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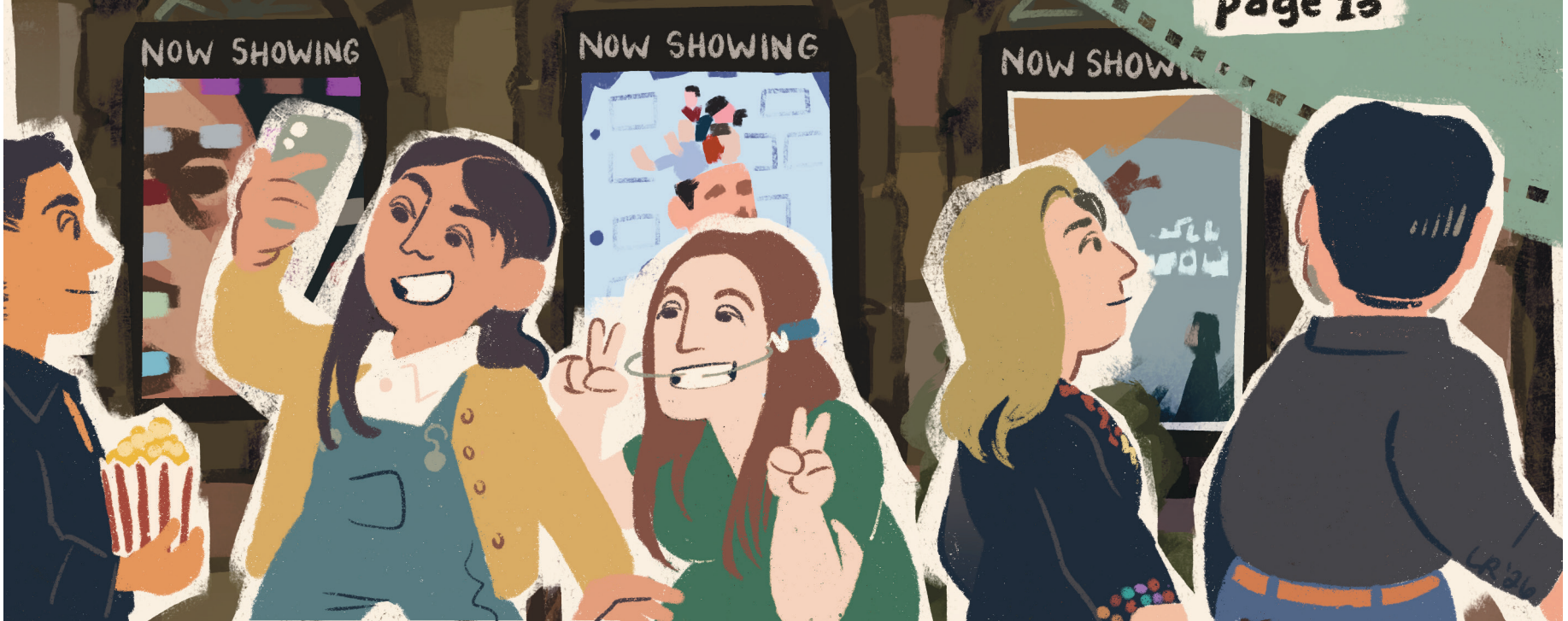
# CityPULSE

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## When did ‘All Politicians Lie’ stop being a warning and start becoming the excuse? When Power Is Cornered, It Changes the Subject

Every week I sit down to write, and every week I carry the same quiet certainty: something wildly chaotic, painfully cringey, or outright desperate will happen in the days before City Pulse goes to print. It’s become less of a coincidence and more of a pattern—predictable in its unpredictability. If it doesn’t happen, if a week slips by without some new absurdity clawing for attention, that’s the anomaly. That’s what feels strange now. Because we are no longer living in a world where reasonable, rational, or reliable thinking is the baseline expectation. That foundation has eroded, and in its place is something louder, more reactive and far less accountable.

Let’s be honest about something that isn’t new. Anyone who lived long before the internet flattened access to information already understood this: proximity to power has always insulated people from consequences. That truth has never been a secret. It’s just been carefully guarded—gatekept by systems, by influence, by fear and by those who benefit from keeping it obscured. The difference now is not that the truth exists, but that it’s harder to pretend it doesn’t.

The Epstein files in all their redacted glory are front and center, or should be anyway. We all know—or at least strongly suspect, for those in denial—that the list of perpetrators is long, sprawling and deeply uncomfortable. For years, there was this quiet, shadowy understanding that powerful people were being protected. But when the possibility of those names becoming public started to feel real, there was a flicker of something like hope. A belief—maybe naïve, maybe desperate—that accountability might finally reach people who had evaded it for far too long. That the law, once invoked, might actually mean something.

That belief now feels like a mistake.

Because what we’re witnessing instead is not a collective demand for truth, but a retreat from it. A willingness to abandon victims all over again in favor of protecting the very systems—and individuals—that enabled the harm in the first place. And the shift has been stark. Before the election, there were loud voices insisting the files should be released, that transparency mattered, that justice demanded it. Now? Many of those same voices have gone quiet—or worse, reversed course entirely. A full 180.

And no, it shouldn’t be surprising. Not really. This is consistent with a broader pattern: the slow erosion of even the most basic moral principles when they become politically inconvenient. What was once framed as a pursuit of truth has become conditional—dependent on who might be implicated, and what it might cost to acknowledge it.

I’ve seen people say the Epstein files no longer matter. That they’re irrelevant. But that raises a simple, unavoidable question: why don’t they matter? What changed? Because the harm didn’t disappear. The victims didn’t suddenly find justice. The only thing that’s changed is the potential proximity of certain powerful figures to the consequences of those revelations.

And that leads to an uncomfortable but necessary conclusion: for some, the files don’t matter because they might force a reckoning. Because if the full truth were laid bare—if it led to courtrooms, testimony and undeniable evidence—it would require people to confront something they’ve spent years avoiding. It would mean acknowledging that the red flags were always there. The patterns were always visible. The character flaws weren’t hidden—they were dismissed, excused or rationalized away. Admitting you were wrong would mean giving up owning the Libs.

For me, this was never about being “anti” Trump. It was never that simple. It’s about being against what that person represents: bullying, racism, fraud, exploitation, dishonesty, corruption and cruelty. It’s about rejecting a model of success that rewards those traits instead of condemning them. Strip away the name, and what remains is a pattern of behavior that should disqualify anyone from admiration, let alone power.

And yet, here we are—living in a reality where those traits don’t just persist, they’re normalized. Even celebrated. The overlap between what someone deserves and where they end up has never felt more disconnected. It’s like a Venn diagram that no longer intersects. We’ve reached a point where someone can embody the worst tendencies of humanity and still rise—financially, socially, politically—while others who contribute far more meaningfully to the world struggle just to get by.

That inversion has consequences.

Because the precedent it sets is dangerous: that people like this aren’t outliers. They’re not

exceptions to the rule. Increasingly, they are the rule—or at least, they’re treated that way. At least in the past, you could find at least one reason someone rose to power; i.e., they were diplomatic, articulate, or intellectually competent. Yet layered on top of that is a long-standing imbalance of power, particularly around gender. Men have historically been handed influence through entrenched social structures, and you might think that after decades of progress—after movements that called out abuse and demanded accountability—we would be moving in a better direction.

For a moment, it felt like we were. The momentum of cultural shifts suggested that maybe, just maybe, things were changing. But now, it feels like we’re regressing. Doubling down on outdated hierarchies. Repackaging toxic masculinity as strength. Selling dominance and control as virtues.

And here’s the irony: many of the men embracing this version of “power” don’t actually benefit from it in any meaningful way. What they gain is superficial—permission to posture, to assert dominance in small, performative ways. It’s not real influence; it’s imitation. It’s cosplay. The same people projecting alpha energy are often the ones most insecure beneath the surface. They wear the label, but they don’t live the substance.

That disconnect doesn’t stay contained online. It spills out into real life. It shapes how people treat one another—especially women. Because when empathy is replaced with entitlement, and accountability is framed as weakness, the result isn’t confidence. It’s aggression. It’s predation disguised as pursuit.

Let’s not pretend otherwise. The same individuals crafting carefully curated online personas—polished profiles, rehearsed charm—are not advertising their worst intentions on Tinder. They don’t say they lack empathy. They don’t admit to manipulation. They present a version of themselves designed to gain trust, to lower defenses. And when the opportunity arises, they exploit it. Quietly. Efficiently. Like instinct.

And perhaps most troubling of all is the number of conservative women willing to defend or excuse this dynamic. The idea that loyalty—particularly among women—means standing by harmful behavior. That it’s a duty to endure, to rationalize and to protect. That belief doesn’t just sustain the problem; it deepens it.

We didn’t arrive here by accident. This is the result of countless choices—individual and collective—to look away, to downplay and to prioritize comfort over truth. And every time we decide that something like the Epstein files “doesn’t matter,” we reinforce that pattern. We send a message about whose pain is worth acknowledging, and whose isn’t.

Because if it were personal—if it were your daughter, your sister, someone you loved—you wouldn’t say it doesn’t matter. You wouldn’t argue against transparency. You wouldn’t accept silence.

And that’s the line we keep crossing: the distance between abstract and personal. It only seems complicated until it isn’t.

And now, as if on cue, we find ourselves consumed by the chaos of war—another all-encompassing crisis demanding our attention, our outrage, our exhaustion. Maybe it’s coincidence. Maybe it’s timing. But it’s hard to ignore how quickly the conversation shifts, how easily focus is redirected away from accountability and toward fear and survival. At the same time, the very officials who were supposed to be in a position to bring clarity—the so-called Attorney General among them—are pushed out, reportedly over how they handled the files, only to be replaced by someone already signaling that whatever remains may never see the light of day.

Taken in isolation, maybe each of these moments has an explanation (they don’t). But together, they start to form a pattern—one where the pressure eases, the spotlight dims, and the people who should be answering questions are once again spared from having to. If this isn’t intentional (it is), it’s an outcome that serves the same purpose. And at some point, we have to ask ourselves how many times we’re willing to be pulled away from the truth before we realize we’re being led. Intentionally and unwillingly led.

Please email me at [lansingallstar@gmail.com](mailto:lansingallstar@gmail.com)

P.S. I’m looking for a dance instructor to teach me how to do the famous Carleton Banks dance. If you’re interested, please email me. I have absolutely no issue taking instruction, but I also have no rhythm, so I’ll be a challenge to work with, I think.



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**Tower on Grand**



**Washington Square**



**Capital Tower**

# Transformational Projects



# Changing The Skyline of The Capital City

# CityPULSE

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Member, AAN



Tom Barrett and Trump cabinet member visit Lansing factory



New PetalPop Cafe pays tribute to legendary Lucile Belen

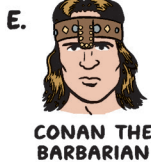
**Correction:** James Blachly's photo did not appear in an April 1 story about him and the other four candidates for the Lansing Symphony Orchestra's music director job.

Cover illustration by Lora Root

## Name That **BELICIOSE** BABBLER




- "GOD WILL ROAST THEIR STOMACHS IN HELL."
- "DON'T PUSH IT, OR I'LL GIVE YOU A WAR YOU WON'T BELIEVE."
- "YOU SHOULD... TOTALLY CUT THEIR WINDPIPES AND THUS CLEARLY SHOW THEM WHAT A REAL WAR IS LIKE."
- "I AM ALTERING THE DEAL. PRAY I DON'T ALTER IT ANY FURTHER."
- "[THEY] WILL BECOME GOOD FOOD FOR THE SHARKS."
- "OPEN THE F#@\*&'N' STRAIT, YOU CRAZY BASTARDS, OR YOU'LL BE LIVING IN HELL."
- "[THE BEST IN LIFE IS] TO CRUSH YOUR ENEMIES, SEE THEM DRIVEN BEFORE YOU, AND TO HEAR THE LAMENTATIONS OF THEIR WOMEN."
- "IF YOU START THROWING HEDGEHOGS UNDER ME, I SHALL THROW A COUPLE OF PORCUPINES UNDER YOU."



ANSWER KEY: 1-C, 2-D, 3-B, 4-A, 5-H, 6-F, 7-E, 8-B


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## THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW

**WELCOME TO AMERICA'S FAVORITE PASTIME\***

# WHAT WILL HE SCREW UP TODAY?

**\*ENJOYMENT NOT GUARANTEED.**

**GLOBAL STABILITY?**

NO ONE COULD HAVE POSSIBLY FORESEEN THAT IRAN WOULD CLOSE THE STRAIT OF HORMUZ!

GROK DIDN'T EVEN MENTION THE POSSIBILITY WHEN I ASKED IT TO PLAN THE WAR!

**LONGSTANDING ALLIANCES?**

WHY WON'T THE COWARDS IN NATO HELP OUT WITH THE MILITARY OPERATION THAT'S ALREADY OVER, IF ONLY IRAN WOULD ADMIT DEFEAT?

PERHAPS ANOTHER ANGRY TRUTH SOCIAL POST THREATENING TO ANNEX GREENLAND WILL SHOW THEM THE ERROR OF THEIR WAYS!

WHY, LITTLE MARCO? WHY?

**THE ENTIRE ECONOMY?**

PEOPLE WILL JUST HAVE TO ACCEPT A LITTLE SHORT TERM PAIN, UNTIL WE ACHIEVE OUR CLEARLY-STATED OBJECTIVES IN IRAN! WHATEVER THEY ARE!

SIR, YOU CANNOT FAIL-- YOU CAN ONLY BE FAILED, BY AN UNGRATEFUL PUBLIC!

**SCIENCE AND HEALTH CARE?**

IF WE SLASH FUNDING FOR EVERYTHING, THERE WILL BE MORE MONEY TO BUILD GIANT GOLDEN STATUES OF TRUMP!

IT IS TRULY WHAT THE PEOPLE VOTED FOR, SIR!

**WHO CAN EVEN GUESS?**

WHAT IF WE USE NUKES--TO CARVE MY FACE INTO THE MOON? I BET THAT WOULD LOOK COOL!

A VERY INTRIGUING IDEA, SIR! BUT FIRST, I'D LIKE TO SHOW YOU THESE HIGHLY CLASSIFIED JINGLING KEYS!

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# PULSE

# NEWS & OPINION

## No data center in Lansing after Deep Green withdraws plans

By **ERICK DÍAZ VELIZ**

During the city council meeting on Monday evening, Lansing Mayor Andy Schor said a proposed data center in downtown Lansing won't be built or considered in the city.

The Lansing City Council was expected to vote on the proposal Monday night, a zoning adjustment to allow Deep Green, a United Kingdom-based technology company, to purchase the site and build a controversial data center in the city's stadium district.

"Items 26 and 29 have been pulled from the agenda," said Council President Peter Spadafore at the start of the meeting. "Item 26 was the sale of city property ... and the people at Deep Green have requested to pull that back."

The 24-megawatt data center was proposed by Deep Green in November of last year, alongside the Lansing Board of Water and Light, as a new clean energy facility and as an economic boost for the city. The plan was to build a 25,000-square-foot data center on four largely unused lots on Kalamazoo Street between Cedar and Larch streets, where a fuel cell plant was also planned to provide 16 megawatts. There would have been a projected investment of \$120 million by Deep Green.

Some city officials supported the proposal and there was wide pushback from the community and grassroots organizations concerning environmental issues. The British company decided to withdraw its data center proposal hours before the Monday city council vote.

During the meeting, City Council Vice President Trini Pehlivanoglu asked Schor if the Deep Green proposal could come back in the future.

"It would have to go all the way back through the zoning process," Schor said. "The contracts would start all over again. We did not request a tablebling. We did not request to come back in two weeks. These have been withdrawn."

But the news already known hours before the meeting.

It shared on social media by officials from the city of Lansing and was rapidly reshared within minutes. Spadafore's Facebook post said Deep Green was withdrawing, which meant "the data center proposal downtown will not move forward."



A rendering of the since-withdrawn proposal by Deep Green to build a small data center in downtown Lansing.

Spadafore told City Pulse that with the withdrawal, there is no reasonable way for the Deep Green's data center plans to continue, and the council has not been presented with any alternative sites or proposals.

Although the tech company didn't publicly share its reasons, in a brief statement shared to media outlets, CEO Mark Lee wrote that the company is committed to building the data center in the right way.

"We are confident that Michigan is a place that values responsible development, and we continue to work with local partners and communities in the region," Lee wrote. "We are fully energized in our mission to build the first data center of its kind in the United States, one that delivers advanced computing power while capturing and reusing waste heat for the benefit of the communities where we operate."

Dick Peffley, general manager of BWL, said in a statement that the utility still believes in the benefits of the proposal. BWL had planned to use heat generated by the data center to power a hot-water heating system for downtown buildings.

Amy Adamy, a spokesperson for BWL, told City Pulse via email that they had been planning to convert their steam utility for several years, and now, since they had seen an opportunity in the data center, they will have to review their projects.

