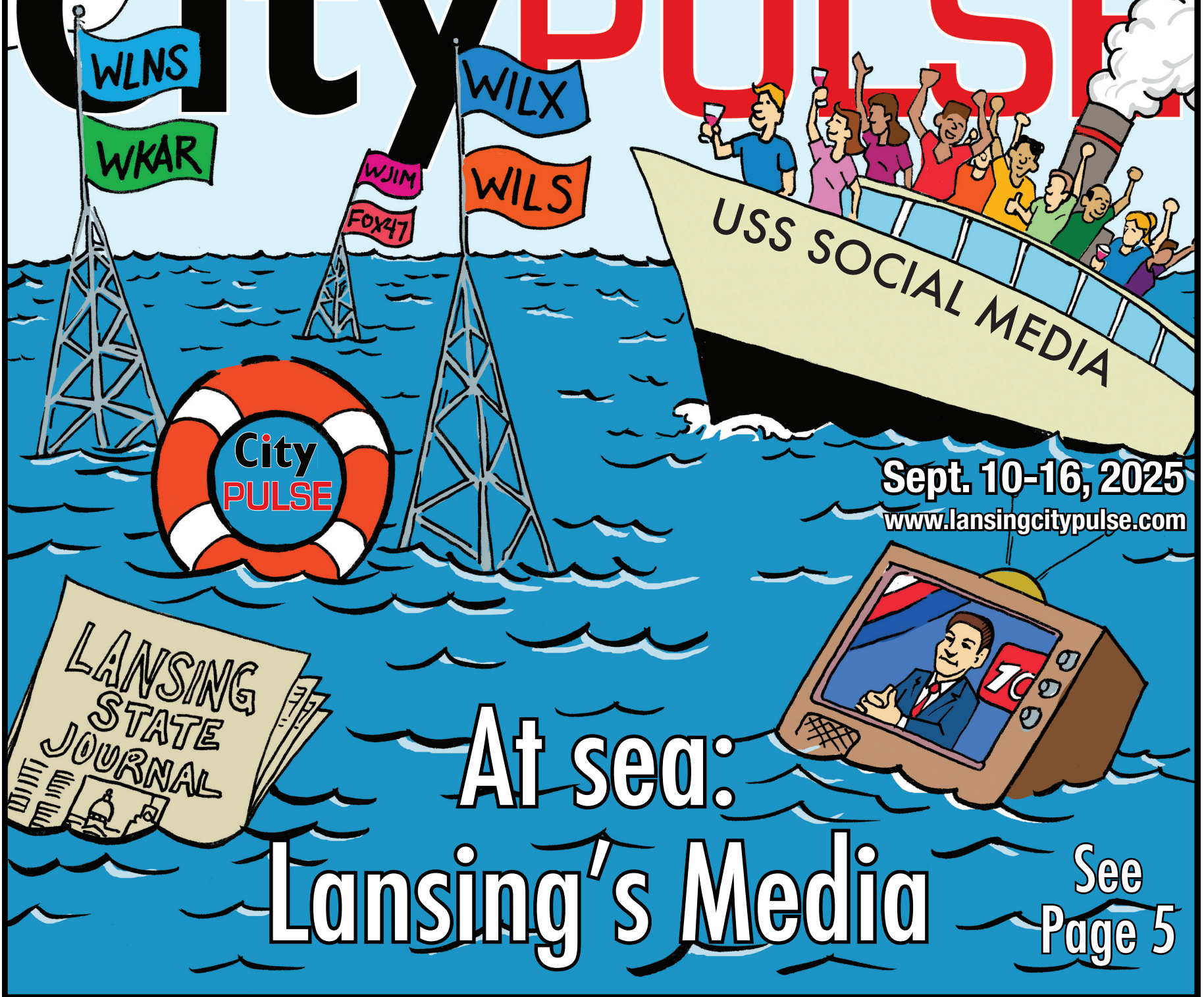


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Lansing's Media

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Stop mixing politics with your business: A public response to Larry Kirchoff

Larry Kirchoff, the owner of Lansing's All Star Mechanical, has made a name for himself not by the quality of his HVAC work but by injecting his personal politics into his company's marketing. From mocking conservatives as "Gravy Seals" to equating Trump supporters with white nationalists in his ads, Kirchoff has turned what should be a heating and cooling business into a culture war sideshow.

Here's the problem: when you use your company as a political soapbox, you alienate your customers. Period. HVAC is not partisan. Conservatives need furnaces repaired just as much as liberals do. But instead of building trust across the community, Kirchoff is effectively telling half the market: "I don't want your business." That's not bravery. That's self-sabotage.

And the consequences are not hypothetical. We've seen what happens when companies gamble on politics:

- Bud Light's Dylan Mulvaney campaign (2023): Alienated its core audience, sent sales plummeting, and became a case study in brand destruction.
- Gillette's "toxic masculinity" campaign (2019): Generated headlines but cost the company millions in lost revenue as customers walked away.
- Chick-fil-A (2012): Years of boycotts and protests turned what was once "just a chicken sandwich" into a political flashpoint.

The difference? Those are billion-dollar brands with global reach. They can survive a political backlash. A small HVAC company in mid-Michigan cannot.

Kirchoff's defenders will say he's "brave" for standing up for what he believes in. But bravery is irrelevant if it comes at the cost of your customers, your employees, and your business's survival. At the end of the day, homeowners don't call HVAC companies for lectures on politics. They call because their air conditioner broke in July. And many will never call All Star Mechanical again—not because of his service, but because of his mouth.

What Kirchoff is doing isn't heroism. It's hubris. He has confused activism with advertising, and in doing so, he risks dragging his company down a path from relevance to ridicule.

If Larry Kirchoff wants to be a political commentator, he should close his HVAC shop and buy a microphone. But if he wants to run a successful business, he needs to understand a simple truth: furnaces don't care who you voted for. And neither should the people hired to fix them.

Respectfully posted, Sal Clemenza

My response.

The furnace is political because the house is on fire By Larry Kirchoff, Owner of All Star Mechanical

To Sal Clemenza and those who think I should "stick to HVAC"—thank you for illustrating the very problem I was writing about.

Apparently, in 2025 America, repairing a furnace is supposed to come with a gag order. Apparently, I'm not allowed to hold a public opinion unless it's about BTUs or air filters. Apparently, if I want to keep the lights on, I have to turn off my conscience.

No thanks.

Let me say this plainly: I'm not confusing activism with advertising. I'm refusing to separate who I am from what I do.

I run a business. I also live in a country that feels increasingly unfamiliar—where book bans are back, where violent rhetoric is normalized, where actual seditionists run for office, and where being openly anti-fascist is now seen as "too political."

And Sal, I'm not just allowed to speak up in the face of that—I'm obligated to. As a citizen. As a father. As a business owner who still believes democracy is worth defending. Silence is what got us here. Indifference is what keeps us here.

Now, about the accusation that I'm "alienating" half my market: that's kind of the point.

I don't want the business of those who support a movement rooted in racism, authoritarianism, and insurrection. I wouldn't have fixed a furnace for a Nazi in 1940, and I'm not about to fix one for someone flying a "F*** Your Feelings" flag in 2025. That's not "hubris." That's a moral boundary.

If that costs me a few customers? So be it. Not all money is good money.

The truth is, I advertise the way I do to save us both time. If my values offend you, great—we don't need to waste each other's energy. That's the beauty of a free market: you're free to call someone else. I'm not running a charity, but I'm not running a cult of neutrality either.

Let me also correct a flawed premise in Sal's letter: the idea that HVAC—or any business—is ever "apolitical." That's a myth. Every dollar you spend is a vote. Every hiring decision, every supplier you work with, every ad you run—it all reflects a set of values, whether you admit it or not. I just happen to be honest about mine.

And let's stop pretending that "not taking a side" is somehow noble. In times of moral crisis, neutrality is a luxury of the comfortable. As Elie Wiesel once said, "We must take sides. Neutrality helps the oppressor, never the victim."

So yes, I fix furnaces. But I also believe in fixing the deeper rot in this country. I believe in using my platform—however small—to speak out, because too many others are playing it safe while the house burns down.

To those who still support my business: thank you. Your dollars don't just keep your home comfortable—they keep this conversation alive. And to those who don't? No hard feelings. Call someone else.

Because I'd rather be loud and lose business than stay silent and lose my soul.

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

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EASY TO STAY ON SOCIAL NETWORKS RUN BY ANTIDEMOCRATIC ACTIVISTS

SO MANY PEOPLE ARE ON HERE, IT MUST BE OKAY!

HARDER TO SWITCH TO AN INDEPENDENT ALTERNATIVE*

HMM... A SMALLER AUDIENCE, BUT LESS DISINFO AND NOT AS HITLERLY!

***BUT NOT ACTUALLY THAT HARD!**

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Neil Diamond musical makes East Lansing premiere

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Craig Ryan Fine Clothing opens Lansing location

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Bridge Street Social is bougie in the best way

Cover illustration by Nevin Speerbrecker

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THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW

**THE ROAD TO FASCISM
AMERICAN EDITION**
(FOLLOW THE HANDY ARROWS)

1. FOUR YEARS AFTER AN ATTEMPTED COUP, UNREPENTANT PRESIDENT IS RETURNED TO POWER.
WHAT THIS COUNTRY NEEDS IS A WANNABE DICTATOR IN CLEAR COGNITIVE DECLINE!

2. COMPLAINT CONGRESSIONAL MAJORITY EAGERLY SUBMITS TO HIS WILL.
IF THE PRESIDENT WISHES TO RULE WITH THE ABSOLUTE POWER OF ANCIENT MONARCHS--

3. SECRET STATE POLICE ARE EMPOWERED; NATIONAL GUARD OCCUPIES AMERICAN CITIES.
WE CAME TO CHEW BUBBLE GUM AND SHIT ON THE CONSTITUTION--

4. OPPOSITION PARTY REACTS SLUGGISHLY AT BEST.
DON'T TRY TO DISTRACT US FROM THE PRICE OF EGGS, MISTER PRESIDENT!

5. THE CONCEPT OF TRUTH ITSELF IS RELENTLESSLY UNDERMINED.
ANY CLIP YOU SEE OF ME RAMBLING INCOHERENTLY IS A.I.
SO IS THIS PRESS CONFERENCE YOU ARE WATCHING RIGHT NOW!

6. LEGACY MEDIA NORMALIZE ESCALATING TOTALITARIANISM.
--WRITTEN IN INVISIBLE INK! HEH HEH

7. FAR-RIGHT SUPREME COURT CONSISTENTLY RULES IN FAVOR OF AUTHORITARIAN LEADER.
TRUST US! WE HAVE ACCESS TO THE SECRET PARTS OF THE CONSTITUTION--

8. AND BEFORE YOU KNOW IT--CONGRATULATIONS! YOU'RE OFFICIALLY LIVING IN A FASCIST DYSTOPIA!
IT'S THE GREATEST DYSTOPIA ANYONE HAS EVER SEEN, MANY PEOPLE ARE SAYING!

9. NOW WHERE THE HELL IS MY NOBEL PEACE PRIZE?

10. OUR FOCUS GROUP LOVED THAT ONE!

11. NOTHING IS TRUE AND EVERYTHING IS POSSIBLE!

12. TRUMP RESTORES SLAVERY
President pushes limits of executive authority with bold new policy

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PULSE

NEWS & OPINION

Sink or swim

Media adapt to the Digital Era — but is it journalism?

Three months ago, Bruce Cornelius canceled his subscription to the Lansing State Journal.

“I hate to say it,” he said, “but there’s nothing there to read. It’s not a daily newspaper — it’s a two-day old newspaper when you first get it.”

Cornelius knows more about the Journal than most area residents: He was a photographer there from 1966 until 1983, when the paper had a circulation of over 75,000 on weekdays and nearly 100,000 on Sundays.

Statistics obtained from the Alliance for Audited Media show the Journal’s circulation in March was around 8,500 on weekdays, and around 11,000 Sundays. That includes digital-only subscriptions. Print is under 7,000 Sundays and below 5,000 during the week.

Its executive editor, Stephanie Angel, retired at the end of last week. Senior news editor Al Wilson is taking over her responsibilities.

The Journal is far from the only local media outlet going through changes. Local NPR and PBS affiliate WKAR laid off nine employees in June amid federal funding cuts, now losing \$1.6 million as the Corporation for Public Broadcasting prepares to shut down this month. It is continuing its strategic plan despite the cuts, balancing new strategies to reach social media users as it navigates decreased funds. Gray Media, which owns Channel 10/WILX, will acquire Fox 47 News this year pending regulatory approval, resulting in a duopoly in TV news. And in July, the Michigan Independent Media Group bought City Pulse, aiming to preserve its local character despite not being local to Lansing.

Local news is more important than ever. An Aug. 27 study conducted by the



Leo V. Kaplan/City Pulse

Bruce Cornelius holding an antiwar demonstration photo he took in 1970 for the Lansing State Journal, where he worked for 17 years. The retired photographer recently canceled his subscription.

Brechner Center for the Advancement of the First Amendment at the University of Florida found government secrecy increases where local news falters. And trust in local news has mostly weathered the “fake news” storm, with 71% of respondents to a 2024 Pew Research survey believing local media report news accurately.

However, the same survey found only 15% pay for that news, with most of those who don’t believing they can simply get it for free.

Tim P. Vos, Michigan State University Journalism School’s director, said that’s not a sustainable mentality.

“Research absolutely shows that people believe the news will find them,” he said. “So,

they feel like they don’t need to subscribe to a newspaper or even watch a newscast. If something important happens that affects them, their community, their country or the world, it will arrive in their social media feed or will get through in whatever way.”

“But if that’s the outlook everyone took,

there wouldn’t be a news media there when the time came to cover some big event,” he said. “The news will find you because we have a legacy enterprise of news-gathering, but that is being whittled away each and every year.”

A Pew Research survey said 23% of respondents got their news through social media, up from 15% in 2018. Only 9% still prefer print newspapers.

But social media is far from a modern equivalent to legacy media. Yes, users can “follow” news outlets as they would subscribe to a newspaper, but social media rely increasingly on engagement-focused algorithms to monopolize users’ attention. Print reporters write their stories knowing that they will be read by a consistent (if dwindling) audience. Social media creators drop their work like messages in bottles into the algorithmic sea, knowing it may reach millions — or none at all.

That algorithm is far from random. A 2025 study by computer science researchers at Cornell, University of Washington and University of California Berkeley found that “Twitter’s engagement-based algorithm amplifies emotionally charged, out-group hostile content that users say makes them feel worse about their polit-

ical out-group,” essentially ensuring users’ engagement by showing them content that enrages, rather than satisfies.

Even as WKAR tries to appeal to social media users, general manager Shawn Turner said it was with the goal of “bringing them down the funnel” and getting them exposed to traditional news “until you are meeting their needs for being informed citizens.”

In short, social media is no substitute for the traditional kind. So how are Lansing’s traditional media doing?

Lansing State Journal

When newspaper publisher Gannett acquired the Lansing State Journal in 1971, it said the Journal would keep its local autonomy. Cornelius said that didn’t quite happen.

“The joke of the newsroom was that they said you’re going to have local autonomy, and then they sent in six people from Gannett to make sure we kept our local autonomy,” he said, laughing. “Well, it wasn’t that bad, but you certainly felt the presence of Gannett.”

Today, Gannett’s model involves extensive sharing of articles among in-network newspapers, meaning much of the Journal’s material comes from the Detroit Free Press, USA Today and any number of other Gannett papers across the state and country. It means the daily, local paper is less local. And in recent years, it’s become less daily, too.

That’s not just because it ceased printing on Saturdays. One source said the Journal’s current deadline for print is 8:30 a.m. the day prior to publication, which would make sense given the paper’s oft-outdated content. For instance, the front page of Monday, Sept. 8’s Lansing State Journal edition contained two Detroit Free Press stories from Friday, Sept. 5, and one Lansing State Journal story from Sept. 4. Of 10 LSJ-original stories in the paper, all were from Sept. 6 or earlier save for one, which was published online

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Tim P. Vos, director of the Michigan State University School of Journalism

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at 4 a.m. Sept. 7. The oldest was from Sept. 2.

