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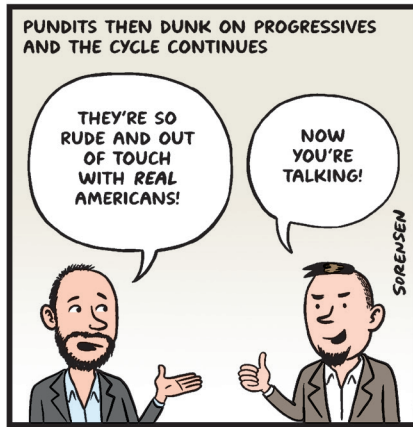
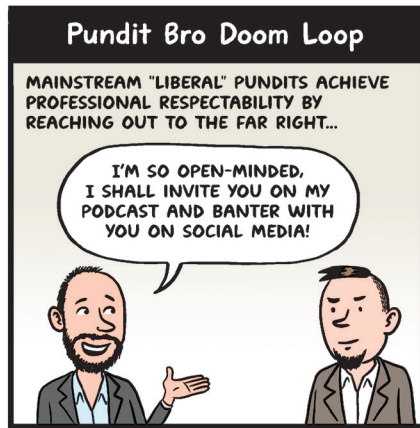
EDITOR AND PUBLISHER • Berl Schwartz  
[publisher@lansingcitypulse.com](mailto:publisher@lansingcitypulse.com) • (517) 999-5061  
GENERAL MANAGER • Steve Underwood  
[steve@lansingcitypulse.com](mailto:steve@lansingcitypulse.com) • (517) 999-6704  
ARTS & CULTURE/EVENTS EDITOR • Nicole Noechel  
[nicole@lansingcitypulse.com](mailto:nicole@lansingcitypulse.com) • (517) 999-5066  
SENIOR STAFF WRITER • Lawrence Cosentino  
[lawrence@lansingcitypulse.com](mailto:lawrence@lansingcitypulse.com) • (517) 999-5065  
NEWS REPORTER • Leo V. Kaplan  
[leo@lansingcitypulse.com](mailto:leo@lansingcitypulse.com) • (517) 999-5063

Contributors: Bryan Beverly, Courtney Bowerman, Rob Breznsy, Capital News Service, Bill Castanier, Ryan Claytor, Mary C. Cusack, Dana DeMink, Lizzy Ferguson, AJ Glaub, Mark Gmazel, Raymond Holt, Kurt Krug, Ari Le-Vaux, Gabrielle Lawrence, Kyle Melinn, Joan Nelson, Tom Perkins, Dennis Preston, Vic Rauch, Lora Root, Chris Silva, Jen Sorensen, Nevin Speerbrecker, Rich Tupica, Vidalia Wenzlick, David Winkelstern, Victor Wooddell

Delivery drivers: Cindy Heistand, Curt Lauck, Terri Paine, Diane Scofield

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Lansing Symphony brings cosmic vibes to season opener

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"Beauty and the Beast" gets an update for U.S. tour


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Renovations bring Sophia's House of Pancakes back to life

PAGE 31

Cover illustration by Dennis Preston



**CityPULSE**

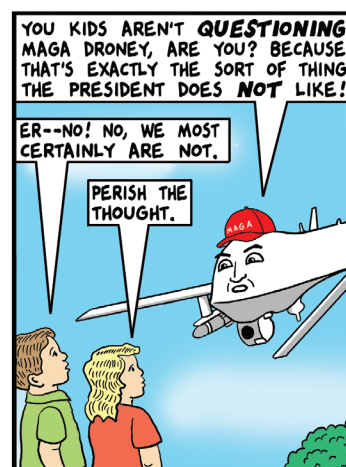
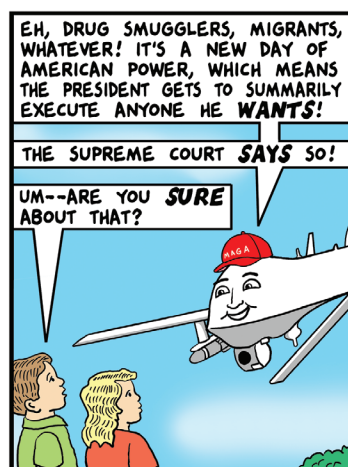
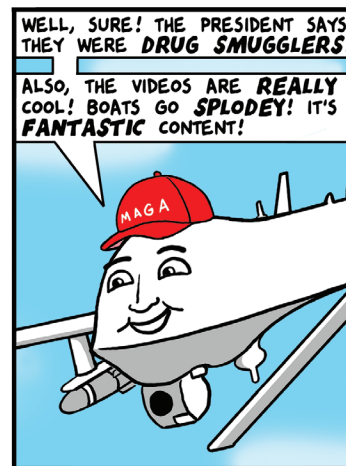
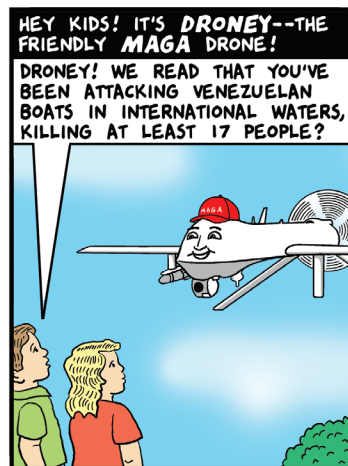
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## THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW



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# PULSE

# NEWS & OPINION

## East Lansing voters, candidates split over property tax increase

### Approval would end deficit left by BWL Supreme Court ruling

As the Nov. 4 City Council election in East Lansing approaches, the city's budget deficit has taken center stage — though without a clear solution.

A 20% plurality of likely voters think the city budget is the “most important issue” the city should address, according to a poll by the Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce.

However, voters are split down the middle over the city's proposed solution, a 2-mill increase on real and personal property, bringing the total to 15 mills. That would bring in a projected \$2.9 million year, eliminating the city's \$2.5 million deficit. The money would go entirely to the Parks, Recreation and Arts Department, instead of funding it through the General Fund.

It would raise taxes by \$200 year on each \$100,000 worth of taxable property value.

By a 3% margin, voters favor the increase, 44.6% to 41.6%, according to the LRCC poll, likely leaving the outcome to the 13.8% who were undecided. Greenlee Consulting of Grand Rapids conducted the poll among 250 likely voters at the end of August. It has an error rate of plus or minus 6.2%.

East Lansing residents can be fickle when it comes to taxes. In 2017, they turned down imposing a 1% income tax. But they turned around in a special election the next year and approved it.

The deficit is largely the result of the state Supreme Court's ruling this year that a 5% franchise fee on Lansing Board of Water & Light customers that brought East Lansing \$1.5 million yearly was an illegal tax. The city has to pay back \$7.8 million on top of losing the revenue stream.

Five candidates running for six Council seats next month said the budget was a key priority, but three emphasized that the deficit could be fixed without another tax. The sixth, Chuck Grigsby, who chairs the city's Human Rights Commission,



Bert Schwartz/City Pulse

Downtown East Lansing along Albert Street. Residents will decide next month whether to fix the city's budget deficit by increasing property taxes.

did not respond.

(For more on their views on this and other issues, see Page 5.)

Kathleen Esdall, an East Lansing Board of Education trustee and the vice chair of the East Lansing Independent Police Oversight Commission, said the city's challenges include “addressing budgetary shortfalls without adding to the tax burden of East Lansing residents.”

“We can balance our budget without further taxing our community or losing valuable quality of life programming like parks and recreation,” she said.

Adam DeLay, a departmental specialist for the Michigan Health and Human Services Department who has worked for elected representatives in the state and federal government, accused the city of going back on its word “that it would not raise property taxes so long as the income tax is in place.”

“We should be conducting a detailed review of the city's budget and contracted services and waiting on the recommendations of a financial health review team,” DeLay said. “Instead, the City Council is asking voters for a property tax increase.”

“If East Lansing needs to make cuts

and raise revenue, it needs to lead from the top,” he said. He proposed “a four-year pay freeze for members of Council and top city staff.”

Liam Richichi, the constituent services director for a Democratic Ann Arbor state representative, said “fixing our budget” “does NOT mean continuing to raise taxes on hard-working families and seniors who are feeling the crunch from the cost-of-living crisis.”

Richichi wants to expand the tax base, advocating for new housing and commercial developments “in our downtown and along transit corridors” as one possible solution

Josh Ramirez-Roberts, a state Retirement Services Office employee who serves on the East Lansing Parks Commission and Fenner Nature Center board of directors, did not mention the millage but said growing the tax base was necessary “to truly solve our budget crisis.” He champions “smart development that maintains East Lansing's sense of place while also bringing needed improvements to the community.”

Steve Whelan, a retired East Lansing police officer, did not mention the mill-

age, either.

Steve Japinga, the Chamber's senior vice president, said he was “shocked” by how contentious the millage was, both among voters and candidates the Chamber interviewed.

“Ingham County voters in any of these municipalities typically they typically always vote ‘yes,’” he said, though that trend has begun to slow recently.

According to the poll, the second most important issue to East Lansing voters is “affordable housing and homelessness,” at 16%, followed by “education and youth programs” at 13%.

Those issues generally align with the candidates' priorities. An issue not included in the Chamber poll but popular among candidates was cracking down on excessive noise, particularly from cars. All respondents except Richichi mentioned it.

Notably absent from three candidates' responses was violence in downtown East Lansing, which has made headlines multiple times since a high-profile brawl during MSU's welcome week. Whelan said he would “take creative action to keep downtown safe at all times.” Edsall emphasized her belief that the city could “maintain a safe and vibrant downtown without criminalizing Blackness or homelessness.”

In the poll, it was named the most important issue by under 11% of respondents.

Japinga said those results may indicate that voters' public safety concerns are tied up in the budget.

“There's just so much happening around that budget, and I know public safety is part of that discussion,” he said. “Among voters that responded, public safety might be at the top of their mind, but also, how is that being funded?”

Japinga emphasized that the poll respondents were likely voters, rather than the general public. Some 85% of voters had voted in the previous four elections; nearly half were 65 or older.

With tight margins on the millage, undecided voters — or those considered unlikely to vote — could sway the election.

“Just go vote,” Japinga said.

— LEO V. KAPLAN

# East Lansing City Council candidates share views

## Kathleen Edsall, 65, veterinarian and business owner

As an East Lansing Board of Education trustee for almost 11 years, I deeply understand local governance, finance and policy. During my tenure, the board and community passed two bonds which remodeled/rebuilt our six elementary schools and will create a secure entrance to the high school and improve accessibility there and the middle school. As treasurer for nine years with an MBA in accounting, I understand fund balance accounting and will quickly assimilate municipal accounting. As vice chair to the East Lansing Independent Police Oversight Commission, I have dedicated time to learning East Lansing's codes, ordinances and police policy. Since earning my doctorate in veterinary medicine and my MBA from MSU, I am now a 47-year resident of the area where my wife and I run our business and contin-



Edsall

ue to raise our children. I have strong connections and deep attachments to this community.

I am running for the City Council to help address our challenges in ways that avoid harming historically marginalized communities. I am also running to celebrate that which is great about our city.

Our challenges include addressing budgetary shortfalls without adding to the tax burden of East Lansing residents; developing a vibrant downtown for families and children while allowing students to participate in college life without one overshadowing or being sacrificed for the other; collaborating to develop after-school programming that meets the needs of middle/high school children that is more than the public library; and increasing housing stock to address shortfalls and expand our tax base.

Our opportunities lie in our strengths. We should elevate our trail system and parks to award-winning levels and



**The East Lansing City Council has five members who serve four-year overlapping terms. Six candidates, none of them incumbents, are vying for two seats in the Nov. 4 General Election. City Council asked the candidates to submit 500-word statements of their views on what they see as the most important issues. All but one candidate, Chuck Grigsby, responded.**

uplift the arts. Our new elementary buildings were saved and remodeled or rebuilt to support walkable neighborhoods, which create strong community pride and engagement and show the commitment of our city employees who maintain and thus strengthen them.

Specifically, I believe we can address

the needs of those who have noise and traffic concerns in their neighborhoods without harming those with limited resources and defective car exhausts.

I believe we can have a safe and vibrant downtown without criminalizing Blackness or homelessness.

I believe we can remain a sanctuary city and not allow ICE to have access to our schools, jails and courts.

I believe we can balance our budget without further taxing our community or losing valuable quality of life programming like parks and recreation.

I believe that the city, the school district and the library can work together with parents to support children after school.

For many of us, what is going on nationally is distressing and horrifying and we feel helpless. I am running because infiltrating local councils and school boards with white Christian Nationalists in progressive communities is a national strategy, and I am working and have worked to prevent that from happening.

I believe we can live up to our ideals, and I want to help lead the way.

## Adam DeLay, 37, specialist, Michigan Health and Human Services Department

I've been in the Lansing area for nearly 20 years. I came here to attend MSU, and on my very first night on campus, I met a girl. That girl is now my wife, and

our family lives in East Lansing's Northern Meadows neighborhood.

At MSU, I earned degrees in social relations and policy and journalism. Since that time, I've dedicated my life to public service. I spent four years working in the state Senate, four years working for Sen. Debbie Stabenow, a year and a half for Gov. Gretchen Whitmer, and

for the last five years with the Health and Human Services Department. I serve on East Lansing's Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission. I previously served on the East Lansing Community Development Advisory Committee and the Ingham County Board of

See EL CANDIDATES, Page 6



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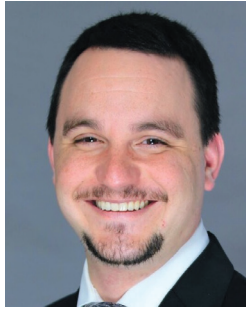


# EL CANDIDATES

from page 5

Canvassers.

I am running because East Lansing is at a crossroads. News of illegal taxes, financial mismanagement, a proposed property tax increase, dangerous traffic conditions in our neighborhoods and excessive noise has eroded public trust in our city government. We need a City Council that listens to the voices and needs of residents.



DeLay

East Lansing is facing a budget crisis. While the city has taken some steps to address its deficit, it remains a major issue. We should be conducting a detailed review of

the city's budget and contracted services, and waiting on the recommendations of a financial health review team. Instead, the City Council is asking voters for a property tax increase. This ballot proposal is not about raising revenue for our parks but rather a Council attempt to go back on the city's word that it would not raise property taxes so long as the income tax is in place. If East Lansing needs to make cuts and raise revenue, it needs to lead from the top. That is why I am proposing a four-year pay freeze for Council members and top city staff.

Residents have been asking Council for years to improve traffic conditions in our neighborhoods and have sent the city petitions with detailed

requests of what they want to see happen. Instead of listening to residents, the city either ignores them or tells them the things they want, such as stop signs, will not work. It is time to listen to our residents and tackle this issue head on.

We must also focus on increasing housing options for young adults who want to make a living in East Lansing but cannot afford to rent and may also not be at the point where they are ready (or able) to buy a house. We need to improve housing options for low- to middle-income people and families who want to be a part of our community but unfortunately are financially unable to do so.

I believe my 15 years of public service experience make me well suited to meet our community's challenges, and I look forward to the opportunity to serve.

## Josh Ramirez-Roberts, 24, state of Michigan Office of Retirement Services employee

I'm a lifelong East Lansing resident running for City Council to bring a fresh voice and needed solutions to the serious issues facing our community. I serve on boards and commissions across the Lansing area, including the Fenner Nature Center board of directors and East Lansing Parks Commission. I served on the Comprehensive Plan Update team as well as the Bailey Community Association and the committee tasked with working to bring back the folk festival.

From outstanding pension obligations to massive legal settlements and the rising costs of inflation, the city is getting hit from all sides. Rather than looking to once again raise costs on residents, we should be looking internally to make necessary adjustments.

See EL CANDIDATES, Page 7

### CITY OF LANSING NOTICE OF REGISTRATION FOR TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2025 ELECTION

To the qualified electors of the City of Lansing:

Please take notice that the City of Lansing will hold an Election on Tuesday, November 4, 2025.

**For the purpose of electing candidates for the following offices:**

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

**For the purpose of voting on the following proposals:**

**City:** City of Lansing Charter Proposal  
**School:** Waverly Community Schools Sinking Fund Renewal Proposal

Full text of the ballot proposals may be obtained at the office of the Lansing City Clerk, 124 W. Michigan Ave., 9<sup>th</sup> Floor, Lansing, MI 48933, telephone: (517) 483-4131, website: [www.LansingVotes.gov](http://www.LansingVotes.gov).

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

The last day to register in any manner other than in-person with the Lansing City Clerk's Office is **Monday, October 20, 2025**.

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

Location	Address	Regular Business Hours September 25 – October 31
Lansing City Clerk – City Hall	124 W Michigan Ave Lansing, MI 48933	Monday – Friday 8am – 5pm
Lansing City Clerk – Reo Elections Office	1221 Reo Rd. Lansing, MI 48910	Monday – Friday 9am – 5pm  Wednesdays 9am – 7pm

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

Location	Address	Additional Hours
Lansing City Clerk – City Hall	124 W Michigan Ave Lansing, MI 48933	Monday November 3 8am – 4pm  Election Day November 4 8am – 5pm
Lansing City Clerk – Reo Elections Office	1221 Reo Rd. Lansing, MI 48910	Saturday November 1 10am – 4pm  Sunday November 2 10am – 4pm  Monday November 3 9am – 4pm  Election Day November 4 7am – 8pm

**ABSENT VOTER BALLOTS**

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

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

Friday, October 31, 2025 at 5:00 pm is the deadline to request an absentee ballot be mailed to you.

Monday, November 3, 2025 at 4:00 pm is the deadline to request an absentee ballot in person, except for those who register to vote on Election Day.

Those registering to vote on Election Day, Tuesday, November 4, 2025, are eligible to receive an absent voter ballot at the Lansing City Clerk's Office, locations referenced in the above table.