"We have had plans in place to support the project, whether Deep Green was approved or not, and progress to continue construction of the system will not be impacted after yesterday's decision, though it will require us to review and reassess design and costs," she said.

The Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce said, in a statement signed by President and COO Tim Daman, that the withdrawal of the \$120 million plan was "deeply disappointing."

"Lansing cannot expect improved services, expand opportunities and long-term growth while turning away the very investments that make those outcomes possible .... Unfortunately, we are losing out on a significant investment that would have strengthened our economy, expanded opportunities and positioned the Capital City for long-term success."

For the city council meeting, around 100 speakers had signed up for public comments. Grassroots organizations had encouraged people to show up hours early. During the speeches, the vast majority overwhelmingly expressed disapproval in council members who supported the project, and called for better management of public spaces for the community. Overall, the community's comments were marked by an air of celebration and relief.

"Give us something not to complain about," said Jodi Washington, a former council member and mother of council member Adam Hussain. "We would welcome it. I'm sorry that your administration has gone south. I'm sorry that this council's quite inept. So please leave the land empty until we get another mayor and another council that has vision, a plan, critical thinking, and we can move forward."

Mayor Schor had strongly supported the project, including in an April 1 letter to the community, the letter cited various economic benefits and attempted to as-

sure voters there would be no significant environmental impact.

After the proposal was withdrawn, Schor said in a statement that he had been encouraged about the plan but also "heard the concerns raised by some members of the Lansing public."

He appeared to signal a clean break.

"As this property will remain empty parking lots, I ask all those who suggested housing on these parcels to provide their proposals for development into housing," Schor wrote. "I agree that would be great for this area, and I look forward to seeing those proposals and financing to make this happen."

For Jerry Norris, founder of The Fledge, the withdrawal was not a win but a "block shot."

"How did we get here?" Norris said during public comment. "How did you guys bring this to us? How did so many people not want it? And how do we look forward and try to figure out how to not make this happen again? I don't want to be up here screaming and yelling and scared and all of these things that make me reactive to what's going on. I want to be up here working with you."

He said a lack of analysis and studies into pollution, environmental and health impacts prior was a problem. He said projected revenue from the data center won't cover pricy asthma hospitalizations or other concerns.

One of at least three City Council members opposing the project, Deyanira Nevarez-Martinez said Monday that she would have voted against the proposal had the vote taken place. She said the city of Lansing needs revitalization and shared a draft ordinance with the office of the city attorney that would prohibit data centers from commercial and downtown commercial districts.

"This proposal is not just a data center," Nevarez-Martinez said. "It includes a 16-megawatt natural gas-powered fuel cell facility located in a dense mixed-use downtown near homes, businesses, and the heart of our cities and our state's civic life. For me, this came down to a fundamental planning question. Do I believe a power plant belongs in downtown Lansing? My professional opinion is no."

After her words, among the attendees, sighs of relief and applause were heard.

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CP#26-124

**CITY OF EAST LANSING  
NOTICE OF ELECTION  
TUESDAY, MAY 5, 2026**

To the qualified electors of the Ingham County Intermediate School District in the City of East Lansing, please take notice that the City of East Lansing will hold a Special Election on May 5, 2026.

**To vote on the following proposals:**

A Special Education Bond Proposal for the Ingham County Intermediate School District  
Full text of the ballot proposals may be obtained at the East Lansing City Clerk's Office, 410 Abbot Road, Room 100, East Lansing, MI 48823. Sample ballots can also be found at [www.mi.gov/vote](http://www.mi.gov/vote).

**Polls at said election will be open at 7 am and will remain open until 8 pm.****Photo Identification OR Affidavit Required to Vote:**

Under Michigan law upheld by the Michigan Supreme Court, ALL voters will be asked to show photo identification to vote at the polls. Voters without identification will be required to fill out and sign an affidavit in order to receive a ballot.

**LIST OF POLLING LOCATIONS:**

- Precinct 1 - East Lansing Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road
- Precinct 2 - Eastminster Presbyterian Church, 1315 Abbot Road
- Precinct 3 - Shaarey Zedek Congregation, 1924 Coolidge Road
- Precinct 4 - St. Paul Lutheran Church, 3383 Lake Lansing Road
- Precinct 5 - University Reformed Church, 841 Timberlane St.
- Precinct 6 - Edgewood United Church, 469 N. Hagadorn Road
- Precinct 7 - Burcham Hills Retirement Center, 2700 Burcham Drive
- Precinct 8 - Department of Public Works, 1800 E. State Road
- Precinct 9 - Wesley Foundation, 1118 S. Harrison Road
- Precinct 10, 11, 12, 13 (combined) - Union Building, Michigan State University, 49 Abbot Road

All polling places are accessible and voting instructions are available in alternative formats of audio and Braille.

In addition to regular business hours, the East Lansing City Clerk's Office at City Hall will be open on May 2 from 8 am-4 pm.

The last day to register in any manner other than in-person with the East Lansing City Clerk's Office is April 20, 2026. After this date, anyone who qualifies as an elector must register to vote in person with proof of residency (MCL 168.492) at the following locations and times:

East Lansing City Clerk's Office- City Hall  
410 Abbot Road, Room 100  
East Lansing, MI 48823

- Regular Business hours: 8 am- 12 pm and 1 pm – 5 pm Monday- Friday
- Lunch Hour: The Clerk's office is closed daily for a lunch break from 12 pm- 1 pm
- Additional hours: May 2, 2026, from 8 am- 4 pm

**To register to vote, check your voter registration information, find your polling location, or view your sample ballot check the Secretary of State Voter Information website at [www.mi.gov/vote](http://www.mi.gov/vote)**

**ABSENT VOTER BALLOTS:**

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

The East Lansing City Clerk's Office must have a signed application to issue an Absent Voter Ballot. You may apply online at [www.mi.gov/vote](http://www.mi.gov/vote) or at the East Lansing City Clerk's Office.

May 4, 2026, at 4 pm is the deadline to request an absentee ballot, except for those who register to vote on Election Day.

Those registering to vote on Election Day, May 5, 2026, are eligible to receive an Absent Voter Ballot at the East Lansing City Clerk's Offices.

Emily Gordon  
City Clerk

CP#26-132

# Barrett tours Lansing factory with Trump surrogate

## SBA administrator says Trump's 1980s newspaper ads are being vindicated

By MIKE ELLIS

U.S. Small Business Administration Administrator Kelly Loeffler wants you to remember the ads that President Donald Trump put in newspapers in the 1980s.

No, not the 1989 ads in which Trump called for the return of the death penalty in response to accusations against the since-exonerated Central Park Five.

Loeffler, a Trump cabinet member, was instead referring to a newspaper ad from 1987, in which Trump criticized Japan, called the Persian Gulf an area of "marginal significance to the United States" and pushed for tariffs from allies in the context of an ongoing Iran-Iraq conflict involving oil shipping in the Middle East, which prompted American military convoys at the time to escort tankers from Kuwait and included U.S. military strikes against Iranian oil platforms.

On Thursday, April 2, Congressman Tom Barrett and Loeffler toured the factory of Campbell Press Repair, a half-century Lansing fixture where experts fix huge equipment for other manufacturers, including precision military and health care suppliers.

CEO Pete Campbell said the 53-year-old family business has benefited from the Trump administration's tax credits for small businesses, including his own business and his clients.

"With that tax advantage, they can buy and be more competitive and bring the costs down on their end," Campbell said.

Barrett touted the factory's work in military applications and the importance of national security but did not mention the ongoing war in Iran. Barrett and Loeffler took a handful of questions from about a dozen news media inside the noisy factory.

Barrett declined to answer a question about whether the administration has done enough to inform the public about the war actions in Iran.

Barrett's staff said he had finished taking questions and did not have time to respond. His staff pointed City Pulse toward statements he made online on Feb. 28 and March 5 about his stance on the Iran war.

"President Trump has earned the opportunity to resolve this conflict quickly and with minimal casualties," Barrett said in the most recent statement, from March 5.

When they spoke to reporters at the Lansing factory, Loeffler and Barrett focused on the Trump administration's tax and economic responses during the past year.

Barrett said most people will notice they



Mike Ellis/City Pulse

U.S. Rep. Tom Barrett, R-Charlotte, and U.S. Small Business Administration Administrator Kelly Loeffler toured the Campbell Press Repair facility in Lansing on Thursday, April 2.

are getting more tax money this year, an average of about 10% more.

He said the Trump administration is addressing the economy by "doing internal border enforcement to remove people in the country illegally and competing against housing and other opportunities for native-born Americans to make sure that we're not benefiting illegal immigrants over our own citizens and our own people who are here legally."

Loeffler pointed to the 1980 Trump newspaper ad, which used the word "backbone," and said it showed his decades-long record of support for policies including tariff reform.

"In the 1980s, before President Trump was president, he ran ads talking about the strength of American can be restored with a backbone," Loeffler said. "Well, this president has brought courage and a backbone to our industrial policy, saying that we have to build it here because we do it best, we're energy dominant, and we have to protect our national security by making things here in America again."

Loeffler was asked how small businesses can monitor and accommodate tariffs that have frequently changed with little notice in the last year. She answered by saying she has met with businesses around the country whose leaders say they are adding shifts.

Barrett pointed to General Motors and said he has met with CEO Mary Barra, who is supportive of the Trump administration's tariffs.

"You can't sell a GM car in Tokyo," Barrett said, "but one of the largest market-share vehicle manufacturers in the U.S. is Toyota. How's that fair? How's that fair to American families working hard every day so we don't have these unfair trade imbalances that disadvantage American workers and manufacturers?"

# Small businesses combat worker shortage with community college partners

By **BAUYRZHAN ZHAXYLYKOV**  
Capital News Service

LANSING — Michigan small businesses continue to face worker shortages, particularly in health care, construction and technical fields where employers say hiring remains difficult.

The situation has improved since the peak labor shortages of the post-COVID-19 pandemic years of 2021 and 2022, when employers across nearly all industries struggled to find workers, said Brian Calley, the president and CEO of the Small Business Association of Michigan.

However, some positions remain consistently in demand.

“Highly technical services are still difficult to fill, especially in medical, engineering and construction fields where specific skills are required,” Calley said.

Licensed occupations such as electricians and plumbers also remain challenging to fill, he added.

“It’s very difficult to find people in those fields, especially on an emergency basis,” Calley said.

He said more emphasis on hands-on learning could help prepare future workers.

“Experiential learning is the future,” Calley said.

That approach is already happening through partnerships between community colleges and local employers.

Brandy Johnson, the president of the Michigan Community College Association, said these institutions are the state’s largest access point to workforce training and work directly with employers to design programs that respond to hiring needs.

“That includes short-term credentials, customized training and industry-aligned programs that can quickly move people into open jobs.”

One example of that approach can be seen at Schoolcraft College in Livonia, where a partnership with Nino Salvaggio International Marketplace gives students hands-on experience while helping meet workforce needs.

A 48,000-square-foot international marketplace provides learning opportunities in culinary arts, supply chain management, business, accounting and entrepreneurship programs, said Glenn Cerny, the president of Schoolcraft College.

“When you walk into the marketplace, there is a seating area where about 20 to 25 people can sit, and we can actually hold classes there while people are shopping

and doing their business,” Cerny said.

“Our students get to see a real, working marketplace and interact with the owners.”

The marketplace, which opened March 11, has already involved about 200 students in training and work-based learning opportunities, Cerny said.

About 10 students have been hired full time and another 20 to 30 have gained part-time work experience.

Cerny said the partnership benefits both students and employers.

“It’s a two-for-one story because not only are we providing employers with employees who are ready to work, but we’re giving them employees with skills because experience is a skill,” he said.

Cerny said the more experience you get in the workforce, the more valuable you become.

Programs like Schoolcraft’s reflect broader workforce training trends across the state.

Figures from the Michigan Center for Data and Analytics show that nearly 94% of people who completed registered apprenticeships in 2022 were employed in Michigan within one year, with median annual earnings of about \$80,700.

To support such outcomes, the state is expanding programs that connect apprenticeship training with college credentials.

Johnson said, “Michigan is building momentum in this space through the Michigan College Credit for Apprenticeships Program, which translates apprenticeship learning into college credit and clearer education pathways.”

She said the goal is to build a system where apprenticeship training is recognized across colleges and applied toward certificates or degrees in high-demand fields.

Despite such efforts, challenges remain, experts say.

Capacity and awareness are often barriers. Small employers may not have the time or resources to navigate training partnerships, and students aren’t always aware of such opportunities or how to access them.

Advocates say addressing those challenges is essential because small businesses play a crucial role in keeping Michigan’s economy competitive.

According to the Statewide Workforce Plan, more than 900,000 small businesses employ about 1.9 million people across the state.

# Gas prices and driver shortages challenge public transit agencies

By **CRISTIAN VAZQUEZ**  
Capital News Service

LANSING — Mass transit systems in rural areas in Michigan are facing major challenges today, the state’s top public transit executive says.

Jean Ruestman, the administrator of the Office of Passenger Transportation in the Department of Transportation, said the first problem is the lack of adequate funding.

Her office administers funds that go to public transit agencies across the state like the Capital Area Transit Authority in Lansing (CATA) and the Suburban Mobility Authority for Regional Transportation (SMART) in Southeast Michigan.

Ruestman said the first challenge is that transit services have become increasingly expensive to provide, even more so with the price of fuel skyrocketing.

“You can imagine in the rural areas where they’re driving long distances to pick up people and to deliver them to the needed services,” Ruestman said.

In addition, state funding available for supporting local transit has not grown at

the same rate as inflation, she said.

Furthermore, public transit funding from the Department of Transportation is at around 29% for urban systems and 30% for rural systems, she said.

Meanwhile, she said operating costs continue to rise faster than revenues coming in.

For most agencies, federal aid doesn’t account for more than 18% of local support, she said.

While most transit agencies in Michigan are pretty successful at getting local support, they are all getting tapped out, she said.

A second challenge is that hiring and retaining qualified drivers is tough, she said.

Bus driving is an arduous job, she said. Finding mechanics is also a challenge as private industry pays more than most public agencies can afford to pay, she said.

Finally, if there is no additional money coming in, that sometimes means mass transit systems have to make cuts, whether that’s reducing their staff, reducing services, cutting raises and even cutting supplies, she said.

Carrie Thompson, the vice president of

the Cadillac/Wexford Transit Authority, said there are challenges involving rising costs at the pump right now.

“That would definitely be a challenge with our budget,” said Thompson.

Thompson said her agency also has difficulty finding bus drivers.

Candidates for public transit driving jobs get background checks, looking at their driving record and other background.

The authority also wants drivers who like “working with people,” said Thompson.

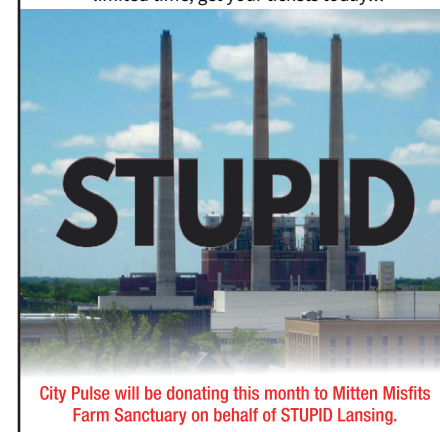
“We can’t just hire anybody because we sometimes transport vulnerable populations like school kids, as well as seniors and people with disabilities. So, we’re pretty stringent about who we hire,” said Thompson.

Inflation is an ongoing struggle that most transit agencies are feeling, said Thompson.

“We are not getting enough reimbursement from the state as we would like to really make,” said Thompson. “We are working as efficiently as possible to stretch the dollar.”



This week’s rains and flooding brought a rare closure to the adjacent Potter Park Zoo. But Stupid-Lansing, the city and zoo have partnered to create Big Penny Aquatic Entertainment and Animal Encounter Experience! Snorkel, swim, and float with your favorite furry critters from the Potter Park Zoo! Grab a cocktail from our swim up bar, and float with your friends. Laugh as over confident drivers still try to pass under Big Penny! This one of a kind experience is unique to Lansing, and only happening for a limited time, get your tickets today!!!



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

# REWIND

## NEWS HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE LAST 7 DAYS

COMPILED BY STEVE UNDERWOOD FROM LOCAL NEWS SOURCES



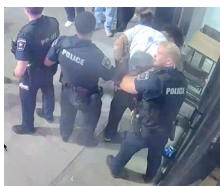
**Heavy rainfall over the weekend caused flooding which prompted the closure of several roads across Greater Lansing.** The sudden rain included about two inches on Saturday and another half inch for the rest of the weekend and was capped with hail in the area on Monday. Some of the most extreme flooding was at The Quarters apartment complex, on Abbot Road in East Lansing. A parking lot there that has flooded in recent years was filled with water that rose beyond the windows of more than a dozen cars and trucks. The area has been prone to flooding for decades.



