouraged to apply. RFP#: 082025 Race St.

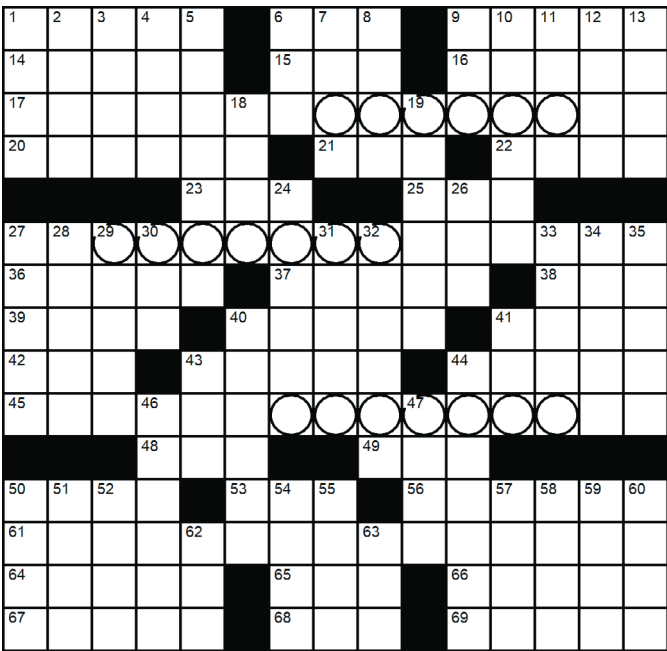
CP#25-273

Jonesin' Crossword

By Matt Jones

“There’s a Catch” -- you may scramble to get there.
by Matt Jones
© 2025 Matt Jones

- ACROSS
- 1. Enewetak, e.g.
 - 6. “Super” interest group
 - 9. Assumed a role
 - 14. TV chef Bastianich
 - 15. Web address, familiarly
 - 16. Flying waterfowl
 - 17. Determining direction
 - 20. “Death Becomes Her” costar
 - 21. Big-eyed barn bird
 - 22. Richards played by Pedro Pascal in “The Fantastic Four: First Steps”
 - 23. Air travel delayer
 - 25. Nice reply?
 - 27. Underwater projectile system
 - 36. Outwit, in a way
 - 37. Bachelorette party, in the U.K.
 - 38. Soccer stadium shout
 - 39. Supposing
 - 40. Jason of the “American Pie” films
 - 41. Additions
 - 42. Magritte’s “The ___ of Man”
 - 43. Night watch
 - 44. “All good here”
 - 45. Their syllabi may involve a reading list
 - 48. Abbr. after an attorney’s name
 - 49. ___ Lanka
 - 50. Be boastful
 - 53. “Cocoon” transport

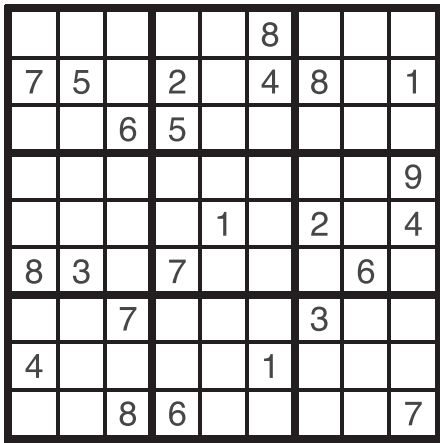


- 56. Burdens
 - 61. Difficult (and a hint to the challenge of interpreting the circles in the grid)
 - 64. More than apologize
 - 65. Painting medium
 - 66. Funny bone's nerve
 - 67. ___ straw
 - 68. Pen variety
 - 69. Histories
- DOWN
- 1. “The Sound of Music” backdrop
 - 2. Pinball fail
 - 3. Funk
 - 4. Low-cal, on a label
 - 5. Library penalty
 - 6. Bit of “Bob’s Burgers” menu humor
 - 7. 2012 Oscar winner for Best Picture
 - 8. Crab’s grabber
 - 9. Some time ___
 - 10. Former “Today” host Katie
 - 11. Went really fast
 - 12. “To be” in Latin
 - 13. Monopoly card
 - 18. Obsolete music holder
 - 19. Storm warnings
 - 24. Be graceful, per a Michelle Obama quote
 - 26. Game with 108 cards
 - 27. Poke fun at
 - 28. “Come on down!” announcer Johnny
 - 29. Feeling regret
 - 30. Adobe file ext.
 - 31. Aboveboard
 - 32. Trigonometry measurements
 - 33. Provide with quarters?
 - 34. “I’m hunting wabbits” speaker
 - 35. Sits for a bit
 - 40. Lobster soup
 - 41. [“I can’t believe it”]
 - 43. “___ for Vengeance” (Grafton book)
 - 44. Freezing over
 - 46. All-time great
 - 47. Elvis’s middle name
 - 50. Say too much
 - 51. “The ___ of Spring”
 - 52. “Don’t Matter” singer
 - 54. Lily pad occupant
 - 55. “Garfield” dog
 - 57. Home of the Bruins
 - 58. ___ serif fonts
 - 59. State of plié?
 - 60. Former political divs.
 - 62. “Over here!”
 - 63. Under the weather

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Answers on page 23

SUDOKU



Advanced

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 Breznsy

Aug. 20-26, 2025

ARIES (March 21–April 19): When glassmakers want to cool a newly blown piece, they don't simply leave it out to harden. That would cause it to shatter from the inside. Instead, they place it in an annealing oven, where the temperature drops in measured increments over many hours. This careful cooling aligns the internal structure and strengthens the whole. Let's invoke this as a useful metaphor, Aries. I absolutely love the heat and radiance you've expressed recently. But now it's wise for you to gradually cool down: to allow your fervor to coalesce into an enduring new reservoir of power and vitality. Transform sheer intensity into vibrant clarity and cohesion.

