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October 15-21, 2025

CityPULSE

A newspaper for the rest of us

Lansing's largest circulation newspaper



Out of homelessness Mark Mitchell did it. Can others?

See Page 9



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"I Could've Written About That" The Outrage Economy: America's Favorite Addiction

It was difficult to figure out what to write about this week. Not because we're short on material — God forbid. Outrage has become America's national language. Picking a topic now feels like ordering off the menu at Budapest's legendary Mofarguru: absurdly expensive, painfully indulgent and somehow leaving you hungry.

I could've written about the selective outrage over Bad Bunny performing at the Super Bowl — the sheer panic that someone born in Puerto Rico might command a bigger stage than Jason Aldean or Morgan Wallen. You could feel the insecurity trembling through social feeds, as if the halftime show had suddenly become a border crisis. Redneck America has already demonstrated how this works: furious hot takes when Snoop Dogg, Kendrick Lamar or Rihanna performed. Their outrage was loud, performative and entirely predictable. Yet, Bad Bunny is almost untouchable. Worldwide fame shields him from the outrage machine that would happily devour any smaller voice daring to speak the truth.

I could've written about right-wing pundits frothing over Zach Bryan's song "Bad News," calling him "un-American" for daring to critique the government. These are the same people who scream "free speech" while banning books, art, and now, apparently, lyrics they don't like. Bryan is not so "shielded." He's an actual combat veteran, yet criticized and vilified for speaking truth on the growing chaos in Washington. They've canceled him in a heartbeat for his lyrics. Astonishingly, these are the controversies they've latched onto. Meanwhile, the karaoke patriots keep their free pass, oblivious to the hypocrisy. It's almost impressive: enraged by a song, silent on policy disasters, corruption, and historical revisionism.

I could've written about Antifa — that shadowy global organization supposedly meeting biweekly at its headquarters in Gotham City. Or is it Mordor? Hard to keep track. According to Trump's roundtable of self-appointed patriots, this army is the greatest threat to America — a network so powerful that no one can name a single member. It's theater at its laziest: slap a black hoodie on a mask, declare victory over evil, cue applause. A Scooby-Doo monster that never existed, they used to scare the suburbs.

I could've written about Donald Trump trolling the Nobel Peace Prize committee while trying to sell the lie that Venezuelan opposition leader María Corina Machado called to say she accepted the award in his honor. According to him, she even insinuated that he is her mentor. In the Trump cinematic universe, every global event exists for one reason: to highlight him as protagonist and savior, basking in applause that never actually comes.

I could've written about the Qatari Air Force base — yes, Qatari — proposed in Idaho. Because apparently, letting a foreign military operate on U.S. soil counts as "national security." And yet, MAGA hasn't spontaneously combusted. No rallies. No viral tweets demanding they not set up shop in the first place. Meanwhile, a singer at the Super Bowl or a Black football player taking a knee still sparks full-scale panic. The contrast is deliciously surreal: a foreign base in the works, and the only outrage is merely a thought that never surfaces from the same people who call themselves defenders of the republic.

I could've written about the government shutdown — now in its second week — with thousands of federal workers furloughed while the President hosts fundraisers and Mar-a-Lago photo ops. The White House spins it as "sacrifices for the greater good," while Trump insists it's all someone else's fault — Congress, the Democrats, even the weather. One can almost hear the question hanging in the air: Where's my Art of the Deal in all this? Easy words to say when your golf cart has a personal valet and you don't have to decide between a Cracker Barrel breakfast and

keeping the lights on. It seems to me that there's a tweet for this specific issue where Trump himself said that if the Government shuts down, it falls on the President.

I could've written about Portland — which, despite this administration's fever dreams, is not a war zone. You'd think Oregon was Al-Fallujah, not a city where people just want to drink coffee and live in peace. Instead, the most "violent" scenes were protestors with inflatable costumes heckling Kristi Noem, proving the real threat was more clownish than catastrophic. Behind the theatrics, though, lingers a vendetta from the George Floyd protests, with the government testing how far it can push force — almost like a dry run for martial law. Selective panic turns ordinary life into a battlefield for imaginary enemies, while documented abuses of power are deliberately excused by those charged with defending the public.

I could've written about the administration's triumphant reinstatement of Columbus Day — that great American tradition of pretending genocide was discovery — or about our Secretary of War's jaw-dropping statement that soldiers who carried out the Wounded Knee Massacre had "earned" their medals. Nothing says "support our troops" like glorifying the slaughter of Native families.

I could've written about the Department of Homeland Security defending their raids, even as video after video contradicts their reports. They say "measured restraint." The footage says "home invasion with propaganda attached." Take Silverio Villegas-Gonzales: a hard-working father who lived in Chicago for 20 years with no criminal history, just dropping off his son at school before being pulled over. The government paints him as a dangerous criminal; the reality is that he's a man just trying to provide for his family, terrorized by a system that prefers spectacle to truth. Say his name.

I could've written about all of it. But that's the problem: there's too much insanity to choose from. Outrage is industrial-grade now — processed, packaged, shipped daily. We're so overloaded that even tragedy feels routine.

And maybe that's the most dangerous thing of all. The absurd becomes normal, democracy a parody. America — the self-declared "city on a hill" — is a circus tent lit by burning flags and sponsored by rage clicks.

Because we're not governed anymore — we're managed. Managed for maximum outrage, maximum profit, maximum distraction. Our leaders don't lead; they market chaos and call it patriotism. And the cruelest part is that it works, because deep down we've mistaken noise for meaning and performance for truth. The republic isn't collapsing in silence — it's collapsing to the soundtrack of its own applause.

And it's only Wednesday morning. Who knows what else could happen by the time you read this?

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

Member, AAN

WAR OF THE WORLDS 2025 PORTLAND EDITION

I'M ORSON WELLES, AND THIS IS THE MERCURY THEATRE ON THE AIR.

YOU MAY RECALL OUR EARLIER BROADCAST ABOUT A MARTIAN INVASION THAT NEARLY DESTROYED PLANET EARTH.



THIS WEEK WE'VE BEEN FOLLOWING A NEW DISASTER. EMBOLDENED BY THE RECENT INTERPLANETARY CHAOS, CREATURES OF UNKNOWN ORIGIN HAVE LAID SIEGE TO PORTLAND, OREGON.


WE NOW TAKE YOU TO OUR CORRESPONDENT AT THE SCENE, CONCEALED BEHIND A FOOD CART.



LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, I SEE MONSTROUS, ALMOST AMPHIBIAN FORMS AND THEIR HUMAN ACCOMPLICES BOUNCING IN A CRAZED DISPLAY OF MILITARY CONQUEST.

THERE SEEM TO BE UNICORNS, CHICKENS, AND—GOOD LORD, IS THAT AN AXOLOTL?

The Nood Bowl



DON'T MOVE!

BUT—I'M JUST DOING A FANTASTICAL RADIO PLAY ABOUT ALL THESE PEOPLE IN COSTUMES!

YOU CAN'T FOOL US—WE'VE BEEN LISTENING TO THE MERCURY THEATRE NEWS!

TAKE THIS FROG-LOVING TRAITOR AWAY, BOYS!



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Art sale makes use of Frank Lloyd Wright house in Okemos

PAGE 12



Riverwalk Theatre's "Ravenscroft" is a fine fall treat


PAGE 14



Middle Eats' fast-casual food options are fantastic

PAGE 22


Cover photo by Raymond Holt



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THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW

THIS IS IT, SPARKY--THIS WILL BE THE CLOSING CARTOON IN THE NEW COMPILATION WE'RE FUNDING ON KICKSTARTER THIS MONTH.

AND YET, OUR LONG NATIONAL NIGHTMARE IS ONLY GETTING STARTED!



YEP. WE'VE GOT MALEVOLENT IDEOLOGUES IN CONTROL OF ALL THREE BRANCHES OF GOVERNMENT--

--NOT TO MENTION A LUNATIC ANTI-VAXXER IN CHARGE OF H.H.S.--



--THE NATIONAL GUARD AND ICE INVADING AMERICAN CITIES LIKE AN OCCUPYING ARMY--

--BECAUSE STEPHEN MILLER WANTS A NEW CIVIL WAR--




--WHILE REPUBLICANS TREAT THE CONSTITUTION LIKE A CHOOSE-YOUR-OWN-ADVENTURE GAME--

--ALLOWING THE U.S. TO COLLAPSE INTO FASCISM IN FRONT OF OUR VERY EYES--

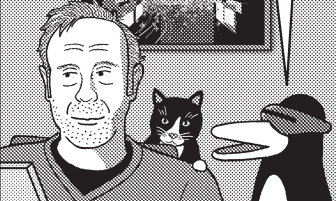


--AND IT'S ALL BEING DONE IN THE NAME OF A DEGENERATE FORMER REALITY SHOW HOST WHO IS PRETTY CLEARLY SLIDING INTO DEMENTIA.



SO BASICALLY, WE'RE ENDING THE BOOK ON THE WORST CLIFFHANGER EVER.

PRETTY MUCH.



Tom Tomorrow © 2025 - 10 - 13 ... www.thismodernworld.com

PULSE

NEWS & OPINION

Twin controversies involving the Police Department rattle East Lansing

Two weeks ago, Lansing Branch NAACP President Harold A. Pope prepared to request a formal investigation into the East Lansing Police Department's documented disproportionate use of force against Black individuals.

The WLNS story reporting that announcement also included an interview with ELPD Chief Jen Brown, in which she said that over MSU's Welcome Weekend, "we had a disproportionate number of minorities come into the community and commit crimes."

Then the lawyer for Lonnie Smith, a Black man arrested alongside Mason Woods for disorderly conduct during Welcome Weekend, released a surveillance video to WLNS that appears to show Smith pulling Woods away from an altercation, rather than participating in it. The two were promptly pepper-sprayed at close range.

Those two incidents motivated Pope and the Lansing NAACP to call for Brown's resignation. They joined the Women's Center of Greater Lansing and have since been joined by the local Kappa Delta Lambda Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha, a national Black fraternity.

"Her statement indicating that there were multiple fights and people weren't obeying commands and needed to be sprayed appeared to be completely false, based on the video," Pope said, adding her comment "rings racist, and echoes what we used to call the sundown city" — the last a reference to towns that once banned non-white people after sunset.

Pope called the case a "perfect example" of "the need for the police to have oversight, to be checked and not be allowed to just run rampant."

The ELPD's use-of-force reports have been a cause of concern for the East Lansing Independent Police Oversight Commission and others. In 2024, there were 80 incidents where officers used force against Black individuals compared to 85 cases where it was used against white individuals, according to the 2024 report. Census data shows the city's population is around 12% Black. The most recent report, in July, shows 10 out of 11 use-of-force instances targeting Black individuals.

Brown apologized publicly for "un-



Leo V. Kaplan/City Pulse

East Lansing police vehicles parked outside the department headquarters and jail in City Hall, 410 Abbot Road.

intentionally offending members of the community I serve."

Her controversy coincides with a debate over proposed changes that would weaken the Police Oversight Commission, which was founded in 2021 with a priority of promoting racial equity. The changes, the result of a new contract between the city and the East Lansing Police Department patrol officers' union, would weaken the commission's ability to review and comment on complaints before a final decision.

At last week's East Lansing City Council meeting, several speakers discussed the interplay between the issues.

"It's ironic that as we talk about ordinance changes, we are getting more news about people being upset about use of force," said commission member Amanda Morgan. "It's more negative advertisements in the last few months than I've seen since I've been on the commission."

"The local news, as some previous citizens commented, released footage of a recent incident, and the accompanying headline was very disheartening to see that it contradicts the East Lansing Police Department's narrative about the incident," said Thasin Sardar, who sits on East Lansing's Human Rights Commission. "I hope you will use this as an example as to why we need more checks and balances, and not weaken whatever is in place right now."

A ELPD representative said the department could not comment and directed City Pulse toward City Manager Robert Belleman and Brown herself.

Belleman declined to comment, and Brown could not be reached. An automatic email response says she is out of the office until Oct. 20.

In an interview, Police Oversight Commission Vice Chair Kath Edsall said the changes mean the commission's already limited power to apply pressure in these cases has been further diminished.

"In the past, when a complaint came in, we would get a copy of the complaint form and any initial data retrieval," she said. "They would do their investigation, and they had 90 days to do that. And then it would come back to us, and we would have 60 days to make recommendations, and then it would go on to the chief to either implement our recommendations or to sign off."

She said that "99% of the time they just signed off but during that entire time, we could discuss the complaint. We could ask questions and make statements, we could do all those things to make the public aware that the incident had occurred and of the concerns we had."

Now, under the proposed changes — some of which, because they coincide with the collective bargaining agreement, are already in place despite not being voted on until next week — the commission cannot even comment on the case until three to six months after it happened, losing the chance to apply public pressure.

Edsall said the proposed ordinance goes beyond the collective bargaining agreement in covering "all employees

of the Police Department" from having their names released, including those who are not union members, including Brown herself.

"Even though it hasn't been adopted, she is acting in that manner," she said. "She would say it applies to her and simply give us a number until she's investigated herself. And so, we wouldn't be able to discuss it for two months."

Edsall said she had spoken with another commission member and with one of the arrested men's family, asking them not to file complaints "so that we aren't silenced while the complaint is investigated." The family filed a complaint with the Human Rights Commission instead, Edsall said.

Rebecca Kasen is the executive director of the Women's Center of Greater Lansing and sits on the Human Rights Commission. She said removing the Police Oversight Commission's ability to conduct independent investigations would leave people's only recourse a state-level complaint, which would lead to increased state-level investigations.

Kasen clarified she was speaking on her own behalf, not that of the Human Rights Commission.

Looking forward, Pope said any potential replacement for Brown should be a "change agent."

"The chief was on the force before she became chief, so it's not new to her, right?" he said. Brown joined as deputy chief in 2023 and had worked for 15 years as an officer for the MSU Police Department beforehand.

"When she took the role, she knew that, and that should have been a priority for her to fix and address," he said, referring to previous instances of police racism.

"And that doesn't appear to be the case. They need someone who will come in and be a change agent to help improve the operation of the ELPD and remove what appears to be the embedded thought that minorities are committing a crime."

— LEO V. KAPLAN

Council declares Lansing an ‘LGBTQ+ welcoming city’

Three weeks after threats made against transgender patrons at the Avenue Cafe galvanized local pro-trans activists, the Lansing City Council has officially declared Lansing an “LGBTQ+ welcoming city.”

The resolution passed Monday, 7-0, with 3rd Ward Councilmember Adam Hussain absent.

The Council resolved to “develop pro-LGBTQ+ ordinances and policies” and encourage the city to do the same, to “appoint LGBTQ+ community members to City boards and commissions or establish an LGBTQ+ advisory board,” and to issue an executive order protecting access to gender-affirming care, including “prohibiting use of City resources to block, investigate, prosecute, or detain any person seeking or providing gender-affirming treatment.”

The resolution also states that “any threats, harassment, discrimination, or acts of intimidation by City employees or by organizations receiving City funds will not be tolerated, and appropriate disciplinary or corrective action will be taken,” and asks the city to ensure business assistance programs are “inclusive of and accessible to LGBTQ+-affirming businesses.”

That part about “discrimination” was added after conversations between 4th Ward Councilmember Brian T. Jackson, who chairs the Council’s Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Committee and drafted the resolution, and the recently formed Lansing Advocates for Trans Safety, he said.

“They wanted to make sure that discrimination is included as something that’s unacceptable by any city employees or city agencies receiving funds,” Jackson said.

The resolution received only one amendment, proposed by At-Large Member Peter Spadafore to declare the Council will develop pro-LGBTQ+ policies. It originally just called on the city administration to do so.

After passage, Jackson thanked trans speakers for their courage in speaking before Council. Six spoke for the resolution at Monday’s meeting, but 30 speakers appeared last week for an open forum attended by around 75.

“It wasn’t brought by Council or any Councilperson or group,” Jackson said. “It was brought by you all. We’re not courageous for bringing it up, you are all courageous for organizing and coming here more than once, more than twice, and demanding things.”

Mayor Andy Schor commended the Council and transgender advocates.

