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CityPULSE

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Along for the Ride

I love to fly when I travel. There is something miraculous about lifting off the ground, about watching roads turn into veins and cities become patterns. But there is one thing I don't love: once the cabin door closes, everything is out of my control. I can't steer, I can't brake, I can't change course. If something goes sideways, I'm just along for the ride.

That sensation has begun to feel uncomfortably familiar.

In today's political world—both at home and abroad—I feel like my influence has shrunk to the size of that narrow seat between strangers. Things are clearly going sideways, and again, I'm just along for the ride. I vote, I talk, I worry, I write. Yet the machinery of power hums forward, indifferent to my unease, banking sharply while the passengers grip their armrests.

What makes this turbulence worse is the sense that it is being deliberately created.

ICE is running rampant—or at least that is how it feels from the ground. Everywhere I look, the stories involve teenagers, wives and grandfathers. Not hardened criminals. Not "the worst of the worst." The language suggests predators; the images show families. The raids don't just remove people—they inject fear into entire neighborhoods. Schools, workplaces and churches become places of anxiety. And when peaceful protesters respond, the encounters escalate. Tempers flare. Lines harden. It becomes Americans versus Americans.

It is jarring to watch this alongside the rhetoric. We are told that protest abroad is noble—that people in Iran, for instance, deserve support for standing up to power. Yet at home, where we are supposedly free to dissent, the answer seems to be intimidation, batons, tear gas and the threat of troops. Paratroopers are on alert at the president's beck and call. The message is inverted: resistance is heroic elsewhere, but disloyal here. It leaves me wondering what "freedom" is supposed to mean when it depends so heavily on geography.

Beyond our borders, the unease grows.

Greenland is suddenly a prize. Trump is the de facto president of Venezuela. Cuba is back in the crosshairs. Other nations are mentioned with a tone that suggests not partnership but possession. We're told we can tariff our way into influence, into occupancy, into dominance—because "we also landed boats there" a few hundred years ago. It is a logic that sounds less like diplomacy and more like a playground argument scaled up to a nuclear age.

We may have been the backbone of NATO for decades. Maybe we have carried more than our share of the financial burden. I don't claim to know what is perfectly just. But I do know that the alliance, imperfect as it has been, brought stability—not only to us, but to a world that learned, painfully, what unrestrained nationalism can do. Now it is embarrassing to watch our allies brace themselves against us. To hear friendly nations speak in the language of caution, even defense.

We have become like the roommate who puffs out his chest when he walks into the house. The room goes quiet. Conversations stop. Everyone becomes uneasy because no one knows what mood he's in today. Will he slam doors? Will he start a fight? Will he be charming for five minutes and explosive for the next? Eventually, that roommate becomes predictable again—not because he is reliable, but because he is volatile. You learn to expect disruption.

Instead of a steady hand, the guiding principle seems to be, "What's in it for us?" Not "How do we build something durable?" Not "How do we prevent catastrophe?" But "How do we win this moment?"

That short-term perspective bleeds into everything. It's why so

many people whisper about martial law. The chaos itself becomes a strategy. Rile up the masses. Push until something breaks. When tensions finally erupt, point to the flames as proof that extreme measures are necessary.

The elections are not far off. Polling is bleak. History teaches us that power, once threatened, often seeks new rules. Will Trump declare martial law and cancel the elections? After everything we have witnessed, is it really out of the question? Nothing is out of the question in today's world in America.

I don't say this lightly. I don't want to believe it. But I also don't want to pretend that democracies cannot be hollowed out from within. They rarely collapse all at once. They erode. They normalize. Each step is explained as temporary, each overreach justified by urgency. By the time people realize what has been lost, the language to demand it back has been labeled dangerous.

And so here we sit, buckled in.

On a plane, turbulence has a strange effect. Some people panic. Some people close their eyes. Some grip their neighbor's arm. A few stare out the window as if daring the sky to blink first. What unites us is the knowledge that we are not in the cockpit. We can't grab the controls. We can only decide how we respond to the shaking.

Politics now feels the same. We are told to trust the pilot. We are told that the rattling is normal. We are told that the sudden dives are necessary. Meanwhile, the destination keeps changing, and the maps are hidden.

But there is a difference between flight and civic life, and it matters.

On a plane, we truly are powerless. In a democracy, we are not supposed to be. The illusion of helplessness is itself a kind of defeat. It teaches us to sit quietly, to accept instability as the cost of travel, to believe that the cockpit belongs to someone else by nature.

Maybe that is the real danger—not the turbulence, but the resignation.

Because while one voice may not steer the aircraft, a cabin full of people refusing to accept reckless flying can still change the outcome. They can demand accountability. They can refuse to be told that fear is normal. They can insist that the journey belongs to them, too.

I still love to fly. I still marvel at the sky. But I no longer mistake surrender for safety.

Buckle up, folks—not because we are helpless, but because the ride is rough, and staying conscious is the first act of control we have left.

Please email me at lansingallstar@gmail.com.

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City Pulse was founded as an alternative weekly in 2001.

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POLITICAL
LABELS**

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IMPLICITLY INSULTING
THE LEFT ROUTINELY
GO MAINSTREAM AND
ARE USED AS
OBJECTIVE TERMS.
IT'S TIME FOR MORE
ACCURATE LANGUAGE!**

REPUBLICAN ELITES
FUNNY HOW YOU
NEVER HEAR THAT
ONE!

**BOURGEOIS BUBBAS
REPUBLICAN ELITES
WHO PRETEND THEY'RE
WORKING CLASS**
I'M WEARING
A PLAID
SHIRT!

PSEUDO-"POPULISTS"
IF I'M RACIST AND
MISOGYNIST ENOUGH,
YOU'LL FORGET I FAVOR
THE ULTRAWEALTHY.

THE REPRESSIVE RIGHT
PARTY LIKE
IT'S 1699!

FOSSIL FASCISTS
KLEPTOCRATIC
PETROSTATE
OR BUST!

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DOMINANT GROUPS
EVERYWHERE!

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ATTACKING U.S. DEMOCRACY FROM
WITHIN THROUGH
DISINFORMATION,
CONSPIRACY THEORIES,
VIOLENT INTIMIDATION,
AND LINGUISTIC
SABOTAGE**
PRETTY
CATCHY, HUH?

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East Lansing's sanctuary city status showdown

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Royal Philharmonic, Ray Chen to visit East Lansing

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Bao buns and bánh mì at Phô Số 1

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Cover photo by Jan Tichy

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THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW

SPARKY GETS ICED: PART 2
YOU CAN'T DO THIS! I'M AN AMERICAN CITIZEN! I WAS BORN IN THE SAN FRANCISCO ZOO!
SO YOU ESCAPED? SOUNDS LIKE WE'VE GOT A FUGITIVE PENGUIN HERE!

BUT THEN-- OH, MAN, LOOK AT THIS! WE'VE GOT ORDERS TO DEPLOY IMMEDIATELY TO MINNEAPOLIS!
WE SHOULD GET HAZARD PAY, IF WE HAVE TO DEAL WITH ALL THOSE MIDDLE-AGED MIDWESTERN LADIES YELLING AT US!

ALL WE ARE TRYING TO DO IS DEPORT PEOPLE WHO LOOK LIKE CRIMINALS! IF YOU KNOW WHAT I MEAN.
IF THAT MEANS WE HAVE TO SMASH SOME CAR WINDSHIELDS--
--OR OCCASIONALLY SHOOT SOMEONE IN THE FACE--
--THESE THINGS HAPPEN!

DOESN'T ANYONE RESPECT BRAVE LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS SUCH AS OURSELVES ANYMORE?
ALSO, WE DRESS LIKE TROOPS! AND EVERY AMERICAN IS OBLIGED TO SUPPORT THE TROOPS!

IT'S GETTING SO A MASKED, SECRET POLICE FORCE CAN'T EVEN RUN AROUND VIOLATING CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS WITHOUT AGITATORS BLOWING WHISTLES AND BANGING DRUMS AT YOU!
WHAT IS EVEN HAPPENING TO THIS COUNTRY?
I BLAME ALL THE WOKE!

HEY! WHERE'D THE PENGUIN GO?
HE'S OVER THERE-- SLOWLY WADDLING AWAY!
AH, SCREW IT. IF WE CHASE HIM, SOMEONE WILL JUST MAKE ONE OF THOSE "YAKETY SAX" VIDEOS.
I HATE THOSE!
BUT THEN-- YOU THERE! SHOW US YOUR PAPERS!
UH OH.

TOM TOMORROW © 2026-01-19 ... JOIN SPARKY'S LIST: thismodernworld.com/subscriptions

PULSE

NEWS & OPINION

Deep Green data center: Where do things stand? Controversial proposal coincides with major BWL change

The steam stacks in downtown Lansing aren't long for this world.

By the end of this year, the municipally-owned Board of Water and Light will be servicing some of its downtown customers with a closed-loop hot water system. The more-than-100-year-old steam system will be on its way out, and by the time the transition has been fully completed, the steam stack critters will be extinct.

But the source of that new heat depends on the outcome of a major City Council decision next month: Whether or not to allow a 24-megawatt data center to be built on four parcels of land in the city's stadium district.

UK-based data center builders Deep Green want to bring a European approach to the states with the proposed facility, capturing the heat generated by the server farm and donating it to the BWL, which would use it to help heat other businesses downtown.

Little has happened since the project was announced at a press conference on Nov. 3, but February could see the project sent off to the races or stopped in its tracks.

Deep Green needs City Council to approve two things: the sale of the land and a conditional rezoning request. Without the rezoning, the purchase would be useless, as the current location's "downtown core" zoning forbids industrial development. The rezoning would be conditional on the land's reuse as a data center, meaning other industrial uses would remain forbidden.

The rezoning approval would change four parcels at the intersection of Kalamazoo and S. Cedar streets from "downtown core" to "industrial," contingent on its use as a data center. Without such approval, Deep Green would have no reason to buy the land.

The land is currently a parking lot and has drawn interest from earlier proposals. In 2008, a mixed-use development called Lansing Gateway was announced for the site. It would have included apartments and office space, and billed itself as a "green" development due to being LEED-certified and having a green roof. The proposal quietly disappeared during the Great Recession.

Residents can voice their opinions about



Photo by Mike Ellis/City Pulse

One of Lansing's downtown steam tube critters. The tubes are expected to become obsolete soon as a new heating system replaces the city's old — but more charming and character-filled — steam system.

the current project at a Feb. 9 City Council meeting, where Deep Green is scheduled to make a presentation. Before that, there is an open house with Deep Green this Saturday, Jan. 24, at the Lansing Center from 10 a.m.-noon. Deep Green, the BWL and Lansing's Economic Development and Planning department will also present the project at the City Council's Committee of the Whole meeting at 5:30 p.m. on Jan. 26.

The project will come before Council for an anticipated vote on Monday, Feb. 23.

City Pulse asked Deep Green, the BWL and Council President Peter Spadafore some unanswered questions about the project.

Revenues could benefit housing services

Last week, City Council President Peter Spadafore proposed that 10% of the revenues the city makes from new data centers, such as the Deep Green project, could be directed to a fund for housing services.

The BWL is municipally owned and pays a portion of yearly utility revenues to the city of Lansing. Spadafore said the estimated increase in that payment from Deep Green would be about \$1 million, meaning an estimated \$100,000 could go to a new Housing Support Fund under the ordinance.

The fund in question has not yet been created, and Spadafore said there is work



Contributed

A rendering of the Deep Green data center proposed for downtown Lansing. Company officials have said they expect to make changes to the initial design.

to be done, both in defining what the funds could be used for and what constitutes a data center. He said he plans to wait and see how the Deep Green project goes before asking Council to vote on the matter, but that he intends the proposal to cover any future data centers in the city.

The proposal would impact new data centers, meaning revenues from the two existing Liquid Web data centers would not be impacted. Those centers have been in operation since the web hosting company launched in 1997 and total around 3 combined acres between two locations on Creys and Canal roads.

Heat donation would decrease heating costs for downtown customers

Alongside paying for the infrastructure necessary to donate the data center's heat to the city, Deep Green will be indirectly lowering downtown customers' bills by doing so.

A spokesperson for the BWL said a heat donation would reduce the amount of fuel necessary to generate the heat, directly reducing the cost for customers.

But that also means that discount would disappear if future donated heat from the Deep Green site were no longer available. The rates, however, would likely stay lower than they are now, since a closed-loop hot water system would be cheaper to operate than the current steam system.

While the transition to hot water coincides with the data center's timeline, Deep Green's vice president for North America, Luke Gavin, said, the BWL will still pay

for the upgrade from steam to hot water for most of the city. Deep Green's work ends when the captured heat is available, at no cost, to the BWL.

"We have our site, and we design the data center to capture all the heat from the servers and any of the plant, and we deliver that heat up to a connection point on our site," Gavin said, adding the process is identical to Deep Green's existing centers in the UK. "And we basically say to the district energy operators, 'That heat is there. If you want it, come and take it. It's completely free.'"

Multi-tenant facility would likely lease space to Michigan State University

Unlike the massive, "hyperscale" data center causing controversy in Saline Township, the Deep Green center is not tied to any specific tech companies. The 250-acre Saline facility would be used entirely by tech behemoths Oracle and OpenAI. Meanwhile, Deep Green's facility would likely not cater to or rely on any one specific business.

Because the data center has not been built yet, or even approved, there are no specific clients. At Deep Green's currently-operating British facilities, universities are a typical early-stage client, Gavin said.

"Maybe their physics department is running an advanced model on something very complicated," Gavin said. "That's what uses a data center. It won't necessarily be for student work, it would be research."

Other clients who lease space from Deep Green already include a media business that uses the computing power for CGI effects in filmmaking as well as engineering firms doing complex operations such as aerodynamics simulations, Gavin said.

While the facility may be used to power AI technologies, it would not be used by big tech companies that can afford to build huge facilities at enormous scale. The tools more likely to be heating up Deep Green's facility would be hyperspecific, he said, such as machine learning technology used for drug discovery in the pharmaceutical industry.

— LEO V. KAPLAN

REWIND

NEWS HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE LAST 7 DAYS

COMPILED BY STEVE UNDERWOOD FROM LOCAL NEWS SOURCES



East Lansing is at risk of losing federal funding within weeks because of its sanctuary city status. The financially struggling community is a sanctuary city, according to a resolution approved by the city in 2023 and a federal Department of Justice memo in August listed East Lansing along with 21 other cities or jurisdictions that are considered to be sanctuary jurisdictions. It is the only one in Michigan on the list, although many cities adopt a similar practical approach without the designation.

President Donald Trump said in a Jan. 13 speech in Detroit that “starting February 1, we’re not making any payments to sanctuary cities or states having sanctuary cities because they do everything possible to protect criminals at the expense of American citizens and it breeds fraud and crime and all of the other problems that come with it.” The comments, while not the first, appear to give an urgent timeline. Tuesday, Jan. 20, is the last scheduled council meeting before Feb. 1. Council members did not address the potential loss of revenue during their Jan. 13 meeting, which came hours after Trump’s comments, according to East Lansing Info. Check lansingcitypulse.com for updates.

East Lansing city officials did not respond to a City Pulse request for comment sent Friday, Jan. 16, including a request for an estimate of how much federal funding the city currently receives. Three of the city’s five council members did not respond to emails seeking comment. Mayor pro tem Chuck Grigsby told City Pulse he is looking at the threats seriously in light of the city’s existing financial concerns. He said public safety grants and other payments are a primary way for federal dollars to flow directly into cities and those could be at risk. “I have certain values, my personal values are important, but we have to be mindful about what is in the best interests of all residents and to mitigate any harm,” he said. Council member Kerry Singh declined to comment, citing pending DOJ litigation.

East Lansing’s resolution says that the city will not assist in enforcement

or make resources available expressly for immigration enforcement and Grigsby said that is similar to the explicit or practical policies of many cities. “I think a lot of cities and states are already doing that without that designation,” he said. Grigsby and council member Steve Whelan were elected in November to the five-person council, after the policy was in place. It is not clear how much money the city gets from the federal government, but it got \$400,000 in community development block grant funding last year and receives multiple federal grants for public safety, among other areas.

The city’s previous mayor, George Brookover, had exchanged emails with U.S. Attorney General Pam Bondi in August. “This ends now,” Bondi wrote Brookover on Aug. 13, in an email obtained by East Lansing Info, saying that East Lansing has been identified as a local government that violates federal immigration laws. Brookover responded in a letter dated Aug. 18, saying the city’s resolution does not violate the federal laws Bondi mentioned in her letter, according to East Lansing Info. East Lansing City Manager Robert Belleman told East Lansing Info in an email last week that he is aware of the most recent timeline and is looking into the potential loss of funds.



More than 200 advanced practice providers at U-M Health-Sparrow voted last week to form their union with the Michigan Nurses Association (MNA). The MNA said the new bargaining unit includes 213 nurse practitioners, physician assistants and certified nurse midwives employed by UMH-Sparrow Lansing (including the Thoracic Cardiovascular Institute), UMH-Sparrow Eaton and UMH-Sparrow Ionia. Eighty-six percent of participants voted in favor of creating the union.

