

www.lansingcitypulse.com

March 4 - 10, 2026

CityPULSE

A newspaper for the rest of us

Lansing's largest circulation newspaper



Native plants

The lazy hack for easier gardening

See Page 10



GREWAL LAW

protecting your rights PLLC

517.393.3000

Sponsored Content

Epic Fury?

“Epic Fury.” What the hell is that supposed to mean? Is that a military operation or the name of a garage band that never made it out of a fraternity basement? The branding alone feels unserious—like war reduced to a marketing exercise, tragedy focus-grouped into a slogan that fits neatly on a hat.

Meanwhile, Americans are told to look outward. To rally. To salivate for spectacle. To chant on cue.

But inward? Inward is messy.

The death of Americans on the homeland at the hands of agents from U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement should have been a national reckoning. Instead, it feels like a footnote—quickly swallowed by a larger drumbeat. Suddenly, the conversation pivots. Suddenly, we’re told the real crisis lies across an ocean. Suddenly, soldiers must prepare to die so that we can stop asking uncomfortable questions at home—questions about accountability, about transparency, about the lingering shadows of the Jeffrey Epstein files and who exactly fears what they might reveal.

When leaders pivot too fast, when they thump their chests too loudly, it’s hard not to think of Shakespeare: the lady doth protest too much. The louder the cry of “Epic Fury,” the more it sounds like deflection.

Under Donald Trump, the rhetoric has often blurred the line between governance and performance art. Announcements arrive wrapped in bombast. Institutions are renamed, rebranded and repurposed. A so-called “Board of Peace” becomes a rhetorical shield—language polished to a shine while money moves quietly behind it. Peace as branding. Fury as distraction.

And now, geopolitics.

The United States spent decades shaping, funding and sometimes bullying the international order anchored by the United Nations. Then we turned away—dismissed it as weak, irrelevant and unnecessary. We hollowed out diplomacy in favor of spectacle. And yet when tensions flare in the Middle East—when Iran launches missiles that threaten not just American interests but those of other nations—we expect the same international community to steady the table we’ve been kicking.

That contradiction is not a strength. It’s negligence.

War, once unleashed, is not a cable news segment you can change when the ratings dip. It is not a distraction tool. It is not a press strategy. It is bodies in coffins. It is debt. It is trauma that ripples for generations. The men and women sent into combat are not props in a domestic narrative pivot.

If there is an irony here, it may not be found abroad. It may be found at home.

Because “epic fury” is not something you can trademark. It cannot be stage-managed forever. If the American public comes to believe that war is being used as a smokescreen—if they see bloodshed deployed as a distraction from domestic scandal or institutional failure—the fury that follows will not be neatly branded. It will not fit on merchandise. It will not salute on command.

It will gather in the streets.

A republic cannot sustain itself on spectacle. It cannot substitute slogans for strategy, or outrage for accountability. Eventually, the branding collapses under the weight of reality. And when that happens, the fury will not be epic because someone named it so.

It will be epic because it was earned.

If this is leadership, it feels less like history and more like a bootleg sequel to Idiocracy—except this time the satire isn’t safely contained on a screen. In the original, stupidity was accidental, a slow cultural erosion that left the loudest fool holding the microphone. In our version, the absurdity feels intentional—policy by slogan, diplomacy by insult and war by branding exercise. One can almost imagine Mike Judge watching in disbelief as parody is outpaced by reality: cabinet meetings that resemble infomercials, “Boards of Peace” that sound like props, and crises managed with the strategic depth of an energy drink commercial. The joke, of course, was supposed to be on a fictional future. Instead, we’re living in the sequel—where the punchline isn’t funny, the stakes are real and the audience is finally starting to realize it paid for tickets to its own bewilderment.

Brawndo.

“Brawndo’s got what plants crave!”

“It’s got electrolytes!”

Please email me at lansingallstar@gmail.com

ALL STAR
MECHANICAL
HEATING • COOLING
517-490-4642
LC. 7115371

City PULSE

Help us cover all the news you need to know

City Pulse has long been Lansing's watchdog, storyteller, and independent voice. Your gift ensures that bold, local reporting continues to inform, challenge, and strengthen our capital city.



At Buried Lede Media, we believe in the power of local news. With your support, that power continues to thrive on every block.

Your gift is tax-deductible and ensures independent journalism remains a cornerstone of this community.



CityPULSE

**VOL. 25
ISSUE 30**

(517) 999-6704 • Fax: (517) 999-6061 • 1905 E. Michigan Ave. • Lansing, MI 48912 • www.lansingcitypulse.com



Experienced Sen. Sam Singh is leaving, why?

PAGE 8



New Wharton season: "Phantom," "Lion King," "Six," more

PAGE 15



"Witness tree" near Gaylord stars in new gothic horror novel

PAGE 17

© 2025 Michigan Independent Media Group
ADVERTISING INQUIRIES: (517) 999-6704
or email citypulse@lansingcitypulse.com
CLASSIFIEDS & OBITUARIES: (517) 999-6704

PUBLISHER • Lonnie Scott
lonnie@buriedledemedia.com
EDITOR • Sarah Leach
sarah@buriedledemedia.com
MANAGING EDITOR • Mike Ellis
mike@lansingcitypulse.com • (517) 999-6707
GENERAL MANAGER • Steve Underwood
steve@lansingcitypulse.com • (517) 999-6704
ARTS & CULTURE/EVENTS EDITOR • Nicole Noechel
nicole@lansingcitypulse.com • (517) 999-5066
SENIOR STAFF WRITER • Lawrence Cosentino
lawrence@lansingcitypulse.com • (517) 999-5065
NEWS REPORTER • Leo V. Kaplan
leo@lansingcitypulse.com • (517) 999-5063
ADVERTISING DIRECTOR • Jaclyn Holland
jaclyn@buriedledemedia.com
Contributors: Bryan Beverly, Courtney Bowerman, Rob Breznsy, Capital News Service, Ryan Claytor, Mary C. Cusack, Dana DeMink, Lizzy Ferguson, Mark Gmazel, Raymond Holt, Kurt Krug, Ari LeVaux, Gabrielle Lawrence, Kyle Melinn, Tom Perkins, Dennis Preston, Vic Rauch, Lora Root, Chris Silva, Jen Sorensen, Nevin Speerbrecker, Vidalia Wenzlick, David Winkelstern, Victor Wooddell
Delivery drivers: Teri Cross, Cindy Heistand, Curt Lauck, James McKinnie, Diane Scofield, Seth Smith

City Pulse was founded as an alternative weekly in 2001.

Member, AAN

1 HAWKS ITCH FOR BATTLE
IT WILL BE A SPLENDID LITTLE WAR!

2 9/11 FALSELY INVOKED
I'M SURE THEY HAD SOMETHING TO DO WITH THE HIJACKERS.

3 BOOSTERS OF PREVIOUS WAR ALL OVER TV
BOMBS AWAY!

4 MILLIONS PROTEST AROUND THE WORLD AND ARE IGNORED
THIS WAR IS BUNK TOO

5 PATRIOTISM OF OPPOSITION QUESTIONED
SUPPORT OUR TROOPS YOU TRAITOR

6 WAR A BLOODY DISASTER WITHOUT END
WHO COULD HAVE KNOWN?

7 CONVENTIONAL WISDOM FORMS THAT WAR WAS A MISTAKE, BUT NO ONE HELD ACCOUNTABLE
HOW'D WE GET INTO THAT MESS?
BEATS ME!

The BIG DUMB WAR CYCLE

© Jen Sorensen • jensorensen.com

CityPULSE

USE THE QR CODE TO GET THE DIGITAL EDITION IN YOUR INBOX **FREE** BY 6AM EVERY WEDNESDAY!

HELP PUT INK ON THE PAGE! CONTRIBUTE TO CITY PULSE.

Use the QR code to donate by credit card or call (517) 999-6704. Checks may be mailed to City Pulse, 1905 E. Michigan Ave, Lansing, MI 48912.

THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW

SIR, OUR ONGOING PROJECT TO MAKE LIFE WORSE FOR EVERYONE IN EVERY CONCEIVABLE WAY IS SUCCEEDING BEYOND OUR WILDEST EXPECTATIONS!

ZZZZ--SNORT--WHAT? I'M AWAKE! I WASN'T UP ALL NIGHT RAGE POSTING!

FIRST AND FOREMOST, WE'VE JUST LAUNCHED A NEW WAR IN THE MIDDLE EAST FOR NO APPARENT REASON! WE HAVEN'T EVEN BOTHERED TO PROVIDE A CONCEPT OF A PLAUSIBLE JUSTIFICATION!

WHY SHOULD I KEEP PRETENDING TO GIVE A CRAP ABOUT PEACE WHEN THEY WON'T GIVE ME THAT DAMN PRIZE?

HERE AT HOME, WE'RE ARBITRARILY WITHHOLDING MEDICAID PAYMENTS FROM MINNESOTA, WHICH SHOULD REALLY DISRUPT HEALTH CARE AND SOCIAL SERVICES THERE!

I LOVE AMERICA, SMILING GUY--I JUST HATE MOST OF THE PEOPLE WHO LIVE HERE!

MEANWHILE, ICE IS CONTINUING THEIR CAMPAIGN OF DOMESTIC TERROR! THEY'RE STOCKPILING MILITARY GRADE WEAPONS! THEY'VE GOT A CONCENTRATION CAMP FOR CHILDREN!

SECRET MASKED POLICE ARE THE HALLMARK OF A HEALTHY DEMOCRACY, MANY PEOPLE ARE SAYING!

AND THEN THERE'S BOBBY'S CRUSADE AGAINST VACCINES! YOUR STUBBORN REFUSAL TO GIVE UP ON TARIFFS! AND YOUR TIRELESS EFFORTS TO UNDERMINE OBAMACARE!

OBAMA WILL RUE THE DAY HE MOCKED ME AT THAT CORRESPONDENTS' DINNER!

AND WHO EVEN KNOWS WHAT THE UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES OF THIS NEW WAR WILL BE! I DON'T THINK ANY OTHER PRESIDENT HAS EVER DONE SO MUCH DAMAGE IN SUCH A SHORT PERIOD OF TIME!

I MAY BE AN OLD MAN ON THE VERGE OF DEATH--BUT BY GOD, HISTORY WILL NEVER FORGET TRUMP!

OF THIS WE CAN BE CERTAIN, SIR!

TOM TOMORROW © 2026-03-02 ... JOIN SPARKY'S LIST: thismodernworld.com/subscriptions

PULSE

NEWS & OPINION

Three potential successors were in the room for Whitmer's final address; each had notes

By **BEN SOLIS/**
MICHIGAN ADVANCE
Michiganadvance.com

As Gov. Gretchen Whitmer wrapped her final State of the State address last week, a handful of candidates who may very well be her successor were sitting in the room watching her.

Gubernatorial hopefuls John James, Jocelyn Benson and Aric Nesbitt were all in the Michigan Senate chamber as Whitmer pitched new plans for early literacy training, expanded K-12 funding, fully-funded and full-day pre-kindergarten options, and plans to address the state's housing crisis.

Benson and Nesbitt were there as secretary of state and the minority leader of the Michigan Senate, respectively, and James was invited as a guest of state Rep. Alicia St. Germaine (R-Harrison Township).

James, a sitting U.S. Representative from Shelby Township seeking the Republican nomination in the 2026 gubernatorial primary, was among those who spoke to reporters following the address. He did not initially lob criticism against Whitmer, and instead said that she needs to continue focusing on things that bring Michiganders together. As an example, he pointed to the new fighter mission for the Selfridge Air National Guard Base, which James said he worked in conjunction with Whitmer and President Donald Trump to make happen.

James, however, spoke from the perspective of what the future leader of the state might also do to continue work for Michiganders to find common ground in an era of wide divisions over politics and culture.

"The thing about that is Michigan has the supply base, we have the talent, we have the natural resources, but what we lack is the leadership. Right now, despite the rosy picture that was painted for Michiganders today, the fact remains that we're still 45th out of 50 in education," James said. "The fact remains that we're still number two in unemployment. The fact remains that in the city of Detroit, one in two children are still living

in poverty, and our children can't breathe. These are all facts that matter, and they can't be whitewashed or painted over by what politicians say on the bully pulpit."

James is positioned as the frontrunner in the GOP primary but faces strong challenges from Nesbitt and former Attorney General Mike Cox. However, he said he was looking forward to potentially making his own policy pitches next year.

That's where his praise of Whitmer ended and criticism of her new policy pitches started to pile up.

"I'm looking forward to concentrating on four items, academic excellence, economic mobility, public safety, accountable government and healthy families," James said. "Those are the basics that are going to help make us all, all 10 million, and having that leadership that has been tested from the battlefield to business, and then delivering as a congressman. Those are the types of things that are going to help."

James said he has an education plan, and he was pressed on that plan by reporters. He said federal government scholarships and money for parents to send their children to "where they will be safest and most successful," was part of the calculus, a nod to universal school choice and potential further erosion of the public education system spearheaded by Trump's second administration.

"Whitmer got up there talking about education. Well, she's the one who got rid of the grading system that held our teachers and our administrators accountable for failing standards. She got rid of the concept of holding kids back who couldn't read, because our children shouldn't be penalized. They need a little bit more time to get mastery," James said. "Bringing that back. The opt-in is very important. These are federal dollars that are available to the state, and Gretchen Wilmer should opt in right now, but if she doesn't opt in for these federal dollars, then I will do so on day one."

The opt-in James was referring to was yet another tool of the Trump administration to propagate private schools and give them resources for expenses to be



Gov. Gretchen Whitmer

used outside the federal public school education system. The program was part of Trump's One Big Beautiful Bill Act, which requires states to "opt-in" to receive federal tax credit scholarships that allow parents to spend federal dollars on private schools enrollment.

Benson, who is the frontrunner in a shrinking field on the Democratic side of the gubernatorial front, said she was grateful to see the governor recognize that Michigan needs current and future leaders who will work hard on driving down costs across the board — whether that encompassed medical, housing or education costs.

She also took on James directly in her commentary about Whitmer's address, noting that the next governor has to work hard on driving medical costs downward.

"One of my potential opponents voted to raise health care premiums, not once, not twice, but three times," Benson said. "And given the work that I've done to be the first candidate for governor to release a plan to increase health care affordability and accessibility statewide, I think that draws a sharp contrast of what we have in terms of visions for the future of our state

On education, Benson said Michigan schools and the dire problem of the state's literacy scores were due to decades

of defunding of schools in Michigan, and over many years where the Republicans either held all or mostly all of the power in Lansing.

"We have led the nation in defunding our schools for the last 30 years," Benson added. "I'm grateful that, for the last several years, we've been able to start moving in the right direction, but we've got a lot more work to do if we're going to ensure our educators are well paid, that we're addressing the education shortage, and providing wrap around services for educators and paraprofessionals."

Benson put a fine line under the fact that financial support was essential for that latter group "that shows up every day for our kids," as well as mental health support and the early literacy training Whitmer mentioned in her annual address.

"Science-based curriculum is the key," Benson said.

Nesbitt (R-Porter Township) delivered the official Republican response to Whitmer's address, which was released around the same time the speech began and was pre-recorded on his family farm, complete with musical score.

Nesbitt criticized the governor over the state's poor literacy scores, an issue Whitmer has made top priority for her final year in office.

"It's about time," Nesbitt said, but repeated past criticisms of her decision to sign legislation eliminating Michigan's third-grade reading law, and the A-F Grading system for schools.

The state can also address housing child care and health care shortages by "getting government out of the way and taking a blowtorch to Whitmer's bloated bureaucracy and crippling red tape to make Michigan more affordable," Nesbitt said.

"It's time to declare Michigan open for business and good-paying jobs once again," Nesbitt said.

Bill would expand Michigan's bottle deposit law while some want to abolish it

By **CRISTIAN VAZQUEZ**
Capital News Service

LANSING — Sen. Sean McCann, D-Kalamazoo, is the sponsor of legislation to extend the state's bottle deposit law, including adding containers of noncarbonated beverages, water and hard cider.

Michigan voters overwhelmingly approved a 10-cent-per-container law in 1976, and McCann's bill would put a proposed expansion on the state ballot in November.

However, the Midwest Independent Retailers Association says the state should go in the opposite direction and repeal the current law, which applies only to cans and bottles of carbonated beverages.

The industry group has urged Gov.

Gretchen Whitmer to support repeal, calling the law "costly, inconvenient and increasingly ignored" and saying it "creates health hazards inside our food stores."