“I appreciate the comments from the trans community and LGBTQ+ community,” he said. He added he appreciated the resolution and, though Lansing has a 100% score on the Human Rights Campaign’s Municipal Equality Index, “we will stay vigilant.”

The resolution was the first of three demands made by the Lansing Advocates for Trans Safety. It asks the city to implement the other two: Form an LGBTQ+ advisory board and direct business assistance funding to local queer-owned businesses.

The Council’s resolution is not itself policy, but speakers on Monday applauded it as a good first step.

“Think of all the trans children who will grow up in the city knowing there’s a place for them to be people,” Aria Morey said. “For the LGBTQ+ newcomers who will choose the city

to set up their lives, and for the queer residents at large, who will not only be more protected, but flourish.”

“It is true that resolutions in their most simple forms are just words, but words are what build protections when other systems fail. Words are what govern, motivate, declare, inspire and create actions. Words are the beginning, and they’re what’s left when all else fails.”

Lyra Opalikhin referenced Council President Ryan Kost’s comments at the Committee of the Whole meeting, when he said he and Schor “have been on top of these issues as soon as they’ve happened.”

“I recognize and appreciate his work in working to address these concerns when they arise,” Opalikhin said, but added she appreciates the resolution’s focus on preventative and proactive measures to enrich LGBTQ+ residents and curb anti-LGBTQ+ incidents.

“This resolution is a signal that the city will dedicate itself to protecting and uplifting its LGBTQ+ residents not merely because it’s convenient, but because it’s necessary.”

— LEO V. KAPLAN



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Michiganders signed a petition to end gerrymandering in 2018. In 2022, we signed one for voting rights. Please come and sign one to get corporate money out of politics in Michigan. With enough signatures, it will be on the ballot in November 2026. Please tell your friends.

Where: Valhalla Park, 2287 Pine Tree Road, Holt

When: every Sunday from 1:00 to 3:00 starting October 19.

The last Sunday will be November 16.

We will be at a picnic table wearing orange vests.

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ATTENTION PROPERTY OWNERS OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF DELTA

Under the provisions of the code of ordinances of the Charter Township of Delta, Chapter 34 – streets, sidewalks and public places, Article IV – Ice And Snow Removal, Section 34-92 Removal Required, Section 34-93 Requirements for Removal, Section 34-94 – Removal by Township, Section 34-95 Notice, Section 34-96, Enforcement, Section 34-97 Violations.

No person shall permit ice or an accumulation of more than two (2) inches of snow to remain on any sidewalk adjacent to a lot or parcel occupied by them, or on a sidewalk adjacent to any unoccupied lot or parcel owned by them for a longer period than twenty-four (24) hours after the same has formed or fallen. Snow and ice shall be removed from the entire constructed width and length of the sidewalk.

All persons removing snow from private property, whether by use of a shovel, snow blower, plough, or any other method, shall comply with the following regulations:

- (1) Snow shall not be deposited or spread into sidewalks, alleys, streets or highways.
- (2) Snow shall not be deposited to obstruct fire hydrants or fire appliances.
- (3) Snow shall not be deposited to create any visual or physical obstruction which would impair the safe use of sidewalks, alleys, streets or highways.

Failure to remove snow and/or ice, as stipulated in sec. 34-92, may result in the township removing or causing to remove the snow and/or ice from the sidewalk and seeking to recover the actual cost and an administrative fee from the property owner. The township may cause the snow and/or ice to be removed from the sidewalk as many times as necessary to ensure compliance with sec. 34-92. It shall be the responsibility of the township manager and his/her designees to enforce the terms of this article.

Violations of the provisions of this article, or failure to comply with any of its requirements, shall be punishable as a municipal civil infraction subject to the penalties specified in Section 1-7 (c) of this ordinance. The imposition of any fine shall not exempt the violator from compliance with the provisions of this article. If any fines and/or costs associated with this section are not paid, the civil infraction citation may be filed with the district court in accordance with section 20-22 (g).

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF DELTA
ERIN LAPERE, DEPUTY MANAGER
MARY R. CLARK, TOWNSHIP CLERK

CP#25-329

WILLIAMSTOWN TOWNSHIP Board Meeting October 8, 2025 Synopsis

The Williamstown Township Board held a regular meeting on Wednesday, October 8, 2025 with Supervisor Poth, Clerk Cleveland, Treasurer VanErp, Trustee Brinker, Trustee Creagh, Trustee Duffy, and Trustee Steinberg present. The Board approved the following:

- Consent Agenda
- Contracting with Hayhoe Asphalt to patch & seal Summit Cemetery driveways, not to exceed \$18,000
- Joint meeting with City of Williamston & others on October 15, 2025, 6:00 pm at Williamston Middle School

The next regular Board meeting will be at 6:30 PM on Wednesday, October 29, 2025 in the Community Room of the Township Hall, 4990 Zimmer Rd., Williamston. Visit williamstownmi.gov for the latest agenda, documents, and updates. Phone (517) 655-3193.

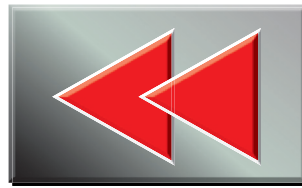
Robin A. Cleveland, MiPMC Township Clerk

CP#25-332

REWIND

NEWS HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE LAST 7 DAYS

COMPILED BY STEVE UNDERWOOD FROM LOCAL NEWS SOURCES



The U.S. Energy Department is considering revoking \$500 million allocated to General Motors to convert the Lansing Grand River Assembly Plant to EVs, Reuters reported. The

plant had planned significant refurbishment and retooling to produce electric vehicles. This project is among a list of \$12 billion in awards that the government could cancel as part of the ongoing shutdown. GM is reducing its EV investments, including scaling back the production of two electric Cadillac SUVs. The Biden administration announced in July 2024 that it would award \$1.7 billion to support the conversion of 11 shuttered or at-risk auto manufacturing and assembly facilities in Michigan and seven other states to manufacture electric vehicles and their supply chain.

Lansing Charter Commission Chair Brian Jeffries said that changes to language on the lansingvotes.gov/yourcharter website were unrelated to criticism that the commission had crossed a legal line by using “persuasive” wording. His statement said the update was made “to reflect the same language and wording in our first educational mailer for consistency purposes and was not the result of any recent public comments.” The phrases “improves transparency” and “increases accountability” were changed to “seeks to improve transparency” and “seeks to improve accountability.” The changes followed criticism of the mailer and the website by City Council President Ryan Kost and Councilmember Brian T. Jackson at the Sept. 29 Council meeting. Kost later filed a complaint with state officials. Jeffries said the commission believes the mailer was educational, not persuasive, and that the changes aligned the online language with the mailer.



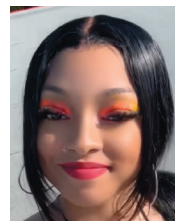
The Capital Region International Airport has refused the Transportation Security Administration’s request to play a Department of Homeland Security video of Homeland Security Secretary Kristi Noem blaming the government shutdown on Democrats, WLNS reported. The video also warns about potential changes to airport operations due to staffing limitations and TSA workers not receiving pay during the shutdown. “LAN’s policy for digital content does not permit the referenced video or any other content that could be viewed as political or partisan,” the statement said. The story cited several other airports around the country that also refused the request.



The Ingham County Sheriff’s Office and Delta Dental are sponsoring an opportunity today (Oct. 15) for anyone who wants to dispose of

unused prescription drugs to drop them off in the front visitors’ parking lot at Delta Dental of Michigan’s office on Okeanos Road, north of Kinawa Drive. The drive-through event, taking place from 3 p.m. until 6 p.m., is in advance of National Prescription Drug Take Back Day on Oct. 25.

Lansing Mayor Andy Schor has signed an executive order generally prohibiting “private individuals filming inside City buildings for private commercial purposes,” with limited exceptions, following an Aug. 31 video shoot on the roof of Lansing’s Fire Department station downtown. Artist P.B. Yanna said that she did the shoot in cooperation with unnamed Fire Department officials, then posted the music video “Fire Drill” on her social media accounts.



An Eaton County Circuit Court jury has found Heather Renee Bodell of Kalamo Township, 48, guilty of embezzlement from a vulnerable adult, between \$50,000 and \$100,000. The felony carries a maximum sentence

of 15 years. Bodell faced an accusation of embezzling more than \$70,000 from a senior citizen who employed her to help with daily activities. The jury returned the verdict after a five-day trial. Judge Janice Cunningham has scheduled Bodell’s sentencing for December.

Public Safety

An Owosso man, 48, died when a vehicle he was driving east on Grand River Avenue in Leroy Township, between Gramer and Wallace roads, crossed the center line and hit a westbound semi driven by a Fowlerville man, 66. The Owosso man, who was dead at the scene, was not wearing a seat belt and was thrown from his vehicle. ... An Eaton Rapids man, 44, died when he crashed into a ditch on Kinneville Road between Edgar and Byrum roads in Onondaga Township. Anyone with information on the crash may contact Deputy Kevin Stalzer at 517-676-8444, ext. 1939.

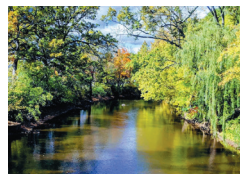


OFFICE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS
AND TITLE IX
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

MSU’s Office for Civil Rights and Title IX Education and Compliance has launched an online dashboard to give the

public insight into how it responds to discrimination and harassment reports, information that was previously only available through public record requests. The university released a biennial report that features strategic planning efforts from the office and its different internal departments. The dashboard comes just months after MSU and other universities lost federal grants for diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives. This includes projects that mentioned race or gender in their scope, as part of President Donald Trump’s push to restrict DEI programming.

East Lansing police found “a deceased person” in the Red Cedar River Monday, just east of Cedar Village apartments. ELPD Interim Capt. Adam Park said MSU police assisted in the recovery of the body, that they didn’t believe there was an ongoing threat to the community and that they would “release further information at a later time.”



‘Spark’

And in this corner “Spark,” weighing in at 2,300 pounds and standing 15 feet tall. It has been called a windmill, a high-tension power tower or a triangular obelisk with Telstar perched on top.

Crafted by one of Old Town’s originators of Scrapfest and Struk Gallery owner David Such, the new sculpture is a soaring addition to Greater Lansing’s public art. Tucked in a corner between the Friedland junk yard and the new Cat Constellation coffee shop on Cedar Street, the sculpture and the nearby installation of metal pictograms declaring “our potential is etched in metal” and “our potential is written in stone,” add a new chapter for the publicly funded art project.

The awardee for the 2025 Art Impact Project was fabricated by a team led by Jen Estell and Redhead Creative Consultancy, which administered the \$75,000 art grant. Redhead is in downtown Lansing in one of the city’s most revered architectural gems, designed by modernist George Nelson.

The 60-foot-long multidisciplinary art installation blends storytelling, photography and an inspirational poem by Rose Cooper, a local poet, author and singer. Historic information is etched in steel and installed on a border fence that obscures the ever-changing pile of scrap detritus collected at Friedland.

The installation was dedicated Friday (Oct. 10) with a ribbon cutting led by the artists, Mayor Andy Schor and the Arts Council of Greater Lansing. Other Arts Impact Projects include the Shiawassee Bridge ceramic tile installation; the giant “Portrait of a Dreamer” at Museum Drive; the “Mother Tree” installation in Hunter Park along with the Lansing Shaped Mural by Dustin Hunt of Muralmatics.

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 or call (517) 999-6704.

Michigan's cannabis industry fears crash over 'pothole tax'

By CHRIS SILVA

Lansing and Michigan's reputation as a national model for accessible and affordable adult-use cannabis is facing its biggest threat since legalization.

In a legislative maneuver that caught the state's green industry off guard, a 24% wholesale tax on cannabis was signed into law by Gov. Gretchen Whitmer as part of a bipartisan deal to fund road repair. This measure, quickly dubbed the "pothole tax," has sparked outrage and a landmark legal challenge, sending shockwaves through the Michigan cannabis industry and its communities, including Lansing.

The new levy is applied when a product is sold from a grower or processor to a retailer, and it is in addition to the 10% retail excise tax and the 6% state sales tax. When compounded, analysts warn the effective tax burden could eclipse 40%, transforming Michigan from a low-tax, high-volume market into one of the most heavily taxed in the country. Lawmakers who supported the bill, primarily focused on infrastructure, project the tax will generate an estimated \$420 million annually for road and bridge funding.

The industry, however, is unified in its opposition. Business owners argue the tax will crush their already thin margins in a hyper-competitive market. Stuart Carter, founder of the Detroit Cannabis Industry Association, called the measure a "slap in the face" and warned that it will inevitably "devastate smaller businesses" in urban and rural areas alike. The economic reality is stark: an already saturated market is about to absorb a massive new cost, which will have to be passed down the supply chain. One industry operator cautioned that consumers will see price hikes of \$3 to \$4 per gram for flower, with similar cost jumps on edibles and concentrates.



Sasenko/Shutterstock

A 24% wholesale tax on cannabis was signed into law by Gov. Gretchen Whitmer last week as part of a bipartisan deal to fund road repair.

Critics argue that these steep price increases will severely jeopardize the legal market's ability to compete with the illicit one, undercutting the very revenue goals the state is hoping to achieve. Robin Schneider, executive director of the Michigan Cannabis Industry Association, stated bluntly: "Everyone knows that a large increase in cannabis taxes drives customers straight back to the illicit market. That means businesses are going to fail, jobs will be lost, and less tax revenue will be collected."

The opposition quickly mobilized from legislative halls to the courts. Within hours of the bill being signed, the association filed a lawsuit in the Michigan Court of Claims, setting the stage for a major legal battle over the integrity of the citizen-initiated law.

The core argument of the lawsuit centers on a critical constitutional principle. The 2018 Michigan Regulation and Taxation of Marijuana Act — the voter-approved initiative that legalized adult-use cannabis and established the original

10% excise tax — requires a three-fourths supermajority vote from the Legislature to be amended. The 24% wholesale tax, though embedded in a separate law called the Comprehensive Road Funding Tax Act, did not achieve this supermajority.

Association attorneys are arguing that while the new tax is technically not a direct amendment to the marijuana act, it functionally operates as one by imposing an additional excise tax on cannabis products. They contend this legislative maneuver is an illegal attempt to circumvent the will of the voters and the constitutional safeguards that protect initiated laws from legislative interference.

The timeline for this case is uncertain, but a legal stay on the tax or a final ruling could ultimately reach the Michigan Supreme Court, injecting significant legal instability into the state's budget and road-funding plan.

For Lansing residents, the consequences of this high-stakes battle are immediate and tangible. The tax will not just squeeze producers; it will be predomi-



nantly paid by the final consumer. When the 24% wholesale cost is compounded with the existing taxes, Michigan's cannabis will become significantly more expensive, accelerating business closures and market consolidation, thereby reducing competition and consumer options in an already crowded market. The Michigan Senate Fiscal Agency has already projected a double-digit decline in legal sales volume, suggesting that the state may not realize the full \$420 million in revenue it has promised.

As the industry fights for its financial survival against an unexpected tax hike, an additional legislative debate is brewing that could further shake up the cannabis community: the future of intoxicating hemp-derived beverages. Lawmakers are considering legislation that would clarify the regulation of these low-dose products. Crucially, some proposals aim to allow them to be sold in grocery stores and other retail establishments that do not require a costly cannabis license. The established cannabis industry views this as a significant threat, arguing that these products should be regulated under the same stringent safety and tax structures as traditional cannabis.

Ultimately, the decisions made in Lansing this year — both through the pothole tax's passage and the ensuing lawsuit — will determine the shape of the Michigan cannabis market for years to come. What was once a symbol of successful legalization is now a market under siege, with consumers and small businesses facing the highest price for the state's infrastructure woes.

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- Donate to support October Fundraiser Event
- Donate to IBT to support #SmallActs thru the IBT webpage.
- Become an IBT volunteer.
- Support the October IBT Event (ItsABreastThing.org/october-event)

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Voters in Lansing's 4th Ward who care about historic preservation have an opportunity on Nov. 5 to send a clear message to City Hall: Do better.

They can do that by voting for City Council candidate Heath Lowry.