**Chris Swope, MMC/MiPMC**  
Lansing City Clerk  
Phone: 517-483-4131  
Email: [city.clerk@lansingmi.gov](mailto:city.clerk@lansingmi.gov)  
Website: [www.lansingvotes.gov](http://www.lansingvotes.gov)  
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## EL CANDIDATES

from page 6



Ramirez

This means working with department heads to find ways to reduce costs while minimizing potential impacts on services and listening to the community on the changes they want to see. We've begun recruiting a financial health team that will bring recommendations on how to heal our budget, and the key is that when they give us their recommendations, we need to take them to heart and follow through. But these cost-cutting measures cannot continue forever. To truly solve our budget crisis, we need to work toward growing our tax base through smart development that maintains East Lansing's sense of place while also bringing needed improvements to the community. However, the question of housing students cannot be placed on our shoulders alone. We need to be working with MSU to craft a joint long-term plan to address student housing so that we can tackle this issue together and work to keep students close to campus and reduce stress on our neighborhoods.

Since coming out of COVID, we have seen sharp increases in reckless driving and speeding vehicles that put our children, cyclists and motorists in danger. Citizens have been voicing these concerns to the city but have been running into repeated obstacles. We need to take a holistic look at how we can better design our roadways to make reckless driving less feasible and to better protect pedestrians and cyclists through improved sidewalks and bike lanes. However, no matter how well you design a road, some people are just going to be jerks. When someone is speeding or weaving in and out of traffic on a neighborhood street, we need to issue tickets and hold these people accountable. The same can be said for the modified car exhausts that blast across town throughout the night, keeping residents awake.

We can fix these issues, but we have to be out there listening to the community and putting in the effort that residents deserve.

### Liam Richichi, 22, constituent services director for state Rep. Jason Morgan, D-Ann Arbor

I'm running for East Lansing City Council because I believe our city needs fresh energy, leadership and a commitment to ensuring that East Lansing works for everyone, from lifelong residents to young professionals, seniors, students and families alike.

I graduated from Michigan State University, where I studied political theory at James Madison College and became deeply engaged in community and campus life. I've organized with local leaders and served as president of the MSU College Democrats, which under my leadership grew to become the nation's largest chapter of college Democrats. Through state legislative work, I've seen how effective, values-driven local leadership can shape stronger, more equitable communities. I'm ready to bring that same focus and drive to East Lansing's City Council.

I've knocked on thousands of doors across the city, and I've heard a consistent message: East Lansing is a city

with so much potential, but we need a Council that listens, leads and responds. Too often, residents feel left out of major decisions, whether it's around housing, neighborhood safety or city finances. I'm running because

I believe we need a government that is more transparent, more accessible and more accountable.

I'm running for three big reasons.

First, rebuilding trust in local government. That means returning to an energetic, responsive City Council that actively listens to the community, not just expensive consultants who

blow holes in the side of our budget.

Second, fixing our budget. That does NOT mean continuing to raise taxes on hard-working families and seniors who are feeling the crunch from the cost-of-living crisis. It means finding ways to increase revenues in our city without asking folks for more. It means building housing and commercial opportunities downtown and along transit corridors, expanding our tax base and easing the burden on individual taxpayers.

This also addresses a third issue: housing. Many young families cannot afford to live here. They move to

the east side of Lansing and patronize Lansing businesses instead of those in East Lansing. According to a 2025 housing study, and as a recent MSU grad, I can tell you there is a shortage in housing. Want to know an easy solution to this? Build smart, sustainable housing options and bring young folks out of single-family homes that are being used as rentals. Let's work together to remodel these homes and turn them back into single-family housing while expanding our tax base. All of this means more money in your pocket, more diversity in our community and better investments in public safety and services.

I'm proud to be endorsed by the Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce PAC, the Mid-Michigan Realtors Association and others who see in me a candidate who can bridge generational and neighborhood divides. I believe East Lansing needs leadership that reflects everyone — not just one group or another. I'm young, yes, but I bring energy, real policy experience, and a commitment to listen and lead with integrity.

If elected, I'll hold regular coffee hours, remain accessible to constituents and fight for a more livable, inclusive and vibrant East Lansing. I hope to earn your support — and your vote.



Richichi

### Steve Whelan, 61, retired East Lansing police officer

I am running for City Council for the City of East Lansing because I love this town. My wife and I have lived and engaged with our community for 29 years, raising three great adults, all of whom graduated from East Lansing High School. They are now raising our seven grandchildren here.

I have just completed 25 years as an East Lansing police officer. I know this city extremely well. Having been a school resource officer for our schools and neighborhood liaison advocate has been rewarding. East Lansing is a great place to live and work.

In my life and career, I have made it my priority to listen, assess the situation and then take action to bring about solutions. We have challenging days ahead. But with compassionate and positive solutions our city will thrive.

I see that working collaboratively with

stakeholders is critical. I will have goals to solve problems and opportunities for the greater good of our community and will strive to work with the city manager efficiently and effectively. I will support our city staff, who are experts at running a city. We also need outreach to our neighboring city and townships, MSU and the East Lansing Public Schools.

My top priorities:  
**PUBLIC SAFETY**

I will take creative action to keep downtown safe at all times day or night. We also need to work toward solutions to the issues of traditionally disruptive crowds downtown at bar close.

I will work to eliminate the ordinance that limits the ELPD from enforcing loud vehicles. The noise is a nuisance and causes a distraction and safety concern for other drivers. Also, it is important to increase awareness and enforcement of traffic safety, especially in school zones.

There is a need to address the issues

of homelessness. This will take a multi-pronged approach to address the issues this community faces, while keeping the city safe for residents and visitors.

#### MANAGED GROWTH

A safe and thriving downtown can come through managed growth. There is a housing shortage for students desiring to live near campus. I welcome downtown development that is mutually advantageous to satisfy the demand while providing an increased tax base.

#### BALANCED BUDGET

We need to make sure resident investments in income and property tax are used to the fullest. Keeping the issues that matter most to our residents is a high priority with a balanced budget. This needs to include a clean and strong infrastructure through public works. We also need to maintain an experienced, equipped and dedicated Fire and Police departments keeping us safe at all times of day and night.

Because I have knowledge of the city with a proven track record, I also bring reliability, reasonableness and readiness to serve with determination during this vital time in our city's history.

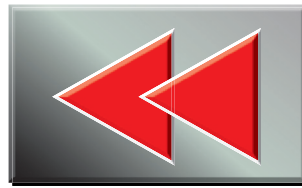


Whelan

# REWIND

## NEWS HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE LAST 7 DAYS

COMPILED BY STEVE UNDERWOOD FROM LOCAL NEWS SOURCES



**Terry McKane, Lansing's mayor from 1982 to '92, died at 84.** A history teacher at Sexton High School, he was elected to the City Council for the Third Ward in 1971 and served there until he was elected mayor. McKane proposed an early retirement deal in 1992 for city employees not covered by a union, believing it would save the city money. After the Council adopted it, McKane and then-City Clerk James

Blair took early retirement. The city attorney concluded they were ineligible, prompting them to sue the city in Ingham County and federal court unsuccessfully. McKane, who most recently resided in Midland, is survived by his wife of 56 years, Virginia, and three children, as well as eight grandchildren.

**The East Lansing City Council postponed adopting changes to its Police Department and Independent Police Oversight Commission.** The Council delayed making changes to Ordinance 1533 in favor of a



second reading and possible adoption Oct. 21. The city has faced public opposition against the ordinance and concerns about the lack of safety downtown late on weekend nights. The commission, which the Council created in 2021, is responsible for police accountability. Council members Dana Watson and Mark Meadows requested the delay, and the Council passed the motion unanimously, with the city attorney confirming that there were no legal concerns with deferring the vote.



**MSU has announced a 2025 fall enrollment of 51,838 students, down from its record of 52,089 last year but its second-highest total ever.** The total includes students from all 83 Michigan counties, all 50 states and 139 countries. There are 10,720 new undergraduates, including 8,200 from Michigan, and 1,365 transfer students.

**The American Bar Association has placed Cooley Law School on probation and scheduled a February hearing at which the school's president and dean, James McGrath, will seek to demonstrate why the ABA should not withdraw Cooley's accreditation status.** An ABA council placed Cooley on probation Sept. 19 due to noncompliance with Standard 316, which requires at least 75% of graduates who sit for the bar exam to pass within two years of graduation. McGrath stated that the issue arose because a small number of 2024 graduates did not take the exam before this July. However, he said, after the July 2025 exam results are known, Cooley will be able to prove compliance.



**The Lansing Foodies, partnering with the Lansing Lugnuts and the MARK Advocacy Group, a Lansing nonprofit, have**

**revived the Lansing Chili Cook-Off, set to take place at Jackson Field on Saturday.** The Lansing Board of Water & Light launched the event in 1998 and held it for more than two decades, through 2019, at Adado Park and then Jackson Field. However, the BWL announced it wouldn't return in 2022 after a two-year pandemic break. The cook-off, from 5:30 p.m. to 9

p.m., features 14 restaurants and vendors, as well as entertainers on three stages and a variety of activities for kids and adults. The community can purchase tickets for the event at [lansingchilicookoff.com](http://lansingchilicookoff.com) or at the stadium the day of the event.



**Pennsylvania resident James Glendon, 58, faces eight misdemeanor counts from a November 2024 incident when a semitruck plowed into vehicles stopped for a utility project on Interstate 96 near Webberville, killing four.** The 55th District Court has charged Glendon with four counts each of committing moving violations causing death and serious injury. The former charge is punishable by up to a year in jail, while the latter carries a maximum penalty of 93 days in jail. Ingham County Prosecutor John Dewane said Glendon was out of state and is trying to get him back to Michigan for an arraignment. Glendon and Koleaseco Inc., the Grand Rapids-based company for which he was working, have been named in lawsuits filed by crash victims or their families.

After Burton police evacuated the store, a Michigan State Police bomb team responded and led a search of the building. Investigators determined the Delta minors made the call from Flint, where they were visiting family. They told officers they made the prank call because they were bored. Police investigated whether there might be any connection between the false bomb threats and the attack on the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in nearby Grand Blanc Township but determined there was not.

**Police said they expect two Delta Township minors to face charges in connection with a bomb threat called into a Meijer store in Burton, near Flint.** After Burton police evacuated the store, a Michigan State Police bomb team responded and led a search of the building. Investigators determined the Delta minors made the call from Flint, where they were visiting family. They told officers they made the prank call because they were bored. Police investigated whether there might be any connection between the false bomb threats and the attack on the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in nearby Grand Blanc Township but determined there was not.



**An Ingham County Circuit Court jury has convicted Dennis Whaley of Lansing of killing his girlfriend, Christine Cambric, and her cousin, Jason McKenzie, in their basement in April 2024.** Whaley, who used an AR 15-style rifle in the shootings, will face a term of up to life in prison when he appears before Judge Wanda Stokes

for sentencing Dec. 2. The jury also convicted Whaley of two counts of felony firearm possession.



FOWLERVILLE HIGH SCHOOL 1919-1922

### Charlie Gehringer mural

It's worth a detour off Interstate 96 to the village of Fowlerville to see the new mural honoring baseball great Charlie Gehringer. The Hall of Famer was raised on a farm and played for sandlot teams and the University of Michigan before joining the Detroit Tigers for 19 seasons, from 1924 through 1942, at second base, including starting in six All-Star Games. He was called the Mechanical Man for his sterling ability fielding and batting. His accomplishments were legendary, batting .371 the year he won the American League Most Valuable Player award and playing on the 1935 World Championship team. He held a .320-career batting average.

The new mural, which was completed in early September, was underwritten by a \$25,000 grant from the Consumers Power Foundation.

Fowlerville has planned an unveiling at 2 p.m. Friday (Oct. 3) at 200 N. Grand River Ave.

Local artist Sarah Elaine painted the mural with assistance by Nona Zink and Amanda Johnson on the side of the village's new EMS Building. The large mural shows Gehringer posing in his Fowlerville High School uniform. He led the team to a state championship.

There are plans percolating in the Lansing area to name a street after Magic Johnson, so why not a large mural like Fowlerville's showcasing our own hometown hero?

**BILL CASTANIER**

Public Art of the Week rotates with Eye-sore of the Week. If you have an idea for either, please email [eye@lansing-citypulse.com](mailto:eye@lansing-citypulse.com) or call (517) 999-6704.

If you missed our endorsements last week, we offer this reminder of our choices, based on interviews with all but one candidate (at-large candidate Aurelius Christian, who declined).

**Charter proposal**

We encourage your support for the first complete City Charter revision in 47 years. It's the result of many, many hours of hearings and discussions by nine elected commissioners. The ballot language is deceptively simple: "Shall the Charter proposed by the City Charter Commission be adopted?"

We say yes. Among its reforms are expanding the Council to five wards from four, thus increasing representation; consolidating all Council elections into one year, saving taxpayer money; giving the Council authority over the city attorney equal to the mayor's; and establishing an independent financial auditor's position. What it does not do is equally important, which is ask voters to replace a strong mayor system with a city manager one, which would reduce accountability in the executive branch. If for no other reason, say yes and save the city the quarter-million dollars or more it would cost if voters send the commission back to the drawing board for a second try.

**Mayor**

Mayor Andy Schor has earned a third term. Cranes are in the air downtown on major residential projects, a key step to bringing the heart of our city out of its economic malaise. For too long, downtown

depended too much on state employees, who likely will never return in pre-pandemic numbers — and even if they did, most would head to homes outside downtown at workday's end. Schor deserves a big share of credit important state funding, and not only for housing. A new city hall is under construction downtown with funds he also helped secure. Equally important, the current City Hall will become a first-

# Lansing endorsements redux

## The CP Edit

**Opinion**

rate hotel because Schor followed through on a plan set in motion by predecessor Virg Bernero. Look for construction to start downtown next year on the Ovation, the public/private entertainment venue. South of downtown, the city's public safety building is under construction, the result of Schor's leadership on a \$175 million public bond proposal voters approved in his current term. And Schor has promised to form a committee to determine what historic buildings are endangered and figure out how to help owners prevent them from declining to the point that they cannot be saved. If there's a silver lining to the old Eastern High School fiasco, that would be it.

**City Council**

Half the seats on the City Council are on the ballot. Two are at-large, and we encourage voters to support Julie Vandenberg and Clara Martinez, both first-

time candidates, and both of whom we find thoughtful and independent.

Vandenberg is the target of a phone campaign by Michigan Vindicated, a for-hire operation that need not disclose who funds it. Our guess is it's the unions, who fear they might lose their inside influence should she edge out Jeremy Garza. A longtime state Department of Health and Services employee, she promises to be a politically progressive voice on the Council.

We're similarly impressed by Martinez, who has won the mayor's backing. Martinez, a union member, is dance director at Everett High School. Martinez serves on the city's arts commission and can give the arts the Council voice it deserves.

Voters in the 2nd and 4th wards will select new representatives, and they're fortunate to have two outstanding newcomers.

In the 2nd, Deyanira Nevarez Martinez would bring the city a wealth of knowledge on urban affairs, her field as a Michigan State University professor. She would be graduating from a seat on the Lansing School Board, a sign of her dedication to our city.

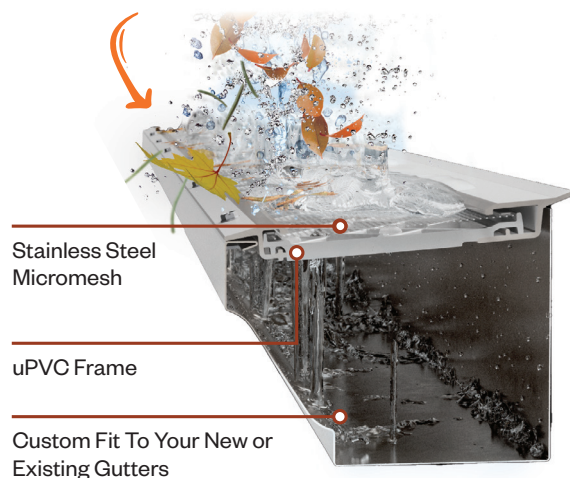
In the 4th Ward, voters have a good alternative in Heath Lowry to Peter Spadafore, who let down many of his constituents in failing to fight for preserving old Eastern, to whose demise he contributed as school board president by signing off on its sale without adequate safeguards against its demolition. Lowry is an intelligent, articulate and progressive attorney who will give the 4th Ward the representation it deserves.

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# Cristo Rey: a director looks back at the challenges to keep it open

By **JOE GARCIA**

*(The writer recently stepped down as CEO of Catholic Charities of Ingham, Eaton and Clinton Counties.)*

*He was previously executive director Cristo Rey Community Center.)*

Leaving Catholic Charities has not been easy. This work was never just a job — it was a calling. A calling to serve the poor, the vulnerable, and the forgotten. And while I now step into a new chapter, I do so knowing in my heart: I left the organization stronger, healthier and better



**Opinion**

prepared to continue its sacred mission.

When I first arrived at Cristo Rey Community Center in 2013, the outlook was bleak. The doors were nearly shuttered, and the finances offered little hope. At first, I thought my role might be to help close Cristo Rey with dignity. But as I walked the halls, listened to families and witnessed what Cristo Rey meant, especially to Lansing's Hispanic community, I knew this story could not end. Cristo Rey

was a place of dignity, hope and belonging. A place woven into the soul of our city. The mission shifted, Cristo Rey would not close. It would survive, and thrive. Against all odds, it did.

In 2021, another challenge arose. St. Vincent Catholic Charities, a longtime pillar of care, fell into crisis after the closure of its Children's Home. The financial spiral left the agency without a clear path forward. After a year without resolution, I asked the bishop if I could help. He agreed.

What followed was a journey built on faith, vision and the strength of partnership. We expanded Cristo Rey's medical model onto the St. Vincent campus, adding five medical exam rooms and launching a much-needed dental program for children and veterans. The bishop embraced this vision, and soon he asked me to take on the leadership of both organizations. Together, we merged them into a single, stronger agency: Catholic Charities of Ingham, Eaton & Clinton Counties.

ham, Eaton & Clinton Counties.

This progress was only possible because of those who stood beside me. The medical and dental expansions became reality through extraordinary partnerships with Sparrow Health System (now University of Michigan Health-Sparrow) and Delta Dental Foundation and critical state of Michigan appropriations.

Over the years, I also built enduring relationships with Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan, Accident Fund, Jackson National, Delta Dental Corp., the Izzo Legacy Foundation and countless private donors who gave with generosity and trust. These allies, along with the dedication of our staff, board members, lobbyists and legislators, made the impossible possible.