**Officials with the Ingham County Prosecutor's Office put up blue and silver pinwheels outside of the Kalamazoo Street courthouse downtown on Monday to acknowledge Child Abuse Prevention Month.** The pinwheels represent childlike whimsy and the hope for all children, and are planted to be a contrast to some of the terrible child abuse cases the prosecutors handle and to draw attention to that work. The prosecutor's office is supporting the work of Small Child Advocacy Center, a mid-Michigan organization that helps to facilitate forensic interviews and also offers no-cost therapy services for children, adult prevention education and more. Learn more at <https://smalltalkcac.org/>

**East Lansing Police Department officer Andrew Lyon resigned last Friday, according to**

**WLNS News. Lyon, another ELPD officer, ELPD Chief Jennifer Brown and the city are the subject of two lawsuits accusing them of improv-**



**erly arresting two people last Aug. 24 in front of Dave's Hot Chicken in downtown East Lansing.** Lyon had served the department since June 2024. City Manager Robert Belleman confirmed the resignation Monday to WLNS.



**The City of Lansing has set a public hearing for April 20 to evaluate proposed changes to its parking and get feedback from city council members, business owners and the public.** The city is considering increasing parking fees, as well as decreasing the parking enforcement window by an hour and raising fines for overstaying. Lansing currently enforces parking fees from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday, but a move back to 9 a.m. weekdays is possible. Meanwhile, ticketed drivers currently have two hours to pay a reduced fine but that could be extended until midnight of the same day. Another change would increase the fines by about \$10 for various overages, such as paying \$35 instead of \$25 for a parking ticket paid 14 days late or as high as \$55 for being 42 days late. On top of that, the city is considering increasing the hourly rates for street parking to encourage drivers to use parking ramps for longer stays.

**MSU announced Tuesday it will receive a \$47 million donation from Charles "Chuck" and Jacqueline "Jackie" Frasier to support the latest phase of Packaging Building expansion and much more.** "This historic gift — the largest in the history of the top-ranked School of Packaging — is poised to redefine the global landscape of packaging education and research for generations to come," the university said in a release. The donation will also help establish an endowed director's fund



and a fellowship endowment for the "next generation of doctoral and master's researchers," along with a mix of endowed and expendable funds for "pressing immediate needs and emerging initiatives." Frasier is a 1970 MSU Bachelor of Science in packaging grad and the couple have made a series of gifts to MSU over the years.



**The Ann Arbor Police Department reported that more than 40 fires were set and two individuals arrested during celebrations Monday night, following the University of Michigan's NCAA men's basketball championship victory over Connecticut.** "Multiple street signs were also damaged during the celebration," the department added. "There were no serious injuries reported. South University reopened to vehicle traffic at 12:50am." U-M's win was its first NCAA hoops title since 1989 and the Big Ten's first championship since MSU won it in 2000.

**The Capital Area District Library is exploring a move into a parking garage space, according to**

**a report from WKAR.** The current downtown library building is deteriorating, and the fix is complicated because the library oversees maintenance and the building is owned by the Lansing School District. WKAR reported on emails it obtained through the Freedom of Information Act, which show the library and city are in talks to move the downtown branch into the Lansing Public Media space on the ground floor of the North Capitol Parking Ramp, which was the former Gibson's Bookstore. "We don't know how to plan for our budget, knowing that this building could at any time have a major problem," said



CADL Executive Director Jenny Marr. "The uncertainty is also difficult to live with. It stresses out our patrons. It stresses out our staff. Everybody has a vested interest, and the longer we have to live in the uncertainty of what is going to happen, the harder it is for everybody." WKAR reports that the next step is for the city to send a formal proposal, which could be considered by the CADL board.



**The Trump administration has ordered the closure of all four of Michigan's U.S. Forestry Service research stations, including one in East Lansing, citing a "structural reset and common-sense approach to improve mission delivery."** The sweeping order is expected to close the station at MSU's campus as well as ones in Houghton, L'Anse and Wellston. Michigan's research stations will join 57 others in being closed around the country as the Forestry Service pivots to a new Salt Lake City headquarters and focuses on increasing timber production, according to a statement from the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Secretary Brooke L. Rollins said in the statement that the move will be "streamlining how the Forest Service is organized (and) will position the chief and operation leaders closer to the landscapes we manage and the people who depend on them. This includes supporting our timber growers across the country, including those in the Southeast by prioritizing a regional office and promoting policies that boost timber production, lowering costs for consumers." The new Forestry Service will be led by 15 state directors, and Michigan would be part of the Great Lakes/Midwest State Office (along with Minnesota, Iowa, Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, Missouri) and headquartered in Madison, Wisconsin. The nearest research station will be in Delaware, Ohio, about 240 miles from East Lansing.



**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN, INGHAM COUNTY  
LEGAL AD NOTICE: REZONING #26005 (GARZA)  
MONDAY, APRIL 27, 2026**

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN  
LEGAL NOTICE  
Rezoning #26005 (Garza)  
Public Hearing**

Notice is hereby given that the Planning Commission of the Charter Township of Meridian will hold a public hearing on Monday, April 27, 2026 at 6:30 p.m. in the Meridian Municipal Building, Town Hall Room, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI, 48864 (phone 517-853-4560) to hear all persons interested in a rezoning request. Enequina and Danielle Garza are requesting to rezone one parcel, approximately 1 acre, located at 1745 Mack Avenue, from RDD (Multiple-Family Residential) to RB (Single-Family Residential).

Materials related to the request are available for viewing in the Department of Community Planning and Development office (5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, 48864), Monday-Friday, 8am-5pm, or on the Township website at the following location: [www.meridian.mi.us/businesses/development-projects](http://www.meridian.mi.us/businesses/development-projects). Written comments may be sent prior to the public hearing to the Planning Commission, Charter Township of Meridian, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, Michigan, 48864, or by email to [shorkey@meridian.mi.us](mailto:shorkey@meridian.mi.us).

Angela Demas, Township Clerk  
April 8, 2026

**CP#26-130**

Providing a safe and welcoming, sustainable, prime community.



# The difference between your SOS, AG nominees? Not a lot

The Michigan Republican Party made news recently for selecting as their presumptive nominees for Secretary of State and Attorney General a pair of county officeholders with histories of winning competitive elections.

The MRP had the chance to go another way.

The delegates could have picked a pair of political neophytes cut from the same mold as the 2022 picks -- fanatical election-denying Kristina Karamo and Matt DePerno, who's fighting to keep his law license.

They picked Macomb County Clerk Tony Forlini and Eaton County Prosecutor Doug Lloyd.

The significance is that, historically, voters treat a party's SOS and AG nominees as a pair.

If you vote for the Republican SOS nominee, you're likely voting for the Republican AG nominees. If you vote for the Democratic SOS nominee, you're likely voting for the Democratic AG nominee.

Michigan voters started choosing their Secretary of State and Attorney General at the ballot box in 1852. That's 72 separate elections.

Only five times did a Republican win the Secretary of State's office and a Democrat the Attorney General's seat.

The number of times a Democrat won the Secretary of State's office a Republican the Attorney General's seat? Zero. Out of 72 elections.

Last week, I spent an afternoon looking through a couple of Harry Potter-like ledgers at the Michigan archives to verify these older elections (which took place every two years back then).

Voters are more likely to split their ticket for governor and U.S. Senate than Secretary of State and Attorney General (or in the state Treasurer, Auditor General and Superintendent when we voted on those positions, too).

In those five cases in which a Republican won SOS and a Dem won Attorney General, there were special circumstances or super close elections.

Here they are:

- In 1892, Democratic Attorney General candidate Adolphus Ellis won re-election while the Democratic Secretary of State nominee lost, likely in part because their winning candidate from the 1890 election, Daniel Soper, ended up being a scoundrel who was kicked

out of office for embezzlement. Republican John Jochim defeated Democrat Charles Marksey 47.74% to 43.04% with third party candidates claiming the rest of the votes. Meanwhile, Ellis won re-election with 47.78% of the vote.

- In 1932, Patrick O'Brien became the first Democrat to be elected Attorney General in 40 years when he secured 50.38% of the vote in the Franklin D. Roosevelt landslide election. One of the Republicans' only bright spots that year was incumbent Secretary of State Frank D. Fitzgerald (great-grandfather of House Minority Floor Leader John Fitzgerald (D-Wyoming)), who won re-election with 49.02% of the vote.

- In 1948, Democrat Stephen Ross won the Attorney General's seat the same year G. Mennen Williams started his run of victories as Governor by unseating Republican Gov. Kim Sigler. The Republicans were able to hold on to the Secretary of State's seat when incumbent Fred Alger Jr. won a second term on the same ballot as Republican Thomas Dewey, who beat President Harry S. Truman. . . in Michigan anyway (The Chicago Tribune was right on that point).

- In 1994, in Attorney General Frank Kelley's final election, the Eternal General crushed John Smietanka with 57.14% of the vote while Secretary of State Richard Austin lost to Republican Candice Miller 53.66% to 46.43% as questions arose about Austin's declining mental capacities. This was the election where Gov. John Engler won re-election with 61.48% of the vote.

- In 1998, Republicans insisted on, once again, putting up the conservative Smietanka for Attorney General instead of Engler's choice, G. Scott Romney, son of former Gov. George Romney. They paid the price. While Engler and Miller cruised to re-election in huge landslides, Smietanka lost 52.09% to 47.91% to a Democratic upstart named Jennifer Granholm, who a term later became governor.

Don't mistake my history lesson as an argument that the Secretary of State or Attorney General nominees don't matter. They do.

It's just that -- barring a rarely significant event or circumstance -- voters don't see a difference between the two.

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



KYLE MELINN

POLITICS

**Eagle Township, Clinton County  
Annual Meeting Synopsis**

March 28, 2026, at 10:00 am - Present: Supervisor Stroud, Clerk Briggs-Dudley, Treasurer C. Hoppes, Trustee Currie, Trustee M. Hoppes and 2 citizens.

Board Actions:

- 1) Electors approved salary resolutions for the Supervisor, Clerk, Treasurer, and Trustee for FY 26-27.

**Board Meeting Synopsis**

March 28, 2026, at 10:08 am - Present: Supervisor Stroud, Clerk Briggs-Dudley, Treasurer C. Hoppes, Trustee Currie, Trustee M. Hoppes and 2 citizens.

Board Actions:

- 1) Budget Public Hearing for FY 26-27.
- 2) Adopted Resolution 03-28-2026-01 General Appropriations for FY 26-27.
- 3) Adopted Resolution 03-28-2026-02 Whispering Winds Special Assessment District Assessment Roll.
- 4) Approved signing contract with the road commission to chip seal Eden Trail subdivision.
- 5) Approved engagement of Morgan and Associates for annual audit for next 3 years contingent on references.

A complete copy of the minutes is available by contacting Laurie Briggs-Dudley, Clerk. Next regular meeting of the Eagle Township Board is April 21, 2026, at 6 pm at Eagle Township Hall, 14318 Michigan St, Eagle, MI. See [www.eagletownshipmi.gov](http://www.eagletownshipmi.gov) for latest updates.

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

**CP#26-134**

State of Michigan Probate Court, County of Eaton, Publication of Notice of Hearing, File #'s 26-61091-GM, 26-61092-GM and 26-61093-GM. In the matter of Napewa Hakiza, Freva Hakiza & Dora Hakiza: To all interested persons, including Hakizamana Mbamboyne, Father, whose address(es) is/are unknown and whose interest in the matter may be barred or affected by the following: Take Notice: A hearing will be held on Wednesday, April 22, 2026 at 9:30 a.m. at Eaton County Probate Court, 1050 Independence Blvd., Charlotte, MI 48813, before Judge Amanda Pollard, P75272, for the following purpose: To hear Petitions for Appointment of Guardian of Minors. Date: 4/6/2026. Petitioner: Destiny Kyle, 4151 Sheffield Blvd., Lansing, MI 48911. (517)-348-6145.

**CP#26-135**

# City PULSE

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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.

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# ARTS & CULTURE

ART • BOOKS • FILM • MUSIC

## Sleeper of the year

### MFA Exhibition at MSU Broad opens up five distinct worlds

By **LAWRENCE COSENTINO**

There are at least five different ways photographs can't do justice to the splendid new exhibit of art by Michigan State University graduate students at the Broad Art Museum.

Either the art is too big, too immersive, too richly detailed, too three-dimensional, too damn bonkers or some combination of these.

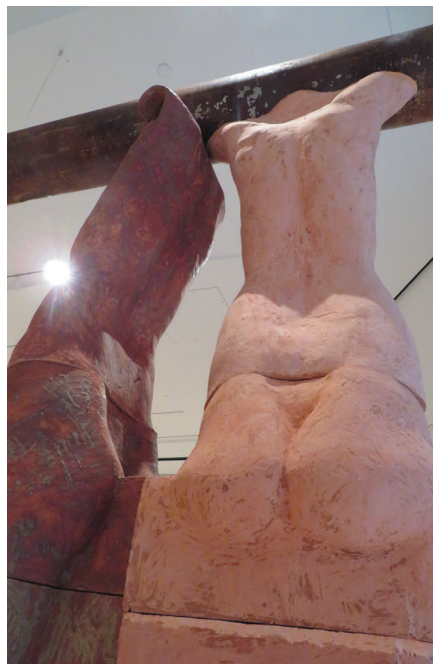
Each year, the Master of Fine Arts Exhibition is the unheralded sleeper in the Broad's schedule. Anyone who thinks the museum is checking a box as a duty to its university affiliation doesn't get it. This is the future of art — a chance to step into five absorbing new worlds, fully realized by a diverse group of gifted and committed artists.

The exhibit will be up through May 17. All five artists will be on hand next Wednesday (April 15) to talk about their work.

The deeper you look, the more you see, but some things come at you right away. Average-sized visitors will find themselves at about groin level when gazing at "Womb or Tomb," Ethiopian-born artist Yeroham Ashagre's imposing quartet of 12-foot-tall ceramic colossi.

The armless, headless torsos are caked with a rusty patina of mystery (actually iron oxide). It's not the mystery of antiquity, but a modern wonderment over who they are, what they represent and why they are there at all, with their strange proportions, mismatched sections, tortured positioning and overwhelming size.

Impressive as it is, "Womb or Tomb" is arguably the most conventional work of this imaginative exhibit. Parallel curtains made of thousands of gently clattering walnut shells qui-



Four 12-foot-tall ceramic sculptures by Yeroham Ashagre exude an air of mystery.

#### Master of Fine Arts Exhibition

Through May 17  
MSU Broad Art Museum  
547 E. Circle Drive, East Lansing  
10 a.m.-6 p.m. Wednesday-Sunday  
(517) 884-4800  
broadmuseum.msu.edu

#### Artist talk

6-8 p.m. Wednesday, April 15  
Alan and Rebecca Ross  
Education Wing  
Free

Photos by  
Lawrence  
Cosentino/  
City Pulse

etly announce a unique installation by Hailey Becker. As you walk between the curtains, a small device glides along the horizontal rod above, generating a soft, rain-like pitter-patter-ing.

The installation and accompanying video deal symbolically with real engineering problems of coastal erosion, as explained in an excellent exhibit booklet by Chicago Tribune art critic Lori Waxman. (Waxman, a 2025-'26

critic in residence at MSU's Department of Art, Art History and Design, provides a booklet that's engaging, informative, personal and blessedly jargon-free.)

No image can convey the strange comfort and tranquility of Becker's



Niloufar Fallahfar's vivid paintings double as sculptures, taking such forms as a dome, a bulbous blob and this Möbius strip.

whispering nutshell curtains. The hybrid painting-sculptures of Iranian-born artist Niloufar Fallahfar find another way to thwart a photographer looking for the "right angle": They have no right angles.

Fallahfar's vivid, space-bending panoramas glisten with geometric patterns and dynamic figures, but none of the surfaces are regular. One is a bulbous blob; another is a Möbius strip (a twisted ribbon with only one side); another is a dome you can stand under. The bold colors and strong imagery aren't just for show. Fallahfar's dynamic swirls of humanity celebrate unveiled women with liberated hair and a rebel air, defying the mythical and real-life tyrants of ancient Persia and modern Iran.

A generous bouquet of gorgeous collages by Vadu Rodrigues challenges the photographer in another way. Rodrigues' elaborate wall hangings are saturated with details aggregated from color photographs, sequins, textiles, beads, tiny cowrie shells and myriad other sources. Rodrigues comes from Cape Verde, an island nation off



Vadu Rodrigues' elaborate wall hangings are aggregated from photographs, sequins, textiles, beads, cowrie shells and myriad other sources.



Alex Vlasov both overwhelms and underwhelms the viewer with a wall of banal doodles, everyday photos, castoff notes and advertisements.

the west coast of Africa. The hangings evoke shields, masks, headdresses or super-fancy decorations in an Afro-pop musical star's dressing room. Every surface ripples and dances with texture, the colors tropically vivid and the blacks and purples deep as outer space.