In his endorsement interview, Lowry expressed clear and strong support for preservation. That is, however, not the only reason he deserves your vote. At just 32, he brings an impressive set of credentials. He is a Michigan State University Law School graduate with a focus on Indigent law, a staff attorney and policy specialist for the Michigan Coalition to End Domestic and Sexual Violence, president of the Westside Neighborhood Association, a member of the Lansing Zoning Appeals Board, and a former executive officer of the Ingham County Democratic Party. His record of civic engagement makes him a compelling choice.

Preservation is a defining issue in this election — one that speaks to what kind of community 4th Ward residents want to build and protect.

Lowry's opponent, Peter Spadafore, has served the last eight years as an at-large Councilmember. He initially announced he wouldn't seek reelection. Then 4th Ward incumbent Brian T. Jackson bowed out. Spadafore changed his mind, citing lingering doubts about stepping away, though he admitted he didn't want to disrupt the at-large race, where

he would have faced union-backed Councilmember Jeremy Garza. He now calls the 4th Ward a chance to "serve the residents differently ... the residents that can look to me as their first line of defense."

Yes, local politics often hinges on parks, roads,

4th Warders: Choose preservation

The CP Edit

Opinion

and basic services — but preservation matters too. Many 4th Ward residents were deeply troubled by the loss of old Eastern High School. Its demolition stemmed from a failure by the Lansing School Board — when Spadafore was president — to secure stronger protections in negotiating its sale to Sparrow Health System.

Then, as a Councilmember, Spadafore quickly swallowed the University of Michigan's Kool-Aid after it acquired Sparrow with its plan to tear down the historic school and build a psychiatric facility. He authored a Lansing State Journal op-ed headlined: "It's time to prioritize people, mental health over saving old Eastern High School"— a direct dismissal of the very name of the grassroots group formed to seek a compromise: the Committee to

Save Historic Eastern **and** Promote Mental Health.

UM-Sparrow rejected every effort at collaboration. Eventually, labor unions, concerned about losing construction jobs, pressured City Council to block a study that could have delayed demolition by exploring the building's eligibility as a local historic site. Before any of that happened, Spadafore had already chosen a side, and it wasn't preservation.

What the community needed was leadership — someone to step up and explore how to save an important landmark while still meeting urgent mental health needs. Spadafore didn't lead that charge. He followed UM-Sparrow's lead.

Those who fought to save Eastern soon realized they lacked the power, money and legal support to go up against the University of Michigan. And while much has been said about the decline of Lansing's preservation ethic, the real takeaway is this: preservationists must get stronger, because more fights are coming.

The next one is Nov. 5.

Voters in the 4th Ward can choose Lowry, a bright, dedicated, preservation-minded candidate, over Spadafore, who failed to stand up when it mattered most.

Lowry's election alone would not transform Lansing into a preservation stronghold. But it would be a step in the right direction — and a signal that the next time a battle like Eastern's comes before the Council, the outcome might be different.

Can anyone bring back St. Johns resident Lue Yang?

In our country's zeal to eradicate our population of drug-running gangbangers who create mischief here since entering the United States illegally, authorities have unnecessarily caught a St. Johns resident in the dragnet.

A 47-year-old married factory worker, who has been raising six kids with his wife of 20-some years, left home for work one day this summer and didn't return.

Authorities have since detained him like a hardened criminal — sleeping on concrete floors, eating poorly and living with, well, drug-runners and gangbangers in a "processing center" in Pine Prairie, Louisiana.

His name is Lue Yang.

He came to the United States as a toddler, the son of Hmong refugees. His father, like many others, served with the United States forces during the Vietnam War.

After the war, Yang's dad, like other Hmongs, fled to Laos to avoid political persecution from the Communists. He

and his mother ended up in a refugee camp in Thailand, and he was born "stateless" or without a home.

In the 1970s, the Yangs were allowed to legally settle in the United States as a thank you for Yang's dad's support of the U.S. military.

The family ended up in mid-Michigan.

In 1997, Yang, at age 18, made a bad decision and sat in a vehicle while some acquaintances took part in a home invasion. He didn't report the incident to authorities, but when police cracked the case, they busted him with everyone else.

Yang served 10 months in jail as punishment. From there, he led, by all accounts, an upstanding life. He got married to Ann Vue, and the two are raising six children in St. Johns. He volunteers. He has a full-time job at a Lansing-area manufacturing plant. He helps take care of his elderly mother.

Although Yang tried to become a U.S. citizen, they had to expunge the old charge from his record first. They finally did so in 2018, allowing him to begin the application process.

The financial cost of citizenship can be prohibitive, however. Yang kept putting it off until he had several thousand dollars

in expendable income to do it. The goal was to get it done this year or next.

On July 15, his life changed forever when U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement picked him up at his work and started the process of deportation. In the eyes of the federal government, Yang was an immigrant with a criminal record. In the black-and-white reading of the president's directive, Yang had to go.

But where?

Yang was born stateless. Thailand doesn't want him. He was born in a refugee camp there, but his parents were not residents. In Laos, the Hmong people are an oft-persecuted ethnic minority, so he'd face a rocky reception there even if he's allowed to return.

It's the same situation in Vietnam, except his father fought against the government, so he theoretically could be arrested and executed if he returns there. That's the fear, anyway.

But getting tangled up in the logistical challenge of where to send him is aside from the point, though, isn't it?

Does Yang really need to be sent anywhere at all, but back home to St. Johns?

It would appear he's simply a number that the administration can count as part

of a broader political statement about how they're making our communities safer because ICE is snatching up non-citizens with criminal records.

But nobody is made safer because Yang is in some detention facility in Louisiana. Instead, a local family is devastated. A wife is without her husband. Children are without their father.

A GoFundMe account is hardly keeping the family afloat financially while Vue works with attorneys and elected officeholders in her desperate attempt to get Yang back to St. Johns.

She's drawing hope from the knowledge that federal immigration officials have been known, in limited cases, to reverse course once they start the gears churning on someone.

Will they do it for Lue? Can the governor help? Our congressional delegation? Our U.S. senators? Three months after the fact, it's still, sadly, an open question.

Can anyone bring back Lue Yang?

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



KYLE MELINN

POLITICS



Tony Vincent (left), the “mayor” of Fallen Angels, a homeless encampment on Lansing’s north side, outside Circuit Judge Rosemarie Aquilina’s courtroom. Formerly homeless man Mark Mitchell (right and on the cover) sits near Vincent in a hallway in Veterans Memorial Courthouse in downtown Lansing on a recent Wednesday, while Aquilina holds her weekly hearing on a city suit against the encampment’s property owner — and to chip away at the homelessness problem.

Homeless today — but not tomorrow?

As winter approaches, Lansing’s unhoused face uncertainties

By MIKE ELLIS

Mark Mitchell used to spend his winters in a tent. Now he’s a construction foreman.

He walks or rides his bike to work every day, visiting on the way his old friends who sleep under Lansing’s bridges and in parks.

They see him as he walks around and shares encouraging words, sometimes in a suit, as he pushes people to get into housing.

“Hey, it’s Mark Mitchell,” one man yelled at him, from across the fountain at Reutter Park in downtown last week.

Mitchell smiled and waved. They used to share a tent together, he said.

It takes a lot of hard work to survive on the street, Mitchell said, and he urged his friends to work just as hard to get into housing.

“Winter’s going to be bad,” Mitchell told another group of friends, the night before it would get to the low 40s.

He urged them to go to a coat drive the next day and to stock up on blankets.

“This is my home,” he said. “This is where I found myself homeless, this is where I found myself addicted to drugs and going through depression.”

He said he became hopeless at times, which is why he’s now a relentless optimist.

“If we are given the opportunity, given the resources and not just the resources but the aftercare support necessary to keep me in a house, this is the result,” Mitchell said, of himself. “Lansing has an opportunity to change. We can help guys just like me, who all it took was somebody to be patient and persistent.”

Tony Vincent sees two possible winters: He could be spending his fourth winter in a makeshift shelter in a wooded area of Lansing, where he presides as “mayor” of the established Fallen Angels encampment, home to about 50 people.



Susan Cancro, executive director of Advent House, one of the groups that helps people who need housing, identification cards and other resources.

Or — and this is the winter he’s hoping for — he could get placed in some kind of housing along with everyone else at the site who wants it.

One problem? It’s not just his encampment. There are a lot of people all over Lansing who need housing, more people than shelter beds.

“There’s 400-plus people on the housing list. It takes time,” Vincent said. Almost everyone at the encampment, he said, has been signed up on a list for housing, and he hopes that most of them will get a chance and take it.

“They’ve got to work at it,” Vincent said. “I hope they do.”

Winter is coming

When winter comes, there simply won’t be enough emergency or shelter beds in Lansing to house everyone who needs one, said Susan Cancro, executive director of Advent House, one of the groups that helps people who need housing, identification cards and other resources.

The Fallen Angels encampment is on private wooded property on Lansing’s north side, behind industrial sites near the city’s Dietrich Park and Pizzano’s restaurant and within earshot of the Grand River.

The encampment gets a lot of attention, rightfully, but is only one part of a much broader challenge, Cancro said.

There are hundreds and hundreds of people in and around Lansing who are living in cars, tents, behind stores or navigating couches with no stability, she said.

And it’s getting worse.

“It’s a problem of our economy,” Cancro said.

Housing costs are increasingly driving people out of traditional housing, she said.

Today, her organization and others are hearing from people who

Photos by Raymond Holt

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Homeless

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would never have considered themselves to potentially be homeless, but a health problem or losing a job or having an unexpected expense can quickly drive someone from comfortable living into a more desperate situation.

It can take time to get people into shelters, Cancro said, because of the bed shortage and funding issues.

What are the options?

Since last winter, several local shelters, including City Rescue Mission of Lansing, New Hope and Loaves and Fishes, have added beds or buildings and are able to do more with drop-in visitors, said Kim Coleman, the city's Human Relations and Community Services Department director.

"We are prepared to operate and staff warming centers when forecasted cold snaps or severe weather create risk," Coleman said. And that would include heating, basic amenities and connecting people to longer-term housing resources and likely be set up at neighborhood community centers.

The city and partners had 480 emergency shelter beds last January, she said, which includes designated space for domestic violence situations as well as 21 emergency hotel rooms.

Those hotels were paid by the city and Holy Cross Services last winter, but Holy Cross has run out of funding for those hotels this winter, said Shelbi Frayer, interim director of New Hope Community Center, Holy Cross' shelter at 430 N. Larch St.

The 30-day hotel stays make a big difference, said Frayer, a former Lansing deputy mayor, but 30 days is typically not long enough for someone to find permanent housing and they will often have to leave before finding a better option.

Holy Cross has 100 beds for men and 34 for women along with 22 dedicated for veterans and funded through the Department of Veterans Affairs. It also offers a day center, a place where people can get fed, charge phones, get social services and wash up.

City Rescue Mission of Lansing, which is in the process of expanding, had 280 people stay at its three shelters during a cold night in October: 123 at its women and children shelter, 106 at its men's shelter and 51 at a drop-in center.

As the October cold began, Mitch-

ell walked alongside a woman he had met at the Capital Area Transportation Authority station. They went to the City Rescue Mission, where she began the process of getting temporary shelter.

More families are becoming homeless

Frayer said there are more people coming to shelters and that the winter will bring people who were able to make it work until the temperatures dropped.

"Winter tends to bring people into shelters, Frayer said, "and there are more families than ever before."

She has visited the Fallen Angels encampment, along with other sites in the city, and asked some people what it would take to move them into a shelter.

It ranges. Most shelters aren't equipped to take pets, many don't take families or don't take fathers, some shelters have rules about sobriety or they're religious or have restrictions on coming and going, and some people have had bad experiences in the past, Frayer said.

It's home for now

For others, like Willie Hayes, one of the encampment's longtime residents, an encampment outdoors is where he wants to stay.

Hayes said — as he busied himself getting his tent ready for winter — that he prefers living in the encampment to the strict rules of a shelter.

So far, with temperatures falling into the mid-30s, it's been easy enough to stay warm with blankets in his setup: a tent on top of pallets with a small couch inside, insulated on the floor, protected overhead with tarps and surrounded outside by walls of evergreen branches to block wind.

A small space heater, he said, will help him get through the toughest nights. He just needs a longer extension cord.

What are the solutions?

One solution for Lansing is a plan to start a pod community of 50 modular units, which resemble small RVs, and those would be for people who are ready to move from homelessness into housing.

The city purchased a \$640,000 set of units from Kalamazoo, but it requires a multi-acre site that will need to be certified by the state as a campground, which will require site preparation work along with electric and plumbing.

The pods are a good step because they add another option, Mitchell said, but more needs to be done to address the issues that are driving people into homelessness, such as hous-

ing costs, addictions and health care.

Since the plans were introduced, city officials have acknowledged that the heated-and-cooled pod community, with no site identified, will likely not be ready for several months.

Not until after this winter.

Another winter for the encampment?

Just like Vincent, the encampment itself may not be around for a fourth winter.

The city has sued the two private property owners, seeking to get them to enforce no-trespassing notices and allow the encampment to be broken up, citing fire risks and poor sanitation.

One property owner agreed to settle several weeks ago, and half of the encampment has been clear-cut of trees and is fenced off.

It cut the community in half, forcing people to live closer together and making it more difficult to access the site, Hayes said.

Ingham County Judge Rosemarie Aquilina, who is overseeing the lawsuit, has taken a personal interest. She holds weekly hearings in her courtroom to get updates from the city and the remaining property owner, along with encampment residents like Vin-

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Fallen Angels, a large homeless encampment on Lansing's north side as it looked Sept. 23. The city sued two property owners to break up the camp. One complied. As a result, the camp is smaller and some have moved but remain unhoused.

Homeless

from page 10

cent and many of the service providers. The judge noted that she wore a jacket that morning. It's going to get too cold to wait until after winter to provide housing solutions.

"This is a situation where we need real options, viable, now," Aquilina said last week. "These are human beings and, honestly, this is a nationwide problem. Wouldn't it be terrific if the city of Lansing were the example of how to partner together to resolve this around our country?"

The judge said there needs to be a lawful way for residents who can't afford even \$5 a day at a regular campsite so they could survive at a city-sanctioned campground instead of being booted from one place to another.

Aquilina pressed city and state leaders to work faster and find housing for more people.

Steven Ogilvie, an attorney for the remaining property owner, JAJ Property, acknowledged some humanitarian concessions: The company is allowing a hose for water, and Ogilvie agreed to let the city to bring in more fire extinguishers.

But, Ogilvie said, the company continues to want the people to leave but may offer some basic human kindnesses.

Aquilina said those kinds of gestures would only be seen in a positive light.

The judge acknowledged an update from the city that at least 30 of the residents have gone through housing paperwork. She said there may be some at the encampment who opt not to try for housing.

"That is their American right to



Ingham County Judge Rosemarie Aquilina touring Fallen Angels last month. Since then, the judge has used weekly hearings on the suit as an opportunity to help individuals find housing.

choose to live outdoors, just not unlawfully on someone else's property," she said, asking the city if there was a way to get the pod community up quicker or set up an alternative and lawful campsite.

"I don't want anyone dying, frostbit or otherwise harmed because everyone is looking at 2026," Aquilina said. "We have a problem today. It's October 2025. I am not waiting until 2026."

Can the pods happen quicker?

Assistant City Attorney Matt Staples said the campsite designation involves complicated regulatory steps overseen by the state

but he would try to get an answer by this week's hearing.

The judge offered to help.

"If I need to make phone calls or we need to subpoena someone in or there's something we need to do, bring it in here," she said. "Because I don't think the state wants anyone out there to die or be otherwise harmed. They have a public interest as well."

The judge said she'll crack open her Rolodex and work with city and state officials to expedite the

new pod community or find an alternative.

As Vincent left the courtroom, he said having more people fighting for his encampment residents could be what changes his winter.

"It feels good that a lot of people have been sticking up for us lately, and really the whole time," Vincent said. "There's never enough blankets. I don't want to be out here this winter."



A canine resident of Fallen Angels homeless encampment. Among the complications in finding housing for homeless people is some have pets.