The final hurdle was the Children's Home; we fast-tracked the relicensing, I worked diligently to find a program to operate in the home that matched our strengths and passion for serving the vulnerable. Success came when I was able to forge a vital partnership with the Michigan Health and Human Services Department and set a financial course for stability by 2026.

None of this was easy. There were doubts, resistance and moments of uncertainty. Yet I was never alone. Faith carried me. The words of Matthew 25 guided me: "Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me." And the community answered the call with courage and heart.

I leave proud: proud of what we built, proud of the lives we touched



and proud of the legacy we preserved. Most of all, I am proud that Cristo Rey, born from and beloved by Lansing's Hispanic community, remains a sanctuary for the poor and vulnerable, now strengthened through Catholic Charities.

This chapter of service has ended for me, but the mission continues. And it will forever live in my heart.

"Viva Cristo Rey! Viva Catholic Charities! Viva all who stood shoulder to shoulder to keep hope alive." Or as we say in Spanish: "La lucha sigue, la esperanza nunca muere." "The struggle continues, but hope never dies."



Be sure to cast your vote  
**November 4, 2025**  
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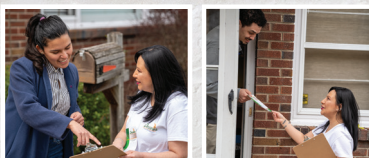
- ★ Smart use of tax dollars with transparency and accountability in city spending.
- ★ Prioritizing essential services before big new projects.
- ★ Seeking grants and partnerships to stretch city resources further.

### Building Stronger Communities:

- ★ Sidewalk and curb repair so seniors, kids, and people with disabilities can navigate safely.
- ★ Support for small businesses and neighborhood commercial corridors.
- ★ Keeping parks clean, maintained, and safe for families.

### Housing Stability:

- ★ Work with the private sector to create more affordable housing options for seniors, families, and working people.
- ★ Protecting long-time residents from displacement and rising costs.
- ★ Reducing homelessness with real housing solutions, not criminalization



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## Rental agencies need an urgent revamp

I've been in East Lansing for 11 days now, and apartment hunting in this city has been nothing short of terrifying. I arrived from India after having put down an application fee of \$150 with an apartment in East Lansing, only to realize that the management agency kept adding all sorts of fees even before I could lease the apartment. So, I begin my apartment search afresh, only to be met with terrible choices since most homes have already been leased for the year.

I only have Google and Reddit reviews

**Letter to  
the editor**

to go by, and most of these reviews speak badly of management agencies that have a monopoly across East Lansing. This is aside from the pest infestation, including centipedes and raccoons, besides mold growing all over the apartments. Rental management agencies post poor responses online to all of these allegations, and renters like me are left to believe that the allegations are true. What I've understood is that rental management agencies have maintenance teams that are understaffed, overworked and unable to cope. While these agencies are raking in money, the people who really work for

the upkeep of the apartment are poorly treated.

East Lansing and Lansing need fair, capable and most important, honest rental agencies. The city, which is home to the sixth largest public university in the entire country, is otherwise going to be known for dishonest rental agencies with decrepit (not historic) buildings that are being passed off for housing.

P.S., I am still looking for a home that isn't filled with mold or bugs that is run by an honest rental management agency.

**Lalitha Suhasini**  
East Lansing

# This is what passes for democracy in state government these days

At the moment, I'm sitting in a nearly empty state House committee room.

The subcommittee charged with overseeing hundreds of millions of dollars of pork barrel spending was supposed to meet at 1 p.m. It's now 1:37 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 30, budget shutdown day.

Without a passed budget by 11:59 p.m., the law prohibits the state government from spending any money. The state government theoretically shuts down.

This committee is supposed to supply pieces to the final budget puzzle.

Whatever they wanted to do wasn't ready. So, Chair Nancy Jenkins-Arno went at ease. The members filed out. The word is "it's going to be a while."

Hurry up and wait.

The clerk stares at a computer screen. A couple of staffers chat about the Tigers. At 1 p.m., around a dozen people were in the audience chairs. All but one are gone.

Maybe they'll come back. Maybe "a while" means 5 p.m. Could be 8 p.m. Could be never.

Welcome to budget season at the state Capitol in 2025.

What's in? What's out? Only a limited number of legislators and staff know for sure. Most legislators, media, lobbyists and the like feed on scraps of rumor and gossip as they stand around. Waiting. Waiting. Waiting.

When is dinner being served? Will they go all night? No shortage of theories. Everyone shares them to pass the time.

Not knowing what's going on is maddening. Every year, it gets a little worse.

Partisanship digs a little deeper. Democrats and Republicans talk less. More power creeps into the leaders' offices. The leaders pressure rank-and-file lawmakers to fall in line.

One day this summer, Rep. Pauline Wendzel didn't like the bills scheduled for a floor vote. Then she didn't show up to a House session. The bills failed by a few votes. The next day, all of the bills in the committee she chairs wound up somewhere else.

The speaker says no Republican lawmaker is leaving town during budget-making season. Rep. Jaime Greene went on a mission trip to Israel anyway. She met Netanyahu. She planted a tree. She returned to America. All of the bills in the committee she chairs are gone.

Party discipline or bust.

What passes for public policy these days is a final document dropped on everyone's lap after normal people go to bed.

Groggy, sleep-deprived lawmakers vote for whatever they're supposed to vote for. Whatever it takes to end it.

The media gets a rough idea of what's in the final document. Talking points heavily saturate the information available.

We can read the bill, of course. But at 3 a.m., who wants to do that? Really?

By the time everyone has their wits about them, the document in question is long gone. Lawmakers have signed it into law. Everyone is glad it's over. Everyone has their own special gripes about what happened.

Yes, the process is broken. Yes, something should be done about it.

Yet, it's rinse and repeat when the next crisis pops up.

"Did the budget process always used to be like this?" a lawmaker asked me yesterday. "Where we're given hundreds of pages of documents in the middle of the night and expected to vote on it an hour later?"

The answer is no.

Twenty years ago, passing a state budget took weeks. Lawmakers broke the budget up into many pieces and passed sections at different times. Interest groups and the media had plenty of time to review everything. Votes on amendments to budget bills took place on the House floor. Debate on the House floor lasted all day.

It was long. Tedious. Messy. Democracy.

Over time, crafting a budget became a secretive, insular affair, seemingly with the philosophy that the fewer people who know what's going on, the better.

They can't have an interest group (or, God forbid, the media) catch wind of what's going on. They'll cause a panic and mess everything up. These deals are fragile, after all.

So, the leaders in charge stay behind closed doors. The rest of us wait in our offices, the Capitol or committee rooms. My committee room is now completely empty except for me. It's 3:18 p.m.

We're all waiting for the white smoke. Then we can play our roles.

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



KYLE MELINN

POLITICS

# PRESTON ART & COLORING BOOKS



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# ARTS & CULTURE

ART • BOOKS • FILM • MUSIC

## 'Da Vinci Notebooks' probes the creative mind in LSO opener

By **LAWRENCE COSENTINO**

Will the Lansing Symphony Orchestra's 2025-'26 season open Saturday evening with a bang or a whisper?

Both.

To kick off the final season of music director Timothy Muffitt's 20-year run, the concert will begin with an expansive and fresh take on orchestral music: "The Notebooks of Leonardo da Vinci," a 40-minute multimedia extravaganza by Minnesota-based composer Jocelyn Hagen.

"It's on a huge scale, and it's a portal into a different way of thinking about music," Muffitt said.

Despite the potential for sensory overload, the music and projected images conjure an intimate inner world of curiosity and play. In the first minute, da Vinci's signature right-to-left handwriting scratches its way across the screen, accompanied by a quiet, pretty flute melody. Everything stops for a few seconds when a word is crossed out in a messy blob of ink. The writing and music resume, gathering force as the ideas flow where they will.

"That beginning is about getting into a flow state," Hagen said. "With the stops and starts, it's a lot like meditation. It's such a wonderful feeling when it's really flowing."

From that gentle beginning, Hagen's sensory fantasia follows da Vinci's fertile mind across the universe, from flying machines and the science of optics to the intricate tissues of dissected human bodies and the light of distant stars.

Muffitt jumped at the da Vinci project on the recommendation of MSU choral director Sandra Snow, who will add the university's massed choral forces to Hagen's immersive creation.

"From the first moment, I was just taken with it," Muffitt said. "The text is all from da Vinci, and the projections are a beautifully collected collage of his work."

Hagen was inspired to write the da Vinci piece after seeing the Codex Leicester, a collection of da Vinci's writings, at the Minneapolis Institute of Art in 2015.

She was already looking for a new and effective way to combine visuals and or-



Courtesy photo



Photo by Elena Stanton

"The Notebooks of Leonardo Da Vinci," a multimedia work by composer Jocelyn Hagen, utilizes new technology to seamlessly blend projected images with a live musical performance.

chestral music.

While filmmakers are almost too good at punching up movies with pounding orchestral music and aptly deployed (and licensed) pop songs, the classical world is still figuring out how best to utilize visual media.

As a composer, Hagen wanted the music to lead and the images to follow, not the other way around. The missing element, in her eyes, was the ability to sync it all up.

"I always loved music videos," she said. "I grew up watching MTV and being fascinated with that. Then I heard about this technology, developed here in Minnesota, and I thought it would be really fun to use it on a large scale."

At Wharton, a technician embedded in the orchestra will follow Muffitt like any other musician, speeding up or slowing down the images with the flow of the evening's performance.

Da Vinci's notebooks suited Hagen's ideas almost too well. It wasn't easy to wade through over 7,000 pages of notes, each more fascinating than the last, and boil it down to under an hour. She only knew that she wanted to create a musical event "so enticing that all kinds of people would want to see it."

"Da Vinci's work is timeless. People continue to be fascinated by his genius," she said. "And, in the end, the music is just a lot of fun."

"Notebooks" premiered in Minnesota

in 2019, just before the pandemic shut-downs. Hagen took advantage of the hiatus to fine tune it, creating versions for chamber and full-size orchestras.

Since 2022, the work has taken on a life of its own, especially among college students and younger listeners. It has been performed more than 50 times across the country, as well as in Canada, Sweden, Croatia and England.

Last week, Hagen was thrilled to listen to a freshly pressed master recording by Tucson, Arizona-based ensemble True Concord Voices & Orchestra of "Notebooks" and another of her works, "Here I Am," a 45-minute piece for orchestra, chorus and soloists marking the 100th anniversary of the ratification of the 19th Amendment. The CD will be out in March.

There are many moving parts to "Notebooks," but beautiful melodies and pop energy are a key part of the work's growing success.

"There are moments in 'Notebooks' where it gets kind of raucous, with big drum fills, and that's part of my style," Hagen said. "Pop music is a big part of who I've always been as a musician."

In eighth grade, she realized she could listen to songs on the radio and play them by ear. Singer-songwriters Tori Amos ("such an incredible pianist"), Jewel and Alanis Morissette were among her favorites.

Growing up in North Dakota, Hagen played piano and gravitated to 20th-century composers like Sergei Rachmaninoff and Aaron Copland. (Her senior recital piece was Copland's hyper-caFFEinated "The Cat

and the Mouse.")

She wrote her own songs and her first piece of choral music in high school.

"I never met a composer in North Dakota," she said. "All the musicians I knew were teachers, and I thought I'd be a music teacher." Nevertheless, she got into the flow of composing, writing art songs and choral pieces in college.

The cold carapace of 20th-century academic modernism was cracking.

"I've had some great composition teachers and some really horrible ones," she said. "In some ways, you learn just as much from the horrible ones. That's not what music means to me and not how I want it in my life."

She was inspired by younger, genre-bending composers like Caroline Shaw, Sarah Kirkland Snider and Judd Greenstein.

"I never understood why you wouldn't want to connect with audiences and musicians — all musicians, not just professional musicians," she said. "I knew I wouldn't be happy unless I pursued it, so I did."

The second half of Saturday's cosmic mind trip will be aptly filled by the only logical follow-up to da Vinci's cosmic mindscape, Gustav Holst's "The Planets."

"With those spiritual and scientific threads connecting them, it just felt so right to put them together," Muffitt said. An ethereal flotilla of female voices, drawn from the da Vinci chorus, will conveniently be on hand to wordlessly evoke the rings of Saturn.

### Lansing Symphony Orchestra: "The Planets"

With MSU choirs  
7:30 p.m. Sat., Oct. 4  
Wharton Center Cobb Great Hall  
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lansingsymphony.org

CityPULSE

2025  
TOP  
OF THE  
TOWN

WKAR

# Like aging rock stars, TOTT persists and thrives

## *WKAR joins City Pulse in delivering the classics*

By **STEVE UNDERWOOD**

We live in an era when rock stars like Mick Jagger, Paul McCartney, Ringo Starr, Stevie Nicks, Billy Joel and Elton John, who launched their careers in the 1960s and '70s, are still performing into their 8th and 9th decades. (Including cover subjects Robert Plant and Jimmy Page of Led Zeppelin.)

In "My Generation," Roger Daltrey of The Who famously sang, "I hope I die before I get old." Bet he never thought he'd still be singing that and other ancient hits at 81 years old!

Similarly, City Pulse, celebrating its 18th annual Top of the Town contest, is excited and grateful to have WKAR as our new partner. Like aging rock stars, we're thrilled to present you with both the classics and new categories to vote in. While it's debatable whether 18 "contest years" can be compared to 75 or 80 human years, locals have long relied on Top of the Town for a chance to vote for Greater Lansing's best of the best. We're proud to continue that tradition with WKAR.

We've also introduced a new category in the Local Arts group to highlight our theme: Best Rock Star Over 75.

Voting went live at 5:30 a.m. today (Oct. 1) and will continue through 11:59 p.m. on Oct. 14.

Back in 2023, we had more than 330 categories, by far the most ever. For 2025, we've set the number at 250, making it easier for you to vote in each one!

Remember, the people-related categories that we used to have in our Top of the Town contest now make up our Top of the Town People Contest. Look for an announcement on that contest date early in 2026.

Meanwhile, several other new categories are making their debut this year, voted on by you in previous contests via the Best Category We Didn't Think Of: Best Blues Artist/Band, Best Business IT Support Service, Best Computer Repair Business, Best Dog Training Business, Best Game Shop, Best LGBTQIA+ Friendly Hangout, Best Moving Service, Best Security Service, Best Senior Care Facility and Best Storage Unit Facility.

To get started, visit [lansingcitypulse.com](http://lansingcitypulse.com), then click on the Top of the Town banners at the top of the page



to get to the contest site. There, you will find links to register and vote. To begin voting, select any category and follow the prompts in the pop-up window. All votes are submitted automatically. Don't worry about a second submission screen.

If you need to stop and come back to your ballot, or your internet browser closed, you can return to the site and continue voting where you left off. Remember that you can always log out of your voting session and, when you are ready to resume voting, log back in.

As always, you can vote in as many (or as few) cat-

egories as you wish, but please remember to finish your ballot before 11:59 p.m. on Oct. 14. That gives you plenty of time for your toughest decisions! The Top 5 in each category will advance to the second round, which will be announced Nov. 5. You will then have two more weeks to vote for the Top 3, which will be announced in our Dec. 3 issue.

If you are the first to nominate a business, please be patient. It will undergo an approval process so we can verify it is in the right category, spelled correctly, etc. If you do not see it after 24 hours, please contact Steve Underwood at (517) 999-6704 or [steve@lansingcitypulse.com](mailto:steve@lansingcitypulse.com) between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. on weekdays.

When you vote or nominate, you have an opportunity to comment. Please do so! We may want to use those comments in the next round, when the Top 5 nominees are winnowed down to the Top 3.

If need be, you can also send your list of votes via snail mail to Steve Underwood at City Pulse, 1905 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing, MI 48912.

And make sure you sign up for the City Pulse newsletters! If you're not sure whether you're one of the approximately 17,000 who have signed up already, enter your email address on the contest website, and we will sort it out for you and make sure you only get it once.

We are excited to again partner with RevFluent and Friends2Follow, showcasing all the categories, nominees and, ultimately, our Top 5 next month and Top 3 in December.

The integrity of the contest is of vital, so all nominations will come from the community. Yes, winners past and present often place ads, which sometimes results in more votes because of greater exposure. But it does not influence the results, and buying an ad is not required to participate or win. Top of the Town is absolutely a people's choice contest.