Lansing has opened its facade improvement grants up for 2026. Applications are due March 1. The grants can cover up to \$30,000 in 50% matches for new facades or upgrades. There are three



money for a wider range of projects that include paint, windows, lighting and entryways. The lowest tier offers grants up to \$2,000 for professional design work to develop facade or similar scopes for future projects. More grant information and applications are available at city hall or <https://lansingcdc.com/facade-improvement>.

After a brief respite on Wednesday, the most dangerous cold snap yet of the 2025-26 winter season is forecast to begin late Thursday and extend for more than a week. This Friday could be the coldest day with a predicted high of 3 (as of Tuesday) and a low of -11 degrees. Most of the highs during the following week are expected in the teens with lows in the single digits. Lansing’s Code Blue status has been continued. The designation opens up shelters to additional people by waiving some regulations and allows city emergency employees more leeway in transporting and assisting people in the cold. This year, the city has had a Code Blue designation in place most of the time since Thanksgiving. Warming centers in Lansing can be found at <https://www.lansingmi.gov/990/Warming-and-Cooling-Centers>, while other city and county websites have additional lists.

The recent conditions have caused some of the year’s biggest wrecks, including a Monday pile-up of more than 100 vehicles, including several jack-knifed semi-trucks on I-196 in the Hudsonville/Zeeland area. The pileup injured about a dozen people, according to several news reports, with the freeway opening up hours later.



Lansing is offering a free tree to households. There is a limit of one tree per household and it must be planted in a private yard or a city boulevard. The planter, rather than the city, will be responsible for maintaining the tree. Applications for

the free trees are due by Jan. 30 and can be submitted at lansingmi.gov/trees.



Kimberly Rogers Haase, a Lansing native, has been sworn in as the first Black woman to be an alderman in the Georgia city of Acworth. The city has a population of 22,000 and is located near Atlanta and Marietta. Rogers Haase is a 1992 Waverly High graduate and attended Lansing Catholic Central. She has lived in Georgia for more than 25 years and is the founder of a concierge service company for the elderly.



Carrie Edwards-Clemons was sworn in as Lansing’s new fire chief on a snowy, cold Friday at the city’s Fire Station #1. Chief Edwards-Clemons was a unanimous pick by the city’s fire board. She has been a deputy chief for two years. Edwards-Clemons said she wants to encourage young people to pursue a fire career. She is a veteran of the Flint fire department and EMS services. She is the first female fire chief in the department’s history.



Edwards-Clemons introduced herself as chief with a quote: “If I can help somebody as I pass along, then my living will not be in vain.” She said the

words are guiding principles since she started decades ago, determined to make a difference from her young days as an untrained medic. “(Chief Edwards-Clemons) has been tremendous, working with everybody so we can continue to have the best fire department in the world,” Mayor Andy Schor said, during the ceremony.

Student art reflects in dozens of downtown windows



Walk around downtown East Lansing and check out all the art from local students.

The artwork stands out both on its own as it also connects to the city and university, reflecting the brick architecture of Michigan State University through the window glass along with the art itself.

More than 300 pieces of art are strewn across the city's downtown windows and tucked inside businesses. It's an exciting scavenger hunt with each location showing a range of artwork, enough to see the progression of young artists ranging from kindergarten through high school seniors.

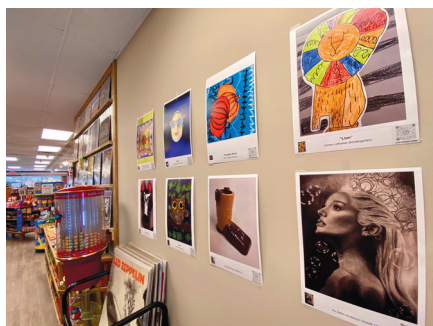
“Logistically, it's a lot to try and organize with so many schools, teachers, businesses and students,” said Wendy Sylvester-Rowan, arts programming and creative placemaking specialist for East Lansing. “But the beauty of the project is that it is engaging and connects people in a positive way. Having the artwork downtown boosts students' confidence levels and family members are able to see what their kids are doing, and so is everyone else, because not everyone gets a chance to see this. And, hopefully, while everybody is downtown, they'll be patronizing our businesses, so it's a win-win.”

The artwork is presented on large prints, showcasing a variety of work ranging from paintings and drawings to three-dimensional ceramics and other unique pieces.

Each one features the name and grade of the artist, along with a QR code. The students are from East Lansing Public Schools, Stepping Stones Montessori and St. Thomas Aquinas Parish School. The exhibit runs through Feb. 23 and is sponsored in its sixth year by the city's Downtown Management Board.

The locations are at:

- Beggar's Banquet, 218 Abbot Road
- Better Aged MSU, 213 E. Grand River Ave.
- Bigby Coffee, 300 W. Grand River Ave.
- Buffalo Wild Wings, 360 Albert Ave.
- Campbell's Market Basket, 547 E. Grand River Ave.
- Campus Barber Shop, 621 E. Grand River Ave.
- Crunchy's, 254 W. Grand River Ave.



Photos by Mike Ellis/City Pulse

Some of the hundreds of pieces of local student artwork displayed throughout downtown East Lansing.

- Douglas J School of Barbering, 333 Albert Ave.
- Foster Coffee Company, 196 Albert Ave.
- HopCat East Lansing, 300 Grove St.
- Insomnia Cookies, 603 E. Grand River Ave.
- Jackson Zone, 333 E. Grand River Ave.
- Lansing Regional SmartZone (inside the Technology Innovation Center), 325 E. Grand River Ave., Suite 300
- Mac Men Computer and Phone Repair, 617 E. Grand River Ave.
- Massage and Wellness Store, Med Spa



- and Center, 541 E. Grand River Ave. Suite 5
- Musselman Realty Co., 322 Abbot Road
- Newman Lofts, 200 Albert Ave.
- Northside Barbershop, 425 Albert Ave.
- Peanut Barrel, 521 E. Grand River Ave.
- Potbelly Sandwiches, 233 E. Grand River Ave.

- Recharged Pilates, 565 E. Grand River Ave., Suite 100
- Rocket Fizz, 217 E. Grand River Ave.
- Spartan Housing Cooperative, 541 E. Grand River Ave., Suite 4
- Student Book Store, 421 E. Grand River Ave.
- TAT Tattoo, 301 M.A.C. Ave., Suite 105
- Woven Art Yarn and Fiber Art Gallery, 325B Grove St.

LAKE LANSING LAKE LEVEL SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TO REVIEW SPECIAL ASSESSMENT ROLL AND PROJECT COSTS

INGHAM COUNTY, MICHIGAN

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Ingham County, through its delegated authority the Ingham County Road Department, and by contract with the Ingham County Drain Commissioner pursuant to Ingham County Board of Commissioners Resolution #24-148, will hold a public hearing to review the special assessment roll and corresponding computation of costs for the Lake Lansing Water Level Control Structure Project (“Project”). This meeting is an opportunity for those proposed to be assessed for said Project to review and comment on proposed Project costs and assessments. At or after the public hearing, the delegated authority may approve or revise the cost of the Project or the special assessment roll. Before construction of the Project is begun, the Ingham County Board of Commissioners shall approve the cost and the special assessment roll by resolution. See MCL 324.30714(3).

The public hearing will be held on the following date and time, and at the following location:

DATE: Friday, January 30, 2026
TIME: 9:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.
LOCATION: Meridian Charter Township Hall
 5151 Marsh Road
 Okemos, Michigan 48864

Informational Materials

The special assessment roll and corresponding computation of costs will be on file for public examination as of January 20, 2026, at the office of the Ingham County Drain Commissioner (707 Buhl Avenue, Mason, Michigan 48854) and will be available at the public hearing. The information will also be posted on the Ingham County Drain Commissioner's website (drain.ingham.org) by January 20, 2026.

Purpose of Hearing and Additional Information

The public hearing will take place for the purpose of reviewing said special assessment roll and Project costs and hearing any objections thereto, and/or making a determination of whether to confirm said assessment roll and Project costs. The hearing may be adjourned from time to time without further notice.

Appearance and protest at the hearing is **required** in order to appeal the amount of the proposed special assessment. Should any person or local unit of government choose to submit an objection to the assessment roll, such protest shall be submitted by either:

1. **Attending the public hearing at the Meridian Charter Township Hall on the above date and time; or**
2. **Submitting a written objection to the following address or email:**
 Ingham County Drain Commissioner
 707 Buhl Avenue
 Mason, Michigan 48854
 Email: drainoffice@ingham.org

All written objections must be received no later than the date and time of the hearing.

If a written objection is received prior to the date of the hearing, no personal appearance at the hearing is required. The County will maintain a record of parties who appear to protest at the hearing. If the hearing is terminated or adjourned for the day before a party is provided the opportunity to be heard, a party whose appearance was recorded will be considered to have protested the special assessment in person.

The special assessment roll shall be final and conclusive unless appealed in a court within 15 days after approval by the Ingham County Board of Commissioners. See MCL 324.30714(4).

Persons with disabilities requiring accommodations for effective participation in the public hearing should contact the Ingham County Drain Commissioner's Office at (517) 676-8395 (voice) or the Michigan Relay Center at 7-1-1 (TTY) at least 24 hours in advance of the hearing to request mobility, visual, hearing, or other assistance.

For more information about the special assessment roll and Project costs, please contact the Ingham County Drain Commissioner's Office at (517) 676-8395 or drainoffice@ingham.org.

Data Centers Plug In The Far Right With The Far Left

Before taking off for Christmas, one of the state Legislature's most conservative members, Rep. Jim DeSana dropped a bill to end the new universal state tax break the state gave to data centers two years ago.

His first co-sponsor?

No, not a fellow hard-right conservative. It was the House's most liberal member, a member who prides himself on being a Democratic Socialist, Rep. Dylan Wegela.



KYLE MELINN

He's not the only progressive. Lansing's own Rep. Emily Dievendorf, Rep. Carrie Rheingans, and Rep. Laurie Pohutsky signed their name to the bill, too.

The other name on the bill? The reactionary, anti-gay marriage representative liberals love to hate – Rep. Josh Schriver.

On a growing number of subjects, the political right and the political left are ending up in the same place, even if they take different routes to get there.

In this case, it is data centers: massive computing outfits that perform the seemingly infinite calculations needed to make cryptocurrency and artificial intelligence work.

Companies have been looking to plop these airport hangar-like structures in Michigan for years. They like our cold winter temperatures and our bountiful groundwater supply because ... I'm told ... these things run hot.

Up until the last year or so, the data center lobby pushed lawmakers hard for a tax break. They claimed the centers would be economic drivers, even though you only need a few dozen or so people to run them once they're built.

Gov. Whitmer and the Democratic legislature in 2024 finally gave in to the lobby after intense pressure from organized labor, which wanted the construction jobs. They passed, with some Republican support, a use tax exemption that amounts to a few million bucks a year.

The hope is that data centers will boost property values while kicking property tax dollars up to local schools and local governments.

Now, the worm has turned.

As local communities are presented with these monstrosities, the question isn't about giving them additional tax incentives. It's whether they're wanted at all.

Progressives don't like all of the energy these things suck up.

The big "Stargate" facility in Saline proposes to use 1.4 gigawatts of electricity. That's enough to power a million homes. Can we really trust industry to pick up the whole tab, or will some of those costs roll downhill?

Environmentalists don't like all the water that's sucked out of the ground. Where does that come from? How much PFAS and other harmful materials are used in these centers?

Wegela tells me he doesn't like the idea of Big Technology and artificial intelligence gobbling up working-class jobs. He sees data centers fueling the consolidation of power that squeezes the money out of everyone else.

Dievendorf is sick and tired of "corporate welfare" being put before the needs of people. Are the costs worth the benefit? What are these data centers bringing to a community?

The words "corporate welfare" are a common refrain in conservative circles. The growing conservative position – fueled by think tanks like the Mackinac Center – is that boutique tax cuts to specific industries and corporations are bad.

As far as folks like Rep. Steve Carra is concerned, every other industry shouldn't pay a little more in taxes, so someone else can pay a little less.

Also, keep in mind that most of the state's most strident conservatives live in rural areas. They don't like their farmland, forests or empty land bulldozed for anything, let alone for an ugly warehouse-looking structure that hums 24-7.

It's a bit like the community's pushback to aggregate mines or wind turbines or solar farms: The technology is great. Just put this stuff "somewhere else" ... wherever the "somewhere else is."

I've called this fuzzy area where conservatives and liberals meet "the dark side of the moon."

It's a space where principled people come together, regardless of whether they physically touch or not.

Traditionally, it's the loyal opposition that sits on the philosophical poles. Maybe their point of view wins eventually, but not immediately. But both philosophical poles moving in the same direction?

That may be a different matter entirely.

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

We, the undersigned peoples' organizations of Lansing, unequivocally condemn the Jan. 3rd attack on Venezuela, the illegal abduction of the president and first lady of Venezuela, and the subsequent threats made by the Trump administration against the sovereignty of independent nations around the world.

This open act of war has taken the lives of 80 Venezuelans and Cubans, destroyed critical civilian infrastructure in a city of 3 million people and threatens to revoke the Venezuelan people's right to self-determination.

Opinion

This is part of a long history of materially-motivated U.S. intervention in Latin America, the Caribbean and the Global South. At the behest of Big Oil and Big Tech, the Trump administration has seized control of the largest reserve of oil on the planet and vast supplies of rare earth minerals, undermining Venezuela's self-sufficiency and perpetuating the preeminence of fossil fuels.

The financial interests that seek to dominate the natural resources of nations like Venezuela are the same interests that deny working people in the United States housing, healthcare and a healthy climate; and they are driving a wave of anti-immigrant violence sweeping

the United States. It is our duty to stand in solidarity with the people of Venezuela, Cuba, Mexico, Greenland and all nations threatened by U.S. aggression, as well as to oppose the U.S.-backed genocides being perpetrated in Palestine, Congo and Sudan.

The Trump administration's actions are a flagrant violation of international and constitutional law, and we call upon Congress to reassert constitutional law over the president and the international community to reassert the principles of the U.N. charter.

We call on the people of Lansing and Michigan to rally at the Michigan Capitol Building on Sunday, Jan. 18th at 12 p.m., to demonstrate to the Federal Government and the Trump Administration that the people of the United States want Venezuela for the Venezuelans and peace, not imperialism.

Signed,
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CODEPINK Lansing
Sunrise Movement MSU
Greater Lansing Democratic Socialists of America
Greater Lansing Communist Party USA

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ARTS & CULTURE

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Forget the top hat

Petrenko, Royal Philharmonic storm Wharton Center with violinist Ray Chen

By LAWRENCE COSENTINO

Russian-born, London-based conductor Vasily Petrenko tackles some heavy music with the venerable Royal Philharmonic Orchestra. But he dances with the ensemble so nimbly and has so much fun on the podium that you hardly feel the weight.

Petrenko brings the orchestra to the Wharton Center Monday, with ebullient violinist Ray Chen as guest soloist, to play Tchaikovsky and Sibelius.

Petrenko's expressive body language, pastry-chef hand gestures and boundless verve have sucked in many first-time concertgoers since he took the post of music director in 2021.

"You have to radiate joy to be there," he said. "I've performed with many orchestras, and a lot of them are very serious while playing music. You feel like it's hard work. They've been training for 54 years and only someone who knows, say, how a dominant chord resolves can fully understand what we're doing."

That's, as the British say, balderdash.

"You don't need any education to understand the essence of music," he said. "Even if you don't know the music, you will feel the emotion and share the emotion with other people."

The only dress code he endorses is "no hats that spoil the view."

The Royal Philharmonic has a lively history dating back to 1946, when it began a slew of legendary recordings with its flamboyant founder and first maestro, Sir Thomas Beecham. Since then, RPO maestros have all been top shelf, including Rudolf Kempe, André Previn and Vladimir Ashkenazy.

Their portfolio has been diverse, to put it mildly, from a 1994 "Papal Concert to Commemorate the Holocaust" at the Vatican to the cheesy (and wildly popular) album "Hooked on Classics," which reached the top 10 on American charts.

We caught up with Petrenko on Jan.



Photo by Ben Wright

Russian-born, London-based conductor Vasily Petrenko brings the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra to the Wharton Center Monday to play Tchaikovsky and Sibelius.

16 from Orlando, where the orchestra performed "Synthony," a mashup of orchestral and electronic dance music featuring a slate of guest DJs.

Touring has always been a big part of the Royal Philharmonic's mission. The following day, the orchestra tackled a double header, playing the Tchaikovsky and Sibelius program at the Kravis

Center in West Palm Beach in the early afternoon and joining Gao Hong, master of the Chinese lute, to perform a mix of Western and Eastern sounds the same evening.

Other stops on the U.S. tour feature music by Beethoven, Berlioz and Soviet titan Dmitri Shostakovich — 15 concerts in 17 days.

But that's almost light duty compared to the tours of bygone days.