The association said in a press release that the state should "accelerate its move towards modern curbside and community-based recycling programs that better reflect how Michiganders live, shop and recycle in 2026."

The current law encourages consumers to clean dirty bottles and cans that hold carbonated beverages and return them to retailers' collection sites so they can be recycled.

Conan Smith, the president and CEO of the Michigan Environmental Council, says the idea of expanding the deposit law to energy drinks and other

beverages is straightforward.

Smith said seven out of 10 people in Michigan want to see the law expanded and that 80% of residents see the law as good for the state.

He said the reason for extending the law is to make it "easier for Michiganders to return any bottle and can."

And if that many people want to see the law expanded, "why are we even talking about repealing it?" Smith said.

At the time McCann reintroduced his bill last June, he said, "It is well past time to ensure that plastic water bottles are added to eligible containers for a deposit return, and to also establish universal redemption of containers so consumers can easily return them to any store."

"Including water bottles under the



Michigan Environmental Council

Conan Smith is president of the Michigan Environmental Council.

deposit law would help divert over two billion water bottles per year out of landfills," he said in a press release.

The bill is pending in the Senate Energy and Environmental Committee.

In a related development, the House voted on Feb. 26 to grant an income tax write-off to beverage distributors that move recycled cans and bottles from stores to recycling plants. The intent is to offset some of their costs.

After the vote, the Michigan Beverage Association's president, Derek Bajema, issued a statement saying, "This legislation ensures that we can continue to make the investments needed to carry out the costly state-imposed system of bottle deposit returns."

The proposal sponsored by Rep. Joseph Aragona, R-Clinton Township, is awaiting Senate action.

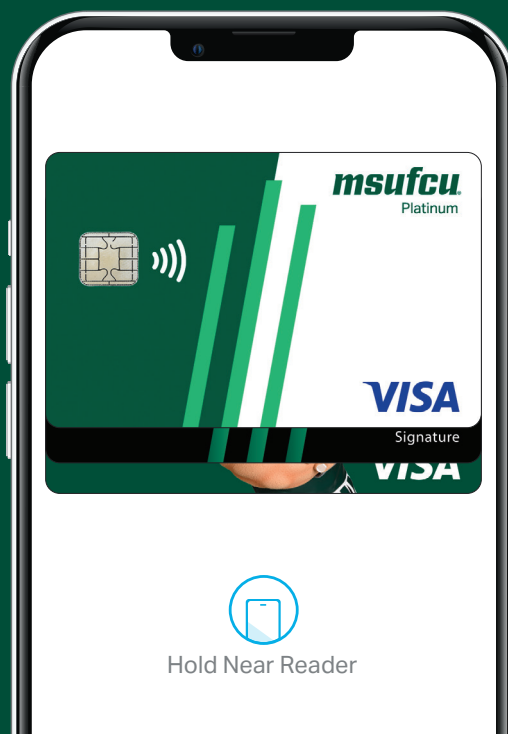
A Great Rate, No Runaround

There's no reason to chase a better rate. Transfer your current card balances to the MSUFUCU Platinum Visa Credit Card and take advantage of **0% balance transfers!**¹

Introductory APR on balance transfers is for the first six months. After the introductory period, the rate reverts to the standard rate between 9.90% APR and 17.90% APR.²



Make the switch today!
msufcu.org/visa



Hold Near Reader

msufcu
MSU FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

¹Annual Percentage Rate (APR) of 0% is valid for the first six months from the date the Visa Credit Card account is opened and applies only to balance transfers from another financial institution's credit card. After six months, rate will revert to your standard rate, between 9.90% and 17.90%. Accounts 60 days late revert to the penalty rate of 17.90%. Introductory APR does not apply to purchases, cash advances, or delinquent loans. APR is annual percentage rate, and is stated for qualified members having high credit scores. Actual rates may be higher and will be determined by member's credit score. ²9.90% APR is lowest rate offered for Platinum Visa Credit Card. Rate offered is based on member's credit score. A Penalty APR of 17.90% will be applied if your account becomes delinquent for 60 days. International transactions and cash advances will be charged a fee of 1% of the transaction or cash advance amount for ATM transactions and 3% for all other transactions calculated after the transaction has been converted to U.S. dollars. The late payment fee is \$25.00 if the minimum payment due is \$25.00 or more; \$15.00 if the minimum payment due is \$15.00 to \$24.99; or \$0 if the minimum payment due is less than \$15.00. There is a \$25 charge for each returned convenience check. See full terms and conditions at msufcu.org/visa.



As Seen On the Cover of CityPulse

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

nevin@nevingraphics.com

517-703-4655

[f ArtByNevin](https://www.facebook.com/ArtByNevin)

[i Art_By_Nevin](https://www.instagram.com/Art_By_Nevin)

REWIND

NEWS HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE LAST 7 DAYS

COMPILED BY STEVE UNDERWOOD FROM LOCAL NEWS SOURCES



Some Lansing City Council members are proposing a change to the city's current red tag/pink tag system for condemning homes and requiring demolition procedures. The city has about 620 red-tagged homes and they spend an average time of nearly three years on the list, according to a Feb. 6 update. The change would have four color tags and would add up to \$500 a day in fines, steeper than the current system. The new colors would be white or yellow for missing rental certificates or lapsed inspections, red for required safety repairs and black for near demolition. Council members could vote on the new system in the next few weeks.

The City of Lansing awarded \$70,000 in grants through its annual Arts and Culture Grants program, which is administered by the Arts Council of Greater Lansing.



The grantees and supported art efforts include: All of the Above Hip Hop Academy (Cap City Breaking Jam, a breakdance competition at Lansing Shuffle, Sept. 26), the Capital City Film Festival (16th annual, April 8-18), the Fenner Nature Conservancy (Visitor Center murals), the Lansing Children's Choir (two community concerts and the 2026 Music Art Drama and Dance Camp), the Lansing Symphony Association (Neighborhood Concerts), Pure Winds (Young Listeners Program for local schools, including invitations to Pure Winds' Robin Theatre concerts), and the REACH Studio Art Center (Creative Connections programming by local artists).

The U.S. Supreme Court declined on Monday to hear a lawsuit that would have challenged Michigan's voter roll process for dead voters. A U.S. Court of Appeals and a federal district court each previously rejected the lawsuit, filed by the Public Interest Legal Foundation. The Appeals Court decision from last summer said,



Department of State before and following the 2020 election. In a statement, Michigan's Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson said: "The claims in this lawsuit were not supported by evidence; they were partisan attacks aimed at undermining people's faith in our secure elections. I'm glad to see the Supreme Court acknowledge that the facts and the law still matter and stand with the lower courts that have praised Michigan's comprehensive work to maintain accurate voter rolls."

The Michigan Princess is being deconstructed. Its owners announced last week that the river ferry — host to countless dances, weddings and events for three decades — would never float again. The ferry was damaged in 2024 when it was being returned to water. "The structural damage that occurred last year was simply too great to repair, and new State of Michigan maritime regulations have made restoration impossible to do safely or affordably," the owners announced last week in a Facebook post. The same company operates two other Michigan river ferries: the Detroit Princess Riverboat and the Little Traverse Bay Ferry Co.



The Michigan Supreme Court has allowed state prosecutors to continue their case against Ethan Cao. He is named as a "pledge master" and accused in the November 2021 alcohol death of a Michigan State University student during an alleged Pi Alpha Phi party. Cao faces additional counts of injuring three others. The Supreme Court decision on Feb. 26 affirmed a Court of Appeals ruling from October. That October ruling said the state's Gar-

rett's Law, an anti-hazing measure, was constitutional and the original district court had acted appropriately in handling Cao's case.



Buckshot, the frisbee-retrieving bundle of joy better known as Zeke the Wonderdog, has died. His human partners, Jim and Terri Foley, announced Sunday that Zeke IV had died of cancer. Buckshot performed as MSU's signature high-performance dog since 2016 at Spartan events large and small, from stadiums and classrooms to parades and video promotions. "He left a legacy of Spartan love," Jim Foley said, in the announcement. Zeke the Wonderdog began as a tradition in 1977, with a dog named Ezekiel. The tradition was resurrected in 2002, after an 18-year gap, by Zeke II and the Foleys. Buckshot/Zeke IV was actually the fifth dog to serve as Zeke, according to MSU Today. A dog named Keze briefly filled the role in 1981, during Ezekiel's tenure, and was not given a Zeke numeral. The Foleys, who also handled Zeke III, said that Zeke V is ready to carry the frisbee next, with plans underway to introduce the next Wonderdog to fans soon.

MSU announced Feb. 24 that alumni Jay and Jill Craig have made a "\$26.25 million commitment ... to strengthen student success



across the Eli Broad College of Business and the College of Social Science." The Craigs met as students in 1980 and credit their MSU experience with shaping their personal and professional paths. Their philanthropy reflects a shared belief in the power of education to transform lives and expand opportunity. Their commitment is structured to support students now and for generations to come. "By investing in flexible student success funds, the Craigs are empow-

ering MSU to respond to evolving needs and create opportunities that will make a lasting difference for generations of Spartans," said Vice President for University Advancement Kim Tobin.

The 50th class of the Lansing Sports Hall of Fame will include MSU head coach



Tom Izzo, the winningest coach in Big Ten history, now in his 31st year. Also scheduled to be inducted are basketball players Cortney Scott, Denzel Valentine (who played for Izzo) and Drew Valentine, as well as Dave Allen (baseball), Debbie Kent (softball) and John Holmes (football, basketball). The 1999 state champion Okemos softball team will be inducted, as well. The 50th Anniversary Celebration is scheduled for Aug. 20, according to the Hall of Fame's website.



Okemos Public Schools has named Perry Public Schools Superintendent Lori Haven and Matt Olson,

assistant superintendent of the Northwest Education Services in Traverse City, as its two superintendent finalists after a round of public interviews. The final interviews are tentatively scheduled for March 17 and will be accompanied by a public interview with the board and a community meet and greet. Current superintendent John Hood announced his retirement in November after more than 30 years with the district.

The Ingham County Sheriff's Office has identified Jackson Patrick Truman, 19,



as the individual killed in an automobile crash on Friday in Aurelius Township near Mason. The vehicle Truman was driving went off Bunker Road, near South Eifert Road, and struck a tree. Police said they do not believe alcohol or drugs were a factor in the crash. Those with any information are asked to contact Sgt. Adam Jackson at 517-676-8212.

Sam Singh is leaving Michigan's Legislature ... just as voters intended

One of the most talented legislators I've witnessed in my 25 years on the job is hanging up after this year.

He's at no risk of getting beaten at the ballot box. He's not cloaked in scandal. He's not at the traditional retirement age. The Democrats have better than even odds of keeping a majority in the Senate.

In fact, Senate Majority Floor Leader Sam Singh has plenty of tread left on the tires.

Last year, he won his second Senator of the Year award. He passed more public acts in the calendar year than any of his 146 legislative colleagues.

Singh has been behind some of the more complicated deals we've had here in Lansing. Energy policy. Economic development. The tipped wage issue. Earned sick time.

And yet, you probably wouldn't know it because he doesn't steal the spotlight or hold a bunch of press conferences. In fact, I can't remember any press conferences he's spearheaded since he's been a state Senator.

So why would someone in their prime hang it up?

Singh has been vague publicly about his reasons, but as someone roughly his age with a wife and young son, I'll give you my frank opinion.

Being a legislator is not a career.

The pay is far from lucrative. The pensions are gone. Plus, you're term-limited out of office after 12 years, so you have a shot clock on your head the day you sign up.

It didn't used to be that way.

In the 1970s, the movement was to professionalize the Legislature. The idea was that by juicing up compensation, quality people would want to stay in the business for a long time. The longer a legislator serves, the better they produce. The better production helps the entire state of Michigan.

That was the argument anyway.

That all turned on its head by the 1990s.

The public felt the compensation packages were too much, too out of step with the public. Not only were the politicians getting rich, but they were also positioned to stay

rich for a long period of time.

Michigan voters passed the strictest term-limit law in the country. Entire crops of legislators started cycling through the state House of Representatives every six years. It's hard to justify a pension if you're only at a job for six years.

Then, a big whammy occurred. Back in 2000, legislators gave themselves a 38% pay raise, boosting their salary to \$79,650, which was good pay at the time.

Knowing they'd all be term-limited out of a job, and the pensions were coming to an end. These outgoing legislators boosted their pay to improve their pension payout and then screwed everyone who came behind them.

After the new rate went into effect, the lawmakers put on the ballot a constitutional amendment that makes it politically difficult for any future pay hike to go into effect. Voters gleefully passed it.

The result? There's been no raises for 25 years. Instead, legislators cut their pay during the Great Recession and now make \$71,685 a year.

If lawmakers had given themselves inflationary raises from 2002 to the present, they'd be making \$146,000 a year.

Now, they make as much as your average state bureaucrat while their buying power drops. Numerous legislative staffers make more than their bosses.

Singh, who turned 55 the other day, is at his prime money-making age.

If he signed up for another four years, he'd be pushing 60 and could lose out on opportunities to earn much more money in the private sector.

Do you blame him? I don't.

So, instead, someone new can get an opportunity to serve. The new person can make all the contacts, learn all the issues and figure out the system. Maybe that person will be as effective as Singh. Maybe not.

It doesn't really matter because the system is working ... exactly as the voters intended it to work.

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



KYLE MELINN

POLITICS

Bill would ban 'dog-discrimination' by insurers

By JUSTIN FOX CLAUSEN
Capital News Service

LANSING – A new House bill would prevent home insurance companies from denying, canceling or raising prices for homeowners and tenants based on a dog breed.

A 2025 Forbes Advisor analysis of state insurance filings found some of the most common breeds banned by insurance companies are rottweilers, German shepherds, great Danes and pit bull terriers.

According to U.S News and World Report, the pit bull terrier was the most commonly owned breed in Michigan in 2025. Year-end data from pet-sitting app Rover also lists pit bull mixes as the most common breed in the state.

Michigan Humane said many home insurance companies charge higher rates or will refuse or cancel coverage if a homeowner gets one of those breeds.

Detroit-based Michigan Humane said the breed of a biting dog is often unknown or reported inaccurately due to identification challenges.

The American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA) says there is no

evidence that breed-specific insurance claims are financially more significant to insurers than other losses.

The bill to prohibit breed discrimination by insurers was re-introduced by state Rep. Penelope Tsernoglou, D-East Lansing.

In a press release, Tsernoglou said the temperament of a breed doesn't mean all dogs of that breed will behave aggressively.

She also said policies prohibiting or charging higher premiums for certain breeds can negatively impact renters, landlords and homeowners.

"There is no reason that insurance companies should have a say in what type of dog a person can have in their home," Tsernoglou said.

Some states already ban breed-based discrimination by insurance companies, including Nevada, New York and Illinois. Several others have legislation pending.

The Michigan bill's cosponsors include Reps. Emily Dievendorf, D-Lansing, Kimberly Edwards, D-Eastpointe, and Veronica Paiz, D-Harper Woods. It is pending in the House Insurance and Financial Services Committee.

LANSING AREA PEACE EDUCATION CENTER STATEMENT ON IRAN ATTACK



The Lansing Area Peace Education Center stands firmly against war and genocide. This week we watch in horror as the U.S. enters into an unprovoked war against Iran. We call on all people to stand firmly against military aggression.

This illegal and unjustifiable attack is happening even as the U.S. and Iran are in the middle of negotiations. Iran had purportedly agreed to the core demands of the U.S. to allow IAEA inspections, give up production of enriched uranium, and downgrade the existing stockpile of uranium.

The Foreign Minister of Oman, Badr Albusaidi, who was mediating these talks, stated "I am dismayed. Active and serious negotiations have yet again been undermined. Neither the interests of the United States nor the cause of global peace are well served by this. And I pray for the innocents who will suffer. I urge the United States not to get sucked in further. This is not your war."

The U.S. is conducting this bombing in cooperation with Israel which has long been terrorizing their neighbors to enhance their own land holdings and power in the region. One of the first bombs dropped in this week's attack hit a school of young girls - a

horrific reminder of Israel's callous genocide of Palestinians.

Recently, Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi warned of damage to international law resulting from Israel's unchecked use of force against Palestinians.

His words are especially important as the U.S. joins hands with Israel today.

"We must say this clearly: the world is moving toward a condition where international law no longer is respected and governs international relations.

What is perhaps most dangerous is the precedent being established: that if a state has sufficient political cover and protection, it may bomb civilians, besiege populations, target infrastructure, assassinate individuals across borders, and still demand to be regarded as lawful.