That doesn't just mean old news, but sometimes incorrect news as well. One article, published online Sept. 6, incorrectly referred to a "Wexford County man" in its digital headline, but was later updated to correctly refer to an "Antrim County man" before 8 a.m. Sept. 7. Despite this, the Sept. 8 paper ran the article with its original, incorrect headline a full day after it had been corrected online.

Rick Edmonds, media business analyst for the Poynter Institute for Media Studies, said the early deadline is "typical," both of Gannett papers and throughout the industry, as newspapers consolidate printing operations.

Mickey Hirten, former Journal executive editor and former associate publisher of City Pulse, said Gannett has essentially hollowed out the Journal.

"When I was there, we had three people covering the Capitol, we had a business desk with three or four people covering business, we had dozens and dozens of reporters and covered the community in-depth," he said. "Now they have four or five reporters covering nearly 500,000 people in the total metro area."

"If McDonald's operated the way Gannett has over the last 20 years, the hamburgers would be about the size of a quarter," he added.

Edmonds said that was typical as well, with Gannett's cuts becoming more vicious since its 2019 merger with GateHouse Media left it nearly \$1.8 billion in debt. It's down to around 8,900 employees in May, according to its website, from over 21,000 following the merger.

After the announcement two weeks ago that the Cox Enterprises-owned Atlanta



Leo V. Kaplan/City Pulse

WILX Channel 10 hopes to acquire Fox 47 News as part of a national deal between the two Lansing stations' owners. The efficiency move would reduce local competition for news.

Journal-Constitution in Georgia would become exclusively digital, does Edmonds think the Lansing State Journal is going in the same direction?

Despite print being on the decline, Edmonds said it still generates "a pretty decent share of the revenue." Gannett's annual report for 2024 backs that up: Approximately 85% of print circulation revenue comes from home delivery subscriptions in U.S. local markets, it says. That cost increased to \$50 a month in August for the Journal. So, while print will continue to decline, Gannett will likely continue to keep newspapers in print as long as doing so remains profitable, Edmonds said.

"The short answer is, it's headed that way eventually," he said. "But I wouldn't look for it anytime soon."

City Pulse

Michigan Independent Media Group bought the nearly 24-year-old local and free alternative weekly paper City Pulse in July. The for-profit group's out-of-

town organizers spent over two years raising funds through grants, gifts and investments first.

So far, little has changed. That's the plan, according to Lonnie Scott, CEO of Buried Lede Media LLC, which operates City Pulse for the group.

"We're not one of those conglomerates that are rushing in to gut the journalism, to change the impact or make these huge waves," he said. "Our model recognizes the importance of local journalism and the folks that have been creating City Pulse, the Yale Expositor or the Hamtramck Review."

Those are the three newspapers owned by the group, whose goal is to "preserve local journalism" to help avoid news deserts by helping local newspapers grow while maintaining their independence. The group plans to expand and create a state-wide network.

Scott said maintaining local focus was key to managing City Pulse. But Hirten said he was skeptical of whether new, out-of-city leadership would bring the entrepreneurial mindset that led City Pulse to succeed where others failed.

"At the Lansing State Journal, we had an alternative paper and it didn't work," he said. "We had a magazine, and it didn't work. But City Pulse works, and other magazines in the area work, because they've got entrepreneurs and managers who are really passionate and engaged."

"Berl has been doing this for 25 years now," he added, referring to City Pulse founder, editor and publisher Berl Schwartz, "in a difficult business and a difficult market. But he owned it and makes it work and makes it happen. So,

they might bring the expertise, but you're still going to need that 'I go to sleep at night thinking about the paper, I wake up in the morning thinking about the paper' mentality. And there's no real alternative to that."

Schwartz continues as editor and publisher but can step back to a part-time role under a one-year employment agreement.

Like the Journal, the paper's print circulation has declined, though mostly not due to digital's ascendance.

Most of its loss, from a high of 20,000 in 2012, resulted from Kroger and Meijer decisions to eliminate or curtail free newspaper distribution. Today, about 12,000 copies a week are picked up. Another 17,000 email subscribers receive City Pulse's replica edition every Wednesday, also free.

Eric Hamp, editor and publisher of the Houghton Lake Resorter and president of the Michigan Press Association, is the third-generation Hamp to hold his role. He expressed the importance of local ownership.

"Being part of your community is big," he said. "My children go to the schools that I cover. My coworkers live in the townships where the tax changes or lack of services I cover will affect them."

He advised City Pulse's new leadership to "focus on the community, focus on the people in that community and tell their stories."

Scott did not provide a specific answer when asked how he would preserve local flavor in Schwartz's absence, but he said it was a focus point.

"If we're being honest, that's one of the challenges that the Michigan Independent Media Group will face," he said. "What we're working

towards is making sure those local voices are still heard and the local stories are still included, and that the paper stays local in that way. That's certainly the model we're trying to establish."

But will readers still be able to pick up a copy of City Pulse in 10 years? Scott says, "Yes."

"I hope they can pick it up in more locations," he said.

WKAR and radio news

WKAR general manager Shawn Turner is aware that news consumers trust local news above national news. The difficulty is actually getting them to read, watch or listen to it.

"The biggest challenge for us is fig-

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CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN, INGHAM COUNTY LEGAL AD NOTICE: TEXT AMENDMENT #2025-07 PARKING LOT LANDSCAPING

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN LEGAL NOTICE Zoning Amendment #2025-07 (Parking Lot Landscaping)

The Township Board at its regular meeting on September 2, 2025 approved for introduction and subsequent adoption Ordinance 2025-07, an Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance of the charter Township of Meridian, Ingham County at to update the parking lot landscaping in the Township.

A complete copy of the amendment may be viewed at the Community Planning and Development office, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, Michigan 48864-1198 (phone 517-853-4560), between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Angela Demas
Township Clerk

CP#25-290

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uring out how we get in front of people who are interested in what's happening in the community but who aren't seeking the information in existing spaces where that information can find them," he said.

The NPR and PBS station is thus expanding its presence on social media platforms, including "cross-platform promotion" across television, radio and social media, even as it recoils from \$1.6 million in lost funding. WKAR's operating budget before the cuts was \$8.6 million.

In response to those cuts, Turner said WKAR will be present at fewer local events, create programming at a slower pace and rely more on freelancers following the nine layoffs. Even amid that scaling back, Turner is fully committed to the strategic plan.

That means increasing video offerings on YouTube and social media as well as recording all written stories in audio form. It also means other, more social media-friendly forms for stories, such as podcasts.

"These are all ways we're trying to get out of the broadcast-only mindset," he said.

Turner also said WKAR is expanding collaboration efforts with other media outlets in an effort to give listeners and viewers what it wants: "information that goes beneath the surface and really gets down into detail on some of the issues that impact communities."

Asked if he was worried that social media offerings would not offer the depth of WKAR's other reporting, Turner freely admitted social media offerings will be less substantial, but that it will help bring younger audiences into the fold.

"There's a long game here," he said. "If I have a thousand people following WKAR on Instagram, and they've never listened to or watched WKAR, but they're following me on Instagram, I have their attention. Now my job is to, over time, bring them on board."

Sources differed on whether competing for attention on social media is worth it, but former local radio host Tim Barron said the "engagement game" is nothing new.

"Great amounts of thought went into keeping your finger off the button and changing the channel," he said. "The engagement game has been going on forever."

It's good for radio fans that WKAR will keep broadcasting, because Barron said there aren't many private local radio stations left to tune in to for local news.

"So much has been replaced by the internet and social media," he said. "I don't know how many people tell me, 'All I look at is X anymore, I don't watch the TV.'"

Barron said waves of radio consolidation starting in the 1990s eventually resulted in most morning shows being outsourced.

"It used to be that this was someone, the morning guy," he said. "You might see him at the grocery store, or at church or out and about the community. Now, there's people beamed in from out of town. They're not local, they don't try to make it sound local, and they'll show up once in a while to make an appearance, but it's just not the same."

Kenneth MacDonald Jr. owns MacDonald Broadcasting, which operates eight Michigan radio stations, including four in Greater Lansing. He said radio is "alive and well," pointing to the news

team at 1320 WILS, which he emphasized is live and local.

"I think the perception from many people of radio is that it's dying, just like the newspaper industry has been accused of," he said. "I don't believe the newspaper industry is dying. It's just transitioned into digital forms, as we have."

That involves keeping all broadcasts digitally accessible, but MacDonald believes radio is not doing as poorly as advertisers think.

That's not just wishful thinking — 9% of respondents in the Pew Research survey said they prefer to get their local news on the radio, up from 8% in 2018.

TV

Despite facing its own struggles, the broadcast industry has managed to hold somewhat steady. Hirten said Lansing State Journal reporters once substantially outnumbered reporters at local news stations. That's no longer the case.

Sheri Jones, who just retired from a 37-year career as a reporter and longtime anchor on WLNS-TV. She said the TV market has been more adaptive.

"You have to adapt to whatever the market is telling you," Jones said. We are bringing in reporters now that we call multimedia journalists. They take the pictures, they send it to the social news desk, they do Facebook live videos when they get to the scene. They file their story online, they file it for the television station, and they also go live on TV."

Vos said print outlets rarely recruit MSU students, but broadcast groups come through "a number of times a year looking for talent."

"I think it's probably because there's a higher turnover," he said. "That's my interpretation. But they're pretty aggressive at recruiting, and our students are keyed into that."

Debbie Petersmark is the general manager of WILX-TV. She said she be-

lieves TV has "adapted to a multimedia world" more quickly than newspapers.

She noted that viewership has been declining since 2022, as per traditional ratings. However, she pointed out that ratings are less reliable indicators of success now, because they no longer account for online viewership. Much like WKAR, WILX is meeting people where they are.

"We're not naive enough to think that a 26-year-old who's newly married and working full time with a baby is going to tune in at 5 to watch the broadcast news," she said.

Petersmark said increased social media presence is not a substitute for traditional media, but a way to advertise it and increase brand recognition. She said short-form TikTok videos sometimes "go viral," garnering as many as 400,000 views. The aim is to increase recognition of the News 10 brand and its key anchors "so that when there is breaking news, when there is severe weather and people are searching for someone to rely on for information, that they've seen David and our brand on TikTok, and they say, 'Oh, that's my local news.'" David is David Andrews, a staple in local broadcasting since 1986.

But TV stations are struggling, too, forced to compete for a smaller slice of the advertising pie as big tech companies increase their market dominance. While traditional stations have demographic data to show advertisers, tech companies can show ads to users they're virtually certain are interested in a product.

That has led to a potential major change in the Lansing market. Gray Media, which owns WILX, would gain WSYM, better known as Fox 47 News, owned by E.W. Scripps Co. In turn, Scripps would receive a Gray-owned station in another Scripps market, creating an intentional duopoly, pending FCC approval. It's one of five such swaps the two companies hope to pull off in the name of

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Shawn Turner, general manager of WKAR Public Media

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efficiency.

"It's always an issue when there are fewer outlets in competition with each other," Vos said, calling it "another step away from that underlying regulatory logic that was built on diversity." Petersmark called it necessary amid slimmer advertising pickings.

The two stations have history. WILX and Fox 47 News made a content-sharing deal in 2004, when the latter outsourced its 5:30 and 10 p.m. newscasts to WILX. Fox News 47 still sold its own advertising, but it paid WILX a production fee. This deal remained until 2021, when Fox News 47 began pre-recording newscasts with reporters centered around specific communities that were interspersed with live

segments.

Petersmark said a plan is still being worked out for how the merger will look and whether WSYM will continue broadcasting on channel 47, but that newscasts will be live again and likely fall under an umbrella brand like "News 10."

Looking forward

Even as legacy media dwindles, others are cropping up. Digital-only, nonprofit local newsrooms are on the rise. East Lansing's own, East Lansing Info, has been operating since 2014, providing the types of news residents might otherwise miss from decreased coverage of city council meetings and policy discussions.

"Local news is making a comeback," said Beth Peck, East Lansing Info's former executive director.

"The big national news cycle can be very overwhelming for some people, and

I think being updated on your local community feels more manageable," Peck said.

She said nonprofit news increased "buy-in from the community" because "it's run by a board of directors that are typically all local citizens volunteering their time."

The outlook is far from rosy. Robert Kolt, a former TV reporter and longtime president and CEO of Kolt Communications, which has represented both the city of Lansing and the Lansing School District, said recent interactions with print journalists have been dreary.

"The corporations have continued to squeeze every penny out of local journalism," he said. "I think it's really affected the journalists you deal with.

Boy, if they're a newspaper reporter, they just seem to be kind of depressed right now."

But it's also not over for legacy media. It's just changing.

Asked if he expects the Journal will survive another 10 years, Cornelius said he wasn't sure, but that he encouraged people to stay engaged and seek out trustworthy sources.

"I just know that we're right in the middle of a maelstrom," he said. "We're sorting things out between the internet and newspapers, we're just trying to figure out

how to get our news and who to trust. And right now, finding somebody that we can trust is kind of falling by the wayside."



Debbie Petersmark,
general manager of
WILX News 10

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REWIND

NEWS HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE LAST 7 DAYS

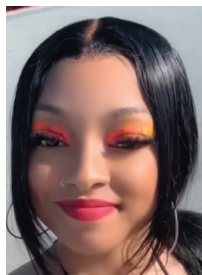
COMPILED BY STEVE UNDERWOOD FROM LOCAL NEWS SOURCES



The City of Lansing and the International Association of Fire Fighters Local 421 reached a deal that will reduce health care costs for retirees, which had risen from \$500 to \$900 a month. The union filed a grievance alleging the city misinterpreted a 2013 contract in its legal review this year and withdrew its endorsement of Mayor Andy Schor for this year's mayoral race. Schor said the rising costs affected 65 employees who retired between 2014 and 2021 under a contract that required them to pay all costs over the state-mandated hard cap. The new deal, retroactive to July 1, will limit annual health care increases for retirees to 5% of the total cost.



The Lansing Branch of the NAACP condemned the City of East Lansing's proposed changes to Ordinance No. 1533, saying it significantly reduces the power of the city's Independent Police Oversight Commission, jeopardizing the safety and well-being of its citizens. A press release stated the changes would remove the commission's right to investigate or contribute to any disciplinary action until the Police Department has concluded its own investigations of citizens' complaints of possible malfeasance of officers. Citizens complained that officers used "excessive force" when dealing with students of color, including pepper-spraying them and visitors, during MSU's welcome week in August.

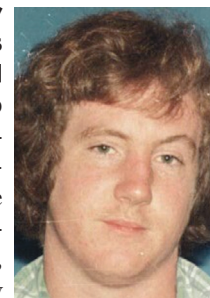


Lansing officials are investigating how artist P.B. Yanna obtained access to the city's fire station at Shiawassee Street and Grand Avenue on Aug. 31 to record a music video. She then posted her performance, which took place on the roof of the station, to her Instagram and Facebook accounts. An anonymous letter sent to the Lansing City Council and City Pulse alleges she may have violated workplace safety rules and regulations with the Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Administration. Yanna told WLNS News that she did the shoot in cooperation with Fire Department officials, whom she did not name. City spokesman Scott Bean said Mayor Schor is also working to create an executive order to prevent such use of city facilities in the future.



Ingham County Circuit Judge Rosemarie Aquilina sentenced Christopher Palazzolo of Williamston, 44, to 40 to 80 years in prison for torture and domestic violence in the 2021 death of his wife, Elise Palazzolo. A medical examiner said she died from an overdose of prescription drugs but was unable to determine the manner of her death. A jury convicted Palazzolo in July after a lengthy investigation uncovered years of physical and psychological abuse.

Meridian Township Police said they have identified Sean Patrick McNulty as a suspect in a 1994 home invasion and sexual assault cold case and tied him to crimes in multiple states. Forensic evidence linked him to that case, but the investigation remained cold until DNA evidence was matched to samples from cases in Birmingham, Michigan, and Columbus, Ohio, in 2005, leading to a joint investigation by police. McNulty, a native of Ventura, California, died by suicide in 1997 after being charged in connection with a home invasion and sexual assault in Bloomington, Indiana.



Al Wilson is the new executive editor of the Lansing State Journal, replacing Stephanie Angel, who has retired after 12 years in the position. Angel spent 27 of her 35 years in journalism at the LSJ. She also served as editor of the Journal's Greater Lansing Woman monthly magazine. Wilson had been the senior local news editor since 2022 and spent most of his 35 years in journalism at the LSJ and Lansing Community Newspapers.