"The first overseas tour, with Beecham, was 48 concerts in 53 days," Petrenko said. "Can you imagine how exhausted they were?"

After conducting operas, ballets and orchestras in St. Petersburg in the 1990s, Petrenko's star shot upward in the music world during a fabulous run

with the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra from 2005 to 2021, bringing a breezy, Beatles-ish energy to the podium in the Fab Four's hometown. He first guest-conducted the orchestra in 2004. The relationship clicked, and Petrenko became principal conductor in July 2005, the youngest in its history.

He brought many mighty works into the orchestra's repertoire, recording a complete cycle of symphonies by Shostakovich on the Naxos label, but he's most proud of expanding the orchestra's audience by some 30%.

"The most important legacy is how many new people came there and stayed there," he said.

Petrenko is still the orchestra's conductor laureate, an avid fan of the Liverpool Football Club and an honorary "Scouser" (look it up). He's looking forward to a big concert this summer in Liverpool celebrating his 50th birthday.

In response to the 2022 Russian invasion of Ukraine, Petrenko, who is of Russian and Ukrainian descent, suspended his work in Russia "until peace has been restored." His center of gravity has shifted firmly to London, where he lives with his wife and two children.



Courtesy Decca Records

The soloist for the Tchaikovsky violin concerto, international superstar Ray Chen, is a charismatic performer with a unique ability to connect with audiences.

The Royal Philharmonic has a bigger portfolio than the Liverpool orchestra, with a wide range of concerts (including a tribute to Motown last summer), tours, film scores, video game music and more. Following his success in Liverpool, Petrenko has launched a variety of outreach and engagement programs that are gaining traction.

"We are very proud to say that 70 to 75% of our public is under 35," Petrenko said.

He's championed the epic Second Symphony of Finnish composer Jean Sibelius throughout his career, especially during his tenure from 2013 to 2020 as chief conductor of the Oslo Philharmonic.

"I love this symphony," he said. "It's very, very special, like a journey — sometimes a tough and dramatic journey."

The music surges with the national resolve of Finland to resist the "Russification" policies of the Russian Empire at the turn of the 20th century.

Robert Kajanus, who conducted the premiere of the work with the Helsinki

See Petrenko, Page 10

Notice of Public Hearing to be held on January 27, 2026 at 6:30 p.m. at the Historic Mason Court House, 341 S. Jefferson, Mason MI.

Ingham County Environmental Health is proposing to update Chapter 2 of the Ingham County Sanitary Code. The current code was adopted in 1973 and last updated in 1975.

The new revisions modernize the code to reflect current standards and practices that protect public health and the environment, while also accommodating recent and future technological advances.

This update would also introduce certification requirements for certain contractors, providing the department with additional tools to safeguard consumers and ensure quality services.

A copy of the current code, draft code and summary of the key changes can be viewed on our website here: https://health.ingham.org/health/environmental_health/index.php

CP#25-419

State of Michigan Probate Court, Ingham County, Notice to Creditors, Decedent's Estate, Case 25-001366-DE-P33. Estate of Viona Colleen Bieber – Date of Birth: 12/25/1931. Notice to Creditors: The decedent, Viona Colleen Bieber, died 9/6/2025. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Monty Bieber, personal representative, or to both the probate court at 313 W. Kalamazoo St., Lansing, MI 48933, 517-483-6300, and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice, 1/21/2026. Personal representative: Monty Bieber, 2837 Dellridge Dr., Holt, MI 48842.

CP#26-017

Petrenko

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ki Philharmonic, described the slow movement as “a broken-hearted protest against all the injustice that threatens at the present time to deprive the sun of its light and our flowers of their scent.”

Petrenko sees the symphony as a journey “to the sunrise, to happiness, freedom of personality and freedom of the country.”

A lot of the music is vast, cool and glacial, but its cheeks are ruddy with folk tunes and rich tone painting.

“It reflects a lot of Finnish nature,” Petrenko said. “In the first movement, it’s almost like you’re walking through a blizzard. Then there are moments of stillness where you stop, and ev-

erything is under snow, beautiful in the sunshine.” He compared the main theme, starting with the woodwinds, to “a little ride on the luge.”

The second movement is a “dialogue between life and death,” in Petrenko’s words, drawing from Sibelius’ unfinished opera about Don Juan, a nasty piece of work (to put it mildly) who is called to account for his sins.

“It’s about the essence of life, how you should live so you don’t feel sorrow when you’re passing away,” Petrenko said. “It’s a complex piece, but it’s written with incredible conciseness.”

The ending opens up a head-spinning mountain view that crowns the whole climb. Kajanus called it a “picture of lighter and confident prospects for the future.”

“The very end, the glorious last two or three minutes of D major, are as close to radiance as can be,” Petrenko said.

The soloist for the Tchaikovsky violin concerto, international superstar Ray Chen, is familiar to Lansing-area music lovers. He played a Bruch concerto with the Lansing Symphony Nov. 7, living up to his reputation as a charismatic performer with a unique ability to connect with audiences.

“Every concert with him, even on tour, is not like the previous one,” Petrenko said. “It’s never routine. He’s always searching for something new, something special.”

Born in Leningrad (now St. Petersburg), Petrenko got his early musical training in Russia.

“So, Tchaikovsky is in my blood,” he said.

Audiences often think of Tchaikovsky’s music as one spasm of hand-wringing drama after another, but Petrenko also likes to bring out the composer’s intricate musical craft, the fruit of his European classical training.

“Tchaikovsky was a complex personality,” Petrenko said. “He spoke French better than Russian. He was Orthodox in religion but also a Mason. Of course, everybody hears and knows his melodies. But most of the orchestration is not Russian. It’s closer to Beethoven, Mendelssohn, Schumann. He was sort of an aristocrat, in music and life.”

Petrenko and Chen are both strong personalities, but they had no trouble settling on a common approach.

“I always follow the soloist,” Petrenko said. “I try to make it logical and adjust the orchestra. The best performance is when the orchestra and soloist have a mutual vision. Sometimes I suggest something. Sometimes he suggests something. The most important thing is that we respect the composer.”

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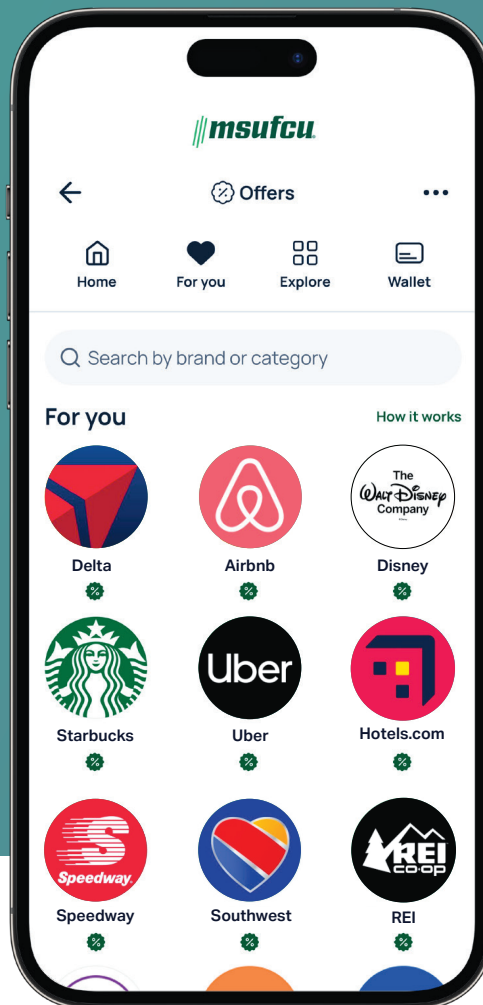
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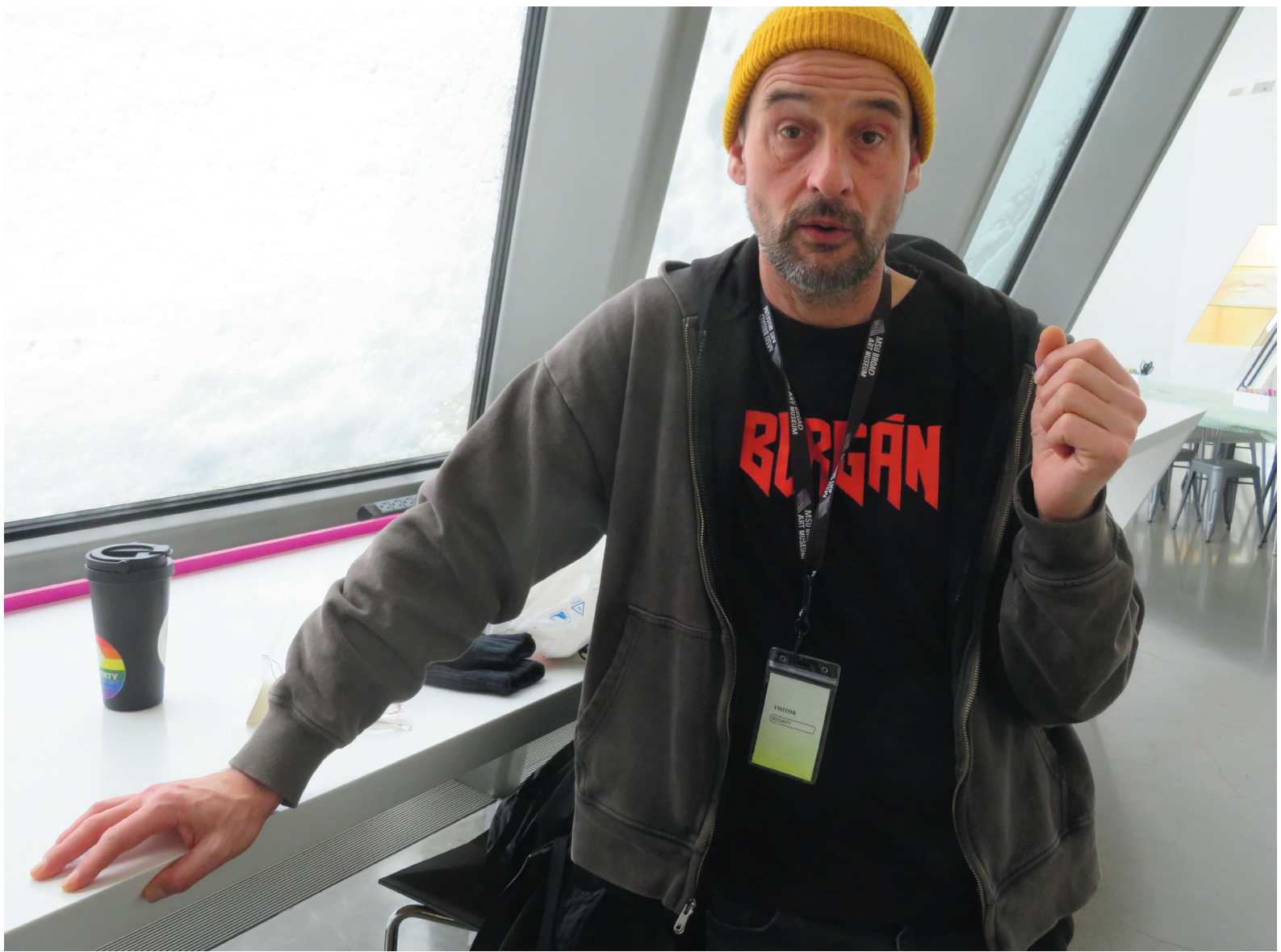
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Share your ideas in the LCC community survey at lcc.edu/keeplearning



Adult Enrichment Program

Rediscovering night ‘Darkness’ brings enlightenment to Broad Art Museum



Lawrence Cosentino/City Pulse

Artist Jan Tichy described his installation at the Broad as “an experience in darkness and dynamic light.”

By LAWRENCE COSENTINO

Complete darkness, like complete silence, is a rare thing.

In the modern world, you have to go to great lengths to go totally dark.

Last week, workers were pushing the envelope of possibility to seal off the Michigan State University Broad Art Museum’s first-floor Minskoff Gallery in preparation for “Darkness,” an immersive installation by Czech-born, Chicago-based artist Jan Tichy.

As a 13-year-old high school student in Prague, Tichy printed his own photographs and loved working in the darkroom.

Soon he’ll have the coolest darkroom on Earth.

Darkness is a precious resource in a world beset by light. Today, one of the most popular classes Tichy teaches at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago is black-and-white darkroom photography.

**Jan Tichy:
“Darkness”**

Jan. 31– July 26
10 a.m.–6 p.m. Wednesday–
Sunday
MSU Broad Art Museum
547 E. Circle Drive, East
Lansing
broadmuseum.msu.edu

“Everybody has this,” Tichy said, holding up his phone. “Nobody has a darkroom.”

Tichy is still a photographer, but his experiments with light go far beyond to take in architecture, sound and science.

We couldn’t take a picture of “Darkness” last week, and not just because it wasn’t finished. Even when the gallery is ready for visitors of the Broad’s Jan. 30 Winter Opening Party, photographs won’t do it justice.

“What I’m trying to do is materialize light and make it an experience for my audiences,” Tichy said.

You can’t be dipped into the well of darkness by proxy. You have to take the plunge.

“I’m using all of these natural and man-made rhythms of light that are

around us, from the dawn to the sunset, from the light in your home to the lights of city traffic or Spartan Stadium,” Tichy said. “It will put you into a dark space and let you focus just on the changes of light. It might seem abstract, but you know it

from your own experience.”

But we don’t know darkness as our ancestors knew it.

Through tackling the challenge of going dark, exhibit curator Steven Bridges is finding enlightenment.

“I’ve learned so much about our circadian rhythms, the internal clocks in our bodies,” he said. “We have about 30 trillion cells in our bodies, and each one has a little clock programmed to the one constant since our planet began, that the sun rises and sets every day.”

A second gallery will draw the visitor into a series of increasingly dark chambers, flickering with Tichy’s neon sculptures, photography and video art. The exhibit has a strong scientific streak, drawing on research from four MSU laboratories looking at human-caused disruption of the cycle of darkness and light and how that disconnect affects human physiology and moods, plant growth and insect life.

“As we often do in our lives, humans have attempted to control nature for our own needs and

See ‘Darkness’, page 12

'Darkness'

from page 11

demands, to the detriment of nature, but also to the detriment of our own health and well-being," Bridges said. "With all of this artificial lighting, we're losing our relationship with darkness."

To make Tichy's vision a reality, Bridges and Broad staff had to almost reinvent the spacious Minskoff Gallery, devising new and innovative hardware that will expand the museum's possibilities long after "Darkness" lifts in July.

'Artists push us'

Last Friday afternoon, Tichy was constantly on the move, monitoring light panels, inspecting corners, pacing in and out of the gallery. His morning coffee sat untouched. The pressure was on to bend the gallery to his vision in time for the opening, initially scheduled for Jan. 24 but moved to Jan. 31.

Bridges has been discussing the project with Tichy for over a year, but in the runup to the opening, he mostly kept out of the artist's way.

"In Jan's art, there's only so much you can do in advance," Bridges said. "He's literally drawing and writing with light, and it's so precise that you can't do it until you're here, the projectors are in place, and you're connected to them."

Since 2017, when Tichy worked with Bridges on an installation at the Broad pertaining to the Flint water crisis, the two have stayed in touch and kept up an informal "book club."

About a year ago, Tichy sent Bridges a copy of Swedish bat scientist Johan Eklöf's "Darkness Manifesto," about the harmful effects of light pollution on humans and nature alike.

Flooding the world with artificial light has led to a myriad of harmful effects — from massive die-offs of insects to disruption of the natural 24-hour rhythms built into every cell of our bodies — with a range of health consequences, from impaired sleep to diabetes, heart disease and depression.

Bridges thought a darkness-themed project would make an ideal second installment for the Broad's Signa-



Courtesy

Before bringing "Darkness" to the Broad, Tichy worked in several significant buildings around the world, including architect Ludwig Mies van der Rohe's 1952 McCormick House at the Elmhurst Art Museum. In 2021, Tichy created "Reflectance," an immersive installation using mirrors, glass and light to animate and transform a classic modernist home.

ture Commission Series, established in 2024 to bring internationally recognized artists into "deep collaborations" with the museum by designing work specifically for its unique, Zaha Hadid-designed spaces.

The Broad's first "signature" installation, Esmaa Mohamoud's "Complex Dreams," reveled in the gallery's natural light, suspending a cloud of 5,999 steel Monarch butterflies in the air.

Now Tichy would take the gallery in the opposite direction, plunging the space into darkness.

Tichy has worked with "very iconic and very challenging architectural spaces" around the world, in Bridges' words, from Chicago's Hancock Center to a Gothic cathedral in Osterberg, Germany.

"I knew he would be up to the task," Bridges said.

In Tichy's 2022 exhibit "Reflectance," he applied his palette of light and shadow to famed architect Ludwig Mies van der Rohe's 1952 McCormick House at the Elmhurst Art Museum, using mirrors, glass and light to animate and transform a classic modernist home.