This is not merely a Palestinian problem. It is a global problem.

We are witnessing not only the tragedy of Palestine, but the transformation of the world into a place where the law is replaced by force."

We should heed his words carefully and call on Congress to reign in the executive branch of the government from pursuing an ill-advised and unauthorized attack on a sovereign nation. The use of force cannot be allowed to replace the rule of law.

Lansing Area Peace Education Center
<http://www.peacedcenter.org/>

Opinion

Public Notice

The Ingham County Land Bank is requesting proposals for **Demolition & Debris Removal and Asbestos Containing Material & Hazardous Materials Removal & Disposal**. The Request for Proposal packet is available March 4, 2026 at the Ingham County Land Bank, 3024 Turner St, Lansing, MI, 48906, 8:00 am to 4:00 pm Monday-Friday or at www.inghamlandbank.org/contractors. Responses are due at the Land Bank offices by 10am on March 25, 2026 and will be opened at 10am, March 25, 2026. The Ingham County Land Bank is an Equal Employment Opportunity Employer. Women- and Minority-Owned Businesses are encouraged to apply. RFP# BEP3-613-Demo-Abatement

CP#26-072



**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN, INGHAM COUNTY
LEGAL AD NOTICE: MARCH BOARD OF REVIEW
MARCH 3, 9, 10 AND 11, 2026**

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
BOARD OF REVIEW MEETINGS
5151 MARSH ROAD, OKEMOS, MICHIGAN 48864
(517) 853-4400
MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

The Charter Township of Meridian Board of Review will conduct its organizational meeting on Tuesday, March 3, 2026 at 10:00 a.m. at the Township Municipal Building, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, Michigan 48864.

2026 Tentative Factors:

Commercial Real Property	1.00000
Industrial Real Property	1.00000
Residential Real Property	1.00000
Personal Property	1.00000

The Board of Review will meet for assessment appeals at the Township Municipal Building on the following days:

Monday, March 9, 2026: 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Tuesday, March 10, 2026: 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon and 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Wednesday, March 11, 2026: 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon

For an appointment to appear before the Board of Review, call (517)853-4400 by 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 10, 2026.

Written appeals will be accepted if received by 12:00 noon on Wednesday, March 11, 2026. Appeals must be in office by this time, post marks are not accepted.

**ANGELA DEMAS
MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP CLERK**

CP#26-050

Providing a safe and welcoming, sustainable, prime community.

A PRIME COMMUNITY
meridian.mi.us

THE PULSIFIEDS

Assistant Professor

The Michigan State University Residential College in Arts and Humanities seeks qualified candidates for the following full-time position: Assistant Professor (East Lansing, MI). Classroom teaching in Performance and Media Arts, climate and environmental issues through arts practice, related courses. Ph.D. in Performing and Media Arts or a closely related field. To apply for this posting, please go to www.careers.msu.edu and search for posting number 1114465. MSU is committed to achieving excellence through cultural diversity. The university actively encourages applications and/or nominations from women, persons of color, veterans and persons with disabilities. MSU is an affirmative action, equal opportunity employer.

Engineering/Physicist Accelerator II

The Michigan State University seeks qualified candidates for the following fulltime position: Engineering/Physicist Accelerator II (East Lansing, MI) Support mech eng dept on design, production, assembly, implementation. Produce, document design solutions, develop system-level models, create CAD designs. Bachelor's in Mech Eng, Physics, or closely related + 36 months' exp as Mech Eng or related occupation in eng. 3 years' exp in fabrication techniques, cryogenic systems, electronics, mech and electronic drafting, computer systems, using CAD. To apply for this posting please go to www.careers.msu.edu and search for posting number 1114038. MSU is committed to achieving excellence through cultural diversity. The university actively encourages applications and/or nominations from women, persons of color, veterans and persons with disabilities. MSU is an affirmative action, equal opportunity employer.

**CITY OF GRAND LEDGE
BOARD OF REVIEW**

Notice is hereby given to the taxpayers and property owners of the City of Grand Ledge, Eaton County, Michigan:

The Board of Review will meet at 9:00 a.m., on Tuesday, 10 March 2026, in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 310 Greenwood St., Grand Ledge MI 48837, in organizational session and be presented the 2026 Assessment roll to review. This meeting is not for public protest of property assessments. The Board of Review will meet to review the 2026 Assessment Roll and hear objections on the following dates and times:

Monday, 23 March 2026, from 2:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., break from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
 Tuesday, 24 March 2026, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., break from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Appointments must be scheduled by contacting the City Assessor at (517) 622-7932 or assessor@cityofgrandledge.com. Questions pertaining to valuation can also be answered prior to the meeting of the Board of Review by contacting the City Assessor. Mail-in appeals are strongly encouraged and must be RECEIVED by 12:00 p.m. on 24 March 2026.

	Tentative Assessment Level	Estimated Equalization Multiplier
Real Property		
Commercial	48.57%	1.0294
Industrial	49.56%	1.0089
Residential	46.59%	1.0732
Personal Property	50%	1.0000

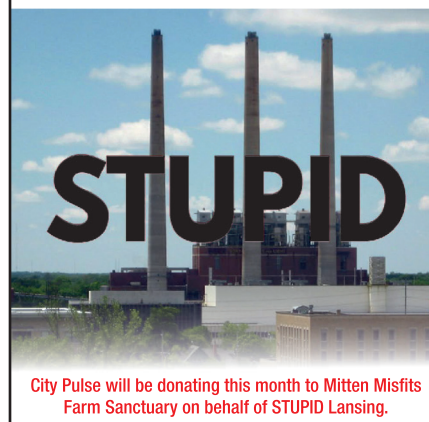
Individuals with disabilities or limited English proficiency planning to attend City meetings or hearings should contact the City at (517) 627-2149 or cityhall@cityofgrandledge.com, seven days in advance of the meeting or hearing to request services.

Gregory L. Newman, City Clerk

CP#26-070



Big Penny was "photographed" floating in an ethereal state in Old Town. The newest iteration of Big Penny may be in Old Town for the upcoming Brrs, Beards, and Brews: A Lumberjack Festival on Saturday from noon to 5 p.m. Is this new Penny a sign of the apocalypse, idiocracy, or something even worse? For now, officials are recommending that all residents stay calm, stay tuned to STUPID - Lansing and watch for lumberjacks.



City Pulse will be donating this month to Mitten Misfits Farm Sanctuary on behalf of STUPID Lansing.



**PROFESSIONAL SERVICES
WITH A PERSONAL TOUCH**

**Commercial & residential
cleaning plans for your needs!**

*Licensed • Insured • Bonded
References • Flexible Hours*

- Top Down Cleaning
- Move In/Move Out
- New Construction Cleans
- Student Housing

Call **517-819-3250**
for a quote or walk-thru!

maximaids1@gmail.com
www.maximaids.net



MSU horticulture students pot seedlings for their floriculture production course in February.

Don't like watering, weeding and fertilizing? Here's how native plants can make YOUR life easier

BY MIKE ELLIS

One of the big problems with gardening is all that work.

It can be relaxing, sure, but also annoying to pluck the weeds, dose out the fertilizer, pluck the weeds, remember to water and then pluck the weeds again.

And again.

There's no magic fix for doing some work but there's a big hack that anyone can do even in a small yard: move toward native plants.

It means less watering and fertilizer, a lot less: around zero.

And a lot less weeding.

There still will be, regretfully, more than zero weeding, but in just a short time the difference will be night and day.

After a few years, or less, there will be more wildlife even in Lansing and East Lansing neighborhoods. Plant it and they'll come, from birds and bees to what the experts call 'charismatic megafauna' like deer and hawks.

The kicker is that native plants are usually less work than what most people are used to doing, using non-native or alien species, which are super common and often the default plants at stores.

Sometimes those default alien plants are labeled pest-free, and one of the big shifts in using native plants is to start seeing 'pest-free' plants as useless NPCs, or non-player characters in a video game, something that's just part of the decor.

Any plant that has no pests is a giant freeloader, sucking up sunlight and space and your time while giving back nothing to the ecosystem. No pests means no pollinators and no insects and that means no birds and no bigger animals.

The non-natives take a lot of resources but are just empty calories.

They make for a sterile garden: plants that live and breathe and provide shelter but no sustenance. Pest-free makes for a garden with a natural nutritional value close to plastic for most of the ecosystem.

Do less

There's a way to enlist suburban and urban yards to help make up for the loss of wild spaces, and it can be easier than what you've been doing already.

One of the key books for today's native gardeners is Douglas Tallamy's *Bringing Nature Home* (2007), which urges anyone with a yard to start to switch over to native plants as a bulwark against insect and animal food source losses.

Tallamy is the keynote speaker at this weekend's Wildflower Association of Michigan conference at MSU. Tickets are already sold, so try dressing up like a native shrub and sneaking in.

Tallamy says that without modifying our spaces - homes, work, play - to accommodate plants, insects and animals, "nearly all species of wildlife native to the United States will disappear forever."

His case for laziness: "The sterile garden's continued existence depends entirely on the frantic efforts of the gardener alone."

Growing movement

For decades, the native plant movement has been growing across America, including in Michigan, with mid-Michigan native plant advocates like Bill Schneider, founder of Wildtype Native Plant Nursery, and Esther Durnwald, owner of Michigan Wildflower Farm.

After 30 years of working on natives, they said it feels like native plants have grown from a fringe to being widely accepted today and are now on the cusp of becoming the standard.

"It used to take four or five years to get some of the plants I wanted," said Carolyn Miller, arboretum and invasive species coordinator at MSU's Beal Botanical Garden. "Now we have more native plant growers growing and there's native plant growers where I can order online and pick up in a couple of days and now I'm not driving as far. The access to native plants has never been better in Michigan."

Chill out and garden

The traditional, well-maintained suburban and urban gardens of the 60s, 70s, 80s and 90s take so much work to maintain and have become too expensive for most families, said Schneider.

When he grew up in metro Detroit, his parents and neighbors would each buy five, 10, 15 flats of annual flowers and plants and invest several weekends each year. Today, that's more rich people stuff.

Instead, Schneider recommends backyard native beginners begin with a few flats of native perennial plants, which may cost more, and plant them tightly together while working over a few years to thickly fill up the borders of any yard.

Working on a border, he said, will give new habitat for animals and keep most of the yard accessible, plus it will be less work than what you're used to doing.

Start small

Native planting doesn't require sweeping and dramatic commitments like swapping out your whole lawn for white clover (but you can!), so let's think small.

Photos by
Raymond Holt
for City Pulse

Kimberly Akimbo

WINNER ★ 5 TONY AWARDS
INCLUDING
BEST MUSICAL

WHARTON CENTER ★ MARCH 10-15

WHARTONCENTER.COM

Plants

from page 10

Jean Persely, a Michigan expert who is teaching a Native Plants in Your Home Garden course at this weekend's Wildflower Association of Michigan conference, suggests starting with something manageable.

For a three-foot-by-three-foot plot, Persely recommends knotting onion around the edges ("an easy, easy plant") and something taller like bee balm, Penstemon or butterfly weed in the middle and then packed with native grasses to keep weeds at bay.

For everyone in apartments: ask your landlords about adding a native border or converting space. The pitch is that a switch can save on landscaping dollars and bring an amenity that could attract new residents.

Here's the lazy guide:

Step 1. Start with you're working with

You start with looking at your dirt, said Katie Layman, operations coordinator for Michigan Wildflower Farm.

"Is it sandy, is it just a nice soil or is it super wet and soggy all the time," she said. "Or is it sunny? Is it like full sun? Do you have puddles? Does it hold water? Do you have rocks?"

In the Greater Lansing area, chances are really good it's a more clay mix than sandy so some plants - even wonderful Michigan natives like lupine and Cardinal flower, with just the most brilliant shade of red flowers - might not work in Lansing, Persely said.

"I've tried," she said, with lupine. "Just because I think that's just a beautiful plant and to no avail, they died."

Miller, from MSU's Beal Botanical Garden, recommends a soil test, especially if you're considering using a product like the traditional 10x10x10 fertilizer on a normal lawn, to make sure there's not an overabundance of magnesium and phosphorus. Her lawn had a ton of those, so using the normal recommended amount of fertilizer would have sent the chemicals straight into the watershed and done little or nothing for her lawn.

Soil tests can be useful for vegetable gardens, commercial growers, plants that require special ph balances and for non-native lawns that will get fertilized.

MSU offers a laboratory soil test for \$26, and there are cheaper DIY options that don't use a lab.

There's the look-and-touch method, or a free hands-on test using a jar with water, filled about 75% with dirt,



Michigan State University Department of Horticulture greenhouses.

Planting Calendar by Jean Persely

January

- Remove/treat woody invasive species
- Winter Sow native species in containers and scatter native seed between snowfalls
- Scatter native seeds between snowfalls

February

- Remove/treat woody invasive species
- Prune woody species (carefully, exceptions apply)
- Winter Sow native species in containers and scatter native seed between snowfalls
- Pre-order native plants from local growers

March

- Remove/treat woody invasive species
- Winter Sow native species in containers
- Pre-order native plants from local growers
- Watch for early bloomers

April

- Monitor Winter Sowing containers
- Soil test time
- Watch for native plant sales, invite friends
- Watch for early bloomers

- Chop and drop (mid-late April earliest), cut the weeds and let them lay them to decompose

May

- Edit garden; Dandelion removal; Adjusting, removing volunteer seedlings;

Replant in other areas, share

- Chop and drop; 8"- 24"
- Spring native plant sale season is in swing
- Plant and water; cage as needed
- Monitor, remove invasives
- Monitor, plant and pot up Winter Sowing

June

- Edit garden
- Spring native plant sale season continues til mid-June
- Plant and water, cage as needed
- Monitor, remove invasives
- Monitor spring seed development, bag
- Monitor, plant and pot up Winter Sowing

July

- Seed management; Collect, remove aggressive seeders; Collect, clean, save as desired;
- Monitor for plant disease
- End of summer, fall native plant sale season begins late July
- Monitor, plant, pot up Winter Sowing

August

- Seed management; Collect, remove; collect, save; leave
- Monitor for plant disease
- End of summer, fall native plant sale season continues
- Remove invasive seedlings

September

- Seed management; Collect, remove; collect, save; leave
- Monitor for plant disease
- End of summer, fall native plant sale season continues
- Move seedlings around, remove invasives
- Watch for the seasonal color change to begin

October

- Seed management; Collect, remove; collect, save; leave
- Last of fall native plant sale season!
- Move seedlings around
- Remove invasive seedlings
- Begin to remove, treat invasive woody species

November

- Seed management: Collect, remove; collect, save; leave
- Move seedlings around
- Remove invasive seedlings
- Remove, treat invasive woody species

December

- Seed management: Collect, remove; collect, save; leave
- Remove invasive seedlings
- Remove, treat invasive woody species
- The best garden is next year's garden - make notes, make lists.
- Enjoy the calm in your garden

See Plants, page 12



Michigan State University Department of Horticulture greenhouses.

Plants

from page 11

and shaken. Check the jar in a day or a week to see the proportions of (top to bottom) water, clay, silt and sand.

But for most native plants, a soil test isn't necessary and a careful look around the spot, maybe a few times to catch the moving sun, will be enough to go to Step 2.

Step 2. Get some plants

Once you have a good idea of your soil/sun/drainage conditions, head off for the store or a native plant sale or place a pre-order.

(You can grow plants from seed and it makes native planting far cheaper! But we're doing a lazy guide, so let's plan on that for next year ...)

It's not a bad idea to do research ahead of time online, at the library or through one of the many native plant groups in mid-Michigan, like Wild Ones Red Cedar chapter, Michigan Botanical Club and the Wildflower Association of Michigan.

That might be daunting because

are hundreds of native Michigan species, Michigan State University keeps a list of 50 of the most common in our area. But that's still a lot to remember, so for many people, the bigger question is what's in stock this year and what fits their yard.

"Don't overthink it," said Schneider, from Wildtype Native Plant Nursery. "Don't be like Noah's Ark and do two of everything, you want a lot for an aesthetic, it makes it nutritious and delicious."

If the deer or the bugs get to it, having a lot is insurance so it will last long enough to get established over a few years. And planting the natives superthick helps a lot with weeds.

This is, after all, a lazy guide.

"Fewer strokes, like a golfer," Schneider said. "A good golfer gets fewer strokes per hole, that means less walking and less swinging. There's a quality inherent in doing it well that pays off."

Step 3. Plant the native plants

This part is easy.

Most natives don't need any fertilizer or compost, not even to start with.