Thrown into a pool of artists with such a strong aesthetic sense and con-

See Exhibition, Page 12

# The sheriff who wants to save Michigan's cannabis industry

Genesee County's Chris Swanson is running for governor — and he's got something to say about the pothole tax

By CHRIS SILVA

Chris Swanson is not the kind of politician you expect to be talking about cannabis.

He's a sheriff.

He's spent three decades in Genesee County law enforcement, doing narcotics, human trafficking, corrections and everything in between. He created a task force that has put over 150 child predators behind bars. He famously took off his riot gear and marched alongside protesters in Flint during the George Floyd demonstrations in 2020, an image that went viral and helped launch a national "Walk With Me" movement.

Now he's running for governor of Michigan — and he wants to repeal the 24% wholesale cannabis tax that has been slowly strangling the state's legal marijuana industry since it took effect on Jan. 1.

I had a chance to sit down with Swanson recently, and what struck me most wasn't the political calculation behind his cannabis positions. It was that he genuinely gets it.

He reiterated what he's been saying publicly — that he's never been a fan of solving budgetary problems by targeting one industry. It came across like a gut conviction. This industry may have found the advocate it's been looking for.

And for the record: Swanson told me he's never smoked weed in his life. I don't hold it against him.

## A tax built to crush

Let's start with what the 24% wholesale tax has actually done to Michigan's cannabis industry. It's not pretty.

The tax — formally the Comprehensive Road Funding Tax Act, more commonly called the "pothole tax" — was signed by Gov. Gretchen Whitmer, a Democrat, as part of a bipartisan road funding deal in October 2025.

It isn't assessed on profit. It's assessed on wholesale price, so when an ounce of

recreational flower sells for as little as \$60, operators are paying taxes before they know if they'll break even. Stack that on top of the existing 10% retail excise tax and 6% sales tax, and Michigan cannabis is now one of the most heavily taxed consumer goods in the state — by a wide margin.

The results have been swift and brutal. Legal sales are already down double digits through the first two months of 2026. Layoffs and closures are accelerating. And the workers who were supposed to benefit from legalization — the budtenders, trimmers, packagers and drivers who make up Michigan's 39,000-plus cannabis workforce — are being left behind.

## Swanson is unambiguous about where he stands

"We cannot balance state budgets on the backs of one industry," Swanson said. "Excessive taxation drives consumers back to the illicit market and shrinks the legal one."

Swanson said he is pledging to roll back the 24% wholesale excise tax. He wants a replacement that's not aimed at a single industry. Road funding is a real problem in Michigan. Swanson doesn't think cannabis workers and dispensary owners should be fixing potholes alone.

The sheriff's background gives him an edge that industry advocates don't have.

"I've seen what happens when illegal markets thrive," Swanson said. "It leads to violence and exploitation." For a governor's candidate to connect the dots between an overreaching tax and public safety consequences — in plain language, without hedging — is genuinely unusual.

The cannabis industry has noticed. Michigan Cannabis Industry Association Executive Director Robin Schneider publicly praised Swanson almost



immediately after he went on the record, calling him bold enough to carry the industry's message and urging supporters to get behind the momentum. That kind of endorsement from the state's top cannabis trade group means something.

## The union card

What makes Swanson genuinely unusual in Michigan's crowded 2026 governor's race is what he brings beyond cannabis.

He's a union member. Not in the way politicians sometimes claim solidarity with labor — he actually carries a card. Swanson is a faculty member at the University of Michigan-Flint, and part of the faculty union.

When he launched his gubernatorial campaign at Mott Community College in February 2025, the room was packed with union leaders who shouted that they would "walk with him" to the governor's office. He recently appeared on the podcast of Teamsters president Sean O'Brien — a signal that his pro-labor reputation is being taken seriously at the national level and beyond Flint.

For Michigan's cannabis workers — who have spent the past several years watching union drives get crushed, replacement workers get hired and NLRB charges quietly dropped — a possible governor who understands organized labor is not a small thing.



## An unusual candidacy

Swanson is a Democratic primary underdog.

He's running third in polling. Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson, who has won multiple statewide races, has a substantial fundraising advantage. Detroit Mayor Mike Duggan is running as an independent, and the Republican field is competitive.

But Swanson has built his entire career on defying expectations — and on showing up in rooms where people don't expect to see him.

Michigan legalized recreational marijuana in 2018 on a promise of economic opportunity, social equity and something better than prohibition.

Seven years later, the industry is suffering under a punishing tax structure, workers are getting fired for trying to organize and the companies that were supposed to build careers are treating their employees as the most disposable line item on the balance sheet.

What this industry needs is someone who will walk into the room, understand what's at stake, and fight for it — even when the fight means going up against their own party's legacy. Swanson, a sheriff from Flint who has never taken a hit in his life, might just be that person.

*Chris Silva writes the Lansterdam column for City Pulse. Tips? Reach him at silvachr@gmail.com.*

## Exhibition

from page 11

concentrated sense of purpose, the fifth artist in the group, Alex Vlasov, swims in the opposite direction.

Most artists try like mad to strip away the mental noise of our lives and ignore the blizzard of meaningless scraps that bury meaning and beauty — the advertisements, empty cookie boxes, discarded circuit boards, merchandising

allurements and guilt trips, and all the rest of it.

Not Vlasov. He adds it all to the pile. An entire wall of the gallery is covered, floor to ceiling, with thousands of pieces of paper, each one containing an instantly forgettable doodle, image or motto. It's both overwhelming and underwhelming, as if Vlasov held on to every moment of his life for a year or so without discrimination, preserving every scrap, from a snapshot of an empty strip mall to a quotation by Hannah

Arendt to an all-American 2-pound bacon burger. Is he pissing on the very idea of fine art, or just giving up in the face of capitalist excess? One of his handwritten notes reads, "This work made it to the museum." And it did!

Vlasov's wall is complemented by a motley array of small sculptures he cobbled together from wood and trash, arranged in mad combinations, some of them fitted with pointless little wheels. A crown of duct tape and tin foil mocks the very concept of majesty.

Six colorful, bean-shaped sponges are topped by an attorney's business card. He could go on and on — and he does.

After all of this overwhelming input, the MFA show leaves you with a brilliant parting shot.

Near Vlasov's wall of chaos, on a low ledge often used to display sculpture, rests a familiar coffee-to-go cup.

My first thought: "Hey, someone left their coffee."

But Vlasov got me. It's part of the exhibit.

# THE MUSIC OF STUDIO GHIBLI

Wilbur Lin, Conductor  
Momo Kajiwara, Narrator

The Lansing Symphony Orchestra.

April 18th 7:30 PM

Wharton Center

RESERVE YOUR SEAT



## Capital City Film Festival's sweet sixteen honors women and the power of indie film

By MEGAN LOUCKS

For sixteen years, the Capital City Film Festival has been a staple in the Lansing community. What began in 2011 as a local festival showcasing the talent of Michigan filmmakers has evolved into a much larger-scale event featuring work by filmmakers from across the world, giving Michiganders and out-of-state travelers the chance to view quality films that provide a glimpse into a variety of new perspectives.

From today (April 8) through the 18, venues around Lansing — including Riverwalk Theatre, The Robin Theatre and Central United Methodist Church — will open their doors for another year of film festival fun. This year, the church will have another auditorium open for more screening space.

There's more than just movies on the agenda for CCF, with events such as a concert by The Go Rounds and False Harbor, presented by The Ovation, and "Third Coast Waves," "an evening celebrating the dynamic history and culture of hip-hop, Lansing's own golden era, and local efforts to make waves in the industry." For those looking for an excuse to dress up, there's a red carpet premiere party and plenty of chances to grab a drink and chat with fellow festivalgoers.

Film allows audiences to experience cultures, lifestyles and languages that they may never encounter in real life. Independent filmmaking lends such a raw and unconventional touch when it comes to telling unique stories that festivals like CCF are the ideal platform for sharing stories that might not be shown otherwise.

CCFF has been on the indie wavelength for sixteen years, with a commitment to screening a wide variety of films, aiming to offer something for everyone. This year's lineup is as eclectic as ever, from mockumentaries to family-friendly animation, all representing some of the most exciting indie selections around.

There's no better example of the festival's dedication to independent film than the commitment it has to filling its roster with movies made by women. It doesn't just stop with female directors; stories centering around girls and women are plentiful. Whether deliberately choosing to feature women or whether it's just a natural result of women's prominence in independent film, the female focus goes back even to the festival's infancy.

Looking at the archive of past lineups on the festival's website, one can see that women filmmakers have been offered some of the best slots from the start, such as in 2012, when Lynne Ramsay's psychological thriller about a disturbed child, "We Need to Talk About Kevin," had the closing spot. Last year, director and producer Kenzie Bruce was given the same slot for her film "Firebreak," a documentary about two formerly incarcerated men fighting wildfires in harsh conditions.

This focus on women is refreshing, and a reminder of the importance of diverse voices in filmmaking. An unfortunate reality in Hollywood is that female filmmakers are still underappreciated. For instance, in 2025, there was a decrease in the number of female directors in the list of the top 100 highest-grossing films of the year, according to the University of Southern California Annenberg's Inclusion Initiative report. Thanks to CCF and other festivals like it, women have a space to thrive and tell their stories.

CCFF's selections span the globe and take moviegoers to places they may never read about or hear



### "First Feature" (2026)

6 p.m. Wednesday, April 8

Central United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall

"First Feature" follows intrepid student filmmaker Thomas Reilly-King in a comedic and heartfelt documentary inspired by such classics as "American Movie," "Best Worst Movie" and "Kid Icarus." In the tradition of those films, "First Feature" follows an eccentric artist following his dreams and unwavering dedication to making his first feature film: "Enduring Destiny."



### "Edie Arnold Is a Loser" (2025)

10 p.m. Friday, April 10

Central United Methodist Church Sanctuary

Timid Catholic school dork Edie Arnold is dragged to a punk show where a mishap lands her on stage behind the drums. She's mortified ... but a natural. Convinced by her best friend, she secretly forms a band called The NunDead.

about on the news, like Greece with "God Forgive Me," a short film about a queer woman who loses her father, or Iran with "Little Soldier," a short film about a mother's sacrifice in a heartbreaking situation. There's perhaps no better time to explore what international filmmakers have to say about their unique hardships, in their own unique ways, than the 10 days of CCF.



### "Sun Never Again" (2024)

5:30 p.m. Saturday, April 11

Central United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall

Vid, perceived by his son Dule as the greatest hero in the world, is deeply troubled by the looming presence of an expansive ore mine, threatening their home and way of life. While Vid grapples with the reality of the situation, his concerns are mostly hidden from his young son, Dule, who remains blissfully unaware of the mine's impact.

See Film festival, page 14



### “American Comic” (2025)

8 p.m. Saturday, April 11

Central United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall

A mockumentary that follows two up-and-coming stand-up comedians, who, despite their superficial “cultural” differences, share remarkable similarities when it comes to egotism, self-destruction, and social ineptitude.



### “Big City Pizza” (2025)

10 p.m. Saturday, April 11

Riverwalk Theatre

As tension rises in the big city for the Omniball Championship, Boney, a skeleton pizza delivery man, starts his shift. Animated entirely from Boney’s POV in one continuous, unbroken take, we follow his delivery route where every stop is weirder than the last.

## Film festival

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While CCFF goes well beyond Michigan films and filmmakers, there’s still

plenty from the Mitten State highlighted, and proudly so. “Our Knotted Gun” is a docuseries that explores gun violence, covering the Feb. 2023 shooting at MSU in the first 22-minute episode. Nancy Donnelly’s “The Deep Dive” features Michigan’s Thunder Bay Nation-

al Marine Sanctuary during the 2025 MATE ROV World Championships.

Any of these selections are well worth the price of admission, with screening tickets priced individually starting at \$5. All-access passes are \$50 and give the most passionate movie lovers

access to all screenings, concerts and other events. The \$100 patron pass includes a donation to the festival as well as unlimited popcorn. That could come in handy because with so many intriguing titles, you may find yourself going through buckets at a time.

# Capital City Film Festival 2026 must-watches

## A guide to the top films at the festival’s sweet sixteen

By MEGAN LOUCKS

If it’s your first time attending the Capital City Film Festival, you may feel overwhelmed. But navigating the packed schedule is worth it, especially for a festival with such a broad range of offerings tailored to a variety of interests. I went through the schedule to hand-pick some of the most intriguing films that I’d recommend adding to your CCFF 2026 watchlist.

CCFF stands out from other film festivals by pairing features with a short film. Often, the short-film sections of festivals don’t get enough love, but CCFF makes sure people see the hard work that goes into this medium. So, when scrolling through the festival’s schedule, don’t shy away from a film because of its runtime.

Opening the festival is “First Feature,” Curtis Matzke’s documentary recounting the journey to get Michigan State University student filmmaker Thomas Reilly-King’s feature film, “Enduring Destiny” (2014), made. Similar to the 1999 cult-classic documentary “American Movie,” “First Feature” is an inside look at how passion drove Reilly-King to pursue filmmaking come hell or high water, including making his own action figures and creating the exact music he envisioned for his first feature. These behind-the-scenes insights show the human touch that goes into making movies, which can never truly be replaced.

CCFF is proud to be a festival for even the most casual of moviegoers. If you’re looking for a more easily digestible watch, there are a large number of slice-of-life stories, including Ryan Welsh and Justin Giddings’ “When We Get There,” a road-trip film about two brothers who lost their mother and must journey across the country to meet their estranged father, and Jean-Cosme Delaloye’s “Desire: The Carl Craig Story,” which tells the life story of Detroit native Carl Craig, a prolific producer, DJ and record label creator.

If you’re feeling adventurous or up for some fantastical storytelling, CCFF offers a long list of imaginative and action-packed films. “Big City Pizza,” by Dusty



### “Desire: The Carl Craig Story” (2024)

6 p.m. April 16

Central United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall

An intimate portrait of legendary techno producer, DJ and record label creator Carl Craig and an ode to his beloved city, Detroit. Raised in a middle-class African American family, Craig’s parents fostered his artistic pursuits, even if that meant breaking with his family’s tradition of pursuing higher education.

Saunders, is high on my list of can’t-miss films, mostly for its unique animation style. The story is told from the POV of Boney, a pizza delivery man who just so happens to be a skeleton, and each of his deliveries becomes stranger as his shift goes on. For some live action, don’t miss Trevor Stevens’ “The Misadventures of Vince and Hick,” a comic-book story about two bandits. Judging



### “On a String” (2025)

8:25 p.m. April 7

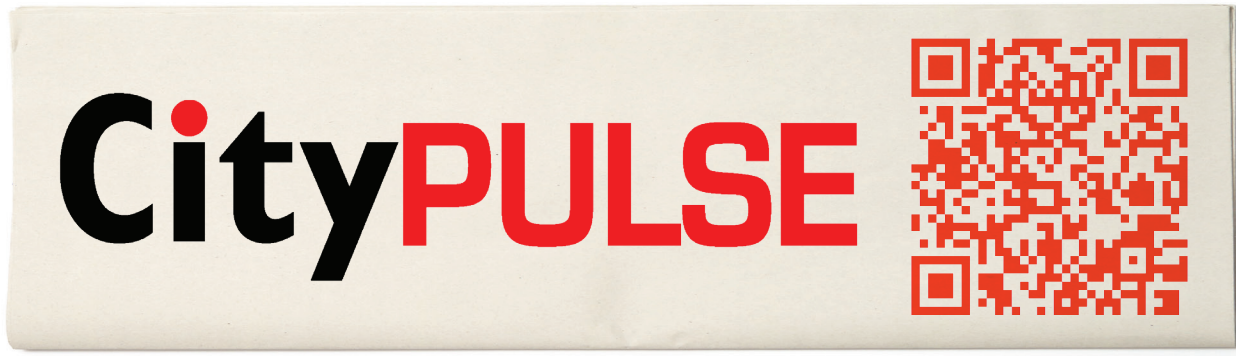
Riverwalk Theatre

Isabel (Isabel Hagen) is a young, Juilliard-trained violist still living at home with her parents in the heart of New York City. She’s trying to make a living playing gigs with her friends, but when her toxic ex-boyfriend reappears, who also happens to be the philharmonic’s “newest, hottest cellist,” he informs her of a viola opening in the prestigious orchestra. Nothing can go wrong, right?

by the trailer, it looks wildly fun.

Some of the best films to catch at festivals are international ones, since it may be your only chance to see them. One such film is “Sun Never Again,” a Serbian feature by David Jovanović. This gripping story is about a father who is seen as a hero by his son, who has no idea

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**“Yalla Parkour” (2024)**  
 2:30 p.m. April 18  
 Central United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall  
 In her relentless pursuit of a memory that reinforces her sense of belonging, Areeb crosses paths with Ahmed, a parkour athlete in Gaza, sparking a journey where conflicting aspirations intersect. Nostalgia meets with ambition, and the weight of a confined past meets with an unpredictable future.