Michigan art lovers might recall "All Monsters," Tichy's site-specific installation at the Museum of Con-

temporary Art Detroit from October 2021 to January 2022. The title was a reference to the late Mike Kelley's influential Detroit band, Destroy All Monsters.

"All Monsters" was Tichy's light-and-shadow riff on Kelley's "Mobile Homestead," a full-scale replica of the 1950s ranch home in Westland, Michigan, where Kelley grew up.

After working with small-scale houses like the McCormick House and the "Mobile Homestead," Tichy loved the idea of applying his unique vision to a larger architectural canvas.

But he told Bridges that in order to reach the necessary level of control over the light in the main gallery, it would have to be completely "light locked."

"None of us ever thought to even attempt that," Bridges said. "That's why artists are so incredible. They push us to do things we never knew we could do."

"Darkness" brings a 13-year tug-of-war between the ideas of artists and curators and the domineering designs of world-renowned architect Zaha Hadid to a head. Tichy wasn't interested in working with the gallery's natural light. He wanted total control.



Lawrence Cosentino/City Pulse

Chief Preparator Brian Kirschensteiner designed a reusable system of panels that will not only seal off light for Jan Tichy's "Darkness," but also enable the Broad to exhibit light-sensitive art in future exhibitions.

Taking a break from adjusting the light console, Tichy nodded toward the Minskoff Gallery's enormous corner window.

"This window doesn't make sense as a museum window," he said. "You cannot show any light-sensitive work. If you want to pull from this amazing collection the museum has, it just cannot be here."

His critique of the space went further.

"It's hard for the artwork to compete with these windows," he said. "It's like the window in a Gothic cathedral. It is the window and its relationship to light that makes us go 'wow.' We should be going 'wow' from art rather than from the architecture."

Will Hadid roll over in her grave when she finds out that her glassy jewel box of a museum has been "light locked?"

Bridges doesn't think so. In 2023, when the Broad installed its lower-level gallery, the CORE, he spoke with members of Hadid's architectural firm to make sure the CORE would fit in with Hadid's vision.

"They understood that after 10 years of living in a building, you look at things a little bit differently," Bridges said. "It's like a house. After living in it for a while, you make alterations based on your needs or comfort."

Bridges never expected to see the Broad go dark, but he's excited about the opportunities the project opens up.

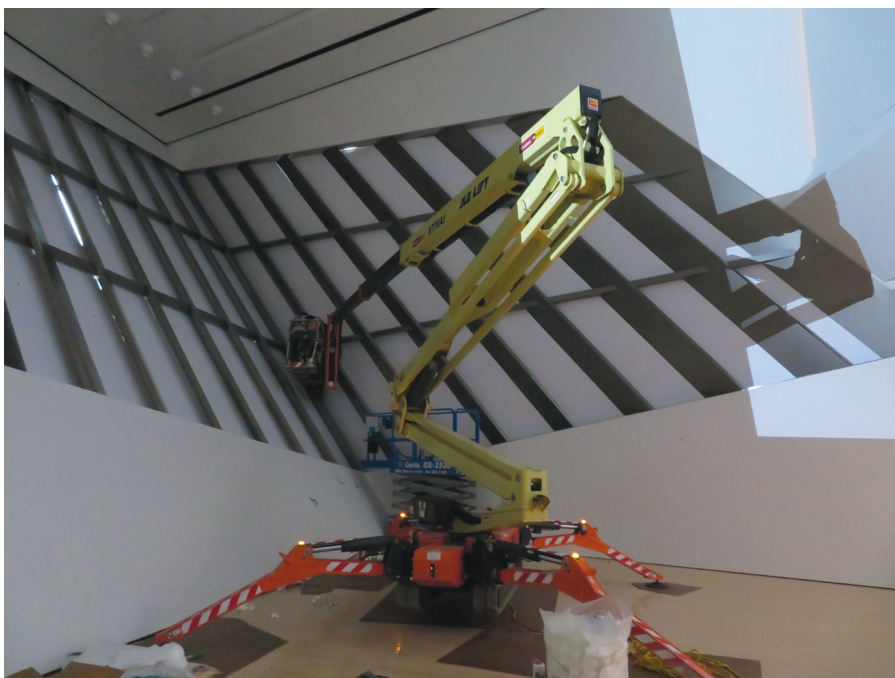
"Speaking for myself, I needed an artist to come in and push us in this way," Bridges said. "Now that we can light lock the gallery, it's building out our toolkit. We can do this in the future."

He was quick to point out that everything the designers and builders are doing is reversible. The sun will shine again in the Minskoff Gallery.

Museum inside a museum

The Broad team has done many strange and wonderful things to indulge the whims of artists over the years, from hanging an ersatz elephant from the ceiling to lugging

See 'Darkness', page 13



Lawrence Cosentino/City Pulse



Lawrence Cosentino/City Pulse

Workers used an aerial lift to "light lock" the Broad's huge first-floor gallery last week, covering the windows, entrances and balcony openings with custom-made panels to set the stage for Tichy's immersive light installation. The gallery gradually darkened as workers hefted the 80-pound panels into place.

'Darkness'

from page 12

three tons of Vietnamese sea salt to the second floor.

"Light locking" a sunny gallery with open balconies on two sides, a glassy entranceway and a huge, angular array of windows in one corner was a challenge chief preparator Brian Kirschensteiner couldn't resist.

Last Friday, two workers were huddled in the gondola of an aerial lift so large it barely fit into the gallery. One by one, they fitted custom-cut, twin-wall polycarbonate panels into each section of the window. Needless to say, no two sections of the window are the same size or proportion.

"I think of it as a big tiling exercise," Kirschensteiner said. "We're tiling the windows, we're tiling the balcony openings, and we're tiling the floor."

Most of the "tiles" are enormous panels that weigh up to 80 pounds each.

Another crew was installing a modular wall system designed to seal the gallery off from any light sneaking through the entryway.

Kirschensteiner designed the wall system 10 years ago. A pilot section was installed in the former Kresge Art Museum space way back then and is still there, gathering dust.

"I had to keep it literally under wraps," Kirschensteiner said. The system was finally granted a provisional patent in December 2025.

"Now I can talk about it," he said. "Not only that, we want to share it with the world. We're very excited about it."

Huge, custom-made panels akin to hollow doors lock snugly together, blocking the light that pours from the balconies and entryway.

The panels are designed so light can be tinted, reduced or, in this case, totally blacked out, opening up a new world of possibilities for exhibiting art.

All the panels and wall sections, together with their fixtures and fittings, are reusable. When the exhibit closes in July, the whole system will be put into storage until the gallery hosts another artist or exhibition that requires strict light control.

"We'll be able to exhibit light-sensitive artworks, which has been a hindrance for us in the past," Kirschensteiner said.

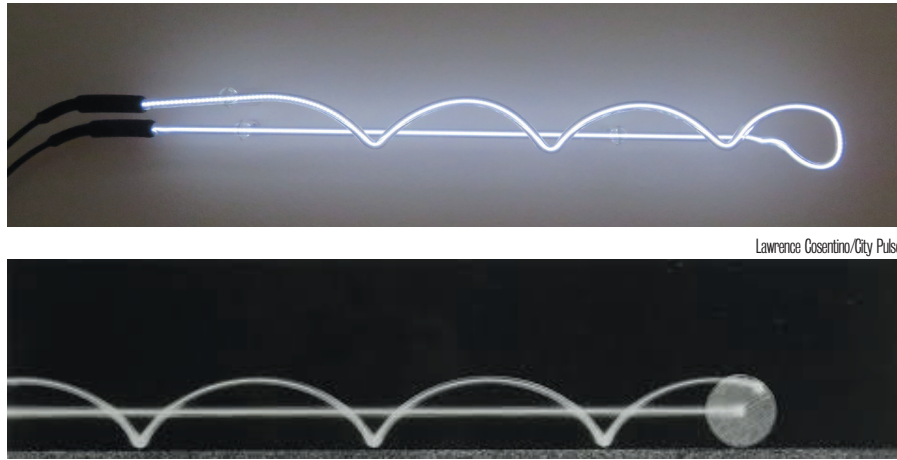
As workers bustled and power-tool noise blasted from all directions, it looked like they were building a second museum inside the first. The wall system runs from floor to ceiling and adapts to changing ceiling height, unlevel floors and other variables.

Tichy and Bridges stepped back in awe (and slight amusement) as Kirschensteiner exuded engineering ecstasy. "The horizontal joints are held together by gravity," Kirschensteiner said. "For the vertical joints, we use a Swiss 'inviz.'"

"Inviz" is short for "invisible magnetic hardware system."

He grabbed a portable electric drill fitted with the "inviz," placed it next to the threaded rod — next to it, not on it — and the rod began to turn by itself, without anything else touching it.

The result was a perfect join, with no holes, no seams, no visible sign of human effort. The finished wall will look as if it just materialized out of thin air, a Platonic ideal of a partition.



Tichy's neon sculpture "Cycloid" (above) reimagines a famous time-lapse image by American photographer Berenice Abbott showing the path of a point on a rolling ball.

Even Hadid would have to approve.

A faraway look came over Kirschensteiner's face. The "inviz" lit up in his hand.

"I first saw an early version of this when I was a child, at a home trade show in Chicago," he recalled. "I remember thinking, 'One day, who knows when, I might use it.'"

As Kirschensteiner enthused, Tichy wandered off to work on his lights, but Bridges stood and listened respectfully.

"It's easy to come up with a visionary concept," Bridges said. "Brian and the staff are the ones who make it possible."

Resuming work, Tichy glanced with approval at each new panel as the gallery gradually went dark.

"For Brian to figure out a way to close the gallery for the first time in its 13-year history — it's not an easy thing to do," Tichy said. "But I hope that all these panels can be used in the future to make this gallery into a place where you can view work that is light sensitive, either historical or contemporary."

"This is an environment that begs for innovation," Kirschensteiner said. "And it's fun."

Bugs and bats

There's more to "Darkness" than the dark doings inside the Minskoff Gallery.

Tichy's work in photography and related media is displayed in a neighboring gallery, nestled in a series of chambers that grow increasingly dark as the visitor explores further.

It's a quiet world of pale grubs, darting bats, wraith-like bugs and luminescent threads of neon.

Tichy based this part of the exhibit on an influential book by groundbreaking American photographer and inventor Berenice Abbott, "Doc-



In 2007, Tichy walked the nighttime streets of Tel Aviv, Israel, with a "very powerful flashlight" to capture 160 8-millimeter slides of bats, projected in a very dark room at the Broad as part of "Darkness."

abyrinthine partition, Tichy set up two old-school slide projectors that continuously display images from a 2007 set of photographs, "Bats."

Captured by Tichy on midnight walks through Tel Aviv, Israel, using a "very powerful flashlight," the bats are glimpsed on the fly, darting from a generic ledge or shrub. They're neither romanticized nor demonized — just doing their thing.

"We, as humans, have a strange relationship to bats," Tichy said. "For half of us, they're these scary flying rats, culturally marked as Draculas. But they're flying mammals, related to us — amazing possibilities of us."

The two slide projectors are pointed in opposite directions, so there's always an unseen bat about to swoop from behind the viewer's back.

The galleries are divided into a sneaky maze of walls and chambers.

"It's like there's multiple layers, from a place that's slightly more luminous, deeper into the darkness, back into the deepest recesses," Bridges said. "And the bats live in the deepest recesses of the cave."

After basking in Tichy's chamber of darkness and viewing the art in the neighboring gallery, visitors will find more food for thought in the museum's education wing, where interactive displays will introduce the work of three more MSU collaborators.

The displays drive home the lesson that we lose touch with darkness at our peril.

Hanne Hoffmann, a faculty member in the reproductive and developmental sciences program, is researching "uncoordinated hormone release" among shift workers and people who sit in front of bright screens at night. Nocturnal light disrupts circadian rhythms, leading to increased risk of diabetes, obesity and heart disease and harming mental health.

Lily Yan, a neuroscience faculty member, is concerned about the effects of light on mood, especially the familiar form of winter depression known as Seasonal Affective Disorder.

Erik Runkle, a professor in the Department of Horticulture, leads the Controlled-Environment Lighting Laboratory, a "vertical farming" facility researching indoor production of high-value crops.

As a professor at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Tichy considers his art to be deeply connected to his role as an educator. He found that all the students, researchers and educators jumped at the chance to bring their scientific findings to an art museum.

"They were eager to talk to us, as a place of exposure to an audience they don't have but are in need of, because the things they research are related to us, to human beings," he said.

Tichy's MSU residency won't stop with "Darkness." In March, he'll launch another project at the "largest dark space on campus," Abrams Planetarium.

Using a 360-degree camera, he documented the quality and quantity of light at various indoor and outdoor places across MSU's campus. The results will be projected on the planetarium dome.

"That wasn't the plan when we started," Tichy said. "But when a museum is serving a university with so many audiences and partners and ideas, that's how it can snowball."

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'12 Incompetent Jurors' is farcical comedy done right



Photo by Aniriko Artistry

From left: Bethlehem Hall, James Houska, Michael Stokes and Rose Porter in Riverwalk Theatre's production of "12 Incompetent Jurors."

By **NICOLE NOECHEL**

Some farcical works run into a fatal flaw: being too silly or absurd to be relatable. But "12 Incompetent Jurors," a parody of the courtroom classic "12 Angry Men," has enough resonance and pathos to more than justify its sold-out run.

The show takes place during a jury deliberation for what should be a simple, open-and-shut case. A woman accused of stealing cats has been caught on video, testified against by witnesses and even admitted to committing the crime. The jury is all but set to make its decision when one member, Juror Eight (Amber Swisher), goes against the otherwise unanimous opinion. From there, it's a nonstop (well, except for the two short intermissions) romp through a humorous case of mass hysteria.

The jury is a certified rogues' gallery of zany characters, many of whom don't have the backbone or wit to keep from being pulled into Juror Eight's game. Standouts include Holly Kay-Cannon as the whimsical Foreman; Bethlehem Hall as attorney-obsessed, desperate-to-please Juror Seven; Ian Whipp as French-fry-munching, cringe-induc-

ing Juror Nine; and Michael Stokes as a Russian who just wants his nicotine fix, Juror Twelve.

But underlying the insanity is a story of broken dreams and the value of sticking to the facts. Juror Eight's desperate attempt to have her lawyer moment and argue this one case is palpable, especially for anyone who's given up on an ambition they couldn't achieve. Swisher is hilarious up until the climax, when she turns on a dime and admits her faults in a scene that pulls the show back to reality. And the idea of a group of people being so quickly and easily polarized is unfortunately nothing new in this very divisive moment in our nation. Perhaps the best moment of the show is Juror 10's (James Houska) loud, pointed rant about his fellow jurors' stupidity. I only wish some people would come away from their social media feeds with the same message as the show.

The simple but effective staging, from the spot-on costumes and drab courthouse side-room backdrop to the intimate, close-up feel of the black box theater, immerses the viewer in all the action. Riverwalk has done a great job with this production, and my only regret is that I can't recommend anyone get tickets. The community has spoken: "12 Incompetent Jurors" is a hit.



Review

"12 Incompetent Jurors"

SOLD OUT

7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 22

8 p.m. Friday, Jan. 23

2 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 24

2 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 25

Riverwalk Theatre

228 Museum Drive, Lansing

(517) 482-5700

riverwalktheatre.com

Live & Local

CityPULSE

The Avenue

2021 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing

Town Scratch FC, Good Decision,

Two Gifts

Sat., Jan. 24, 9 p.m.

Livewire

Sun., Jan. 25, 7 p.m.

Blue Gill Grill

1591 Lake Lansing Road, Haslett

Roadside Attraction

Fri., Jan. 23, 8-11 p.m.

BrickHaven Brewing Co.

200 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge

Radio Flyer

Fri., Jan. 23, 6:30-9:30 p.m.

Exit 86

Sat., Jan. 24, 6:30-9:30 p.m.

Chengdu Teahouse

100 E. César E. Chávez Ave., Lansing

Jeff Boog & Friends

Fri., Jan. 23, 5:30-7 p.m.

Classic Pub & Grill

16219 Old U.S. 27, Lansing

Tad & the Fat Katz

Fri., Jan. 23, 8 p.m.-midnight

Moxie Band

Sat., Jan. 24, 8 p.m.-midnight

Dublin Square

327 Abbot Road, East Lansing

Evan James

Wed., Jan. 21, 9 p.m.-midnight

Lewie Austin

Thurs., Jan. 22, 9 p.m.-midnight

EagleMonk Pub and Brewery

4906 W. Mount Hope Hwy., Lansing

Chad Benson & Ed Lutz

Wed., Jan. 21, 7-9 p.m.

Bart Moore & Hot Boyz

Wed., Jan. 28, 7-9 p.m.

Eaton Rapids Craft Co.

204 N. Main St., Eaton Rapids

Shane Griesbeck

Fri., Jan. 23, 6-9 p.m.

Deer & Elk

Sat., Jan. 24, 6-9 p.m.