CITY OF GRAND LEDGE NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Grand Ledge City Council will hold a public hearing during its regular meeting at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, 27 October 2025, to consider and receive public input on a proposed ordinance amending the Zoning District Map Referred to in City Code Chapter 46 – Zoning, Article IV – Zoning Districts and Map, Section 46-94 – Zoning District Map, to rezone the northwest 78 feet by 212 feet of Parcel #400-013-100-020-03 From R-HD, Multiple Family Residential District to B-1 Highway Service District. The proposed ordinance is available for review on the City's website at www.cityofgrandledge.com and at the City Clerk's office, 310 Greenwood St., Grand Ledge, Michigan, between 8:00 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

The meeting will be held in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 310 Greenwood St., Grand Ledge MI 48837, in compliance with the Open Meetings Act, as amended, and will also be livestreamed via Zoom for informational purposes only. The online stream can be accessed at <https://www.zoom.us> with the Meeting ID: 851 8766 8008, or by calling +1 301 715 8592 (Washington DC), +1 305 224 1968, +1 309 205 3325, +1 312 626 6799 (Chicago), +1 646 876 9923 (New York), +1 646 931 3860, +1 253 205 0468, +1 253 215 8782 (Tacoma), +1 346 248 7799 (Houston), +1 360 209 5623, +1 386 347 5053, +1 408 638 0968 (San Jose), +1 507 473 4847, +1 564 217 2000, +1 669 444 9171, +1 669 900 6833 (San Jose), +1 689 278 1000, +1 719 359 4580 with Meeting ID: 851 8766 8008.

The City Council invites anyone interested to attend in person and offer comments at the public hearing. Written comments can be mailed or delivered to Elected or Appointed Officials at 310 Greenwood St., Grand Ledge, MI 48837, placed in the drop box in front of City Hall, or emailed to cityhall@cityofgrandledge.com. All written comments will be considered if received by 5:00 p.m. the day of the hearing. Please call (517) 627-2149 or email cityhall@cityofgrandledge.com for further information or to request accommodations for disabilities.

Gregory Newman, City Clerk

ARTS & CULTURE

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No small fish

Art sale celebrates Alma Goetsch, Kathrine Winckler, Frank Lloyd Wright

By **NICOLE NOECHEL**

In 1940, Michigan State University art professors Alma Goetsch and Kathrine Winckler commissioned Frank Lloyd Wright to design a home in Okemos where they could live and create. Now, decades after their deaths, some of their art is returning to the home.

On Saturday, Triola's Estate Sale Service, owned by more than 60-year veteran Bill Triola, will hold the largest-ever sale of Goetsch and Winckler's art — 65 silkscreens by the former and two framed oil paintings by the latter, as well as a series of silkscreen holiday cards designed by Goetsch and sent to Howard Church, then-chair of MSU's Art Department.

Triola came into possession of a major collection of the artists' work about 20 years ago. The head of MSU's Art Department at the time, Frank Rutledge, was asked to empty out the storage facility where the works resided.

"He called me because that's what I do," Triola said. "The storage facility was basically for professors to go and find some art to hang on their walls, done by graduate students and former professors. So, it was kind of a dead stop by the time I got there. Nobody was doing anything about it."

He walked away with "a huge pile of mostly Alma Goetsch silkscreen prints and Kathrine Winckler's oils on Masonite," he said, but he only has "a couple" of oil paintings left.

The artists, both of whom pushed gender boundaries of the time by earning college degrees and pursuing careers, exhibited a "mid-century abstract" style, according to Triola.

"If you know anything about mid-century abstract art, they were right on because their use of colors and forms during that period reflects what was going on nationally and internationally. And they were two of the few major artists at Michigan State University at the time who were doing serigraphs and oil paintings," he said.



Courtesy Nate Meyer/ @goetschwincklerhouse

Built in 1940, Frank Lloyd Wright's Goetsch-Winckler House, located in Okemos, is widely regarded as one of the most elegant examples of the architect's Usonian ideal.



Courtesy Triola's Estate Sale Service



Courtesy Triola's Estate Sale Service

Silkscreens by the late Alma Goetsch and framed oil paintings by the late Kathrine Winckler will be available for purchase at Saturday's art sale.

The duo pushed another gender boundary, living alone as unmarried women. They began sharing an apartment in 1931, but they longed for a true home. They were both fans of Wright's work and dreamed of commissioning a house from him, but the cost seemed out of reach. Then, Wright designed his first Usonian home, a more affordable, single-story dwelling characterized by its simple building materials, open floor plan and abundance

of natural light. He would later go on to design more than 1,000 Usonian homes.

The lower-cost, nature-driven home drew Goetsch and Winckler's attention. At the same time, they had signed

on to live in a forthcoming cooperative of homes for faculty at the southeast edge of campus. They, alongside other cooperative participants, pitched the idea of having Wright design some of the homes to the leader of the project. She agreed, and 17 acres were reserved for Wright's homes.

Then, as construction was about to begin, the financier withdrew. By the next year, the project had been abandoned. But Goetsch and Winckler didn't give up on their dream. They raised the funds themselves and eventually bought a plot of land in Okemos, with construction beginning two months later.

Wright later reportedly christened the Goetsch-Winckler House his "favorite small house." It features the open floor plan and large windows of his first Usonian house, aiming to encourage

harmony with the environment, something that resonated with the modernist homeowners.

Today, the home is owned by architecture enthusiast Nate Meyer and his wife, who have made the property more accessible to the public. In their first year of ownership, they've hosted more than 200 guests for free tours and opened up bookings for overnight stays. In the future, they hope to host more creative events such as student art shows, en plein air painting, musical performances, book readings and beyond. Saturday's art sale will serve as somewhat of a test run.

"This art show is our first major event. We're going to see how it goes, but we're interested in seeing what we can do with the community and with local art institutions to continue to inspire art through the Goetsch-Winckler house," Meyer said.

He noted that the monthly tours have become quite popular, with a waitlist of more than 100 people. He sees Saturday's event as an opportunity to whittle away at that list.

"This weekend, I opened about 100 seats on my own website for private access tours, and then I'm also doing three tours on Sunday," he said. "So, I'm really hitting a lot of tours this weekend to try to relieve a lot of pressure on people who want to see the home."

He encourages interested attendees to pre-register on his website, experienceusonia.com, to avoid overcrowding.

Meyer plans to use a portion of the proceeds from the art sale, half of which will be donated to the house, to purchase works by Goetsch and Winckler. He and his wife already have a small collection of their art, which he emphasized is not for sale.

"Everything that we've gotten in, we're keeping with the home," he said. "And we're actually talking with the Broad about possibly donating all the artwork and then taking it on loan at the house to protect it. I know Bill has his own motivations, but my goal is to use this weekend as an opportunity to help architecture folks see the home and gain funds to purchase more artwork."

Alma Goetsch and Kathrine Winckler art sale

9 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 18
Goetsch-Winckler House
2410 Hulett Road, Okemos
experienceusonia.com/visit

New book fills a void in coverage of Michigan's Civil War governor

By **BILL CASTANIER**

The imposing statue of the late Michigan Gov. Austin Blair often photobombs tourists' pictures of the state Capitol. The statue is the only depiction of a real person on the manicured grounds, standing as a sentinel of the public square since 1898.

Blair served as governor from January 1861 to January 1865, nearly the entirety of the Civil War. After his death, loyal soldiers began lobbying for a statue in his honor.

More than 25,000 visitors streamed into Lansing for the dedication, and throughout history, scores of demonstrators have climbed onto the statue, from bikers rallying against a helmet requirement to anti-Vietnam War protesters.

A few of them may have glanced at the three quotes from Blair on the back of the statue.

One quote reads, "All the blood and carnage of this terrible war, all the heart-rending casualties of battle and the sad bereavement occasioned by them, have the same cause — slavery. The greatest, vilest criminal of the world; it must perish."

Blair delivered these words in 1863. His message may seem obvious, but a 2021 City Pulse article pointed out that

of the 50 monuments nationwide that include the word "slavery," only two identify slavery as the cause of the Civil War: The Lincoln Memorial and the Blair statue.

Civil War historian Jack Dempsey, editor of the new book "Radical of Radicals: Austin Blair — Civil War Governor — in His Own Words," said very little has been written about Blair. He believes that's because Michigan doesn't "spend enough public resources on our history."

The new book, part one of a two-volume set, primarily tells the story of Blair's Civil War years through his speeches and public pronouncements.

"He was a fabulous public speaker, but the volume of his speeches was unexpected," said Dempsey, who has written and edited several

books on Michigan's role in the Civil War. The second volume on Blair, covering his post-Civil War years, will be out in 2027.

In reviewing Blair's prodigious number of speeches, Dempsey found that he "did not mince words, and he was not politically correct for the era."

Hence the title "Radical of Radicals." Blair was an early proponent of women's right to vote, ending slavery and prohibiting capital punishment.

According to Dempsey, Blair's contribution to Union victory in the Civil War was noteworthy, even though he never served on the battlefield. The author said he was responsible for raising 90,000 troops from Michigan.

"In essence, the U.S. had no military at the time, and the governors were tasked with raising troops to fight," Dempsey said. "At the time, the state's population was only three-quarters of a million."

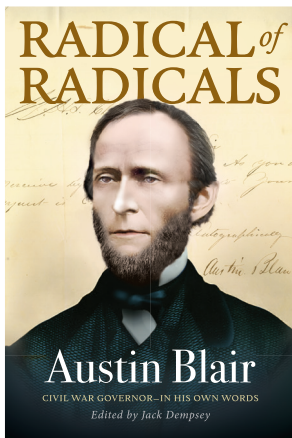
The book reveals that Blair even made trips to the front to review the troops. Dempsey said he visited both Bull Run and Shiloh.

"He put himself in great danger to show his support," the author said. "Blair also made sure that public policy contributed to victory and that there would be no negotiating. His goal was to put secession down."

The book also underlines the great personal tragedies Blair faced, including the death of two spouses and two children. His final spouse was greatly loved by the Civil War troops who bivouacked near the family's home in Jackson. Following the war, they presented her with a regimental flag that now resides in the

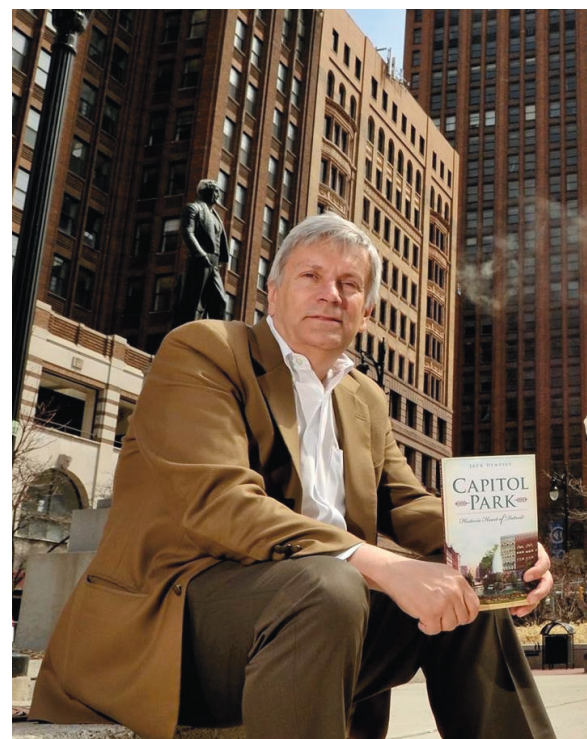
state of Michigan's extensive Civil War battle flags collection.

Two tidbits I've learned about Blair are that he served in all three state capitols — one in Detroit and two in Lansing — and is the only governor to have been both president of Michigan Agriculture College and a regent of the University of Michigan.



"Radical of Radicals" presentation, with Jack Dempsey

6:30 p.m. Oct. 23
Rogers-Carrier House
528 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing
Free
lansinghistory.org



Courtesy photo

Historian Jack Dempsey said very little has been written about Michigan's Civil War governor, Austin Blair. Dempsey dives deep into the subject in his new book, "Radical of Radicals," which tells the story of Blair's Civil War years through his speeches and public pronouncements.

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Though potentially challenging, 'Collective Rage' has wide appeal

By MARY CUSACK

Lansing Community College's debut production of the season, "Collective Rage: A Play in Five Betties," is not for everyone, but it is about everyone. Everyone, that is, who has ever had big dreams, been betrayed, been in love or learned to love themselves.

To enjoy these very human experiences, though, some will need to sit through dialogue and scenes that might push them past their comfort zones. To begin with, the titular five Betties are played by actors of mixed genders, including women, men and male-presenting, female-identifying people. If audiences can get past gender norms and pronouns and simply accept the characters as people, they will enjoy the universal truths revealed by the Betties.

As the title suggests, all of the Betties have some underlying rage that might be channeled into more productive outcomes. The play begins with WASP

housewife Betty 1 (Liv Challa) delivering a rat-a-tat summary of the bad news of the day, a fixation she uses to avoid recognizing her failing marriage.

Betty 2 (Betz Lund) is friendless and feels invisible. Betty 3 (Vahlarée Aidan Kakela) hates her menial day job at Sephora. Betty 4 (Joshua Thompson-Linton) eschews complication and seeks a simple, quiet life and love. Betty 5 (Samuel Barrix) has replaced substance abuse with impersonal hookups.

A second caveat to enjoying the show is that female genitalia is discussed frequently and bluntly. The word "pussy" can be crass, but it can also be empowering. For instance, at a dinner party, Betty 3 uses it to encourage Betty 2 to embrace her sexuality.

After attending a play, Betty 3 decides that she is destined for more than retail drudgery and attempts to write, direct and star in her own theatrical produc-

tion. She enlists the other Betties, and chaos, hilarity and theatrical inside jokes ensue. Along the way, we learn that Betty 4 has carried a torch for Betty 3 since childhood, a flame that may be extinguished by Betty 3's growing ego.

Meanwhile, Betty 1 hires Betty 5 as her personal trainer, deciding to convert her angst and rage into physical empowerment. As she achieves independence from her rich husband, she and Betty 5 grow closer and experience childlike joy through exploring their gender freedom.

As Betty 3's theatrical production progresses, the Betties face their fears, their impediments and their connections to each other and themselves. Betty 2 becomes the central figure for personal growth throughout the play, and Lund is perfect in the role. Her performance is raw in its honesty and vulnerability. Particularly heartbreaking are the scenes where Betty 2 interacts with her only friend, a sock puppet that gives her some shockingly bad advice. As Betty 2 takes control of her life, Lund takes control of the stage in the final, surreal



Photo by Kevin Fowler

From left: Samuel Barrix, Vahlarée Aidan Kakela and Joshua Thompson-Linton in Lansing Community College's production of "Collective Rage: A Play in Five Betties," by Jen Silverman.

dinner party that includes a beautiful, empowering coda.

"Collective Rage" is chock full of adult themes, adult language and challenging ideas, but it is exactly the kind of story we need right now. As Depeche Mode said, "people are people," and the five Betties are just people trying to figure out life like the rest of us.

Just in time for spooky season, 'Ravenscroft' delights

By MARY CUSACK

Riverwalk Theatre can always be counted on to offer something seasonal around Halloween, and "Ravenscroft" is this year's dark offering. That is, darkly comic and frightfully clever.

The year is 1905. Inspector Ruffing (Jeff Kennedy) is called out to the remote English manor Ravenscroft to investigate a possible murder. The footman Patrick has been found dead at the bottom of a staircase — as it turns out, the same staircase where the lord of the house was found dead three months prior. Over the course of the evening, Ruffing must unwind the spool of stories and lies spun by the five women who inhabit the manor.

The plot feels like the progeny of the 1971 film "The Beguiled" and the 1985 film "Clue," which is not as unlikely as it sounds. In "The Beguiled," a group of women at a remote school in the Civil War South take in a wounded Union soldier, and the presence of the sole male wreaks havoc on the household. Similarly, the women of Raven-

scroft attempt to confound and beguile Ruffing to keep him from the truth about Patrick's death.

The governess, Marey Kliner (Naomi Collazo Coca), freely admits to pushing Patrick down the stairs as she resisted his drunken advances, but Ruffing doubts the veracity of her story. As he questions the other women, the story becomes more convoluted, and the frustration of finding the truth grows to drunken exasperation. Kennedy transitions nicely from a buttoned-down, "just the facts" detective to a manic man undone by the manipulative women.