James D. Smiertka, 79, who served as Lansing's city attorney under four different mayors, died Aug. 22 in Grand Rapids. He was appointed twice to lead the City Attorney's Office, first by then-Mayor David Hollister in 1994. He continued under Hollister's successor, Tony Benavides, until 2004. Then Smiertka returned in 2016 under then-Mayor Virg Bernero and continued under Mayor Schor until retiring last year. He practiced law for more than 50 years in both the public and private sectors.



SOE OF THE WEEK



1220 E. Cesar E. Chavez Ave. Lansing

This long-abandoned market on Cesar E. Chavez Avenue at Farrand Street is one of 10 properties owned by landlord Christian Nwobu that appear on the red-tag list obtained from the City of Lansing last month.

Nwobu appeared in the Michigan 54A District Court July 28, when Judge Tony Flores issued him \$500 fines for each of eight properties he owns that were out of compliance with city code. Flores gave him 30 days to bring them up to code, but as of his next court date this week, seven of them were still not in compliance, WLNS News reported. Nwobu asked Flores for 60 more days, but he refused. Instead, he will be fined again after the next 30-day period. Flores said a case like this can result in the city fixing up the properties and charging the owner.

Meanwhile, Nwobu and his wife, Gloria, owe over \$200,000 delinquent property taxes that he needs to pay to receive a rental license, said Ingham County Deputy Treasurer Rachel Piner. She added that \$21,902.06 is owed just for the Cesar E. Chavez property, including \$1,805 in trash removal and code violations.

Nwobu purchased the 3,420-square-foot market, built in 1926, in 2021 from Ghulam and Sufia Sumbal. Once a Sav-Mor grocery store, a previous owner remodeled it in 1962. Later it was part of the Big Star Supermarket chain.

— STEVE UNDERWOOD

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

The abundance of so-called red-tagged houses peppered throughout Lansing neighborhoods is a perennial thorn in the side of city leaders, who have struggled for decades to figure out the secret sauce that will compel the owners of unsafe housing to fix their properties.

Nearly 20 years ago, the city implemented a \$150 monthly fee (now \$165) to support more frequent inspections of delinquent properties by housing enforcement staff. City leaders hoped the new monitoring fee would also provide a meaningful financial incentive for property owners to expedite repairs of unsafe homes. While it's difficult to assess whether the monitoring fee has delivered its intended results — after all, the city still has hundreds of red-tagged properties — we do know that the fee, at least in some cases, has had the effect of punishing responsible property owners even while they are making a bona fide effort to fix their tagged properties.

A case in point, as City Pulse reported two weeks ago, is that of Dale Schrader, a local preservationist. Schrader has invested \$150,000 over the last 30 months restoring a red-tagged home on Seymour Avenue — yet the city keeps fining him the \$165 monthly monitoring fee.

We think it's time to rethink the monitoring fee. Holding the fees in abeyance while renovations are underway makes good sense, provided that the property owner can prove they are completing the necessary work.

Of course, that will require the city's long-beleaguered code compliance staff to spend the time needed to review paperwork submitted by owners concerning their work in progress and to physically inspect the tagged properties — Schrader said he is unaware of any actual

“monitoring” — to verify that the progress claimed by the owner is happening. Unscrupulous property owners

will always try to find ways to game the system by pulling permits then doing as little work as possible, hoping they can fly under the radar, yet it should be possible to devise a workable system that enables the city to sort out the good actors from the bad.

If our math is correct, the current monitoring fees generate nearly a million dollars each year, but we suspect those funds are used primarily to support the usual caseload of routine property inspections and rental certifications rather than a focused program that monitors the progress of repairs on red-tagged properties, which was the original intent of the fee.

Mayor Andy Schor recently said he supports waiving the fees when property owners are making legitimate progress, but that the City Council has insisted on collecting the fees regardless of the circumstances. Council President Ryan Kost noted last month that he plans to take a closer look at this issue next year. While we're encouraged that he recognizes the need for reforms, we see no reason to wait and urge Kost and his colleagues to get to work on it.

Cracking the code of compliance

The CP Edit

Opinion

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Beware 'harmful anti-voter petitions'

Letter to the editor

Petitions are being circulated in the Lansing area by “Americans for Citizens Voting — Michigan” and “Committee to Protect Voters' Rights.”

These harmful anti-voter petitions would make it more difficult for eligible U.S. citizens to vote, primarily by requiring documentary proof of citizenship for voter registration. The League of Women Voters of Michigan and the League of Women Voters Lansing Area strongly oppose them.

Do not be fooled by the petitions' misleading names. State and federal laws already prohibit non-citizens from voting. These proposals bring unnecessary red tape, making it more difficult for all of us to register to vote.

If you see these petitions, decline to sign! Petition circulators can legally say anything to get signatures. Always read the fine print.

In recent years, Michigan voters overwhelmingly approved ballot measures that have modernized our elections, improved access to the ballot box and advanced our voting rights. Let's not derail our progress. We must keep our elections free and fair.

We say NO to deceitful anti-voter petitions that will silence our voices.

Kathy Petroni
President
League of Women Voters
of Lansing Area

In the absence of solutions, we are getting half-baked ideas

On the set of the long-running public television series “Off The Record” several days ago, host Tim Skubick was talking up the number of hits the online version of the prior week’s show with independent gubernatorial candidate Mike Duggan had received.

The number was around 10,000. Those are great numbers for the show. He said it was about as many as the previous high-water mark — an episode with rocker/hunter/firearms enthusiast Ted Nugent.

To prove this was a big jump, Skubick asked the producer how many hits the Aug. 15 edition with Karla Wagner from AxMITax — the petition effort to eliminate property taxes — had received.

“That’s probably not the best comparison, Tim,” the producer said back to him. “That one got 66,000. The most we’ve ever seen.”

Whoops.

Here’s another related story. This week, the Michigan House Democrats teamed up with the League of Conser-



POLITICS

vation Voters on the “Ratepayers Bill of Rights.” It’s a bunch of reforms that revolve around a central theme: Electricity rates are too high. The service is unreliable.

Meanwhile, the fat cats in the corporate world get fatter. State government isn’t holding Consumers, DTE and the rest of the utilities accountable because they’re all such generous political contributors.

The progressive activists behind this “Our Bills Are Too Damn High” coalition look a lot like the coalition that wants to end political contributions from utilities and any other company with at least one \$250,000 contract with the state.

It works out to nearly 1,000 entities. AxMITax and the Ratepayers Bills of Rights seem to be the opposite side of the political spectrum, right?

One wants to pay the government less. The other wants a lower utility bill.

In that way, the two are very similar. They’re both raw, populist and functionally questionable proposals that speak more to frustrations than real solutions.

Without property taxes, funding

local schools, police and fire public safety at current levels is impossible. An honest Republican will tell you that.

On the flip side, banning political donations from a certain class of people is an unconstitutional freedom of speech issue.

Try telling that to someone who is venting. Probably not worth the time.

It’s not hard to see why folks are pissed off beyond reason.

Building a new house is financially challenging. Few adults 35 and younger can afford to buy a home, period, let alone build one.

Prices on everything are going up. A good, affordable used car is hard to find. Wages are stagnant or otherwise not keeping up. Property values are going way up, which is great if you’re selling and moving into a tent.

The lakeside summer homes that our parents or grandparents somehow afforded? That’s \$1 million, please.

Meanwhile, folks are becoming disillusioned with political parties.

Which party is for the working class, again? Both rely on corporate and special interest money to spin their messages about “fighting for you.”

You could look to the media for

guidance, but confidence in traditional media is at record lows. Folks are feeling agitated and abandoned.

It’s not necessarily a partisan thing. The rich are getting richer to the detriment of everyone else.

What we’re seeing are conservative Republicans and progressive Democrats trying to harness this energy going into the 2026 mid-term elections using their traditional talking points.

For Republicans, it’s convincing people that they’re not as well off as 10 years ago because taxes are too high. We need to get rid of property taxes, or income taxes, or government, or all three.

For Democrats, it’s convincing people that they’re not as well off as 10 years ago because corporate utilities are getting away with one unjustifiable rate increase after another.

Neither party is really offering solutions — just text messages for more money, endless emails and a lot of noise.

In the void, we get this: half-baked ideas that sound great ... unless you’re the one in charge of making it work.

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

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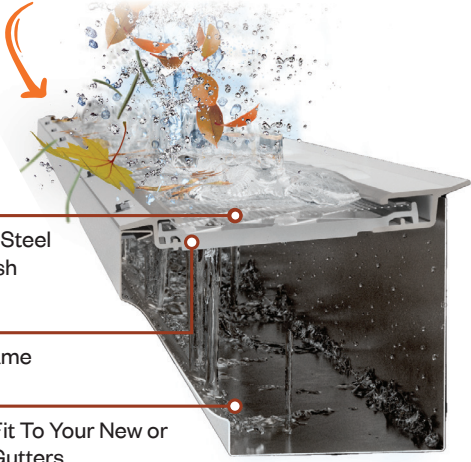


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ARTS & CULTURE

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'American Idol' winner brings Neil Diamond's life story, greatest hits to Wharton stage

By KURT ANTHONY KRUG

Nick Fradiani — the 2015 winner of "American Idol" — doesn't remember his first concert, but it has become more significant to his life than many others he does recall.

"My father's a big Neil Diamond fan. He's also a musician," Fradiani, 39, said. "We saw him in Connecticut. I don't remember it at all. As a musician, you always want to know what your first concert was. I remember my dad telling me, 'When you were 3, we took you to see Neil Diamond.'"

Fradiani is the lead in the national tour of "A Beautiful Noise," the Neil Diamond musical, playing a young version of the acclaimed singer-songwriter. The Broadway hit makes its East Lansing premiere next week at Michigan State University's Wharton Center.

"It's definitely a full-circle moment," Fradiani said. "Not one that I remember, but my dad finds it pretty wild that it happened."

Created in collaboration with Diamond himself, the plot of "A Beautiful Noise" (named after his 1976 album) finds a present-day Diamond (Tony nominee Robert Westenberg) talking to his therapist. As they speak, Diamond flashes back to his younger days, from his boyhood in New York City to his rise to stardom as a young man.

Diamond, 84, has been performing since 1962. Known for hits like "America," "Forever in Blue Jeans," "Heartlight" and the iconic "Sweet Caroline," he's sold more than 130 million records worldwide, making him one of the best-selling musicians of all time.

He's been inducted into the Songwriters and Rock & Roll halls of fame and received the Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award in 2018. He made his film debut in 1980's "The Jazz Singer," which starred Hollywood legend Laurence Olivier.

"When Neil and I first started talking about making a musical using his music, I knew how daunting that would be," producer Bob Gaudio said. "With



Photo by Jeremy Daniel

Nick Fradiani (center) plays a young version of Neil Diamond in the national tour of "A Beautiful Noise."

'Jersey Boys,' I learned how vital it is to have a first-rate creative team making sure everything weaves together. We have that on 'A Beautiful Noise': an incisive book that tells Neil's story honestly, fantastic choreography, one of the best directors on Broadway guiding the entire production and, of course, Neil's iconic songs."

When asked what attracted him to "A Beautiful Noise," Fradiani said the answer is "all over the place."

"Neil was a big part of my childhood. We listened to his Christmas albums. My dad used to watch 'The Jazz Singer.' So, I had these memories of him," he said.

After completing a national tour of "A Bronx Tale" from 2019 to 2020, Fradiani fell in love with acting and developed a fascination with musical theater. When he learned about "A Beau-

tiful Noise," he messaged his agent and expressed interest in playing Diamond. However, Broadway vet Will Swenson was cast in the role.

"Months and months later, my agent told me, 'I know you've been interested in this musical. They're looking for an understudy. I'm not sure if that's what you want to do.' I'm like, 'Hey, just get me in the room,'" Fradiani said. "They got me into the room, and I booked the understudy, which became the alternate on Broadway. I went on once a week, then twice a week for the first year. I took over the role in the second year."

In his early performances as Diamond, Fradiani likened himself to "a deer in headlights."

"I sometimes overdid my interpretation of him. I didn't want it to become a hokey impersonation. I think I was trying too hard," he said.

He found that as he loosened up a little, his impersonation became more

believable.

"I was able to find my own voice within his voice," he said. "One of the big things in all the reviews is how similar my vocals are. I'm not trying to put on a Neil Diamond voice anymore. Now that I've done it, it's in my bones, in my blood."

When the Broadway production closed in the summer of 2024, Fradiani transitioned to headlining the national tour.

"It's been an amazing experience. I think I've played the role over 800 times now, which is kind of crazy, but I still have that love for it. I still get really excited about it," he said.

Fradiani has spoken to Diamond many times since he became the lead.

"Every little detail I tried to find out about him, I did," Fradiani said. "It was cool that he got to see me perform for the first time in Hollywood. He's only seen the musical three times: once in Boston, once on Broadway, once at the Pantages (in Hollywood). For him to see it and for us to talk a while definitely made this whole experience worth it for me."

Fradiani is looking forward to performing at Wharton.

"We're really excited," he said. "This is the start of the second year, so East Lansing is one of our first shows in this new year. I think we'll still have our entire company from the first year in East Lansing."

"For a few people, it's their final show, so it'll probably be very emotional for us," he continued. "Still, it's a new start. It'll be a great time."

During the last three and a half years with the show, Fradiani has formed some lifelong friendships.

"I think I'm the only one left from the pre-Broadway run to year two of the national tour," he said. "One thing I've noticed going from city to city is the love people have for Neil Diamond and for this musical. When people hear this music, you can see them go back to this place in their lives. You see a lot of them crying happy tears at the end. I think the biggest thing for me is seeing how happy this music makes people. It's just a great vibe all the way around."

"A Beautiful Noise"

Tuesday, Sept. 16–Sept. 21
7:30 p.m. Tuesday–
Saturday
2 p.m. Saturday
1 and 6:30 p.m. Sunday
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Great Hall
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whartoncenter.com



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TURN IT DOWN!

Loud dispatches from Lansing's music scene

BY RICH TUPICA

SONIC SEPTEMBER



Courtesy photos

Jessey Adams (left) and La La Delivery are both booked on stacked local bills this month.

Five Greater Lansing shows to keep on your radar this month

Whether you're in the mood for an intimate songwriters' round, a precision recreation of one of rock's most infamous breakup albums or a sweaty night of guitars at Mac's Bar, there's no shortage of solid sounds in Lansing this month. Here are five quick picks to consider.

La La Delivery & friends
Friday, Sept. 12 at The Avenue Café
2021 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing
facebook.com/avenuecafe2021

Friday nights at The Avenue have always carried a certain unpredictability, and this one leans hard into Lansing's love of loud guitars. **La La Delivery**, one of the city's most reliable purveyors of dreamy

indie rock, takes the helm for a bill that doubles as a Lansing-Detroit summit.

On the home side, **Leisure** delivers soft-punk grooves that could easily get the group signed by K Records tomorrow. From Detroit, **Past Dog Beach** layers gothic vocals with post-punk riffs, while **Dyzio-ek** pushes things into a moodier, loner-folk songwriter territory.

'Soul of a Songwriter':
Jessey Adams & friends
Saturday, Sept. 13 at UrbanBeat
1213 Turner St., Lansing
urbanbeatevents.com

This Saturday, UrbanBeat is goin' country with a Nashville-style writers' round

— a format where the songs stand bare, stripped of production and pushed into the spotlight. **Jessey Adams**, a Michigan native with a fast-rising profile, anchors the evening, joined by **Waylon Hanel**, **Jenna Kay**, **Ryan Scott** and **Leah Williams**.

Adams is the kind of artist who's rooted in the classic outlaw country tradition but sharpened with a modern sensibility. Her songs are cut with honesty and wanderlust. She's already opened for Dierks Bentley and Sunny Sweeney, taken top honors at the Pensacola Beach Songwriters Festival and snagged the Michigan State Fair Superstar competition. Her latest single, "Old Appalachia," folds small-town storytelling into a sound custom-made for crackly pick-up truck speakers but big enough for neon honky-tonks.

Accolades aside, the draw of this event is intimacy. The round format has each artist sharing stories and trading verses, revealing the process as much as the product.