The Green Door

2005 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing

Wavelength

Nikki Nocturnal & Science of Sound

Productions takeover

Wed., Jan. 21, 8 p.m.-1 a.m.

Club XCX (DJ set by rinbossanova)

Fri., Jan. 23, 8 p.m.

Desmond Jones, LVRS

Sat., Jan. 24, doors 7 p.m., show 8 p.m.

Wavelength

Wed., Jan. 28, 8 p.m.-1 a.m.

Grewal Hall

224 S. Washington Square, Lansing

School of Rock East Lansing

Sat., Jan. 24, 1 p.m.

Homegrown Throwdown

Chance We Take, The Lithiums,

Plethora, Unholy Honor, EXIT 73

Sat., Jan. 24, 7 p.m.

Norrocks Farm Market

7420 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing

Deer & Elk

Thurs., Jan. 22, 5-8 p.m.

517 Funktet

Fri., Jan. 23, 5-8 p.m.

Northside Rhythm Kings

Sat., Jan. 24, 5-8 p.m.

The Irish Pub

1910 W. Saginaw St., Lansing

Generator

Sat., Jan. 24, 8-11 p.m.

Lansing Shuffle

325 Riverfront Drive, Lansing

A Night at the Soul Lounge neo-soul

party

Sat., Jan. 24, 9 p.m.-2 a.m.

Mac's Bar

2700 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing

Unity — In Music

Thurs., Jan. 22, 9 p.m.-2 a.m.

Tues., Jan. 27, 10 p.m.-2 a.m.

The Five 'N' Dime Poets, Flatfoot,

Joe Fox

Fri., Jan. 23, 8 p.m.

Mash Bar

212 Albert Ave., East Lansing

The Louderthans

Fri., Jan. 23, 9:30 p.m.

Moriarty's Pub

802 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing

Wendy Whitlock Memorial Blues Jam

Thurs., Jan. 22, 9 p.m.-midnight

Dead and Wild Honey

Sat., Jan. 24, 8 p.m.-midnight

Jazz Tuesdays

Tues., Jan. 27, 7-10 p.m.

MSU College of Music

"American Song Marking 250 Years"

Fri., Jan. 23, 7:30 p.m.

Cook Recital Hall, 333 W. Circle Drive,

East Lansing

"A Celebration of the Beautiful Voice"

Sat., Jan. 24, 3 p.m.

Fairchild Theatre, 542 Auditorium Road,

East Lansing

Honors Concerto Competition

Sun., Jan. 25, 1 p.m.

Cook Recital Hall

"Happy Birthday, Mozart!"

Mon., Jan. 26, 7:30 p.m.

Fairchild Theatre

Tuba and Euphonium Ensemble

Wed., Jan. 28, 7:30 p.m.

Fairchild Theatre

Nico's Pub and Grill

117 S. Bridge St., Dimondale

Northside Rhythm Kings

Fri., Jan. 23, 7:30-11:30 p.m.

One North Kitchen & Bar

5001 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing

Rush Clement

Thurs., Jan. 22, 6-9 p.m.

Keith Minaya

Fri., Jan. 23, 7-10 p.m.

Justin Holcomb

Sat., Jan. 24, 7-10 p.m.

The Peanut Barrel

521 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing

Joel Jacobs

Friday, Jan. 23, 8-10 p.m.

Mike McConeghy

Tues., Jan. 27, 5-7 p.m.

Red Cedar Spirits

2000 Merritt Road, East Lansing

Mike Eyia Trio with Gina Garner

Fri., Jan. 23, 7:30-10:30 p.m.

Randy Napoleon Trio

Sun., Jan. 25, 6-9 p.m.

Ren's North

16460 Old U.S. 27, Lansing

Kathy Ford Duo

Fri., Jan. 23, 6-9 p.m.

We're Mike & Steve

Sat., Jan. 24, 6-9 p.m.

The Robin Theatre

1105 S. Washington Ave., Lansing

Lansing Symphony chamber music

Thurs., Jan. 22, 7:30 p.m.

Sholly's Bar

1819 S. Washington Ave., Lansing

Spoonful

Tues., Jan. 27, 6-9 p.m.

Sidebar

246 E. Saginaw St., East Lansing

Carl Pawtuk

Fri., Jan. 23, 7-10 p.m.

Stage One at Sycamore Creek

Eastwood

2200 Lake Lansing Road, Lansing

Abbey Hoffman and Mars McCartney

Tues., Jan. 27, 6:30-9 p.m.

Summerlands Brewing Co.

1957 Cedar St., Holt

Garage Sale Band

Fri., Jan. 23, 8-11 p.m.

Atomic Annie (acoustic duo)

Sat., Jan. 24, 7-10 p.m.

University Lutheran Church

1020 S. Harrison Road, East Lansing

Garnet Rogers (Ten Pound Fiddle)

Fri., Jan. 23, 7:30-10 p.m.

UrbanBeat

1213 Turner St., Lansing

Absolute Music Chamber Series

presents: "Dual Pianists"

Thurs., Jan. 22, 5-7:30 p.m.

Wharton Center

750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing

Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, with

Ray Chen

Mon., Jan. 26, 7:30 p.m.

Williamston Roadhouse

3700 E. Grand River Road, Williamston

Peggy Nusz

Wed., Jan. 21, 7-10 p.m.

Roadside Attraction

Sat., Jan. 24, 7-11 p.m.

Rich Ballard

Wed., Jan. 28, 7-10 p.m.

Jonesin' Crossword

By Matt Jones

"Best of Five" -- a quintet of quintets.
by Matt Jones
© 2026 Matt Jones

ACROSS

- 1. Awaiting a pitch
- 6. "San ___ High School football rules!" ("Bill & Ted" quote)
- 11. 2002 Olympics host, briefly
- 14. Scurrying pest
- 15. Fred's neckwear on "Scooby-Doo"
- 16. Actor Penn
- 17. Espagnole (one of five)
- 19. "This ___ travesty!"
- 20. "___ alone in thinking this?"
- 21. Capital of Qatar
- 22. Many "Frozen"-inspired Halloween costumes
- 24. Period following sunset
- 26. Queens (one of five)
- 29. Middle part of a Shakespeare play
- 31. Author of the "Goosebumps" series
- 32. MacGowan of the Pogues
- 33. Drive an 18-wheeler, say
- 35. Little bit
- 36. Michigan (one of five)
- 40. Pirate's interjection
- 43. Invisible rope puller, maybe
- 44. Hall & ___ ("Maneater" duo)
- 48. Deemed appropriate
- 51. "Spill the tea!"
- 52. Styx (one of five)
- 55. Equal
- 56. Purplish color
- 57. They're thrown in some bars
- 59. Coffee, in diner

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
14					15					16			
17				18						19			
20				21					22	23			
24			25	26			27	28					
29				30				31					
32					33	34				35			
			36		37				38	39			
40	41	42			43				44		45	46	47
48			49	50				51					
52							53	54		55			
56						57			58		59		
60				61	62	63				64			
65				66					67				
68				69					70				

- slang
 - 60. Former "All Things Considered" host Shapiro
 - 61. Yellow (one of five)
 - 65. Former Giants pitcher Robb with a palindromic name
 - 66. Home of the Lightning and the Tornadoes
 - 67. "Biography" network
 - 68. 34th U.S. pres.
 - 69. Word after French or Texas
 - 70. "___, what have I done?" ("Once in a Lifetime" lyric)
- DOWN**
- 1. Fleets of warships
 - 2. Excessive
 - 3. Cuban ousted by Castro
 - 4. "Alas!" in Germany
 - 5. Detroit nickname
 - 6. Conspicuously chic
 - 7. "I, Robot" author

- Asimov
- 8. Avengers franchise, for short
- 9. Dem rep. sworn into Congress at age 29
- 10. Controls the wheel in a 2010s Adult Swim show
- 11. Downhill wear
- 12. Garfield's favorite food
- 13. Didn't match
- 18. Pasta ___ (boxed dinner brand)
- 23. His wife was turned into a pillar of salt
- 25. Charles, currently
- 27. Weird "Dr. Steve" in a 2010s Adult Swim show
- 28. Pueblo cooking vessel
- 30. -,y, comparatively
- 33. Dominican Republic neighbor
- 34. Banking machine
- 37. Abu Dhabi ruler
- 38. American photographer/actress Stark, once linked to former Prince Andrew
- 39. "Good ___" (Alton Brown series)
- 40. Oregon city known for its Shakespeare festival
- 41. Showed on TV again
- 42. Hockey rink divider
- 45. Joining forces
- 46. Major Spanish daily
- 47. Hit with a heavy hammer
- 49. Museum-funding org.
- 50. Zelda's husband
- 51. Three, to Mozart
- 53. Repeated musical phrases
- 54. Indianan in India, perhaps
- 58. Grifter's game
- 62. Mekong Valley language
- 63. 1950s Peruvian singer Sumac
- 64. Beam of light

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Answers on page 23

SUDOKU

Beginner

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

Fun By The Numbers

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

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

Free Will Astrology

By Rob Breznsy

Jan. 21-27, 2026

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Master astrologer Steven Forrest understands you Aries people well. He says that the riskiest strategy you can pursue is to constantly seek safety. It's crucial for you to always be on the lookout for adventure. One of your chief assignments is to cultivate courage — especially the kind of brave boldness that arises as you explore unknown territory. To rouse the magic that really matters, you must face your fears regularly. The coming months will be an ideal time for you to dive in and celebrate this approach to life.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You are an ambassador from the material world to the realm of spirit — and vice versa. One of your prime assignments is the opposite of what the transcendence-obsessed gurus preach. You're here to prove that the flesh is holy, pleasure is a form of prayer, and the senses are portals to the divine. When you revel in earthy delights, when you luxuriate in rich textures and tastes and scents, you're not being "attached" or "unspiritual." You're enacting a radical sacred stance. Being exuberantly immersed in the material world isn't a mistake to overcome but a blessing to savor. May you redouble your subversive work of treating your body as a cathedral and sensual enjoyments as sacraments.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Everything that's meant for you is trying to find its way to you. Here's the problem: It can't deliver the goods if you're in constant motion. The boons trying to reach you are circling, waiting for a stable landing spot. If you keep up the restless roaming, life might have to slow you down, even stop you, so you'll be still enough to embody receptivity. Don't wait for that. Pause now. Set aside whatever's feeding your restlessness and tune in to the quiet signal of your own center. The moment you do, bounties will start arriving.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Artist Louise Bourgeois said, "I am what I do with my hands." I will adapt this declaration for your use, Cancerian: You are what you do with your feelings. You are the structures, sanctuaries, and nourishment you create from the raw material of your sensitivity. It's one of your superpowers! I understand that some people mistake emotional depth for passive vulnerability. They assume that feeling everything means doing nothing. But you prove that bias wrong. You are potentially a master builder. You can convert the flood waters of emotion into resources that hold, protect, and feed. I hope you will do this lavishly in the coming weeks.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Admiring writers often say that the Balinese people have no traditional word for "art." Making things beautiful is woven into everyday life, as if everything should be done as beautifully as possible. I aspire to carry out this approach myself: infusing ordinary actions with the same care I'd bring to writing a story or song. Washing dishes, answering emails, and walking to the store: All are eligible for beauty treatment. I highly recommend this practice to you in the coming weeks, Leo. It's true that you're renowned for your dramatic gestures, but I believe you also have an underutilized talent for teasing out glory from mundane situations. Please do that a lot in the coming weeks. For starters, make your grocery list a poem.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Some American Indigenous cultures have "potlatch" ceremonies. These are elaborate gift-giving rituals where hosts gain prestige by generously and freely bestowing their riches on others. Circulating wealth, instead of hoarding it, is honored and celebrated. Is that economically irrational? Only if you believe that the point of resources is individual accumulation rather than community vitality. Potlatch operates on a different logic: The purpose of having stuff is to make having stuff possible for others. I invite you to make that your specialty in the coming months. Assume that your own thriving depends on the flourishing of those around you.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Sufi poet Rumi wrote about a "treasure in ruins." He meant that what we're searching for may be hidden in places where we would rather not look. Your life isn't in ruins, Libra, but I suspect you may have been exploring exciting locations while shunning mundane ones that actually hold your answers. What do you think? Is that possible? Just for fun, investigate the neglected, ignored, and boring places. Try out the hypothesis that a golden discovery awaits you in some unfinished business or a situation you feel an aversion to.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Your capacity for intensity is your superpower. I love it, I celebrate it, and I hope to keep nurturing it in you for as long as we're both here. But not everything deserves the full force of your passionate engagement. Some things are meant to be touched lightly, held loosely, and released easily. The question isn't whether to feel deeply — that's who you authentically are — but whether to act on every deep feeling as if it were sacred revelation. Some emotions are weather patterns passing through, not permanent truths requiring upheaval. These are key understandings for you to act on during the coming days.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): As I have promised you a million times, I will NEVER exaggerate. And though you may wonder if the statements I'm about to make are excessive and overblown, I assure you they are not. The fact is, dear Sagittarius, that everything you have always wanted to enhance and upgrade about togetherness is now possible to accomplish and will continue to be for months to come. If you dare to dismantle your outmoded beliefs about love and deep friendship — every comforting myth, every conditioned response, every inherited instinct — you will discover new dimensions of intimacy that could inspire you forever.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): In Renaissance painting, "chiaroscuro" refers to the use of strong contrasts between light and dark. It's a technique that enhances the sense of depth. I believe your life may be in an intense chiaroscuro phase. As your joys grow bright, your doubts appear darker. As your understanding deepens, your perplexity mounts. Is this a problem? I prefer to understand it as an opportunity. For best results, study it closely. Maybe your anxiety is showing you what you care about. Perhaps your sadness is a sign of your growing emotional power. So, find a way to benefit from the contrasts, dear Capricorn. Let shadows teach you how to fully appreciate the illumination.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You are a spy from the future. Thank you for your service! I love to see your boldness as you smuggle innovative ideas into a present that may or may not be ready for them. Your feelings of alienation are sometimes uncomfortable, but they are crucial to the treasure you offer us. You see patterns others miss because you refuse to be hypnotized by consensus reality. Keep up the excellent work, please. May you honor your need to tinker with impossibilities and imagine alternatives to what everyone else imagines is inevitable. You are proof that we don't have to accept inherited structures as inevitable.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Your unconscious mind is extra communicative, dear Pisces. Hooray! Take advantage! Pay attention to weird images in dreams and songs that linger in your head. Be alert for seemingly random thoughts as they surface. Bypassing logic, your deep psyche is trying to show you ripe secrets and provocative hints. Your duty is to be receptive. So, keep a journal or recording device by your bed. Notice which memories rise up out of nowhere. Be grateful for striking coincidences. These are invitations to tune in to meaningful feelings and truths you've been missing.

Go to RealAstrology.com to check out Rob Breznsy's EXPANDED WEEKLY AUDIO HOROSCOPES and DAILY TEST 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, Jan. 21

5th Annual Malcolm X Forum, with Dr. Yusef Salaam - NYC Councilmember Yusef Salaam of the Exonerated ("Central Park") Five will deliver the MSU Malcolm X Forum keynote at the Erickson Kiva, almost exactly 62 years after Malcolm X spoke in the same venue. 7-8:30 p.m. Erickson Hall, 620 Farm Lane, East Lansing. inclusion.msu.edu.

"A Caregiver's Butterfly Garden" - 6 a.m.-9 p.m. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing. dcwgardens.com.

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

Adulting 101— Fraud Fighters: How to Stay Scam Free - MSU Extension's Adulting 101 programs help teenagers and young adults demystify the obscure reality of being an "adult." 6:30-7:30 p.m. Virtual — register at canr.msu.edu/adulting101.

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. allenneighborhoodcenter.org/allen-farmers-market.

Art Exhibition by Jennifer Taggart Wilson & Dorothy Hughes Engelman - Jennifer specializes in fiber arts, and Dorothy is a zentangle artist. Support local artists and craft beer! 3-9 p.m. Dimes Brewhouse, 145 N. Bridge St., Dimondale. facebook.com/ajoyfulline.

Behind the Mask - A live, facilitated experience exploring the identities we've learned to perform and the ones we're ready to finally step into. 6-7:30 p.m. Hooked, 3142 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. eventbrite.com/o/the-co-120708626780.

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

Bookend Gallery Display - We welcome Robert Ross to the gallery for the month of January. Bob describes himself as a creative explorer and seeker of adventures in art and music. Noon-4 p.m. Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. cadl.org/about/our-locations/haslett.

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

Diabetes PATH - Six-week workshop designed to help individuals with diabetes or pre-diabetes improve their health and feel better. 1-3:30 p.m. Delta 39'ers Enrichment Center, 4538 Elizabeth Road, Lansing. To register, call 517-887-1465 or email histedc@tcoa.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 the Meridian Mall food court every Monday, Wednesday and Friday. 9-10 a.m. 1982 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. meridian-50plus.com.