Top of the Town is THE platform in Greater Lansing to vote for the best of the best, and when our Winners' Issue is published Dec. 3, you'll have a great community resource all year long! *Thanks so much to Dennis Preston for his outstanding artwork on the cover and within this story!*

# CityPULSE



# WKAR



## BAR

- Best Bar Food
- Best Cocktails
- Best Dance Bar
- Best Dive Bar
- Best Happy Hour
- Best Jam Night
- Best Karaoke
- Best Lansing-Area Brewery
- Best Lansing-Area Distillery
- Best Margarita
- Best Mocktails
- Best Neighborhood Bar

- Best Pub/Tavern
- Best Spartan Sports Hangout
- Best Sports Bar

## CANNABIS

- Best Cannabis Flower - Hybrid
- Best Cannabis Flower - Indica
- Best Cannabis Flower - Sativa
- Best Cannabis Growing Brand
- Best CBD Store/Boutique
- Best Distillate Cartridge
- Best Gummy Edible (Cannabis)
- Best Indoor Grow Shop
- Best Marijuana Provisioning Center
- Best Non-Gummy Edible (Cannabis)
- Best Non-Solvent Concentrate (Cannabis)
- Best Solvent Concentrate (Cannabis)
- Best Topical

- Best Brunch
- Best Bubble Tea
- Best Buffet
- Best Burger
- Best Chicken Strips/Tenders
- Best Chinese Restaurant
- Best Cider



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- HAPPY HOUR
- KARAOKE
- SPARTAN SPORTS HANGOUT
- BURGER
- RESTAURANT BEER LIST
- COMEDY NIGHT
- HANGOUT FOR STUDENTS
- HANGOUT SOLO

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## DINING

- Best Bagels
- Best Bakery
- Best Baklava
- Best BBQ
- Best BBQ Sauce
- Best Breakfast
- Best Coney Dog
- Best Crab Legs
- Best Cupcake
- Best Deli
- Best Dessert
- Best Diner
- Best Donuts
- Best Drive-up Location
- Best Family-Friendly Restaurant
- Best Fast Food
- Best Fish Fry
- Best Food Truck
- Best French Fries
- Best Greek Restaurant
- Best Hibachi
- Best Ice Cream



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## Top of the Town

from page 14

- Best Indian Restaurant
- Best Irish Restaurant
- Best Italian Restaurant
- Best Lasagna
- Best Late-Night Food
- Best Mediterranean Restaurant
- Best Mexican Restaurant - Chain
- Best Mexican Restaurant - Non-Chain
- Best Nachos
- Best New Restaurant
- Best Olive Burger
- Best Pancakes
- Best Pho
- Best Pizza
- Best Prime Rib
- Best Ramen
- Best Ranch Dressing
- Best Restaurant Beer List
- Best Restaurant for Seniors
- Best Restaurant Wine List
- Best Reuben

- Best Salad
- Best Sandwich/ Wrap
- Best Seafood Restaurant
- Best Signature Dish
- Best Soup
- Best Steak
- Best Sub Sandwich
- Best Sushi
- Best Tacos
- Best Thai Restaurant
- Best Upscale Dining
- Best Vegan/ Gluten-Free Dessert

- Best Vegetarian/Vegan Dish
- Best Vegetarian/Vegan/ Gluten-Free Restaurant
- Best Wings

## HANGOUTS

- Best Biggby
- Best Bowling Alley
- Best Cafe
- Best Coffee Shop (non-Biggby)
- Best Comedy Night
- Best Corn Maze
- Best Disc Golf Course
- Best Escape Room Venue
- Best Golf Course
- Best Hangout for Seniors
- Best Hangout for Students
- Best Hangout Solo
- Best LGBTQIA+ Friendly Hangout
- Best Library
- Best Local Attraction for Kids
- Best Movie Theater
- Best Music Venue

- Best Nature Center
- Best Non-Bar or Restaurant Date Night
- Best Patio

- Best Place to Play Pinball or Video Games
- Best Place to Shoot Pool
- Best Public Park
- Best Sober Hangout
- Best Trivia Night



## LOCAL ARTS

- Best Blues Artist/Band
- Best Choral Group
- Best Country Artist/Band
- Best Cover Band
- Best Folk Artist/Band
- Best Hip-Hop Artist/Group

See Top of the Town, Page 18



**VOTE FOR US!**

- SPARTAN SPORTS HANGOUT
- BURGER
- MUSIC VENUE
- PATIO






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## The False Equivalence of Violence in America

In America, we are often told that “both sides” are equally guilty when it comes to political violence. But this lazy narrative, designed to make commentators sound balanced, completely obscures the reality. The truth is this: there is a vast difference between sporadic acts of violence on the left and the organized, militarized, and deeply ideological violence that festers on the right.

Let’s be honest: left-wing violence is messy, reactive, and—yes—wrong. But it’s the violence of frustration, of people pushed past their breaking point after watching injustice pile up for centuries. It doesn’t come with recruitment videos, militia newsletters, or tactical gear ordered in bulk from Amazon. It’s sporadic, emotional, human.

Contrast this with the right. Here, violence is not incidental—it is the mission. Organized groups like the Oath Keepers, Proud Boys, and countless militia offshoots deliberately indoctrinate young men with misinformation, wrap them in the myth of patriotism, and convince them they are heirs to the American Revolution. They plot kidnappings of sitting Governors. They stormed the Capitol on January 6th. They prepare for war not in self-defense, but in pursuit of power. It’s branded and marketed to disaffected young men like a twisted pyramid scheme. The pitch is simple: “Join us, buy some camo, stockpile guns, and pretend you’re George Washington reincarnated.” Never mind that George

Washington didn’t spend his weekends on Facebook groups sharing memes about shooting their neighbors.

And now, just to add gasoline to the inferno, the government itself has joined the chorus. The president demonizes the left as some existential threat, while his cronies weaponize the DOJ as if democracy is just another political opponent to crush. Intellectuals are smeared as “the enemy,” truth-tellers are canceled by propaganda, and suddenly libraries are more dangerous than arsenals.

Here’s the difference in one line: the right worships power, the left wrestles with conscience. The right believes their guns give them divine authority; the left believes information, empathy, and community are the real tools of change. One side bows to a cult leader with the intellectual depth of a mud puddle; the other side insists on holding fast to messy truths about history and oppression.

The false equivalence must end. America does not face “two extremes.” It faces a choice between chaos fueled by disinformation and violence, or communities built on truth and accountability. And if the right thinks their AR-15s and flag capes are going to win the future, I’ve got bad news: fear doesn’t outlast facts. The intellectual community will prevail—not because we worship power, but because we stand for something that outlasts bullets: truth, compassion, and the belief that progress is not optional, it’s survival.

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## Top of the Town

from page 15

- Best Jazz Artist/Group
- Best Local Concert Series
- Best Local Theater Organization
- Best Mural
- Best Pottery Studio
- Best Public Art/Sculpture
- Best Rock Artist/Band
- Best Rock Star Over 75

## SERVICES

- Best Accountant/CPA Firm
- Best Appliance Repair
- Best Audiologist/Hearing Firm
- Best Auto Body Shop
- Best Auto Detailing Service
- Best Auto Repair Shop
- Best Bank
- Best Barber Shop
- Best Bicycle Shop

- Best Business IT Support Service
- Best Car Wash
- Best Caterer/Catering Service
- Best Cemetery
- Best Chiropractic Office
- Best Cleaning Service
- Best Computer Repair Service
- Best Credit Union
- Best Dance Studio
- Best Day Spa
- Best Dentist Office
- Best Dog Training Business
- Best Estate Sale Company
- Best Facial
- Best Financial Planner/Company
- Best Funeral Home
- Best Gym/Fitness Studio
- Best Hair Salon



- Best Senior Living Community
- Best Storage Unit Facility
- Best Tanning
- Best Tattoo Parlor
- Best Therapy/Therapist Service
- Best Towing Company
- Best Veterinarian Service
- Best Wedding Services
- Best Wi-Fi/Internet Service Provider
- Best Yoga Studio

## SHOPPING

- Best Heating/Cooling
- Best Holistic Healing
- Best Home Healthcare Company
- Best Insurance Agency
- Best Landscape Company
- Best Laser Hair Removal
- Best Law Firm
- Best Local YouTube Channel
- Best Massage Studio
- Best Med Spa
- Best Moving Service
- Best Music Lessons
- Best Nail Salon
- Best News Source
- Best Nonprofit Organization (local)
- Best Pet Grooming Business
- Best Pet Rescue
- Best Pharmacy (locally owned)
- Best Photography
- Best Plumbing Service
- Best Radio Station
- Best Residential Remodeling Company
- Best Security Service
- Best Senior Care Facility

- Best Antique Shop
- Best Art Gallery
- Best Art Supply Store
- Best Auto Dealership
- Best Beer Selection in Retail Store

See Top of the Town, Page 19

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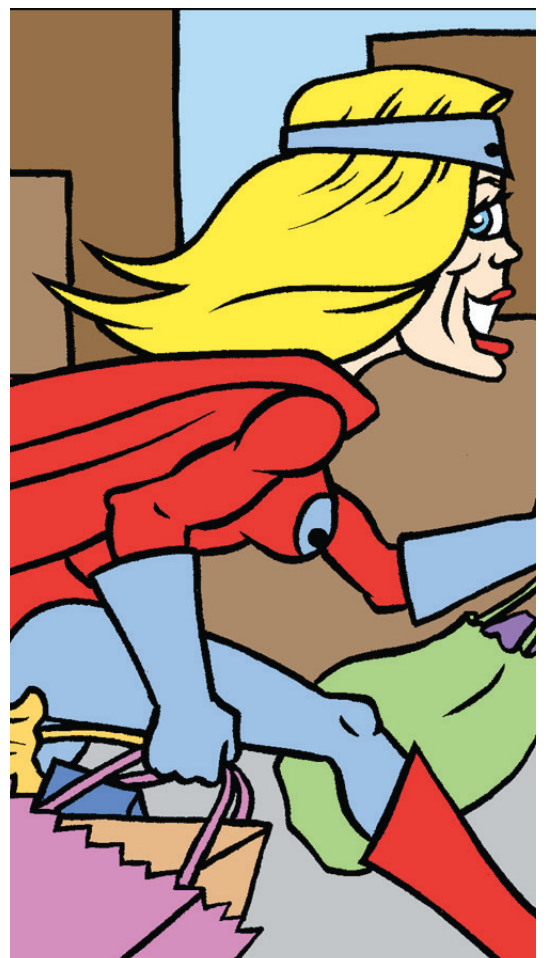
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# CityPULSE



# WKAR

## Top of the Town

from page 18

- Best Bookstore (locally owned)
- Best Butcher Shop
- Best Candy Store
- Best Cheese Department
- Best Clothing Store (locally owned)
- Best Farmers Market
- Best Florist
- Best Furniture Store
- Best Game Shop
- Best Gardening Center

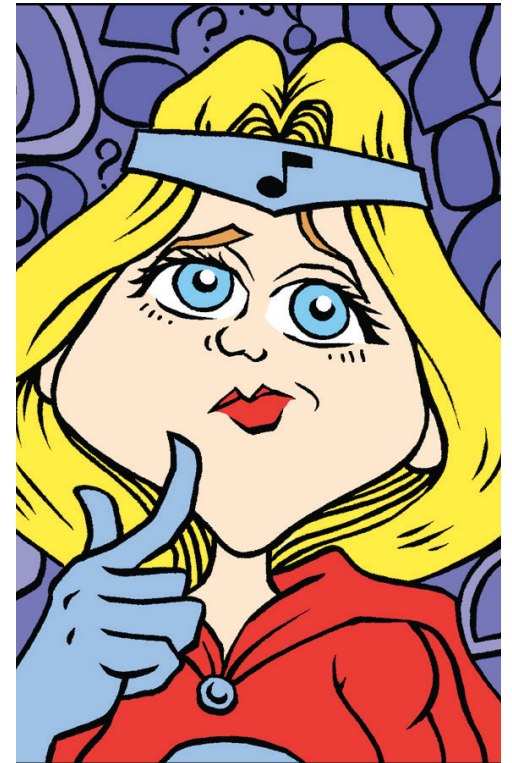
- Best Gas Station
- Best Gift Shop
- Best Grocery Store (locally owned)
- Best Hardware Store
- Best Jewelry Store
- Best Lingerie Store
- Best Liquor Store
- Best Metaphysical Store
- Best Musical Instrument Store
- Best Organic/Natural Market
- Best Pet Store
- Best Quality Dairy
- Best Record/CD Store
- Best Sex Shop

- Best Thrift or Consignment Shop
- Best Tire Store
- Best Used Car Dealership
- Best Vape Shop
- Best Wine Shop

## WHATEVER

- Best Axe-Throwing Venue
- Best Category We Didn't Think of
- Best Eye Candy Building

See Top of the Town, Page 20



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# CityPULSE



# WKAR

Check out the roadmap for the future of East Lansing!

2024-2025

East Lansing Comprehensive Plan Update

## Adoption Party!

Thursday, Oct. 2

3 - 7 p.m.

Ann Street Plaza  
Downtown East Lansing

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## Top of the Town

from page 19

- Best Facebook Group or Page (local)
- Best High School
- Best Historical Place
- Best Instagram Account (local)
- Best Local Art Festival
- Best Local Event/Festival
- Best New Business
- Best Outdoor Adventure
- Best Place to Cry in Public
- Best Place to Find Quiet
- Best Place to Work
- Best Shop Pet
- Best Staycation Hotel in Lansing
- Best Vehicle Ever Made in Lansing
- Best Wi-Fi Spot
- Cleanest Public Restroom
- In Memoriam: Businesses Lost
- Most Trustworthy Business
- Worst Eyesore
- Worst Pothole (specific location)

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# 'Beauty and the Beast' tour promises classic Disney magic

By **COURTNEY BOWERMAN**

Performing in "Beauty and the Beast" marks multiple milestones in former Londoner Harry Francis' acting career. Not only will it be his first national tour since officially moving to the United States three years ago, but it's also a chance to be part of a story he was obsessed with growing up.

"Beauty and the Beast' was the very first show I auditioned for when I was 6," Francis said. "I was auditioning for Chip, but that one didn't work out. At the time, I was heartbroken, but I've gotten over it."

Last year, he auditioned for the role of LeFou in Disney's new touring production of the show, and this time, fate was on his side. While it's a vastly different role than the one he sought as a child, he thinks LeFou is ultimately the perfect character for him.

"I love getting to be a goofball every day," he said. "I love that I have free rein to go on stage and just have fun. It's a real treat to have a job where you get to do that. Although there are certain elements that are very much set in the show, there are also lots of moments where I've been able to add my own spin on it."

The tour, which began in June, is an updated version of the original musical that ran on Broadway from 1994 to 2007.

Francis made his West End debut at only 9 years old as Louis Leonowens in "The King and I" and has gone on to perform in a variety of musicals since, including "Wicked," "Mary Poppins," "Cats," "The Book of Mormon" and "A Chorus Line." Being a huge fan of "Beauty and the Beast," he's seen various productions in both the U.S. and the U.K.

"Coming into rehearsals, I think I was the only cast member who had seen this version on stage before, because we're the first cast to do this version in the U.S.," he said.

He added that while this version is largely the same as the original, die-hard fans will undoubtedly notice that some songs have been cut.

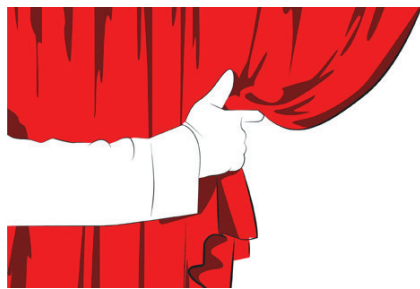
"The show is slicker and tighter. We're bringing in technology that

didn't exist in the '90s as well. There are some really great effects in the show that I'm very excited to see," he said. "I can't give away too much. We're told just to say, 'Disney magic,' but people who see the show will know what I'm talking about."

Without spoiling anything, he mentioned that Linda Woolverton, the playwright of the original stage adaptation, has also added some new scenes, including moments with LeFou and Gaston (played by Stephen Mark Lukas) that Francis is especially excited about.

"From the very first day of rehearsals, we were so lucky that Stephen and I instantly had a really great dynamic of playing off each other in our scenes," he said. "We've just had so much fun. There's been a bit of freedom with this version where they've allowed us to find our own takes on the role. I think what we've found is

## BEHIND THE CURTAIN



we're not afraid for these characters to really become villains in the end. It's been fun exploring that with Stephen every night."

The most fun the two have on stage is performing the showstopping

number "Gaston." While the classic Disney villain song has always been an audience favorite, Francis promises that it's better than ever in this production.

"They've added so many more elements to it," he said. "It's now a much longer number, and there are so many comedic elements that have been added. It's full of silliness and potentially the most cartoonish moments in the show. There are so many fun surprises in it."

Although the show is only scheduled to run for another year, Francis said that it has been resonating with audiences and is hopeful that its success will allow the company to keep touring.

"If you've got strong memories of the other version of the show, I think you'll be happy with this," he said. "We pay tribute to previous productions as well as bringing something new to it."



Photo by Matthew Murphy © Disney

Harry Francis (left of center) as LeFou and Stephen Mark Lukas (center) as Gaston in the national tour of Disney's "Beauty and the Beast."

## October and early November theater productions:

### "Every Brilliant Thing"

Thursday, Oct. 2–Oct. 26  
*Opening weekend showtimes:*  
 7:30 p.m. Thursday–Friday  
 2 p.m. Saturday–Sunday  
*Rest of run showtimes:*  
 2 p.m. Thursday, Saturday–Sunday  
 7:30 p.m. Friday–Saturday  
 Williamston Theatre  
 122 S. Putnam St., Williamston  
[williamstontheatre.org](http://williamstontheatre.org)

### "The Seagull"

MSU Department of Theatre  
 2 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 4–Sunday, Oct. 5  
 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 7 and Oct. 9  
 1 p.m. Oct. 12  
 Arena Theatre  
 542 Auditorium Road, East Lansing  
[theatre.msu.edu](http://theatre.msu.edu)

### "Stupid F##king Bird"

MSU Department of Theatre  
 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 4–Sunday, Oct. 5;  
 Wednesday, Oct. 8; Oct. 10  
 6:30 p.m. Oct. 12  
 Arena Theatre  
 542 Auditorium Road, East Lansing  
[theatre.msu.edu](http://theatre.msu.edu)

### "Ravenscroft"

Oct. 9–12 and 16–19  
 7 p.m. Thursday  
 8 p.m. Friday–Saturday  
 2 p.m. Sunday  
 Riverwalk Theatre  
 228 Museum Drive, Lansing  
[riverwalktheatre.com](http://riverwalktheatre.com)

### "A Song for Coretta"

Ixion Ensemble Theatre  
 Oct. 10–12 and 17–19  
 7 p.m. Friday–Saturday  
 3 p.m. Sunday  
 Stage One at Sycamore Creek  
 Eastwood  
 2200 Lake Lansing Road, Lansing  
[our.show/asongforcoretta](http://our.show/asongforcoretta)

### "Collective Rage: A Play in Five Betties"

LCC Performing Arts  
 Oct. 10–12 and 17–18  
 7 p.m. Friday–Saturday  
 2 p.m. Sunday  
 LCC Black Box Theatre  
 411 N. Grand Ave., Lansing  
[lcc.edu/showinfo](http://lcc.edu/showinfo)

### "Winnie the Pooh Kids"

All-of-Us Express Children's Theatre  
 11 a.m. Oct. 11  
 3 p.m. Oct. 12  
 Hannah Community Center  
 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing  
[allofusespress.org](http://allofusespress.org)

### "Beauty and the Beast"

Oct. 14–19  
 7:30 p.m. Tuesday–Saturday  
 2 p.m. Saturday  
 1 and 6:30 p.m. Sunday  
 Wharton Center Cobb Great Hall  
 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing  
[whartoncenter.com](http://whartoncenter.com)

### "A Wrinkle in Time"

All-of-Us Express Children's Theatre  
 Oct. 24–26 and Oct. 30–Nov. 2  
 7 p.m. Friday  
 3 p.m. Saturday–Sunday  
 Hannah Community Center  
 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing  
[allofusespress.org](http://allofusespress.org)

### "Wait Until Dark"

Oct. 24–26 and Oct. 31–Nov. 2  
 7:30 p.m. Friday–Saturday  
 2 p.m. Sunday  
 Lebowsky Center for Performing Arts  
 122 E. Main St., Owosso  
[lebowskycenter.com](http://lebowskycenter.com)

### "Dog Man: The Musical"

Noon and 4 p.m. Nov. 1  
 Wharton Center Cobb Great Hall  
 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing  
[whartoncenter.com](http://whartoncenter.com)

# 50 years later, the bell still tolls for the Edmund Fitzgerald

## CADL plans programs At three branches For Great Lakes freighter

By **BILL CASTANIER**

It won't be a surprise when SiriusXM radio DJ Phlash Phelps begins his Nov. 10 show with Gordon Lightfoot's haunting ballad "The Wreck of the Edmund Fitzgerald."