'Four on the Floor:
A Rock 'n' Roll Harvest'
Saturday, Sept. 20 at Mac's Bar
2700 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing
facebook.com/macsbarmus

There's something timeless about a four-band bill at Mac's Bar: sticky floors, cheap drafts and an audience packed shoulder-to-shoulder for local rock. The "Rock 'n' Roll Harvest" roster lives up to its name, gathering a crop of regional bands for a night that's more sweat lodge than showcase.

Headlining is the **Sean Anthony Sullivan Band**, a Lansing act known for mixing Michigan grit with plenty of barroom swagger.

"My true driving force in learning guitar at a young age was to further my songwriting," Sullivan told City Pulse. "Artists like Jackson Browne, Warren Zevon, Steve Earle, Springsteen, Seger and Bob Dylan enamored me. Those artists could write poetry and tell a story in an unshakeable and intimate fashion. They could make you feel the words within and the emotions behind

those songs."

Also on the bill is another heartland rock unit, **Brian Lisik & the Immoral Standards**. The outfit brings a dose of Akron-bred rock 'n' roll storytelling, the kind of rustic rock sensibility that never goes stale. Rounding out the lineup is **Lie.**, a five-piece West Michigan-based ensemble with dual lead guitars and striking group harmonies, and **Two-Body Problem**, a Lansing band that's honing a self-described blend of "rock, academic nonsense, funk, folk, jam, pop and everything else."

Classic Albums Live performs
Fleetwood Mac's 'Rumours'
Sept. 27 at Wharton Center's Pasant Theatre
750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing
whartoncenter.com

The Wharton Center keeps the music flowing later in the month with a tribute to a classic rock staple: Fleetwood Mac's "Rumours." Released in 1977 as love affairs, breakups and substances swirled around the band, it became one of the biggest blockbusters in rock history. **Classic Albums Live**, a cover concert production company, specializes in bringing this sonic majesty back to life with forensic attention to detail.

Selling over 40 million copies worldwide, "Rumours" remains among the top 10 best-selling albums of all time. Rolling Stone ranked it seventh on its list of the 500 greatest albums of all time, and Pitchfork once called it "merely perfect."

What makes "Rumours" endure isn't just the pristine production or Stevie Nicks' ethereal presence — it's the emotional rawness baked into every groove. Lindsey Buckingham snarling through "Go Your Own Way," Christine McVie pouring her heart into "Songbird," and the band locking into the ominous, anthemic thunder of "The Chain."

Classic Albums Live's approach is simple: no wigs, no costumes, no gimmicks, just a group of top-tier musicians playing

See Turn It Down, Page 16



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1210 Turner St. Lansing



WED SEPT 17
UrbanBeat Stage
FREE KICK OFF CONCERT



Tom Duffield & Friends

THUR 18
UrbanBeat Stage
BENEFIT CONCERT FOR KIDZBEAT



Jeff Baldori Blues Band

FRI SEPT 19
South Stage
Blue Avenue Delegates

A long-standing Michigan-based rhythm and blues cover band, known for their extensive repertoire and live performances without setlists. They were formed in 1980 in Lansing, played regular Monday night gigs at The Green Door for 15 years, and have opened for artists like Ray Charles.



SAT SEPT 20
South Stage
John Németh

John Németh is an American electric blues and soul harmonicaist, singer, and songwriter. He has received five Blues Music Awards for *Soul Blues Male Artist*, *Soul Blues Album*, *Traditional Blues Album of the Year*, *Instrumentalist – Vocals and Instrumentalist – Harmonica*. He has recorded ten albums since 2002, having also backed Junior Watson, Anson Funderburgh and Elvin Bishop. He has opened for Robert Cray, Keb' Mo', and Earl Thomas.



FRI SEPT 20 • SAT SEPT 21

JOHN NÉMETH • JEFF BALDORI BLUES BAND
TWYLA BIRDSONG • VINCENT HAYES • GREG NAGY
BLUE AVENUE DELEGATES • TINY ISLAND BLUES BAND
SUNNY BLEAU & THE MOONS • GAVIN McDONNELL
KATHLEEN & THE BRIDGE STREET BAND • ANN BELL
MANDALYN & THE HUNTERS • THE LYNX BLUES BAND
FROG AND THE BEEFTONES • JUST MAGNETIC
BIG B & THE ACTUAL PROOF • GENERATOR BLUES
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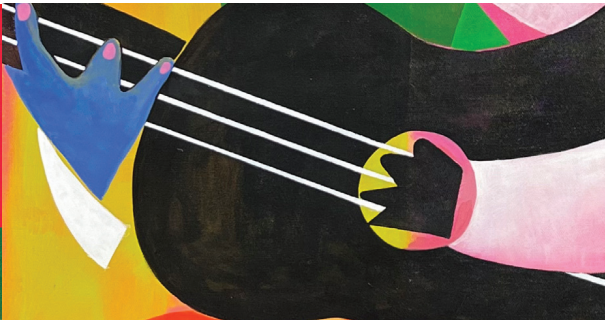
AFTERGLOW › at UrbanBeat at 10:30pm-12:30pm *Limited Seating*

TICKET INFORMATION Buy online at micharts.org or on-site.

WEDNESDAY KICK OFF CONCERT is free (limited seating)

THURSDAY BENEFIT CONCERT *suggested donation*

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY One-Day \$15 GA | Two-Days \$25 GA | \$50 VIP



GREG NAGY

FRI • SEPT 19 | 7:30pm South Stage

Greg Nagy is a unique, soulful, compelling, and powerful performer whose records have garnered the praise of industry heavies and his live shows are not to be missed! A multi-faceted artist in the most classic sense, his songwriting, singing, and guitar playing beautifully reveal Nagy's personalized music refreshingly and honestly infused with elements of soul, r&b, rock, and gospel.



MANDALYN & THE HUNTERS

FRI • SEPT 19 | 8:30pm North Stage

With her 3rd Place finish at the 2024 International Blues Competition, Mandalyn has proven to be a tremendous force in the world of blues, enthraling listeners with her powerful storytelling and soul-stirring performances. Her songs remind us of the blues' timeless capacity to touch our souls and mend our hearts, and they stand as a tribute to that power. Her new breakout single "WRECKED" is a sultry mix of powerhouse vocals, crying strats, and an overall seductive blues sound that will leave you breathless.



JUST MAGNETIC

FRI • SEPT 19 | 9:00pm UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner

2025 CABS BluesBrawl Champion and People's Choice award winner, Just Magnetic is a high-energy blues rock band based out of Lansing. A foot-stomping 4 piece, a smooth groove, catchy hooks and soaring guitar solos are staples of Just Magnetic sound. Blues artist Greg Nagy called the new album "raw, gritty and organic!"



BIG B & THE ACTUAL PROOF

SAT • SEPT 20 | 5:30pm South Stage

Big B and the Actual Proof are an inspired fusion of modern blues, film noir soundtracks, and psychedelic rock. 2021 Capital Area Blues Society Band Challenge Winners, their original music features dynamic arrangements fueled by powerful, emotional guitar clear, convincing vocals, wailing saxophone, jazzy, atmospheric keys and a rhythm section that booms, rattles and shakes.



TWYLA BIRDSONG

SAT • SEPT 20 | 7:30pm South Stage

Twyla's rich, resonant voice strikes a balance between diva and divine, connecting her with audiences through the soul of her song and her presence on stage. The force that is Ms Birdsong, bears a striking resemblance to distinguishable female vocalists before her with the same synergy between self and song. Billie Holiday, Aretha Franklin, Ella Fitzgerald, Etta James - women who fill your hearts with their voice.



SUNNY BLEAU & THE MOONS

SAT • SEPT 20 | 8:30pm South Stage

Sunny Bleau and The Moons is a band from Oxford, Michigan, led by vocalist Sunny Bleau (Kelly Brock) and guitarist/composer/producer Nicholas Cocco. They perform jazz, blues, blues rock, traditional blues, and acoustic blues. Since 2021, they have released four full-length studio albums and multiple singles, receiving positive press and radio play. They perform over 60 shows per year across multiple states.



VINCENT HAYES

SAT • SEPT 20 | 9:00pm UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner

Hayes is a smart guy with a fresh approach to songwriting from which other lyricists would do well to draw inspiration. His solos and vocals are impassioned and burn with the heat of a man who has walked through fire, and his fat Fender tones and flowing fretwork conjures the spirit of Stevie Ray, the way Stevie tipped his hat to Albert King and Lonnie Mack."



MICA
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FOR CONTEMPORARY ART

The mission of the Michigan Institute for Contemporary Art, a 501(c)3 nonprofit, is to create spaces where people can come together, meet old friends, and make new friends, and to serve as a catalyst for positive community transformation through the arts.

MICA's year around exhibitions in the visual arts and programs in music, performance, film, and literature provide opportunities to entertain, educate, and inspire. For more, see micharts.org.

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CityPULSE

Bryan Gruley mixes love of hockey into newest novel

By **BILL CASTANIER**

Bryan Gruley is a writer's writer. He had a successful career as a journalist, starting at small-town newspapers before jumping to The Wall Street Journal, where he shared a Pulitzer Prize for the publication's coverage of 9/11.

Following his retirement, Gruley began writing mystery books — a genre that many attempt to break into, but few succeed. His most recent book, "Bitterfrost," is a challenging and complex mystery featuring hockey as a major plot element.

One constant in Gruley's life is that he has always played amateur hockey, beginning in his school years. Today, he plays pickup games and is a member of a league at Traverse City's Centre Ice Arena.

One of the main characters in the book, Devyn Payne, is a woman hockey player who earned a law degree at the University of Michigan before returning to her small northern Michigan hometown of Bitterfrost to work as an attorney. She's just as effective with her legal briefs as she is with her slapshots.

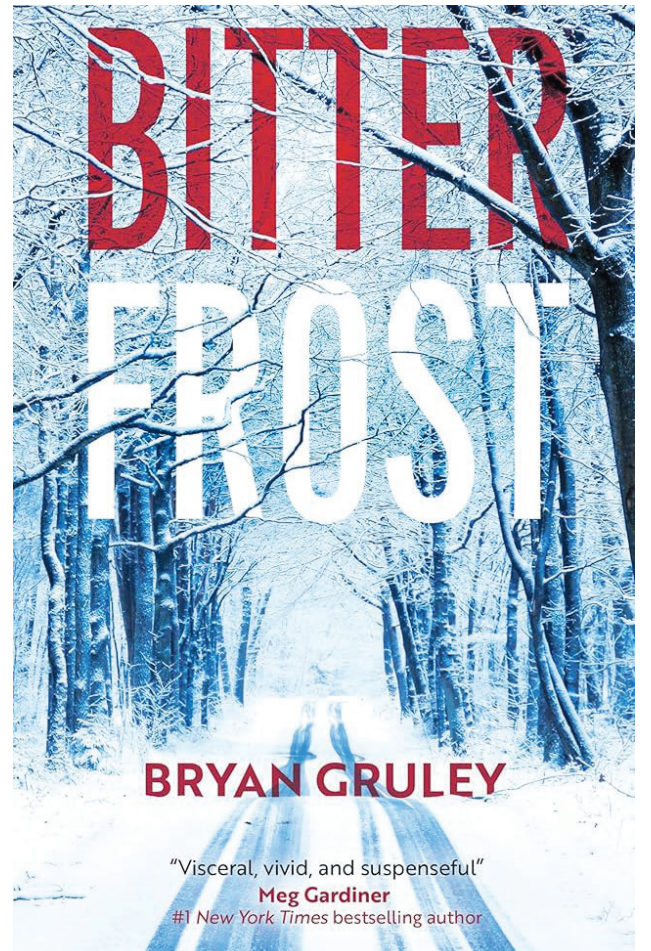
As I read the book, it reminded me of the West Coast writer and showrunner Michael Connelly, who successfully integrated strong, interesting and resourceful women into his Harry Bosch mystery series.

Payne's mother owns Bitterfrost's minor league hockey team and skating rink, which is beloved in the community. However, that love is challenged



Courtesy photo

Traverse City author Bryan Gruley takes a break from skating with the Drunken Clammers, a Florida hockey club.



"Visceral, vivid, and suspenseful"
Meg Gardiner
#1 New York Times bestselling author

when Jimmy Baker, the rink's Zamboni driver, becomes embroiled in a double murder. Baker is a former minor league hockey player who seriously injured a competitor in an on-ice brawl.

Gruley said the plot involves a true-crime case from northern Michigan and a "violent altercation" that occurred during an NHL game in 2004.

"My mysteries are rooted in some real-world situations," he said.

Inspired by the book "Darker Than Night," by fellow journalist and Michigan native Tom Henderson, Gruley borrowed from a notorious murder case that occurred in the Mio area in 1985, when two deer hunters from lower Michigan were killed after hassling a waitress in a bar. Two brothers were convicted in 2003 when an eyewitness came forward, although the bodies were never found.

Gruley even used nearly the exact

words of the real-life witness in his book: "You are going to get me killed."

In "Bitterfrost," Gruley deftly keeps the reader guessing about who is trying to frame Baker and why. There are plenty of switchbacks and false trails, including at Baker's murder trial.

The author said he not only loves writing about hockey but also about small-town "stuff," having lived in and covered small towns in his career as a journalist.

"I gravitated toward writing about small towns and their small-town grudges and small-town politics," he said.

For him, the hardest thing about writing "Bitterfrost" was getting it done.

"I don't outline, and early on, I put so many balls in the air that I didn't know what was going to happen," he said.

As an example, early in "Bitterfrost," he paints Baker, the suspected killer, as an inveterate "grammar Nazi," which at the time was going to be a throwaway.

"As I got near the end of the book, I figured I could use that and went back to the beginning and did some reworking," he said. As a result, grammar becomes a pivotal element of the murder trial — very Sherlockian.

"As I write a book, I have to feel my way through and figure out what I am going to do with all the problems I created three months earlier," Gruley said.

Not all loose ends are tied up in the book, but the author said that's "real life."

As "Bitterfrost" skates to a successful and violent surprise ending, you'll be thinking about a sequel, which Gruley said he's in the process of writing.

ART BY NEVIN

As Seen On the Cover of CityPulse

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Turn it Down

from page 13

the record front to back, note for note, cut for cut. For longtime fans, it's the closest you'll get to experiencing Fleetwood Mac in its turbulent prime.

Rio Da Yung OG

Sept. 30 at Grewal Hall

224 S. Washington Square, Lansing

hall224.com

(All tickets purchased for Feb. 25, 2025, will be honored)

Flint's Rio Da Yung OG doesn't bother with radio polish. His tracks are jagged, blunt-force dispatches from the street, delivered with a stamina that's made him one of Michigan rap's most prolific voices. Since his first songs surfaced in 2017, he's dropped music at a breakneck pace, stacking tapes, collabs and full-length LPs.

By 2019, he was laying down tracks with

hometown ally RMC Mike on "Dum and Dumber Too," an LP that cemented his no-frills style. A year later, he released his first studio album, "City on My Back," which expanded his reach with features by Detroit artists Icewear Vezzo and Babyface Ray. His grind didn't slow: 2021 brought "Murder Mitten Babies" with Baby Zeek, plus the group project "Back from Michigan" and his solo EP "Fiend Lives Matter." Even a prison sentence in early 2021 couldn't mute him. He kept feeding fans with new drops.

After walking out of prison in December 2024, he came out swinging in the new year. Within weeks, he dropped "Rio Free" and the single "Something Happen." Last month, he unloaded the 20-track "F.L.I.N.T. (Feeling Like I'm Not Through)" — so far, three of the corresponding music videos have racked up over a million views on YouTube. Catch him in Lansing with The Player and Deonte Hall before he blows up even more.

NEWS DESERTS ARE BAD NEWS

The loss of local news is linked with increased government secrecy, according to a new study conducted by the Brechner Center for the Advancement of the First Amendment at the University of Florida.

The findings lend the first empirical evidence to the connection long intuited between the declining health of local news ecosystems and decreased government transparency. They add to the growing body of research that demonstrates the impact of news deserts on democracy, including increased partisanship, lower voter participation, and diminished civic engagement.

Don't let Lansing become a news desert

Support City Pulse

Please use the QR code, visit lansingcitypulse.com/donate, or mail your check to 1905 E. Michigan, Lansing, MI 48912. To discuss tax-deductible contributions to the City Pulse Fund, please contact Steve at 517-999-6704. Thank you!