Group Dance Class: Beginning Salsa - Learn the basic steps of one of the most popular Latin dances. 8 p.m. Michigan Athletic Club, 2900 Hannah Blvd., East Lansing. Register by calling 517-364-8888.

Lansing Live Open Stage Open Mic - No cover, all ages welcome. 6-9 p.m. UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner St., Lansing. urbanbeatevents.com.

Lansing Moms Connect: 2026 Vision Board Mom Date - Bring your vision for 2026 to life by crafting a vision board to guide you through the year! 6-8 p.m. 311 Abbot Road, East Lansing. eventbrite.com/o/lansing-mom-40263574823.

Sign the Petition for Campaign Finance Reform - Let's stop large corporations from influencing and controlling our politicians with big campaign contributions! 1-3 p.m. Strange Matter, 2010 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. votersnotpoliticians.com.

Snowman Painting - Make your own puffy snow paint and paint a beautiful snowman or snow scene. 6-7 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. gladl.org.

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

Top 10 Credit Tips - During this one-hour lunch and learn, we'll talk about what makes up a credit score and tips on how to improve your credit. Noon. Virtual — register at canr.msu.edu/mimoneyhealth.

Winter Wheat-tastic Wheat Wisdom Wednesday Webinars - Topic: Wheat marketing is essential in this climate! Presented by Angie Setzer, Consus Ag Consulting. 7-8 p.m. Virtual — register at canr.msu.edu/wheat.

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.

Thursday, Jan. 22

"12 Incompetent Jurors" - 7 p.m. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. riverwalktheatre.com.

"A Caregiver's Butterfly Garden" - 6 a.m.-9 p.m. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing. dcwgardens.com.

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

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

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

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

Art Exhibition by Jennifer Taggart Wilson & Dorothy Hughes Engelman - Jennifer specializes in fiber arts, and Dorothy is a zentangle artist. Support local artists and craft beer! 3-9 p.m. Dimes Brewhouse, 145 N. Bridge St., Dimondale. facebook.com/ajoyfulline.

Be Kind to Your Mind - We'll learn the importance of self-compassion and how to «de-fuse» harsh thinking. 8:30-9:30 a.m. Virtual — register at canr.msu.edu/mindfulnessforbetterliving.

Bookend Gallery Display - We welcome Robert Ross to the gallery for the month of January. Bob describes himself as a creative explorer and seeker of adventures in art and music. Noon-6 p.m. Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. cadl.org/about/our-locations/haslett.

Olive Burger Week

Friday, Jan. 23-Jan. 31
Several restaurants across
Greater Lansing
oliveburgercapital.com

For one week, Greater Lansing will celebrate what may be its signature dish: the olive burger.

Afterward, there are 51 weeks, each with 7 days ... 517???

Anyhow, January is a tough month for restaurants. That's especially true when it's brutally cold outside, which is a good reason to celebrate a uniquely Michigan burger.

Sponsored by Lansing Foodies and Lansing 5:01, more than two-dozen local restaurants will offer up their own takes on the olive burger. There will even be several olive-less or mayo-less specials along the way.

The event is designed to bring patrons out to local restaurants for something exciting, whether that's the breakfast olive burger at Bangos, Good Truckin's spinach-and-olive-topped Popeye burger (veggie patty available), the charcuterie deconstructions at Graze Craze or the olive burger pizzas (Sleepwalker Spirits and Ale, Slice by Saddleback and Art's Pub).

Visit oliveburgercapital.com for the full list of participating eateries and to find out more about Lansing's heritage as the olive burger capital. (Managing editor's note: the Olive Burger Week organizers claim to have documentation, and we here at City Pulse decided to not press the issue.)



Farm Policy and Risk Management Series: Coverage Options in Revenue Protection for Field Crops - Presenters will provide a walkthrough of crop insurance and how its use can benefit their farm. 6:30-7:30 p.m. Virtual — register at canr.msu.edu/van_buren.

Farm Policy and Risk Management Series: Peaches Cost of Production Study Review - Join us for a presentation on the recent Michigan peach cost of production report, with a Q&A to follow. Noon-1 p.m. Virtual — register at canr.msu.edu/van_buren.

Group Dance Class: Beginning West Coast Swing - A fun, exciting partner dance style to learn. 7 p.m. Michigan Athletic Club, 2900 Hannah Blvd., East Lansing. Register by calling 517-364-8888.

Ink, Leather, and Love: Biker Book Bash with Rachel Esterline - Rev your engines and join local author Rachel Esterline for a meet-and-greet, a live book reading, and an audience Q&A. 7 p.m. Hooked, 3142 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. hookedlansing.com.

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.

MSU Women's Basketball vs. USC - 8 p.m. Breslin Center, 534 Birch Road, East Lansing. msuspartans.com/sports/womens-basketball.

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

Plant-Based Eating 101 - Ring in the New Year with VegMichigan and learn about the health and

environmental benefits of eating more plant-based meals. Ages 16+. Registration req. 6-7 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.

Safe Food = Healthy Kids Online Class - Learn the best practices for food safety in order to keep the children in your care safe. 6-9 p.m. Virtual — register at canr.msu.edu/Isabella.

Sign the Petition for Campaign Finance Reform - Let's stop large corporations from influencing and controlling our politicians with big campaign contributions! Noon-2 p.m. at Strange Matter downtown (331 S. Washington Square, Lansing) and 1-3 p.m. at Strange Matter eastside (2010 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing). votersnotpoliticians.com.

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

SS Eastland: Titanic of the Great Lakes, with Historian Andrew Kercher - The SS Eastland was the greatest loss of life in a maritime disaster on the Great Lakes when she flipped onto her side in the Chicago River in 1915. 6:30-7:30 p.m. City of DeWitt Community Room, 414 E. Main St., DeWitt. dewitt.librarycalendar.com.

Tai Chi for Better Sleep - This series combines Tai Chi for Arthritis and Fall Prevention and the Sleep Education for Everyone Program (SLEEP). 9 a.m. or 7 p.m. Virtual — register at canr.msu.edu/tai-chi-for-arthritis.

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Events

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

The Trick Is in the Cards - 5-11 p.m. Homebrew Tabletop Game Lounge, 219 1/2 N. Bridge St., Grand Ledge. homebrewgamelounge.com.

Friday, Jan. 23

"12 Incompetent Jurors" - A hilarious parody of "12 Angry Men," the jury's decision on an open-and-shut case is stymied by Juror No. 8, a wannabe lawyer who believes the guilty party to be innocent. 8 p.m. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. riverwalktheatre.com.

"A Caregiver's Butterfly Garden" - 6 a.m.-9 p.m. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing. dcwgardens.com.

Abrams Planetarium January Public Feature Show - "Living in Balance: Anishinaabe Star Knowledge" highlights Anishinaabe stories of constellations and moons in relation to contemporary insights about environmental changes. 8 p.m. 755 Science Road, East Lansing. abramsplanetarium.org.

Art Exhibition by Jennifer Taggart Wilson & Dorothy Hughes Engelman - Jennifer specializes in fiber arts, and Dorothy is a zentangle artist. Support local artists and craft beer! 3-10 p.m. Dimes Brewhouse, 145 N. Bridge St., Dimondale. facebook.com/ajoyfulline.

Bookend Gallery Display - We welcome Robert Ross to the gallery for the month of January. Bob describes himself as a creative explorer and seeker of adventures in art and music. Noon-4 p.m. Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. cadl.org/about/our-locations/haslett.

Business of Sports Summit - MSU's platform for students to connect with industry leaders, gain valuable insights, and draw inspiration from top professionals in sports. 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Minskoff Pavilion, 651 N. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. eventbrite.com/o/future-leaders-in-sports-and-entertainment-31058968469.

Date Night Dance Class for Couples - A fun, engaging experience where partners learn basic steps, build connection through rhythmic movement, and create shared memories. 7-8 p.m. Michigan Athletic Club, 2900 Hannah Blvd., East Lansing. Register by calling 517-364-8888.

"Fatherland" - The true story of the 18-year-old son who turned his father in to the FBI because of his role in the attack on the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6. 7 p.m. Stage One, 2200 Lake Lansing Road, Lansing. peppermintcreek.org.

Fitness Over 50! Exercise Group - The Meridian Township Parks and Recreation Stretch and Flex Exercise group exercises at the Meridian Mall food court every Monday, Wednesday and Friday. 9-10 a.m. 1982 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. meridian-50plus.com.

Kerryn Feehan & Aaron Putnam - Comedians Kerryn Feehan and Aaron Putnam (as seen on Netflix, Skankfest NYC, and OFT) bring a night of laughs to Capital Prime! 7-8:30 p.m. 2324 Showtime Drive, Lansing. eventbrite.com/o/aaron-putnam-120678820587.

MSU Ice Hockey vs. University of Minnesota - 7 p.m. Munn Ice Arena, 509 Birch Road, East Lansing. msuspartans.com/sports/mens-ice-hockey.

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

Sign the Petition for Campaign Finance Reform - Let's stop large corporations from influencing and controlling our politicians with big campaign

contributions! 1:30-3:30 p.m. Strange Matter, 2010 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. votersnotpoliticians.com.

Saturday, Jan. 24

"12 Incompetent Jurors" - A hilarious parody of "12 Angry Men," the jury's decision on an open-and-shut case is stymied by Juror No. 8, a wannabe lawyer who believes the guilty party to be innocent. 8 p.m. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. riverwalktheatre.com.

2026 State 4-H Rabbit and Cavy Show and Expo - 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Farm Bureau Pavilion, 4301 Farm Lane, Lansing. canr.msu.edu/rabbits_cavies.

"A Caregiver's Butterfly Garden" - 8 a.m.-8 p.m. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing. dcwgardens.com.

Abrams Planetarium January Public Feature Show - "Living in Balance: Anishinaabe Star Knowledge" highlights Anishinaabe stories of constellations and moons in relation to contemporary insights about environmental changes. 8 p.m. 755 Science Road, East Lansing. abramsplanetarium.org.

Art Exhibition by Jennifer Taggart Wilson & Dorothy Hughes Engelman - Jennifer specializes in fiber arts, and Dorothy is a zentangle artist. Support local artists and craft beer! Noon-10 p.m. Dimes Brewhouse, 145 N. Bridge St., Dimondale. facebook.com/ajoyfulline.

Bookend Gallery Display - We welcome Robert Ross to the gallery for the month of January. Bob describes himself as a creative explorer and seeker of adventures in art and music. Noon-2 p.m. Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. cadl.org/about/our-locations/haslett.

Charcoal Landscape Art Glass - Learn to draw with charcoal to create simple, moody, magical winter landscapes. Beginners welcome! 3-5 p.m. Foster Coffee Co., 120 W. Hamlin St., Eaton Rapids. facebook.com/fostercoffee.

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

Craft Supplies Swap - Bring gently used or leftover craft supplies from Jan. 17-23 and swap them for materials you can use from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. on the 24th. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. gladl.org.

"Fatherland" - The true story of the 18-year-old son who turned his father in to the FBI because of his role in the attack on the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6. 7 p.m. Stage One, 2200 Lake Lansing Road, Lansing. peppermintcreek.org.

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

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

MSU Men's Basketball vs. University of Maryland - Noon. Breslin Center, 534 Birch Road, East Lansing. msuspartans.com/sports/mens-basketball.

Rave Bingo - Tickets include a three-round bingo card, custom rave kit, entry into our free raffles, access to exclusive vendors, prizes, merch and a free drink. Spots are limited. 8-10 p.m. Tank's Tavern, 104 E. Grand River Road, Laingsburg. eventbrite.com/o/68162761573.

Sign the Petition for Campaign Finance Reform - Let's stop large corporations from influencing and controlling our politicians with big campaign contributions! 9-11 a.m. Strange Matter, 2010 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. votersnotpoliticians.com.

Stoopfest Gala - Help raise money for Stoopfest by attending our fundraising gala. Featuring performances, food, auctions and more. 6-11 p.m. Allen Neighborhood Center, 1611 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. stoopfest.org.



'Happy Birthday, Mozart!'

7:30 p.m. Monday, Jan. 26
Fairchild Theatre
542 Auditorium Road, East Lansing
music.msu.edu

One of the Michigan State University College of Music's most anticipated chamber events of the season, the annual "Happy Birthday, Mozart!" concert returns Monday. The program features a range of celebrated works by the composer, highlighting his expressive depth and inventive instrumentation.

The night will conclude with birthday cookies in honor of what would be his 270th birthday.

"This program reflects the extraordinary breadth of Mozart's repertoire," Deborah Moriarty, professor of piano and director of the West Circle Series, said. "There is such range and depth in his chamber works, and it is a pleasure to collaborate with MSU musicians to bring this music to life and to connect with audiences who value the intimacy and richness of this repertoire."

Performers include MSU pianists Deborah Moriarty and Tamar Mikeladze; clarinetists Guy Yehuda, Tasha Warren, and Mingzhe Wang; oboists John DeBiase and Nermis Mieses; bassoonists Michael Kroth and Sierra Watson; and horn players Alex Delperdang and Corbin Wagner.

Tickets are \$19 for adults, \$17 for seniors and \$9 for students and youth. They may be purchased online at music.msu.edu/events, by calling (517) 353-5340 or at the door.

Sunday, Jan. 25

"12 Incompetent Jurors" - A hilarious parody of "12 Angry Men," the jury's decision on an open-and-shut case is stymied by Juror No. 8, a wannabe lawyer who believes the guilty party to be innocent. 2 p.m. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. riverwalktheatre.com.

"A Caregiver's Butterfly Garden" - Noon-8 p.m. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing. dcwgardens.com.

Abrams Planetarium January Public Feature Show - "Living in Balance: Anishinaabe Star Knowledge" highlights Anishinaabe stories of constellations and moons in relation to contemporary insights about environmental changes. 4 p.m. 755 Science Road, East Lansing. abramsplanetarium.org.

Art Exhibition by Jennifer Taggart Wilson & Dorothy Hughes Engelman - Jennifer specializes in fiber arts, and Dorothy is a zentangle artist. Support local artists and craft beer! Noon-9 p.m. Dimes Brewhouse, 145 N. Bridge St., Dimondale. facebook.com/ajoyfulline.

Auditions: "Fairview" - "Fairview" is a searing examination of families, drama, family dramas, and the insidiousness of white supremacy. Show dates: March 13-15, 19-22. 2-5 p.m. Sycamore Creek Church, 1919 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. peppermintcreek.org.

Gosplay Contest - Up to 15 cosplayers each month will compete for prizes and the chance to participate in our cosplay fashion show. If interested, email info@homebrewgamelounge.com. Must be 21 or older to attend/participate. 8-11 p.m. Homebrew Tabletop Game Lounge, 219 1/2 N. Bridge St., Grand Ledge. homebrewgamelounge.com.

DJ Trivia and Football at Summerlands Brewing Co. - Trivia is free to play, with prizes for the top three teams. Catch the football games while you

play. 4-5:30 p.m. 1957 Cedar St., Holt. facebook.com/summerlandsbrewing.

"Fatherland" - The true story of the 18-year-old son who turned his father in to the FBI because of his role in the attack on the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6. 3 p.m. Stage One, 2200 Lake Lansing Road, Lansing. peppermintcreek.org.

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

Museum Tour: Deep-Rooted with Beal Botanical Garden - Join Beal education director Maeve Bassett for an immersive tour unearthing the historical, social and political narratives growing within works of art from the Broad's collection. 1 p.m. 517 E. Circle Drive, East Lansing. broadmuseum.msu.edu.

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

Refugee Development Center Fundraiser - Love Rose benefit concert — eclectic poetic soul with interpretive dance and audience percussive participation. Silent auction/food drive for the RDC and ceramic art/CD/poster sales. 5-8 p.m. Altus Ethiopian Cuisine, 1312 E. Michigan Ave., East Lansing. facebook.com/altusethiopiancuisine.

Sign the Petition for Campaign Finance Reform - Let's stop large corporations from influencing and controlling our politicians with big campaign contributions! 10 a.m.-noon. Strange Matter, 331 S. Washington Square, Lansing. votersnotpoliticians.com.

Delta Rocks! Fit & Frosty

1-3 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 25
Mount Hope Park
7419 E. Mount Hope Hwy.,
Grand Ledge
deltami.gov

The second annual Delta Rocks! Fit & Frosty event aims to get people up and active with plenty of organized activities for kids, adults and everyone in between. There's a kickball tournament, 20 hidden ducks to find, a s'mores station and a live DJ, as well as snowshoeing, cross-country skiing, snowman building and snow art (all weather permitting). Cash-only concessions are the only part of the otherwise-free event that costs money.

Let's not forget about the "frosty" part. It should be a bit cold out, with a forecast in the low teens, but likely sunny and feeling a smidge warmer. So, dress appropriately and get ready to embrace the Michigan weather and make some winter memories.



Events

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SpARTan Wellness: Vibe + Visualize - Collage your own vision board to help you focus and reflect on the year ahead. 2-4 p.m. Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, East Lansing. broadmuseum.msu.edu.