TAURUS (April 20–May 20): To paraphrase Sufi mystic poet Rumi: “Don't get lost in your pain. Know that one day, your pain will become your cure.” In my astrological opinion, Taurus, you have arrived at this pivotal moment. A wound you've had to bear for a long spell is on the verge of maturing into a gift, even a blessing. A burdensome ache is ready to reveal its teachings. You may have assumed you would be forever cursed by this hurt, but that's not true! Now it's your sacred duty to shed that assumption and open your heart so you can harvest the healing.

GEMINI (May 21–June 20): As you enter a Tibetan Buddhist temple, you may encounter statues and paintings of fierce spirits. They are guardian figures who serve as protectors, scaring away negative and destructive forces so they can't enter the holy precincts. In accordance with astrological omens, Gemini, I invite you to be your own threshold guardian. Authorize a wise and strict part of you to defend and safeguard what truly matters. This staunch action doesn't have to be aggressive, but it should be informed with fierce clarity. You can't afford to let the blithe aspect of your personality compromise your overall interests by being too accommodating. Assign your protective self to stand at your gate and say: “I protect this. I cherish this. I won't dilute this.”

CANCER (June 21–July 22): “Dear Dr. Feelgood: Lately, you seem to be extra nice to us hypersensitive Crabs. Almost too kind. Why? Are you in love with a Cancerian woman and trying to woo her? Did you hurt a Cancerian friend's feelings, and now you're atoning? Please tell me you're not just coddling us. — Permanently Drunk on a Million Feelings.” Dear Drunk: You use your imagination to generate visions of things that don't exist yet. It's your main resource for creating your future. This is especially crucial right now. The coming months will be a fertile time for shaping the life you want to live for the next 10 years. If I can help you keep your imagination filled with positive expectations, you are more likely to devise marvelous self-fulfilling prophecies.

LEO (July 23–Aug. 22): In traditional Chinese medicine, the heart is the seat of joy. It's also the sovereign that listens to the wisdom of the other organs before acting. Dear Leo, as you cross the threshold from attracting novelty to building stability, I encourage you to cultivate extra heart-centered leadership, both for yourself and for those who look to you for inspiration. What does that mean? Make decisions based on love and compassion more than on rational analysis. Be in service to wholeness rather than to whatever might bring temporary advantage.

VIRGO (Aug. 23–Sept. 22): In Mesoamerican myth, the god Quetzalcoatl journeys to the underworld not to escape death, but to recover old bones needed to create new life. I propose you draw inspiration from this story, Virgo. In recent weeks, you have been gathering pieces of the past, not out of a sense of burdensome obligation, but as a source of raw material. Now comes the time for reassembly. You won't rebuild the same old thing. You will sculpt visionary gifts for yourself from what was lost. You will use your history to design your future. Be alert for the revelations that the bones sing.

LIBRA (Sept. 23–Oct. 22): In the Hebrew language, the word for “face” is plural. There is no singular

form for “panim.” I love that fact! For me, it implies that each of us has a variety of faces. Our identity is multifaceted. I think you should make a special point of celebrating this truth in the coming weeks, Libra. Now is an excellent time to explore and honor all of your many selves. Take full advantage of your inner diversity, and enjoy yourself to the max as you express and reveal the full array of truths you contain.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23–Nov. 21): In the ancient Hindu holy text known as the Upanishads, “ananda” means bliss, though not so much in the sense of physical or psychological pleasure as of deep, ecstatic knowing. I believe you are close to attracting this glorious experience into your soul, Scorpio — not just fleetingly, but for a while. I predict you will glide into alignments that feel like coming home to your eternal and perfect self. Treasure these moments as divine gifts. Immerse yourself with total welcome and gratitude. Let ananda inform your next steps.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22–Dec. 21): In Daoist cosmology, the nature of life is characterized by cyclical, flowing patterns rather than linear, static motions. In my study of its gorgeous teachings, I exult in how it inspires me to honor both contraction and expansion, the power of circling inward and reaching outward. With this in mind, Sagittarius, I invite you to make the spiral your symbol of power. Yes, it may sometimes feel like you're revisiting old ground. Perhaps an ex will resurface, or an old goal will seek your attention. But I guarantee it's not mere repetition. An interesting form of evolution is underway. You're returning to longstanding challenges armed with fresh wisdom. Ask yourself: What do I know now that I didn't before? How can I meet these interesting questions from a higher point of the spiral?

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22–Jan. 19): Inuit artworks are often made from materials available in their environment, like driftwood, stones, walrus ivory, whale bones and caribou antlers. Even their tools are crafted from that stuff. In part, this is evidence of their resourcefulness, and in part, it's a reflection of how lovingly they engage with their environment. I recommend you borrow their approach, Capricorn. Create your practical magic by relying on what's already available. Be enterprising as you generate usefulness and fun out of scraps and leftovers. Your raw material is probably better if it's not perfect.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20–Feb. 18): The medieval alchemists had a central principle, rendered in Latin as follows: “Visita interiora terrae, rectificando invenies occultum lapidem.” Translated, it means, “Seek out the lower reaches of the earth, perfect them, and you will find the hidden stone.” I invite you to go on a similar underground quest, Aquarius. The purpose is not to wallow in worry or sadness, but rather to retrieve a treasure. Some magnificence beneath your surface life is buried — an emotional truth, a creative impulse, a spiritual inheritance. And it's time you went and got it. Think of it as a quest and a pilgrimage. The “hidden stone,” an emblem of spiritual riches, wants you to find it.

PISCES (Feb. 19–March 20): In ancient Greece, the god Janus presided over doorways. He had two faces, one looking outward and forward, one gazing inward and backward. I believe this is your Janus phase, Pisces. Before you launch into your next fluidic quest, pause and take inventory. Peer behind you, not with regret, but with curiosity and compassion. What cycle has fully ended? What wisdom has settled into your bones? Then face the future, not with shyness or foreboding, but with eager intention and confidence. What goals, rooted in who you are becoming, can inspire an exciting new plot thread?

Go to RealAstrology.com to check out Rob Breznsy'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, Aug. 20

“A Joyful Line” Art Exhibition - Dorothy Hughes Engelman will display her zentangle-inspired art at the Brick Wall Gallery in the East Lansing Public Library throughout August. All pieces are for sale. 10 a.m.-9 p.m. 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. facebook.com/ajoyfulline.