Nov. 10 is the 50th anniversary of the freighter's sinking in Lake Superior, which resulted in the tragic loss of 29 sailors.

The 703-foot-long Great Lakes ship was hauling taconite from Wisconsin to Zug Island near Detroit when a ferocious storm sent it to the bottom. A controversial hearing on the sinking's cause was unable to come up with an answer. It's still debated.

Over the decades, exploratory dives using submersibles and robots have raised many more questions. The Edmund Fitzgerald sits in two pieces, 170 feet apart, approximately 17 miles off the shore in Canadian waters.

This year, the Great Lakes Shipwreck Museum at Whitefish Point will hold a special anniversary commemoration. The maritime museum displays the ship's original bell, which will be rung 29 times, once for each lost crew member, in



Greenmors/Wikimedia Commons

The Edmund Fitzgerald sank 50 years ago in Lake Superior, resulting in 29 deaths.

a tradition that began the day after the shipwreck. Surviving family members are expected to attend a private ceremony following a public one.

As it does annually on Nov. 10, the Mariners' Church in Detroit will ring its bell 30 times — the additional time for all Great Lakes sailors lost at sea.

On May 23, 2023, the church bell rang 30 times to honor Lightfoot, who died that month.

Mariners' Church was founded in 1842 as a place where Great Lakes sailors could pray while stopping in Detroit.

The Edmund Fitzgerald was not

the deadliest Great Lakes shipwreck. That distinction goes to a passenger ship that sank in Lake Michigan in 1860, killing 300. The Fitzgerald's sinking is the most famous, though. That's due to Lightfoot's 1976 ballad.

Locally, in landlocked Lansing, Capital Area District Libraries will host two programs on the Edmund Fitzgerald.

Ric Mixer, a noted shipwreck historian and documentarian who produced a DVD called "The Edmund Fitzgerald Investigations," will appear at three CADL branches this month.

Mixer, of Wixom, explored the Edmund Fitzgerald site in a submersible in 1994. In his lectures, he shows a video of the ship resting on the lake bottom.

Mixer said he used to dive for

wrecks, but age and technology have changed that approach. "As I get older, I'm happy to throw a robot over the side to search wrecks," he said.

He noted that his lectures are factual and not based on the "ghosts and gold" themes that have become popular around Great Lakes wrecks. He said a lot of information on the Edmund Fitzgerald's sinking is fiction, "some perpetuated by Lightfoot's song."

In a separate program, Michael Fornes will step into Lightfoot's shoes, recreating how the song was written, its inspiration and the lyrics' meaning.

Fornes has written books on the Mackinac Bridge, Grand Hotel and U.S. Coast Guard Cutter Mackinaw in addition to a career as a journalist and professional tour guide. He was also a professional hockey broadcaster for more than two decades. "I'm a hockey guy," he said.

The focus of the tribute show, which Fornes has been doing for 17 years, "is an honest effort to keep Gord's music alive."

"Lightfoot felt a real connection to the Great Lakes," Fornes said, citing Lightfoot's participation in the Port Huron to Mackinac Race. Among the songs Fornes features are "Early Morning Rain," "If You Could Read My Mind," "Sit Down Young Stranger" and, of course, "The Wreck of the Edmund Fitzgerald."

### Edmund Fitzgerald programs at Capital Area District Libraries

**Ric Mixer, shipwreck historian**

Monday, Oct. 6, 6:30-7:30 p.m., Leslie branch

Wednesday, Oct. 8, 2-3 p.m., Aurelius branch; 6-7 p.m., South Lansing branch

**Michael Fornes, storytelling/musical program**

Monday, Oct. 13, 6-7 p.m., Okemos branch

### Eagle Township, Clinton County Board Meeting Synopsis

September 18, 2025, at 6:00 pm - Present: Clerk Briggs-Dudley, Treasurer C. Hoppes, Trustee Currie, Trustee M. Hoppes and 5 citizens. Absent: Supervisor Stroud  
Board Actions:

- 1) Approved Trustee Currie to lead the meeting.
- 2) Approved the sale of old metal hall cabinet.
- 3) Approved payment of September 2025 bills.
- 4) Approved forwarding two enforcement complaints to attorneys at Foster Swift.
- 5) Approved signing revised City of Portland Recreational Services Agreement.
- 6) Approved replacement of support posts in the basement.
- 7) Approved draft audit for FY 24-25 and signing of Audit Representation Letter.
- 8) Approved ZBA members to attend ZBA Online Certificate training.
- 9) Approved clerk to sign documents for advisor change for Nationwide account.

A complete copy of the minutes is available by contacting Laurie Briggs-Dudley, Clerk. Next regular meeting of the Eagle Township Board is October 16, 2025, at 6 pm at Eagle Township Hall, 14318 Michigan St, Eagle, MI. See [www.eagletownshipmi.gov](http://www.eagletownshipmi.gov) for latest updates.

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

CP#25-315

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POLICE DEPARTMENT

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FOR THE VEHICLE BEFORE  
VEHICLE CAN BE REMOVED  
FROM NORTHSIDE SERVICE.

VEHICLE MUST THEN BE REMOVED BY  
5PM 11/6/25

#### Vehicles up for Auction

2021 Nissan Versa  
2020 Chevrolet Trax  
2015 Chevrolet Equinox  
2013 Chevrolet Equinox  
2011 Ford F-150  
2010 Chrysler 300c  
2007 Ford Fusion  
2005 Chrysler 300  
2001 Oldsmobile Aurora  
1994 Cadillac Deville  
1994 Lincoln Town Car  
1992 Chevrolet Corvette

CP#25-321

# The governor's tax hike: We asked for freedom, she sent the bill

By CHRIS SILVA

The ink is barely dry, but the stench of failure is already rising from Lansing. By the time of publication, it's all but certain that the Michigan Senate will have followed the House's lead and passed the Comprehensive Road Funding Tax Act, a piece of legislation so cynical that it should be featured in textbooks on political malpractice.

Let's be clear about who's to blame for this disaster: Gov. Gretchen Whitmer. This entire mess began with her initial proposal for a 32% wholesale cannabis tax. The 24% tax now on the table is only a "compromise" because the governor's first shot was aimed even higher at our throats. She let her allies in the Legislature haggle down to 24%, then positioned herself as the budget hero while making the cannabis industry the state's official ATM.

The governor's office, eager to claim a road funding win without the courage to raise taxes on everyone, decided the easiest target was the only industry in Michigan that asked to be regulated and has delivered a multi-billion-dollar economy. This isn't about fixing the roads; it's a political money grab that sacrifices the regulated cannabis market to protect Whitmer's poll numbers.

Piled atop the existing 10% retail excise tax and the 6% sales tax, we're looking at total effective tax rates that will catapult Michigan to the second-highest-taxed cannabis market in America.

The central failure of this entire budget strategy is its willful ignorance of market reality. Lansing politicians live in a fantasy land where business owners simply absorb a massive cost increase like this. That cost rolls downhill, gathering mass like a bureaucratic snowball, until it slams into the one person who can't deflect it: the consumer.

Suddenly, that \$30 eighth becomes \$40 or more. That edible you enjoy becomes a luxury you think twice about.

Ask yourself: When the legal product, rigorously tested and regulated, is priced at such a premium, and the unregulated, untaxed product is available for half the cost, where do you think the average consumer will go?

Back underground. Straight into the arms of the criminal market voters explicitly told the state to put an end to when they passed the Michigan Regulation and Taxation of Marihuana Act.

This is a lesson already learned and rejected by other states. Just last week, while our lawmakers were busy designing their tax trap, California Gov. Gavin



YARphotographer/Shutterstock

The Comprehensive Road Funding Tax Act, a proposed 24% wholesale tax on cannabis to fund road repairs, has passed the state House and, by the time of publication, will likely be on its way to the governor's desk.

Newsom was signing legislation to cut cannabis taxes, explicitly stating the rollback was necessary to save the legal industry and allow it to compete against the flourishing illicit market.

California, the largest legal cannabis market in the world, is hitting the brakes on high taxes. Michigan is flooring it right over the cliff.

Whitmer is putting her signature on the death warrant for small- and medium-sized businesses. The corporate giants will survive, shifting costs, enduring the red ink and waiting for the smaller operations to fail. But the local growers, the independent processors, the small-town dispensaries — many of which are already operating on razor-thin margins — will be eliminated.

The result is simple: We lose jobs, we lose investment, and we lose the integrity of the regulated supply chain. This tax will not generate a reliable \$420 million for roads; it will generate business closures, job losses and a massive migration back to the black market, ultimately undercutting the very revenue goals it was supposed to achieve.

The voters asked for safe access. The industry delivered an economic boom. The governor is rewarding that success by sending a clear, chilling message: When you become profitable, we will seize so much of your revenue that the whole damn thing collapses.

But the story isn't over. Not yet. If the Senate passes the bill, the clock then starts ticking for the governor to act. She may have initiated this

cynical tax grab, but she still holds the ultimate power of the veto.

This is the moment of truth. If the governor allows this bill to become law, she's not just fixing roads; she's officially killing the Michigan can-

## **Lansterdam** In Review: Comprehensive Road Funding Tax Act

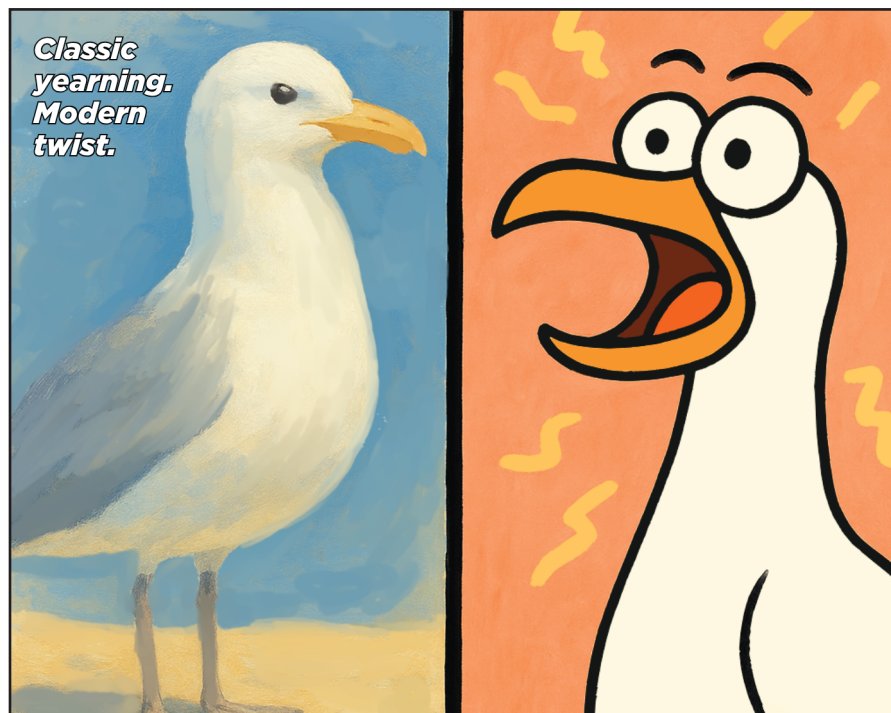
nabis experiment. She will have personally chosen to cripple a \$3 billion industry, destroy thousands of jobs and empower the black market — all to avoid a difficult conversation about general fund budget reform.

This is not the time to call your senator. It's too late for them. This is the time to go straight to the source.

The call to action is simple and urgent: Call the governor's office. Demand a veto of the Comprehensive Road Funding Tax Act.

Tell her that her road to victory is paved with the corpses of legal businesses. Tell her that the legacy of cannabis legalization in Michigan should not be one of shortsighted greed.

Do it now. Before her pen moves, and the lights start to turn off across Michigan.



### **THE SEAGULL & STUPID F\*\*KING BIRD**

By Anton Chekhov

By Aaron Posner

Oct 4 – 12 | MSU Arena Theatre

**MSU Students get in free!**

whartoncenter.com

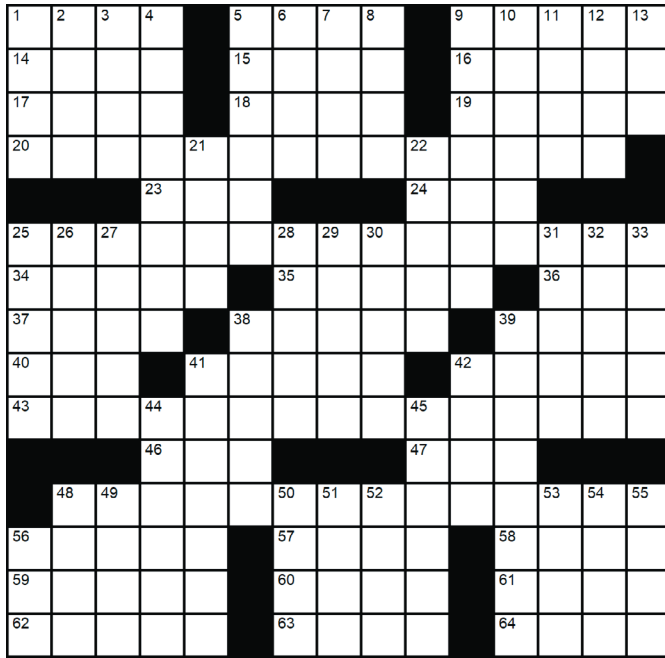
# Jonesin' Crossword

By Matt Jones

"Alphabetically Correct" -- in the right order.  
by Matt Jones  
© 2025 Matt Jones

### ACROSS

- 1. Sideways sidler
- 5. "The Bubble" director Apatow
- 9. Destroy, as a contract
- 14. "Black Swan" actress Kunis
- 15. Three-level snack
- 16. "\_\_\_ a customer"
- 17. "Moneytalks" band
- 18. "Jeepers!"
- 19. Shapewear brand
- 20. Instruction on liquid medicine or salad dressing
- 23. Steamed bun on a Chinese menu
- 24. Slugging Giant Mel
- 25. Brand-new, like film footage
- 34. Legendary Olympian Jesse
- 35. Moisturizer brand
- 36. 2022's Super Bowl
- 37. Sort
- 38. Per \_\_\_ (yearly)
- 39. Per \_\_\_ (daily)
- 40. Shiba \_\_\_ (Japanese dog)
- 41. Fast pitch?
- 42. Sloop in a Beach Boys song
- 43. Door holder's quip
- 46. "So \_\_\_ heard"
- 47. Across, poetically
- 48. Villainous "Superman II" demand (RIP Terence Stamp)
- 56. Vegan brand made with mycoprotein
- 57. Proctor's handout
- 58. Word almost 1 minute into "Bohemian Rhapsody"
- 59. Pick out
- 60. Run-down tavern
- 61. "Love \_\_\_



- Elevator" (Aerosmith song)
- 62. Chicago ex-mayor Richard
- 63. One of four on the New Zealand flag
- 64. TV's "Warrior Princess"

### DOWN

- 1. Nashville-based awards show, familiarly
- 2. Rolling in it
- 3. "M\*A\*S\*H" Emmy winner
- 4. Acrobatic show of agility
- 5. Briggs who hosts "The Last Drive-in"
- 6. Prod along
- 7. Like the staff of Gallaudet, predominantly
- 8. Extinct bird
- 9. Brew made from petals
- 10. Ports behind the

- TV, perhaps
- 11. Fried rice ingredients
- 12. \_\_\_ Reader (quarterly magazine founded in 1984)
- 13. Chicken \_\_\_
- 21. Piercing places
- 22. "Air Music" composer Ned
- 25. Phone maker from Finland
- 26. "Dallas" surname
- 27. Convention locale
- 28. Cinematic scorer Morricone
- 29. The \_\_\_ things in life
- 30. Botanical seed-to-be
- 31. 1912 Peace Nobel
- 32. Major happening
- 33. "Anywhere but here" acronym
- 38. Late fashion icon Iris in the 2014 Albert Maysles documentary

- "Iris"
- 39. Alter the soundtrack, maybe?
- 41. Speed limit in some states
- 42. Express ridicule
- 44. "The Devil's Dictionary" author Ambrose
- 45. One who's just OK?
- 48. 1990s Britpop psychedelic rock band \_\_\_ Shaker
- 49. Christmas, in Montreal
- 50. Hotel fixtures
- 51. Maze goal
- 52. Bean mentioned by Hannibal Lecter
- 53. "Titanic" actor Billy
- 54. Sultanate near Yemen
- 55. Garth's portrayer in "Wayne's World"
- 56. Proof letters

# Free Will Astrology

By Rob Breznsky

Oct. 1-7, 2025

**ARIES (March 21-April 19):** In Zen Buddhism, a "satori" is a sudden flash of illumination that's fun and clarifying. I'm happy to tell you that you're in a phase when these sweet breakthroughs are extra likely to visit you. They may barge in while you're washing dishes, in the grocery store checkout line or during your fantasies before sleep. Be on high alert for intimations from the Great Mystery. PS: Some satori could be gems you already half knew.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20):** You are eligible to be named "The Most Brilliant and Effective Complainer" for October. If you want to secure this prestigious award, spend time organizing plans for changing what's amiss or awry. Decide which irritating, off-kilter situations are most worthy of your thoughtful attention. Figure out how to express your critiques in ways that will engage the constructive help of others. And then implement a detailed strategy to compassionately achieve the intriguing transformations.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20):** On certain medieval maps, an island paradise known as Hy-Brasil had a fuzzy presence west of Ireland. Did it truly exist? If so, it was said to be a blessed land that could restore lost youth and offer extravagant happiness. The place was thought to be rarely visible, and only under certain magical or auspicious conditions. I suspect you Geminis are within range of an experience like this. It won't appear in a specific location but as a state of mind that settles over you. Don't chase it. Allow it to find you.