"Zero," said Schneider.

"The reason we emphasize no fertilizer," he said, "is that native plants do well at low and high nutrient levels. And weeds do better at high nutrient levels."

The native plants don't need fertilizer because they're from here, said Durnwald, owner of Michigan Wildflower Farm.

"They've grown here for hundreds of years," she said. "They're acclimated to the soil."

Persely said she will sometimes use fertilizer for the first year, to give the natives a boost.

"That first year I usually will mulch it, but once those plants fill in, you'll never have to mulch again," she said. "I will fertilize mine the first year. I just give them a little boost to get going."

Skipping the fertilizer - whether entirely or after the first year - can be helpful because it tips the playing field toward the native plants.

And it's not just fertilizer.

Dial up the lazy because natives are used to Michigan's conditions and don't need to be babied.

"Esther and her crew, they don't water any of these plants out here," Layman said, gesturing over their Portland farmland. "Only when they're the new plants and they're just getting established. They don't water it. You don't apply any pesticides or fertilizers or additives to the soil. These plants out here are, like, gorgeous. They're just amazing in the summertime."

Last bits

Start small.

Don't worry about transforming an entire yard, this is a guide for lazy gardening so start with replacing whatever dies in the yard with something native that comes the closest (habitat, size, texture, fall and flower color).

Use phone apps to help identify existing yard plants or interesting ones while walking, said Abby Deneau, a native plant expert whose Wild Ecoscapes LLC and Ecological Services Company is working to remove invasives from Montgomery Drain, at the Frandor Shopping Center, and replace them with natives.

She said plant identification phone apps - and confirming through a Google search or consulting with a good book or an expert - is a great way to start to learn the differences between natives and non-natives.

"Once you start looking," Deneau said, "you'll find native plants that will fit better everywhere."

NOTICE OF PROJECT PLANNING PUBLIC MEETING

The City of Lansing will hold a public meeting for the purpose of receiving public comments and input regarding a proposed Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) Project Plan Amendment for the City's Wet Weather Control Program. The Amendment includes a proposed biosolids handling project at the Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP). The public meeting will be held at 12 p.m. on Wednesday, March 25th at City Hall - 7th Floor, 124 W. Michigan Ave., Lansing, MI 48933.

The purpose of the Project Plan Amendment is to secure approval of CWSRF funding to replace the existing biosolids handling system at the City WWTP, which has exceeded its useful life and is in need of replacement. The project would maintain operational flexibility for the WWTP by producing a stabilized biosolid that could either be land applied or dewatered and disposed of at a landfill.

Project construction will involve demolition of the existing digester tanks and dewatering building, new thickened waste activated sludge building addition, two new digesters, tunnel access and chemical storage building, site improvements, and electrical upgrades at the WWTP.

The proposed improvements will provide system redundancy and flexibility and will simplify operations and reduce maintenance for biosolids handling. The new digestion process will also allow the WWTP to utilize a renewable energy source, biogas, to produce electricity at the WWTP.

The estimated project cost is \$88 million. The estimated monthly cost for a typical residential user for the proposed project will be \$4.01. This fee is collected as part of the City's sewer use charge.

On or before March 4, 2026, copies of the draft Project Plan Amendment will be available for public review on the Public Service Department website at: www.lansingmi.gov/pubserv. Hard copies of the Project Plan Amendment document can be made available upon request for viewing at the Public Service Department on the 7th Floor of City Hall, 124 W. Michigan Ave., Lansing, MI 48933.

All interested parties are invited to present comments on the proposed Project Plan Amendment. Written comments may be submitted no later than March 25, 2026 at 12 p.m., in order for them to be considered as part of the public record. Written comments should be sent to: City of Lansing, Public Service Department, Attn. Brian Hight, 732 City Hall, 124 W. Michigan Ave., Lansing, MI 48933 or via email to brian.hight@lansingmi.gov.

CP#26-074

Native plant stores

Wildtype Native Plants

Mason

517-244-1140

<https://www.wildtypeplants.com/>

Designs by Nature

Laingsberg

517-230-3923

<https://designsbynaturellc.com/>

Michigan Wildflower Farm

Portland

517-647-6010

<http://www.michiganwildflowerfarm.com/>

Wild Ginger Woodlands

Haslett

517-282-9626

<http://wildgingerwoodlands.com/>

Bendy Stem Farm, by appointment

Dimondale

443-987-1878

<https://bendystemfarm.com/>

Woodhull Wildflowers, by appointment

Laingsberg

woodhullwildflowers@gmail.com

<https://www.woodhullwildflowers.com/>

Van Atta's Nursery

Haslett

517-339-1142

<http://www.vanattas.com/>

Plant sales

Harris Nature Center Spring Native Plant Sale

10 a.m.-1 p.m., Sat., May 2

Harris Nature Center

3998 Van Atta Road, Okemos

<https://www.meridian.mi.us/Home/Components/Calendar/Event/13838/>

Wild Ones Red Cedar Spring Native Michigan Plant Sale

8 a.m.-2 p.m., Sat., May 9

Meridian Township Farmer's Market

1995 Central Park Dr., Okemos

<https://wildoneslansing.weebly.com/mid-michigan-native-plant-sales.html>

DeVries Nature Conservancy Native Plant Sale

11 a.m.-2 p.m., Sat. May 9

DeVries Nature Conservancy

2635 N. M-52, Owosso

<https://www.devriesnature.org/>

Eaton Conservation District and Woldumar Nature Center Native Plant Sale

10 a.m.-2 p.m., Sat. May 30

Woldumar Nature Center

5739 Old Lansing Road, Lansing

<https://eatoncd.org/>

Native tree sales

Eaton Conservation District Spring Tree Sale

Preorder by March 23 (paper) or March 30 (online) for pickup on April 10-11

Kardel Hall, Eaton County Fairgrounds

1025 S. Cochran Ave., Charlotte

<https://eatoncd.org/events>

Clinton Conservation District Spring Tree Sale

Pre-order by March 30 for pickup April 17-18

Clinton County Fairgrounds

800 W. Sickles St., St. John's

<https://www.clintonconservation.org/>

Ingham Conservation District Spring Tree Sale

Pre-order by April 5 (paper) or April 10 (online) for pickup April 17-18

1031 W. Dexter Trail, Mason

<https://www.inghamconservation.com/spring-tree-sale-2026>

ARTS & CULTURE

ART • BOOKS • FILM • MUSIC

Breaking his 'Silence'

MSU alum looks back on 35 years of 'The Silence of the Lambs'

By KURT ANTHONY KRUG

Tony Award-nominated actor Anthony Heald, a Michigan State University alumnus, called his audition process for the acclaimed 1991 horror-thriller "The Silence of the Lambs" a "very, very bizarre experience."

Based on Thomas Harris' 1988 novel of the same name and directed by the late Jonathan Demme, Heald played pompous psychiatrist Dr. Frederick Chilton, jailer of cannibalistic serial killer Dr. Hannibal Lecter (Anthony Hopkins). FBI agent Clarice Starling (Jodie Foster) interviews Lecter about a serial killer named Buffalo Bill (Ted Levine) in a twisted game of cat and mouse.

Heald was starring in "Betrayal" at the Berkshire Theatre Festival in Stockbridge, Massachusetts, when his agent called and told him that Demme wanted to see him for "Lambs." Admittedly, Heald had no idea what "Lambs" was. He ended up buying the book, which he read in one sitting.

"I thought, 'If this gets made into a movie, I'd love to be in it!'" recalled Heald, 81, who lives in Oregon. "I went to Jonathan's office, and he greeted me like an old friend — 'It's so nice to meet you! I'm such a big fan! I've seen all the plays you've been in, and I'd love for you to be in this movie!' Who does that? Nobody ever says that to an actor!"

Demme asked Heald which character he'd like to play. When Heald mentioned Chilton, Demme informed him that Chilton was supposed to be in his late 50s (Heald was in his mid-40s at the time) and told him no. Heald then suggested he'd like to be one of the Smithsonian bug guys, thinking it'd be "great fun."

Several months later, Demme held a table read for "Lambs." The late Gene Hackman was supposed to play Lecter, but he dropped out a day or two before the reading. Demme asked Heald if he would play Lecter in the table read, to which Heald replied, "In a heartbeat!"

Impressed with Heald's performance, Demme decided he wanted him to play Chilton, much to Heald's delight.

The late Robert Duvall was attached to play Lecter but also dropped out. Eventually, Hopkins got the role. At the time, Hopkins' career was stagnant. "Lambs" catapulted him to A-list status.

Although they played bitter enemies (it's heavily implied at the end that Hannibal killed and ate Chilton), Heald and Hopkins became good friends. After their first night filming together, a van was supposed to transport them to their hotel. A production assistant informed Heald that they needed an insert shot, and he stayed to film it, sending Hopkins word to go back without him. It took 45 minutes to film the scene.

When Heald entered the van, he was surprised to see Hopkins.

"He was waiting for me. 'Didn't anybody tell you I was delayed?' 'Yes.' 'But you're still here?' 'I wanted to ride back to the hotel with you.' I mean, who does that?" Heald said.

The two reunited in 2002's "Red Dragon," the prequel to "Lambs."

"When he saw me, he started dancing across the room with his arms raised — 'We get to do it again! We get to do it again!' Heald recalled. "He's so silly. That's the kind of person he is. It was wonderful having the opportunity to work with him again."

Heald also spoke about working with Foster, whom he said was "very private" following John Hinckley Jr.'s attempt to assassinate President Ronald Reagan in 1981 to impress her.

"She was a guarded person. I respected her privacy and didn't interact with her much," he said.

Heald later presented the New York Film Critics Circle Award for Best Actress to Foster for "Lambs."

"When Jodie and I were asked to face the gaggle of photographers, it was terrifying — 'Jodie, over here!' 'Anthony, this way!' I was shaken, and she took my arm — 'It's fine, don't worry about it.' She was so comforting and helped me through that very challenging experience," he recalled. "When I did 'The Lisbon Traviata,' she came to see it, and we had lunch afterwards. She ended up being somebody I felt very comfortable being around."

"Lambs" won five Oscars: Best Picture, Best Director (Demme), Best Actor (Hopkins), Best Actress (Foster) and Best Adapted Screenplay (Ted Tally). It's the only horror film to win Best Picture. On a \$19 million budget, it grossed more than \$272 million worldwide. In 2011, it was selected for preservation in the National Film Registry.

The film spawned a franchise, including three more movies (the aforementioned "Red Dragon," 2001's "Hannibal" and 2007's "Hannibal Rising") and two TV adaptations ("Hannibal" and "Clarice").

Heald shared his insights into what gives "Lambs" such staying power 35 years later.

"It's a great story and an iconic character, who was played so brilliantly by Hopkins. The way he never blinked, the stillness that he had, that unspoken menace, speaking in a soft voice, it was just a magical performance. The same with Jodie's," he said.

He also attributed the film's success to Demme and Tally.

"First of all, it starts with the book, which was a real page-turner. Harris wrote other books, but nothing as powerful as this. Demme had Tally, a New York playwright, write the script, and it was the first screenplay Ted had ever written," Heald said. "Then there was the way Jonathan directed it:



Photo courtesy of Orion

From left: Dr. Frederick Chilton (Anthony Heald) has words with serial killer Dr. Hannibal Lecter (Anthony Hopkins) in 1991's "The Silence of the Lambs."

He never showed you gore. It was all about implication, it was all about suggestion, it was all in your imagination, which made it all the more terrifying."

New York and MSU roots

Heald, the middle of three children, was born in New Rochelle, New York. His parents instilled in him a love of acting at an early age.

"When I was 8 or 9, my parents started a playreading group. All these adults would meet in our living room and read plays aloud once per month. I would be at my bedroom door listening as my father became someone different. It was very exciting to me," he recalled.

At Massapequa High School on Long Island, New York, he had a small part in "Goodbye, My Fancy."

"As a senior, I got cast as Henry Higgins in 'Pygmalion,' which solidified it for me," he said.

After graduating in 1962, he enrolled at Michigan State University. Although he wanted to be an actor, he didn't think he'd be successful at it. Initially, he planned to be a TV newscaster and majored in journalism.

"MSU has a great journalism school," he said. "I found the campus so wonderful. I was only there for three weeks of my freshman year when I got cast in a student production of 'The Zoo Story,' by Edward Albee. Immediately, I was part of the in-crowd of the theater department as a first-term freshman. I was invited to all these parties and thought, 'Maybe I'm not supposed to be a newscaster, maybe I'm supposed to be an actor!'"

While at MSU, finances were tight. Heald did odd jobs and worked in the MSU Department of Theatre while taking one class per semester until his family was able to finance his education.

"I worked summer stock the next three summers and continued doing plays at MSU," he said. "I went to the Asolo Theatre Festival in Florida, firmly committed to being an actor until someone I really respected said, 'You know what? You shouldn't be an actor anymore.' And nobody ever said it, so I stuck with it."



Photo courtesy of Anthony Heald

MSU alumnus Anthony Heald and his granddaughter, Amelia, in 2023. "I never thought I'd be a grandfather, and it happened!" he said.

In 1970, he graduated from MSU with an undergraduate degree in theater. During his final year, he joined a theater company called the Street Corner Society.

"We toured all over the East Coast in a converted mail van, playing in Central Park, sleeping on people's floors in sleeping bags. It was poor theater," he said.

Two years later, he started working with a non-equity company in Grand Ledge called the BoarsHead Theater. To supplement his income, he taught acting at Lansing Community College for four years.

Heald has worked extensively on Broadway and has been twice nominated for a Tony Award for "Anything Goes" in 1988 and "Love! Valour! Compassion!" in 1995.

He made his film debut in 1983's "Silkwood" and had larger roles in 1987's "Outrageous Fortune" and 1990's "Postcards from the Edge." He appeared in 1993's "The Pelican Brief" and would go on to work with the late director Joel Schumacher on two other John Grisham adaptations, 1994's "The Client" and 1996's "A Time to Kill," as well as 1999's "8mm."

Additionally, he's appeared on numerous TV series in guest roles and has also narrated audiobooks, including many "Star Wars" novels and classics such as "The Iliad," "The Odyssey," "Crime and Punishment," "The Great Gatsby," and "Moby Dick." In total, he's done about 150 audiobooks.

Since 1996, he has been active in the Oregon Shakespeare Festival. In 30 years, he completed 15 seasons while working in film and television. Today, he is semi-retired. The father of two is spending more time with his 3-year-old granddaughter, Amelia.

"I don't feel the need to be performing," he said. "I love being a grandfather."

CityPULSE



Now more than ever...

Mail checks to City Pulse, 1905 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing, MI 48912

To contribute by credit card, please go to www.lansingcitypulse.org/support-us/ or call (517) 999-6704

Live & Local

CityPULSE

The Avenue

2021 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing
Cold Mountain Child
Sun., March 8, 7 p.m.

Blue Gill Grill

1591 Lake Lansing Road, Haslett
Full House Band
Fri., March 6, 8-11 p.m.

BrickHaven Brewing Co.

200 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge
Russ Holcomb
Fri., March 6, 6:30-9:30 p.m.
Piper Avenue
Sat., March 7, 6:30-9:30 p.m.

Chengdu Teahouse

100 E. César E. Chávez Ave., Lansing
Jeff Boog & Friends
Fri., March 6, 5:30-7 p.m.

Classic Pub & Grill

16219 Old U.S. 27, Lansing
Miranda & the M80s
Fri., March 6, 8 p.m.-midnight
Spellbound
Sat., March 7, 8 p.m.-midnight

Dublin Square

327 Abbot Road, East Lansing
Matthew Shannon
Wed., March 4, 9 p.m.

EagleMonk Pub and Brewery

4906 W. Mount Hope Hwy., Lansing
Songwriters' night, with Cody Wilson
Wed., March 4, 7-9 p.m.
Jimmy Likes Pie
Wed., March 11, 7-9 p.m.

Eastern High School

626 Marshall St., Lansing
Lansing Concert Band: Suite Escape
Sun., March 8, 3 p.m.

Eastminster Presbyterian Church

1315 Abbot Road, East Lansing
MSU vocal arts singers: opera outreach
Sun., March 8, 3 p.m.

Eaton Rapids Craft Co.