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

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

“Alluring Nature” - An exhibition by the En Plein Air Mid-Michigan group, which visits parks and gardens to render the alluring beauty of the natural world. 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Framers’s Edge, 1856 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. framersedge.net.

Art Among Friends Exhibition - Group exhibition by artists Pat Singer, Francie Dittrich, Eldon Case, Rebecca Case and Juanita Baldwin. 9 a.m.-8 p.m. Okemos Library, 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. cadl.org/about/our-locations/okemos.

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 - The Bookend welcomes fiber and paint artist Cindy Mielock for the month of August. She’s sharing a variety of recent works that are influenced by nature. Noon-4 p.m. Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. cadl.org/about/our-locations/haslett.

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

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.

Gavin McDonnell - Stick around after Lansing Live for a late-night set with Gavin McDonnell. Enjoy live music, great food and handcrafted cocktails. No cover. 9:30 p.m. UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner St., Lansing. urbanbeatevents.com.

Hoods Up Cruise-In - Show off what’s under the hood of your ride! All makes, models and years welcome. Drivers and passengers receive free admission to the museum. 5-7:30 p.m. R.E. Olds Transportation Museum, 240 Museum Drive, Lansing. reoldsmuseum.org.

Ingham County Democrats Community Meeting - All are welcome. We’ll share details on the work of our committee meetings and upcoming volunteer needs. Members may vote on a resolution in response to current events in Gaza and Israel. 5:30-7 p.m. Fiesta Charra, 2706 Lake Lansing Road, Lansing. inghamcountymunicipalparty.net.

Karaoke at Lansing Shuffle, with Big Man Genesis - 9-11 p.m. 325 Riverfront Drive, Lansing. lansingshuffle.com.

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

Lansing Live Open Stage Night - Whether you’re ex-

perienced 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: Life Support (party band) - 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.

Portland Sounds of Summer Concert Series: Atomic Annie (party band) - Free. 6:30 p.m. Two Rivers Park, 201 Divine Hwy., Portland. facebook.com/MIPortlandDowntown.

Selling MI Honey & Maple Syrup - Learn how to safely handle, package and store honey and maple syrup and understand the exemption guidelines for selling these products in Michigan. 2 p.m. Virtual — register at canr.msu.edu/isabela/index.

St. Johns Concerts in the Park: Audrey Ray (country) - 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.

Tomato Festival at Allen Farmers Market - We’ll have tomato-sauce cooking demos, entertainment by Lady Luck and craft vendor Ultra Mega. 3-6:30 p.m. Allen Neighborhood Center, 1629 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. allenneighborhoodcenter.org/allen-farmers-market.

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

Workshop: Musical Theater Audition Prep - Led by Kelly Stuibler-Clark. We’ll address singing, acting and dancing, with opportunities to get up and try. 7-10 p.m. LCC Dart Auditorium, 500 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing. lcc.edu/showinfo.

Thursday, Aug. 21

“A Joyful Line” Art Exhibition - Dorothy Hughes Engelman will display her zentangle-inspired art at the Brick Wall Gallery in the East Lansing Public Library throughout August. All pieces are for sale. 10 a.m.-9 p.m. 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. facebook.com/ajoyfulline.

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.



Sun Dried Music Festival

6-11:30 p.m. Fri, Aug. 22

Noon-midnight Sat., Aug. 23

11 a.m.-1 p.m. Sun., Aug. 24

Downtown Mason

The streets of downtown Mason will come alive this weekend with the sounds of rock, folk, blues, country and beyond, thanks to the annual Sun Dried Music Festival.

Friday’s performers include country musicians Mallery Lynn, Madison Olivia and Cooper Johnson. Saturday’s main-stage entertainment includes School of Rock East Lansing, oldies band Sea Cruisers, classic rock cover band The Pocket, blues-rock band Frog & the Beeftones, folk-rock band Wild Honey Collective, blues band Root Doctor, pop singer-songwriter Rebecca Brunner and alt-rock/power-pop band The Louderthans, while the second stage will feature Mason High School jazz band Local-Motives, singer-songwriter Brian Bristol, rock band 11 Across and an acoustic set by two members of party band Atomic Annie.

Beyond music, the festival will offer a vendor row, a children’s play area and a beer tent. There will be a cornhole tournament on Saturday, with registration for teams of two beginning at 10 a.m. Additionally, the Mason Area Chamber of Commerce will hold an arts and crafts sidewalk sale along Ash Street from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday.

The event wraps up on Sunday with a worship service, hosted by the Mason Area Ministerial Association.

Admission is free. For more information, visit sundriedfestival.org.

“Alluring Nature” - An exhibition by the En Plein Air Mid-Michigan group, which visits parks and gardens to render the alluring beauty of the natural world. 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Framers’s Edge, 1856 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. framersedge.net.

Art Among Friends Exhibition - Group exhibition by artists Pat Singer, Francie Dittrich, Eldon Case, Rebecca Case and Juanita Baldwin. 9 a.m.-8 p.m. Okemos Library, 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. cadl.org/about/our-locations/okemos.

Auditions: “Collective Rage: A Play in Five Betties” - Cold readings from the script. The director will distribute specific monologues/scenes for actors to prepare for callbacks. Production dates are Oct. 10-12 and 17-18. 7-9 p.m. LCC Black Box Theatre, 411 N. Grand Ave., Lansing. lcc.edu/showinfo.

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

Big Annual Book and Bake Sale - Half off thousands of books (no book more than 75 cents), DVDs, CDs. Baked goods will also be available. Members only on Aug. 21. 10:30 a.m.-7:30 p.m. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. dtdl.org/friends.

Bookend Gallery Display - The Bookend welcomes fiber and paint artist Cindy Mielock for the month of August. She’s sharing a variety of recent works that are influenced by nature. Noon-6 p.m. Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. cadl.org/about/our-locations/haslett.