**“The Misadventures of Vince and Hick” (2025)**  
 10 p.m. April 17  
 Riverwalk Theatre  
 A live-action comic-book crime odyssey that tells the legend of your two new favorite bandits. The winners of the Slamdance 2018 Grand Jury Prize and audience awards for their first feature film, “Rock Steady Row,” return with their second feature, “The Misadventures of Vince and Hick.”



**“Is That All There Is?” (2025)**  
 Noon April 18  
 Riverwalk Theatre  
 Set inside Detroit’s early-2000s indie-rock explosion, “Is That All There Is?” follows filmmaker Kelli Miller’s band through a city’s fleeting musical boom — where some rocketed to fame, and others vanished into obscurity.



**“When We Get There” (2025)**  
 4:30 p.m. April 18  
 Riverwalk Theatre  
 After their mother passes away, Cal and Ty embark on a cross-country trek to meet their father. Along with Cal’s girlfriend, Ellie, and a new guitar named Stevie, they are forced to navigate uncertain futures on a 2,000-mile journey.



**Guide**

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what his father has to deal with to maintain their home. If you’re looking for real stories, a documentary to keep on your radar is Areeb Zuaiter’s feature-length directorial debut, “Yalla Parkour.” The film follows Ahmed, a parkour athlete from Gaza, on a life journey of belonging. CCFF makes plenty of space for diverse voices in filmmaking. Not only does

it screen an impressive array of international features and short films, but it also give women and queer voices a space to flourish. At a time when big-budget blockbusters and Hollywood productions seem to be leaning away from that kind of representation, festivals like CCFF are keeping cinema refreshing and new. Isabel Hagen wears several hats in “On a String,” having written the screenplay, starred in the leading role and directed the film about a young, successful violinist who has a run-in with a toxic ex-boy-

friend. And 2026 South by Southwest Grand Jury Feature nominee “Edie Arnold Is a Loser” comes from directing duo Megan Rico and Kade Atwood. Having seen the trailer, it looks as if Lindsey Lohan’s “Mean Girls” was mashed with Jack Black’s “School of Rock”. This just a small slice of what CCFF is offering this year. Each day, there’s a chance to catch a thought-provoking and entertaining movie that was hand-selected by festival organizers for the Lansing community to experience.

## MidMichigan Environmental Action Council Invites You to The Big Read


### Our Nature: How Our Physical Environment Can Lead Us to Seek Hope, Courage, and Connection

- **April 14 6:00 - 8:00 pm**  
 Capital City Film Festival and LCC  
 Selected shorts include **Organic Network, Becoming Air, and Wild Hope: Reclaiming Bear River**  
 Venue: Central United Methodist Church, 215 Capitol Ave Lansing  
*Book Giveaway: Fuzz - When Nature Breaks the Law*
- **April 22-23 7:00 - 9:00 pm**  
 Peppermint Creek Theatre  
 Staged Reading: **Hurricane Diane**  
 “hilarious evisceration of the blind eye we all turn to climate change”  
 Venue: MSU Horticultural Gardens Conservatory, 1066 Bogue St, East Lansing
- **April 28 6:00 - 7:30 pm**  
 Lansing Poet Laureate Emeritus Ruelaine Stokes leads a **poetry writing workshop**  
 Venue: Allen Neighborhood Center, 1611 E Kalamazoo St Lansing
- **May 9 12:00 - 2:00 pm**  
**America 250 Festival**  
**Music, Storytelling, & Art Stations**  
**Site Tour, Watershed Science Displays**  
 Venue: Ranney Park & Red Cedar Park, near Frandor
- **June 13 9:00 am - 1:00 pm**  
**The Reading People Book Swap**  
 Venue: 1028 E. Saginaw, Lansing



**Seeking Authors and Artists**

Explore The Big Read Theme “Our Nature” in your writing or visual art. More info and submissions at [www.midmeac.org/the-big-read/](http://www.midmeac.org/the-big-read/) Stipends to selected works.

**MidMEAC**  
 MidMichigan Environmental Action Council



**All Events Free** *Free Parking all Events, after 6p downtown and MSU*

# Capital City Film Festival

April 8-18, 2026

ccff.co

**One free popcorn!**

This coupon is redeemable for one free popcorn at the 2026 festival.

## Live & Local

## CityPULSE

### The Avenue

2021 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing  
**The Go Rounds, False Harbor**  
 Sat., April 11, 8 p.m.  
**Doghouse**  
 Sun., April 12, 7 p.m.

### BrickHaven Brewing Co.

200 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge  
**Jim & Toni**  
 Fri., April 10, 6:30-9:30 p.m.  
**David Salvador**  
 Sat., April 11, 6:30-9:30 p.m.

### Chengdu Teahouse

100 E. César E. Chávez Ave., Lansing  
**Jeff Boog & Friends**  
 Fri., April 10, 5:30-7 p.m.

### Classic Pub & Grill

16219 Old U.S. 27, Lansing  
**Medusa**  
 Fri., April 10, 8 p.m.-midnight  
**Velocity Shift**  
 Sat., April 11, 8 p.m.-midnight

### Corey's Lounge

1511 S. Cedar St., Lansing  
**Chris Corey & Friends (jazz)**  
 Wed., April 8, 7-9 p.m.  
**Darin Lerner Band**  
 Wed., April 15, 7-9 p.m.

### Dublin Square

327 Abbot Road, East Lansing  
**Lewie Austin**  
 Wed., April 8, 9 p.m.-midnight  
**Your Dad**  
 Thurs., April 9, 9 p.m.-midnight

### EagleMonk Pub and Brewery

4906 W. Mount Hope Hwy., Lansing  
**Jimmy Likes Pie**  
 Wed., April 8, 7-9 p.m.  
**Chad Benson & Ed Lutz**  
 Wed., April 15, 7-9 p.m.

### Eastminster Presbyterian Church

1315 Abbot Road, East Lansing  
**The Renaissance Singers (Lansing Matinee Musicale)**  
 Sun., April 12, 3 p.m.

### Eaton Rapids Craft Co.

204 N. Main St., Eaton Rapids  
**Russ Holcomb**  
 Fri., April 10, 6-9 p.m.  
**Shane Gruesbeck**  
 Sat., April 11, 6-9 p.m.

### The Fledge

1300 Eureka St., Lansing  
**Bob Dylan Birthday Bash XV**  
 Sat., April 11, 4 p.m.

### Grand Ledge Opera House

121 S. Bridge St., Grand Ledge  
**Singers on the Grand: "The Grand American Road Trip"**  
 Sat., April 11, 6 p.m.  
 Sun., April 12, 2:30 p.m.

### The Green Door

2005 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing  
**Wavelength**  
 Wed., April 8, 8 p.m.-1 a.m.  
**Clarion, Forest, Bed**  
 Fri., April 10, doors 7 p.m., show 8 p.m.  
**Centenary, Exploding Zombies, Sauron, Locust Point**  
 Sat., April 11, doors 7 p.m., show 8 p.m.  
**Easy Honey, Glass Beagle**  
 Mon., April 13, doors 7 p.m., show 8 p.m.  
**Wavelength**  
 Wed., April 15, 8 p.m.-1 a.m.

### Grewal Hall

224 S. Washington Square, Lansing  
**The Menzingers, I Am the Avalanche, One Step Closer**  
 Sat., April 11, 6:30 p.m.

### Haslett Library

1590 Franklin St., Haslett  
**LSO Family Series: Harp**  
 Sun., April 12, 3 p.m.

### Horrocks Farm Market

7420 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing  
**LaJoye Quartet**  
 Thurs., April 9, 5-8 p.m.  
**Northside Rhythm Kings**  
 Fri., April 10, 5-8 p.m.  
**Atomic Annie**  
 Sat., April 11, 5-8 p.m.  
**John Beltran**  
 Sun., April 12, 1-5 p.m.

### The Irish Pub

1910 W. Saginaw St., Lansing  
**Open mic, with Scott Seth**  
 Thurs., April 9, 6:30 p.m.  
**Universe Band**  
 Sat., April 11, 8-11 p.m.  
**Irish jam session**  
 Sun., April 12, 2-4 p.m.

### Knights of Columbus Hall

1108 Old U.S. 27, St. Johns  
**Dixon's Violin**  
 Sat., April 11, 6:30 p.m.

### Looking Glass Brewing Co.

108 W. Main St., Dewitt  
**Darin Lerner Jr.**  
 Fri., April 10, 6-9 p.m.

### Mac's Bar

2700 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing  
**Put the City on Lansing**  
 Fri., April 10, 7 p.m.  
**Open mic night**  
 Mon., April 14, 6-8 p.m.  
**Unity — In Music**  
 Thurs., April 9, 9 p.m.-2 a.m.  
 Tues., April 14, 10 p.m.-2 a.m.

### Mash Bar

212 Albert Ave., East Lansing  
**The Louderthans**  
 Fri., April 10, 9:30 p.m.-1 a.m.

### Moriarty's Pub

802 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing  
**Open mic night, with Jen Sygit**  
 Wed., April 8, 8-11 p.m.  
**Blues jam**  
 Thurs., April 9, 9 p.m.-midnight  
**Skalonius Monks**  
 Fri., April 10, 8 p.m.-midnight  
**517 Funktet**  
 Sat., April 11, 8 p.m.-midnight  
**Jazz Tuesdays**  
 Tues., April 14, 7-10 p.m.  
**Open mic night, with Jen Sygit**  
 Wed., April 15, 8-11 p.m.

### MSU College of Music

**Barbara Wagner Chamber Music Competition showcase**  
 Sun., April 12, 1 p.m.  
 Cook Recital Hall, 333 W. Circle Drive, East Lansing  
**USA at 250 Years**  
 Mon., April 13, 7:30 p.m.  
 Fairchild Theatre, 542 Auditorium Road, East Lansing  
**Sensory-friendly Spartan concert**  
 Tues., April 14, 10 a.m.  
 MSU Community Music School, 4930 Hagadorn Road, East Lansing  
**Percussion Ensemble**  
 Wed., April 15, 7:30 p.m.  
 Fairchild Theatre

### One North East Lansing

1310 Abbot Road, East Lansing  
**Evan James**  
 Thurs., April 9, 7-10 p.m.  
**Justin Holcomb**  
 Fri., April 10, 7-10 p.m.  
**Greg Smith**  
 Sat., April 11, 7-10 p.m.

### One North Lansing

5001 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing  
**Kathy Ford**  
 Thurs., April 9, 6-9 p.m.  
**Keith Minaya**  
 Fri., April 10, 7-10 p.m.  
**Peter Trappen**  
 Sat., April 11, 7-10 p.m.  
**Open mic night, with Kathy Ford**  
 Mon., April 13, 6:30-9 p.m.

### The Peanut Barrel

521 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing  
**Jeff Wilson**  
 Fri., April 10, 8-10 p.m.  
**Norberto Aguado-Perez (La Media Hora)**  
 Tues., April 14, 6-8 p.m.

### Red Cedar Spirits

2000 Merritt Road, East Lansing  
**517 Funktet**  
 Fri., April 10, 7:30-10:30 p.m.  
**Randy Napoleon Trio**  
 Sun., April 12, 6-9 p.m.

### Reno's North

16460 Old U.S. 27, Lansing  
**Evan James**  
 Wed., April 15, 6-9 p.m.

### The Robin Theatre

1105 S. Washington Ave., Lansing  
**Mia Chinni Trio + jam session (CCFF)**  
 Sat. April 11, 1-3 p.m.  
**CCFF x Ambient Annotations**  
 Tues., April 14, 7 p.m.  
**Pure Winds Quintet, feat Joe. Luloff**  
 Wed., April 15, 7 p.m.

### Sholly's Bar

1819 S. Washington Ave., Lansing  
**Darin Lerner Jr.**  
 Tues., April 14, 6-9 p.m.

### Side Bar

246 E. Saginaw St., East Lansing  
**Dan Dan Laird**  
 Fri., April 10, 7-10 p.m.  
**Lewie Austin**  
 Sat., April 11, 7-10 p.m.

### Stober's Bar

812 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing  
**Alan B. Sloan**  
 Sun., April 12, 10 p.m.-1 a.m.  
**Jazz Doggz**  
 Tues., April 14, 10 p.m.-1 a.m.

### Summerlands Brewing Co.

1957 Cedar St., Holt  
**The Dangling Particles**  
 Fri., April 10, 7:30-10:30 p.m.  
**Sami & the Mojo Makers**  
 Sat., April 11, 7:30-10:30 p.m.

### University Lutheran Church

1020 S. Harrison Road, East Lansing  
**John Gorka (Ten Pound Fiddle)**  
 Fri., April 10, 7:30 p.m.

### UrbanBeat

1213 Turner St., Lansing  
**Lansing's Hidden Talent open mic**  
 Wed., April 8, 6-9 p.m. (at MICA, 1210 Turner St.)  
**Michael Dease Big Band plays Gregg Hill**  
 Thurs., April 9, 6:30 p.m.  
**Ray Kamalay & His Red Hot Peppers**  
 Fri., April 10, 6:30 p.m.  
**Pzazz: An afternoon of poetry & jazz**  
 Sun., April 12, 4-6 p.m.  
**Lansing's Hidden Talent open mic**  
 Wed., April 15, 6-9 p.m.

### Williamston Roadhouse

3700 E. Grand River Road, Williamston  
**Kevin Wolff**  
 Wed., April 8, 7-10 p.m.  
**Armament**  
 Sat., April 11, 7-11 p.m.  
**Annabelle Sharp**  
 Wed., April 15, 7-10 p.m.

### The Wooden Nickel II

1029 Jackson St., Dansville  
**Blake James**  
 Fri., April 10, 9 p.m.-1 a.m.

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### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING EAST LANSING DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Notice is hereby given of the following public hearing to be held by the East Lansing Downtown Development Authority on **Thursday, April 23, 2026, at 12:00 p.m.**, at the East Lansing Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing, Michigan 48823:

**The property tax millage rate proposed to be levied to support the proposed budget will be a subject of this Public Hearing.** For the purposes of the Public Hearing, it shall be assumed that the tax rate will be 1.6229 mills. A copy of the FY27 budget is available on the City's website at Downtown Development Authority | East Lansing, MI - Official Website ([cityofeastlansing.com](http://cityofeastlansing.com))

The FY27 budget is available for viewing at the East Lansing City Hall, 410 Abbot Road, Room 217, East Lansing, between the hours of 8:00 am to 12:00 pm and 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm.

For more information, please contact Lori Mullins at (517) 319-6887 or [lmullins@cityofeastlansing.com](mailto:lmullins@cityofeastlansing.com). Written comments may be sent prior to the public hearing to the Downtown Development Authority, City of East Lansing, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, Michigan, 48823, or by email to [lmullins@cityofeastlansing.com](mailto:lmullins@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 City Council's Office, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, MI, 48823, (517) 319-6869 (TDD Number: 1-800-649-3777) or via email at [lmullins@cityofeastlansing.com](mailto:lmullins@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.**

Robert Belleman  
Secretary

Dated: April 8, 2026  
East Lansing, MI 48823

CP#26-133

# Camille Pagán celebrates canine companionship with new novel

By **KURT ANTHONY KRUG**

The inspiration behind Ann Arbor author Camille Pagán's latest heart-warming novel, "Dog Person" (Delacorte Press, \$30), came from a place of grief.

"I have an aging Brittany-mix mutt whom I adopted 13 years ago, when she was a year or so old. I call her my assistant because she's always nearby when I'm writing," Pagán said. "A few years ago, I lost a loved one to suicide, and it was a terrible, complicated grief that was unlike any other loss I've experienced. My dog really seemed to sense I was struggling, and I swear she became extra sweet and perceptive during that time."

Pagán will sign copies of "Dog Person," her 11th novel, Wednesday evening at Schuler Books in the Meridian Mall. She will also discuss the book with Lori Nelson Spielman, of Lansing, author of the internationally acclaimed novel "The Life List."

"I love meeting readers and talking shop with other writers," Pagán said. "I've known Lori for at least a decade, and I got to know her even better after blurbing her last novel, 'The Star-Crossed Sisters of Tuscany.' In addition to being incredibly talented, she's such a lovely person, and I'm so delighted she'll be joining me for this event."

A graduate of Edsel Ford High School in Dearborn, Pagán earned her undergraduate degree in English and Native American literature at the University of Michigan. Additionally, she completed a post-graduate publishing course, often referred to as "publishing boot camp," at the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study at Harvard University (now held at Columbia University).

Pagán's articles have appeared in numerous publications, including The New York Times, Allure, Forbes, Time, Men's Health and Women's Health, among others. Her first novel, "The Art of Forgetting," was published by Dutton in 2011.