The cast is solid, but two performers stand out. Coca is the embodiment of an Edwardian governess. Not only does she have the tightly laced mannerisms and physical poise expected of a woman in her position, but her diction and delicate accent are spot on as well. From the opening scene, it is clear that Ruffing has met his match



Photo by Ariniko Artistry

From left: Sarah Lehman, Savannah Jordan, Jeff Kennedy, Naomi Collazo Coca and Kira Elena Billard in Riverwalk Theatre's production of "Ravenscroft," by Don Nigro.

in this quietly formidable woman.

On the other end of the spectrum is the mercurial Gillian, a petulant, manipulative 17-year-old who is learning the power of feminine wiles and practices them on Ruffing. Kira Elena Billard's performance alone is worth the cost of admission. Gillian plays an extreme game of cat and mouse with Ruffing, toying with him out of boredom and to gain power. She also shows moments of true conflict over her own feelings, at one point mus-

ing about the possibility of Ruffing being either her husband or her father. In a modern setting, no adult man should be left alone with this girl.

Riverwalk's black box is a perfect environment for this intimate story, which plays out in the manor's sitting room. The staging is particularly interesting in that the cast never leaves the stage. Instead, the women retreat to seats on the perimeter of the stage, executing menial tasks in the background. They are all part of the story and remain so throughout. Director Amanda Macomber also designed the costumes, which, along with Bernie Lucas' simple yet elegant props, complete the atmosphere of the period.

Having addressed what is good to great about the play, it is fair to say that the reveal of whodunit strains credulity a bit. Still, given the quality of the production and its gentle slide into farce near the end, "Ravenscroft" is a fine fall treat.

"Collective Rage: A Play in Five Betties"

7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 17–Saturday, Oct. 18

LCC Black Box Theatre
411 N. Grand Ave., Lansing
(517) 483-1122
lcc.edu/showinfo



Review

"Ravenscroft"

Thursday, Oct. 16–Sunday, Oct. 19

7 p.m. Thursday
8 p.m. Friday–Saturday
2 p.m. Sunday
Riverwalk Theatre
228 Museum Drive, Lansing
(517) 482-5700
riverwalktheatre.com

'Every Brilliant Thing' uplifts, despite subject matter

By **MARK GMAZEL**

"Every Brilliant Thing" is a play about suicide and its effects on loved ones, yet it manages to present the narrative of a young person learning to cope with her mother's depressive episodes in an uplifting and positive light.

The show uses a very minimal set with few technological supports or embellishments

and leaves the house lights up through much of the performance. The very visible audience is addressed by the performer directly, removing the conceptual "fourth wall" and creating a sense of communion and intimacy. The sole performer, actress Katherine Banks, expertly tells the audience of her childhood with a depressive, suicidal mother and a dad who struggles to communicate and has checked out by enlisting audience members to serve as her acting partners (with plenty of gentle guidance from the star).



Review

"Every Brilliant Thing"

Through Oct. 26
2 p.m. Thursday, Saturday-Sunday
7:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday
Williamston Theatre
122 S. Putnam St., Williamston
(517) 655-7469
williamstontheatre.org

For instance, the audience is cued to read from a list of small pleasures that make life worth living, the "brilliant things" referred to in the title.

The list keeps growing and growing as the performer desperately attempts to keep her mother focused on the positive, affirming things in life. Unfortunately, the narrator's efforts are not enough, and after her mother ends her life, the repercussions and ramifications negatively affect her marriage and psychological health.

So, how can a show with such heavy source material be uplifting?

One way is the deliberate and measured tone delivered by Banks. You will find no emotional grandstanding, histrionics or over-the-top choices to amplify the comedy or pathos of the scene, but rather a calm and assured performance that moves easily and smoothly from conversation to confession, from realization to recog-

niton and from a place of pain to a place of healing in a convincing and clear fashion. Brechtian defamiliarization effects are employed, such as telling the audience what is going to happen before it happens and adding touches of humor to things that are otherwise not terribly humorous.

Banks navigates a truly complex script with scripted and unscripted moments of audience interaction in a manner that instills trust and confidence in her ability to tell the story honestly and in a compelling fashion. She delivers a warm, connected, nuanced and delicate performance. The fact that she's surrounded on four sides by the audience without making them aware of how difficult that is to do is a credit to her technical proficiency and skills. Banks is a treat to watch on stage, her actions and words reading as genuine and spontaneous.

The material itself is also presented as gently as possible, with built in "trigger warnings" and various methods to defuse the impact of such a harsh and painful topic. The most difficult scenes are framed by warmth and laughter, and the entire produc-

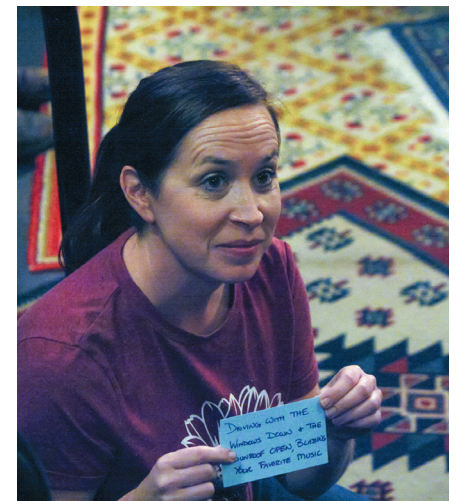


Photo by Chris Purchis

Katherine Banks in Williamston Theatre's production of "Every Brilliant Thing," by Duncan Macmillan and Jonny Donahoe.

tion fosters a sense of support and connection between the audience and the narrator. This well-written play, excellently performed by a true professional, is an overwhelmingly positive experience, even though it deals with difficult material.

Ingham County Land Bank Fast Track Authority

Notice is hereby given that the Ingham County Land Bank will hold a public hearing on Monday, October 20, 2025 at 4:15pm at the Land Bank Office or virtually via Zoom. The public hearing will be held for the purpose of considering the fiscal year 2026 budget. See the meeting agenda packet posted at www.inghamlandbank.org for more information and the Zoom link, or call 517-267-5221. All interested persons will be given an opportunity to be heard.

CP#25-333



CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN, INGHAM COUNTY
LEGAL AD NOTICE: Ordinance 2025-05
Lansing Board of Water and Light Electric Franchise Ordinance

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN LEGAL NOTICE OF INTRODUCTION Ordinance #2025-05 (Lansing Board of Water and Light Electric Franchise Ordinance)

The Township Board at its regular meeting on June 3, 2025, introduced Ordinance 2025-05 to grant the City of Lansing by its LANSING BOARD OF WATER AND LIGHT, its successors and assigns, the rights, privileges, and franchise to construct, maintain and commercially use electric lines and power facilities consisting of towers, masts, poles, crossarms, guys, braces, feeders, transmission and distribution wires, transformers, switchgear, substations, and other electrical appliances on, over, under, along and across the highways, streets, alleys, bridges and other public places, and to conduct a local electric utility business in the CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN, INGHAM COUNTY, MICHIGAN, for a period of thirty years.

A complete copy of the ordinance proposed for final adoption may be examined at the Department of Public Works & Engineering, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, Michigan 48864-1198, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday (excluding Township holidays) and on the Township's website at <http://bit.ly/3J3zWDE>.

Angela Demas
Township Clerk

CP#25-334

Providing a safe and welcoming, sustainable, prime community.



GREWAL HALL AT 224
LANSING MICHIGAN

UPCOMING EVENT SCHEDULE

10/15 TALIB KWELI	11/02 PLAIN WHITE T'S & WE THE KINGS
10/17 BINGO LOCO'S NAME THAT SONG	11/06 RITZ
10/23 ANDREW CONN	11/07 RODRIGUEZ FEST
10/25 TAYLOR SWIFT DANCE PARTY	11/15 THE SLOPPY BOYS PODCAST
10/30 ASHLAND CRAFT	11/20 BLACKHAWK
10/31 ROCKY HORROR PICTURE SHOW	11/22 KOO KOO
11/01 ROCK CITY'S THRILLER NIGHT	11/29 THE VERVE PIPE

GET TICKETS AT GREWALHALL.COM

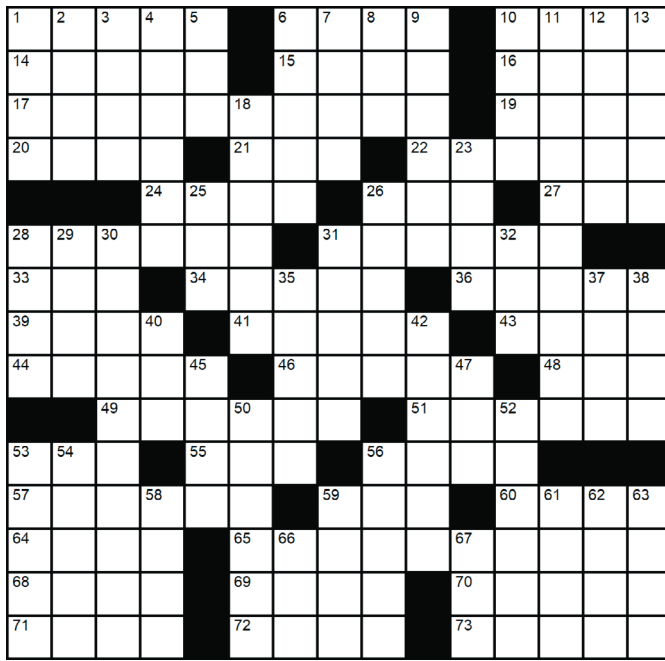
Jonesin' Crossword

By Matt Jones

“On and On” -- two things follow on.
by Matt Jones
© 2025 Matt Jones

ACROSS

- 1. 2006 mockumentary full of catchphrases
- 6. Prefix before spa
- 10. Lines of fashion
- 14. Keyboard exercise piece
- 15. Piece of news
- 16. Leave off
- 17. Sponsored product used only for testing purposes?
- 19. Ship's mast
- 20. Jukebox choice
- 21. ___ États-Unis
- 22. One-named “Queen of American Folk Music”
- 24. Ancient Egyptian bird
- 26. Pair count
- 27. Rocket's deviation
- 28. Weak excuse
- 31. Lahore's region
- 33. Eggs
- 34. Ornamental plant
- 36. Floating
- 39. Exercise units
- 41. Alleviates
- 43. “Tomb Raider” protagonist Croft
- 44. Joints that may get shaky
- 46. It's a crowd, so to speak
- 48. Letters that used to follow CD
- 49. Land holdings
- 51. Result of brushing against wet ink
- 53. Seer's skill
- 55. “30 Rock” star
- 56. Man-goat creature
- 57. Purple flower
- 59. May honoree
- 60. You, to Quakers
- 64. Highlight of some musical



- 25. Intermission of a play?
- 28. Refuse to authorize
- 29. Bunch
- 30. Heart stat
- 31. Docs that use endoscopes
- 32. Follow
- 33. Cheesy sandwiches
- 34. Performances
- 35. Garden shed implement
- 36. Chess game with no pieces?
- 37. 1989 Mazda debut
- 38. Milkshake insert
- 39. Cheerful and carefree
- 40. ___ Cat (“SNL” Season 51 opening musical guest)
- 41. Ride around town, maybe
- 42. Ube, for one
- 43. Stopper
- 44. Cookie sheet destination
- 45. The nose of a folded airplane?
- 46. Overly assertive
- 47. The whole thing
- 48. In disrepair
- 49. Pond dweller
- 50. Domesticated
- 51. Perceive
- 52. Source of some bun seeds
- 53. Sound's partner
- 54. Jazz ___ (comedic musician named for a flightless bird)
- 55. Releases
- 56. Not so
- 57. Get away from
- 58. Ambulance sound
- 59. Low-visibility, in a way
- 60. Big name in chips
- 61. Lipizzaner feature
- 62. It's for children, according to Pat Benatar
- 63. Oregon-to-New York direction
- 64. ___ out a victory
- 65. Key near Q
- 66. Heart stat, for short

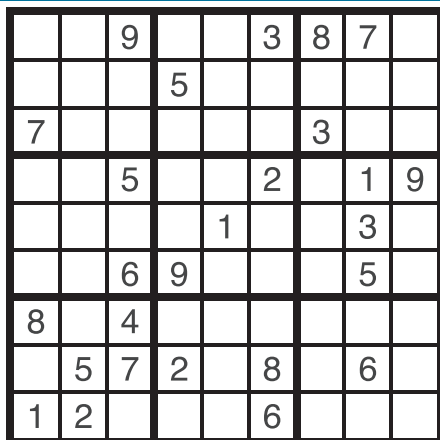
DOWN

- 1. Racetrack transactions
- 2. “___ Atardecer” (2022 Bad Bunny track meaning “Another Sunset”)
- 3. Archaeological site
- 4. Slow movement, in music
- 5. Hebrew for “hill”
- 6. Gets stuck
- 7. Airline approximations
- 8. Hobby room

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Answers on page 23

SUDOKU



Intermediate

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Here's How It Works:
Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

Free Will Astrology

By Rob Breznsy

Oct. 15-21, 2025

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Life is tempting you to tiptoe to the brink of the threshold of the rawest truth, the wildest beauty and the most precious love. Your ancestors are conspiring with your guardian angels to lure you into the secret heart of the inner sanctum of spiritual truth. I am totally sincere and serious. You now have a momentous opportunity — a thrilling opening to commune with subtle powers that could provide you with profound guidance.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): In the forests of America's Pacific Northwest, “nurse logs” lie fallen but fertile. These dead trees host seedlings, mosses and new saplings that rise from their decaying trunks. I regard this as a powerful metaphor for you, Taurus. Something old in you is crumbling, like outdated beliefs, outmoded duties or obsolete loyalties. Part of you may want to either grieve or ignore the shift. Yet I assure you that fresh green vitality is sprouting from that seemingly defunct thing. What new possibility is emerging from what was supposed to end? Resurrection is at hand.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): A deeper, wilder, smarter version of love is beckoning you from the horizon. Are you ready to head in its direction? I'm not sure you are. You may semi-consciously believe you already know what love is all about and are therefore closed to learning more. It's also possible that your past romantic wounds have made you timid about exploring unfamiliar terrain. Here's my assessment: If you hope to get exposed to the sweeter, less predictable kinds of intimacy, you will have to drop some (not all) of your excessive protections and defenses. PS: At least one of your fears may be rooted in faulty logic.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Princess Diana transformed the British monarchy because she insisted that royal duty should include genuine emotional connection. Her generosity wasn't merely ceremonial but was expressed through hands-on charity work. She had close contact with youth who had nowhere to live. She walked through minefields as part of her efforts to rid the planet of that scourge. She hugged people with AIDS at a time when many others feared such contact. “Carry out a random act of kindness, with no expectation of reward,” she said. Her ability to maintain grace while remaining emotionally authentic reflected a genius for blending strength with sensitivity. Can you guess her astrological sign? Cancerian, of course. Now is a perfect time for you to draw inspiration from her example. Express your wisely nurturing energy to the max!