204 N. Main St., Eaton Rapids
Dane DeFord
Fri., March 6, 6-9 p.m.
JP Peters
Sat., March 7, 6-9 p.m.

Gannon Building

422 N. Washington Square, Lansing
LCC music faculty concert: scholarship fundraiser
Fri., March 6, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

The Green Door

2005 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing
Wavelength
Wed., March 4, 8 p.m.-1 a.m.
The Van Buren Boys
Fri., March 6, doors 7 p.m., show 8 p.m.
Henhouse Prowlers, The Wild Honey Collective
Sat., March 7, doors 7 p.m., show 8 p.m.
Wavelength
Wed., March 11, 8 p.m.-1 a.m.

Grewal Hall

224 S. Washington Square, Lansing
Sabbath, Turn the Tide
Fri., March 6, 7 p.m.

Horrocks Farm Market

7420 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing
The Erly
Fri., March 6, 5-8 p.m.
John Beltran
Sun., March 8, 1-5 p.m.

The Irish Pub

1910 W. Saginaw St., Lansing
Open mic night, with Scott Seth
Thurs., March 5, 6:30 p.m.
Just Magnetic
Sat., March 7, 8 p.m.

Mac's Bar

2700 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing
MMFD and Danny Diablo
Fri., March 6, 6 p.m.
Open mic night, with Brandon Bonebrake
Mon., March 9, 5:30-8 p.m.
Unity — In Music
Thurs., March 5, 9 p.m.-2 a.m.
Tues., March 10, 10 p.m.-2 a.m.
Brokencyde, Dot Dot Curve, From This Day Forward, The Bunny the Bear
Wed., March 11, 7 p.m.

Moriarty's Pub

802 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing
Open mic night, with Jen Sygit
Wed., March 4, 8-11 p.m.
Frog & the Beeftones
Thurs., March 5, 9 p.m.-midnight
517 Funktet
Fri., March 6, 8 p.m.-midnight
The Green Crow
Sat., March 7, 8 p.m.-midnight
Jazz Tuesdays
Tues., March 10, 7-10 p.m.
Open mic night, with Jen Sygit

Nico's Pub and Grill

117 S. Bridge St., Dimondale
Universe Band
Fri., March 6, 7:30-11:30 p.m.

One North Lansing

5001 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing
Mike Skory
Thurs., March 5, 6-9 p.m.
We're Mike & Steve
Fri., March 6, 7-10 p.m.
Keith Minaya
Sat., March 7, 7-10 p.m.
Open mic, with Kathy Ford
Mon., March 9, 6:30-9 p.m.

One North East Lansing

1310 Abbot Road, East Lansing
The Tenants
Fri., March 6, 7-10 p.m.
Rush Clement
Sat., March 7, 7-10 p.m.

The Peanut Barrel

521 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing
RavenDay
Fri., March 6, 8-10 p.m.

Red Cedar Spirits

2000 Merritt Road, East Lansing
Kathleen & the Bridge Street Band
Fri., March 6, 7:30-10:30 p.m.
Randy Napoleon Trio
Sun., March 8, 6-9 p.m.

Reno's North

16460 Old U.S. 27, Lansing
Roadside Attraction
Fri., March 6, 6-10 p.m.
Roadside Attraction
Sat., March 7, 6-10 p.m.

The Robin Theatre

1105 S. Washington Ave., Lansing
Tim O'Shea & Joe Nielsen (Irish folk)
Sat., March 7, 7:30 p.m.

Sholty's Bar

1819 S. Washington Ave., Lansing
Northside Rhythm Kings
Tues., March 10, 6-9 p.m.

Sidebar

246 E. Saginaw St., East Lansing
JP Peters
Fri., March 6, 7-10 p.m.
Chris Milbourne
Sat., March 7, 7-10 p.m.

Stober's Bar

812 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing
517 Funktet
Sun., March 8, 10 p.m.-1 a.m.
Jazz Doggz
Tues., March 10, 10 p.m.-1 a.m.

Summerlands Brewing Co.

1957 Cedar St., Holt
Tad and the Fat Katz
Fri., March 6, 8-11 p.m.
We're Mike & Steve
Sat., March 7, 8-11 p.m.

University Lutheran Church

1020 S. Harrison Road, East Lansing
Nic Gareiss and Brittany Haas (Ten Pound Fiddle)
Fri., March 6, 7:30-10 p.m.

UrbanBeat

1213 Turner St., Lansing
Lansing Live! open mic
Wed., March 4, 6-9 p.m.
The Further Adventures of FatBoy & JiveTurkey
Thurs., March 5, 6:30-9:30 p.m.
Big Fun
Fri., March 6, 7-10 p.m.
Anthony Stanco
Sat., March 7, 6:30-9:30 p.m.
Pzazz: An afternoon of poetry & jazz
Sun., March 8, 4-6 p.m.
Lansing Live! open mic
Wed., March 11, 6-9 p.m.

Williamston Roadhouse

3700 E. Grand River Road, Williamston
Peggy Nusz
Wed., March 4, 7-10 p.m.
Doubleshot Band
Sat., March 7, 7-11 p.m.
Blake James
Wed., March 11, 7-10 p.m.

'A season worthy of celebrating'

Wharton goes all out for 2026-'27 Broadway series

By **COURTNEY BOWERMAN**

When planning the Broadway series for the Wharton Center's 45th anniversary season, executive director Eric Olmscheid sought to procure an array of iconic musicals that would honor the theater's legacy.

"45 years is a major milestone for us," he said. "We wanted to make sure we had a season worthy of celebrating on that level."

Tickets for subscribers will go on sale at 8 a.m. today, with six-show packages starting at \$245. Benefits include locked-in seats for the entire season, risk-free ticket exchanges and interest-free payment plans. For more information, visit whartontseason.com.

Back by popular demand, "Beetlejuice" (Sept. 18 through 20) and "Six" (Dec. 1 through 6) are both returning to Wharton for the second time as special additions to the season lineup.

"Programming this season is like a giant jigsaw puzzle. There are so many pieces that need to fall into place, some of which we don't have any control over," Olmscheid said. "For 'Beetlejuice' and 'Six,' we were actively working on them because they were both such successes."

The season officially begins with "The Notebook," running Oct. 27

through Nov. 1. Based on the Nicolas Sparks novel that inspired the beloved 2004 film, the musical enlists three sets of actors to portray star-crossed lovers Noah and Allie throughout different stages of their lives. Olmscheid praised how the new score and the visual recreation of the movie's famous rain scene pack more emotion into the already poignant love story.

"If you don't have a tear in your eye at the end of it, I question your humanity," he said. "I was pleasantly surprised with how well it adapts to the stage."

That won't be the only show this season familiar to movie fans. "The Outsiders," the 2024 Tony Award winner for Best Musical, is also

making its Wharton debut June 22 through 27.

"It's that age-old story of the haves and the have-nots, set in Tulsa, Oklahoma, in the '60s," Olmscheid said. "The sizzle of this show is the massive rumble that happens in the rain on stage. So, not only do we have rain with 'The Notebook,' we have it in two shows with 'The Outsiders.'"

Perhaps the most anticipated film-to-stage adaptation of the season is the Disney mega musical "The Lion King," returning to Wharton for the fourth time April 8 through 25. For past performances, seats had to be removed to create a proper aisle for the famous "Circle of Life" opening number. However, thanks to recent renovations, those accommodations will be easier to handle when this tour arrives.

"Right after it was here in 2018, we replaced all of the seats in the theater," senior marketing manager Tara Peplowski said. "It was planned at that point in time to make those seats that we have to

take out removable for future engagements of 'The Lion King.'"

Rounding out the season is Alicia Keys' jukebox musical, "Hell's Kitchen," from Jan. 19 through 24 and "Boop! The Musical," which brings

classic cartoon character Betty Boop to life, from Feb. 23 through 28. While both shows take place in New York, "Boop!" is directed by Paw Paw native Jerry Mitchell, whose past Broadway work includes "Kinky Boots," "Legally Blonde" and "Pretty Woman."

"This is a fun, old-school musical comedy," Olmscheid said. "It's a beautiful, high-energy show. Mitchell really built a wonderful, joyful production."

"The Phantom of the Opera" will cap the season from Aug. 25 through Sept. 5, marking its fifth run at Wharton. However, unlike the last appearance in 2015, the new, revitalized production brings back the set designs from the original West End show.



Photo by Matthew Murphy and Evan Zimmerman

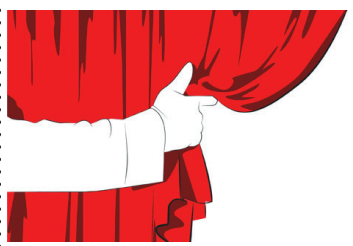
Isaiah Bailey (left) as The Phantom and Jordan Lee Gilbert as Christine Daaé in the North American tour of "The Phantom of the Opera."

"This production is spectacular," Peplowski said. "It truly takes us back to the very grand sets and the elaborate costumes that are stunning. I've never personally been a 'Phantom' fan, but I've turned over a new leaf, and I will come back and see it when it's here."

Olmscheid said he's excited to celebrate Wharton's milestone 45th season with the community, noting that every bit of the theater's success is due to their support.

"We wouldn't be able to bring this level of talent and programming to our community without the support of our subscribers who respond so positively to it," he said. "It's so important for them to understand that their level of support allows this to be in our backyard, so they don't have to drive to Detroit or Grand Rapids to get the same high-caliber performances that we get right here in East Lansing."

BEHIND THE CURTAIN



March theater productions:

"Dial M for Murder"

Thursday, March 5–Sunday, March 8
2 p.m. Thursday, Saturday–Sunday
7:30 p.m. Friday–Saturday
Williamston Theatre
122 S. Putnam St., Williamston
williamstontheatre.org

"Jesus Christ Superstar"

7 p.m. Thursday, March 5
8 p.m. Friday, March 6–Saturday, March 7
2 p.m. Sunday, March 8
Riverwalk Theatre
228 Museum Drive, Lansing
riverwalktheatre.com

"Kimberly Akimbo"

Tuesday, March 10–March 15
7:30 p.m. Tuesday–Saturday
2 p.m. Saturday
1 and 6:30 p.m. Sunday

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

"Fairview"

March 13–15 and 19–22
7 p.m. Thursday–Saturday
3 p.m. Sunday; March 21
Stage One at Sycamore Creek Eastwood
2200 Lake Lansing Road, Lansing
peppermintcreek.org

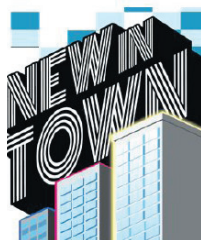
"Hare & Tortoise"

1:30 and 4 p.m. March 21
Wharton Center Pasant Theatre
750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing
whartoncenter.com

"Recorded in Front of a Live Studio Audience: R A-Holes"

March 25–29
7:30 p.m. Wednesday–Saturday
2 p.m. Sunday
WKAR Studio A
404 Wilson Road, East Lansing
theatre.msu.edu

Axe-throwing venue brings more variety to downtown Charlotte nightlife



By LEO V. KAPLAN

Vikings Edge Axe Throwing

129 S. Cochran Road,
Charlotte
5-10 p.m. Wed.-Fri.
Noon-10 p.m. Sat.
Noon-5 p.m. Sun.
(517) 881-0688
vikingsedge48813.com

In 2024, downtown Charlotte became the first social district in Eaton County, allowing visitors to carry drinks outside of bars. But some found the “social” element lacking.

“One of the main complaints was, ‘Yeah, okay, I’ve got a drink, but there’s nothing to do,’” resident John Laupp

said.

Laupp, who owns the woodworking studio and gallery As the Wood Turns, and Capri Brown-Dickson, who runs the pet salon The Groomery, wanted to help fix that. Laupp was by no means a pro when he proposed they open an axe-throwing venue, but he’d tried it before and had a blast, and he knew someone had to bring more entertainment to

the downtown area.

“No one else was doing it,” he said.

Vikings Edge opened Friday (Feb. 27), bringing axe throwing to Charlotte for the first time. Patrons can rent lanes for \$20 per person, per hour, and play a variety of games that are projected onto a wooden wall, such as target practice, Connect Four or Battleship.

Both already busy with their own businesses, Laupp and Brown-Dickson felt inspired to pile on more work so locals and visitors could try something new.

“We wanted to do something different, something Charlotte hasn’t seen before,” Laupp said. “We have a social district here, and we started talking about things to do outside of just walking around.”

Transforming the former Reflections Boutique into an axe-throwing venue took Laupp, Brown-Dickson and her husband about two months. Laupp’s experience with woodworking helped — unpainted wood panels line nearly all the walls, perfect for catching a stray axe.

“The vision of this, when we were first putting it together, was to be a little different than other traditional axe-throwing venues. We wanted it to be really nice, not only on the outside of the lanes, but inside,” Laupp said. “Someplace you’d be willing to bring a date to and then go back multiple times.”

Beginners sign a waiver before receiving some coaching. When they’ve got the technique down, the timer starts.

The coaching begins with watching a customer throw their first axe, Laupp said. They’re guided from there until they can hit the target wall.

Laupp said he hopes Vikings Edge will help keep people in downtown Charlotte on their nights out. It’s open until 10 p.m. Wednesday through Sat-



Leo V. Kaplan for City Pulse

Co-owners Capri Brown-Dickson (left) and John Laupp pose with the equipment at their new axe-throwing venue in Charlotte.

urday, making it a good complement to an outing at a restaurant or bar.

“We wanted something, in addition to our restaurant and bars, that would keep people downtown, make them excited about being here,” he said. “A lot of businesses here, unfortunately, close at 5 or 6. Well, that’ll be the time we’re opening.”

‘Jesus Christ Superstar’ is timely for several reasons

By VIC RAUCH

Riverwalk Theatre’s production of “Jesus Christ Superstar” is appropriate for this time of year. The rock-opera rendition of Jesus’ last days goes all the way to his crucifixion and burial, a story retold in many Christian churches on Palm Sunday and Good Friday.

Some critics fault the musical for not continuing to the resurrection on Easter Sunday. But this tale is told from the perspective of Judas Iscariot, who is believed to have died shortly after the crucifixion. Judas was not around three days later.

Recalling the turmoil in the year 0033 and again when the album was released in 1970, it is also appropriate to relate the show to today’s circumstances. In the opening scene, followers of Jesus carry signs and a banner protesting brutality and terrorism on the part of ICE agents. Is it like living through a crucifixion every day?

Director Josh Martin notes, “When

the people of a nation become victims of a brutal, oppressive and corrupt government and religion, there are two paths one can choose to take that are both justifiable and necessary.” One path is through self-interest and violence, the other through servitude, healing and kindness.



Review

“Jesus Christ Superstar”

7 p.m. Thursday, March 5

8 p.m. Friday, March 6

6-Saturday, March 7

2 p.m. Sunday, March 8

Riverwalk Theatre

228 Museum Drive, Lansing

(517) 482-5700

riverwalktheatre.com

A somewhat subdued audience filled two-thirds of the Riverwalk seats on opening night last Thursday (Feb. 26). Applause was polite at the end of each song or segment, with an occasional outburst, perhaps from friends and family of a particular performer.

Judas, played by Meghan Malusek in fishnet stockings and a denim jacket, opened Act 1 with a stirring rendition of “Heaven on Their Minds.”

The cast’s enthusiasm showed again and again in song and choreography. Quentin Villa, as Jesus, displayed a truly impressive vocal range. Kelly Stuible-Clark, as Mary Magdalene,



Photo by Ariniko Artistry

Quentin Villa as Jesus Christ and Elle Bergan as King Herod in Riverwalk Theatre’s production of “Jesus Christ Superstar.”

brought warmth and comfort to Jesus through words and movement.

I’ve been singing or humming most of the music for decades, but I always look forward to “Herod’s Song,” which has been done so many times in so many ways.

King Herod, played by Elle Bergan, did not disappoint! Her vampish rendition elicited the strongest applause of the night. I heard someone say watching that, by itself, was worth the

price of admission.

It was a mocking, necessary stress reliever, akin to King George’s finger-wagging “You’ll Be Back” in the musical “Hamilton.”

The band (Metatron, directed by Kait Wilson) was virtually flawless, impressive and omnipresent while never overwhelming the vocals.

The entire cast maintained a level of activity and inclusion at all times, never out of character. This was a high-level performance by nonprofessional players who never missed a step. Thank goodness, because the choreography included ups and downs on a staircase while singing and gesturing!

The performance made use of live social media effects projected onto monitors on either side of the stage. Some were scenes from ICE raids and protests. Others were live views from cell phones held by the performers. A whole new aspect for modern presentations of this show.

Bearing 'Witness' — Author J.C. Vande Zande discusses Michigan-set horror novel

By **KURT ANTHONY KRUG**

After completing “The Dance of Rotten Sticks,” his first gothic horror novel, author J.C. Vande Zande discovered he wasn’t quite finished with the Fletcher family.