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

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Lansing Bless Fest Weekend

6-9 p.m. Friday, Aug. 22

1-9 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 23

Adado Riverfront Park
300 N. Grand Ave., Lansing

Nonprofit media production company Media Messengers' annual Bless Fest Weekend promises free fun for the whole family, including games, basketball contests, a kids' area with activities such as bounce houses and bubbles, giveaways, raffles and a slew of musical performances.

The two-day event begins with Lansing Flo-Fest, an evening of clean, Christian hip-hop, featuring performances by Kevi Morse of Grand Rapids, Bobby Bendito of Saginaw, Paul "Goodson" Collins of Detroit and DJ Y'z of Lansing. Collins will also serve as the evening's host.

Saturday's Lansing Bless Fest will feature a variety of Christian artists, including world music chorus Company of Christ; pop musician Joe Jarvis; rock groups His DNA and Veteran Band; hip-hop collective The Blessings Are Real; and gospel groups Spoken Praise, Michelle Miller Bell & the "Let It Flow" Band and the Lansing Collective Worship Encounter. Between sets, guests can fuel up with free burgers and hot dogs while perusing a selection of free clothing, shoes and books.

Complimentary bottled water, snacks, seating and shade tents will be available to guests both days. For more information, visit mediamessengers.org.



Events

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Charlotte Summer Concerts on the Square: Blind Ambition (classic rock/country) - Free. 6:30 p.m. Courthouse Square, 100 W. Lawrence Ave., Charlotte. [facebook.com/charlottechamberof-commerce](https://www.facebook.com/charlottechamberof-commerce).

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](https://www.facebook.com/dimondalefarmersmarket).

Friendship Force Picnic Potluck - Potluck followed by a brief business meeting, an opportunity to meet and interact with club members and learn about future journeys. 6-8 p.m. Lansing Sailing Club, 6039 E. Lake Drive, Haslett. friendship-forcelansing@gmail.com.

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

Live Music Thursdays at Nelson Gallery - Bart Moore is a singer-songwriter known for his vivid storytelling, poetic lyrics and distinctive acoustic style. His music draws on folk, Americana and Celtic traditions. Free. 4:30 p.m. 113 S. Washington Square, Lansing. [facebook.com/NelsonGalleryLansing](https://www.facebook.com/NelsonGalleryLansing).

Nation Outside Chapter Meeting - We're a state-wide advocacy organization working to drive policy and practice innovation that builds systems of support for justice-impacted families and communities. 5 p.m. The Fledge, 13000 Eureka St., Lansing. trishaw@nationoutside.org.

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

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

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. lpspg.org.

Pour Decisions Trivia Night - Gather a team of four, grab a drink and enjoy a fun-filled evening of laughs and friendly competition. Enjoy \$1 off glasses of wine during the event. 6-8 p.m. Burgdorf's Winery, 4212 E. Holt Road, Webberville. [facebook.com/wine.burgdorfs](https://www.facebook.com/wine.burgdorfs).

South Lansing Farmers Market - 3-7 p.m. Feeders Pet Supply parking lot, 5016 S. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Lansing. [facebook.com/SouthLansingFarmersMarket](https://www.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. spiritofmichigan-chorus.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](https://www.facebook.com/summerlandsbrewing).

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

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

Williamston Summer Concert Series: U.S. Air Force Shades of Blue Jazz Ensemble - Free. 7 p.m. McCormick Park, 300 N. Putnam St., Williamston. [facebook.com/williamstonconcerts](https://www.facebook.com/williamstonconcerts).

Friday, Aug. 22

15th Annual Electric Fly In - Landing fee: \$20. Open to all RC electric planes, helicopters and multicopters. 1,000-foot E/W runway, 150-foot fabric N/S runway. 8328 Otto Road, Grand Ledge. modelaircraft.org/event-calendar.

"A Joyful Line" Art Exhibition - Dorothy Hughes Engelman will display her zentangle-inspired art at the Brick Wall Gallery in the East Lansing Public Library throughout August. All pieces are for sale. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. [facebook.com/ajoyfulline](https://www.facebook.com/ajoyfulline).

"Alluring Nature" - An exhibition by the En Plein Air Mid-Michigan group, which visits parks and gardens to render the alluring beauty of the natural world. 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Framers' Edge, 1856 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. framersedge.net.

Art Among Friends Exhibition - Group exhibition by artists Pat Singer, Francie Dittrich, Eldon Case, Rebecca Case and Juanita Baldwin. 9 a.m.-8 p.m. Okemos Library, 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. cadl.org/about/our-locations/okemos.

Big Annual Book and Bake Sale - Half off thousands of books (no book more than 75 cents), DVDs, CDs. Baked goods will also be available. 10:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. dtdl.org/friends.

Bookend Gallery Display - The Bookend welcomes fiber and paint artist Cindy Mielock for the month of August. She's sharing a variety of recent works that are influenced by nature. Noon-4 p.m. Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. cadl.org/about/our-locations/haslett.

Callbacks: "Collective Rage: A Play in Five Betties" - Directed by Emma Quick. Production dates are Oct. 10-12 and 17-18. 7-9 p.m. LCC Black Box Theatre, 411 N. Grand Ave., Lansing. lcc.edu/showinfo.

Capital Sundogs Live at Summerlands Brewing Co. - Capital Sundogs rock the house with some great classic rock tunes! 7:30-10:30 p.m. 1957 Cedar St., Holt. [facebook.com/summerlandsbrewing](https://www.facebook.com/summerlandsbrewing).

Carl Pawluk Live at the Peanut Barrel - 8-10 p.m. 521 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. 517-351-0608. peanutbarrel.com.

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.

Cruise to Holt - All types and years of cars, trucks and bikes welcome. No entry fee! Spectators encouraged. 5-8 p.m. Holt Farmers Market parking lot, 2150 Cedar St., Holt. delhitownshipmi.gov.

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.

Lake Lansing Bandshell Concert Series: Itchycoo Park ("60s-'70s) opener Billy McAllister (Frank Sinatra tribute) - 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](https://www.facebook.com/LakeLansingBandshell).

Messy Play Day - Kids can play with chalk, bubbles, goop, squirt bottles, big trucks, mud and more. Different activities each week throughout August. 2-4 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. gladl.org.