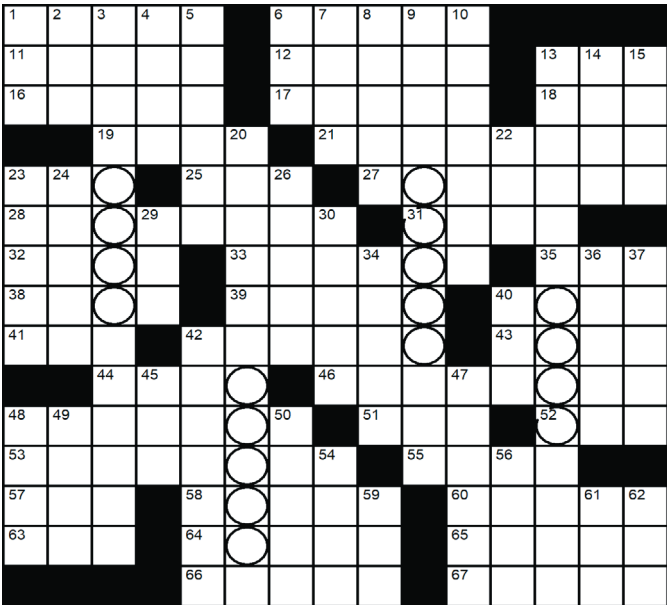


Jonesin' Crossword

By Matt Jones

“Time for an Upgrade” -- to a higher status.
by Matt Jones
© 2025 Matt Jones

- ACROSS
- 1. Red ink
 - 6. One way to be taken
 - 11. Basic skateboarding trick
 - 12. Oil business boss
 - 13. Recycling container
 - 16. Bracelet fastener
 - 17. “Crazy” singer Green
 - 18. Mentalist Geller
 - 19. French fry, elsewhere
 - 21. Seafood selection named for the color of its meat
 - 23. North American deer
 - 25. Shapiro of “All Things Considered” (until September 2025)
 - 27. Supposes
 - 28. England’s westernmost cape
 - 31. PepsiCo beverage brand with a two-lizard logo
 - 32. Country near the Strait of Hormuz
 - 33. Minn. college named for a Norwegian king
 - 35. Airport near OAK
 - 38. Skater Lipinski
 - 39. Where BTS originated
 - 40. Saucy
 - 41. “Exit full screen” key
 - 42. “Walk This Way” rap trio
 - 43. It’s light, but not a saber
 - 44. “Happy Birthday” writer
 - 46. One who agrees

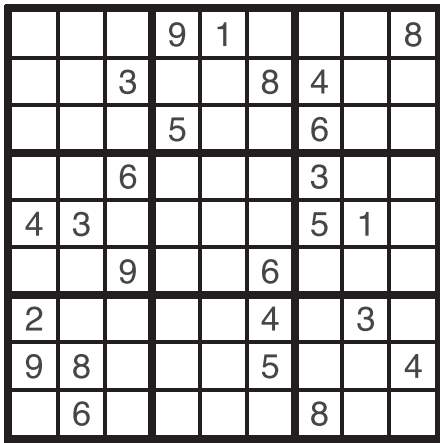


- 48. Subject of a neighborhood flier
 - 51. “Scratch that,” in texts
 - 52. “If you think you can’t remember the prefix for three, just _____”
 - 53. Submitted, as completed homework
 - 55. A head
 - 57. “Despicable Me” supervillain
 - 58. Protective gear
 - 60. Actor Christopher
 - 63. Wise one?
 - 64. Adult Swim fare, for short
 - 65. Beach house feature
 - 66. Jack of nursery rhymes
 - 67. Online administrator
- DOWN
- 1. G.P., e.g.
 - 2. Line leader?
 - 3. 1947 film set in India with Deborah Kerr as a repressed Anglican nun
 - 4. Miley and Noah Cyrus’s manager mother
 - 5. Vintage photo prints
 - 6. Basic beginning
 - 7. Main squeezes
 - 8. Concert setting
 - 9. Title location for an “Adventure,” per a 1976 interactive text computer game
 - 10. Is familiar with
 - 13. Snakes native to Southeast Asia but considered an invasive species in Florida
 - 14. “Dies _____” (Requiem movement)
 - 15. Bits of roasted cocoa beans
 - 20. Barometric indicator of upcoming rain, maybe
 - 22. Ursine baby
 - 23. Mexican street corn
 - 24. “Falcon Crest” star Lorenzo
 - 26. UB40’s “One _____”
 - 29. Strand stuff
 - 30. Surname of an early TV marionette
 - 34. Unit of light brightness
 - 36. Having more leeway
 - 37. “SNL” alum Cheri
 - 40. Pot pie veggie
 - 42. Echoes
 - 45. Dollar divs.
 - 47. “You’re killing me, _____” (“The Sandlot” quote)
 - 48. Nelly Korda’s org.
 - 49. Rowing equipment
 - 50. East _____ (U.N. member since 2002)
 - 54. Hendryx of the “Lady Marmalade” trio Labelle
 - 56. Modeling medium
 - 59. Q-U connector
 - 61. 7’6” NBA star _____ Ming
 - 62. Party food

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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

Sept. 10-16, 2025

ARIES (March 21-April 19): I can’t speak the Quechua language, which is indigenous to the Andes Mountains. But I have lifted one of their words to use for our purposes here: “munay.” It refers to an intensely practical and visionary love that includes far more than sweet feelings and affection. When we practice munay, we offer discerning respect and detailed appreciation to those we adore. We are generously eager to help our allies live their best lives. It takes discipline! And focus! And ingenuity! To be a rigorous and vigorous source of nature. Imagine yourself as a gentle whirlwind of love that spreads interesting beauty and bestows useful blessings. Be a relentless dispenser of catalytic gifts.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): The medieval Persian polymath Avicenna believed the soul entered the fetus not with the first heartbeat, but with the first dream. I offer this idea for your poetic consideration, dear Taurus. Let’s imagine that the next beautiful thing you create will not arise from your forceful intention. Rather, it will emerge because you give yourself permission to fantasize, to wander freely in wonder, and to meander with curiosity on the frontiers. Your assignment is not to hustle, but to incubate; not to push forward, but to dwell expectantly in the mystery.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): The bowerbird constructs elaborate ground-based shrines not as nests, but as seduction lures. The enticer might gather blue bottle caps, yellow flowers and shiny stones so as to create a scene that piques the attention of a potential mate. These objets d’art are not merely decorative. They are displays that demonstrate discernment, skill and aesthetic intelligence. I authorize you to be like a bowerbird, Gemini. What collection of symbols, words, gestures and curiosities will magnetize the people or opportunities you long to engage with? It’s not about flashiness; it’s about alignment. What you draw into your sphere will reflect the vibes you emanate.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): The pearl doesn’t begin as treasure. In its earliest form, it’s an irritation: a grain of sand that’s really a wound inside the oyster. Over time, the creature coats it with layers of nacre, turning discomfort into luminescence. Let’s use that as a metaphor for you, Cancerian. In my view, your task right now is not to escape or shed what’s bugging you, but to expedite the coating process. What is that gritty thing? A memory, injustice or unmet yearning? It’s crucial you don’t reject it and don’t let it fester. I think it’s best to turn it, layer by layer, into a luminous asset, even a treasure. Prediction: The pearl you form will long outlast the wound.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Olive trees can thrive in rugged environments, including rocky and nutrient-poor soils. Their root systems are wide, deep and resilient. They are well adapted to full sun, high temperatures and low water availability. In comparing you to an olive tree, Leo, I’m not implying you will always have to be as hardy as they are. But in the coming weeks, you will be wise to be equally as plucky and persevering. Here’s another fact about the olive tree you can and should emulate: Its fruit is valuable and in demand.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): The basenji is a dog breed that doesn’t bark. Instead, it produces an eerie, melodic yodel called a “baroo.” This oddity isn’t a flaw or drawback; it’s an interesting uniqueness. In the coming weeks, Virgo, I invite you to express your personal versions of the baroo — your idiosyncratic offerings and singular gifts. Playfully resist the pressure to be more conventional or “on brand.” Be faithful to what yearns to come out of you, which may be raw, radiant and a little weird. Let your authenticity be exactly what it is: a beacon, not a liability.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Scientists discovered that

some caterpillars, while dissolving inside their cocoons, retain memories of their caterpillar lives, even after becoming butterflies. In my view, that’s equivalent to us humans remembering details of our previous incarnations: having an all-new body but being able to draw on what our past body learned. According to my analysis of the astrological omens, you will be able to draw on this amazing capacity in the coming weeks. The person you used to be will have key revelations and inspirations for the future you.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): According to Celtic mythology, Cerridwen is the goddess of inspiration. In her cauldron, she brews magical elixirs that bestow the powers of wisdom, creativity and transformation. The humans most likely to earn her blessings are those who are patient and willing to be changed. Of all the signs in the zodiac, you Scorpios are now at the top of the eligibility list for gifts like these. And the next three weeks will be the most favorable time for you to ask for and receive such blessings. Here’s a clue that will help you get all you deserve: *believe in magic.*

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): In ancient Chinese philosophy, “ziran” means naturalness, spontaneity. It might refer to the way a mountain is purely a mountain, and a wave is a wave without trying to be a wave. I think you Sagittarians are due for an extended engagement with this wild ease and elegant freedom. After weeks of inner labor, your soul wants to breathe in ziran. Your assignment is to let yourself be as natural and unconstrained as you dare — not correct or careful or “optimized.” So, I advise you to head in the direction of what’s simple and real and good. Emphasize smoothness over effort. Choose your rhythm, not theirs. You aren’t required to prove your healing. You just have to live it.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): “Serendipity” is an English term that refers to beautiful accidents, fortunate interruptions, unexpected opportunities, and surprisingly wonderful discoveries. (The French equivalent is “sérendipité”; Italian: “serendipità”; Japanese: “serendipiti.”) The word didn’t exist until 1754, when author Horace Walpole coined it. Lovely outbreaks of good luck and uncanny blessings had been happening from time immemorial, of course, even though there wasn’t this precise word for them. Here’s a key point: They are more likely to occur if you believe they’re possible and make yourself alert for their arrival. That’s good advice for you right now.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): The placenta is the only organ that the human body creates from scratch and then discards. Let’s pause for a moment to register how remarkable this is: to grow a temporary life-support system and then jettison it once its purpose is fulfilled. Inspired by this miracle, I speculate that you may soon undertake a metaphorical version of it. A situation or experience that has nurtured you is reaching the end of its mission. Though it has served you well, the wise move might be to outgrow it and move on to a new phase of your evolution. At the very least, it’s time to embark on a search for new forms of nourishment.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): In Balinese gamelan music, there’s a technique called “kotekan.” Two instrumentalists play distinct musical parts that together create a seamless, intricately melodic and rhythmic texture. Let’s make this your metaphor to live by in the coming weeks, Pisces. In my astrological opinion, you are not meant to work solo. Your greatest success and most fun will come from generating harmony through collaborative improvisation and shared timing. A small warning: Someone else’s input may at first feel like interference, but it’s actually the missing part of the song. Let yourself blend, bounce, echo and respond. Genius will be born in the spaces between.

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.

OUTon theTOWN

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, Sept. 10

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

Adult Bingo - Join us for a fun afternoon of bingo, complete with light refreshments and prizes for the winners! 2:30-4 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. gladl.org.

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

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

Art Exhibition - The Lansing Women Artists Collective presents an exhibition featuring a variety of media, from acrylics to zentangles. All art is for sale. 10 a.m.-9 p.m. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. 517-351-2420.

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 Sue Wittick to our gallery wall for the month of September. Noon-4 p.m. Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. cadl.org/about/our-locations/haslett.

Broadway Jazz Dance Class for Teens & Adults - Meets twice per week. 7-8:30 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. ruhalacenter.com.

Chronic Pain PATH - Six-week workshop designed to help individuals with chronic pain improve their health and feel better. 1-3:30 p.m. First United Methodist Church, 201 E. Ash St., Mason. To register, call 517-887-1465 or email histedc@tcoa.org.

Code Club - Learn to make apps, animations and more! No coding expertise necessary. Drop-ins welcome. Grades 3+. 6 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. gladl.org/project/learncoding.

Crushed Glass Crafting Party - Use resin and colorful crushed glass to create a vibrant and unique suncatcher! You're welcome to bring snacks and drinks. Registration req. 6-8 p.m. Nina's Notions, 104 N. Clinton Ave., St. Johns. eventbrite.com/o/beach-glass-crafting-party-77050402593.

Double D String Band - Join us for a relaxed evening of dinner and live music, featuring the Double D String Band. No cover! 9:30-11:30 p.m. UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner St., Lansing. urbanbeatevents.com.

Fall Gnome Paint Party - Painting will be on an 11-by-14 canvas that will be pre-traced for your ease. We'll walk you through the project step by step! 6:30-9 p.m. Buddy's Pizza, 2010 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. paintyourpoison.com.

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.

Free Community Meal - Join us for fellowship, food and an opportunity to connect with the community. 5:30-7 p.m. First United Methodist Church, 411 Harrison St., Grand Ledge. 517-627-3256. grandledge-firstumc.org.

Group Dance Class: Beginning Salsa - Salsa is a dynamic, vibrant dance characterized by its energetic footwork, fluid turns and rhythmic hip movements. 8 p.m. Michigan Athletic Club, 2900 Hannah Blvd., East Lansing. Register by calling 517-364-8888.

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

Lansing Collage Club - Join fellow collage enthusiasts for an evening of cutting, pasting and creating! Bring supplies to share or come as you are. Free. 6-9 p.m. Hooked, 3142 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. facebook.com/HookedLansing.

Lansing Live Open Stage Night - Whether you're experienced or just starting out, the stage is open to all. Not a performer? Enjoy dinner, drinks and live music. No cover, all ages welcome. 6-9 p.m. UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner St., Lansing. urbanbeatevents.com.

Matter of Balance - Eight-session workshop designed to improve balance, flexibility and strength, helping seniors reduce fall risks and become more active. 1-3 p.m. Bath Senior Center, 14480 Webster Road, Bath. To register, call 517-887-1465 or email histedc@tcoa.org.

Meridian Summer Concert Series: Tony Thompson & LaNette Lyn (funk/R&B/soul) - 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.

Parkinson's Support Group: Informal Discussions - Small discussion groups. People with Parkinson's meet in a separate room from caregivers for confidential conversations. 1 p.m. Congregation Shaarey Zedek, 1924 Coolidge Road, East Lansing. lpsg.org.

Puppy Yoga - Get ready to downward dog with adorable puppies running around, bringing joy and relaxation to your yoga practice. 7:15 p.m. Canines for Change Training and Enrichment Center, 5573 N. Michigan Road, Dimondale. shorturl.at/AQ3nQ.

Read Between the Wines Book Club - Join us as we sip delicious wine and chat about our latest read, Jamie Brenner's "Blush." 5-7:30 p.m. Burgdorf's Winery, 4212 E. Holt Road, Webberville. facebook.com/wine.burgdorfs.

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. 6 p.m. Virtual — register at canr.msu.edu/isabella/index.

Tap II Class for Teens & Adults - 6-7 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. ruhalacenter.com.

Weaving the Web: Diversity - 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.

Women's Healing Circle - A space for women to share their stories, inspire each other and lift each other up. 8:30-9:30 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. ruhalacenter.com.

Youth Group Dance Class: Beginning East Coast Swing - East Coast Swing is considered a relatively easy swing dance to learn, making it popular for



Photo by Matt Anderson



Stand Up for Progress
7 p.m. Friday, Sept. 12
The Venue by Eleven 11 Events
5660 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing

Political nonprofit Progress Michigan's annual Stand Up for Progress comedy show aims to entertain with top-notch talent while raising funds for the organization's longstanding efforts to create "a more inclusive, equitable and sustainable Michigan" through education and advocacy.

Bengali American comedian and actor Usama Siddiquee, known for "his high-energy, sharp and personal comedy" that tackles topics such as family, sex, religion and cultural identity, will headline the show. Based in New York, Siddiquee is a regular at the world-famous Comedy Cellar. He was the winner of the 2016 Laughing Devil Cup comedy festival, the 2015 Yonkers Comedy Festival and the 2015 Make Me Laugh Albany festival. His television stand-up debut was on BET's "50 Central," with appearances since on Showtime's "Desus & Mero," MTV News, "Cash Cab" and "America's Got Talent." As an actor, he's appeared on Netflix's "Inventing Anna," HBO's "And Just Like That," Comedy Central's "Awkwafina Is Nora from Queens" and FX's "Better Things."