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Certain African lions in Kenya have no manes. Scientists theorize it's an adaptation to heat or a reflection of extra-aggressive hunting strategies. But symbolically, it challenges expectations: Is royalty still royalty without the crown? I bring this to your attention, Leo, because I suspect you will soon be asked to explore your power without its usual accouterments. Can you properly wield your influence if you don't unleash your signature roar and dazzle? Will quiet confidence or understated presence be sufficiently magnetic? Might you radiate even more potency by refining your fire? I think so. You can summon strength in subtlety and majesty in minimalism.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): During the next nine months, you will face a poignant and potentially inspiring choice: whether to wrangle with an endless tangle of mundane struggles or to expand your vision to the bigger picture and devote your energy intensely to serving your interesting, long-term dreams. I hope you choose the latter option! For best results, get clear about your personal definition of success, in contrast to the superficial definitions that have been foisted on you by your culture. Can you visualize yourself years from now, looking back on your life's greatest victories? You're primed to enter a new phase of that glorious work, rededicating yourself with precise intentions and vigorous vows.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): I'm pleased to inform you that the coming weeks will be an excellent time to make a big wish upon a bright star. But I must also tell you how important it is to be clear and exact. Even a slight error in formulating your wish could result in only a partial fulfillment. And aiming your plea at the wrong star could cause a long delay. Sorry I have to be so complicated, dear Libra. The fact is, though, it's not always easy to know precisely what you yearn for and to ask the correct source to help you get it. But here's the good news: You are currently in a phase when you're far more likely than usual to make all the right moves.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): During World War II, Scorpian actor and inventor Hedy Lamarr developed frequency-hopping technology to prevent enemies from jamming torpedo guidance systems. Her solution rapidly switched radio frequencies in hard-to-intercept patterns. The technology was so advanced that no one could figure out how to fully adopt it until years later. Engineers eventually realized that Lamarr's invention was essential for Wi-Fi, GPS and cell phone networks. In the coming weeks, Scorpian, you, too, have the potential to generate ideas that might not be ready for prime time but could ultimately prove valuable. Trust your instincts about future needs. Your visionary solutions are laying the groundwork for contributions that won't fully ripen for a while.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): I guarantee you won't experience a meltdown or nervous collapse in the coming weeks, Sagittarius. What unfolds may bring a similar intensity, but in the opposite direction: a personal breakthrough, a cavalcade of illumination or a surge of awakening. I urge you to be alert and receptive to relaxing flurries of sweet clarity, or streams of insights that rouse a liberating integration, or a confluence of welcome transformations that lead you to unexpected healing. Can you handle so many blessings? I think you can. But you may have to expand your expectations to welcome them all.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): In 1959, a Swedish engineer named Nils Bohlin designed the three-point seatbelt, revolutionizing car safety. Working for Volvo, he insisted the design must be made freely available to all car manufacturers. Bohlin understood that saving lives was more important than hoarding credit or profit. Capricorn, your assignment now is to give generously without fussing about who gets the applause. A solution, insight or creation of yours could benefit many if you share it without reservation. Your best reward will be observing the beneficial ripple effects, not holding the patent.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Your exploratory adventures out on the frontiers have been interesting and mostly successful, Aquarius. Congrats! I love how you have avoided tormenting yourself with self-doubt and roused more boldness than you've summoned in a long time. You have managed to ignore useless and superstitious fears, even as you have wisely heeded the clues offered by one particular fear that was worth considering. Please continue this good work! You can keep riding this productive groove for a while longer.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): In Korean tradition, “mudangs” are shamans who endure a personal crisis or illness and emerge with supernatural powers. They perform rituals to seek the favor of spirits. They heal the ancestral causes of misfortune and ensure good fortune, prosperity and well-being for the people they serve. I don't mean to imply you're following a similar path, Pisces. But I do think your recent discomforts have been like an apprenticeship that has given you enhanced capacity to help others. How will you wield your power to bless and heal?

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

OUT on the TOWN

Events & Happenings in Lansing This Week

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

Wednesday, Oct. 15

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

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

Author Event: "The Containment" - University of Michigan law professor Michelle Adams will join us for a discussion of her critically acclaimed book, "The Containment," moderated by Kristine Bowman. 5:30 p.m. Hooked, 3142 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. hookedlansing.com.

"Beauty and the Beast" - This enchanting and timeless tale will fill your heart with joy and Disney magic. 7:30 p.m. Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. whartoncenter.com.

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

Blue Denim - Formerly known as The Local Group, Blue Denim blends blues, rock, R&B, funk and jazz into one dynamic live performance. No cover! 9:30-11:30 p.m. UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner St., Lansing. urbanbeatevents.com.

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.

Capital Area Modelers Society Build Night - Join fellow modelers to share tips, tricks and stories. Bring your current project or let us know that you need something to build. 6:30-8 p.m. Evolution Games, 932 Elmwood Road, Lansing. capitalareamodelerssociety.org.

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

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

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

Harvest Festival at Allen Farmers Market - Featuring craft vendor Tano Studio, square dancing with a live band, a pumpkin giveaway, a pumpkin painting station, hard cider, autumnal beer, gluten-free donuts and more. 3-6:30 p.m. Allen Neighborhood Center, 1629 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. allenneighborhoodcenter.org/allen-farmers-market.

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

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

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

MMAG Fall Art Show - The artists of the Mid-Michigan Art Guild invite the community to visit their "Black and White" exhibition, featuring art created with just those colors. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Neighborhood Empowerment Center, 600 W. Maple St., Lansing. midmichiganartguild.org.

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

Powerful Tools for Caregivers - Caregiving is rewarding but can also be stressful. Attend a six-week workshop that can help. 1:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing. To register, call 517-887-1465 or email histedc@tcoa.org.

Robot Day! - We'll explore the exciting world of robotics during Code Club using programmable robots from our Library of Things. 6 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. gladl.org.

Showcase Series: American Modern Ensemble - American Modern Ensemble brings its dynamic, New York-based artistry to MSU, performing bold contemporary works by living composers. 7:30 p.m. Fairchild Theatre, 542 Auditorium Road, East Lansing. music.msu.edu.

Talib Kweli - The legendary Talib Kweli is bringing his lyrical fire to Grewal Hall, with support from Kwaj, James Gardin and Studda Jay. 8 p.m. Grewal Hall, 224 S. Washington Square, Lansing. hall224.com.

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

Vintage Truck Fall Bounty Paint Class - You're going to want to get this one out every fall! Pre-traced canvas for your ease. 6:30-9 p.m. Log Jam, 110 W. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. paintyourpoison.com.

Weaving the Web: Patrons - Join us online or in person every Wednesday for discussions, rituals, meditations and more! 6 p.m. Weavers of the Web, 809 Center St., Lansing. weaversoftheweb.org.

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

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

Thursday, Oct. 16

A Night to Remember - Embark on the Great Club Quest at this year's A Night to Remember dinner! Enjoy an evening filled with adventure, inspiration and community — all in support of the Boys & Girls Club. 5-7:30 p.m. 4315 Pleasant Grove Road, Lansing. facebook.com/bgclansing1.

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

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

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



Autumn Anew Friday, Oct. 17-Sunday, Oct. 19 Multiple locations

Michigan Waterways Stewards, a local organization working to "protect, care for and improve our treasured and vulnerable waterways," will hold its largest river and trail cleanup of the year this weekend, with several other activities and special events to enjoy.

From noon to 1:30 p.m. Friday, all are invited to "become a landscaper for a day," working alongside Michigan State University Landscape Services staff as they remove invasive species, pick up trash and install new bike racks at the new Red Cedar Riverside Park and the adjoining Brody complex.

Saturday brings the aforementioned cleanup from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at three locations along the Lansing River Trail: the Clippert Street trailhead, Kruger's Landing and Rotary Park. Complimentary food and beverages will be provided, and all participants will receive a free pass to Potter Park Zoo's annual Wonderland of Lights. After the cleanup, volunteers and guests are invited to a celebration from 3 to 8 p.m. at Rotary Park, offering more complimentary food and beverages, as well as activities provided by kayak rental business River Town Adventures.

MSU, alongside the cities of Lansing and East Lansing, will hold community recycling events throughout the weekend, each at a different location and time. For more information, including a list of accepted materials, visit miwaterwaysstewards.org/special-recycling-event.html.

Finally, the Autumn Anew photo contest runs until Oct. 31, aiming to "capture and share the beauty of Michigan's most scenic, varied and enjoyable urban waterways destination." Photos will be judged in four categories: landscape, wildlife, recreation and architecture. A panel of local photographers will evaluate entries based on creativity, technical skill, emotional impact and relevance. The photos must be digital and should be taken either on or along the Grand or Red Cedar rivers somewhere in Greater Lansing. The top three photographers in each category will receive a certificate, and the top five to 10 entries from each category will be featured on Michigan Waterways Stewards' website and social media, as well as in select local libraries. To view the full list of rules or submit a photo, visit shorturl.at/rBgDV.

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

Anthony Stanco Quintet - Trumpeter Anthony Stanco, a protégé of Marcus Belgrave and Rodney Whitaker, has performed worldwide as a State Department cultural ambassador and leads the acclaimed group The Crucial Elements. 6-9 p.m. UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner St., Lansing. urbanbeatevents.com.

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

"Beauty and the Beast" - This enchanting and timeless tale will fill your heart with joy and Disney magic. 7:30 p.m. Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. whartoncenter.com.

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

Bonsai Silent Auction and Raffle - Mid-Michigan Bonsai Club invites you to our 2025 fundraising raffle and silent auction. This is a great time to pick up trees, plants, pots and other bonsai-related items. Attendance is free. 6:30-9 p.m. Van Atta's Greenhouse, 9008 Old M-78, Haslett. midmichiganbonsai.com.

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

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Events

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Chilling Tales and Haunted Trails - Join us for an evening of scary stories with storyteller Steve Daut! Afterwards, participants are invited to explore a spooky StoryWalk designed for an older audience. 7:30 p.m. Riverside Park, 405 S. Bridge St., DeWitt. dewittlibrary.org.

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

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

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

“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. 2 p.m. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam St., Williamston. williamstontheatre.org.

Fall Colors Hike - Explore the vibrant trails of Bengel Wildlife Center with naturalist Drew Monks and learn about why trees change color and lose their leaves each year. All ages welcome! 5:30-7 p.m. 6380 Drumheller Road, Bath. facebook.com/miwildlife.

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

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

Halloween Night Lights Walk - Join us for a neighborhood stroll to see the amazing Halloween decorations and lighted displays! We'll finish the night with cider, donuts and a story. All ages. 6-7:30 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. glad.org.

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

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

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

MELT Thursdays - UrbanBeat turns up the heat with a weekly electronic music series. Featured artists TBA. No cover. 10 p.m.-1 a.m. 1213 Turner St., Lansing. urbanbeatevents.com.

MMAG Fall Art Show - The artists of the Mid-Michigan Art Guild invite the community to visit their “Black and White” exhibition, featuring art created with just those colors. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Neighborhood Empowerment Center, 600 W. Maple St., Lansing. midmichiganartguild.org.

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

A Peace-Full Evening of Crafting: Paint Your Own Pottery at Art Unlimited - Staff will be happy to show you some of their techniques or walk you through your project. Light refreshments will be provided. 6-8 p.m. 1929 Grand River Ave., Okemos. peacequestgreaterlansing.org.

“Ravenscroft,” by Don Nigro - This psychological drama is a thinking person's Gothic thriller, a dark comedy that's both funny and frightening. 7 p.m. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. riverwalktheatre.com.

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

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

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

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

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.

Tim Burton-Style Portrait Paint Party - Get inspired by your favorite animated character and paint a portrait of the friend/partner you came with, or make some new friends and paint a self-portrait! 6:30-9 p.m. Midtown Brewing Co., 402 S. Washington Square, Lansing. paintyourpoison.com.

Friday, Oct. 17

“Beauty and the Beast” - This enchanting and timeless tale will fill your heart with joy and Disney magic. 7:30 p.m. Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. whartoncenter.com.

Bingo Loco: Name That Song - Expect a name-that-song game show with comedian presenters, the best '90s/'2000s music, rave rounds, lip sync battles, weird and marvelous prizes and more. Ages 21+. 7 p.m. Grewal Hall, 224 S. Washington Square, Lansing. hall224.com.

Broad Underground: Black Experimental Moving Image - How can Black experiences be represented in experimental film, video and new media? Join Emily Martin, distribution manager at Video Data Bank, for a curated screening and discussion. 7-9 p.m. North Kedzie Hall Student Cafe, 354 Farm Lane, East Lansing. broadmuseum.msu.edu.

Central MI Gem, Mineral, Fossil, Lapidary & Jewelry Show - Wall-to-wall dealers for shopping, children's rock shop and free craft table, raffle, silent auction, hourly door prizes, demonstrators, displays and more! 1-7 p.m. Ingham County Fairgrounds, 700 E. Ash St., Mason. michrocks.org.

The Coffeehouse at All Saints - Monthly showcase of mostly Michigan-based musical and spoken-word talent. Bring a snack/drink to share. Free. 7:30-9:30 p.m. All Saints Episcopal Church, 800 Abbot Road, East Lansing. facebook.com/TheCoffeehouseAt-AllSaints.

“Collective Rage: A Play in Five Betties” - Five different women named Betty collide at the intersection of anger, sex and the “thea-tah.” 7 p.m. LCC Black Box Theatre, 411 N. Grand Ave., Lansing. lcc.edu/showinfo.

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.

Donovan Trevas Live at D'Nuffos - 9-11 p.m. 1351 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. 517-483-2793.

Apple Butter Festival

11 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday,
Oct. 18-Sunday, Oct. 19
Fenner Nature Center
2020 E. Mount Hope Ave.,
Lansing



Michigan produces the third-most apples of any state in the country, a tradition Fenner Nature Center celebrates annually with its Apple Butter Festival. Apple butter, a thick spread made from apples, cider, sugar and spices, takes hours or even all day to make the traditional way, in a kettle over a fire. Though attendees won't be able to create their own finished product, they will have a hands-on opportunity to learn the ins and outs of apple butter cooking, from peeling and coring the apples to stirring the kettle. Jars of apple butter will also be available for purchase in the Visitor Center.

The festival isn't limited to apple-butter-related activities, however. Kids can test their skills with a crosscut saw by cutting out a tree cookie, paint pumpkins, explore educational displays and view the nature center's animal ambassadors in their enclosures. Attendees of all ages can hike the more than 4.5 miles of trails, snack on fall treats and gourmet burgers, and shop from a mix of vendors and artisans, some of whom will showcase their craft with live demonstrations. An eclectic group of musicians will provide live entertainment, including community string orchestra Rise Above the Cacophony, soft rock artist Adam DeVries, Celtic/folk artist Zarochi, folk/pop artist Mars McCartney, country/rock/blues group Orion's Note and many more.

Admission is free, with a \$5 suggested donation for parking. Proceeds will benefit the Fenner Conservancy, the nonprofit that manages the nature center and Fenner Nature Preschool. For more information, visit sites.google.com/mynaturecenter.org/abf.

facebook.com/dnuffos.

“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.

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.

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

GTG Fest - Featuring Narc out the Reds, Ladyship Warship, Small Parks, Braineaters, Mr. Denton on Doomsday, No Skull, The Plurals and more! 8 p.m. The Avenue, 2021 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. facebook.com/gtgreCORDS.

Halloween Cup Sandblasting - Customize your own themed drinking glass! Free tours while you wait for your turn on the sandblaster. 6-8 p.m. Lansing Makers Network, 2730 Alpha Access St., Lansing. lansingmakersnetwork.org.

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

May Erlewine — Solo - Each fall, May travels downstate to share her warmth and songs with us. This annual homecoming fills the house with community, connection and love. 7:30-10 p.m. University Lutheran Church, 1020 S Harrison Road, East Lansing. tenpoundfiddle.org.

MMAG Fall Art Show - The artists of the Mid-Michigan Art Guild invite the community to visit their “Black and White” exhibition, featuring art created with just those colors. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Neighborhood Empowerment Center, 600 W. Maple St., Lansing. midmichiganartguild.org.

MSU Women's Volleyball vs. University of Nebraska - 7 p.m. Breslin Center, 534 Birch Road, East Lansing. msuspartans.com/sports/womens-volleyball.

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

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

“Ravenscroft,” by Don Nigro - This psychological drama is a thinking person's Gothic thriller, a dark comedy that's both funny and frightening. 8 p.m. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. riverwalktheatre.com.

Rory Nevins Live at Graham Vineyards - 6-9 p.m. 8920 W Britton Road, Laingsburg. 517-741-0805. facebook.com/grahamvineyards.

Sharrie Williams - Blues artist Sharrie Williams has toured close to 40 countries. In recovery for many years now, she comes to the stage with a drive to share a powerful message in song! 6-9 p.m. UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner St., Lansing. urbanbeatevents.com.

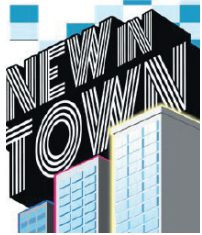
Skull-Crossed Lovers Paint Party - Pre-traced canvas for your ease. Paint with us step by step! 6:30-9 p.m. Okemos Coffee Shop, 1732 Hamilton Road, Okemos. paintyourpoison.com.