In "Dog Person," bookstore owner Miguel grieves the loss of his significant other, Amelia, with whom he shared a dog named Harold. Before she died, Amelia tasked Harold with helping Miguel find love again. Miguel's bookstore — located in a fic-

tional town somewhere in Southwest Michigan — is in danger of going out of business when a best-selling author doesn't show up for his event. In a final attempt to save the bookstore, Miguel and Harold set out to find the no-show author and insist he fulfill his obligation. Along the way, Miguel's sister Fiona (who is not a dog person) gets involved, along with her precocious 11-year-old daughter, whose name is also Amelia. Harold is determined to keep his promise and help Miguel find his own happy ending.

"Camille's books never fail to evoke emotions, which is why I'm such a huge fan. I find myself choked up one moment and laughing out loud the next, which, in my opinion, is the hallmark of great storytelling," Spielman said.

"Dog Person" stands out from Pagán's other novels due to its unique perspective — it's told from the dog's point of view.

"My novels always start with someone speaking to me. That's always been a human in the past, but this time, I just had a strong urge to channel an aging dog," Pagán said. "Two chapters in, I realized I was onto something, so I kept writing. I'm so glad I did, because some of

my longtime readers who've read early copies have said it's already their favorite."

"I challenge anyone not to fall in love with Harold the dog," Spielman said. "Camille has captured Harold's gentle spirit so beautifully, his personality and wry sense of humor. Anyone who has ever loved a dog will see their own mutt in Harold's wacky and impulsive behaviors."

Spielman is looking forward to her upcoming conversation with Pagán at Schuler.

"Camille is both a fantastic writer and an all-around beautiful human being," Nelson Spielman said. "She's what I call an author's author, the first one to heap praise or shine a spotlight on a fellow author's new release or rave about a book she loves. And she's a champion for aspiring writers as well, offering guidance as a writing coach and sharing wisdom and personal experience on her 'Career Novelist' podcast."

R.J. Fox, of Washtenaw County, also praised Pagán. The writer, who



Photo by Liv in the Moment Photography

## "Dog Person," with Camille Pagán and Lori Nelson Spielman

6:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 8  
Schuler Books  
1982 W. Grand River Ave.,  
Okemos  
Free  
(517) 349-8840  
schulerbooks.com

penned the screenplay to the independent rom-com "Love & Vodka" (and the book of the same name), went to high school with Pagán. However, they didn't know each other at the time and have since become what he called "retroactive peers."

"As a fellow local writer and Edsel Ford alum, I look up to Camille as the gold standard of success," Fox said. "I'm impressed not only with the quantity of books she has published, but even more with the quality of her writing. She's also a great mentor for other writers, as is evident in her amazing 'Career Novelist' podcast. It's not just helpful for fellow writers, but inspiring to aspiring authors, as well."

Pagán spoke about the podcast.

"I've spent my whole career in publishing and, like most authors, get lots of requests from people hoping to 'pick my brain.' I soon found I was constantly giving career advice in some way, shape, or form," she recalled. "Six years ago, I decided to get certified as a coach, and I've built a thriving practice offering career coaching to novelists. The podcast is where I address some of the most common questions I receive, as well as issues I regularly coach on in individual and group coaching. It's my way of helping more writers, since so many authors helped me when I was getting started."



Before beginning a book, Pagán writes a logline and a loose three-act structure. Usually, it takes her one year to complete a novel, but "Dog Person" took two. She was grateful to type "The End" upon completion. Still, she holds a special place in her heart for the book.

"This one just feels really special to me," she said. "I know that at the end of my career, it'll be one of the novels I'm proudest to have written."

# No pout-pouting here

## Grand Ledge author's best-selling children's book adapted into an animated movie

By **KURT ANTHONY KRUG**

For children's book author Deborah Diesen, "The Pout-Pout Fish" is the gift that keeps on giving.

Not only was it a New York Times best-seller, but it was also named one of Time magazine's top 10 children's books of 2008 and was selected for the Michigan Reads! literacy program. In 2019, it was adapted into a musical that debuted at the New Victory Theater in Manhattan, New York.

On March 20, an animated movie of the same name hit theaters. A who's who of celebrities lent their voices to the film, including Nick Offerman ("The Last of Us"), Nina Oyama ("Utopia"), Amy Sedaris ("BoJack Horseman"), Miranda Otto ("The Lord of the Rings"), Remy Hii ("Spider-Man: Far from Home") and "American Idol" winner Jordin Sparks.

"Having 'The Pout-Pout Fish' book turn into a movie is a once-in-a-lifetime experience. I'm very excited!" Diesen, of Grand Ledge, said. "It also all feels more than a little surreal. But seeing the movie with my family and friends will make it all real. I'm really

looking forward to that."

The story chronicles an unlikely duo: Mr. Fish (Offerman), a pouty recluse, and Pip (Oyama), a high-energy leafy seadragon. When catastrophe strikes, they must embark on a daunting undersea quest in search of a mythical, wish-granting fish to save their homes.

The book was inspired by a real-life pout all the way back in 2002, according to Diesen. Her eldest of two children was having a bit of a pouty day.

"I made a silly, pouty face at them to try to amuse them. It worked: They smiled, then made a silly, pouty face back at me," Diesen recalled. "We got to pouting back and forth, and I said, 'We look like fish. Like pout-pout fish!' As soon as I said that, it triggered a story idea. I jotted down a couple of lines on a scrap of paper and worked on the story in the days and weeks to come."

After some revisions, Diesen began submitting "The Pout-Pout Fish" to publishers. In 2004, she received a call from an editor at Farrar, Straus, & Giroux Books for Young Readers. She signed a contract, and Dan Hanna, who lives in California and has a back-



Photo by Whitney Spotts

Author Deborah Diesen and her best-selling children's book character, "The Pout-Pout Fish."

ground in animation, was brought on as illustrator. It was not only Diesen's first book, but also Hanna's.

The finished product hit shelves on

March 18, 2008.

"Because we were both first timers, the expectation was that it would

See Pout-Pout Fish, Page 20

## New book sails into the unknown political, legal stories of the Edmund Fitzgerald

By **JOSHUA KIM**  
Capital News Service

A new book, "Wrecked: The Edmund Fitzgerald and the Sinking of the American Economy" (Michigan State University Press, \$29.95), uncovers more of the political and legal aspects of the legendary Edmund Fitzgerald shipwreck.

Thomas Nelson, a Wisconsin public administrator and one of the authors of the book, said that while the Edmund Fitzgerald's story is well known, there is more context that most people don't know.

"This is something more than just a maritime shipwreck," Nelson said. "The Fitzgerald was a vehicle that literally and figuratively carried the U.S. economy. I looked at this as a way to study the U.S. political economy."

The Edmund Fitzgerald sank on Nov. 10, 1975, while transporting taconite to Detroit in a storm in Lake Superior.

Nelson said the Edmund Fitzgerald was one of the ships that played a

major role in the U.S. economy, transporting taconite and iron ore around the Great Lakes to be made into steel, which was then used to produce automobiles and machinery.

The book delves deeply into the corporate culture of America at the time of the sinking and Nelson's theory of how the economic side of that culture contributed to the event.

In the book, Nelson and co-author Jerald Podair discuss the regulatory processes for maritime safety and labor laws and argue that the lack of adequate regulations at the time contributed to the sinking of the Edmund Fitzgerald and, as a result, the "sinking of the American economy."

Podair is a history professor at Lawrence University.

"I had learned about how [the Edmund Fitzgerald] was emblematic of the manufacturing economy in the 1960s and 1970s because it carried taconite ore," Nelson said.

"But there's also the human element of the story. I found myself going in many different directions,

looking at not just the economics, but also politics, government regulation, environmental issues and other businesses that were connected to it."

Nelson said the "heart of all this" is the 29 families that lost loved ones and the need to prevent another maritime or transportation catastrophe.

He explained that one reason many people are drawn to the story is that they identify with the working-class crew members and their families.

"They can relate to the families themselves. They come from small towns," Nelson said.

"So in my example, here in Outagamie [Wisconsin] County, our largest economy was manufacturing and the paper industry. When I got to learn the backstories of these crew members and their families, it reminded me a lot of friends and families that grew up in my neighborhood."

Nelson said one relative told him the book has become "her bible,"

### WRECKED

The **EDMUND FITZGERALD**  
and the **SINKING** of the  
**AMERICAN ECONOMY**

THOMAS M. NELSON  
with JERALD PODAIR



saying that it's answered a lot of her questions that have lingered.

"She said the only regret she had was that this book wasn't written de-

See Fitzgerald, Page 20

# Fitzgerald

from page 19

cedes earlier,” Nelson said.

Nelson said he hopes readers will be able to read a “unique and compelling” theory of why the ship sank and learn more about the political economy aspects of the event.

“You know if you’re looking at a bookshelf, or maybe searching on

Amazon or someplace else, you look at all these different titles, ‘same, same, same, ah, this one’s different,’” Nelson said.

“I call attention to facts, to events related to the sinking that no one has talked about for 50 years. Instead of just looking at graphs and statistics, and other boring books, you are reading a fun story that, in the process, helps animate these issues.”

*Joshua Kim writes for Great Lakes Echo.*

# Pout-Pout Fish

from page 19

probably take a while for the book to find its audience. But the book did better than expected in the months after its release, hitting The New York Times’ best-sellers list in September, and it had some additional recognition, like being on the Time magazine list,” Diesen said. “It was all very unexpected, but it created some momentum. Because of the book doing well, our editor asked about a sequel, which Dan and I enthusiastically said yes to! ‘The Pout-Pout Fish in the Big-Big Dark’ came out in 2010.”

From there, the series continued to grow, focusing on social and emotional learning. Over the years, Mr. Fish has faced his fear of the dark and his anxiety over going to school. He’s learned how to stand up to bullies and how to care for the environment. He’s developed bedtime routines, learned resilience skills for traveling, honed his gift-giving skills and figured out how to cope with angry feelings.

“It’s been an amazing experience to see the series expand and evolve over the past 18 years,” Diesen said. “I’m honored to have hopefully played some small role in kids’ learning to feel more comfortable with their emotional landscape and capacities.”

The youngest of three, Diesen was born and raised in Midland. She earned a bachelor’s degree in multidisciplinary social science from Michigan State University and a master’s degree in library and information science from the University of Michigan.


“When I was a kid, my parents read a lot to us, so I loved books and reading from the get-go,” Diesen recalled. “When I was in third grade, I started to have an interest in creative writing. The first piece of creative writing I remember doing was a rhyming poem about a butterfly. My parents, teachers and school librarians all encouraged my interest in writing, and that encouragement has always stuck with me.”

It wasn’t until she had children of her own that she considered writing children’s books.

“When my kids were little, we went to the library every week and came home with a big stack of books to read together. I enjoyed the experience as much as they did!” she said. “We read many of the books over and over, an immersive experience that taught me about story structure, word flow and meter. Eventually, that immersion ignited my interest in writing stories for kids — at first just for my own kids, and eventually for a wider audience.”

Diesen attributed the success of “The Pout-Pout Fish” series to luck, timing and Hanna’s artwork.

“Every year, thousands of wonderful children’s books are published, but only a few seem to catch a wave,” she said. “Visuals play a big role because they’re so integral to a children’s book. Dan Hanna’s art — in particular, the cover of the first book — reeled readers in. Kids, parents, librarians, educators and booksellers picked up the book and gave it a chance. That’s the kind of attention every book deserves, but it doesn’t always happen in the crowded field of children’s literature.”



**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN, INGHAM COUNTY**  
**LEGAL AD NOTICE: Special Use Permit #26009**  
 (Huntington Bank)  
**MONDAY, April 27, 2026**

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**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN**  
**LEGAL NOTICE**  
**Special Use Permit #26009 (Huntington Bank)**  
**Public Hearing**

Notice is hereby given that the Planning Commission of the Charter Township of Meridian will hold a public hearing on Monday, April 27, 2026 at 6:30 p.m. in the Meridian Municipal Building, Town Hall Room, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI, 48864 (phone 517-853-4560) to hear all persons interested in a request from Huntington National Bank to allow the construction of bank with a drive-thru, on an approximately 2.5-acre project site located at 1938 West Grand River Avenue. The site is zoned C-2 (Commercial).

Materials related to the request are available for viewing in the Department of Community Planning and Development office (5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, 48864), Monday-Friday, 8am-5pm, or on the Township’s website at <https://www.meridian.mi.us/businesses/development-projects> Written comments may be sent prior to the public hearing to the Planning Commission, Charter Township of Meridian, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, Michigan, 48864, or by email to [shorkey@meridian.mi.us](mailto:shorkey@meridian.mi.us).

Angela Demas, Township Clerk  
 April 8, 2026

**CP#26-131**

Providing a safe and welcoming, sustainable, prime community.

A PRIME COMMUNITY  
meridian.mi.us

**DELTA CHARTER TOWNSHIP**  
**LAWN SPRINKLING NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNERS**

Under the provisions of Section 40-137 of Division 3 Conservation, Article III Water System, Chapter 40 of the Charter Township of Delta Code of Ordinances known as "Lawn Sprinkling Restrictions", lawn sprinkling is hereby allowed on even-numbered days of the month at all residences which are even-numbered, which use water supplied by the township water system and is prohibited on odd-numbered days of the month. Lawn sprinkling is hereby allowed on odd-numbered days of the month at all residences which are odd-numbered in the charter township which use water supplied by the township water system and is prohibited on even-numbered days of the month. This regulation and limitation of use shall be effective during the months of May, June, July, and August of each calendar year.

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF DELTA  
 MARY R. CLARK, CLERK  
**CP#26-128**

**WILLIAMSTOWN TOWNSHIP**  
**Notice of Public Accuracy Test of Voting Equipment**

**To qualified electors in Williamstown Township: The Public Accuracy Test** for the May 5, 2026 Special Election is scheduled for 12:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 16, 2026 at the Williamstown Township Hall, 4990 Zimmer Road, Williamston, Michigan.

The Public Accuracy Test is conducted to determine that the computer programming being used to tabulate the votes cast at the election and counts the votes in the manner prescribed by Michigan election law. The public is welcome to attend; enter through the Community Room entrance.

Robin A. Cleveland, MiPMC  
 Clerk, Williamstown Township  
[elections@williamstowntownship.com](mailto:elections@williamstowntownship.com) or 655-3193

**CP#26-127**

**Legal Notice**  
**Mid-Michigan Leadership Academy**  
**Attention:**  
**Gym Floor & Bleacher**  
**Replacement(s) 2026**

The Mid Michigan leadership Academy is requesting proposals for installing a rubber pad with resin style flooring & the replacement of the bleachers with appurtenances.

Vendors or their representatives may submit proposals to:

**Mid-Michigan leadership Academy**  
**730 W Maple Street**  
 Lansing, MI 48906  
 Attn: Jeana Bolton-Carrasco

The Academy School Board reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals or to accept the proposal that it finds, in its sole discretion, to be in the best interest of the School District.

A copy of the RFP will be available by email at [dblackmar@charterschoolpartners.com](mailto:dblackmar@charterschoolpartners.com) by March 30, 2026. A voluntary walk-thru inspection is scheduled for April 2, 2026, at 1:30 pm, 730 W Maple Street, Lansing, MI 48906.

**All proposals must be submitted no later than 12:00 pm, April 10, 2026.** All proposals should be delivered in a sealed envelope and addressed to the Mid-Michigan Leadership Academy and be clearly marked: "Gym Floor & Bleacher Replacement(s) 2026".