Sunday Brunch at Summerlands Brewing Co. - We've updated our hours and menu to bring you the perfect Sunday experience, whether you're craving something classic, something coastal, or something hearty. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. 1957 Cedar St., Holt. facebook.com/summerlandsbrewing.

Weekly Drum Circle at Altu's - Get your groove on and de-stress with us every Sunday! This is a free, family-friendly event. All ages and experience levels are welcome. 2-4 p.m. 1312 E. Michigan Ave., East Lansing. facebook.com/GreaterLansingAreaDrummers.

Monday, Jan. 26

"A Caregiver's Butterfly Garden" - 6 a.m.-9 p.m. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing. dcwgardens.com.

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

Art Exhibition by Jennifer Taggart Wilson & Dorothy Hughes Engelman - Jennifer specializes in fiber arts, and Dorothy is a zentangle artist. Support local artists and craft beer! 4-8 p.m. Dimes Brewhouse, 145 N. Bridge St., Dimondale. facebook.com/ajoyfulline.

Auditions: "Fairview" - "Fairview" is a searing examination of families, drama, family dramas, and the insidiousness of white supremacy. Show dates: March 13-15, 19-22. 6:30-9:30 p.m. Sycamore Creek Church, 1919 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. peppermintcreek.org.

Bookend Gallery Display - We welcome Robert Ross to the gallery for the month of January. Bob describes himself as a creative explorer and seeker of adventures in art and music. Noon-4 p.m. Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. cadl.org/about/our-locations/haslett.

Brewers Meetup at Summerlands Brewing Co. - A discussion group to talk about all things brewing and winemaking. All levels of experience welcome, from pros to those considering taking up homebrewing. 6-7:30 p.m. 1957 Cedar St., Holt. facebook.com/summerlandsbrewing.

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.

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

DJ Bingo at Summerlands Brewing Co. - Kick off your week with a night of music, laughs, and friendly competition! Join us Monday nights for DJ Bingo, where classic bingo meets your favorite songs. 7-8:30 p.m. 1957 Cedar St., Holt. www.facebook.com/summerlandsbrewing.

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

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

Fiber Circle - Knitters, crocheters and stitchers of all ages and skill levels welcome. Although formal instruction isn't provided, attendees assist each other with techniques and skills. 5:30-7 p.m. Charlotte Community Library, 226 S. Bostwick St., Charlotte. charlottelibrary.org.

Fitness Over 50! Exercise Group - The Meridian Township Parks and Recreation Stretch and Flex Exercise group exercises at the Meridian Mall food court every Monday, Wednesday and Friday. 9-10 a.m. 1982 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. meridian50plus.com.

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

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

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

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

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.

Winter Birds & Feeders - Enjoy a story and a presentation on winter birds and wildlife in our area, then try your hand at creating crafts to share some treats with winter birds. 6-7 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. gladl.org.

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

Tuesday, Jan. 27

"A Caregiver's Butterfly Garden" - 6 a.m.-9 p.m. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing. dcwgardens.com.

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

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

Al-Anon Meeting - 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.

Bookend Gallery Display - We welcome Robert Ross to the gallery for the month of January. Bob describes himself as a creative explorer and seeker of adventures in art and music. Noon-4 p.m. Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. cadl.org/about/our-locations/haslett.

Changing Negative Self-Talk - Participants will learn about the brain's negativity bias and how it affects our response to stress. In addition, we'll discuss the benefits of positive self-talk. 1-2 p.m. Virtual — register at canr.msu.edu/mindfulnessforbetterliving.

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.

Dementia Caregiver Series - Three-session series intended to reduce stress for those caring for a person with dementia by providing useful tools and information. 10:30 a.m.-noon. The Courtyard at Delta, 350 S. Marketplace Blvd., Lansing. To register, call 517-887-1465 or email histedc@tcoa.org.

Game Night at Summerlands Brewing Co. - Bring your favorite board game, card game, or party game — or jump in on one of the games we already have here. 6-9 p.m. 1957 Cedar St., Holt. facebook.com/summerlandsbrewing.

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 - A Meetup group that facilitates free board/card gaming experiences for diverse people and cultivates a safe, inclusive, fun gaming community. 6:30-11 p.m. Reno's Sports Bar, 16460 Old US 27, 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.

Make a Comfort Blanket to Donate to Gift of Life - Make fleece tie blankets for families who have lost a loved one. We'll also have fleece scraps available to make toys for shelter pets. Ages 8+ with adult supervision. 6-7:30 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. gladl.org.

Mindfulness for Children: Teaching Kids Mindfulness - This workshop is designed to introduce basic mindfulness concepts, activities and publications to parents and caregivers of young children. 10-11 a.m. Virtual — register at canr.msu.edu/mindfulnessforbetterliving.

Online Extension Extras for Parents: Together We Can — Co-Parenting - Build upon your knowledge and skills to promote healthy family and parenting relationships. 7:30-9 p.m. Virtual — register at canr.msu.edu/parenting_education_classes.

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

The Poetry Room Open Mic Presents: Good Grief - Bring your original poem to recite in an inclusive and intimate setting. Optional theme: grief. 7:30-9

p.m. The Robin Theatre, 1105 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. facebook.com/The517PoetryRoom.

Sign the Petition for Campaign Finance Reform - Let's stop large corporations from influencing and controlling our politicians with big campaign contributions! 1-3 p.m. Strange Matter, 2010 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. votersnotpoliticians.com.

Tai Chi for Better Sleep - This series combines Tai Chi for Arthritis and Fall Prevention and the Sleep Education for Everyone Program (SLEEP). 9 a.m. or 7 p.m. Virtual — register at canr.msu.edu/tai-chi-for-arthritis.

Teaching Kids Mindful Eating - Learn the benefits of eating with mindful awareness, increase your awareness of portion sizes for children and learn about competent eating. 6:30-7:30 p.m. Virtual — register at canr.msu.edu/mindfulnessforbetterliving.

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

Virtual Mindfulness for Better Sleep - This program introduces participants to the experience and practice of mindfulness. Participants will also learn techniques to improve the quality and quantity of their sleep. 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Virtual — register at canr.msu.edu/mindfulnessforbetterliving.

Walk with Ease - Walking exercise program that can reduce pain and improve overall health. Group will meet Tuesdays at Letts Community Center through Feb. 10. 1:30-2:30 p.m. 1220 W. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. To register, call 517-887-1465 or email histedc@tcoa.org.

Wednesday, Jan. 28

"A Caregiver's Butterfly Garden" - 6 a.m.-9 p.m. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing. dcwgardens.com.

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

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

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

Art Exhibition by Jennifer Taggart Wilson & Dorothy Hughes Engelman - Jennifer specializes in fiber arts, and Dorothy is a zentangle artist. Support local artists and craft beer! 3-9 p.m. Dimes Brewhouse, 145 N. Bridge St., Dimondale. facebook.com/ajoyfulline.

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

Bookend Gallery Display - We welcome Robert Ross to the gallery for the month of January. Bob describes himself as a creative explorer and seeker of adventures in art and music. Noon-4 p.m. Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. cadl.org/about/our-locations/haslett.

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

CharLit Adult Book Club: "Not Quite Dead Yet," by Holly Jackson - 6-7:30 p.m. Charlotte Community Library, 226 S. Bostwick St., Charlotte. charlottelibrary.org.

Fitness Over 50! Exercise Group - The Meridian Township Parks and Recreation Stretch and Flex Exercise group exercises at the Meridian Mall food court every Monday, Wednesday and Friday. 9-10 a.m. 1982 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. meridian50plus.com.

Group Dance Class: Beginning Salsa - Learn the basic steps of one of the most popular Latin dances. 8 p.m. Michigan Athletic Club, 2900 Hannah Blvd., East Lansing. Register by calling 517-364-8888.

Darci Hannah launches new cozy mystery novel at Schuler Books

By **KURT ANTHONY KRUG**

By her own admission, Darci Hannah never wanted to be a writer.

“I’ve always been a reader,” the Howell-based author said. “However, I remember thinking after reading a really good book, ‘Wow, it must take forever to write a book. Who would ever want to spend their time writing a novel?’ Little did I know that one day I’d challenge my own thoughts on the matter.”

An alumna of Indiana University Bloomington, Hannah has penned 12 novels. Her latest, “A Spirited Supper at Dundoon Castle,” will be released Tuesday. She’ll kick off her release tour the same night with an event at Schuler Books in the Meridian Mall.

“I’m so excited! Schuler Books does such a wonderful job with book signings, and they’re such an amazing bookstore,” she said. “I’ve done a few signings at the store in Okemos with other cozy mystery authors. This, I think, will be the first time I’m launching a book there.”

Hannah is giving readers who preorder “Dundoon Castle” an incentive: a recipe card for her favorite shortbread cookies and some samples. Additionally, every preorder will be entered into a drawing to win one of two Scottish-inspired giveaways.

“It’ll be a fun night!” she said. “I love meeting readers. I’m also bringing homemade cookies to sample, so everyone can have a little taste of the Highlands.”

“Dundoon Castle” is the second installment of her Food & Spirits mystery series. It follows protagonist Bridget “Bunny” MacBride, a chef who lands a role on a reality TV show called “Food & Spirits.” Bunny thought “spirits” meant cocktails. Instead, “spirits” means ghosts. Much to her surprise, Bunny discovers her abilities to connect to the “other side” — not to mention crack murder cases.

Bunny’s reality TV adventures take

her and her ghost-hunting pals to Dundoon Castle in Scotland, where a ghostly piper roams the grounds. In addition to preparing a meal fit for a (17th-century) king, they’ll attend a bagpipe competition in the piper’s honor, as well as a ghost hunt.

During the festivities, someone plummets to their death, followed by the sound of a mournful, otherworldly bagpipe. Then another body turns up, compelling Bunny to solve the mystery, which has a paranormal twist.

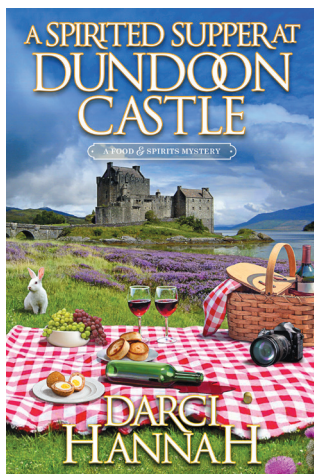
Hannah, the youngest of three and only daughter, said the inspiration for “Dundoon Castle” came from her younger brother, who died in 2020.

“He was hilarious, and although he had a ‘real’ job, as we liked to say, he was also a ghost hunter,” she said. “I’d talk to him almost every day, and he’d always tell me these crazy stories of his ghost adventures. He was always trying to get me to watch those ghost shows on cable. And his wife was a high-end foodie.”

Hannah penned two historical fiction novels, “The Exile of Sara Stevenson” and “The Angel of Blythe Hall” — inspired by Patrick O’Brian, Dorothy Dunnett, Diana Gabaldon and Bernard Cornwell — before switching to cozy mysteries.

“When I lost my historical fiction contract and was trying to figure out what to do next, I called my brother and said, ‘Hey, do you know what channel doesn’t have a ghost-hunting show on it? The Food Network. Why don’t we pitch a food-baiting, ghost-hunting show called “Food & Spirits?”’” she said. “He loved the idea. His wife would handle the menu, he’d handle the ghost hunt, and I’d use my historical fiction super skills to find the perfect haunted location with an intriguing history. I wrote up a pitch and then threw it in my desk drawer. Like so many ideas, I wanted to sit on it for a while.”

Then her Very Cherry mystery se-



“A Spirited Supper at Dundoon Castle” discussion and signing, with Darci Hannah

6:30-8 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 27

Schuler Books
1982 W. Grand River Ave.,
Okemos

Free

Register at schulerbooks.com/events-okemos



Courtesy

An alumna of Indiana University Bloomington, Howell author Darci Hannah has penned 12 novels. Her latest, “A Spirited Supper at Dundoon Castle,” will be released Tuesday.

ries got picked up, which took her in another direction. Several years passed, and her publisher at Kensington asked her to pitch another series idea.

“Since my brother had passed away and I was really missing him, I thought he’d get a kick out of me turning the idea into a cozy mystery series,” she said. “I rewrote it as a novel pitch, and my editor loved it. I feel it was one of those things that was just meant to happen. It was a very special experience for me to write it.”

She originally had a male protagonist named Brett Boom. However, her publisher requested a female lead.

“That’s when I moved Bunny front and center. She’s loosely based on my sister-in-law, who’s a fabulous cook,” she said. “The whole bunny angle came about from my childhood and my love of rabbits. At the time, I was saving a lot of wild rabbit babies that were nesting in my backyard. I have two big dogs, and keeping those little things healthy until they could be on their own was a challenge! The white rabbit just sort of appeared in one of the scenes I was writing, and for me, it fit.”

The author said she’s “grown very

fond of Bunny MacBride” and enjoys writing about her adventures with her “ghost-hunting lads.”

“In this book, we learn a little bit more about Bunny, her family and her burgeoning psychic gifts, which she is really annoyed by,” she said. “Getting to introduce my readers to Scotland through the eyes of Bunny MacBride was a real pleasure for me.”

Although the Food & Spirits series occurs in the same universe as her Beacon Bakeshop mystery series, the two are quite different.

“While I always put a little touch of history into my stories — I can’t help it — this series is like writing a modern historical mystery with a paranormal twist. It’s not as cozy as my Beacon Bakeshop books,” she said.

The Food & Spirits series is more challenging for her to write because the setting is “always changing.”

“The challenge is to find an authentic location with a fascinating ghost story attached to it. When I find the ghost story and the location, I then have to put a murder mystery in there, along with food and ghost-hunting bits. It can be a lot to juggle, but I really enjoy writing this series,” she said.

SELF STORAGE LIEN AUCTION (IN ACCORDANCE WITH MI Chapter 570 Lien Act 148):
 The following self-storage units containing household and other goods will be sold for cash by Airport & Grand River Self Storage located at 4495 West Grand River Ave., and 4400 Millwood Rd, Lansing, MI 48906 to satisfy a lien on January 28, 2026, at 10:00 AM at storagetreasures.com : 147 Irma Foltz, 026 Megan Puma.

CP#25-418

SELF STORAGE LIEN AUCTION (IN ACCORDANCE WITH MI Chapter 570 Lien Act 148):
 The following self-storage units containing household and other goods will be sold for cash by Comet Mini Storage located at 918 W. Jefferson St. Grand Ledge MI, 48837 and 11508 N. Hartel Rd. Grand Ledge MI, 48837 to satisfy a lien on January 28th, 2026 at 10:00 AM at storagetreasures.com: 101 Dan Del cid, 551 Cody Biehl, 656 Tammy Riley-Robbins, 659 Shawnn Degner.

CP#26-005

**CITY OF LANSING
 NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

Act-7-2025, Lot 49, 200 block S Cedar St., Sale of Real Property

The Lansing City Council will hold a public hearing on Monday, February 9, 2026 at 7:00 p.m. in the Tony Benavides Lansing City Council Chambers, 10th Floor, Lansing City Hall, 124 W. Michigan Avenue, Lansing, Michigan to consider Act-7-2025 a request to sell three parcels of real property, to Deep Green Technologies USA LLC. The sale agreement is on file with the City Clerk for public review.

For more information, please call Lansing City Council at 517-483-4177. If you are interested in this matter, please attend the public hearing or send a representative. Written comments will be accepted between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. on City business days if received before 5 p.m., Monday, February 9, 2026 at the City Clerk's Office, Ninth Floor, City Hall, 124 West Michigan Ave., Lansing, MI 48933 or email city.clerk@lansingmi.gov.

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

CP#26-013

**CITY OF LANSING
 NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

**Z-2-2025, 200 blocks of S Cedar St. and S Larch St.
 Rezoning from DT-3 "Downtown Core" to IND-1 "Industrial"**

The Lansing City Council will hold a public hearing on Monday, February 9, 2026 at 7:00 p.m. in the Tony Benavides Lansing Council Chambers, 10th Floor, Lansing City Hall, 124 W. Michigan Avenue, Lansing, Michigan to consider Z-2-2025 a request to rezone parcel's 33-01-01-16-427-122, 33-01-01-16-427-082, 33-01-01-16-427-051, and 33-01-01-16-427-192, located on the north side of E. Kalamazoo Street between S. Cedar Street and S. Larch Street from "DT-3" Urban Core to "IND-1" Industrial with the condition that the use of the property will be restricted to a data center and its supporting facilities.

For more information, please call Lansing City Council at 517-483-4177. If you are interested in this matter, please attend the public hearing or send a representative. Written comments will be accepted between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. on City business days if received before 5 p.m., Monday, February 9, 2026 at the City Clerk's Office, Ninth Floor, City Hall, 124 West Michigan Ave., Lansing, MI 48933 or email city.clerk@lansingmi.gov.