Neon Viper Live at Mash Bar - 9:30 p.m.-1 a.m. 212 Albert Ave., East Lansing. 517-858-2100. mashbar.net.

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. lpspg.org.

St. Michael FunFest - Enjoy a food and beer tent, euchre and archery tournaments, acoustic music and trivia. 5-10:30 p.m. St. Michael Parish, 345 Edwards St., Grand Ledge. stmichaelgl.org/funfest-1.

TGIF Dance Party - Doors 7 p.m., line dance lesson 7:15 p.m., dance 8 p.m. to midnight. DJs Jim and Ben Kitchen in the house and on the patio. Dinner buffet provided. Cash/credit bar available. Hawk Hollow Banquet Center, 15101 Chandler Road, Bath. tgifdance.com.

The Venue Live: Monthly Music Series - Lansing's own Mix Pack brings an unpredictable mix of rock, pop and everything in between! 8 p.m. The Venue by Eleven 11 Events, 5660 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing. venue1111.com/venuelive.

Saturday, Aug. 23

15th Annual Electric Fly In - Landing fee: \$20. Open to all RC electric planes, helicopters and multicopters. 1,000-foot E/W runway, 150-foot fabric N/S runway. Pizza and pop for pilots on Saturday. 8328 Otto Road, Grand Ledge. modelaircraft.org/event-calendar.

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"Alluring Nature" - An exhibition by the En Plein Air Mid-Michigan group, which visits parks and gardens to render the alluring beauty of the natural world. 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Framers' Edge, 1856 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. framersedge.net.

A Night for Nature Fundraiser - Enjoy classic rock, pop, blues and country music under the stars! Live music by Time2Play. BYOB. There will be charcuterie and desserts. 21+. 7-9:30 p.m. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road, Okemos. meridian.mi.us/hnc.

Art Among Friends Exhibition - Group exhibition by artists Pat Singer, Francie Dittrich, Eldon Case, Rebecca Case and Juanita Baldwin. 9 a.m.-7 p.m. Okemos Library, 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. cadl.org/about/our-locations/okemos.

Big Annual Book and Bake Sale - Half off thousands of books (no book more than 75 cents), DVDs, CDs. Baked goods will also be available. Fill a bag for \$5 on Aug. 23. 10:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. dtdl.org/friends.

Bookend Gallery Display - The Bookend welcomes fiber and paint artist Cindy Mielock for the month of August. She's sharing a variety of recent works that are influenced by nature. Noon-2 p.m. Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. cadl.org/about/our-locations/haslett.

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

The Dinner Detective - We offer an amazing murder mystery experience paired with a fantastic dinner. Anyone in the room can end up being part of the show, including YOU! 6:30 p.m. AC Hotel, 3160 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. thedinnerdetective.com.

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.

East Lansing ExtravaGRANDza - Activities include a scavenger hunt, live music, inflatables, head-to-head trike racing, a Dave's Hot Chicken eating contest and more. 5-8 p.m. Albert Avenue, between Charles and Division Streets. [facebook.com/DowntownEastLansing](https://www.facebook.com/DowntownEastLansing).

GiantMouse Knives Grand Opening & 10-Year Jubilee - Enjoy an afternoon of food, drinks, live entertainment and more. Meet the team, explore exclusive offerings and connect with the community that surrounds the brand. Noon-6 p.m. 1131 N. Washington Ave., Lansing. giantmouse.com.

Gunnisonville UMC Trinkets & Treasures Sale - A variety of handmade items, including jewelry, accessories, home decor, artwork and baked goods, will be available for purchase. There will also be a quilt show in the church sanctuary. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. 2031 Clark Road, Bath. 517-482-7987.

JP Peters Live at Pins & Pints - 7-9 p.m. 2120 E. Saginaw Hwy., East Lansing. 517-337-7000. pinsandpints.net.

Lansing School District Back to School 5K - Run begins at 9 a.m., followed by a free kids' half-mile fun run at 11 a.m. Proceeds benefit the LSD's student enrichment programs. Sexton High School,

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Events

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102 McPherson Ave., Lansing. runsignup.com/Race/MI/Lansing/LSD5k.
Lower Michigan Horse Association August Show - 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Ingham County Fairgrounds, 700 E. Ash St., Mason. facebook.com/LMHAHorseShows.

Mature Magazine One-Year Anniversary Party - Join us for a patio party with a red-carpet experience, live music, a panel discussion and a fashion contest. Stay for the afterparty to dance the night away to DJ JMT. 6 p.m.-1 a.m. Lansing Shuffle, 325 Riverfront Drive, Lansing. facebook.com/maturemag.

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.

Roots and Wings: Native Plants and Feathered Friends Workshop - Explore the world of gardening, habitat creation and landscape design, featuring expert speakers, two exciting locations and an exclusive sale! 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Michigan Audubon, 2310 Science Parkway, Okemos. michiganaudubon.org.

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. homebrewgamelounge.com.

St. Michael FunFest - Enjoy a food and beer tent, a bake sale, a chicken barbecue, live entertainment, kids' games, auctions, a cornhole tournament and a Catholic mass. Noon-10 p.m. St. Michael Parish, 345 Edwards St., Grand Ledge. stmichaelt.org/funfest-1.

Welcome Back, SpARtans! - Stop by your free campus art museum to check out our exhibitions and screen print your own pencil case to carry around campus! 1-4 p.m. Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum, 547 E Circle Dr, East Lansing. broadmuseum.msu.edu.

"Women of the Watch, Keepers of the Light" - A one-act, one-woman play telling the story of female lighthouse keepers on the Great Lakes. Free. 1 p.m. Charlotte Community Library, 226 S. Bostwick St., Charlotte. charlottelibrary.org.

Sunday, Aug. 24

"Alluring Nature" - An exhibition by the En Plein Air Mid-Michigan group, which visits parks and gardens to render the alluring beauty of the natural world. Noon-4 p.m. Framer's Edge, 1856 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. framersedge.net.