033126  
**CP#26-129**

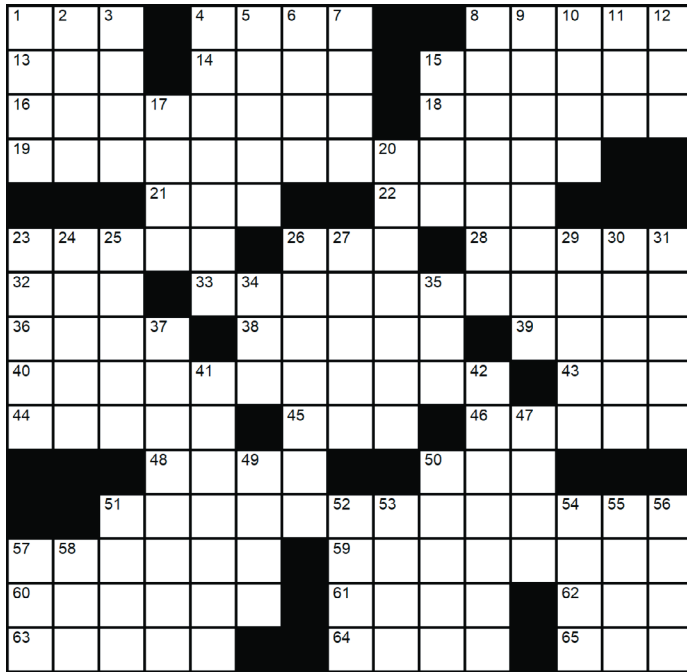
# Jonesin' Crossword

By Matt Jones

“Letters and Numbers” -- a few examples.  
by Matt Jones  
© 2026 Matt Jones

**ACROSS**

- 1. “I got it!”
- 4. Arcade violation
- 8. Danny of “Machete”
- 13. Ballpoint pen brand
- 14. Athletic footwear brand since 1979
- 15. Decks out
- 16. Unaware
- 18. Barry Manilow’s longtime label
- 19. Elvis/U2 mashup, maybe?
- 21. Stipulations
- 22. Accelerator particles
- 23. Symbol on a soprano’s staff
- 26. Anti-\_\_\_ hand soap
- 28. Mammoth features
- 32. Fish eggs
- 33. Do equations and receive a perfect score?
- 36. “Superfood” berry
- 38. Seven, in Spanish
- 39. Roof overhang
- 40. Squishy place to see Benjamin Franklin?
- 43. Through
- 44. Authorization
- 45. Time to access some parks
- 46. Edit
- 48. Valueless
- 50. Confidentiality contract, for short



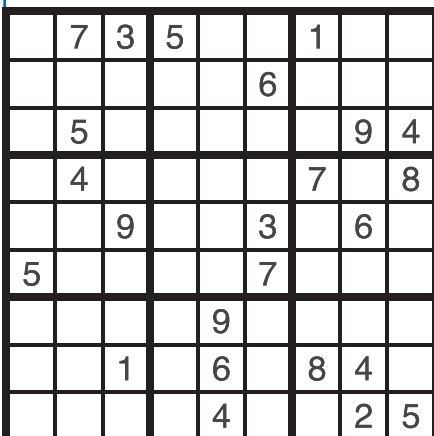
- 51. Army of skeletons?
  - 57. Finnish DJ best known for 1999’s “Sandstorm”
  - 59. Await
  - 60. The Cars lead singer Ric
  - 61. Monogram ltr.
  - 62. St. intersector
  - 63. Gave up
  - 64. Empty spaces
  - 65. Like sashimi
- DOWN**
- 1. Somewhat
  - 2. \_\_\_ jump
  - 3. Dermatological focus
  - 4. Import taxes
  - 5. Lendl and Reitman, e.g.
  - 6. Cod cousin
  - 7. “See ya”
  - 8. NHL Hall of Fame locale
  - 9. Take on liability
  - 10. “To be,” for Caesar
  - 11. Protrude
  - 12. \_\_\_-Locka, Fla.
  - 15. Carpenter’s groove
  - 17. Merle Haggard’s “\_\_\_ From Muskogee”
  - 20. “Better luck next time”
  - 23. Pastureland
  - 24. Cold-weather drink
  - 25. Like kale and spinach
  - 26. Without any prior information
  - 27. Beauty brand owned by Estee Lauder
  - 29. Fend (off)
  - 30. “Dogma” director Smith
  - 31. Golfing legend
  - 34. Beavers’ sch.
  - 35. Bank charge
  - 37. Remark of resignation
  - 41. Badgered
  - 42. Subtracts
  - 47. Prepare potatoes, in a way
  - 49. Onion’s relative
  - 50. Cheapest tablet point-of-sale option
  - 51. Singer Paisley
  - 52. Bit of a branch
  - 53. Tennis Hall of Famer Mandlikova
  - 54. Distantly
  - 55. Exploding star
  - 56. “The Price Is Right” host Carey
  - 57. Physician, familiarly
  - 58. Balatro card

©2026 Jonesin' Crosswords (jonesincrosswords@gmail.com)

Answers on page 23

## SUDOKU

## Advanced



## Fun By The Numbers

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

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

# Free Will Astrology

By Rob Breznsky

April 8-14, 2026

**ARIES (March 21-April 19):** Unexpected deliverance? Lucky rides? Beginner’s grace? Dreamy, gleaming replacements? To the untrained eye, it may look like you are bending cosmic law in your favor. In truth, you’re simply redeeming the backlog of blessings you earned in the past — acts of quiet generosity and unselfish hardship that never got their proper reward. Serendipitous leaps? Divine detours? Shortcuts to victory? Welcome the uncanny gifts, Aries, even if they’re not what you expected.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20):** The current phase of your destiny could disturb you if you’re not super patient. Life seems to be teasing you with promises that then go into hiding. You’ve been having to master the art of living on the edge between the BIG RED YES and the GREY MURKY NO. My advice: Imagine your predicament as an intriguing riddle, not a frustrating ambiguity. See if you can figure out how to grow wiser and stronger in response to the evasive mysteriousness. My prediction: You will grow wiser and stronger.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20):** Why it’s always triple great to be a Gemini, drawing on an abundance of mercurial wisdom: 1. You excel at the art of translation and are skilled at finding common ground between different realms. You can oscillate and flow between the lyrical and the pragmatic, the insightful and the comic, the detailed focus and the big picture. 2. You know that consistency is overrated. Your capacity to harbor multiple perspectives is a superpower. 3. You get to be both the question and the answer, proving that wholeness includes all the fragments. All the aptitudes I just named should be your featured approaches in the coming weeks.

**CANCER (June 21-July 22):** The saga of Troy is one of the most renowned tales from ancient Greece. Yet the fabled setting of Homer’s epic tale “The Iliad” was a settlement of just 7 acres. Let that detail resound for you in the coming weeks. It’s an apt metaphor for what’s taking shape in your life. A seemingly modest situation could become the stage for a mythic turning point. An experience that starts small may grow into a story of immense and lasting significance.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):** Many people have a favorite number they regard as lucky. Some choose it because it showed up at a major turning point in their life. Others derive it from their birthday or from the numerology of their name. Plenty are drawn to “master numbers” like 33, 77, or 99. Personally, I give three numbers my special love: 555, the square root of -2, and 1.61803, also known as the golden ratio in Fibonacci-related patterns. I hope this nudges your imagination, Leo. Your fortunes are shifting now in the direction of an unusual kind of luck, so it’s a potent moment to select a new lucky number. I suggest that you also choose a new guiding animal, a fresh initiation name, and a charged symbol to serve as your personal emblem.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):** Do you know what ignorance is causing you to suffer? Is there a teacher or teaching that could provide an antidote? I suspect you are very close to attracting or stumbling upon the guidance you need to escape the fog: maybe a therapist who can help you undo a hurtful pattern, a mentor to inspire your quest to do work you long to do, or a spiritual friend who reminds you that you’re not merely your latest drama. Your task in the coming weeks is not to obsess on fixing everything at once, but to seek one or two sources of wisdom that illuminate your blind spots and educate your heart.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):** I’m an honorary Libra, with three planets and my lunar north node in your sign. So, I speak with authority when I declare that fostering harmony, which is a Libran gift, is only superficially about smoothing away friction and asymmetry. More importantly, it’s about rearranging reality so that beauty is a central feature. The goal is to accomplish practical wonders by stimulating grace and fluency. When I’m best expressing my Libra qualities, I don’t ask

how I can please everyone, but rather how I can serve maximum goodness and intelligence. Here’s another tip to being a potent Libra: Know that your enchanting charm is a lubricant for the truth, not mere decoration. Here’s your homework: Beautify one system you use every day so it serves you with less friction and more pleasure.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):** You are potentially an expert in creative destruction. You have a knack for eliminating what’s unnecessary and even obstructive. What has outlived its usefulness? You’re prone to home in on energy drains and unleash transformative energy. And yes, this intensity of yours may unnerve people who prefer comfortable numbness — but not me. I love you to exult in your talent for locating beauty and truth that are too complicated for others. I applaud you when you descend into the darkness to retrieve dicey treasures. PS: You’re not shadowy or negative. You’re a specialist in the authentic love that refuses to enable delusion or sanction decay.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** My Sagittarian friend Artemisia bemoans “the scarcity of collective delight.” She wishes there were more public acclaim for stories about breakthrough joys, miraculous marvels, and surprising healings. Why are we so riveted by reports of misery, malaise, and muck, yet so loath to recognize and celebrate everything that’s working really well? She also mourns the odd habit among some educated folks to mistake cynicism for brilliance. If you don’t mind, Sagittarius, I’m assigning you to be an antidote in the coming weeks. Your task is to gather an overflowing harvest of lavish pleasure, fun epiphanies, and richly meaningful plot twists. Don’t hoard any of it. Spread it around to everyone you encounter.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):** “Id” is a psychoanalytic term. It’s the part of the psyche where basic instincts, needs, and drives reside. On one hand, the id supplies a huge charge of psychic energy. On the other hand, it mostly operates outside conscious awareness. Consider the implications: The fierce, pulsing center of your life force is largely hidden from you. Most of the time, that veil is protective. Encountering the id directly can be overwhelming or unsettling. But in the coming weeks, you Capricorns are poised to cultivate a more interesting and righteous relationship with your high-voltage core. Do you dare? Treat your id as a brilliant but untamed creature. Extend a careful, curious invitation for it to show you more about itself.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):** In architecture, a “clerestory” is a high window that brings light into a space without compromising privacy. It illuminates without exposing. I suggest that you find metaphorical equivalents for clerestories, Aquarius. Look for ways to let spaciousness and brightness into your world without disturbing your boundaries. Your assignment is to avoid swinging between total lockdown and overexposure. The best option: strategic vulnerability and selective transparency. Allow people to see selected parts of you without giving them access to everything. Be both open and discriminating.

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20):** In 1903, the Wright brothers flew a primitive model of the first airplane. How did they prepare the way for their spectacular milestone? Their workshop was a bicycle shop, not a high-tech, state-of-the-art lab. By building and fixing bikes, they learned key insights about flying machines. The lesson for you, Pisces, is that mastery in one area may be transferable to breakthroughs in another. With this in mind, I invite you to evaluate how your current skills, including those you take for granted, might be repurposed. Methods you developed in one context could solve problems in another. You shouldn’t underestimate the value of what you already know.

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

# OUT on the TOWN

## Events & Happenings in Lansing This Week

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

### Wednesday, April 8

**"A Caregiver's Butterfly Garden"** - 6 a.m.-9 p.m. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing. [dcwgardens.com](http://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](http://ruhalacenter.com).

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

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

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

**Artist Talks: MSUFCU Arts Power Up Residency** - MSUFCU Arts Power Up artists-in-residence Carl Craig and Cecilie Waagner Falkenström come together for a conversation exploring art, technology, and creative practice. 7-8 p.m. Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, East Lansing. [broadmuseum.msu.edu](http://broadmuseum.msu.edu).

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

**Bookend Gallery Display** - The Bookend welcomes the Lansing Women's Art Collective to our gallery wall for the month of April. This presentation by several artists demonstrates the variety that can be seen as art. Noon-4 p.m. Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. [cadl.org/about/get-involved/friends-library/haslett](http://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](http://ruhalacenter.com).

**Chronic Pain PATH** - Six-week workshop designed to help individuals with chronic pain improve their health and feel better. 9:30 a.m.-noon. Schmidt Community Center, 5825 Wise Road, Lansing. To register, call 517-887-1465 or email [histedc@tcoa.org](mailto:histedc@tcoa.org).

**"Clue: The Musical"** - 7:30 p.m. Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. [whartoncenter.com](http://whartoncenter.com).

**Coffee and Conversation** - A monthly Chamber of Commerce networking event. 9-10 a.m. City Hall, 310 Greenwood St., Grand Ledge. [facebook.com/GrandLedgeChamber](http://facebook.com/GrandLedgeChamber).

**"Dog Person," with Camille Pagán and Lori Nelson Spielman** - Are you a fan of heartwarming stories filled with wit and depth? Check out Camille Pagán's newest book, "Dog Person!" 6:30 p.m. Schuler Books, 1982 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. [facebook.com/schulerbooks](http://facebook.com/schulerbooks).

**East Lansing Public Library's April Art Exhibit** - Michigan artist Susan Smith is the artist of the month. Her works include watercolors, acrylics, collage, alcohol inks and more. 10 a.m.-9 p.m. 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. [elpl.org](http://elpl.org).

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

[meridian50plus.com](http://meridian50plus.com).

**Life Drawing at REACH Studio Art Center** - Life drawing sessions offer a classic approach to building drawing skills through direct observation. You'll start with quick warm-up sketches and gradually move into longer poses of 10 minutes or more with our partially clothed model. 6-8 p.m. 1804 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. [reachstudioart.org](http://reachstudioart.org).

**"Moments in Time," Watercolors by Janis Barr McElmurry** - 9 a.m.-5 p.m. The Peoples Church, 200 W. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. 517-332-5073.

**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. [lpsg.org](http://lpsg.org).

**Sporec Live Trivia** - Join us at HopCat East Lansing every Wednesday for trivia! Two rounds, two chances to score prizes. First game: 7 p.m. Second game: 8 p.m. 300 Grove St., East Lansing. [facebook.com/HopCatEastLansing](http://facebook.com/HopCatEastLansing).

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

**Weaving the Web: Correspondences** - 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](http://weaversoftheweb.org).

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

### Thursday, April 9

**"A Caregiver's Butterfly Garden"** - 6 a.m.-9 p.m. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing. [dcwgardens.com](http://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](http://ruhalacenter.com).

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

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

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

**Art Exhibition & Sale by Lansing Women Artists Collective** - Check hours as they are variable. 8 a.m.-2 p.m. That New Place, 146 W. Grand River Ave., Williamston. 517-242-1810.

**Blurred Realities Poetry Slam** - Poets from MSU and the Greater Lansing community will write and perform original work exploring changing notions of authenticity and mis/dis/information. 7-8:30 p.m. MSU Museum, 409 W. Circle Drive, East Lansing. [museum.msu.edu](http://museum.msu.edu).

**Bookend Gallery Display by Lansing Women's Art Collective** - Noon-6 p.m. Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. [cadl.org/about/get-involved/friends-library/haslett](http://cadl.org/about/get-involved/friends-library/haslett).

**"Clue: The Musical"** - 7:30 p.m. Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. [whartoncenter.com](http://whartoncenter.com).

### Lansing Town Hall Celebrity Lecture

#### Series: Louis Masur

11 a.m. Monday, April 13

Eagle Eye Banquet Center

15500 Chandler Road, Bath

[lansingsymphony.org/events](http://lansingsymphony.org/events)



Local history buffs are invited to listen as one of the nation's most-recognized cultural historians, Louis Masur, gives a presentation on "The Life and Myth of George Washington."

Masur, the Board of Governors Distinguished Professor of American Studies and History at Rutgers University, has written books on a single photograph ("The Soiling of Old Glory"), a seminal record ("Runaway Dream: Born to Run and Bruce Springsteen's American Vision"), the events of a year ("1831: Year of Eclipse") and the first World Series ("Autumn Glory"). In 2023, he wrote the script for "Rock 101: The Music and Stories of Ten Classic Songs," a show that premiered in Woodstock, New York. His most recent book is "A Journey North: Jefferson, Madison, and the Forging of a Friendship."

The event is part of the Lansing Town Hall Celebrity Lecture Series, which dates back to 1953, when a group of women banded together to raise funds for the Lansing Symphony Orchestra. Since then, Lansing audiences have enjoyed 72 seasons of cultural programming.

Individual tickets are \$45 each. Call (517) 323-1045 for tickets.

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

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

**East Lansing Public Library's April Art Exhibit** - 10 a.m.-9 p.m. 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. [elpl.org](http://elpl.org).

**Field Crops Virtual Breakfast Series** - Topic: corn and soybean planting considerations, with Dr. Manni Singh. 7-8 a.m. Virtual — register at [canr.msu.edu/field\\_crops](http://canr.msu.edu/field_crops).

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

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

**Military Officers Dinner** - Meeting sponsored by the capital area chapter of the Military Officers Association of America. MSU doctoral student Ryan Bearss will discuss MSU's internationally recognized turfgrass management program. 5-8:30 p.m. Coral Gables Restaurant, 2838 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. 517-582-0962. [cacmoaa.com](http://cacmoaa.com).

**"Moments in Time," Watercolors by Janis Barr McElmurry** - 9 a.m.-5 p.m. The Peoples Church, 200 W. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. 517-332-5073.

**Parkinson's Exercise: Rock-Steady Boxing** - Free exercise class for people with Parkinson's. Caregivers are welcome to participate if space permits. 1 p.m. Michigan Athletic Club, 2900

Hannah Blvd., East Lansing. To register, call 517-364-8800. [lpsg.org](http://lpsg.org).

**Preserving MI Harvest: I Saw It on Social Media** - You found a preservation recipe on Facebook, YouTube or Instagram ... but is it safe? Join us to learn research-tested recipes that are delicious and safe! 1-2 and 6-7 p.m. Virtual — register at [canr.msu.edu/food\\_preservation](http://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](http://ruhalacenter.com).