Comedian, actor and writer Pranav Behari, co-host of the popular "Mango Bae" podcast with Siddiquee, will also take the stage. A former Mad magazine writer, Behari has performed at comedy clubs and festivals across the country — most recently, the 10,000 Laughs Comedy Festival in Minnesota and the Rogue Island Comedy Festival in Rhode Island. He's appeared in episodes of Amazon Prime Video's "The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel," HBO's "The Other Two," "Law & Order: SVU" and "Daredevil: Born Again" and was a co-creator of the BRIC TV series "Problematic."

General admission tickets are \$39. VIP tickets, offering priority seating and a complimentary beverage, are \$108. A link to tickets is available on Progress Michigan's Facebook page.

beginners. 4 p.m. Michigan Athletic Club, 2900 Hannah Blvd., East Lansing. Register by calling 517-364-8888.

Thursday, Sept. 11

Acting 101 Class for Teens & Adults - Meets twice per week. 7-8 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. ruhalacenter.com.

Acting Ensemble Class for Teens & Adults - Meets twice per week. 8-9:30 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. ruhalacenter.com.

Al-Anon Meeting - 6:45 p.m. Mason Sparrow Urgent

Care, 800 E. Columbia St., Mason. cmialanon.org.

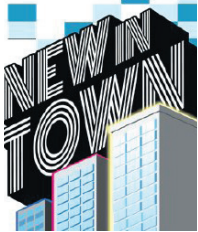
Al-Anon Meeting - 8 p.m. Eastminster Presbyterian Church, 1315 Abbot Road, East Lansing. cmialanon.org.

Art Exhibition - The Lansing Women Artists Collective presents an exhibition featuring a variety of media, from acrylics to zentangles. All art is for sale. 10 a.m.-9 p.m. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. 517-351-2420.

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

Craig Ryan Fine Clothing adds to revitalization of Atrium building

By LEO V. KAPLAN



Craig Ryan Fine Clothing

215 S. Washington Square, Lansing
10 a.m.-6 p.m.
Monday-Saturday
(517) 220-4640
craigryan.com

It's been a while since downtown Lansing's historic Atrium building was lively. Formerly home to the Strand Theatre and Arcade, later known as the Michigan Theatre, which closed in 1980, the building has long been used for office and retail space. But business owners said it hasn't always been clear to passers-by that it's open at all, much less for business.

That appears to be changing. On Tuesday, Sept. 9, a previously empty suite in the Atrium building sprang to life as customers walked into the newly opened fifth location of Craig Ryan Fine Clothing.

"It feels great," Julian Delos Reyes, the company's president, said. "I went to school down the road at Michigan State, and just being a part of the revitalization is exciting. We're really looking forward



Leo V. Kaplan/City Pulse

Company President Julian Delos Reyes poses for a photo at the newly opened Craig Ryan Fine Clothing location in downtown Lansing's historic Atrium building.

to seeing where Lansing ends up."

The store offers fine men's clothing, from "the nicest handmade suits from Italy" to more casual pieces like "a nice golf polo" to staple items like socks and underwear, Delos Reyes said.

The business was founded in 2004 by Craig Ryan Kurzeja, who died last year. It has storefronts in Grand Blanc, Petoskey, Harbor Springs and Birmingham. While some locations offer women's clothing, the Lansing location is a menswear shop — though Delos Reyes said that "around the holidays, whether it's Mother's Day or Christmas or anything like that, we bring

in some items that are geared toward the ladies."

At Tuesday's ribbon-cutting ceremony, Lansing Mayor Andy Schor said the shop is "filling a tremendous need."

"We hear pretty often, 'When will we get men's clothing back again? When are we going to see the fine clothing?' We're over the moon," Schor said.

This is the latest development in the effort to revitalize the Atrium building, which will be connected to the in-progress Tower on Grand skyscraper by a walkway over Grand Avenue as part Gentilozzi Real Estate's New Vision Lan-

sing project.

"As a business owner in the Atrium, it's going to be great for people to see that it's a space you can actually walk into," Element Massage owner Colton Hughes said. "Being here for nine and a half years, it's been pretty quiet for the majority. This is going to help people to see that there are actually things in here, businesses that would love for people to come in."

Britt Houze, owner of the Middle Village shop BHouseOriginals, said Craig Ryan will bring "a lot of new sets of eyes" to the Atrium building and "a new look to the city, a more urban feel."

Craig Ryan is the second upscale menswear shop in downtown Lansing, though the first, Kositchek's, has been temporarily closed for over a year after its roof caved in during a storm.

Delos Reyes said the store will bring Lansing residents "a sense of style and community that Craig built his business on."

"A lot of our customers have, over time, become our friends," he said. "Some of our biggest supporters are people that walked into Craig's first store and just found reasons to come back."

Events

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Bear Repair: A Toy Repair Workshop - Learn how to repair and restore your plush toys and dolls! 6-7:30 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. gladl.org.

Bike Night at Summerlands Brewing Co. - Stop by for a bit and relax with some great food and drink specials! It's also Taco Thursday! 6-10 p.m. 1957 Cedar St., Holt. facebook.com/summerlandsbrewing.

Bookend Gallery Display - The Bookend welcomes Sue Wittick to our gallery wall for the month of September. Noon-6 p.m. Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. cadl.org/about/our-locations/haslett.

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

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.

Duffy King: A Tribute to Santana and Sting, with guest percussionist Jose "Pylo" Velasquez - Enjoy a dual-bill musical tribute to two of the most renowned and influential artists in modern musical history! 7-10 p.m. UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner St., Lansing. urbanbeatevents.com.

Group Dance Class: Beginning American-Style Rhumba - A rhythmic dance with a "slow, quick, quick" step pattern, emphasizing hip movements and a flowing, rocking motion. 7 p.m. Michigan Athletic Club, 2900 Hannah Blvd., East Lansing. Register by calling 517-364-8888.

Intro to Acting/Improv Class for Kids - Ages 5-12. 4-4:45 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. ruhalacenter.com.

Jen Sygit & Mike Ward - Two brilliant, Michigan-based songwriters share the stage! Here's a chance to see Jen Sygit, a beloved Lansing gem, and the acclaimed folk musician Mike Ward! 8 p.m. The Robin Theatre, 1105 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. tenpoundfiddle.org.

Ladies' Silver Blades - Join other adult women for fun, exercise, friendship and skating practice. All skill levels welcome. 9:30-11:30 a.m. Biggby Coffee Ice Cube, 2810 Hannah Blvd., East Lansing. ladiesilverblades.org.

Matter of Balance - Eight-session workshop designed to improve balance, flexibility and strength, helping seniors reduce fall risks and become more active. 10 a.m.-noon. Schmidt Community Center, 5825 Wise Road, Lansing. To register, call 517-887-1465 or email histedc@tcoa.org.

Michigan Quarter Horse Association Breeders Futurity & Great Lakes Classic - 8 a.m.-5 p.m. MSU Pavilion, 4301 Farm Lane, Lansing. miquarterhorse.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. lapsg.org.

Ruhala Broadway Ensemble: Performing Group for All Ages - Meets twice per week. 5:30-7 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road,

East Lansing. ruhalacenter.com.

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

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

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

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.

Friday, Sept. 12

Art Exhibition - The Lansing Women Artists Collective presents an exhibition featuring a variety of media, from acrylics to zentangles. All art is for sale. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. 517-351-2420.

Beethoven's Piano Sonatas: Nos. 16-18, Op. 31 - Featuring pianist Young Hyun Cho. 5:30-6:30 p.m. Facility for Rare Isotope Beams, 640 S. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. frib.msu.edu.

Bookend Gallery Display - The Bookend welcomes Sue Wittick to our gallery wall for the month of September. Noon-4 p.m. Haslett Library, 1590

Franklin St., Haslett. cadl.org/about/our-locations/haslett.

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.

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.

Fall Opening Party - Check out our newest exhibitions while enjoying music from Impact 89 FM, screen printing, button making, painting, lawn games and more. At 8 p.m., we're "glowing" big with blacklight art supplies to illuminate the remainder of the evening. 6-10 p.m. Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, East Lansing. broadmuseum.msu.edu.

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

Five Elements Dance & Drum - Intuitive movement and music in a supportive, sober environment. Bring a yoga mat, dancing socks/slippers and a drum or rattle if desired. 6:30 p.m. The Light House Chapel, 1501 Windsor St., Lansing. facebook.com/lansinglighthousechapel.

Gift of the Month: Fruit Tray - You'll be guided step-by-step in decorating a stunning fruit tray,

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Events

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using paper stencils and a wood carving tool to add more details. 6-9 p.m. Playing Picasso, 300 N. Clippert St., Ste. 15A, Lansing. playingpicasso.com.

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

La La Delivery, Past Dog Beach, Leisure & Dyzioek Live at The Avenue - 9 p.m. 2021 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. facebook.com/avenuecafe2021.

Michigan Quarter Horse Association Breeders Futurity & Great Lakes Classic - 8 a.m.-5 p.m. MSU Pavilion, 4301 Farm Lane, Lansing. miquarterhorse.com.

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

Pure Options Stand-Up Presents: Steve Hofstetter - Hofstetter, who has over a billion views on YouTube, Facebook and Instagram, is a Nobel Peace Prize-nominated comedian. 8 p.m. Grewal Hall, 224 S. Washington Square, Lansing. hall224.com.

Teddy Bear Clinic - Children can get a playful, interactive "check-up" for their stuffed animal while learning important lessons about heart and lung health, bones, nutrition, germs and the five senses. 1-3 p.m. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. elpl.org.

Velocity Shift Live at Summerlands Brewing Co. - Velocity Shift rocks the house with some great classic rock tunes. 7:30-10:30 p.m. 1957 Cedar St., Holt. facebook.com/summerlandsbrewing.

Saturday, Sept. 13

Adult POT-tery Night - Join us for a unique 21+ evening at Playing Picasso! Bongs, pipes, rolling trays and more kush pieces will be available to paint, as well as our regular selection! 7-10 p.m. 300 N. Clippert St., Ste. 15A, Lansing. playingpicasso.com.

Art Exhibition - The Lansing Women Artists Collective presents an exhibition featuring a variety of media, from acrylics to zentangles. All art is for sale. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. 517-351-2420.

Bookend Gallery Display - The Bookend welcomes Sue Wittick to our gallery wall for the month of September. Noon-2 p.m. Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. cadl.org/about/our-locations/

haslett.

Campfire Science: Michigan Trees - Learn about the seasonal science of trees, take a guided tree hike around Lincoln Brick Park and make some bark rubbings! We'll meet back at the campfire for some stories and s'mores. 3-5 p.m. 13991 Tallman Road, Grand Ledge. gladl.org.

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

David Salvador Live on the Patio at Summerlands Brewing Co. - Salvador will perform hits from the '80s to today, along with other great tunes! 5-8 p.m. 1957 Cedar St., Holt. facebook.com/summerlandsbrewing.

Death Over Drafts - An informal event about all things death and dying. We'll brew up conversations using the Death Deck, a lively tool for navigating many topics related to death. 1-3 p.m. EagleMonk Pub & Brewery, 4906 W. Mount Hope Hwy., Lansing. eventbrite.com/e/death-over-drafts-tickets-1558124796209.

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.

Eaton County Historical Commission Heritage Conference - Featured speakers are the Nokomis Cultural Heritage Center and Jane North Bryce. 9 a.m.-noon. Woldumar Nature Center, 5739 Old Lansing Road, Lansing. eatoncountyhistory.org.

Intermediate Ballet Class for Teens & Adults - Meets twice per week. 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. ruhalacenter.com.

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

Michigan Quarter Horse Association Breeders Futurity & Great Lakes Classic - 8 a.m.-5 p.m. MSU Pavilion, 4301 Farm Lane, Lansing. miquarterhorse.com.

Mint City Motorcycle Mania - Get ready to rev your engines! This action-packed event promises a day of high-octane excitement for motorcycle enthusiasts and families alike. 1 p.m. Sirens Bar, 119 E. Walker St., St. Johns. downtownstjohnsmi.com/Mint-City-Motorcycle-Mania.

MSU Football vs. Youngstown State University - 3:30 p.m. Spartan Stadium, 325 W. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. msuspartans.com/sports/football.

Native Plant Sale - We'll have a wide selection of perennial wildflowers, grasses/sedges, trees and shrubs grown by Bendy Stem Farm. 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Fenner Nature Center, 2020 E. Mount Hope Ave., Lansing. wildoneslansing.weebly.com.

Next Step Poetry Workshop: Series 3, Part 1 (w/ Dennis Hinrichsen) - We'll explore innovative ways to

Broad Art Museum fall opening party

6-10 p.m. Friday, Sept. 12
547 E. Circle Drive, East Lansing

Michigan State University's Broad Art Museum will welcome students with its annual fall opening party, offering those who left town for the summer an opportunity to check out new exhibitions they may have missed, including "Me-kong Voices: Transnational River Justice in Mainland Southeast Asia," "Africa Past, Present, and Future: Celebrating 65 Years of the MSU African Studies Center," "unbecoming" and "Americans and the Holocaust: A Michigan Perspective." Attendees can also take part in screen-printing and button-making crafts, compete against friends in lawn games, dance to music provided by Impact 89 FM and help illuminate the museum with blacklight art once the sun goes down. The event is free and open to all ages, though pre-registration is encouraged at broadmuseum.msu.edu.



Photo by Vincent Morse/MSU Broad Art Museum

break the rules of traditional poetic form, diving into found forms and experimenting with inventing our own restrictions. 1-3 p.m. The Robin Theatre, 1105 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. facebook.com/The517PoetryRoom.

Preserving DeWitt History: Community Scanning Day - Bring in your photos, letters and other documents that offer insight into DeWitt history to be scanned for historical presentation. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. DeWitt District Library, 13105 Schavey Road, DeWitt. dewittlibrary.org.

"Raise the Roof" Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser - Homemade spaghetti, dine in or take out. With or without meat. Gluten-free spaghetti available. Bread, salad, dessert and beverage. 4-7 p.m. The Light House Chapel, 1501 Windsor St., Lansing. facebook.com/lansinglight-housechapel.

Red Cross Adult & Pediatric CPR w/AED Training - Learn adult and pediatric CPR, AED and emergency procedures like rescue breathing and the Heimlich maneuver. Registration req. 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. gladl.org.

Second Saturday Divorce Workshop - Join us for a supportive and informative workshop designed to help you navigate the complexities of divorce. 9 a.m.-noon. 2139 Commons Parkway, Ste. B, Okemos. eventbrite.com/o/kylee-mohammed-chfc-cdfa-77498789483.

Soul of a Songwriter - Join us for an evening of live music as a lineup of talented artists share their work in a collaborative setting. Featuring Jessey Adams, Waylon Hanel, Jenna Kay, Ryan Scott and Leah Williams. 8:30 p.m. UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner St., Lansing. urbanbeatevents.com.

Taste of Woodworking: Long-Grain Cutting Board - Learn the basics of using the woodworking equipment at Lansing Makers Network and leave with a project everyone will be jealous of! 9 a.m.-3 p.m. 2730 Alpha Access St., Lansing. lansingmakersnetwork.org.

Youth Dungeons & Dragons Campaign - Our youth campaign offers new and experienced players a chance to meet every other week for adventure. Ages 11-14. 12:30-3:30 p.m. Homebrew Tabletop Game Lounge, 219 1/2 N. Bridge St., Grand Ledge. homebrewgamelounge.com.

Youth Group Dance Class: Beginning East Coast Swing - East Coast Swing is considered a relatively easy swing dance to learn, making it popular for beginners. 11:30 a.m. Michigan Athletic Club, 2900 Hannah Blvd., East Lansing. Register by calling 517-364-8888.

Sunday, Sept. 14

Art Exhibition - The Lansing Women Artists Collective presents an exhibition featuring a variety of media, from acrylics to zentangles. All art is for sale. 1-5 p.m. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. 517-351-2420.

Capital Pro Wrestling - 3-6 p.m. The Fledge, 1300 Eureka St., Lansing. 517-894-4589. american-luchalibre.com.

Clarinet Quintet - The Musician Series offers intimate concerts where classical music takes center stage, brought to life by the talented musicians of the Lansing Symphony Orchestra. 3 p.m. Molly Grove Chapel, First Presbyterian Church, 510 W. Ottawa St., Lansing. lansingsymphony.org.