This compelled him to write a sequel, “Blood of the Witness Tree.”

“I set ‘Witness Tree’ in the Pigeon River State Forest up near Gaylord. In it, Isaac Fletcher tries to take his son on a fly-fishing trip, only to learn that the past and events from the first book aren’t done with him,” said Vande Zande, of Midland.

A witness tree is a tree present during a grand historical or cultural event. In Vande Zande’s novel, it taps into the rich, unsettling roots that have always run through American literature — from the spectral woods of Nathaniel Hawthorne and the brooding seas of Herman Melville to Edgar Allan Poe’s psychological dread and Washington Irving’s haunted legends — and winds its way into the present, according to Vande Zande.

“There is a witness tree in the Pigeon River Forest that factors into the story,” he said. “I have fly fished in the Pigeon River Forest for the last 25 years. I know it very well, and it was very satisfying to put that knowledge into the book.”

The author spoke about creating Isaac.

“He is loosely based on me,” Vande Zande said. “One of the things he struggles with is alcoholism — as do I. In fact, watching how his alcohol intake affected his ability to be there for his family inspired me to quit drinking. I think while I was writing about him, especially in the first book, I was holding up a mirror to myself, and I didn’t like what I saw.”

To date, Vande Zande has penned seven novels, a poetry collection, and three short story collections. His novel “American Poet” won the Stuart and Vernice Gross Award for Literature.

“Both of these latest novels are horror novels, and I had never, up until

2020, really dabbled very much in horror. I think COVID turned the world upside down and, as a result, jumbled up my genre of fiction writing,” he said. “I’m so new to the horror genre that I still suffer a bit from imposter syndrome.”

Born in Marquette, Vande Zande is the youngest of three children. He has a son and a daughter, both in their 20s.

Vande Zande is a graduate of Marquette High School. He earned his bachelor’s degree in English from Northern Michigan University and his master’s degree in American literature from Eastern Illinois University. He has also completed graduate-level coursework in film at Central Michigan University and Tiffin University in Tiffin, Ohio.

For 30 years, Vande Zande has taught at the college level. Of those 30, the last 25 have been at Delta College in University Center, where he teaches English, creative writing and film studies. His father, John Vande Zande, also was a professor and author.

“I had the chance to do some teaching during graduate school and realized that I’m good at it. My father was also a professor at Northern, and I admired that way of making a living,” he said. “I always had an interest in telling stories. Plus, my father was an author, so I suppose it was in the blood.”

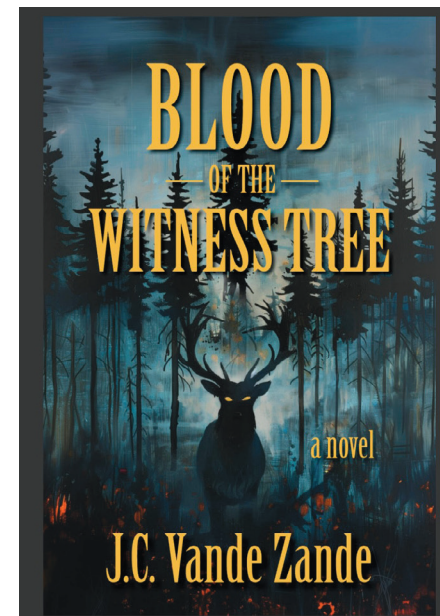
Vande Zande spoke about his writing routine.

“I do some loose plotting, but mainly I sit down every day and make myself write at least 100 words of the story. On the really good days, that 100 words becomes 700 words,” he explained. “It takes me about six months to write the first draft — my least favorite part — and then probably another three to five months of rewriting.”

Currently, Vande Zande is putting the finishing touches on the final book of the “Dance of Rotten Sticks” series.



Courtesy J.C. Vande Zande



“I think of this series as kind of like ‘Michigan Chillers’ (Johnathan Rand’s YA horror series set in various Michigan locations), except

for adults,” he said. “The book I’m working on now is called ‘Coven of the Worm Moon’ and will likely be published within the next one and a half years.”

JEFF HAAS & **BIG FUN**

Urban Beat

Jeff Haas *keys* **Don Julin** *mandola* **Joe Wilson** *steel guitar*
Jack Dryden *electric bass* **Randy Marsh** *drums*

Funky fusion with a twist of bluegrass

MARCH 6TH

7-10PM

1213 Turner Rd, Lansing, MI 48906

J.C. Vande Zande appearances

Author J.C. Vande Zande will speak about and sign copies of “Blood of the Witness Tree” on the following dates:

- Saturday, March 14, from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. at “Michigan is Dead 2026” in The Lakes Mall, located at 5600 Harvey St. in Muskegon. Call (616) 502-6958.

- Sunday, March 25, from 7 to 9 p.m. at Oracle Brewing Co., located at 122 N. Michigan Ave. in Saginaw. Call (989) 401-7446.

- Thursday, April 9, from 7 to 9 p.m. at the “Scaring Up Some Poetry” event at the Theodore Roethke Home and Museum, located at 1805 Gratiot Ave. in Saginaw. Call (989) 928-0430.

Jonesin' Crossword

By Matt Jones

"OK, OK" -- you'll see them twice.
by Matt Jones
© 2026 Matt Jones

ACROSS

- 1. Words after "give" or "lend"
- 6. Beginning of an idea
- 10. Octagonal sign
- 14. Use crayons
- 15. Buttery substitute
- 16. Zanesville's state
- 17. Dance with a lot of moving parts?
- 19. Part of a telescope
- 20. And others, in a footnote
- 21. "Sure thing"
- 23. 1970s-'80s sketch comedy show with Catherine O'Hara
- 25. "No seats" letters
- 26. "Drugs are bad" ad, e.g.
- 29. "Gymnopedies" composer Satie
- 31. Video chats, in the 2010s
- 36. Play opener
- 38. One of the Inner Hebrides
- 40. Before the kids' bedtime, say
- 41. Investigated further
- 44. Sharpened
- 45. Nearly nonexistent
- 46. "Food & Liquor II: The Great American Rap Album Pt. 1" rapper ___ Fiasco
- 47. Takes without asking
- 49. Letters before Q, often
- 51. ___ Moines, Iowa
- 52. Not feeling so great
- 54. Funny reaction
- 56. Place for knock-knocks
- 61. Discuss again

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			
71					72					73			

- 65. District
- 66. Korean simmered rice cake
- 68. Puzzle's central focus?
- 69. URL-starting letters
- 70. Patch or pipe material
- 71. District
- 72. Flue powder
- 73. "Please?"

DOWN

- 1. Dull pain
- 2. Owl sound
- 3. ___-Seltzer
- 4. Caroler's tunes
- 5. Frozen CO₂, familiarly
- 6. Nonspecific semiliquid
- 7. City northeast of Reno
- 8. Stinks up the joint
- 9. White House Press Secretary and PBS journalist Bill

- 10. No longer in stock
- 11. One of the TV Huxtables
- 12. Pen noise
- 13. Prepare for pics
- 18. "Speed 2: Cruise Control" star Jason
- 22. One who teams oxen
- 24. Renaissance string instruments
- 26. Walkways
- 27. Hightail it
- 28. Make amends
- 30. Grassy spot at Dallas's Dealey Plaza
- 32. Southern collective?
- 33. Beaming
- 34. Run off for romance
- 35. Stand-up comic Wanda
- 37. Store whose Djungelskog toy was adopted by a Japanese monkey in a viral video
- 39. Heave ___ of relief
- 42. Wing it
- 43. Set sail
- 48. They're sorted by two or three toes per foot
- 50. Broadcaster of "University Challenge" and "Ludwig"
- 53. Powerball, essentially
- 55. Now, in Nueva York
- 56. Esperanza Spalding's genre
- 57. Cookie that for some reason has a cookies & cream variety
- 58. Acute
- 59. Simplify
- 60. High-fat, low-carb diet
- 62. Similar (to)
- 63. Misrepresent, as data
- 64. Put on the staff
- 67. Make a decision

Free Will Astrology

By Rob Breznsy

March 4-10, 2026

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Many ancient cultures had myths that explained solar eclipses as celestial creatures eating the sun. In China, the devourer was a dragon. A frog did it in Vietnam, wolves in Norse lore, and bears in several Indigenous American legends. In some places, people made loud noises during the blackout, banging drums and pots, to drive away the attacker and bring back the sun. I suspect you are now in the midst of a metaphorical eclipse of your own, Aries. But don't worry! Just as was true centuries ago, your sun won't actually be gobbled up. Instead, here's the likely scenario: You will rouse an appetite for transformation that will consume outdated ideas and situations. Whatever disintegrates will become fuel for new stories. You will convert old pain and decay into vital energy. Your luminous vigor will return even stronger.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Maybe you have been enjoying my advice for years but still haven't become a billionaire, grown into a potent influencer, or landed the perfect job. Does that mean I've failed you? Should you swap me out for a more results-oriented oracle? If rewards like those are the dreams you treasure, then yes, it may be time to search for a new guide. But if what you want most is simply to cultivate the steady gratification of feeling real and whole and authentic, then stick with me. PS: The coming days are likely to offer you abundant opportunities to feel real and whole and authentic. Take advantage!

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): In 1557, a Welsh mathematician invented the equals sign (=) to avoid repeatedly writing the words "is equal to." Over the next centuries, this helped make algebra more convenient and efficient. The moral of the story: Some breakthroughs come not from making novel discoveries but from finding better ways to render and use what's already known. I'm pleased to say that you Geminis are primed to devise your own equivalents of the equals sign. What strengths might you express with greater crispness and efficiency? What familiar complications could you make easier? See if you can find shortcuts that aid productivity without sacrificing precision.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): One benefit of being an astrologer is that when I need a break from being intensely myself, I can take a sabbatical. My familiarity with the zodiac frees me to escape the limits of my personal horoscope and play at being other signs. I always return from my getaway with a renewed appreciation for the unique riddle that is my identity. I think now is an excellent time for Cancerians like you and me to enjoy such a vacation. We can have maximum fun and attract inspiring educational experiences by experimenting. I plan to be like a Sagittarius and may also experiment with embodying Aries qualities.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): In Scandinavian folklore, there's a phenomenon called "utisetá." It involves sitting out at night in a charged place in nature, like a crossroads or border. The goal is to make oneself patiently available for visions, wisdom, or contact with spirits and ancestors. I suspect you could benefit from the equivalent of a utisetá right now, Leo. Do you dare to refrain from forcing solutions through sheer will? Are you brave enough to let answers wander into your midst instead of hunting them down? I believe your strength is your willingness to be still and wait in a threshold.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You are a devotee of the sacred particular. While others traffic in vague abstractions, you understand that vitality thrives in the details. Your attention to nuance and precision is not fussiness but a form of love. I get excited to see you honor life by noticing all of its specific textures and rhythms! Now, more than ever, the world needs this superpower of yours. I hope you will express it even stronger in the coming months. May you exult in the knowledge that your refusal to treat the world carelessly or sloppily isn't about perfectionism but about respect.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Architect Antoni Gaudi

spent over 40 years designing Barcelona's Sagrada Familia cathedral. He knew he wouldn't live to see it finished. It's still under construction today, long after his death. When he said, "My client is not in a hurry," he meant that his client was God. I invite you to borrow this perspective, Libra. See how much fun you can have by releasing yourself from the tyranny of urgency. Grant yourself permission to concentrate on a process that might take a long time to unfold. What a generous and ultimately productive luxury it will be for you to align yourself with deep rhythms and relaxing visions! I believe your good work will require resoluteness that transcends conventional timelines.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): The ancient Chinese philosophical text known as the Tao Te Ching teaches that "the usefulness of a cup is in its emptiness." A vessel full of itself can receive nothing. Is it possible that you are currently so crammed with opinions, strategies, and righteous certainty that you've lost some of your capacity to receive? I suspect there are wonders and marvels trying to reach you, Scorpio: insights, inquiries, and invitations. But they can't get in if you're full. Your assignment: Temporarily empty yourself. Create space by releasing cherished positions, a defensive stance, or stories about how things must be.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): The Yoruba concept of "ashe" refers to the power to make things happen. It's the life force that flows through all things, and it can be accumulated, directed, and shared. Right now, your ashe is strong but a bit scattered, Sagittarius. You have power, but it's diffused across too many commitments and half-pursued desires. So, your assignment is to consolidate. Choose two things that matter most and fully pour your ashe into them. As you concentrate your vitality, you'll get more done and become a conduit for blessings larger than yourself.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): What's holding you back? What are you waiting for? A nudge from destiny? A breaking point when you'll be compelled to act? A hidden clue that may or may not reveal itself? It's my duty to tell you this: All that lingering and dallying, all that wishing and hoping, is wasted energy. As long as you're sitting still, pining for a cosmic deliverance to handle the hard parts, the sweet intervention will keep its distance. The instant you claim the authority to act, you'll see it clearly: the path forward that doesn't need a perfect sign, a final push, or fate's permission slip.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): If you're anything like me, you wince as you recall the lazy choices and careless passivity that speckle your past. You may wonder what you were thinking when you treated yourself so cavalierly, pushed away a steadfast ally, or let a dazzling invitation slip by. At times, I feel as if my wrong turns carry more weight in my fate than the bright, grace-filled moments. Here's good news for you, though. March is Amnesty Month for all Aquarians willing to own up to and graduate from their missteps. As you work diligently to unwind the unhelpful patterns that led you off course, life will release you from the heavy drag of those old failures and their leftover momentum.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): In systems theory, "critical points" are moments when long periods of small changes gradually accumulate, and then suddenly erupt into a big shift. Nothing appears to happen for a while, and then everything happens at once. Ice becomes water, for instance. I suspect you're nearing such a pivot, Pisces. You've been gathering strength, clarity, and nerve in subtle ways. Soon you will be visited by what we might call a graceful, manageable explosion. The slow, persistent changes you've been overseeing will result in a major transition.

©2020 Jonesin' Crosswords (jonesincrosswords@gmail.com)

Answers on page 20

SUDOKU

Beginner

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

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!

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

OUT on the TOWN

Events & Happenings in Lansing This Week

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

Wednesday, March 4

"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.

AI-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 of Zentangles Exhibit & Sale - Zentangle artist Dorothy Hughes Engelman is the artist of the month. All pieces are for sale. Noon-7 p.m. Katalyst Art Gallery & Gift Boutique, 1214 Turner St., Lansing. facebook.com/KatalystGallery.

Better Process Control School - The FDA has selected MSU as one of the authorized schools to present the Better Process Control School. Students who successfully complete this course will meet FDA certification requirements. 7:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Erickson Hall, 620 Farm Lane, East Lansing. canr.msu.edu/food-safety-regulations-and-courses.

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 - Kevin Epling is sharing his "toy photography" for the month of March. Noon-4 p.m. Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. cadl.org/about/get-involved/friends-library/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.

Dublin Square Line Dance Event - We're back in the saddle. Dublin Square opens at 7 p.m., with class from 7:30-8:45 p.m. An open dance will follow with DJs Shawn, Alex & Zander. Dublin's DJ starts at 9:30 p.m. Class is free. 327 Abbot Road, East Lansing. facebook.com/dublinsquare.

Dungeons & Dragons Adventurers League - New and experienced players can join us for this "drop-in" style of play. If you're interested in joining and need to make a character, please arrive a bit early. 6:30-9:30 p.m. Homebrew Tabletop Game Lounge, 219 1/2 N. Bridge St., Grand Ledge. homebrewgamelounge.com.

Euchre Tournaments - Euchre games are played every Wednesday and Saturday throughout March at 10 a.m., 1 p.m., 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. Each game costs \$5 per person. Ms. Laura's Art Gallery, 1027 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. 517-894-2962. forms.gle/21UId62JS6mrN7IA7.

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 - An easy-to-learn dance to fast Latin music. 8 p.m. Michigan Athletic Club, 2900 Hannah Blvd., East Lansing.

Register by calling 517-364-8888. themac.org

Group Dance Class: Beginning West Coast Swing - The most popular dance out there! Can be danced to blues, jazz, popular or contemporary music and even rap songs. 7 p.m. Michigan Athletic Club, 2900 Hannah Blvd., East Lansing. Register by calling 517-364-8888. themac.org.

MiBiz360 Talent and HR Summit - Join us at the 2026 MiBiz360 Talent and HR Summit to learn, network, and grow in the world of HR! 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Kellogg Hotel and Conference Center, 219 S. Harrison Road, East Lansing. eventbrite.com/o/19775084347.