**CANCER (June 21-July 22):** A stalactite is a stony formation that hangs like an icicle from the ceiling of a cave. It forms over long periods as mineral-rich water drips down and incrementally deposits hard calcium carbonate through precipitation. This marvel is an example of Earth's creativity at its most leisurely. A 4-inch-long stalactite might take a thousand years to make. With that as your seed thought, Cancerian, I invite you to attune yourself to the slowest, deepest, most ancient parts of your soul. Important developments are unfolding there. A wound that's ripening into wisdom? A mysterious yearning that's finally speaking in your native tongue? Be patient and vigilant with it. Don't demand clarity all at once. Your transformation is tectonic, not flashy. Your assignment is to listen and be receptive.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):** When bilingual speakers engage in the behavior known as "code-switching," they may begin a sentence in one language and finish it in another. Or they may move back and forth between two different languages as they deliver a discourse. Why do they do it? To enrich their meaning, to dazzle their audience, to play and experiment. In a larger sense, we could say that code-switching happens anytime we swivel between different styles of presenting ourselves: from formal to casual, serious to humorous, cheerful to skeptical. I bring this up, Leo, because you are in the heart of the code-switching season. Have fun!

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):** In the Arctic, polar bears move through the world not by sight alone, but through scent trails that stretch miles across the ice. Their sense of direction is olfactory, intuitive and primal. If I'm reading the omens correctly, Virgo, your navigation system will also be more animal than logical in the coming weeks. I advise you to trust subtle cues, like goosebumps, a sweet or sour taste in your mouth, or an uncanny pull toward or away from things. Your rational mind might not be fully helpful, but your body will know the way. Sniff the trail. Access your instincts.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):** In ancient Egyptian myth, the goddess Maat ruled truth, divine law, harmony and moral order. After death, each person's heart was weighed against Maat's feather of truth on a scale in the Hall of Judgment. If the heart, which embodied the essence of a person's actions in life, was equal in weight to the feather, the deceased was assessed as virtuous and cleared to continue to the glorious afterlife. If it was heavier ... well,

I'll spare you the details. Maat's scales were not symbols of punishment, but of fairness and justice. That's also your special power right now, Libra. You have subtle insight into every choice. You understand that your wisdom is best used to bless, not censure. My hope is that you will foster gentle clarity and offer forgiveness to all, including yourself. Lay down the old guilt! Let grace be the law!

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):** The I Ching is an ancient divinatory book compiled in China over 2,500 years ago. Amazingly, it's still quite useful. In accordance with astrological omens, I call your attention to one of its oracles: "Work on What Has Been Spoiled." It tenderly counsels us to be brave as we repair what's broken. But it's crucial that we make the correction with patient grace, not blame and anger. The good news, Scorpio, is that you now have an uncanny ability to discern what's out of tune, what's crooked, what has been wrongfully abandoned. I hope you will offer your genius for re-weaving. A frayed friendship? A neglected dream? A forgotten promise? You can play the role of restorer: not to make things as they were, but to render them better than they've ever been.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** In ancient Egypt, the lion-headed goddess Sekhmet wielded both intense heat and nourishing warmth. She had the power to destroy and heal. When outbreaks of chaos threatened, she incinerated them. Once order and balance returned, she served as a physician. I dare you to summon your inner Sekhmet, Sagittarius. Give your bold attention to an obstacle that needs to be crushed or an injustice that needs to be erased. If necessary, invoke sacred rage on behalf of sacred order. But remember that the goal is not merely combustion. It's transmutation. Once the fire has cleared the way, unleash your gorgeous cure.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):** In Nepal, there's a tradition among Sherpa mountaineers. Before ascending Mount Everest, they perform a ceremony led by a Buddhist monk or lama. It's a way to honor the sacredness of the mountain, ask for grace during their climb and return from the journey in good health. As you eye the peak ahead of you, Capricorn, consider making similar preparation. Ritualize your intention. Direct it with clarity and care. Bless your journey before you surge forward.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):** When people call something "glamorous," they usually mean it has an elegant, captivating style. Its beauty is sophisticated and luxurious. But the original meaning of "glamour" was different. It referred to a deceptive magical enchantment designed to disguise the truth, whipped up by a conjurer or supernatural being. That's the sense I want to invoke now, Aquarius. You have been seeing through the glamour lately — of the media, of consensus reality, of false stories. Now, it's time to go even further: to actively tear down illusions and dismantle pretense, preferably with tact. When you see through the spell, don't just call it out; transmute it into clarity.

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20):** Pisces-born Nina Simone (1933-2003) started playing piano when she was 3 years old. At age 12, her debut concert was a classical recital. She developed a yearning to become the first Black female classical concert pianist. But her dream collapsed when the prestigious Curtis Institute of Music refused to let her study there. Then came the plot twist. She redirected her disappointment ingeniously, launching a brilliant career as a singer, composer and pianist that won her global fame. The rebuff from the Curtis Institute was ultimately a stroke of good luck! It became a catalyst for her greatness. In accordance with astrological omens, I invite you to designate a frustration that you will use to fuel future success.

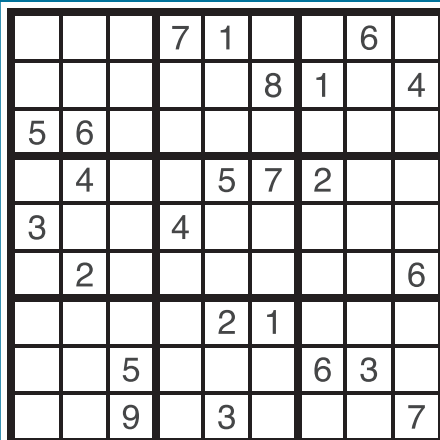
Go to [RealAstrology.com](http://RealAstrology.com) to check out Rob Breznsky's EXPANDED WEEKLY AUDIO HOROSCOPES and DAILY TEXT MESSAGE HOROSCOPES. The audio horoscopes are also available by phone at 1-877-873-4888 or 1-900-950-7700.

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Answers on page 30

# 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!

# OUT on the TOWN

## Events & Happenings in Lansing This Week

Events must be entered through the calendar at [lansingcitypulse.com](http://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, Oct. 1

**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](http://ruhalacenter.com).

**Al-Anon Meeting** - 6 p.m. Okemos Community Church, 4734 Okemos Road, Okemos. [cmialanon.org](http://cmialanon.org).

**Allen Farmers Market** - Live music by Mike Lawrence. 3-6:30 p.m. Allen Neighborhood Center, 1629 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. [allenneighborhoodcenter.org/allen-farmers-market](http://allenneighborhoodcenter.org/allen-farmers-market).

**Artist Talk: Pao Houa Her** - Join Hmong American artist Pao Houa Her for a conversation on artistic practice and legacies of landscape, portraiture and documentary photography. 7-8:30 p.m. Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, East Lansing. [broadmuseum.msu.edu](http://broadmuseum.msu.edu).

**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](http://facebook.com/EatonRapidsSeniorCenter).

**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](http://ruhalacenter.com).

**CDBG MSU Focus Group** - This focus group aims to garner input from MSU students and stakeholders on how East Lansing CDBG funding can be utilized to benefit low- and moderate-income students. 5-7 p.m. MSU Union, 49 Abbot Road, East Lansing. [cityofeastlansing.com](http://cityofeastlansing.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. [glad.org/project/learncoding](http://glad.org/project/learncoding).

**Financial Literacy Workshop: The Informed Renter** - This free workshop will equip you with valuable information about the rental process. Registration req. 6 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. [glad.org](http://glad.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](http://meridian50plus.com).

**Flamy Grant at The Robin Theatre** - Grant blends country, folk, gospel and roots music to deliver a theatrical, therapeutic and wholly original experience of intrepid storytelling, shared through the art of drag. 7:30 p.m. 1105 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. [therobintheatre.com](http://therobintheatre.com).

**Gavin McDonnell** - Stick around after Lansing Live for a special late-night set with Gavin McDonnell. No cover! 9:30-11:30 p.m. UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner St., Lansing. [urbanbeatevents.com](http://urbanbeatevents.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.

**Karaoke at Lansing Shuffle, with Big Man Genesis** - 9-11 p.m. 325 Riverfront Drive, Lansing. [lansingshuffle.com](http://lansingshuffle.com).

**Lansing Live Open Stage Night** - Whether you're experienced or just starting out, the stage is open to all. Not a performer? Enjoy dinner, drinks and

live music. No cover, all ages welcome. 6-9 p.m. UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner St., Lansing. [urbanbeatevents.com](http://urbanbeatevents.com).

**Magic: The Gathering Club** - We invite players of all skill levels to join us. Cards not provided. This is a drop-in adult program. 5:30-8 p.m. Charlotte Community Library, 226 S. Bostwick St., Charlotte. [charlottelibrary.org](http://charlottelibrary.org).

**Meridian Township Farmers Market** - 3-7 p.m. Marketplace on the Green, 1995 Central Park Drive, Okemos. [meridian.mi.us/FarmersMarket](http://meridian.mi.us/FarmersMarket).

**River Walk Trash Cleanup** - Join us in caring for the Earth and her waterways by picking up trash along the Lansing River Trail and the areas around our building! 11 a.m.-noon. Weavers of the Web, 809 Center St., Lansing. [weaversoftheweb.org](http://weaversoftheweb.org).

**Tap II Class for Teens & Adults** - 6-7 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. [ruhalacenter.com](http://ruhalacenter.com).

**Weaving the Web: Water** - 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](http://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](http://ruhalacenter.com).

**Yoga For Peace, with Shiloh** - An all-level yoga session that plants seeds of peace within. 6 p.m. Peoples Yoga Studio, 1146 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. [peacequestgreaterlansing.org](http://peacequestgreaterlansing.org).

**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, Oct. 2

**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](http://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](http://ruhalacenter.com).

**Al-Anon Meeting** - 6:45 p.m. Mason Sparrow Urgent Care, 800 E. Columbia St., Mason. [cmialanon.org](http://cmialanon.org).

**Al-Anon Meeting** - 8 p.m. Eastminster Presbyterian Church, 1315 Abbot Road, East Lansing. [cmialanon.org](http://cmialanon.org).

**Arts Council Grant Chat** - Stop by The Willow Where Our Roots Began to discuss your grant questions and creative ideas with membership & program manager Taylor Haslett. She can provide information on local grant opportunities and assist you in planning your applications. 9-10:30 a.m. 719 Brookside Drive, Lansing. [facebook.com/ArtsCouncilGL](http://facebook.com/ArtsCouncilGL).

**Bath Farmers Market** - 3-6:30 p.m. James Couzens Memorial Park, 13753 Main St., Bath. [shopbfm.org](http://shopbfm.org).

**Beauty for Ashes Fundraiser Gala** - Enjoy hors d'oeuvres and a live auction, hear inspirational stories of transformation and learn about The House of Promise's impact in the community. 6:30 p.m. Crowne Plaza Hotel, 925 S. Creyts Road, Lansing. [thehouseofpromise.com](http://thehouseofpromise.com).

See Events, Page 26



### The Lightfoot Band

7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 3

Grewal Hall

224 S. Washington Square, Lansing

In 2023, the world lost a music legend: singer-songwriter Gordon Lightfoot, known as "Canada's bard." The 16-time Juno Award-winning and five-time Grammy-nominated troubadour sailed to the top of Billboard's Hot 100 and Adult Contemporary charts in the 1970s with hits like "If You Could Read My Mind," "Sundown," "Carefree Highway" and "The Wreck of the Edmund Fitzgerald," continuing to record and tour until the early 2020s.

After taking time to grieve, Lightfoot's bandmates, most of whom had played and toured with him for decades, decided to continue performing in the hopes of keeping his legacy and beloved songs alive. The group, renamed the Lightfoot Band, will play Grewal Hall Friday evening as part of a week-and-a-half-long Midwest tour.

Following some debate about how to replace Lightfoot, the band found a longtime fan, Andy Mauck, to take over on vocals in 2024.

"We talked about different possibilities, about maybe getting a singer, maybe working with different singers, maybe touring and working with local singers wherever we were. And (bassist) Rick Haynes remembered a great guy from Florida, a fan of Gordon's for maybe 50 years, named Andy Mauck," drummer Barry Keane said. "Rick thought we should give Andy a shot because he's a bar singer, he performs a lot of Gordon songs, and Rick had heard him and said he was pretty good. So, we decided that we were going to go on and had Andy come up to Toronto a couple of times for basically an audition."

The musicians found that Mauck "checked all the required boxes."

"He's a great rhythm guitar player and a great singer," Keane enthused. "He's learning how to perform within a band. He had been a solo performer for years, and he knows more Gordon Lightfoot songs than I do, honestly. He was such a fan of Gordon's, and he does a fabulous job with us."

At Grewal, the band will perform a selection of hits and deeper cuts, ensuring fans hear all their favorites.

"Some bands will come out and say, 'We're not going to play our old stuff right now. We want you to hear a bunch of new stuff.' I don't think that's really fair to audiences," Haynes said. "We also talk to the audience and tell some stories about life on the road with Gordon over the years. We try not to talk too much, but we've found that people who come to the shows really like to hear about the stories of the earlier days with Gordon, and that's what we're all about. We played on the records, we toured with him, we went all over the world with him."

The group also makes a point of venturing into the lobby after shows to meet and share stories with attendees.

"We don't do any of the VIP guest lists that some people do. We like to go out into the audience after the show and meet anybody who wants to stick around and chat," Haynes said. "So, in a sense, if you buy a ticket to a Lightfoot Band show, you automatically have a backstage pass."

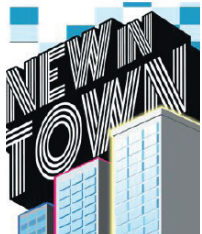
Of course, since this year marks the 50th anniversary of the wreck of the SS Edmund Fitzgerald — a freighter that sank in Lake Superior during a bad storm, resulting in the deaths of all 29 crew members — the band will highlight Lightfoot's eponymous ballad on this tour. The track was recorded in one take, with none of the members, besides Lightfoot, having heard the song in full.

"Very few people get a song on the first take. It usually takes a lot of work and a lot of grinding. It speaks volumes to the talent of all the musicians, and the talent of Gordon himself," Haynes said.

# Make new looks out of old pieces at Better Aged

By LEO V. KAPLAN

Dom Radashaw and Austyn Daggett first bonded over shoes.



## Better Aged MSU

213 E. Grand River Ave.,  
East Lansing  
11 a.m.-9 p.m. daily  
instagram.com/  
betteragedmsu

That interest eventually turned to clothes, and then, for Daggett, a vintage clothing store in Grand Rapids. Opened in 2022, the shop has done well over the last three years, Radashaw said. When Daggett decided to open a second store in the Lansing area, he asked Radashaw, who had helped with the original location, to manage it.

Better Aged MSU opened Aug. 28 in downtown East Lansing. Like the Grand Rapids location, it sells vintage clothes in good condition, but it also offers a lot of Michigan State gear. Daggett said the mix of different-priced items — the shop has T-shirts for \$20 and rare jackets for hundreds — appeals to students and col-



Leo V. Kaplan/City Pulse

Better Aged MSU manager Dom Radashaw holds a 1950s Spartan Marching Band cardigan, a type of item he said is rarely seen in such good condition.

lectors alike.

“We just had parents’ weekend a couple of weekends ago. A lot of them came in, and their eyes went huge,” Radashaw said. “They were seeing stuff from when they were our age and reminiscing, and they bought stuff for their kids.”

Radashaw said vintage clothing holds particular appeal since the quality of new

clothing “has tanked over the years.” He added that the variety makes for a more interesting shopping experience.

“Everything’s unique, and there are so many different options,” he said. “Typically, we don’t have much of the same thing. It’s all vastly different.”

Online vintage resale through apps like Depop and Poshmark has grown,

thanks to tech-savvy, thrift-loving Generation Z. But Radashaw said there are advantages to buying vintage in person, such as fitting rooms.

“A lot of the stuff just fits differently,” he said. “And you can really get your hands on different things.”

Many of the new shop’s items are from the Grand Rapids location, but Radashaw said East Lansing customers are starting to bring in clothes to sell. Payment is typically between one-third and one-half the price the piece will be sold at, depending on whether it’s expected to sell quickly.

Radashaw said he loves sorting through new finds.

“I’ve seen thousands and thousands of articles of clothing from the ‘90s and prior, and I still see unique stuff all the time,” he said. “It’s like you’re opening up a time capsule.”

He smiled as he held up a Spartan Marching Band cardigan from the 1950s.

“Typically, with wool things, moss will just destroy them,” he said. “To find something so niche, and something you literally never see anyway, was super cool.”

## Events

from page 25

**Beyond Borders: A Conversation with Dr. Fredrick Luis Aldama** - Join Aldama for a thoughtful exploration of identity, storytelling, and Latinx representation in pop culture and comics. 5 p.m. Communication Arts and Sciences Building, 404 Wilson Road, East Lansing. facebook.com/MSUMuseum.

**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/summerlands-brewing.

**Biology on Tap** - Featuring talks about rainforest wildlife and diabetes by Gerald Urquhart and Arihant Kumar Singh. 7 p.m. Michigan Wildlife Conservancy, 6380 Drumheller Road, Bath. facebook.com/BioOnTap.

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

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

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

**“Every Brilliant Thing”** - Based on true and untrue stories, “Every Brilliant Thing” is a life-affirming story of how to achieve hope through focusing on the smallest miracles of life. 7:30 p.m. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam St., Williamston. williamstontheatre.org.