Art Among Friends Exhibition - Group exhibition by artists Pat Singer, Francie Dittrich, Eldon Case, Rebecca Case and Juanita Baldwin. Noon-6 p.m. Okemos Library, 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. cadl.org/about/our-locations/okemos.

Bee Palooza - Explore interactive exhibits showcasing the diversity of pollinators and their habitats, learn about social bee colonies, participate in educational workshops, and learn practical tips for creating pollinator-friendly gardens. 1-4 p.m. MSU Horticultural Demonstration Gardens, 1066 Bogue St., East Lansing. beepalooza.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.

Free Laser Tag - Experience the thrill of free laser tag! Planning to come with a group of 10 or more? Please call ahead to reserve your spot. Noon-9 p.m. Zap Zone XL, 5220 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing. zapzonexl.com/specials.

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.

Lower Michigan Horse Association August Show - 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Ingham County Fairgrounds, 700 E. Ash St., Mason. facebook.com/LMHAHorseShows.

Picnic with Princesses - Families are invited to bring their own picnics and enjoy interactive performances, magical activities and photo opportunities with the princesses! 11 a.m. Bridge + Main Market, 119 N. Bridge St., DeWitt. Tickets at oliviagraceandcompany.com.

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

Sound Bowl Immersive Experience - This immersive sensory journey uses the soothing vibrations of singing bowls to create a calming soundscape that helps quiet both mind and body. 4-5 p.m. Nurture Studios, 257 S. Bridge St., Dimondale. eventbrite.com/o/compassionate-ly-bri-53247017153.

Spirit Speak: All-Levels Mediumship Workshop - Whether you're just starting your journey with spirit communication or already offer readings to others, this workshop is designed to help you grow. 4-7 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, Aug. 25

"A Joyful Line" Art Exhibition - Dorothy Hughes Engelman will display her zentangle-inspired art at the Brick Wall Gallery in the East Lansing Public Library throughout August. All pieces are for sale. 10 a.m.-9 p.m. 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. facebook.com/ajoyfulline.

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

"Alluring Nature" - An exhibition by the En Plein Air Mid-Michigan group, which visits parks and gardens to render the alluring beauty of the natural world. Noon-5:30 p.m. Framer's Edge, 1856 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. framersedge.net.

Art Among Friends Exhibition - Group exhibition by artists Pat Singer, Francie Dittrich, Eldon Case, Rebecca Case and Juanita Baldwin. 9 a.m.-8 p.m. Okemos Library, 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. cadl.org/about/our-locations/okemos.

Auditions: "Island Song" - Please come prepared with a 32-bar cut of a musical theater song or a pop song with a strong storyline. We're looking for dynamic storytellers who sing well. 7-10 p.m. LCC Dart Auditorium, 500 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing. lcc.edu/showinfo.

Bookend Gallery Display - The Bookend welcomes fiber and paint artist Cindy Mielock for the month of August. She's sharing a variety of recent works that are influenced by nature. Noon-4 p.m. Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. cadl.org/about/our-locations/haslett.

Capital Area Blues Society history presentation

6:30-8 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 21

Rogers-Carrier House

528 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing



History buffs and music aficionados are invited to join the Historical Society of Greater Lansing and Ron Eggleston, a Lansing resident and former board member of the Capital Area Blues Society, for a program Thursday evening on the history of CABS and its role in bringing national acts to Lansing during the last days of the blues in the 1990s.

"CABS led to a resurgence of the blues in Lansing and was a catalyst for creating a camaraderie among local blues players, which still exists today," Eggleston said.

Attendees will learn about the legendary artists, like Sonny Terry & Brownie McGhee, Sippie Wallace, Muddy Waters, James Harman and Alberta Adams, who performed regularly in the area at Michigan State University, The Stables, Grandmother's, Capitol Hill Station, Jambalaya's and The Green Door. Some special blues posters, created by local artist Dennis Preston, will be on display.

"CABS brought in a cornucopia of blues artists over a five-year period, which fueled the blues in Lansing," Eggleston said.

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

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

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

Fiber Circle - Knitters, crocheters and stitchers of all ages and skill levels welcome. 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.

Michigan Cottage Food Law - Learn how to prepare and sell foods to the public under Michigan Cottage Food Law. Topics include preparing, packaging, labeling, storing and transporting cottage foods. 2 p.m. Virtual — register at canr.msu.edu/cottage_food_law/index.

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. lapsg.org.

U.S. Air Force Shades of Blue Jazz Ensemble Live at Lake Lansing Bandshell - Shades of Blue performs a variety of styles, ranging from traditional big-band jazz to bebop, swing and modern jazz. Free. 7 p.m. 1621 Pike St., Haslett. facebook.com/Lakelansingbandshell.

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, Aug. 26

"A Joyful Line" Art Exhibition - Dorothy Hughes Engelman will display her zentangle-inspired art at the Brick Wall Gallery in the East Lansing Public Library throughout August. All pieces are

for sale. 10 a.m.-9 p.m. 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. facebook.com/ajoyfulline.

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.

"Alluring Nature" - An exhibition by the En Plein Air Mid-Michigan group, which visits parks and gardens to render the alluring beauty of the natural world. 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Framer's Edge, 1856 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. framersedge.net.

Art Among Friends Exhibition - Group exhibition by artists Pat Singer, Francie Dittrich, Eldon Case, Rebecca Case and Juanita Baldwin. 9 a.m.-8 p.m. Okemos Library, 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. cadl.org/about/our-locations/okemos.

Auditions: "Island Song" - Please come prepared with a 32-bar cut of a musical theater song or a pop song with a strong storyline. We're looking for dynamic storytellers who sing well. 7-10 p.m. LCC Dart Auditorium, 500 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing. lcc.edu/showinfo.

Bookend Gallery Display - The Bookend welcomes fiber and paint artist Cindy Mielock for the month of August. She's sharing a variety of recent works that are influenced by nature. Noon-4 p.m. Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. cadl.org/about/our-locations/haslett.

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

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.