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.

TGIF 10th Anniversary Dance Party - Doors 7 p.m., line dance lesson 7:15 p.m., dance 8 p.m. to midnight. DJ Jim Kitchen in the house. Dinner buffet provided. Cash/credit bar available. Hawk Hollow Banquet Center, 15101 Chandler Road, Bath. tgifdance.com.

Unwind | Move Your Way - MSU students: Join the MSU Museum at IM Circle to learn about all the fitness classes available to you! When you need a break, recharge with food and make your own relaxation kit. 7-9 p.m. 150 W. Circle Drive, East Lansing. museum.msu.edu.

Old Town sewing shop stitches together community



By LEO V. KAPLAN

Jessy Gregg has been operating the sewing and fabric shop Seams for over six years, but she just had her first grand opening.

Seams

204 E. César E. Chávez Ave., Lansing
Noon-5 p.m. Monday-Tuesday
11 a.m.-6 p.m. Wednesday, Friday-Saturday
Noon-8 p.m. Thursday
11 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday
(517) 999-1000
seamsfabric.com

"We were going to do a ribbon cutting for our second anniversary, so that would have been April of 2020," she said. The pandemic lockdown shuttered the shop two weeks beforehand.

That made Seams' "grand reopening," commemorating its move to Old Town,

a special event for Gregg. The Old Town location is also Seams' first standalone shop. The former location was around 300 square feet of "incubator space" in East Lansing's Woven Art Yarn Shop, but the new shop is more than double the square footage, Gregg said, allowing space for additional offerings and sewing

classes.

After a soft opening May 22, Seams has been steadily building out its Old Town location. The shop, which focuses on "garment sewing using natural fibers," has plenty of extra space for its fabrics and patterns, many of which are from independent designers, but Gregg was particularly excited to discuss the shop's social events and classes. Seams began hosting a free "Sewcial Sew" a month ago, which runs from 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesdays and allows guests to use the shop's sewing machines to work on their projects. She said private classes will start up following the grand opening.

Those events bring in a variety of people, Gregg said.

"One of the things we really try to do is push the stereotype of who sews," she said, adding that younger sewists sometimes feel unwelcome in the traditional quilt stores that dominate the market. In catering to those left-out sewists, Gregg said Seams brings in a perhaps unexpected clientele.

"A good percentage of the people taking our ultra-beginner class are men," she said. "And we have a lot of non-binary and

gender non-confirming folks that take classes here because they're not content with their clothing options."

She said that's "a niche we've really embraced," something reflected both in staff and clientele. She said they are particularly drawn to sewing because they find trouble with off-the-rack clothing, which is made to fit "a nonexistent, imaginary body."

Gregg said one "Sewcial" was mostly cosplayers preparing for an upcoming comic convention, but it also included a former fashion professor who had "lived a full life in the fiber arts" and another person who was "just exploring the idea of starting to sew."

Drop-in sewing, which runs from 3 to 6 p.m. Wednesdays, has a \$35 fee and includes teaching. Gregg said her regulars for drop-in sewing are "a couple of young men who are mostly modifying their jeans."

Classes encompass all skill levels, but Seams is focused particularly on "ultra beginners" who have "never seen a sewing machine before." Gregg said the rise of low-quality fast fashion coupled with the popularity of online crafts content has led many who did not grow up sewing, and



Photo by Morgan van den Berg/Piper & Gold

Owner Jessy Gregg talks with patrons at Seams' "grand reopening" Saturday.

whose family did not sew either, to take interest in the craft.

The Old Town location has brought in more foot traffic than the former location, Gregg said, which has not only helped sell more items but made more customers interested in sewing.

"A lot of people have come in on a whim and then been like, 'Oh, do you do classes or lessons?'" said Venus Stanton, an employee who also teaches classes. "And I'm like, 'Yes, we do,' and they get really excited."

Events

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Saturday, Oct. 18

"Beauty and the Beast" - This enchanting and timeless tale will fill your heart with joy and Disney magic. 2 and 7:30 p.m. Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. whartoncenter.com.

The Blues Never Felt So Good, with Generator - Experience the high-energy sound of Generator, a seven-piece band blending blues, funk, rock and soul with their signature style. 7-10 p.m. UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner St., Lansing. urbanbeatevents.com.

Book Reading and Signing: Jihyun Yun - Join us for a reading of the new gothic YA horror novel by Ann Arbor-based author Jihyun Yun and get your copy signed! 5 p.m. Hooked, 3142 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. hookedlansing.com.

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

Campfire Science & S'mores: October Owls! - Learn about Michigan owls with Eaton County Parks & Rec deputy director Ethan Jacobs. We'll do some "owl science," try some owl observation and finish with owl stories and yummy s'mores around the campfire! 6 p.m. Lincoln Brick Park, 13991 Tallman Road, Grand Ledge. gladjl.org.

Central MI Gem, Mineral, Fossil, Lapidary & Jewelry Show - Wall-to-wall dealers for shopping, children's rock shop and free craft table, raffle, silent auction, hourly door prizes, demonstrators, displays and more! 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Ingham County Fairgrounds, 700 E. Ash St., Mason. michrocks.org.

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

"Collective Rage: A Play in Five Betties" - Five different women named Betty collide at the intersection of anger, sex and the "thea-tah." 7 p.m. LCC Black Box Theatre, 411 N. Grand Ave., Lansing. lcc.edu/showinfo.

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.

Design & Build Day at Impression 5 Science Center - Dive into interactive activities led by professionals in plumbing, electrical work, landscaping, roofing and more! You'll learn how to use tools, explore various careers and even try your hand at some amazing projects. 9:30 a.m.-4 p.m. 200 Museum Drive, Lansing. impression5.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! 6:30-9:30 p.m. AC Hotel, 3160 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. thedinnerdetective.com.

Drumunity: Community Drumming with Lori Fithian - Join us for a fun drum circle, with instruments provided for everyone! Intended for kids ages 3-13 and their families. 11 a.m. MSU Community Music School, 4930 S. Hagadorn Road, East Lansing. tenpoundfiddle.org.

"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. 2 and 7:30 p.m. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam St., Williamston. williamstontheatre.org.

Fourth Annual Voluntary Gun Buyback - Drive-thru admission starts at 11 a.m. and continues until funds run out. \$200 for assault rifles, \$100 for handguns, \$50 for long guns. Guns must be unloaded, in working condition and in the trunk/rear of the vehicle. St. Michael's Episcopal Church, 6500 Amwood Drive, Lansing. 517-882-9733.

Game Night - We'll provide a selection of games, but you're welcome to bring your own to share and teach. You can also bring snacks or drinks for yourself or to share. 5-8 p.m. Weavers of the Web, 809 Center St., Lansing. weaversoftheweb.org.

GTG Fest - Featuring Hardgrade, Brian Lisik, La La Delivery, A Rueful Noise, Jeremy Porter, Wild Honey Collective, Dead Honey Collective and more! 8 p.m. The Avenue, 2021 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. facebook.com/gtgrecords.

Halloween Mixer - Join us for our first-ever adults-only Halloween mixer! You'll take home a Halloween-themed planting project, indulge in seasonal treats, play yard games and meet other people who love plants and Halloween! 6-8 p.m. Van Atta's Greenhouse, 9008 Old M-78, Haslett. vanattas.com.

Hannah's House Silent Auction and International Dessert Event - We'll have a wide variety of desserts from around the world. Proceeds benefit homeless pregnant women in Lansing. 1-3 p.m. Trinity Church, 3355 Dunckel Road, Lansing. hannahshouselansing.org.

Horns and Halos Halloween Party - Proceeds benefit the Ingham County Animal Shelter Fund. Partygoers will enjoy dancing, a silent auction, a costume contest, a pizza and dessert bar, photo ops, tarot readings, ghost hunting and more! Ages 18+. 7-10 p.m. Ingham County Fairgrounds banquet hall, 700 E. Ash St., Mason. facebook.com/icasfund.

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.

Malloween - Kick start your holiday season with plenty of shopping from local vendors and crafters. From 4-7 p.m., kids can trick or treat at vendor stalls. 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Lansing Mall, 5330 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing. facebook.com/kat.jones.779.

See Events, Page 20

A SHERLOCK CAROL

BY MARK SHANAHAN

Two beloved classic tales. One thrilling new mystery!



TICKETS AVAILABLE NOW

Limited Holiday Engagement
Reserve Early

WILLIAMSTONTHEATRE.ORG

Events

from page 19

Max Gage Live at D'Nuffos - 9-11 p.m. 1351 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. 517-483-2793. facebook.com/dnuffos.

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

No Kings 2.0 Lansing - Our peaceful movement is only getting bigger and stronger. "No Kings" is more than just a slogan — it's the foundation our nation was built upon. 3-6 p.m. The Capitol, 100 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing. mobilize.us/nokings/event/841661.

Oktoberfest Dinner and Dance - Enjoy a German dinner, German beverages from our fully stocked bar, live polka music and dancing. 5-10 p.m. Lansing Liederkrantz Club, 5828 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. facebook.com/LansingLiederkrantzClub.

"Ravenscroft," by Don Nigro - This psychological drama is a thinking person's Gothic thriller, a dark comedy that's both funny and frightening. 8 p.m. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. riverwalktheatre.com.

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

Spooky Sprint - Join us for the annual Spooky Sprint 5K, 10K, half-marathon and kids' races, a fun Halloween-themed event perfect for the whole family. 8-11 a.m. Burchard Park, 220 E. Maple St., Lansing. runsignup.com/Race/MI/Lansing/SpookySprintLansing.

Tease A Gogo Presents: Creepshow Peepshow! - Come one and all to Tease A Gogo's biggest and baddest show of the year, and the most absurdly sexy show around! 8 p.m.-midnight. The Studio at 414, 410 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. teaseagogo.com.

Tiger and Dragon Kenpo Martial Arts Training - Based on a variety of martial arts systems, tiger and dragon kenpo is designed to develop self-confidence in the warrior. 1 p.m. Keys to Manifestation, 809 Center St., Lansing. weaversoftheweb.org.

Toastmaster Meeting - We're an advanced club that helps members grow in their speaking, presentation and leadership skills. Join us for our fall open house. All are welcome to attend. 9:45 a.m.-noon. MSUFCU, 104 S. Washington Square, Lansing. 517-512-4480.

Wine in the Woods - Bring your favorite beverage and enjoy a guided walk through the woods with a naturalist. After the walk, "unwine" by the campfire with gourmet s'mores. Registration req. 7-9 p.m. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road, Okemos. meridian.mi.us/hnc.

Sunday, Oct. 19

"Beauty and the Beast" - This enchanting and timeless tale will fill your heart with joy and Disney magic. 1 and 6:30 p.m. Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. whartoncenter.com.

Central MI Gem, Mineral, Fossil, Lapidary & Jewelry Show - Wall-to-wall dealers for shopping, children's rock shop and free craft table, raffle, silent auction, hourly door prizes, demonstrators, displays and more! 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Ingham County Fairgrounds, 700 E. Ash St., Mason. michrocks.org.

Conversations with the Runes: Spirits, Symbols and Practice - This ongoing workshop series is designed to deepen your connection with the runes through history, storytelling, animism and hands-on practice. 3-5 p.m. Keys to Manifestation, 809 Center St., Lansing. manifestlansing.com.

Copper Chimney Lounge Poetry Series - Two of Michigan's most gifted poets, Cal Freeman and Dennis Hinrichsen, will share their love of language and a full-throated investigation of life where they live. Open mic to follow. Free. 4 p.m. University United

Methodist Church, 1120 S. Harrison Road, East Lansing. facebook.com/LansingPoetryClub.

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

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

"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. 2 p.m. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam St., Williamston. williamstontheatre.org.

Green Man Work Day - We'll get together and take care of some projects that need doing, either at the church building or on our property. We'll finish the day with a shared feast. Noon-5 p.m. Weavers of the Web, 809 Center St., Lansing. weaversoftheweb.org.

GTG Fest - Featuring Livewire, The Stick Arounds (acoustic), Tequila Mockingbird and more! 5 p.m. The Avenue, 2021 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. facebook.com/gtgrecoords.

Hog Fest - Music festival featuring performances by The Sonder Bombs, Motion Sick, Bummer Hill, LoudFoxCult, Dad Caps and Crown Shy. Show is at a DIY space, message any of the bands performing for the address. 3 p.m. House of Glen, Lansing. instagram.com/house_of_glen.

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

Malloween - Kick start your holiday season with plenty of shopping from local vendors and crafters. Noon-5 p.m. Lansing Mall, 5330 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing. facebook.com/kat.jones.779.

Mega Mall Outdoor Flea Market - There will be tons of vendors, antiques and unique finds, plus food vendors and a DJ. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. 15487 Old U.S. 27, Lansing. 517-487-3275.

Michigan Antiquarian Book and Paper Show - Dealers from many states will offer vintage, antiquarian and collectible paper items of all kinds! 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Causeway Bay Hotel, 6820 S. Cedar St., Lansing. curiousbooks.com/shows.html.

MSU Women's Volleyball vs. University of Maryland - 1 p.m. Breslin Center, 534 Birch Road, East Lansing. msuspartans.com/sports/womens-volleyball.

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.

"Ravenscroft," by Don Nigro - This psychological drama is a thinking person's Gothic thriller, a dark comedy that's both funny and frightening. 2 p.m. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. riverwalktheatre.com.

Shape Shift: The Art of Coming Undone - In connection with the exhibition "unbecoming," this three-part studio series invites us to explore transformation through artistic practice. In this session, we'll be guided on a written journey by LeConté Dill. 2-4:30 p.m. Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, East Lansing. broadmuseum.msu.edu.

Shining Sunflowers Brunch Paint and Sip - Join us for an afternoon of brunch, sipping and painting as we create a beautiful sunflower scene. 1-4 p.m. The Irish Pub, 1910 W. Saginaw St., Lansing. wineandcanvas.com/lansing.

UN Day Celebration Dinner - Celebrate the ratification of the UN Charter with live entertainment, a plated dinner and awards. 4:30 p.m. Kellogg Center, 219 S. Harrison Road, East Lansing. gluna.org/event/un-celebration-2025.

Walk to End Alzheimer's - Held annually in more

Witches on the Town

Noon-6 p.m. Saturday,
Oct. 18
Downtown Mason

The Mason Area Chamber of Commerce summons all witches, warlocks and curious humans to its 8th annual Witches on the Town event, an "afternoon of frightful fun, spellbinding shopping and enchanted experiences with our charming downtown businesses." Attendees are invited to compete in costume contests on the Ingham County Courthouse lawn, with categories such as best scary witch, best unique witch and best group of witches. Winners will receive a \$50 MACC gift card. There will also be mini contests for best hat, best footwear, best broom and best cackling. Food trucks and Halloween-themed vendors will line Jefferson Street, while local businesses will offer even more witchy shopping. All guests can pick up a trick-or-treat bag with exclusive coupons, a \$5 MACC gift certificate and other goodies. Make-and-take crafts will also be available. Tickets are \$15 and can be purchased online at masonchamber.org.



than 600 communities nationwide, the Walk to End Alzheimer's is the world's largest fundraiser for Alzheimer's care, support and research. 11:30 a.m. The Capitol, 100 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing. act.alz.org.

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.

Monday, Oct. 20

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

Auditions: 10-Minute Fall Play Festival - Whether you've been in a dozen plays or are interested in trying out acting for the first time, these are the auditions for you. Performances are scheduled for Dec. 14. 6-9 p.m. LCC Black Box Theatre, 411 N. Grand Ave., Lansing. lcc.edu/showinfo.

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.

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@tcoa.org.

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

Fiscally Ready Communities - A webinar designed to help local government officials navigate the full life cycle of grants, from identifying the right opportunities to ensuring compliance and successful reporting. 2-3:30 p.m. Virtual — register at canr.msu.edu/fiscal_management.

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. meridian-50plus.com.

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

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

MMAG Fall Art Show - The artists of the Mid-Michigan Art Guild invite the community to visit their "Black and White" exhibition, featuring art created with just those colors. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Neighborhood Empowerment Center, 600 W. Maple St., Lansing. midmichiganartguild.org.