**Group Dance Class: Beginning American-Style Rhumba** - 7 p.m. Michigan Athletic Club, 2900 Hannah Blvd., East Lansing. Register by calling 517-364-8888.

**History Makers: Bessie Coleman** - We’ll read a picture book about pilot Bessie Coleman and then do a related activity. 6 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. gladl.org.

**Hot Topics in Cancer Symposium** - 7:30 a.m.-5 p.m. University Club, 3435 Forest Road, Lansing. eventbrite.com/o/msu-chm-surgery-80377963603.

**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.

**Jazz Dogs** - No cover! 6-9 p.m. UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner St., Lansing. urbanbeatevents.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. ladiesilverblades.org.

**MELT Thursdays** - UrbanBeat turns up the heat with a weekly electronic music series. Featured artists: Kiwi!, Rob Powell, Big Sherm. No cover. 10 p.m.-1 a.m. 1213 Turner St., Lansing. urbanbeatevents.com.

**October Economic Club: Strengthening Workforce Pathways** - Join us for an inspiring panel discussion on how we can better connect education to real-world career opportunities. 11:30 a.m. Kellogg Hotel, 219 S. Harrison Road, East Lansing. facebook.com/LansingChamber.

**Property Tax Foreclosure Basics** - This webinar will describe the options to keep, sell or let foreclosure happen. 3 p.m. Virtual — register at canr.msu.edu/mimoneyhealth/index.

**Ruhala Broadway Ensemble: Performing Group for All Ages** - Meets twice per week. 5:30-7 p.m. Ru-

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

**Silent Book Group** - Bring your own book to discuss, then read in companionable silence. Some attendees break off for private socializing. 6:30-8 p.m. Hooked, 3142 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing.

**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** - 6:45 p.m. Church of the Nazarene, 4851 Holt Road, Holt. spiritofmichiganchorus.com.

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

**Tune In** - An inclusive music showcase for performers and songwriters from Greater Lansing. You’re invited to share a song (must sign up in advance) or just enjoy great music by your neighbors. 7:30 p.m. The Robin Theatre, 1105 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. tenpoundfiddle.org.

## Friday, Oct. 3

**Angry Talent Entertainment’s Third Anniversary Party** - Featuring a headlining set by JP & the Energy, a guest appearance by Eon Zero and other surprise performers. “Angry” drink specials and ATE swag included. 7 p.m.-1 a.m. Mash Bar, 212 Albert Ave., East Lansing. facebook.com/AngryTalentEntertainment.

**Beyond Borders: Oral History with Dr. Fredrick Luis Aldama** - A hands-on workshop exploring the role of oral history in preserving personal and cultural narratives. 5-6:30 p.m. Multicultural Center, 535 N. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. facebook.com/MSU-Museum.

**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.

**“Every Brilliant Thing”** - 7:30 p.m. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam St., Williamston. williamstontheatre.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.

**Geech Live at Summerlands Brewing Co.** - 7:30-10:30 p.m. 1957 Cedar St., Holt. facebook.com/summerlandsbrewing.

**Halloween Shadow Box** - Get ready for Halloween with these adorable shadow boxes. We’ll paint, decoupage and decorate. 6-8 p.m. 836 Centennial Way, Lansing. eventbrite.com/o/cottage-crafters-115783372661.

**Jake Reichbart Live at Elderly Instruments** - Reichbart is a solo fingerstyle guitarist whose repertoire spans all forms of popular music, from ‘20s-‘60s jazz standards to ‘60s-‘90s pop and rock classics to current-day hits. 5 p.m. 1100 N. Washington Ave., Lansing. elderly.com.

**Joel Mabus** - This is Joel’s 45th solo concert in the Fiddle’s 51 seasons of producing shows. Each year, he shares newly penned pieces and old favorites. 7:30-10 p.m. University Lutheran Church, 1020 S. Harrison Road, East Lansing. tenpoundfiddle.org.

**MSU Hockey vs. University of Windsor** - 6 p.m. Munn Ice Arena, 509 Birch Road, East Lansing. msuspartans.com/sports/mens-ice-hockey.

**Open Old-Time Jam | First Friday of Every Month** - Join the legendary Mike Ross for an old-time-centric jam. Even if you don’t play, feel free to listen along! 5-6:30 p.m. Elderly Instruments, 1100 N. Washington Ave., Lansing. elderly.com/collections/events.

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# Events

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**Peckham Fall Speaker Series: Zach Anner** - Anner, a comedian, author and viral sensation, takes audiences on a heartfelt and hilarious journey from childhood challenges to becoming the first person with cerebral palsy to host their own television show. 10:30 a.m. Peckham Headquarters, 3510 Capital City Blvd., Lansing. peckham.org.

**Solo Piano Soundscapes** - MSU pianist Derek Kealii Polischuk performs a solo recital featuring works by Marie Jaëll, Franz Schubert, Margaret Bonds and Keith Jarrett. 7:30 p.m. Cook Recital Hall, 333 W. Circle Drive, East Lansing. music.msu.edu.

**Sultry Salsa Fridays** - Dance salsa, merengue, bachata, cumbia, cha-cha and a touch of reggaeton to songs by the hottest Latin music DJ, Incognito. 9 p.m.-2 a.m. La Mulata Restaurant & Bar, 5334 S. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Lansing. sultrysalsa.com.

**Taylor Swift Paint & Listening Party** - Swifties unite! Join us for a "Life of a Showgirl" listening party and themed painting session. 6:30-9 p.m. Okemos Coffee Shop, 1732 Hamilton Road, Okemos. paintyourpoison.com.

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

**Twyla Birdsong** - Known for her rich, soulful voice and powerful stage presence, Birdsong channels the timeless spirit of greats like Billie Holiday and Aretha Franklin while adding a fresh, contemporary edge all her own. 6-10 p.m. UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner St., Lansing. urbanbeatevents.com.

**Women in Action Elevate Her Summit** - A transformational experience designed to ignite your purpose and elevate every area of your life. Connect with like-minded women, be inspired by dynamic speakers and grow into the most empowered version of yourself. 5 p.m. Crowne Plaza Hotel, 925 S. Creyts Road, Lansing. eventbrite.com/o/women-in-action-3000158121.

**Women of Witness Comedy for a Cause Fundraiser** - Hosted by Ms. Gee, with special guests Simply Shanell and Michael McDaniel. Social Hour and light refreshments at 6:30 p.m., comedy show and walk of victory at 7:30 p.m. Kingdom Ministries, 3000 W. Miller Road, Lansing. eventbrite.com/o/kingdom-ministries-31632245513.

## Saturday, Oct. 4

**All-of-Us Express Children's Theatre Presents: Disney's "Winnie the Pooh Kids"** - 11 a.m. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing. allfusexpress.org.

**Chili Cookoff** - Attendees will enjoy a night of chili tasting, live music, entertainment, outdoor games and much more. 5:30-9 p.m. Jackson Field, 505 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. facebook.com/lansinglugnuts.

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

**Contra and Square Dance** - All dances taught. No partner needed. Come at 6:30 p.m. for a quick workshop on easy contra dance moves. Dance runs from 7-10 p.m. Central United Methodist Church, 215 N. Capitol Ave, Lansing. tenpoundfiddle.org.

**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.

**Downtown Lansing Zombie Walk** - Traffic will come to a standstill as we make our way to the steps of the Capitol for the most amazingly horrific photoshoot mid-Michigan has ever seen. 3-6 p.m.

Impression 5 Science Center, 200 Museum Drive, Lansing. downtownlansingzombiewalk.com.

**"Every Brilliant Thing"** - 2 p.m. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam St., Williamston. williamstontheatre.org.

**Fall Native Plant Sale** - Fall is a great time to plant native plants! The sale includes Michigan-native sedges, grasses, wildflowers and ferns. All proceeds benefit HNC. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road, Okemos. meridian.mi.us/hnc.

**Family Day: LINK** - What can we learn about each other through art? Let's connect through materials and ideas in celebration of the exhibit "Africa Past, Present, and Future." 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, East Lansing. broadmuseum.msu.edu.

**Grand Ledge Fall Festival** - There will be crafters and vendors at three different parks, along with free pumpkins for kids, a fall photo booth, pony rides, a petting zoo, food trucks and even some re-enactors and demonstrators of live art. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Downtown Grand Ledge. grandledgechamber.com/grand\_ledge\_fall\_festival.php.

**Grand Ledge Opera House Grand Reopening** - Visitors can enjoy the beautifully restored venue, learn about rental opportunities and explore how this space continues to serve as a hub for celebrations, music and community events. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. 121 S. Bridge St., Grand Ledge. gloperahouse.com.

**Grand River Color Tour Triathlon** - This race will feature a 2K kayaking paddle, a 15-mile cycle and a 5K run. During the final leg of the 5K, runners will be blasted with powder coloring! 8 a.m. 114 Mill St., Eaton Rapids. facebook.com/CityOfEatonRapids.

**Harvest Festival** - This free event will feature a petting zoo, crafts, face painting, live music, demonstrations and much more. Food will be available for purchase. 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Williamstown Township Community Park, 525 E. Grand River Ave., Williamston. williamstownmi.gov.

**History Harvest** - Come to the GLADL Digilab, where you can restore faded and torn photographs, digitize slides and photo negatives, preserve the content of written documents, convert your old tapes and vinyl records to digital and even record your oral history. 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. gladl.org.

**How-To Halloween** - Fire up your proton packs because we're busting ghosts at the 11th annual How-To Halloween, a free outdoor festival featuring interactive attractions, a ghost hunting adventure, trick or treating, creative vendors, live entertainment, a killer car show and more. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Impression 5 Science Center, 200 Museum Drive, Lansing. how-tohalloween.com.

**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.

**The Jeff Haas Quintet** - Known for their vibrant performances, the Jeff Haas Quintet promises an evening of high-energy jazz that reflects Haas' passion for genre-blending compositions. 7-10 p.m. UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner St., Lansing. urbanbeatevents.com.

**Meridian Heritage Festival** - History comes alive with demonstrations, exhibits, live performances and a vintage baseball game. Attendees can also enjoy catch-and-release fishing, food trucks and a children's game area. 10:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Meridian Historical Village, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos. meridian.mi.us.

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

**Out of the Darkness Walk** - Join us in a day of remembrance for lost loved ones. Reach out to family members and friends of those who have been lost to suicide and those who struggle. Art and memorial activities will be available, along with resources for hope and healing. 9 a.m.-noon. Hawk Island Park, 1601 E. Cavanaugh Road, Lansing. afsp.org.

**Lansing Symphony Orchestra MasterWorks 01: "The Planets"** - 7:30 p.m. Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. lansingsymphony.org.

**Refugee Services 50th Anniversary** - Join us in celebrating 50 years of refugee resettlement programming with Catholic Charities IEC. The celebration will include food, dancing, music performances, testimonials and more! 2-5 p.m. CCIEC St. Vincent Campus, 2800 W. Willow St., Lansing. catholiccharitiesiec.org.

**Salaam Peace Festival** - Several local restaurants and cafes will sell food. Activities will include calligraphy, henna, inflatable play areas for children and more. Guests are welcome to tour the Islamic Center and enjoy a "Discover Islam" poster exhibit and presentation. 2:30-6:30 p.m. 920 S. Harrison Road, East Lansing. tinyurl.com/salaampeacefestival.

**Skeleton Invasion** - Skeletons have taken over the museum! Try to solve our Skeleton Search by gathering clues to decipher a secret message. Enjoy Halloween candy and apple cider. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. R.E. Olds Transportation Museum, 240 Museum Drive, Lansing. reoldsmuseum.org.

**Staged Reading: "A Woman Unfiltered"** - A new play by local playwright Roger Rochowiak. Free — donations accepted. 7 p.m. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. riverwalktheatre.com.

**Sweet C and the Sunset Riders Live on the Patio at Summerlands Brewing Co.** - 4-7 p.m. 1957 Cedar St., Holt. facebook.com/summerlandsbrewing.

**Teddy Petty & the Refugees** - The ultimate tribute to Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers! 7 p.m. Charlotte Performing Arts Center, 378 State St., Charlotte. charlotteperformingartscenter.com.

**Tiger and Dragon Kenpo Martial Arts Training** - 1 p.m. Keys to Manifestation, 809 Center St., Lansing. weaversoftheweb.org.

**Victorian Ghost Walk** - Join us for a bone-chilling night of otherworldly delights as we tour the haunted basements and spooky upper stories

of Williamston's most iconic Victorian architecture. There will be special guests at each participating location. 6-9 p.m. 111 W. Grand River Ave., Williamston. facebook.com/profile.php?id=100078944193119.

**Women in Action Elevate Her Summit** - 9 a.m. Crowne Plaza Hotel, 925 S. Creyts Road, Lansing. eventbrite.com/o/women-in-action-3000158121.

**Women of Witness Conference: "The Relentless Woman"** - Featured speakers: Pastor Jan Benson, Rev. Caressa Bryant and evangelist Shanell Henry. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Kingdom Ministries, 3000 W. Miller Road, Lansing. eventbrite.com/o/kingdom-ministries-31632245513.

**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, Oct. 5

**All-of-Us Express Children's Theatre Presents: Disney's "Winnie the Pooh" Kids** - 3 p.m. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing. allfusexpress.org.

**Autumn's Golden Arts & Crafts Show** - Art for sale includes paintings, fabric bags, birdhouses, paper baskets, jewelry, pottery, wooden boards/utensils, food and hand-knitted pussy hats. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. 2431 Forest Road, Lansing. susanpainting@yahoo.com.

**Balance & Brews** - Join us for a revitalizing yoga session, then head to Dimes Brewhouse to enjoy a complimentary beverage and create your own grilled cheese. 11 a.m. Nurture Studios, 257 S. Bridge Street, Dimondale. eventbrite.com/o/compassionately-bri-53247017153.

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The **Jeff Haas Quintet** returns to



**UrbanBeat**

WSG **DIEGO RIVERA**

**ANTHONY STANCO - TRUMPET**   **JEFF HAAS - PIANO**   **Laurie SEARS - SAX & FLUTE**  
**TARIQ GARDNER - DRUMS**   **MARION HAYDEN - BASS**

**OCTOBER 4TH** 7-10PM  
 1213 Turner Rd, Lansing, MI 48906



## Events

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**Bengel Wildlife Center Volunteer Workday** - We'll meet in the circle drive and head out on the trails to clear brush, pick up trash and remove invasive plants. After we're done, stick around for a free hot dog cookout! 9 a.m.-noon. 6380 Drumheller Road, Bath. facebook.com/miwildlife.

**Drum Circle at Lake Lansing Park North** - 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.

**"Every Brilliant Thing"** - 2 p.m. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam St., Williamston. williamstontheatre.org.

**First Start Sunday** - Monthly blacksmithing workshop for beginners. Learn the fundamentals of the craft, including tool use, safety and how to complete a simple project yourself. 3 p.m. Artfire Michigan, 4567 Churchill Road, Leslie. artfiremichigan.com.

**The Healing Feast** - Monthly event that offers food and community for healing connections with the self, others, the earth and the sacred. 5-8 p.m. Central United Methodist Church, 215 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing. Register at eventbrite.com/o/sari-brown-93689375763.

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

**Livingston Lamplighters Barbershop Chorus Presents Motown** - The Lamplighters family chorus will perform the best of Motown, joined by the Lamplighter band, our member quartets and many more surprises! 2-4 p.m. Howell Opera House, 123 W. Grand River Ave., Howell. howelloperahouse.com.

**Pass a Good Time** - Bass-baritone Marc Embree returns for an afternoon of songs, stories and musical fun, joined by MSU artists Jane Bunnell, Joseph Luloff, Richard Sherman and more. 3 p.m. Fairchild Theatre, 542 Auditorium Road, East Lansing. music.msu.edu.

**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.

**SPARTan Wellness: Carve Your Calm** - Tap into your inner calm, creativity and mindfulness as you carve a custom stamp. Feel free to bring your own supplies to print on, like T-shirts, pillowcases or bags. 2-4 p.m. Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, East Lansing. broadmuseum.msu.edu.

**Welcoming the New Neighbor: A Christian Dialogue on Refugees and Immigrants** - This six-week session is facilitated by Stephanie Nawyn, an MSU associate professor who specializes in migration and refugees, human trafficking and resettlement. 11:30 a.m. The Peoples Church, 200 W. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. peacequestgreaterlansing.org.

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

**Worship Service of Peace and Global Witness** - 10 a.m. Presbyterian Church of Okemos, 2258 Bennett Road, Okemos. peacequestgreaterlansing.org.

### Monday, Oct. 6

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

**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.

**Button Pumpkin or Ghost** - Create a pumpkin or a ghost out of vintage and new buttons. This project will be on an 8-by-8 canvas. 6-8 p.m. 836 Centennial Way, Lansing. eventbrite.com/o/cottage-crafters-115783372661.

**Cello Plus: Symphonic Dialogues** - Camerata Michigan, conducted by MSU alumnus Tigran Shiganyan, presents Haydn's "Sinfonia Concertante" and other chamber works showcasing the group's range. 7:30 p.m. Fairchild Theatre, 542 Auditorium Road, East Lansing. music.msu.edu.

**Crafty Story Time** - Preschool-aged children and their caregivers can enjoy fun activities, stories and a craft. 11 a.m. Charlotte Community Library, 226 South Bostwick St., Charlotte. charlottelibrary.org.

**Dementia Caregiver Series** - Three-session series intended to reduce stress for those caring for a person with dementia by providing useful tools and information. 1-2:30 p.m. ALIVE, 800 W. Lawrence Ave., Charlotte. To register, call 517-887-1465 or email histedc@coa.org.

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

**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.

**Informed Renter** - This workshop from MSU Extension will equip you with valuable information about the rental process that will help you navigate technicalities and avoid costly mistakes. 4-5powerf.m. Virtual — register at canr.msu.edu/mimoneyhealth/index.

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

**Make a Spooky Halloween Jar** - Fill a jar with spooky decorations to make your own creepy Halloween scene. 6 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. gladl.org.

**PEARS Crash Course** - In this training, you'll learn what goes where in PEARs and where to find self-paced training materials, plus tips for data entry. 9-11:30 a.m. Virtual — register at canr.msu.edu/od/planning\_evaluation\_and\_reporting/pears-crash-course.