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

Open Mic Night at Summerlands Brewing Co. - Whether you're a seasoned performer or stepping onto the stage for the first time, we provide a welcoming environment for you to showcase your talent. 7-10 p.m. 1957 Cedar St., Holt. facebook.com/summerlandsbrewing.

FOOD & DRINK

DINING OUT IN GREATER LANSING



Lawrence

By **GABRIELLE LAWRENCE**

One of the goals of the “She Ate/He Ate” column has always been to promote local businesses. We don’t aim to malign restaurants that we don’t particularly like, especially since the pandemic, and we’ve even occasionally changed subject mid-month when we’ve visited a

place and could tell that the review wouldn’t be positive. Unfortunately, it doesn’t always work out for us to alter course, and this month is one of those times. We decided to visit REO Town Clubhouse, and I don’t have many nice things to say.

But I do have a few. The building is gorgeous. In addition to main-level dining, there’s also an upper-level event space that can accommodate a large group. But unless we’re talking about Le Cirque in Las Vegas, people don’t generally choose a restaurant in order to admire the interior. So, let’s talk about the food.

When I first visited the Clubhouse for dinner several months ago, there wasn’t a breadbasket offered. That has changed, and the bread was fabulous — a warm, fluffy braid generously topped with parmesan and served with oil for dipping.

For an appetizer, we had the sausage and peppers (\$12), which was also excellent. The thinly sliced peppers and onions weren’t overcooked, retaining some texture, and the sauce was just spicy enough to give the dish a bit of a bite without making anyone sweat. My daughter, a spaghetti devotee, inhaled an order of fries (\$5) while she waited for her noodles and marinara (\$14). The fries were topped with parmesan and finely minced parsley and were salty and crispy.

The meal slid precipitously downhill after the appetizers were gone. I ordered the lasagna (\$24), assuming it to be a classic choice in an Italian restaurant. Each entrée comes with two side items, and I asked for the vegetable on offer (asparagus) and a side salad. The asparagus was yellow and woody. The lasagna was, frankly, a complete letdown. I found the tomato sauce to be slightly metallic, and while there were multiple discernible layers of noodles and filling, everything was remarkably tasteless. There was no cohesion to the dish — ricotta was plopped on top of noodles that were topped with tomato sauce, and repeat — and everything tasted like the word “beige.”

The 5-year-old doesn’t discriminate when it comes to spaghetti and told me that hers was “super delicious.” I snuck a bite and was shocked by how mushy the noodles were. The angel hair was completely overcooked, and there isn’t much that can redeem a pasta dish when you’re trying to look past a bowl of paste.

My mother joined us and asked the server for a recommendation of a meatless dish. The server said she’d heard the baked ziti (\$18) was good, though she’d never tried it.

Hits and misses at REO Town Clubhouse



Bryan Beverly for City Pulse

While not every dish at REO Town Clubhouse is a home run, Bryan Beverly hails the fried shrimp as being perfectly breaded and well paired with the rich and spicy Calabrian pepper sauce.

By **BRYAN BEVERLY**

I dig REO Town. It’s not Old Town, but I like that it’s not trying to be. It has its own vibe. Just a quick skip



Beverly

across Interstate 496 from downtown Lansing, the shops, salons and eateries offer a small-town feel, with just enough walkability and bike access. However, it has plenty of edgy, eclectic

charm to balance the adjacent park and garden spaces, making it an attractive location for many festivals. The anchors of the area include General Motors’ Grand River Assembly plant, the Board of Water & Light headquarters that partially occupies a former train depot and several visual and performing arts hubs.

The area has seen good barbecue, coffee, craft beer, breakfast and pizza, but longevity continues to be a challenge. Even the location of this month’s subject of review, REO Town Clubhouse, has gone through a change over the past year and a half, having previously been Ellison Brewery and Event Space, which we reviewed in August 2023. The Clubhouse clearly benefited from the previous upgrades that transformed the massive warehouse into a brewhouse, with modern lighting, seating and décor in abundance.

Marketed as an Italian restaurant, pizzeria, event space and pool hall, REO Town Clubhouse aims to make a lasting impression in the area and serve as an anchor for entertainment. Walking in, you’ll immediately be taken aback by the sheer vastness. To the left, you’ll find the upstairs event space, which is roomy and lovely, as is the main dining room on the first floor. To the right sits the pool hall, which is also quite large, offering sharks and beginners alike enough room to run the table. In the middle sits the pizza shop, with its stone hearth oven blanketed by beautiful teal tile.

What was uneven

The brunch menu was intriguing, offering many traditional breakfast items and others with a more Italian flair. I arrived around 11 on a Sunday morning with my much better half and the littlest of my daughters, having seen that the brunch service started at 9 on the Clubhouse’s social media. We walked into a mostly empty restaurant and encountered a service crew that seemed to be scrambling to find their sea legs, because coffee had not yet been brewed. The waitstaff, while very pleasant, seemed as if they hadn’t yet had their first cup of coffee, either.

The food was also fairly uneven. My biscuits and gravy (\$15) were quite tasty. The gravy was creamy and savory with notes of black pepper, and the biscuits were dense enough to stand up to the gravy but didn’t sit too heavily afterward. The fried potatoes were golden and crispy, and the sausage patties were large and packed with sage flavor.

My much better half enjoyed a bloody Mary (\$9) that had a Caprese skewer atop the glass. She also ordered the sweet crespelle crepes (\$15), which looked better than they tasted. The lemon curd overpowered the palate, and the sugar-cured ham (\$4) was an absolute waste of pro-

Events

from page 21

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. lapsg.org.

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

Wednesday, Aug. 27

"A Joyful Line" Art Exhibition - Dorothy Hughes Engelman will display her zentangle-inspired art at the Brick Wall Gallery in the East Lansing Public Library throughout August. All pieces are for sale. 10 a.m.-9 p.m. 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. Facebook.com/ajoyfulline.

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

Allen Farmers Market - Live music by Big Sherm. 3-6:30 p.m. Allen Neighborhood Center, 1629 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. allenneighborhoodcenter.org/allen-farmers-market.