Parkinson's Exercise: Tai Chi - Free group class tailored for people with Parkinson's and their caregivers. Improve balance and strength. 1 p.m. Michigan Athletic Club, 2900 Hannah Blvd., East Lansing. To register, call 517-364-8800. lapseg.org.

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

Weaving the Web: Invocation - Join us in person or online for our weekly community night, an open, cross-tradition discussion space where we learn, share and build community together. 6-8 p.m. Weavers of the Web, 809 Center St., Lansing. weaversoftheweb.org.

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

Thursday, March 5

"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.

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

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

Art of Zentangles Exhibit & Sale - Noon-7 p.m. Katalyst Art Gallery & Gift Boutique, 1214 Turner St., Lansing. facebook.com/KatalystGallery.

Better Process Control School - 7:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Erickson Hall, 620 Farm Lane, East Lansing. canr.msu.edu/food-safety-regulations-and-courses.

Biology on Tap - We'll hear about modern approaches to cancer and gene therapies from Dr. Jennifer Jacob and Samantha Cassisi. 7 p.m. Michigan Wildlife Conservancy, 6380 Drumheller Road, Bath. facebook.com/BioOnTap.

Bookend Gallery Display by Kevin Epling - Noon-6 p.m. Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. cadl.org/about/get-involved/friends-library/haslett.

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

Music Instrument Swap

Noon-5 p.m. Saturday, March 7
10 a.m.-3 p.m. Sunday, March 8
Clarion Hotel and Conference Center

7501 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing
\$15/day or \$20/both days
musicinstrumentswap.com/lansing-show

The Lansing Music Instrument Swap is a swirl of vendors, musicians, collectors, inventors, investors, store owners and more. Patrons will find new, used, vintage, custom and handmade instruments, amplifiers and accessories for sale and for trade.

Most people carry their gear by hand or with small carts, or they make a lot of trips back to their car.

Expect to find some smoking deals and meet knowledgeable vendors. It's a great opportunity to learn techniques or show off your own, or to poke around for parts, repairs, recording services or performance opportunities.

The event is put on by Shawn VanSteeland, who also runs the Music Instrument Swap, a brick and mortar shop in Holt. VanSteeland is a major part of the Greater Lansing music community and runs — if we do say so ourselves — one of the best live music calendars in town.



societywordpress.com.

Caring for the Caregiver - Learn the importance of self-care for caregivers, practice some strategies for self-care, and find out resources for learning more. 8:30-9:30 a.m. Virtual — register at canr.msu.edu/mindfulnessforbetterliving.

Crafty Vibes - Bring your knitting, crochet or any other portable craft project and immerse yourself in an evening of creativity, conversation and community. 5-8 p.m. Weavers of the Web, 809 Center St., Lansing. weaversoftheweb.org.

"Dial M for Murder" - A smart, tight, compelling update of Frederick Knott's tale of jealousy, deception and homicide. 2 p.m. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam St., Williamston. williamstontheatre.org.

Group Dance Class: Beginning Rhumba - A great dance to learn if you need a slow dance for a social event or wedding. 8 p.m. Michigan Athletic Club, 2900 Hannah Blvd., East Lansing. Register by calling 517-364-8888. themac.org

Hay Production 101 - Topic: soil fertility & health management. 7-8:30 p.m. Virtual — register at canr.msu.edu/forages.

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.

"Jesus Christ Superstar" - This Tony Award-winning rock opera, with music by Andrew Lloyd Webber and lyrics by Tim Rice, tells the story of Jesus Christ's final days, culminating in his crucifixion. 7 p.m. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. riverwalktheatre.com.

KeyForge Open Play - Join Marty and friends to play and/or learn KeyForge, a non-collectible deck game made by the creator of Magic: The

Gathering. Bring your own deck or borrow one. 5:30-9:30 p.m. Homebrew Tabletop Game Lounge, 219 1/2 N. Bridge St., Grand Ledge. homebrewgamelounge.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. Biggy Coffee Ice Cube, 2810 Hannah Blvd., East Lansing. ladiesilverblades.org.

MSU Men's Basketball vs. Rutgers University - 8 p.m. Breslin Center, 534 Birch Road, East Lansing. msuspartans.com/sports/mens-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. lapseg.org.

Passport to Retirement: LCC Adult Enrichment Course - This two-day course will help you gain confidence in your financial decision making so that later on, you're better prepared to enjoy the rewards and face the challenges that retirement can bring. 6-8:30 p.m. LCC East Campus, 2827 Eyde Pkwy., East Lansing. register at lcc.edu/keeplearning.

Preserving MI Harvest: Canning with Confidence - We'll cover the basics of water bath and pressure canning, share tips for our favorite pieces of equipment and walk through tested recipes. 1 and 6 p.m. Virtual — register at canr.msu.edu/food_preservation.

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.

See Events, Page 20

Events

from page 19

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

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.

Thursday Night D&D Campaign - Our longest-running campaign continues as the heroes now find themselves facing a kobold siege and a newly appeared mountain. 6:30-9:30 p.m. Homebrew Tabletop Game Lounge, 219 1/2 N. Bridge St., Grand Ledge. homebrewgamelounge.com.

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.

Virtual Divorce Workshop - Provides legal considerations, practical financial strategies and emotional resources for those considering or going through divorce. 6:30-8 p.m. Register at secondssaturday.com/locations/lansing.

Who Gets Grandma's Yellow Pie Plate? Passing on Personal Possessions - This webinar will address six key decision-making factors for non-titled property transfer and provide strategies to help you jumpstart conversations about this issue. Noon-1 p.m. Virtual — register at canr.msu.edu/mimoneyhealth.

Wine Bingo Night - Come play a bit, win some swag, and hang with us. It's free to play. 6-7:30 p.m. Horrocks Wine Bar, 7420 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing. facebook.com/HorrocksWineBar.

Friday, March 6

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

Art of Zentangles Exhibit & Sale - Noon-7 p.m. Katalyst Art Gallery & Gift Boutique, 1214 Turner St., Lansing. facebook.com/KatalystGallery.

Bookend Gallery Display by Kevin Epling - Noon-4 p.m. Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. cadl.org/about/get-involved/friends-library/haslett.

Caldera D&D Campaign - The heroes have completed the classic module "Horror on the Hill" and now are seeking new adventures in an ancient temple in the desert. 1-4 p.m. Homebrew Tabletop Game Lounge, 219 1/2 N. Bridge St., Grand Ledge. homebrewgamelounge.com.

Confident Witch Circle: Naudhiz - This circle explores the Need-fire — the pressures, responsibilities, debts, and constraints that force honest change — through the fire-as-survival lens. 8-10 p.m. Keys to Manifestation, 809 Center St., Lansing. manifestlansing.com.

"Dial M for Murder" - 7:30 p.m. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam St., Williamston. williamstontheatre.org.

Extended Public Investigation - Join us for an extended six-hour investigation pizza party! Explore for yourself the historic Harriett Chapman Hospital's paranormal history. Limited to 10 guests. 6 p.m.-midnight. 101 W. Plain St., Eaton Rapids. eventbrite.com/o/31111181419.

Fish Fry - Baked & fried fish, baked potatoes & french fries, homemade mac and cheese, coleslaw, bread & more. 5-7 p.m. St Martha Catholic Church, 1100 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. 517-349-1763. st-martha.org.

Fish Fry Fridays Fundraiser - \$8 to \$15 — kids under 5 eat free. 4:30-7:30 p.m. VFW Post 701, 123 N. Rosemary St., Lansing. 517-485-1656.

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.

"Jesus Christ Superstar" - 8 p.m. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. riverwalktheatre.com.

Learn & Play Farms Race - Join us for this FREE event to learn a fun game of mutated farm animals, nukes and resource collection. 5-7 p.m. Homebrew Tabletop Game Lounge, 219 1/2 N. Bridge St., Grand Ledge. homebrewgamelounge.com.

Nic Gareiss and Brittany Haas - Two leading figures in the new resurgence of folk music and movement join forces for an evening of fiddle, voice, and percussive dance duets. 7:30-10 p.m. University Lutheran Church, 1020 S. Harrison Road, East Lansing. tenpoundfiddle.org.

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

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.

Self-Honoring Circle — Chapter 2: What Did I Say? - What did you say to yourself today — or yesterday? Chapter 2 of the Self-Honoring Circle invites you to pause, notice, and transform the words you speak to yourself. 1-4 p.m. Virtual — register at deepsoulcreativeart.my.canva.site.

Ten Pound Fiddle Annual Membership Meeting - Before the concert in the ULC sanctuary. Attendees will hear reports from board members, can have their questions answered and will get a preview of 2026-'27 concerts. 7-7:15 p.m. University Lutheran Church, 1020 S. Harrison Road, East Lansing. tenpoundfiddle.org.

Travelogue: Historic Croatia, with Kay Meints - Journey along the Adriatic Coast, traverse the marbled streets of medieval towns and explore UNESCO World Heritage Sites steeped in ancient history. 7-8:30 p.m. Foster Community Center, 200 N. Foster Ave., Lansing. 517-482-4235. parksonline.lansingmi.gov.

Youth Beginning Chess Workshop - This workshop series offers a structured and engaging introduction to the "game of kings," taught by professional chess coach Tyler Hug. Attend one or all sessions. Ages 8-18. 3-4:30 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. gladl.org.

Saturday, March 7

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

Art of Zentangles Exhibit & Sale - Noon-7 p.m. Katalyst Art Gallery & Gift Boutique, 1214 Turner

St., Lansing. facebook.com/KatalystGallery.

Bob Stein's 91st Birthday Contra Dance, English Country Dance and Potluck - English Country dance: 2-5 p.m. Potluck: 5-7 p.m. Evening dance: 7-10 p.m. (New dancer intro 6:30 p.m.) All dances taught — no partner needed. 2-10 p.m. Central United Methodist Church, 215 N. Capitol Ave, Lansing. tenpoundfiddle.org.

Beginner's Oil Painting Workshop, with Anita Brett - In this four-hour workshop, Anita Brett will supply the equipment and canvases needed to complete an 8-by-8 oil painting. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Shiawassee Arts Center, 206 Curwood Castle Drive, Owosso. (989) 723-8354. shiawassee-arts.org.

Bitterroot D&D Campaign - The heroes continue to explore the depths of Rappan Athuk. Seats available. Noon-3 p.m. Homebrew Tabletop Game Lounge, 219 1/2 N. Bridge St., Grand Ledge. homebrewgamelounge.com.

Bookend Gallery Display by Kevin Epling - Noon-2 p.m. Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. cadl.org/about/get-involved/friends-library/haslett.

Cabin Fever Reliever - The DeWitt DDA is hosting a street festival (21+) at the corner of Bridge and Main streets. This event will showcase local breweries, distilleries, wineries, cideries, food trucks and live music by Starfarm. 4-8 p.m. facebook.com/downtowndewitt.

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

"Dial M for Murder" - 2 and 7:30 p.m. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam St., Williamston. williamstontheatre.org.

Euchre Tournaments - Euchre games are played every Wednesday and Saturday throughout March at 10 a.m., 1 p.m., 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. Each game costs \$5 per person. Ms. Laura's Art Gallery, 1027 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. 517-894-2962. forms.gle/21Uid62jS6m-rN7IA7.

Family Day: SPEAK - What can art say? Make art that shares ideas in surprisingly creative ways in celebration of Youth Art Month. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, East Lansing. broadmuseum.msu.edu.

Friends of the Okemos Library Used Book Sale - 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Okemos Masonic Center, 2175 Hamilton Road, Okemos. 517-775-3959.

"Heated Rivalry" Night (18+) - Club '90s is bringing a "Heated Rivalry" dance party to Grewal Hall! Dance to the soundtrack and your favorite songs! 7 p.m. 224 S. Washington Square, Lansing. hall224.com.

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

Intermediate Oil Painting Workshop, with Anita Brett - In this four-hour workshop, supplies will be provided to complete an 8-by-8 canvas in oil. Choose from a portrait of a human, an animal, or a house. You'll be instructed individually as we work to complete our paintings. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Shiawassee Arts Center, 206 Curwood Castle Drive, Owosso. shiawasseearts.org.

"Jesus Christ Superstar" - 8 p.m. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. riverwalktheatre.com.

Learn & Play Horrified Greek Monsters - Join us for this FREE event to learn a fun cooperative game in which we take on multiple monsters and try to defeat them before time runs out. 5-7 p.m. Homebrew Tabletop Game Lounge, 219 1/2 N. Bridge St., Grand Ledge. homebrewgamelounge.com.

Meridian Township Farmers Market - 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Meridian Mall, 1982 E. Grand River Ave., Okemos. meridian.mi.us/FarmersMarket.

See Events, Page 21

Brrs, Beards & Brews: A Lumberjack Festival

Noon-5 p.m. Saturday, March 7
Old Town, Lansing
Suggested \$15 donation
for entry
iloveoldtown.org/
brrs-beards-brews



Adults 21 and older can embrace winter with flanneled arms and bearded faces at the annual Old Town Lumberjack Festival.

Inspired by the rugged spirit of the Northwoods and Michigan's logging heritage, the popular Old Town street festival features craft brews, bold beards (both real and woven) and live entertainment. The festival will turn Turner Street into a winter logging camp jubilee complete with craft beer and other beverages, a beard competition, feats of strength, games, live music, local vendors and plenty of social-media worthy moments.

There will be food trucks and specials at Old Town restaurants and bars. Many Old Town merchants will have lumberjack-themed surprises.

CROSSWORD SOLUTION

From Pg. 18

A	H	A	N	D	G	E	R	M	S	T	O	P		
C	O	L	O	R	O	L	E	O	O	H	I	O		
H	O	K	E	Y	P	O	K	E	Y	L	E	N	S	
E	T	A	L	I	A	O	K	E	Y	D	O	K	E	
		S	C	T	V	S	R	O						
P	S	A		E	R	I	K	S	K	Y	P	E	S	
A	C	T	I		J	O	N	A		E	A	R	L	Y
T	O	O	K	A	C	L	O	S	E	R	L	O	O	K
H	O	N	E	D		S	L	I	M		L	U	P	E
S	T	E	A	L	S		L	G	B	T		D	E	S
				I	L	L		H	A	H	A			
J	O	K	E	B	O	O	K		R	E	H	A	S	H
A	R	E	A		T	T	E	O	K	B	O	K	K	I
Z	E	E	S		H	T	T	P		B	R	I	E	R
Z	O	N	E		S	O	O	T		C	A	N	W	E

SUDOKU SOLUTION

From Pg. 18

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

Events

from page 20

“No Place to Grow Old” Documentary - Join Rebuilding Together Tri-County for a screening of Humans for Housing’s documentary that sheds light on the growing number of older adults facing homelessness. 4-6 p.m. Okemos Community Church, 4734 Okemos Road, Okemos. 517-897-3666.

Pintwood Derby - It’s a Pinewood Derby for adults! Join us for a high-speed day of competition while supporting local Scouting of America programs. Everyone is welcome to watch or race. Prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place, plus “people’s choice award.” 5 p.m. Michigan Wildlife Conservancy, 6380 Drumheller Road, Bath. facebook.com/miwildlife.

Red Cross Babysitting Workshop - Learn emergency procedures, discipline techniques, age-appropriate activities and basic first aid skills needed while babysitting. Upon completion, students receive a Red Cross certificate. Ages 12+. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. gladl.org.

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

Sunday, March 8

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

An Afternoon of Poetry & Jazz - A new monthly creative gathering entitled “Pzazz... an afternoon of poetry & jazz.” This performance, in celebration of International Women’s Day, will bring together an eclectic mix of storytelling, jazz, vocals and spoken word. 4-6 p.m. UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner St., Lansing. urbanbeatevents.com.

Art of Zentangles Exhibit & Sale - Noon-5 p.m. Katalyst Art Gallery & Gift Boutique, 1214 Turner St., Lansing. facebook.com/KatalystGallery.

Capital Area Racing League - The racing league continues as the teams head to China. Stop by to check out the race or join in. Noon-6 p.m. Homebrew Tabletop Game Lounge, 219 1/2 N. Bridge St., Grand Ledge. homebrewgamelounge.com.

“Dial M for Murder” - 2 p.m. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam St., Williamston. williamstontheatre.org.

Dust and Ice Control Event - Learn how to keep your home dust- and ice-free all year round! 10 a.m.-noon. MBH Trucking, 672 N. M-52, Webberville. eventbrite.com/o/120906104515.