**Powerful Tools for Caregivers** - Caregiving is rewarding but can also be stressful. Attend a six-week workshop that can help. 10:30 a.m.-noon. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. To register, call 517-887-1465 or email histedc@coa.org.



### 'The Best of the Best: Jazz from Detroit' screening 6:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 3 Hannah Community Center 619 Abbot Road, East Lansing

Based on the award-winning book by former Detroit Free Press writer Mark Stryker, "The Best of the Best: Jazz from Detroit" proves conclusively that you can't tell the story of jazz without telling the story of jazz from the Motor City. The lively, probing documentary searches for the elusive alchemy by which Detroit's brilliant jazz musicians have distilled the struggles and triumphs of the city's industrial, political and cultural life into an astonishing variety of musical forms and styles. From legends like Elvin Jones, Yusef Lateef and Ron Carter to contemporary creative forces like Karriem Riggins, Regina Carter and Kenny Garrett, Detroit has turned out jazz musicians as if from an assembly line, bearing out the words of Michigan State University's own jazz studies director, Rodney Whitaker: "We make cars, and we make jazz musicians." Is Whitaker in the film? Need you ask? "Jazz From Detroit" has been shown at festivals across North America and Europe, winning awards and garnering rave critical reviews. Stryker will be on hand at a screening Friday in East Lansing to introduce the film and answer audience questions. Tickets are \$10 for students and \$25 for general admission. Proceeds will support East Lansing's annual Summer Solstice Jazz Festival.

**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, Oct. 7

**"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.

**Compulsive Eaters Anonymous-HOW Meeting** - Meets in person and virtually. 5:30 p.m. St. Jude Catholic Church, 801 N. Bridge St., DeWitt. For Zoom info,

call 989-620-0448 or go to ceahow.org/en/find-a-meeting.

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

**Finance Committee** - 6 p.m. City Hall, 114 Woodhull St., Laingsburg. laingsburg.us/park-committee.

**Greater Lansing History Book Group** - This month, we're reading "The Internationalists: How a Radical Plan to Outlaw War Remade the World," by Oona Hathaway & Scott Shapiro. 6:30-7:45 p.m. Big Boy, 1408 Old U.S. 27, St. Johns.

**Group Dance Class: Beginning Hustle** - 8 p.m. Michigan Athletic Club, 2900 Hannah Blvd., East Lansing. Register by calling 517-364-8888.

**Group Dance Class: Beginning West Coast Swing** - 7 p.m. Michigan Athletic Club, 2900 Hannah Blvd., East Lansing. Register by calling 517-364-8888.

**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.

**LAGE Game Night North** - Lansing-Area Games & Events offers free board/card gaming experiences for diverse people and cultivates a safe, inclusive, fun community. 6:30-11 p.m. Reno's Sports Bar, 16460 Old U.S. 27, Lansing. meetup.com/lansing.

**LAGE Game Night West** - 6:30-11 p.m. Frank's Press Box, 7216 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing. meetup.com/lansing.

**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.

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**ART BY NEVIN**

As Seen On the Cover of CityPulse

Illustrations • Murals • Graphic Design  
Signs • Banners • T-Shirts • Logos

nevin@nevingraphics.com

**517-703-4655**

ArtByNevin Art\_By\_Nevin

# Events

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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.

**Michigan Cottage Food Law** - Learn how to prepare and sell foods to the public under Michigan Cottage Food Law. Topics include preparing, packaging, labeling, storing and transporting cottage foods. 2 p.m. Virtual — register at [canr.msu.edu/cottage\\_food\\_law/index](http://canr.msu.edu/cottage_food_law/index).

**Open Mic Night at Summerlands Brewing Co.** - 7-10 p.m. 1957 Cedar St., Holt. [facebook.com/summerlandsbrewing](http://facebook.com/summerlandsbrewing).

**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](http://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](http://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](http://urbanbeatevents.com).

**Trick or Treating at the Lansing Mall** - "Trick or treat" at displays set up by local businesses and groups. A \$1 fee per child will be collected at the door. Wear costumes and bring your own bags. 5-7 p.m. 5742 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing. [facebook.com/deltatowship](http://facebook.com/deltatowship).

**Trivia at Lansing Shuffle** - 7:30-9 p.m. 325 Riverfront Drive, Lansing. 517-940-4365. [lansingshuffle.com](http://lansingshuffle.com).

**Walk a Mile in Their Shoes** - LCC students and staff are invited to attend the "Walk a Mile in Their Shoes" event to raise awareness for breast cancer. 10-11 a.m. or 4-5 p.m. LCC West Campus, 5708 Cornerstone Drive, Lansing. [facebook.com/lccstars](http://facebook.com/lccstars).

**Walk with Ease** - Walking exercise program that can reduce pain and improve overall health. Group will meet Tuesdays at Briggs District Library through Nov. 4. 1:30-2:30 p.m. 108 E. Railroad St., St. Johns. To register, call 517-887-1465 or email [histedc@coa.org](mailto:histedc@coa.org).

## Wednesday, Oct. 8

**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](http://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](http://gladl.org).

**AI-Anon Meeting** - 6 p.m. Okemos Community Church, 4734 Okemos Road, Okemos. [cmialanon.org](http://cmialanon.org).

**Allen Farmers Market** - 3-6:30 p.m. Allen Neighborhood Center, 1629 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. [allenneighborhoodcenter.org/allen-farmers-market](http://allenneighborhoodcenter.org/allen-farmers-market).

**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](http://facebook.com/EatonRapidsSeniorCenter).

**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](http://ruhalacenter.com).

**Cello Plus: Jazz Infusion** - Grammy-winning pianist Taylor Eigsti joins MSU's Rodney Whitaker, alumna Marta Bagratuni and guests for a genre-blending concert reimagining chamber music through jazz. 7:30 p.m. Fairchild Theatre, 542 Auditorium Road, East Lansing. [music.msu.edu](http://music.msu.edu).

**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](http://gladl.org/project/learncoding).

**Connecting Small Businesses with Procurement Opportunities** - A unique opportunity for small businesses to engage directly with public procurement professionals and small business resource providers. 8:30-11:30 a.m. Michigan History Center, 702 W. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. [facebook.com/LansingChamber](http://facebook.com/LansingChamber).

**Double D String Band** - Join us for a relaxed evening of dinner and live music, featuring the Double D String Band. No cover! 9-11 p.m. UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner St., Lansing. [urbanbeatevents.com](http://urbanbeatevents.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](http://meridian50plus.com).

**Ghostly Campfire Paint Night** - Get spooky with us at Buddy's in Okemos! Painting will be on an 11-by-14 canvas. We'll walk you through it step by step. 6-9:30 p.m. 2010 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. [paintyourpoison.com](http://paintyourpoison.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.

**Halloween Psychic Fun Night** - Talented psychic Robert Taylor will present various techniques of divination. Audience participants will choose one of the techniques for an individualized reading! Registration req. 6-8 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. [gladl.org](http://gladl.org).

See Events, Page 30



## Urban Air

Thursday, Oct. 2-Sunday, Oct. 5  
Downtown Eaton Rapids

Downtown Eaton Rapids will be a scene straight out of the 20th century this weekend, with more than 100 Airstream trailers lining the streets for the return of the Urban Air festival. While the event offers far too many activities to list here, highlights include open-house-style Airstream tours, guided tours of Miller Farm, a walking tour of historic locations along River Street, a triathlon, a quilt show, a community breakfast, a Chicago-style Italian beef dinner, a photo contest hosted by the Eaton Rapids Arts Council, an open mic and a variety of kids' activities. Several local musicians will play at the Downtown Development Authority's beer and event tent, such as the 18-piece Twilight Memories Big Band, alternative rock band BlueSkye and country musicians Justin Judge and Kevin Wolff.

A celebration within a celebration, the third annual Island Ukulele Festival will welcome a statewide selection of string artists from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Saturday, including Bob's Barn Balladeers, Punch Drunk, Paula Warren & the Ukettes, The Fabulous Heftones and Jacktown Ukes. The event will also feature ukulele raffles, open mics and workshops with members of The Heftones and Punch Drunk. Monetary donations for Heart and Hands Food Pantry will be accepted in lieu of tickets.

Another major event, the Island City Wine Walk, invites adults to stroll throughout the city from 5 to 8 p.m. Saturday, stopping at eight locations to sample wine and small food pairings. Single, couple and group tickets are available at [zefy.com/en-US/ticketing/island-city-wine-walk-3](http://zefy.com/en-US/ticketing/island-city-wine-walk-3).

For a full schedule of Urban Air events, visit [facebook.com/CityOfEatonRapids](http://facebook.com/CityOfEatonRapids).

### CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF LANSING NOTICE OF POSTED MEETING MINUTES

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that all meeting minutes for the Charter Township of Lansing are posted to and available on the Township's website at [www.lansingtwpmi.gov](http://www.lansingtwpmi.gov). Meeting minutes may also be obtained by emailing [clerk@lansingtwpmi.gov](mailto:clerk@lansingtwpmi.gov).

Meeting minutes are also posted in, and available for inspection at, the office of the Township Clerk (located at 3209 W. Michigan Avenue, Lansing, Michigan) during normal business hours.

Cortney Lighthouse, Clerk  
Maggie Sanders, Supervisor

CP#25-289



### CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN, INGHAM COUNTY NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING TOWNSHIP BOARD TUESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2025

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN  
TOWNSHIP BOARD SPECIAL MEETING  
5151 MARSH ROAD, OKEMOS, MI 48864  
517.853.4000  
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2025 at 4:30 PM

Notice is hereby given that the Meridian Township Board, Charter Township of Meridian, will conduct a special meeting on Tuesday, October 7, 2025, at 4:30 pm in the Town Hall Room of the Meridian Municipal Building (5151 Marsh Road, Okemos) to interview the finalists for the open Treasurer position.

The meeting agenda and packet will be posted on the Township webpage at [www.meridian.mi.us](http://www.meridian.mi.us)

Angela Demas  
Township Clerk

CP#25-319

Providing a safe and welcoming, sustainable, prime community.

A PRIME COMMUNITY  
[meridian.mi.us](http://meridian.mi.us)

H&H Mobil Abandoned Auto Auction  
Viewing 10/16/25 By Appointment  
2818 E. Kalamazoo St.

Lansing, MI 48912  
Call 517-332-6335  
Bids must be submitted by 8 am 10/20/25  
at 1500 Haslett Rd. East Lansing, MI 48823  
For more info go to [www.hhmobil.com](http://www.hhmobil.com)

CP#25-309

### Public Notice

The Ingham County Land Bank is requesting qualifications for **Snow Removal on For Sale Properties**. The Request for Qualifications packet is available October 1, 2025 at the Ingham County Land Bank, 3024 Turner St, Lansing, MI, 48906, 8:00 am to 4:00 pm Monday-Friday or at [www.inghamlandbank.org](http://www.inghamlandbank.org). Responses are due at the Land Bank offices by 10:00am on October 22, 2025 and will be opened at 10:00am October 22, 2025. The Ingham County Land Bank is an Equal Employment Opportunity Employer. Women- and Minority-Owned Businesses are encouraged to apply. RFQ#: SNOW FOR SALE 2025-28

CP#25-317



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www.maximaids.net

Abandoned vehicle auction 10/10/2025 @12pm located at PJ's 2200 Olds Ave Lansing MI 48915

- 2014 VolkswagonCC WVWP7AN9EE538178
- 2018 Ford F-150 1FTFW1RGXJFB43048
- 2009 Chevrolet Suburban 1GNFK26369R252627
- 2022 TaoTao Powermax L9NTCGPG7N1300606

CP#25-316

**Public Notice**

The Ingham County Land Bank is requesting qualifications for **Snow Removal**. The Request for Qualifications packet is available October 1, 2025 at the Ingham County Land Bank, 3024 Turner St, Lansing, MI, 48906, 8:00 am to 4:00 pm Monday-Friday or at www.inghamlandbank.org. Responses are due at the Land Bank offices by 10:00am on October 22, 2025 and will be opened at 10:00am October 22, 2025. The Ingham County Land Bank is an Equal Employment Opportunity Employer. Women- and Minority-Owned Businesses are encouraged to apply. RFQ#: SNOW REMOVAL 2025-28

CP#25-318

**CROSSWORD SOLUTION**

From Pg. 24

C	R	A	B	J	U	D	R	I	P	U	P				
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**SUDOKU SOLUTION**

From Pg. 24

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

**Events**

from page 29

**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 class. Noon. Virtual — register at canr.msu.edu/mimoneyhealth/index.

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

**Lansing People's Assembly: What's at Stake in Public Education?** - An interactive virtual event — listen, learn and share. We need to understand the education system, organize to ensure it is best supporting our children and communities, and hold leaders accountable. 6 p.m. Register at peacequestgreaterlansing.org.

**Lena's Story: Exploring Trauma, Neurodivergence and Mental Health** - MSU School of Social Work trauma-informed care certificate elective. 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Michigan Public Health Institute, 2436 Woodlake Drive, Okemos. eventbrite.com/MSU-school-of-social-work-44929438833.

**Lightning Talks: Mekong Voices** - Join us in the galleries for a series of 10-minute talks by graduate students researching the Mekong River. Set within the exhibition "Mekong Voices," these research snapshots amplify the river's many voices — human and non-human. 11 a.m., 2 p.m. or 4 p.m. Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, East Lansing. broadmuseum.msu.edu.

**REAL ESTATE AUCTION**  
*Tuesday, October 21<sup>st</sup>, 2025*

Registration: 8:30 AM - Auction 10:00 AM

Location: The Lansing Center, 333 E. Michigan Ave, Lansing MI

**26 PROPERTIES**



Property 3338 - Lansing  
300 E. Thomas St.



Property 3340 - Lansing  
1320 Glenrose Ave.



Property 3352 - Lansing  
1342 N. Walnut



Property 3353 - Lansing  
308 E Cesar E Chavez Ave.



Property 3343 - Lansing  
1524 N. High St



Property 3335 - Lansing  
1022 S. Grand River Ave.



Property 3355 - Lansing  
613 Avon St.



Property 3350 - Lansing  
3529 Glenwood Ave.



Property 3351 - Lansing  
229 S. Detroit St.



Property 3354 - Lansing  
1423 W. Malcolm X St.



Property 3315 - Lansing  
Louisa St.

By Order of the County  
Treasurer of Ingham County

Alan Fox, Ingham County Treasurer,  
341 S. Jefferson St, Mason, MI (517.676.7220)



**INCREDIBLE LOW RESERVES!!**

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**BippusUSA.com**

**www.BippusUSA.com**

John Bippus AARE CAI CEB GRI, Broker/Auctioneer



# FOOD & DRINK

## DINING OUT IN GREATER LANSING

### Revisiting Sophia's House of Pancakes

By **COURTNEY BOWERMAN**

Sophia's House of Pancakes used to be a favorite of my family's. We went there almost every week for breakfast, brunch and even dinner. But over time, things somehow changed. Whether it was the quality of food or just the overall feel of the place, we found ourselves not enjoying it as much as we used to. However, we recently heard the eatery had undergone some updates and decided it was time to give it another chance.

The interior design is typical of a diner: warm, welcoming and simple. The walls have been repainted, there are new tables and chairs, and everything has been refreshed with a more modern appearance than before. There's plenty of space, although the restaurant tends to get

very busy on weekends. That isn't surprising: Saturday and Sunday were always "pancake days" to me. If you want to avoid the crowds, it might be better to visit on a weekday. However, if you decide to brave the busier times, the service remains fast and friendly, thanks to the hardworking staff.

The menu has also been updated with a wider variety of entrées, like breakfast sandwiches and eggs Benedict. Meanwhile, the diner's long, familiar list of breakfast and lunch staples remains, including several varieties of omelets, pancakes, skilletts, frittatas, sandwiches and wraps.

I suppose I could have tried a new item, but when it comes to Sophia's, I always fall back on my usual order



**Cheese omelet**  
\$13.29

Sophia's House of Pancakes  
1010 Charlevoix Drive, Grand Ledge

7 a.m.-3 p.m. daily  
(517) 627-3222

sophiashouseofpancakesgl.com



Courtney Bowerman for City Pulse

Sophia's House of Pancakes offers a long list of breakfast and lunch staples, including several varieties of omelets, pancakes, skilletts, frittatas, sandwiches and wraps.

of the cheese omelet. You can customize it with several kinds of cheese (American, cheddar, Monterey Jack, mozzarella, etc.) and choose between sides of pancakes or toast and hash browns or American fries. While the pancakes are delicious, I usually prefer the white toast. The omelet alone is so fluffy and filling (not to mention smothered in cheese) that I know I wouldn't be able to find room for pancakes. Of course, one is never

too stuffed to enjoy hot, crispy hash browns. If you find them a little too dry, you can always use some ketchup from the bottle on the table, like I do.

Whatever other changes Sophia's has made were well worth the effort. It's one of the best breakfast spots in Grand Ledge, and if you haven't tried it already, now is the perfect time to give it a chance. It's definitely back on my family's list of favorites.

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

**TOP 5 PIZZA**

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

**1. Art's Pub**

Mellow gameday hangout serving a wide menu of pub grub and pizza  
809 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing  
(517) 977-1033  
artspublansing.com  
7 a.m.-11 p.m. daily

**2. Cugino's**

Unfussy Italian restaurant with

bar and patio seating for pizza, pasta and other staples  
306 S. Bridge St., Grand Ledge  
(517) 627-4048  
cuginosmenu.com  
4-8:30 p.m. Monday-Thursday  
4-9 p.m. Friday-Saturday

**3. Klavon's**

Pizzeria and pub known for its signature stuffed pizzas, plus calzones, burgers and other casual eats  
318 W. Kipp Road, Mason  
(517) 604-6565  
klavons.com  
11 a.m.-9 p.m. Sunday-Thursday  
11 a.m.-10 p.m. Friday-Saturday

**4. Slice By Saddleback**

Family-owned pizzeria offering thin-crust pies topped with creative ingredients  
3135 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing  
(517) 220-4693  
slicebysaddleback.com  
11 a.m.-8 p.m. daily

**5. Spagnuolo's Restaurant**

Closed in July after 34 years of service



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