"Alluring Nature" - An exhibition by the En Plein Air Mid-Michigan group, which visits parks and gardens to render the alluring beauty of the natural world. 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Framer's Edge, 1856 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. framersedge.net.

Art Among Friends Exhibition - Group exhibition by artists Pat Singer, Francie Dittrich, Eldon Case, Rebecca Case and Juanita Baldwin. 9 a.m.-8 p.m. Okemos Library, 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. cadl.org/about/our-locations/okemos.

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 - The Bookend welcomes fiber and paint artist Cindy Mielock for the month of August. She's sharing a variety of recent works that are influenced by nature. Noon-4 p.m. Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. cadl.org/about/our-locations/haslett.

CharLit Adult Book Club: "Yumi and the Nightmare Painter," by Brandon Sanderson - 6 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.

Karaoke at Lansing Shuffle, with Big Man Genesis - 9-11 p.m. 325 Riverfront Drive, Lansing. lansingshuffle.com.

Kommuna Lux: Fundraiser Concert for the People of Ukraine - Part klezmer, part urban chanson, with a

dash of Ukrainian folk, Kommuna Lux impacts the crowd with a nostalgic, high-energy big-band sound. 7-10 p.m. UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner St., Lansing. urbanbeatevents.com.

THE PULSIFIEDS

Haiti Baby Box & Soaring Unlimited
Benefit Rummage & Bake Sale
Holt United Methodist Church, 2321 N. Aurelius Road, Holt. Sept. 5, 9am-6pm; Sept. 6, 9am-1pm.

CROSSWORD SOLUTION
From Pg. 18

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ART BY NEVIN

As Seen On the Cover of CityPulse

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SUDOKU SOLUTION

From Pg. 18

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State of Michigan Probate Court, Ingham County, Notice to Creditors, Decedent's Estate, Case No. 18-941-DE. Estate of Sara Gomez – Date of Birth: 1/10/1927. Notice to Creditors: The decedent, Sara Gomez, died 1/8/2018. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Ramon J. Gomez, C/O Atty. David B. Carter, Jr., personal representative, or to both the probate court at 313 W. Kalamazoo St., Lansing, MI 48933, 517-483-6300, and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice, 08/20/2025. Attorney: David B. Carter, Jr., PO Box 54, Charlotte, MI 48813, 517-256-3886. Personal representative: Ramon J. Gomez, 10301 Bond Rd, DeWitt, MI 48820, 517-204-0881.

CP#25-275

She Ate

from page 22

I found myself wondering if that response would fly in my line of work. As an attorney, my clients come to me for professional advice. If I told them, "I don't know for sure, but a trust seems like a good way to avoid probate," I can't imagine I would remain a valuable asset at the firm.

The ziti wasn't mediocre. Unsurprisingly, Mom reported that the noodles were overcooked, and she had to add lots of salt to coax some flavor out of the dish. Mr. She Ate had the chicken parm (\$23), one of our perpetual favorites. This dish, by far, was the best of the bunch. The chicken was juicy and crispy, and the breading wasn't too heavy. But the accompanying noodles, in a surprise to nobody, were overcooked and nearly inedible.

I grew up in REO Town. I'm always happy when there's a downtown-adjacent lunch option, and I want to see businesses succeed in my community. I've tried, across multiple visits, to find something good at REO Town Clubhouse, something I can recommend when people ask me what I like there. Sadly, there's not much. I want the food served in this gorgeous building to be exceptional, but as of now, it isn't even acceptable.

He Ate

from page 22

tein and money: limp and lifeless, with not a single hint of sugar to be found nor a streak of a sear on the meat itself.

What was better

I met a mentor/friend/colleague for lunch and had a much better experience. We both ordered the lunch pasta combo. The Caesar salads were fresh and plentiful, especially being part of a lunch combo. I had the spaghetti and meatballs (\$14), and though crushed tomatoes will never be my favorite, the meatballs were large and packed with garlic, herbs and parmesan cheese. The pasta was a bit overcooked, but overall, the dish was solid.

My companion ordered the chicken alfredo (\$16) and said it was one of the best versions she'd ever had. The thick and creamy alfredo sauce was a yummy revelation. The chicken was more well done than I typically care for, but it was spot on for her. She wanted me to relay that she would return at least 17 times.

Best bite

The fried shrimp (\$16) with a Calabrian pepper sauce were very good. The breading on the shrimp was fried hard enough to withstand the oil-and-butter-based bath in which they rested. The sauce was tasty and had the perfect amount of spice for a lunch dish.

TOP 5

DINING GUIDE

THE BEST RESTAURANTS IN GREATER LANSING AS DECIDED BY CITY PULSE READERS

TOP 5 PANCAKES

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

1. Anna's House

Casual restaurant serving creative breakfast and lunch options, including vegan and gluten-free dishes
1753 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos (517) 253-7609
annashouseus.com
7 a.m.-3 p.m. daily

2. Good Truckin' Diner

Eclectic eatery offering elevated diner fare, from breakfast burritos to burgers, in down-to-earth digs
1218 Turner St., Lansing

(517) 253-7961
facebook.com/goodtruckin
7 a.m.-7 p.m. Monday-Friday
7 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday-Sunday
3. Sophia's House of Pancakes
Cheery diner with a diverse breakfast menu, plus Greek fare, steaks and traditional American eats
1010 Charlevoix Drive, Grand Ledge (517) 627-3222
sophiashouseofpancakesgl.com
7 a.m.-3 p.m. daily

4. Sparty's Coney Island

Old-timey diner known for Coney dogs and other American staples
300 N. Clippert St., Suite 5, Lansing (517) 332-0111
spartysconeyisland.com
7 a.m.-2 p.m. Monday-Saturday
8 a.m.-2 p.m. Sunday

5. The People's Kitchen

Restaurant and bar serving creative comfort food and craft cocktails for any time of day
2722 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing (517) 507-5730
eatpeoples.com
9 a.m.-9 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday
9 a.m.-9:45 p.m. Friday-Saturday
9 a.m.-3 p.m., 5-8 p.m. Sunday

CityPULSE + WKAR



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COMING SEPTEMBER 10