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CIDER & DONUTS!

LANSING'S 44 YEAR FALL TRADITION!

FRESS PRESSED & NO PRESERVATIVES





Events

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Copper Chimney Lounge Poetry Series - Award-winning poet Leila Chatti will give a reading and sign copies of her books, with an open mic to follow. 4 p.m. University United Methodist Church, 1120 S. Harrison Road, East Lansing. facebook.com/LansingPoetryClub.

Dogs and Coffee - Join an HNC naturalist for a morning walk in the woods with your dog while enjoying a cup of freshly brewed coffee! 9-10 a.m. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road, Okemos. meridian.mi.us/hnc.

Dr. and Mrs. Wharton Tribute Concert - 3 p.m. 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. whartoncenter.com.

Drum Circle at Lake Lansing Park North - Join the Greater Lansing Area Drummers for a fun and energetic afternoon of rhythm and drumming. All ages and experience levels welcome. 2-4 p.m. 6260 E. Lake Drive, Haslett. facebook.com/GreaterLansingAreaDrummers.

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

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

Michigan Quarter Horse Association Breeders Futurity & Great Lakes Classic - 8 a.m.-5 p.m. MSU Pavilion, 4301 Farm Lane, Lansing. miquarterhorse.com.

Puppy Yoga - Get ready to downward dog with adorable puppies running around, bringing joy and relaxation to your yoga practice. 4 p.m. Canines for Change Training and Enrichment Center, 5573 N. Michigan Road, Dimondale. shorturl.at/AQ3nQ.

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.

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, Sept. 15

Adult Take-and-Make Craft: Embroidery Ghost - Stop by the library starting Sept. 15 to pick up a spooky embroidery kit for adults! Supply is limited, so stop by early in the week to claim yours. Charlotte Community Library, 226 S. Bostwick St., Charlotte. charlottelibrary.org.

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

Art Exhibition - The Lansing Women Artists Collective presents an exhibition featuring a variety of media, from acrylics to zentangles. All art is for sale. 10 a.m.-9 p.m. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. 517-351-2420.

Bookend Gallery Display - The Bookend welcomes Sue Wittick to our gallery wall for the month of September. Noon-4 p.m. Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. cadl.org/about/our-locations/haslett.

Broadway Jazz Dance Class for Teens & Adults - Meets twice per week. 7-8:30 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. ruhalacenter.com.

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

Fiber Circle - Knitters, crocheters and stitchers of all ages and skill levels welcome. Although formal instruction isn't provided, attendees assist each other with techniques and skills. 5:30 p.m. Charlotte Community Library, 226 S. Bostwick St., Charlotte. charlottelibrary.org.

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

Improv Acting Class for Teens and Adults - 8:30-9:30 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. ruhalacenter.com.

Level I Dance Class for Kids - Ages 5-8. 4-5 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. ruhalacenter.com.

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

Ruhala Broadway Ensemble: Performing Group for All Ages - Meets twice per week. 5:30-7 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. ruhalacenter.com.

Shape Note Singing - First and third Mondays, free, loan books available, beginners and the curious are welcome. 7-9 p.m. Edgewood United Church, 469 N. Hagadorn Road, East Lansing. fasolamichigan.org.

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

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

Tuesday, Sept. 16

10 Over the Next Ten Awards Ceremony - The Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce is proud to partner with Lansing 5:01 for a special awards ceremony honoring the region's top young professionals! 5:30-7 p.m. University Club, 3435 Forest Road, Lansing. facebook.com/LansingChamber.

"A Beautiful Noise" - Created in collaboration with Neil Diamond himself, "A Beautiful Noise" is the true story of how a kid from Brooklyn became a chart-busting, show-stopping rock icon. 7:30 p.m. Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. whartoncenter.com.

"A Course in Miracles" with Lisa Schmidt - Each week, the group reads a passage together from the book and discusses its meaning and how to apply it to real-life situations. 7 p.m. Zoom ID: 177 417 886. Passcode: 601744. unitylansing.org.

Acting 101 Class for Teens & Adults - Meets twice per week. 7-8 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. ruhalacenter.com.

Acting Ensemble Class for Teens & Adults - Meets twice per week. 8-9:30 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. ruhalacenter.com.

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

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

Art Exhibition - The Lansing Women Artists Collective presents an exhibition featuring a variety of media, from acrylics to zentangles. All art is for sale. 10 a.m.-9 p.m. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. 517-351-2420.

Bookend Gallery Display - The Bookend welcomes Sue Wittick to our gallery wall for the month of September. Noon-4 p.m. Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. cadl.org/about/our-locations/haslett.

Dr. & Mrs. Wharton Tribute concert

3 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 14

Wharton Center Cobb Great Hall
750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing

The Wharton Center will honor its late namesakes, former Michigan State University President Clifton R. Wharton Jr. and his wife, Dolores Wharton, with a powerful afternoon of performances celebrating the couple's passion for and extensive contributions to the arts and public service, both locally and nationwide.

The event will feature Tony, Emmy, Grammy and SAG Award nominee Norm Lewis, the first Black actor to play the titular role in "The Phantom of the Opera" on Broadway; jazz vocalist Carmen Bradford, a former member of the Count Basie Orchestra; a trio led by pianist and composer Aaron Diehl, known for blending jazz and classical music with "melodic precision, harmonic erudition and elegant restraint," according to The New York Times; and "The Calling," a dance number by noted choreographer and director Jessica Lang that contains themes of resilience and hope. Musical accompaniment will be provided by the MSU Symphony Orchestra.

Admission is free, but pre-registration is required at whartoncenter.com.



Champions for Kids Luncheon - The Michigan League for Public Policy's Champions for Kids luncheon will celebrate the release of the 2025 Kids Count in Michigan data book and explore strategies that will help Michigan's kids and families thrive. 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Lansing Center, 333 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. mlpp.org.

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

Croissant Baking Class - Learn the process of making croissants from start to finish, including the base dough, lamination, proving and a variety of shaping techniques. 6-8 p.m. Brady's HG, 319 E. César E. Chávez Ave., Lansing. bradlyshg.com.

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.

Financial Disaster Preparedness and Recovery - Learn how to save time, money and stress if a disaster strikes. 10-11 a.m. Virtual — register at canr.msu.edu/mimoneyhealth.

"Gaza: Doctors Under Attack" - A BBC-produced documentary exploring the attacks by the Israeli Defense Forces on hospitals and health providers in Gaza. Free. 6:30 p.m. Room B117, Wells Hall, 619 Red Cedar Road, East Lansing. Sponsored by the Palestine Interfaith Network.

Group Dance Class: Beginning Hustle - The New York-style hustle is an energetic partner dance characterized by its fluid movements, intricate turns and strong lead-follow connection. 8 p.m. Michigan Athletic Club, 2900 Hannah Blvd., East Lansing. Register by calling 517-364-8888.

Group Dance Class: Beginning West Coast Swing - West Coast Swing is a fun social dance consisting of 6- and 8-count patterns. No partner needed. 7 p.m. Michigan Athletic Club, 2900 Hannah Blvd., East Lansing. Register by calling 517-364-8888.

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

Intermediate Ballet Class for Teens & Adults - Meets twice per week. 5:30-7 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. ruhalacenter.com.

Level II Dance class for Kids - Ages 9-12. 4-5:30 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. ruhalacenter.com.

Mahjong Afternoons - Mahjong is a game of Chinese origin that involves skill, strategy and luck. This is a drop-in adult program for players of all skill levels. 1-3 p.m. Charlotte Community Library, 226 S. Bostwick St., Charlotte. charlottelibrary.org.

Matter of Balance - Eight-session workshop designed to improve balance, flexibility and strength, helping seniors reduce fall risks and become more active. 9:30-11:30 a.m. Delta Enrichment Center, 4538 Elizabeth Road, Bath. To register, call 517-887-1465 or email histedc@tcoa.org.

Mushroom Night Sky Paint Party - Grab some friends and get creative in Laingsburg! Local artist Melissa will guide you step by step. 6:30-9 p.m. Twilliger's Tavern, 116 E. Grand River Road, Laingsburg. paintyourpoison.com.

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.

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.

Parkinson's Support Group Education Meeting - This month's featured speaker is Katie Patterson, an orthoptist at the University of Michigan Kellogg Eye Center. 3 p.m. Burcham Hills, 2700 Burcham Drive, East Lansing. lapsg.org.

Preschool Family Storytime - Join us for fun stories, songs and a simple craft! Ages 1-6 with a caregiver. 11 a.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. gladl.org.

Quiz Bang Trivia - Join us at UrbanBeat for a fast-paced, high-energy game that'll test your brains and strategy! 6-7:30 p.m. 1213 Turner St., Lansing. urbanbeatevents.com.

Service Industry Night at UrbanBeat - 50% off for hospitality professionals. One verified industry discount per check. Please present proof of employment. 7-11 p.m. 1213 Turner St., Lansing. urbanbeatevents.com.

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

See Events, Page 23

Events

from page 22

Wednesday, Sept. 17

“A Beautiful Noise” - Created in collaboration with Neil Diamond himself, “A Beautiful Noise” is the true story of how a kid from Brooklyn became a chart-busting, show-stopping rock icon. 7:30 p.m. Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. whartoncenter.com.

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

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

Apple Festival at Allen Farmers Market - Celebrate apple season with us! This year’s festival is sponsored by the Lansing Board of Water and Light, and we’ll have craft vendor Herding Cats indoors. 3-6:30 p.m. Allen Neighborhood Center, 1629 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. allenneighborhoodcenter.org/allen-farmers-market.

Art Exhibition - The Lansing Women Artists Collective presents an exhibition featuring a variety of media, from acrylics to zentangles. All art is for sale. 10 a.m.-9 p.m. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. 517-351-2420.

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.

Bingo Night Cruise-In - All drivers and passengers will receive bingo cards so they can play along, plus free admission to R.E. Olds Transportation Museum. Our cruise-ins are for all makes, models and years — if it has wheels, you’re welcome to bring it! 5-7:30 p.m. 240 Museum Drive, Lansing. reoldsmuseum.org.

Bookend Gallery Display - The Bookend welcomes Sue Wittick to our gallery wall for the month of September. Noon-4 p.m. Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. cadl.org/about/our-locations/haslett.

Broadway Jazz Dance Class for Teens & Adults - Meets twice per week. 7-8:30 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. ruhalacenter.com.

CDBG Community Workshop - This workshop will focus on how CDBG funds may be used to support public service activities that benefit low- to moderate-income East Lansing residents. 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing. cityofeastlansing.com.

Class: Pumpkin Trio w/ Elements Specialty Glazes - Paint three ceramic pumpkins, each in a different faux-knit style. We’ll be using our Elements specialty glazes. 6-9 p.m. Playing Picasso, 300 N Clippert St., Ste. 15A, Lansing. playingpicasso.com.

Code Club - Learn to make apps, animations and more! No coding expertise necessary. Drop-ins welcome. Grades 3+. 6 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. gladl.org/project/learnocoding.

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.

Group Dance Class: Beginning Salsa - Salsa is a dynamic, vibrant dance characterized by its energetic footwork, fluid turns and rhythmic hip movements. 8 p.m. Michigan Athletic Club, 2900 Hannah Blvd., East Lansing. Register by calling 517-364-8888.

Ingham County Democratic Party Community Meet-

ing - Please join fellow Democrats interested in electing accountable leaders who truly represent the people. 5:30-7:30 p.m. Fiesta Charra, 2706 Lake Lansing Road, Lansing. inghamcountydemocraticparty.net.

Ingham County Sheriff’s Office Explorer Post Open House - For young adults (ages 14-21) interested in criminal justice. Meet current explorers and advisers, and learn how to become a member. 6-8 p.m. Ingham County Sheriff’s Office, 630 N. Cedar St., Mason. 517-676-8224.

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

Lansing Live Open Stage Night - Whether you’re experienced or just starting out, the stage is open to all. Not a performer? Enjoy dinner, drinks and live music. No cover, all ages welcome. 6-9 p.m. UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner St., Lansing. urbanbeatevents.com.

Latino Night - Enjoy live music, drink/food specials and an exclusive food menu. Net proceeds benefit St. Vincent De Paul Cristo Rey Church. 6-10 p.m. The Irish Pub, 1910 W. Saginaw St., Lansing. facebook.com/IrishPubLansing.

Meridian Summer Concert Series: Frog & the Beef-tones (blues rock) - 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.

Michigan BluesFest Kickoff Concert - Featuring performances by Gavin McDonnell and Tom Duffield & Friends. 6 p.m. UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner St., Lansing. micharts.org.

National Voter Registration Day - We’ll have registration information and public computers available to help process your registration. We can check polling locations and other civic information. 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. gladl.org.

Protecting Your Identity from Theft - During this one-hour session, we’ll discuss how to spot and stop identity theft, as well as what you can do if your identity has already been stolen. Registration req. 6 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. gladl.org.

Puppy Yoga - Get ready to downward dog with adorable puppies running around, bringing joy and relaxation to your yoga practice. 7:15 p.m. Canines for Change Training and Enrichment Center, 5573 N. Michigan Road, Dimondale. shorturl.at/AQ3nQ.

Tap II Class for Teens & Adults - 6-7 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. ruhalacenter.com.

Weaving the Web: Spiral Path - 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.

Women’s Healing Circle - A space for women to share their stories, inspire each other and lift each other up. 8:30-9:30 p.m. Ruhala Performing

Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. ruhalacenter.com.

Youth Group Dance Class: Beginning East Coast Swing - East Coast Swing is considered a relatively easy swing dance to learn, making it popular for beginners. 4 p.m. Michigan Athletic Club, 2900 Hannah Blvd., East Lansing. Register by calling 517-364-8888.

Thursday, Sept. 18

517 Hispanic Heritage Weekend: Pathways to Wholeness Seminar - Kick off the weekend with a powerful seminar focused on wellness, financial empowerment and holistic growth. Hear from dynamic voices, access local resources, and walk away inspired and equipped. 6:30 p.m. City Hall, 124 W. Michigan Ave., Lansing. 517hispanicheritage.com.

“A Beautiful Noise” - Created in collaboration with Neil Diamond himself, “A Beautiful Noise” is the true story of how a kid from Brooklyn became a chart-busting, show-stopping rock icon. 7:30 p.m. Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. whartoncenter.com.

Acting 101 Class for Teens & Adults - Meets twice per week. 7-8 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. ruhalacenter.com.

Acting Ensemble Class for Teens & Adults - Meets twice per week. 8-9:30 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. ruhalacenter.com.

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

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

Art Exhibition - The Lansing Women Artists Collective presents an exhibition featuring a variety of media, from acrylics to zentangles. All art is for sale. 10 a.m.-9 p.m. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. 517-351-2420.

Bang the Pots! Stop Starvation in Gaza! - Bring a pot and a wooden spoon to bang with; bring signs with the message. Gazans are starving, and our government is largely responsible. 5-6 p.m. Grand River median at Abbot Road in East Lansing. Sponsored by the Palestine Interfaith Network.

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

Bike Night at Summerlands Brewing Co. - Stop by for a bit and relax with some great food and drink specials! It’s also Taco Thursday! 6-10 p.m. 1957 Cedar St., Holt. facebook.com/summerlandsbrewing.

Bookend Gallery Display - The Bookend welcomes Sue Wittick to our gallery wall for the month of September. 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.

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.

Diabetes PATH - Six-week workshop designed to help individuals with diabetes or pre-diabetes improve their health and feel better. 1-3:30 p.m. McLaren Greater Lansing Event Center, 3101 Discovery Drive, Ste. 200, Lansing. To register, call 517-887-1465 or email histedc@tcoa.org.

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

ENERCO Boiler System Treatment Seminar - 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. 7373 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing. eventbrite.com/o/enerco-corporation-29932387219.

Escape the Fate - Post-hardcore outfit Escape the Fate hits Grewal Hall, with support from The Haunt. 7 p.m. 224 S. Washington Square, Lansing. hall224.com.

Group Dance Class: Beginning American-Style Rhumba - A rhythmic dance with a “slow, quick, quick” step pattern, emphasizing hip movements and a flowing, rocking motion. 7 p.m. Michigan Athletic Club, 2900 Hannah Blvd., East Lansing. Register by calling 517-364-8888.