Pumpkin Decorating - Decorate a pumpkin using yarn, Sharpies, carving tools, etc. Pumpkins and supplies are limited; first come, first served. 6-8 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. gladl.org.

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

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

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

Women's AA Meeting - 6 p.m. Okemos Community Church, 4734 Okemos Road, Okemos. lansing-district6.org.

Tuesday, Oct. 21

"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.

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Events

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Daisy Cow Paint and Sip - Sip your favorite drink while creating an adorable Highland cow painting. A Wine and Canvas favorite! 6-8:30 p.m. Ryan's Roadhouse, 902 E. State St., St. Johns. wineandcanvas.com/lansing.

Dine & Discovery: Kimchi, with Grandma Kim - Learn to make kimchi, a fermented vegetable side dish that has been a staple of Korean cuisine for thousands of years. 6-8 p.m. Allen Neighborhood Center, 1611 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. facebook.com/AllenNeighborhoodCenter.

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

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.

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

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

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. 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.

MMAG Fall Art Show - The artists of the Mid-Michigan Art Guild invite the community to visit their "Black and White" exhibition, featuring art created with just those colors. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Neighborhood Empowerment Center, 600 W. Maple St., Lansing. midmichiganartguild.org.

Mortgage Foreclosure Basics - This webinar will describe the options to keep, sell or let foreclosure happen. Noon-1 p.m. Virtual — register at canr.msu.edu/foreclosure_education_counseling/index.

Nature Therapy: Preserving Food - From salting to smoking to canning, learn the many practical, research-based ways to keep harvests fresh, flavorful and safe year-round. Free. 6:30-8 p.m. First Congregational Church, 421 E. Bridge St., Portland. portlandmi.recedesk.com.

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

Other Worlds Science Fiction Book Group - We'll be reading "The Terraformers," by Annalee Newitz. 7-8 p.m. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing.

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

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

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

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

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@tcoa.org.

Wednesday, Oct. 22

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

Adult Craft: Mini-Pumpkin Decorating - Gather in the daytime with other adults for coffee, conversation and a fun seasonal craft! 2:30-3:30 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. gladl.org.

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

Allen Farmers Market - 3-6:30 p.m. Allen Neighborhood Center, 1629 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. allen-neighborhoodcenter.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.

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.

CharLit Adult Book Club: "The Return of Ellie Black," by Emiko Jean - 6 p.m. Charlotte Community Library, 226 S. Bostwick St., Charlotte. charlottelibrary.org.

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

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

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

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

Korean Traditional Music Orchestra for the Blind - This ensemble of visually impaired musicians blends traditional Korean instruments with diverse styles, delivering a powerful program celebrating resilience, hope and the unifying power of music. 7:30 p.m. Fairchild Theatre, 542 Auditorium Road, East Lansing. music.msu.edu.

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

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

MMAG Fall Art Show - The artists of the Mid-Michigan Art Guild invite the community to visit their "Black and White" exhibition, featuring art created with just those colors. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Neighborhood Empowerment Center, 600 W. Maple St., Lansing. midmichiganartguild.org.

MSU Concert and Campus Bands - Program includes "Iridessi," by student composer Katahji Copley; "Valdres," by Johannes Hanssen; "Unquiet Hours," by David Biedenbender; and "Scenes" from "The Louvre," by Norman Dello Joio. 7:30 p.m. Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. music.msu.edu.

MSU Women's Basketball vs. Michigan Tech - 6:30 p.m. Breslin Center, 534 Birch Road, East Lansing. msuspartans.com/sports/womens-basketball.

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

Weaving the Web: Reverence - Join us online or in person every Wednesday for discussions, rituals, meditations and more! 6 p.m. Weavers of the Web, 809 Center St., Lansing. weaversoftheweb.org.

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

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

Thursday, Oct. 23

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Class Series: Beginning Ukulele for the Family - Participants will learn a brief history of the instrument and all the basics they need to get started playing. Ages 8+. Registration req. 6-7 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. gladl.org.



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REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS Executive Search Services for Library Director

The East Lansing Public Library Board of Trustees is requesting proposals from qualified firms for **Executive Search Services** to recruit and select the next Library Director.

The Request for Proposal (RFP) packet is available beginning **October 1, 2025**, on the East Lansing Public Library website at www.elpl.org or by email request to ELPLBoard@cityofeastlansing.com.

Proposals are due electronically to the email address above by **5:00 p.m. EST on October 22, 2025**. Proposals will not be accepted after this time.

The City of East Lansing is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Proposals from certified minority-, women-, and small business-owned enterprises are encouraged.

CP#25-331

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FOOD & DRINK

DINING OUT IN GREATER LANSING



Lawrence

By **GABRIELLE LAWRENCE**

I grew up in REO Town, in a house that's a century old. When my husband and I bought our first house, we stayed close to my roots, but we soon figured we would outgrow the historic but smallish house on Sparrow and headed to Groesbeck. Once settled, we learned that many Groesbeck homeowners turn their house over to a younger family member when they choose to downsize, and that many families have several branches within blocks of each other. (Talking to you, Lum clan!) After a few years, we understood why. The neighborhood is quiet and peaceful but close to highway access, grocery stores and entertainment. The neighborhood school is, in my opinion, the best in the district. There are kids everywhere you look, so telling your 7-year-old boy on just about every summer weekend to be "free-range Eddie" and "go find a friend" is not a pipe dream but a reality.

When we decided two years ago that the layout of our two-story ranch wasn't working for us, it was an easy choice to renovate instead of move since we've developed close friendships with so many neighbors, which I know is rare and a blessing. We're months into the major overhaul of our entire first floor, and there's drywall dust everywhere. We're subsisting on prepared foods from Costco and air fryer chicken nuggets. Considering that this month's subject of review, Middle Eats, is a four-minute drive from my house and has easy online ordering — and that Mr. She Ate and I both love Mediterranean food — I put my back into this assignment and, in the meantime, found a new standby favorite.

I started, as I always do, with the chicken shawarma bowl (\$12.99). It was seriously large: I ate a big portion of it for dinner and still had a completely satisfying lunch portion left over for the next day. The yellow rice base wasn't the kind of rice I'm used to in Middle Eastern food, but the chicken was plentiful and well spiced, and the freshly chopped toppings of lettuce, tomato, onions and pickles were plentiful and crisp. I also enjoyed the dillio sauce, which added just a little more flavor to the already flavorful bowl.

On another visit, I tried the vegetarian bowl (\$12.99) and loved the grilled peppers, onions and thinly sliced eggplant, which tasted so much better than anything I've ever attempted with eggplant in my own kitchen. The next day, for the lunch remix, I added falafel from Costco and extra peppers and cucumber to bulk it up more.

For yet another lunch, I had the fattoush salad with chicken. When I think of fat-

Middle Eats nails value, convenience and quality



Bryan Beverly highly recommends Middle Eats' fire-grilled shrimp, which he says "rival those at many of the top seafood restaurants and steakhouses in the area."

By **BRYAN BEVERLY**

Fall is a hectic time in the Beverly household. Hot on the heels of what felt like the fastest summer of all time, the chaos of



Beverly

melding work, school, sports and community schedules has taken over. With four girls at different stages of life, my much better half and I are typically frenetic throughout the week and certainly don't slow down on the weekends. We also work on MSU's campus and live on the west side, which has been so much fun with construction. Some days, I crisscross the city six different times for meetings, practices, games, school events and family obligations.

All of this means that time for cooking can be limited, and having the energy to do so is even rarer. We're often guilty of choosing the quicker but less healthy option of dining or taking out. So, where does one find quick, healthier food options?

Enter Middle Eats, which opened a location in Frandor in September 2024. A cousin of chicken hotspot Wing Snob, the Warren-based chain aims to be fast, fresh and healthy, offering bowls, wraps and salads. It also strives to be convenient by offering a drive-thru and online ordering to expedite service. The full menu is customizable, much like a Chipotle or Qdoba, but absent is the ability to watch your food as it's prepared.

What's good

The spicy chicken shawarma wrap (\$8.99) was stout, packed with tender and flavorful shredded chicken, pita chips, lettuce, grilled onions (optional, 99 cents), pickles, garlic spread and spicy dillio sauce. Dillio is a yogurt-based dressing with garlic, shallots, lemon juice and dill. It was yummy but not overpowering or overly fiery. Altogether, this was a reasonably priced handheld that was big on yum and filled the hunger pangs.

Not as healthy, but also supremely tasty, were the loaded shawarma fries (\$11.99). I ordered them with steak (\$2) and was happy I did. Thick-cut, carnival-style fries were topped with meat, feta cheese, diced onions, jalapeños and spicy dillio sauce. This dish was large enough to share among the family, and we had leftovers. As an added bonus, the pita bread on the bottom soaked up all the delicious drippings.

What's really good

Middle Eats will be a go-to at our house for years to come because of its bowls. Whether you choose rice or lettuce as a foundation, you can load up the rest of the bowl with a variety of proteins and veggies. My wife ordered the falafel bowl (\$12.99), which is a strong choice for vegetarians. Crisp, lightly fried falafel (deep fried balls of ground chickpeas and herbs) is joined by your choice of hummus or garlic spread, regular or spicy dillio sauce, lettuce, feta, onions, pickles and tomatoes. The falafel was satisfying, with a crunchy exterior and a warm and fluffy interior. The herbaceous flavors melded well with the

She Ate

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toush, I think that the part that I love the most is the pita chips. In actuality, the best part is the shredded red cabbage. Red cabbage, frankly, slaps. It has flavor and texture. I love to eat it

raw, but it's also a welcome addition to a braise or a stir fry. This salad was super fresh and scratched all of my itches, and although a \$13 takeout salad with a \$4 upcharge for chicken is pricey, it made for two full meals.

Mr. She Ate, also known as "he who rarely has leftovers," would have eaten the classic chicken shawarma wrap

(\$7.99) on every single visit if I'd allowed it. Not to be confused with the standard chicken shawarma wrap, which includes lettuce, tomato and onion, his preferred version is simply chicken, pickles and garlic sauce. For someone who's focusing on increasing their protein intake, this wrap would be an excellent choice. For someone who's never contemplated adding pickles to their chicken shawarma, this wrap is a must try. The tanginess of the pickles is a perfect complement to the richness of the chicken.

My children are french fry goblins, and I decided to get a large side

of fries (\$5.99) to supplement their chicken dinos and green grapes one night. Let's be honest: Takeout fries are usually a letdown. By the time you get home, they're soggy and lackluster. While they're good enough for a 5-year-old, I'm not going to eat them. However, believe me when I say that Middle Eats has hacked this problem. These fries were shatteringly crisp. They were hot, they were salty, and they didn't stand an iota of a chance in my house. If you hate shawarma and, somehow, red cabbage, go get some fries. Whether you're 5 or 55, you won't be disappointed.

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CP#25-309

**CITY OF EAST LANSING SUMMARY
OF ADOPTED ORDINANCE # 1554**

On October 7, 2025, the East Lansing City Council adopted an Ordinance of the City of East Lansing, Michigan, to amend the Zoning Use District Map of Chapter 50 to rezone the area from RM32 (City Center Multiple Family Residential) to B3 (City Center Commercial).

Effective date: Pursuant to Charter Section 6.3, Upon publication

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

Emily Gordon,
East Lansing City Clerk

CP#25-335

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
ON PROPOSED 2026
INGHAM COUNTY BUDGET**

The Ingham County Board of Commissioners will hold a public hearing on the proposed 2026 Ingham County Budget on Tuesday, October 28, 2025 at 6:30 PM at the Ingham County Courthouse, 341 S. Jefferson, Mason, Michigan 48854 and virtually by accessing the following link:
<https://ingham.zoom.us/j/86246962326>

The hearing is for the purpose of receiving comments on the proposed budget prior to its adoption. **The property tax millage rate proposed to be levied to support the proposed budget will be a subject of this hearing.**

The proposed budget may be examined on on-line by accessing the following link.
http://cms3.revize.com/revize/inghamcounty/departments_and_officials/controller/index.php
Questions on the proposed budget may be addressed to
Gregg A. Todd, County Controller/Administrator,
P.O. Box 319, Mason, Michigan 48854.

CP#25-328

He Ate

from page 22

hummus and veggies.

On a lunch visit with a colleague, I ran into a high school friend who was there with her daughter. She revealed that Middle Eats has become their restaurant of choice for Mediterranean fare because of the convenience and value. My teammate and I both ordered bowls, him the chicken shawarma (\$12.99) and I the surf and turf (\$21.33). Both of us were satisfied

with the heaping mounds of meat and veggies and the accompanying sauces.

Best bite

A special nod goes to the fire-grilled shrimp (\$6.99/skewer). Plump and juicy with just a touch of spice but a ton of flavor, these crustaceans rival those at many of the top seafood restaurants and steakhouses in the area. Added to a salad or bowl, they're incredible, but they're also divine on their own atop a bed of rice. I look forward to finding time to enjoy them in new ways, such as in a wrap or on loaded fries.

CROSSWORD SOLUTION
From Pg. 16

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From Pg. 16

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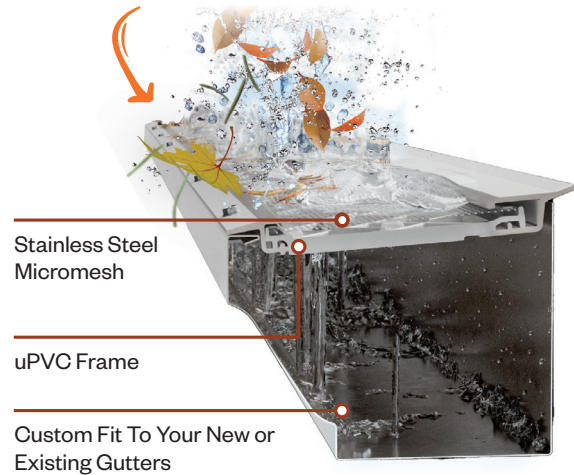
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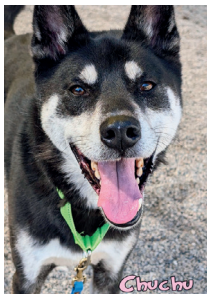
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Chuchu

is an 8-year-old husky who came to us as a stray, and when his owner was contacted, they said they didn't want him anymore. Despite that heartbreak, Chuchu remains the sweetest boy who just doesn't understand why he's here. He's ready to start the next chapter of his life with a family who will truly love and cherish him. His previous owner shared that Chuchu does well with dogs and older children. We don't know his history with cats, so slow introductions would be best. Chuchu may be a little older, but he has plenty of love left to give and would be so grateful for a cozy home where he can spend his golden years surrounded by kindness.



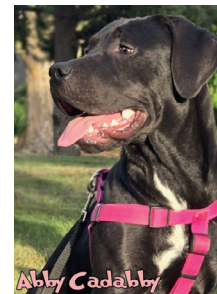
Sponsored by "The Fonz"
Humbug

originally came to the shelter as a kitten when his owner moved and left him behind. He was adopted and then was picked up as a stray. He's really hoping his next home will be his last! He's a sweet friendly boy who should do well in just about any home!



In memory of Rodica's Cats
Everest

is handsome older guy who came to us from another shelter after he was found abandoned in a carrier outside of a vet clinic. He was scared and not sure he wanted to trust again but they were able to win him over and he turned out to be a very sweet boy who love Churu and cat nip! The transfer to us was sort of a setback but he's coming around. He would be a great cat for someone who finds a grumpy face and bad attitude funny (he's hissy but he comes up for cookies so we don't think he really means it!)



Sponsored by Kato and Mouse
Abby

and her siblings came to the shelter because there were too many dogs in the home. The owner is working with us to get the number down and he is hoping they find homes quickly. He loves them a lot but things got a little out of control. They are well socialized with dogs and are trying really hard to be brave. They want to please and just need families to help them work on their confidence! Foster update: 3 weeks in with Abby and she's definitely coming out of her shell! She's gone from shaking and terrified on the leash to dragging me to chase a squirrel. She has great house manners too, no accidents in the house in about 2 weeks. She is the definition of a Velcro dog and does great with Sergei.

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Ads appear in the 3rd issue of each month. The next deadline is November 14th