Chris Swope, City Clerk

CP#26-012

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS
 EAST LANSING HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION**

Notice is hereby given of the following public hearings to be held by the East Lansing Historic District Commission on **Thursday, February 12, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.**, at the City of East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing, Michigan 48823:

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION MEETINGS WILL NOW BE HELD AT THE CITY OF EAST LANSING PUBLIC LIBRARY

1. A public hearing to receive and discuss consideration of a Certificate of Appropriateness from Tracey Mullaney located at 528 M.A.C Avenue. The applicant request is TO replace the side concrete porch and walkway with limestone; replace the front brick walkway with flagstone and install seating areas made of stone.
2. A public hearing to receive and discuss consideration of a Certificate of Appropriateness from Abby Bloomquist located at 501 Hillcrest Avenue. The applicant request is to replace the cedar siding with the same; replace the windows with Pella Lifestyle and replace the rear steps.
3. A public hearing to receive and discuss consideration of a Certificate of Appropriateness from Noah McNulty located at 225 Collingwood Drive. The applicant request is for installation of a 165 sf, one-story bedroom addition on the rear of the house.
4. A public hearing to receive and discuss consideration of a Certificate of Appropriateness from Holly Jo Sparks located at 425 Ann Street. The applicant request is to replace the windows.

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

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

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

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

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

Dated: January 15, 2026
 East Lansing, MI 48823

Emily Gordon
 City Clerk

CP#26-015

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
 EAST LANSING PLANNING COMMISSION**

Notice is hereby given that the following public hearings will be held by the City of East Lansing Planning Commission on **Wednesday, February 11, 2026 at 6:30 p.m.** The public hearings will take place at the **East Lansing Hannah Community Center**, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing, MI, 48823.

1. A public hearing to consider Ordinance 1562, a request from Hagan Group, LLC to conditionally rezone 743, 755, and 765 Grove Street from R-2 (Medium Density Single-Family Residential District) to RM-32 (City Center Multiple-Family Residential District) for 743 and 765 Grove Street to be used as multi-family dwelling units, licensed for four (4) unrelated individuals or a family.

The public is encouraged to attend and participate in all meetings, in person or electronically. Please visit the City's public meeting portal for access to electronic meeting information or contact staff for more information:

Landon Bartley, AICP, Principal Planner
 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, MI 48823
 517.319.6930 or lbartley@cityofeastlansing.com
<https://cityofeastlansing.civicweb.net/Portal/>

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

Materials related to the above items are available for viewing at the Department of Planning, Building, and Development, East Lansing City Hall, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, MI, 48823 between the hours of 8:00 am and 5:00 pm or on the City's website located at www.cityofeastlansing.com/currentapplications. Written comments received by staff prior to 12:00 pm on the day of the public hearing will be forwarded to the Planning Commission.

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

This notice is posted in compliance with PA 267 of 1976 as amended (Open Meetings Act) and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and published in compliance with the Michigan Zoning Enabling Act, 2006 P.A. 110.

Dated: January 15, 2026
 East Lansing, MI 48823

Emily Gordon
 City Clerk

CP#26-014

FOOD & DRINK

DINING OUT IN GREATER LANSING



Lawrence

By **GABRIELLE LAWRENCE**

Phở Số 1's handhelds are heavenly

You know how, when you're looking for something, you start to see signs of it everywhere? You start looking for cardinals, and there's one in your backyard the next morning. You read Ina Garten's memoir and learn that she's making a tour stop in Detroit. You learn about Nazi Germany and wake up in Trump's America. A few months ago, someone told me about Phở Số 1, and within the next two weeks, three more people had mentioned the restaurant to me.

I hadn't heard of it before, since I work in downtown Lansing and don't frequent that particular side of East Lansing. But thanks to a large group of Vietnamese family friends, I grew up eating more than my fair share of Vietnamese food, and I'm always on the lookout for a good bao.

I remember when phở started taking mainstream America by storm about 15 years ago. I would leverage my trips to the metro Detroit area to get my hands on giant bowls of the noodle soup. I'm happy to report that Lansing now has a sizable number of restaurants that serve phở, and there's truly nothing better on a blustery winter day.

We made our first family visit to Phở Số 1, during that confusing week between Christmas and New Year's, and you've never seen two parents more relieved than we were to see fried chicken wings and french fries on the menu. Sometimes we're prepared to do battle with our children and force them to expand their food horizons, but this was not one of those days. The big one had wings (\$6.99/six) and fries (\$3.99), the little one had noodles from my bowl and fries, and Mr. She Ate and I were satisfied.

Our spring rolls (\$7.99) had seen better days, and the chicken phở (\$14.45) was not my favorite, but I acknowledge that going to a restaurant during the inter-holiday period and expecting an incredible experience might be a tall order.

Service was ... annoyed that we were there? I attributed this to having two young children with me (which is not a great impression to give, but one that I tend to understand); however, on return visits, service was not much better.

On one of those return visits, I ordered a lemongrass beef bánh mì (\$5.99). If you're looking for entry-level Vietnamese food, a bánh mì is your best bet. It's essentially a baguette sandwich, stuffed with the most savory, flavorful beef you've ever had in your life and the perfect complement of pickled vegetables. The bread was crunchy and buttery, and I could have melted into a puddle of satisfaction.

Fortunately, I had a Fire Shrimp bao bun (\$4.75) to occupy the rest of my time as I eavesdropped on fellow diners complaining about their ex-wives. A bao bun is the Chinese equivalent of a taco, consisting of a yeasty, pillowy shell wrapped around a variety of fillings. Mine had guacamole, chili-lime-marinated shrimp, cilantro and lemon-pepper aioli,

of restaurant recommendations from readers, friends and family. Hearing from fellow foodies about their thoughts on new spots around town or their favorite dishes at local stalwarts is one of my favorite aspects of this gig.

Rarely, however, do we receive these recommendations at the same time, but such was the case this past fall, when Mrs. She

Ate and I were serving as reviewers for the Capital Region Community Foundation's Grantmaking Day. One of the other reviewers was adamant that we check out his favorite Asian restaurant in East Lansing, particularly its bao buns.

I'm a big fan of most Asian food, having tried various takes on the wide range of cuisines during my travels across the country and abroad. So, I was pretty stoked for this month's review of Phở Số 1 in Hannah Plaza. Tucked into a row of restaurants, gyms and hair salons, this place specializes in traditional Vietnamese fare with some modern twists.

Upon entering, I was underwhelmed by the ambiance. Tables and chairs lined one wall, and televisions with varying functionality lined another. The wavy wall design suggested an attempt at an upscale experience, but the rest of the vibe was more ho-hum.

I was greeted as though I were somewhat of an inconvenience and wondered why, since I was legitimately the only customer there at the time. This was also the case when I picked up a to-go order. After ordering online and pre-tipping, my order was pointed to rather than handed to me.

Customer service here leaves much to be desired. Graciously, the food was far more pleasant.

What's decent

I enjoy a selection of appetizers when I order Asian food, so I tried a bunch of offerings. The fried chicken wings (\$6.99/six) were crispy and meaty, but I was expecting more from the accompanying dip than a typical Buffalo sauce with a hint of lemongrass.

The crab rangoons (\$7.99) were delicious; the cream-cheese-filled wontons were packed with filling and fried to perfection.

I wasn't a big fan of the chèo tôm (\$8.99), battered shrimp balls stuffed with sugarcane. The flavor seemed off, and the sugarcane contributed very little to

the profile. Similarly, the chả giò (\$7.99), or imperial rolls, were unbalanced in flavor. The fried egg rolls were so black-pepper-forward that I found myself dunking them in the vinegar-based dipping sauce rather than simply using it to enhance the taste.

What's good

Our colleague was waxing poetic about the bao buns, and for good reason. To order them, you must know they exist, because they live on a separate "special findings" menu. I tried several and was pleased by most of them. The Crabby Delight (\$4.75) was decent, but I wasn't anticipating an imitation crab cake. The Fire



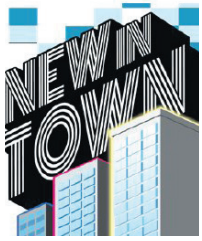
Phở Số 1
4790 Hagadom Road, East Lansing
11 a.m.-9 pm. daily
(517) 333-6683
phoso1el.com



Bryan Beverly for City Pulse

In Gabrielle Lawrence's opinion, the bao buns alone are worth a trip to East Lansing's Phở Số 1.

Detroit-based chicken wing chain opens third Lansing location



By LEO V. KAPLAN

It's been nearly 10 years since Jack Mashini and Brian Shunia co-founded Wing Snob.

Wing Snob

5210 S. Cedar St.,
Lansing
11 a.m.-11 p.m. Sun.-
Thurs.
11 a.m.-midnight
Fri.-Sat.
(517) 537-9464
wingsnob.com

The Warren-based fast-casual restaurant chain has expanded from one location in 2017 to more than 70 today. Franchises have cropped up in the Chicago area,

along with Texas, Florida and even Canada.

There are around 30 locations in Michigan, nearly all of which are on the state's East Side. In Lansing, though, chicken wing fans are in luck: The chain just added a third location in the area, and its first on the city's south side.

The eatery opened Saturday (Jan. 17) in the Jolly Cedar Plaza. It offers a 100% halal menu with chicken sandwiches and fresh wings, as well as cauliflower wings for vegetarian or vegan customers.

The chain offers 16 sauces and seasonings for its wings, plus loaded fry

options such as chili cheese and Cajun Parmesan. The southside store

joins locations on West Saginaw Highway and East Saginaw Street.



Mike Ellis/City Pulse

The mango habanero wings are a popular and deliciously tangy choice at Wing Snob.



Photos by Mike Ellis/City Pulse

Wing Snob's newest Lansing-area location is on South Cedar Street.

TOP 5 DINING GUIDE

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

TOP 5 CONEY DOGS

Based on your votes in City Pulse's 2025 Top of the Town contest. Bon appétit!

1. JJ's Dog House

Casual eatery serving Chicago-style hot dogs and Italian beef sandwiches, alongside veggie options

625 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing
(517) 619-2463

jjsdoghouse.com

11 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday-Saturday
(winter hours)

2. Leo's Coney Island — both locations

Chain diner with an expansive menu

of American comfort food and Greek specialties

See leosconeyisland.com for locations, hours and phone numbers

3. Nip N Sip Drive In

Old-school drive-through joint serving American classics like burgers, hot dogs, subs and shakes
2603 N. East St., Lansing
(517) 372-3734

10:30 a.m.-7 p.m. Monday-Friday

4. Olympic Broil

Fast-food outpost offering hefty burgers, Coney dogs, wraps and sandwiches

1320 N. Grand River Ave., Lansing
(517) 485-8584

olympicbroil.com

10:30 a.m.-8 p.m. Monday-Saturday

5. Sparty's Coney Island

Old-timey diner known for Coney dogs and other American staples
300 N. Clippert St., Ste. 5, Lansing
(517) 332-0111

spartysconeyisland.com

7 a.m.-2 p.m. Monday-Saturday

8 a.m.-2 p.m. Sunday

She Ate

from page 21

and it was incredible. This is what I would choose on every future visit to Phở Số 1 — the bao alone are worth the trip.

On my final trip, I ordered chicken and beef pad Thai to go (\$14.45 each). Mr. She Ate and I love a good

pad Thai, and I appreciated that this version was more veggie-heavy than others we've sampled. He found it spicy, but he has the spice tolerance of a small baby. I didn't break even the slightest of sweats. It had much more flavor than its counterparts at other spots in town, and if I couldn't have the bao buns or the bánh mì, I would gladly go to town on some pad Thai.

He Ate

from page 21

Shrimp (\$4.75) and Short Rib Fusion (\$4.50) were both impressive. The shrimp bao was dominated by chili-lime and lemon-pepper flavors, while the short rib was tender and paired well with the savory salsa.

My favorite was the Hogzilla (\$4.50), which contained braised pork belly, pickled veggies and peanuts. Again, the tender meat was the star, but the crunch from the root veggies provided amazing balance.

I was also pleased by the cơm tôm bò

xào xà ớt, a delectable Vietnamese surf-and-turf dish with lemongrass beef and shrimp. The house-made fish sauce offered salty, savory notes, and I enjoyed the sides of rice and pickled veggies.

Best bite

The bánh mì (\$5.99) is a superb sandwich. The pillowy French bread rivals some of the best I've enjoyed in New Orleans. The first time I ordered the lemongrass beef, and the second time the lemongrass pork. Both times, I relished the variety of flavors between the proteins, pickled veggies and plenty of fresh cilantro. The provided jalapeños added a bit of kick to each bite. This is Lansing's best \$6 sandwich.

Zesty wings make a perfect playoff party palate pleaser

From METRO CREATIVE CONNECTION

Football fans know there's nothing quite like the playoffs. And big games are even more enjoyable when watched alongside fellow fans. When hosting a watch party at home, certain culinary staples, including chicken wings, need to make an appearance. Fans hosting playoff parties can ensure guests get what they need by offering up these Zesty Chicken Wings from Lines+Angles.

Zesty Chicken Wings

Makes four servings

For the marinade:

- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- One small white onion, finely chopped
- Two cloves garlic, finely chopped
- 1/2 cup fresh cilantro, finely chopped
- 2 tablespoons fresh lemon zest
- 2 tablespoons fresh lemon juice
- 2 cups barbecue sauce (your favorite)
- 1/4 cup sherry vinegar
- 1 teaspoon turmeric

For the chicken wings:

- 1 1/2 pounds chicken wings
 - Salt, to taste
 - Freshly ground black pepper, to taste
 - 1 tablespoon oil, for the grill
1. Combine all the ingredients for the marinade in a food processor. Pulse until blended well.
 2. Rinse the chicken wings under cold running water and pat dry with paper towels. Season with salt and pepper.
 3. Place the marinade and chicken wings into a large plastic storage bag. Seal the bag securely. Squeeze the bag several times, coating the chicken wings thoroughly with marinade. Place the bag in the refrigerator and marinate overnight.
 4. Prepare the grill for direct grilling. Brush the grill grate lightly with oil. Barbecue the wings over medium-hot coals or medium-high heat for five to seven minutes on each side (turning once, halfway through), until they are cooked through and golden brown.
 5. Serve with your favorite dipping sauce (optional).

WILLIAMSTOWN TOWNSHIP Board Meeting January 14, 2026 Synopsis

The Williamstown Township Board held a regular meeting on Wednesday, January 14, 2026 with Supervisor Poth, Clerk Cleveland, Treasurer VanErp, Trustee Brinker, Trustee Duffy, and Trustee Steinberg present. The Board approved the following:

- Consent Agenda
- Resolution #97-2026 - Property Tax Poverty Exemptions for 2026
- Changes (fees) to the Township Hall Rental Agreement
- Sanitary Sewer Utility Franchise Agreement between the Township & the City of Williamston
- Changes to Article 4.01(F)(2)(c) of the Off Street Parking and Loading Requirements Zoning Ordinance related to recreational vehicles parked or stored in a Platted Residential Subdivision or Site Condominium
- A 12-month Moratorium on Data Centers in Williamstown Township
- River Trail Resolution supporting the State's designation of the Middle Grand River Water Trail

The next regular Board meeting will be held on February 11, 2026 at 6:30 pm. 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#26-016



Every generation is gifted with certain individuals who somehow manage to stand out and rise above the status quo. In our generation, John Pollard was that person. John's zeal for improving everything and everyone, along with his passion for justice and equality, made him unforgettable. In some people, John's message and manner incited volatile reactions, but for others, he ignited a flame of determination in their own lives.

On behalf of all who loved and respected him, those of us who cherish his memory, we honor John Langston Pollard, "The Peacemaker".



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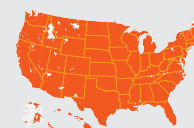
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A	T	B	A	T		D	I	M	A	S		S	L	C
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SUDOKU SOLUTION From Pg. 15

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



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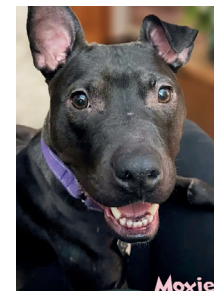
Sponsored by Anne and Dale Schrader
Sleetwood Mac

is a friendly little boxer/cattle dog mix who came to us from another shelter. He was rescued from a backyard during the recent cold weather. He got to spend some time in a foster home where he was a well-behaved houseguest! It appears that he must have spent some time living in a home before he found himself chained in a backyard, and he should adjust quickly to the life of a loved indoor dog. He likes other dogs and he loves people, and his wish for the new year is to celebrate snuggled up on a couch with his new family!



In memory of Rodica's Cats
Gichigami

and her friend Salt Shaker came to the shelter when their owner moved and could not take them. They are very sweet but very worried right now. They would love to get out of here and into quieter homes. They are friends but are not bonded and would do just as well on their own or with another cat for company.



Sponsored by Kato and Mouse
Moxie

is a 2-year-old female Pit Bull. She's had a rough start to life: She has scars from past injuries, including old bite wounds, injuries to her legs, and a missing toe, but none of that has dampened her spirit. Despite everything she's been through, Moxie is incredibly sweet and cuddly. She loves affection and enjoys being close to her people. She's also happy and playful, and she's learning how to play with other dogs, which she truly enjoys.

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