Intro to Acting/Improv Class for Kids - Ages 5-12. 4-4:45 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. ruhalacenter.com.

Ladies’ Silver Blades - Join other adult women for fun, exercise, friendship and skating practice. All skill levels welcome. 9:30-11:30 a.m. Biggby Coffee Ice Cube, 2810 Hannah Blvd., East Lansing. ladiessilverblades.org.

EXCEPTIONAL
LIVE THEATRE,
CLOSER THAN
YOU THINK.

EVERY
BRILLIANT THING
OCT. 2 - 26, 2025

A SHERLOCK CAROL
NOV. 13 - DEC. 21, 2025

DIAL M FOR MURDER
FEB. 5 - MAR. 8, 2026

BAD BOOKS
APR. 23 - MAY 31, 2026

THE 39 STEPS
JUL. 9 - AUG. 16, 2026



SEASON 19
FLEX PASSES
NOW AVAILABLE

WILLIAMSTONTHEATRE.ORG

CROSSWORD SOLUTION

From Pg. 18

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SUDOKU SOLUTION

From Pg. 18

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**CITY OF LANSING
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

The Lansing City Council will hold a public hearing on Monday, September 22, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. in the Tony Benavides City of Lansing Council Chambers, Tenth Floor, Lansing City Hall, 124 West Michigan Ave. Lansing, MI 48933, for the purpose stated below:

To afford an opportunity for all residents, taxpayers of the City of Lansing, other interested persons and ad valorem taxing units to appear and be heard on the approval of Brownfield Plan #89 – Turner North Redevelopment pursuant to and in accordance with the provisions of the Brownfield Redevelopment Financing Act, Public Act 381 of 1996, as amended, for properties commonly referred to as Turner North located in the City of Lansing, but more particularly described as:

1413 Turner Street (Tax Parcel No. 33-01-01-09-252-131):

COM 2 R N OF SE COR LOT 9, TH N 4 R, W 10 R, S 4 R, E 10 R TO BEG; BLOCK 10
ORIG PLAT;

No Address (Tax Parcel No. 33-01-01-09-252-152):

N 6.16 R OF S 7 R LOTS 6, 7 & 8 BLOCK 10 ORIG PLAT:

1421 Turner Street (Tax Parcel No. 33-01-01-09-252-161):

COM 69.5 FT S OF SE COR LOT 4 BLOCK 9, TH S 46 FT, W 165 FT, N 46 FT, E 165 FT TO BEG; BLOCK 10 ORIG PLAT;

No Address (Tax Parcel No. 33-01-01-09-252-171):

COM 37.5 FT N OF NE COR BLOCK 10, TH W 165 FT, S 41 FT, E 165 FT, N 41 FT TO
BEG: SEC 9 & BLOCK 10 ORIG PLAT:

1429 Turner Street (Tax Parcel No. 33-01-01-09-252-181):

COM 12.5 FT N OF SE COR LOT 4 BLOCK 9, TH W 165 FT, S 41 FT, E 165 FT, N 41 FT TO BEG; SEC 9 & BLOCK 9 ORIG PLAT:

No Address (Tax Parcel No. 33-01-01-09-252-191)(PART):

Part of Lot 4, Block 9, ORIGINAL PLAT OF THE CITY OF LANSING, INGHAM COUNTY, MICHIGAN, as recorded in Liber 2 of Plats, Page 36, Ingham County Records, being more particularly described as: BEGINNING at the Northeast corner of the South 12-1/2 feet of said Lot 4; thence South 89 degrees 35 minutes 40 seconds West, along the Northline of the South 12-1/2 feet of said Lot 4, 165.86 feet; thence North 00 degrees 50 minutes 03 seconds East, along the West line of said Lot 4 and the East line of WYLLIS O. DODGE SUBDIVISION OF PART OF BLOCK 10 AND VACATED STREETS OF ORIGINAL PLATOF THE CITY OF LANSING, as recorded in Liber 6 of Plats, Page 40, Ingham County Records, 22.27 feet to the Southeast corner of Lot 12 of said WYLLIS O. DODGE SUBDIVISION; thence North 89 degrees 35 minutes 40 seconds East, 165.71 feet to the East line of said Lot 4; thence South 00 degrees 26 minutes 14 seconds West, along the East line of said Lot 4, 22.26 feet to the POINT-OF-BEGINNING.

Approval of this Brownfield Plan will enable the Lansing Brownfield Redevelopment Authority to capture incremental tax increases which result from the redevelopment of the property to pay for costs associated therewith. Further information regarding this issue, including maps, plats, and a description of the brownfield plan will be available for public inspection and may be obtained from Chelsea Dowler, Project Coordinator, Lansing Economic Development Corporation, 401 S. Washington Sq. Suite. 101, Lansing, MI 48933, 517-898-1709.

For more information, please call 517-483-4177. If you are interested in this matter, please attend the public hearing or send a representative. Written comments will be accepted between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. on City business days if received before 5 p.m., on the day of the Public Hearing at the City Clerk's Office, Ninth Floor, City Hall, 124 West Michigan Ave., Lansing, MI 48933 or email city.clerk@lansingmi.gov.

Chris Swope, Lansing City Clerk
www.lansingmi.gov/Clerk
www.facebook.com/LansingClerkSwope

CP#25-291

**CITY OF LANSING
SUMMARY OF
ADOPTED ORDINANCE #1339**

An Ordinance of the City of Lansing, Michigan to amend the Lansing Codified Ordinances, Chapter 206, Section 206.02, to add Section 206.02(a)(1)l. to add to and clarify the criteria that shall be considered in determining the lowest and most responsive and responsible bidder in construction contracts, and to require a scoring program for non-monetary criteria to be established by Resolution of Council.

Effective date: Upon publication

Notice: The full text of this Ordinance is available for review at the City Clerk's Office, 9th Floor, City Hall, Lansing, Michigan. A copy of the full text of this Ordinance may be obtained from the City Clerk's Office, 9th Floor, City Hall, Lansing, Michigan at a fee determined by City Council.

Chris Swope, Lansing City Clerk
www.lansingmi.gov/Clerk
www.facebook.com/LansingClerkSwope

CP#25-293

**CITY OF LANSING
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

Act-2-2025. Sale of City-owned Property. Lot 57. 1400 block Turner St.

The Lansing City Council will hold a public hearing on Monday, September 22, 2025 at 7:00 p.m., in the Tony Benavides Lansing City Council Chambers, 10th Floor City Hall, 124 W. Michigan Ave., Lansing, Michigan, to consider a resolution to sell a parcel along the 1400 block of Turner St., commonly known as Parking Lot 57.

Details of the sale are on file with the City Clerk's Office and are available at Ninth Floor, City Hall, 124 West Michigan Ave. or www.lansingmi.gov/clerk. For more information about this sale, phone City Council Offices on business days, Monday through Friday, between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. at 483-4177.

If you are interested in this matter, please attend the public hearing or send a representative. Written comments will be accepted between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. on City business days if received before 5 p.m., on the day of the Public Hearing at the City Clerk's Office, Ninth Floor, City Hall, 124 West Michigan Ave., Lansing, MI 48933 or email city.clerk@lansingmi.gov.

Chris Swope, Lansing City Clerk, MMC/CMMC
www.lansingmi.gov/Clerk
www.facebook.com/LansingClerkSwope

CP#25-292

**CITY OF LANSING
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing will be held on Monday, September 22, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. in the Tony Benavides Lansing City Council Chambers, 10th Floor, Lansing City Hall, 124 W. Michigan Avenue, Lansing, Michigan for the purpose of considering:

An Ordinance of the City of Lansing, Michigan, to amend Chapter 206, Purchasing Contracts and Sales, specifically Sections 206.01, 206.02, 206.03, 206.05, 206.06, 206.07, and 206.16, to increase the dollar amount threshold for competitive bidding and related purchasing requirements, to reflect inflation since 1994, and to provide for annual modification of the threshold in accordance with the Consumer Price Index.

Persons with disabilities who need an accommodation to fully participate in these meetings should contact the City Council Office at 517-483-4177 (TDD (517) 483-4479) 24-hour notice may be needed for certain accommodations. An attempt will be made to grant all reasonable accommodation requests.

For more information, please call Lansing City Council at 517-483-4177. If you are interested in this matter, please attend the public hearing or send a representative. Written comments will be accepted between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. on City business days if received before 5 p.m., on the day of the Public Hearing at the City Clerk's Office, Ninth Floor, City Hall, 124 West Michigan Ave., Lansing, MI 48933 or email city.clerk@lansingmi.gov.

Chris Swope, Lansing City Clerk, MMC/MiPMC
www.lansingmi.gov/Clerk
www.facebook.com/LansingClerkSwope

CP#25-294

FOOD & DRINK

DINING OUT IN GREATER LANSING

Try Bridge Street Social for an elevated evening

By LIZY FERGUSON

I usually reserve eating at restaurants with \$20-plus plates for when I go out of town, but if someone else is footing the bill, why not? I've wanted to visit Bridge Street Social for some time and was thrilled to receive an invitation to dine there last week, getting the chance to sample the menu of American classics and Italian-influenced dishes.

I set my Google Maps app to avoid highways and took the scenic route on a gray evening that was far too autumnal for early September. I decided a drink was in order to assuage my distress over summer ending so abruptly and was confronted with BSS' absolute unit of a wine list.

The restaurant has pages and pages of selections, as well as an in-house sommelier who's billed right alongside the chef. A little intimidated by this — and impatient — I decided on a cocktail, which was bitter and floral in all the right ways.

We started with some tasty appetizers, then moved on to the main event, which for me was the pork ribeye with a peach-and-ginger mostarda, Tuscan kale and saba. The mostarda, a condiment made of candied fruit — in this case, peaches — and mustard-flavored syrup, along with the saba, a grape must syrup that's similar to balsamic vinegar, pooled beneath the

moist, perfectly cooked pork. The bright sweetness of the peaches and the rich, honeyed saba complemented the meat beautifully. The perhaps overly generous amount of fresh thyme and single, dense leaf of kale, slick with pork fat, provided a welcome earthy contrast.

Dessert was perhaps the highlight, despite the fact that I rarely order it. We went with the butterscotch budino, a creamy, luxurious Italian pudding that was drizzled with the richest, saltiest, darkest caramel I've ever encountered. The sharp bite of the salt in the midst of the eggy, somewhat gritty pudding and whipped crème fraîche was heavenly. This would be the perfect dessert for someone with a more savory palate, like me. From the drinks to the food to the service, Bridge Street Social is the perfect place to pass an evening when you want to feel a little fancy and try something new while still enjoying reasonable prices and a casual atmosphere.



Pork ribeye

\$24

Bridge Street Social

107 S. Bridge St., DeWitt

5-10 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday

(517) 668-1837

bss517.com



Lizy Ferguson for City Pulse

Many of Bridge Street Social's dishes have an Italian influence, such as the pork ribeye with a peach-and-ginger mostarda, Tuscan kale and saba.

The flavor of fire

By ARI LEVAUX

In the rain-washed air above Montana's Red Eagle Campground, vibrations of rock 'n' roll power chords mingled with the fragrant smoke of a buffalo feast. On the ground, a mix of local Blackfeet tribal members and headbangers from around the world whet their appetites with heavy-metal calisthenics at the three-day Fire in the Mountains festival.

A well-appointed outdoor kitchen featured some heavy metal of a different sort. Several fire-breathing grilling apparatuses imported from Argentina, where they know a thing or two about cooking large animals, were laden with heavy roasts of bison. The hunks of meat contorted in the rising smoke of cherrywood briquettes, sputtering occasional geysers of sizzling juice at the hot framework. Bunches of onions hung in the smoke, while peppers, corn, beans,



asparagus, potatoes, beets, turnips and other root crops, everything locally grown, browned closer to the coals.

"It was very welcoming and peaceful, and the no-alcohol policy amplified this," Drew Iaderosa, an occupational therapist from Missoula, said. "It was the kind of festival that could turn a metal skeptic into a believer of the genre."

Iaderosa described his favorite meal, a Philly-style buffalo cheesesteak sandwich, in a manner that cannot be printed.

The feast was structured like an asado, explained Tom Fitzgerald, owner and executive chef of the Whitefish, Montana, catering company Region Sauvage, which fed the festival's 1,200 guests. The word "asado" refers not only to the type of grill but also to the style of whole-animal cookery where different cuts are served at different times throughout the feast, based on when they reach perfection.

Fitzgerald grew up in the remote North Fork Valley of the nearby Flathead River and has traveled to similar temperate regions in other countries to better understand the culinary possibilities of home. While sourcing his grill game from down south, he's looking to Norway and Japan for inspiration on fermentation. These techniques are useful for preserving foods without modern sterilization techniques and are especially important in safely storing wild meats.

"If I had a grizzly bear, I would ferment it before eating it," he said.

It's fitting that Fire in the Mountains happened 30 miles from Camp Disappointment, the northernmost campsite of the Lewis and Clark expedition. It so happens that Fitzgerald is prone to speculate as to what would have happened had France held onto Louisiana and had French fur traders explored the Northwest. Montana's food scene would be different than it is today, he contends, "Because those guys could cook."

Instead, Montana's regional food scene was stunted, with its most significant culinary innovation being a fried pork chop sandwich. Fitzgerald



Photo by Jay Nel-Molntosh

At the three-day Fire in the Mountains Festival in Montana, several grilling apparatuses, imported from Argentina, were laden with heavy roasts of bison.

wants to bring Montana's food culture back to what it could have been had different cooks been in charge.

"Our rivers are full of crawfish, our

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Flash

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hills are flush with wild mushrooms, the plains are thick with buffalo and elk, the lakes have whitefish and trout. Just imagine what they could have done,” he said.

Montana state law allows the serving of wild game to the public if there is educational value, and many Region Sauvage events qualify.

“My vision is to help foster a strong local food network where Montana’s producers, ranchers, farmers and foragers work hand-in-hand with chefs,” Fitzgerald said. “It’s about building a community table — connecting the people who raise the food with the people who prepare it and

making sure the value of that work stays here. If we can build that system, we not only nourish our guests, but we strengthen our communities.”

To that end, Fitzgerald once served pemmican — a mixture of dried bison, berries and fat — to a group of high-end clients. They regarded it skeptically at first, until he explained that this was the original Clif Bar, a preserved food that fueled hunters and sustained families through winters. That got their attention.

“Suddenly, they weren’t just eating; they were connecting with the ingenuity of the people who thrived on this landscape,” he said. “That’s authenticity to me — not reinvention but carrying forward what was already perfected.”

Dandelion-leaf miso with koji rice

Fitzgerald was kind enough to provide this recipe, which employs one of the most prolific ingredients on the planet, available wherever grass is grown. He gave me a sample, and it’s exquisite. I’ve used it in my miso salmon recipe and marinated tough stew meat in it for five days, at which point the meat was like butter.

Ingredients

1 pound young dandelion leaves, thoroughly rinsed, tough stems removed
1 pound koji rice (steamed rice inoculated with Aspergillus oryzae)
1 cup fine sea salt (non-iodized)
1/2–1 cup filtered water, as needed

Bring a large pot of salted water to a boil. Blanch the dandelion leaves for 60 to 90 seconds, then plunge them into ice water. Drain well and squeeze dry. Chop finely.

In a large mixing bowl, combine the chopped dandelion leaves with the koji rice. Use clean hands to break apart any clumps of koji, working it evenly through the greens.

Sprinkle in the salt and massage it into the mixture. Add just enough filtered water to create a paste that clumps when pressed but is not watery.

Transfer the mixture to a fermentation crock or a large, sterilized jar. Press down firmly to remove air pockets. Cover the surface with parchment or a cheesecloth, then weigh it down with a fermentation weight or a clean plate. Seal the vessel with a lid that allows gas to escape.

Store in a cool, dark place (ideally 60 to 70 degrees) for at least six months, preferably up to a year. Check periodically for surface mold and remove it gently if it appears. The miso will darken, and its aroma will deepen over time.

When the flavor has mellowed to your liking, transfer the miso to smaller jars, seal, and refrigerate. They will keep for a year or more.

Serving suggestions

Whisk a spoonful into hot broth with scallions and tofu for a wild miso soup.

Spread on grilled sourdough with fresh ricotta and cracked pepper.

Stir into warm butter and toss with roasted root vegetables.

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