Friends of the Okemos Library Used Book Sale - Sunday \$5 per bag. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Okemos Masonic Center, 2175 Hamilton Road, Okemos. 517-775-3959.

Introduction to Seidr - Many traditions have a magical aspect. Heathenry has two, and one of them is Seidr. In this beginner-friendly introduction, Snow and Jeremy will discuss the historical texts and descriptions of Seidr and how Heathens have embraced it (or not!) as part of their modern. 2-4 p.m. Weavers of the Web, 809 Center St., Lansing. weaversoftheweb.org.

“Jesus Christ Superstar” - 2 p.m. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. riverwalktheatre.com.

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.

Learn & Play Dice Miner - Join us for this FREE event to learn the fun and light Dice Miner game.

1-3 p.m. Homebrew Tabletop Game Lounge, 219 1/2 N. Bridge St., Grand Ledge. homebrewgamelounge.com.

Pure Options Stand-up Presents: Leah Rudick - Comedian Leah Rudick performs at Grewal Hall! 7:30 p.m. 224 S. Washington Square, Lansing. hall224.com.

Mike Cannon - New York City-based comedian, podcaster, writer and actor Mike Cannon performs at The Green Door, with special guest Aaron Putnum. Doors 6 p.m., show 7 p.m. 2005 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. greendoorlive.com.

Ostara Spellcraft Lab: Spring Reset - In this two-hour guided workshop, you’ll craft practical tools to reset the energy of your home, clear what lingers, bless what stays, and create wards that actually hold. 2-4 p.m. Keys to Manifestation, 809 Center St., Lansing. manifestlansing.com.

People’s Power Tour - Join us for refreshments, good conversation, and a focus on progressive issues. Special guests: State Rep. Emily Dievendorf, community activist Will Lawrence, Attorney General candidate Eli Savit and UM Regent candidate Amir Makled. 12:30-2:30 p.m. The Fledge, 1300 Eureka St., Lansing. tinyurl.com/CD7peoplepower.

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.

Storytime at the Michigan History Museum - Join Ms. Cassie from Capital Area District Libraries for story time! Each month, we’ll explore a new corner of Michigan’s past through stories, songs and hands-on fun. 1:30-2:30 p.m. 702 W. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. facebook.com/MichiganHistoryCenter.

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, coastal or hearty. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. 1957 Cedar St., Holt. facebook.com/summerlandsbrewing.

Time to Paddy 5K, 10K & Lucky 13.1 - This spring race is the perfect chance to challenge yourself and be part of an encouraging, affordable, and inclusive community. 8-11 a.m. Burchard Park, 220 E. Maple St., Lansing. runsignup.com.

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/GreaterLansing-AreaDrummers.

Monday, March 9

“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 of Zentangles Exhibit & Sale - Noon-7 p.m. Katalyst Art Gallery & Gift Boutique, 1214 Turner St., Lansing. facebook.com/KatalystGallery.

Bookend Gallery Display by Kevin Epling - Noon-4 p.m. Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. cadl.org/about/get-involved/friends-library/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.

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



Introducing the new monthly creative gathering...

Pzazz...

an afternoon of poetry & jazz

Pzazz ... an afternoon of poetry & jazz
4 p.m.-6 p.m. Sunday, March 8
UrbanBeat
1213 Turner St., Lansing
\$10 suggested donation for entry
facebook.com/LansingPoetryClub

Local poets and jazz musicians are banding together to launch a monthly creative gathering called “Pzazz,” and the inaugural event is in celebration of International Women’s Day. The show will feature jazz vocalist Sunny Wilkinson, jazz pianist and composer Ellen Rowe, and poets Shelia Burks, Rose Jangmi Cooper and Ruelaine Stokes.

“Our goal is to bring together two very different performance styles in a way that feels natural and full of vitality,” said Stokes, Lansing’s poet laureate. She is co-organizer of the series alongside jazz impresario Lois Mummaw, who also serves as emcee.

Wilkinson is a seasoned bandleader who headed the vocal jazz program at Michigan State University for 18 years. She is currently an artist in residence at the University of Michigan. Rowe is a professor of jazz and contemporary improvisation at U of M and has performed across the U.S. and abroad. Between them, they’ve released nine CDs.

Burks is a poet, actor and singer, as well as a member of Voices of the Revolution, a feminist performance group focused on social justice issues. Cooper is an actor, director, producer, singer, songwriter, author and poet. She is known for her work with Ixion Ensemble Theatre and previous work with Voices of the Revolution and the MSU Slam Poetry Team. Mummaw is a community organizer, an entrepreneur and a founding member and past president of the Jazz Alliance of Mid Michigan.

Bingo, where classic bingo meets your favorite songs. 7-8:30 p.m. 1957 Cedar St., Holt. www.facebook.com/summerlandsbrewing.

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

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. laps.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.

Salt Dough Easter Eggs - Use salt dough, cookie cutters and faux jewels to create a beautiful Easter ornament! Ages 6 - 12. 6-7 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. gladl.org.

Serving up Food Safety: Fire Preparedness - Join us for part two of our emergency preparedness series. Learn how to keep yourself and your family healthy and safe from foodborne illness during fires. Noon-12:30 p.m. Virtual — register at canr.msu.edu/safe_food_water.

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

Tuesday, March 10

“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.

Art of Zentangles Exhibit & Sale - Noon-7 p.m. Katalyst Art Gallery & Gift Boutique, 1214 Turner St., Lansing. facebook.com/KatalystGallery.

Bookend Gallery Display by Kevin Epling - Noon-4 p.m. Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. cadl.org/about/get-involved/friends-library/haslett.

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

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.

The Green Door Comedy Showcase - The Green Door features some of the state and beyond’s best stand-up talent every week! Doors 7 p.m., show 8 p.m. The Green Door, 2005 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. 517-482-6376. greendoorlive.com.

See Events, Page 22

State of Michigan Probate Court, Ingham County, Notice to Creditors, Decedent's Estate, Case 25-001180-DE-P33. Estate of Amber Michele Williams – Date of Birth: Aug. 19, 1987. Notice to Creditors: The decedent, Amber Michele Williams, died 1/6/22. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Stephanie Ann Hurley, 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, 3/4/2026. Personal representative: Stephanie Ann Hurley, 920 Wisconsin Ave., Lansing, MI 48915. 260-255-1873.

CP#26-073

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE OF LIENED PROPERTY

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a PUBLIC SALE HAS BEEN SCHEDULED and will be held on bid13.com, ending Friday, March 27th, 2026 at 1:00 P.M. The location of the storage unit items to be sold is State Mini Storage, 3946 E. State Road, Bath, Michigan of Clinton County. State Mini Storage will sell units via bid13.com to satisfy the lien on the property stored at this facility by the following persons:

Name	Unit	Contents
James Daggy	AA2	Shelving, Boxes, Tools, Appliances, Electronics, Household Items

Cash only accepted (Note: A credit card is required to create a bid13.com account but cannot be used to pay for the auction items). Winning bidders must pay the amount of their winning bid plus a \$100 deposit in cash when visiting our office to collect items won at auction. Deposit will be returned after the Property Manager confirms the unit has been left completely empty with no damage caused by the bidder or their associates. **No person under the age of 18 years is allowed to make bids at the sale.** Accounts will be sent to a collection service if a balance remains after the auction (to be paid by the original renter). All purchased goods are sold "as is" and must be removed no later than the Monday following the auction at 8:30 a.m. The unit is to be left completely empty in a clean and rentable condition. No usage of our site dumpster is allowed for the sale.

CP#26-068

**CITY OF LANSING
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

Z-2-2026, 332 Townsend Street
Rezoning from "DT-3" Downtown Core to "R-AR" Residential Adaptive Reuse

SLU-2-2026, 332 Townsend Street
Special Land Use permit for a Sheltered Care Facility

The Lansing City Council will hold a public hearing on Monday, March 23, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers, 10th Floor, Lansing City Hall, 124 W. Michigan Avenue, Lansing, Michigan to consider a request Z-2-2026, to rezone 332 Townsend St. from "DT-3" Downtown Core to "R-AR" Residential Adaptive Reuse and a request SLU-2-2026, for a special land use permit for a Sheltered Care Facility. The purpose of the rezoning and special land use is to permit a Sheltered Care Facility inside the existing building.

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

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

CP#26-069

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

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

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

Cortney Lighthouse, Clerk
Maggie Sanders, Supervisor

CP#25-289

Events

from page 21

Hay Production 101 - Topic: managing pests: weeds, insects and disease. 7-8:30 p.m. Virtual — register at canr.msu.edu/forages

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

"Kimberly Akimbo" - 7:30 p.m. Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. whartoncenter.com.

LAGE Game Night - 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.

Mario Day Party - Reading challenge participants can join us for a Mario party with snacks, games and crafts. 6-7 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. gladl.org.

Parkinson's Exercise: Balance, Conditioning and Strength - 1 p.m. Michigan Athletic Club, 2900 Hannah Blvd., East Lansing. To register, call 517-364-8800. lapseg.org.

Passport to Retirement: LCC Adult Enrichment Course - This two-day course will help you gain confidence in your financial decision making so that later on, you're better prepared to enjoy the rewards and face the challenges that retirement can bring. 6-8:30 p.m. LCC East Campus, 2827 Eyde Pkwy., East Lansing. register at lcc.edu/keeplearning.

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

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

Notice is hereby given of the following public hearings to be held by the East Lansing Planning Commission on Wednesday, March 25, 2026 at 6:30 p.m. at the East Lansing Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing, MI, 48823.

1. A public hearing to receive comments on a request from 246 Equities LLC for a Site Plan Approval located at 601 Abbot Rd. The applicant request is to convert the existing office building to an eight-unit apartment building. The property is zoned RM-32, City Center Multiple-Family Residential District.
2. A public hearing to receive comments on Ordinance 1559, which would amend Sec. 50-94 of the Zoning Ordinance, which defines a diverse housing requirement in downtown East Lansing. The amendment would allow for a fee to be paid in lieu of meeting the requirement, define a formula for that fee, and allow for the transfer of diverse housing credits from areas outside of downtown.
3. A public hearing to receive comments on Ordinance 1567, an amendment to Division 8 - Building Height Overlay District - of the East Lansing Zoning Ordinance to allow Council to approve a building height exceeding 160 feet when doing so is necessitated solely by the use of specific construction materials, including but not limited to mass timber, does not result in additional floors or units, and is subject to the review and approval of City Council under the special use procedures of Section 50-94.

The public may attend and participate in all meetings in person. Members of the public may participate electronically in all meetings. Please visit the City's public meeting portal for electronic meeting access 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 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 Planning Commission, City of East Lansing, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, Michigan, 48823, or by email to coelplanningcommission@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 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.

Emily Gordon
City Clerk

Dated: February 26, 2026
East Lansing, MI 48823

CP#26-071

FOOD & DRINK

DINING OUT IN GREATER LANSING

Ozone's offers fresh takes on favorites

By LIZY FERGUSON

Rarely do I see photos from local eateries on social media that I find enticing, but Ozone's Brewhouse piques my interest all the time. Whoever is taking the pictures over there does a great job of making the food look absolutely mouthwatering.

My friends and I visited on a Sunday right when it opened (11 a.m.). There was a large group already there, watching some sort of sports game, which I learned is a regular occurrence — especially soccer. Ozone's brews its own beer, or "liquid art," as they refer to it, so I started with a half pour of the Forward Grind stout, which made for

a delicious appetizer.

The previous day had been the tapping of the Black Roses barrel-aged imperial stout, so the specials menu was filled with options highlighting the notes of the beer. I was seriously tempted by the temphe BLT on the regular menu since I haven't seen one of those in years, but I ultimately had to get the burger off the specials menu because I just can't say no to fried goat cheese.

The burger was topped not only with a square of that fried goat cheese, but also raspberry-bacon jam, arugula, beer mustard and aioli

on a brioche bun. The meat itself was seared in the Black Roses stout. The

combination of flavors and textures was excellent, the creamy goat cheese and earthy arugula contrasting with the caramelized meat and the sweet, savory jam.

The fries (\$3 upcharge) left a little to be desired, so next time I'll probably just opt for the free chips, but the burger didn't need anything extra anyway. It had everything you could want.

Ozone's kitchen is in a food truck adjacent to the main taproom — the two are connected by a large, covered patio. It's impressive the variety that the chefs can produce

out of a truck. In a place where a lot of menus contain a lot of the same things, Ozone's is a great spot to try a new take on something familiar.



Black Bite burger

\$17

Ozone's Brewhouse
305 Beaver St., Lansing
5-10 p.m. Monday
3-10 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday
3-11 p.m. Friday
11 a.m.-11 p.m. Saturday
11 a.m.-10 p.m. Sunday
(517) 999-2739
ozonesbrewhouse.com



Lizy Ferguson for City Pulse

TOP 5 DINING GUIDE

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

TOP 5 FAMILY-FRIENDLY RESTAURANTS

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

1. Flour Child Bakery

Family-owned, made-from-scratch bakery and café
323 S. Bridge St., Grand Ledge
(517) 622-4772
flourchildbakeryandcafe.com
6 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday-Friday
6 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday-Sunday

2. Meat BBQ

Casual eatery serving slow-smoked barbecue standards and inventive handmade sides
1224 Turner St., Lansing
(517) 580-4400

meatbbq.com
11 a.m.-9 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday
Noon-5 p.m. Sunday
3. One North Kitchen & Bar — East Lansing
Laid-back sports bar with a diverse food menu
1310 Abbot Road, East Lansing
(517) 900-4678
onenorthdining.com
11 a.m.-11 p.m. Monday-Thursday
11 a.m.-midnight Friday
10 a.m.-midnight Saturday
10 a.m.-11 p.m. Sunday

4. Piazzano's

Bar and restaurant serving Italian and Mexican fare, sandwiches, burgers and breakfast
1825 N. Grand River Ave., Lansing
(517) 484-9922
piazzanos.com
7:30 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday, Wednesday-Saturday
7:30 a.m.-8 p.m. Sunday

5. Texas Roadhouse — both locations

Steakhouse chain specializing in a Southwestern cuisine style
See texasroadhouse.com for locations, hours and phone numbers

PICTURE PERFECT, NOW

WAIT UNTIL YOU TASTE IT

Experience a steak that's hand-carved by master butchers, perfectly aged to maximize tenderness, and double-trimmed to remove imperfections. This isn't a steak — this is Omaha Steaks.



You'll love it or your money back!

Butcher's Savory Collection SAVE 56%

- 4 Butcher's Cut Filet Mignons (5 oz.)
- 4 Air-Chilled Boneless Chicken Breasts (5 oz.)
- 4 Boneless Pork Chops (5 oz.)
- 4 Individual Scalloped Potatoes (3.8 oz.)
- 4 Caramel Apple Tartlets (4 oz.)
- 1 Omaha Steaks Seasoning (3 oz.)
- 8 FREE Omaha Steaks Classic Burgers (4 oz.)**

81305BRS separately \$294.94 **\$129.99**
SPECIAL INTRODUCTORY PRICE

GET 8 FREE BURGERS
A \$23 value!



ORDER NOW!

OmahaSteaks.com/Savory3122 1.866.586.3534
Ask for your FREE burgers with offer 81305BRS

*Savings shown over aggregated single item base price. Photos exemplary of product advertised. Limit 2. 8 free (4 oz.) burgers will be sent to each shipping address that includes 81305. Standard S&H added per address. While supplies last. Items may be substituted due to inventory limitations. Some products may not be available for sale in your area. Sales are subject to OmahaSteaks.com/terms-of-use. Expires 03/31/26. | 25M8964 | Omaha Steaks, LLC



Advanced Communications & Data

www.acd.net | (517) 999-9999

1800 N Grand River Ave
Lansing, MI, 48906



Musty Basement? WE CAN HELP!

- Basement Waterproofing
- Foundation Repair
- Crawl Space
- Indoor Air Quality



CALL TODAY TO SCHEDULE YOUR FREE ESTIMATE
1-844-300-8385

\$750 OFF
 Plus FREE
 Home Air Quality Test (\$399 value)



New orders only. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Minimum purchase required. Other restrictions may apply. This is an advertisement placed on behalf of Erie Construction Mid-West, Inc ("Erie"). Offer terms and conditions may apply and the offer may not be available in your area. If you call the number provided, you consent to being contacted by telephone, SMS text message, email, pre-recorded messages by Erie or its affiliates and service providers using automated technologies notwithstanding if you are on a DO NOT CALL list or register. Please review our Privacy Policy and Terms of Use on homeservicescompliance.com. All rights reserved.