**Spirit of Michigan Chorus Rehearsal** - We're an inclusive community of women who sing a cappella in the barbershop style. We welcome all levels of musical experience. 6:45 p.m. Church of the Nazarene, 4851 Holt Road, Holt. [spiritofmichigan-chorus.com](http://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](http://canr.msu.edu/tai-chi-for-arthritis).

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

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

### Friday, April 10

**"1984"** - Constructed almost entirely from dialogue taken from the original novel, this bold and powerful dramatization restores the blazing heart of Orwell's work: a doomed love story, with the lovers at its center. 7 p.m. LCC Dart Auditorium, 500 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing. [lcc.edu/showinfo](http://lcc.edu/showinfo).

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# Events

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**“A Caregiver’s Butterfly Garden”** - 6 a.m.-9 p.m. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing. dcwgardens.com.

**Art Exhibition & Sale by Lansing Women Artists Collective** - Check hours as they are variable. 8 a.m.-2 p.m. That New Place, 146 W. Grand River Ave., Williamston. 517-242-1810.

**Bookend Gallery Display by Lansing Women’s Art Collective** - Noon-4 p.m. Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. cadl.org/about/get-involved/friends-library/haslett.

**“Clue: The Musical”** - 7:30 p.m. Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. whartoncenter.com.

**Confident Witch Circle: Jera** - In this session, we’re working with herb correspondences and magical timing as practical tools. We’ll look at moon phases, planetary alignments, and seasonal patterns, exploring what the harvest teaches us about the long-game workings. 8-10 p.m. Keys to Manifestation, 809 Center St., Lansing. manifest-lansing.com.

**East Lansing Public Library’s April Art Exhibit** - 10 a.m.-6 p.m. 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. elpl.org.

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

**John Gorka** - Forty years ago, John won the prestigious New Folk Award at the Kerrville Folk Festival, and the rest is history. A part of the NYC new folk movement, John has been a fan favorite for years. 7:30-10 p.m. University Lutheran Church, 1020 S. Harrison Road, East Lansing. tenpoundfiddle.org.

**“Kindness,” by Adam Rapp** - Join Ixion Ensemble Theatre for this drama, directed by Miranda Sue Hartmann. 7 p.m. Stage One at Sycamore Creek Eastwood, 2200 Lake Lansing Road, Lansing. facebook.com/IxionEnsemble.

**Last Fish Fry of the Season** - Served takeout style, with seating available. 4:30-6:30 p.m. Wacousta-DeWitt Masonic Lodge, 9030 W. Herbison Road, Grand Ledge. wacousta.net.

**“Moments in Time,” Watercolors by Janis Barr McElmurry** - 9 a.m.-5 p.m. The Peoples Church, 200 W. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. 517-332-5073.

**Night at a Living Museum** - Join us for an evening of interactive experiences that will immerse you in the world of conservation and nature. Our hands-on activities are designed for guests of all ages. Free. 5-8 p.m. Potter Park Zoo, 1301 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. potterparkzoo.org.

**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. lapsrg.org.

**Pete Correale** - Comedian and writer Pete Correale brings his “As I Was Saying” tour to Grewal Hall. 7:30 p.m. 224 S. Washington Square, Lansing. hall224.com.

**Public Investigation** - Tour the historic Harriett Chapman Hospital and experience its paranormal history for yourself. Space is limited. Equipment provided. 7-11 p.m. 101 W. Plain St., Eaton Rapids. eventbrite.com/o/31111181419.

**Sensory-Friendly Night at Harris Nature Center** - A special after-hours evening for families with members who have sensory processing needs. Exhibits will have reduced sounds and lighting, and a quiet room and sensory kits will be available. 5:30-7:30 p.m. 3998 Van Atta Road, Okemos. meridian.mi.us/hnc.

**Speculative Futures | APIDA Sounds and Stories** - Join us for an evening of music and conversation featuring sounds by Austin Har and a panel with members of the Asian Pacific Student Organization. 3-5 p.m. MSU Museum, 409 W. Circle Drive, East Lansing. museum.msu.edu.

**Tech Forward: Men of Color** - Tech Forward: Men of Color events connect future leaders with the future of technology, trades, and skills through hands-on activities, networking luncheons, prizes and inspiring guest speakers. 8:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m. LCC West Campus, 5708 Cornerstone Drive, Lansing. Register at lcc.edu.

**TGIF Cowboy/Cowgirl Theme Dance Party** - Wear your cowboy boots, hats, shirts and jeans! Doors open at 7 p.m., line dance lesson 7:15-7:45 p.m., dance 8 p.m.-midnight. Dinner buffet included. Cash/credit bar available. Hawk Hollow Banquet Center, 15101 Chandler Road, Bath. tgifdance.com.

**Transcribe Documents** - Participants will help transcribe handwritten historical documents from the Smithsonian Institution. These transcriptions create searchable data that supports research, education, and public access to America’s historical records. Adult program. 2-4 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. gladl.org.

**Travelogue: Pacific Cruise, with Dorothy Hughes Engelman** - Join Engelman on a Viking ocean cruise to Australia and New Zealand. Tour Sydney, Melbourne, Tasmania and several areas in New Zealand. The trip ends with four days in Auckland. 7-8:30 p.m. Foster Community Center, 200 N. Foster Ave., Lansing. lansingmi.gov/985/Travelogue.

## Saturday, April 11

**“1984”** - 7 p.m. LCC Dart Auditorium, 500 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing. lcc.edu/showinfo.

**2026 4-H and FFA State Horse Judging Contest** - Participants can demonstrate their equine evaluation and selection skills, as well as improve their communication and decision-making skills. This contest will include both individual and team competition for 4-H and FFA members. 8 a.m. Farm Bureau Pavilion, 4301 Farm Lane, Lansing. canr.msu.edu/horses\_ponies.

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

**Art Exhibition & Sale by Lansing Women Artists Collective** - Check hours as they are variable. 8 a.m.-2 p.m. That New Place, 146 W. Grand River Ave., Williamston. 517-242-1810.

**Bookend Gallery Display by Lansing Women’s Art Collective** - Noon-2 p.m. Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. cadl.org/about/get-involved/friends-library/haslett.

**“Clue: The Musical”** - 2 and 7:30 p.m. Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. whartoncenter.com.

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

**East Lansing Public Library’s April Art Exhibit** - 10 a.m.-6 p.m. 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. elpl.org.

**Experience Medical Laboratory Science!** - Tour the Biomedical Laboratory Diagnostics Program and explore the different disciplines of the medical laboratory, do hands-on medical laboratory activities, and learn about the scientists who perform medical laboratory testing every day! 11 a.m.-2 p.m. North Kedzie Hall, 354 Farm Lane, East Lansing. sciencefestival.msu.edu.

**Habibi Dancers 42nd Annual Spring Concert & Workshops** - The Habibi Dancers invite you to “Metamorphosis,” April 11-12, with main artist Devin Alfather. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing. eventbrite.com/o/77995915173.

**Homebrew Tabletop Game Lounge Third Anniversary Party** - Enjoy \$1 off drinks, 30% off Elite Gamer memberships, 10% off all gaming merchandise, 30% off Homebrew T-shirts, and drawings for prizes throughout the evening. We’ll also be holding a BANG! Tournament. Noon-midnight. 219 1/2 N. Bridge St., Grand Ledge. homebrew-gamelounge.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.

**“Kindness,” by Adam Rapp** - 7 p.m. Stage One at Sycamore Creek Eastwood, 2200 Lake Lansing Road, Lansing. facebook.com/IxionEnsemble.

**Kiwanis Holiday Candy Hunt** - Due to inclement weather, the candy hunt originally scheduled for April 4 has been rescheduled to April 11. 10 a.m. Patriarche Park, 960 Alton Road, East Lansing. 857-540-1165. k03414.site.kiwanis.org.

**Michigan Safe Boating Course & Certification** - Adults, learn and earn your Safe Boating Certification in one day! Registration req. 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. gladl.org.

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

**Spring Art and Craft Market** - Over 20 local artists and crafters displaying one-of-a-kind gifts, mentos, art, etc. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. McDaniels Kitchen and Bath, 16839 S. U.S. 27, Lansing. gomcdaniels.com.

**STEAM Expo Weekend** - Join us for a weekend packed with 100+ hands-on activities, live demonstrations, and engaging talks celebrating science, technology, engineering, arts, and math. 11 a.m.-4 p.m. STEM Teaching and Learning Facility, 642 Red Cedar Road, East Lansing. sciencefestival.msu.edu.

**Welcome To Lansing** - This in-person event is your chance to explore the city’s vibe, meet cool locals, and have a blast. Whether you’re new here or just visiting, come hang out and discover what makes Lansing so special. 1-6 p.m. Lansing Shuffle, 325 Riverfront Drive, Lansing. eventbrite.com/o/120810503963.

## Sunday, April 12

**“1984”** - 2 p.m. LCC Dart Auditorium, 500 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing. lcc.edu/showinfo.

**2026 Michigan 4-H State Hippology Contest** - The annual Michigan 4-H Hippology Contest allows youth in horse and pony projects to test their equine knowledge. 8:30 a.m. Farm Bureau Pavilion, 4301 Farm Lane, Lansing. canr.msu.edu/animal\_science.

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

Lansing. dcwgardens.com.

**Art Exhibition & Sale by Lansing Women Artists Collective** - Check hours as they are variable. 9 a.m.-2 p.m. That New Place, 146 W. Grand River Ave., Williamston. 517-242-1810.

**“Clue: The Musical”** - 1 and 6:30 p.m. Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. whartoncenter.com.

**Dogs and Coffee** - Join a naturalist for a morning walk in the woods with your two best friends, dogs and coffee! Dogs must be on a 6-foot, non-retractable leash. 9-10 a.m. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road, Okemos. meridian.mi.us/hnc.

**East Lansing Public Library’s April Art Exhibit** - 1-5 p.m. 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. elpl.org.

**Green Man Day** - For April, we’ll be indoors, wrapping up Ostara and loading the trailer for Beltaine, plus tackling maintenance, library, and storage projects. Weather permitting, a crew will also head out to the property for spring cleanup. Noon-5 p.m. Weavers of the Web, 809 Center St., Lansing. weaversoftheweb.org.

**Habibi Dancers 42nd Annual Spring Concert & Workshops** - 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing. eventbrite.com/o/77995915173.

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

**“Kindness,” by Adam Rapp** - 3 p.m. Stage One at Sycamore Creek Eastwood, 2200 Lake Lansing Road, Lansing. facebook.com/IxionEnsemble.

**“Moments in Time,” Watercolors by Janis Barr McElmurry** - 9:30 a.m.-noon. The Peoples Church, 200 W. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. 517-332-5073.

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### CROSSWORD SOLUTION

From Pg. 21

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### SUDOKU SOLUTION

From Pg. 21

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## Pzazz ... an afternoon of poetry & jazz

4-6 p.m. Sunday, April 12

UrbanBeat

1213 Turner St., Lansing

\$10 at door, \$12 online

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

April showers bring both National Poetry Month and Jazz Appreciation Month, with an opportunity to be doused in both Sunday afternoon at UrbanBeat's monthly Pzazz event.

The eclectic and electric gathering will draw attendees a warm bath of music and spoken word, featuring performances by jazz artists Sarah D'Angelo and Cliff Monear and poets Carlton Evans and Cruz Villarreal, with a guest appearance by Terry Terry of UrbanBeat. The event will be co-hosted by Lois Mummaw and Ruelaine Stokes.

Sarah D'Angelo is a Detroit based multi-genre singer and clarinetist. She performs regularly with an array of local artists and also leads her own duo, trio and quintet.

Cliff Monear is a professional jazz pianist who has performed nationally and around the world with luminaries such as Eddie Daniels, Joshua Redmond, Roy Hargrove, Stanley Clarke, Sheila Jordan, Dee Dee Bridgewater and more. He joined the music faculty at Wayne State University in 2004.

Carlton Evans is a passionate gardener who dabbles in science, metaphysics, music, cards and cooking. He also enjoys watching movies with his wife.

Cruz Villarreal is a Latino poet and spoken-word performer whose work draws from the lived experience of migrant farm labor, family memory and cultural identity. His poetry blends English and Spanish to explore heritage, labor, faith and belonging.

## Events

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**Narcotics Anonymous Support Group** - This meeting is open to anyone seeking support in recovery. 5:30-7:30 p.m. Weavers of the Web, 809 Center St., Lansing. [weaversoftheweb.org](http://weaversoftheweb.org).

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

**STEAM Expo Weekend** - 11 a.m.-4 p.m. STEM Teaching and Learning Facility, 642 Red Cedar Road, East Lansing. [sciencefestival.msu.edu](http://sciencefestival.msu.edu).

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

**Weekly Drum Circle at Lake Lansing Park North** - Join us every Sunday (weather permitting) for a fun and energetic afternoon of rhythm and drumming with the Greater Lansing Area Drummers! 2-4 p.m. 6260 E. Lake Drive, Haslett. [lansingdrummers.wixsite.com](http://lansingdrummers.wixsite.com).

## Monday, April 13

**"A Caregiver's Butterfly Garden"** - 6 a.m.-9 p.m. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing. [dcwgardens.com](http://dcwgardens.com).

**Adulting 101-Eat Smart: Meals on a Budget** - In this Adulting 101 session, we'll share simple tips to plan meals that save money and taste great — plus how to cook once and eat twice! 5-6 p.m. Virtual — register at [canr.msu.edu/adulting101](http://canr.msu.edu/adulting101).

**Al-Anon Meeting** - 8 p.m. St. Michael's Episcopal Church, 6500 Amwood Drive, Lansing. [cmialanon.org](http://cmialanon.org).

**Bookend Gallery Display by Lansing Women's Art Collective** - Noon-4 p.m. Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. [cadl.org/about/get-involved/friends-library/haslett](http://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](http://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](http://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 Bingo, where classic bingo meets your favorite songs. 7-8:30 p.m. 1957 Cedar St., Holt. [www.facebook.com/summerlandsbrewing](http://www.facebook.com/summerlandsbrewing).

**East Lansing Public Library's April Art Exhibit** - 10 a.m.-9 p.m. 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. [elpl.org](http://elpl.org).

**Euchre** - 1-3 p.m. Eaton Rapids Senior Center, 201 Grand St., Eaton Rapids. [facebook.com/EatonRapidsSeniorCenter](http://facebook.com/EatonRapidsSeniorCenter).

**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](http://meridian-50plus.com).

**Improv Acting Class for Teens and Adults** - 8:30-9:30 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. [ruhalacenter.com](http://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](http://ruhalacenter.com).

**"Moments in Time," Watercolors by Janis Barr McElmurry** - 9 a.m.-5 p.m. The Peoples Church, 200 W. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. 517-332-5073.

**Mother Daughter Dance** - Create a special memory together at the Mother Daughter Dance. Your registration includes dancing, refreshments, a surprise for the young lady, and more! Dinner is on your own. 7-9 p.m. The Venue by Eleven 11 Events, 5660 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing. [facebook.com/deltatownship](http://facebook.com/deltatownship).

**New Docent Training** - Train to be a volunteer docent at the Michigan History Museum! You'll learn about best docent practices and receive materials for personal study. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Michigan History Center, 702 W. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. [facebook.com/MichiganHistoryCenter](http://facebook.com/MichiganHistoryCenter).

**New Food Choices** - Meet with VegMichigan and learn about the health and environmental benefits of eating more plant-based meals. Ages 16+. Registration req. 6-7 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. [gladl.org](http://gladl.org).

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

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

**Selling MI Honey & Maple Syrup — Safely** - Learn how to safely handle, package and store honey and maple syrup, and understand the exemption guidelines for selling these products in Michigan. 6-8 p.m. Virtual — register at [canr.msu.edu/isabella](http://canr.msu.edu/isabella).

**Serving up Food Safety: Jammin with Frozen Fruits** - Learn how to utilize the frozen fruit in your freezer to create jams and jelly. Noon-12:30 p.m. Virtual — register at [canr.msu.edu/safe\\_food\\_water](http://canr.msu.edu/safe_food_water).

**Spartan Upcycle Student Collective Showcase** - Showcase features upcycled furniture and art created by students who sourced materials from the MSU Surplus Store & Recycling Center. Noon-5 p.m. MSU Union Gallery, 49 Abbot Road, East Lansing. [art.msu.edu/galleries/msu-union-art-gallery](http://art.msu.edu/galleries/msu-union-art-gallery).

## Tuesday, April 14

**"A Caregiver's Butterfly Garden"** - 6 a.m.-9 p.m. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing. [dcwgardens.com](http://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](http://ruhalacenter.com).

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

**Al-Anon Meeting** - 9 a.m. Alano Club South, 3500 S. Cedar St., Lansing. [cmialanon.org](http://cmialanon.org).

**Al-Anon Meeting** - 7 p.m. St. Jude Church, 801 N. Bridge St., DeWitt. [cmialanon.org](http://cmialanon.org).

**Beginning Texas Two-Step Group Dance Class** - Texas two-step is a popular partner dance featuring a rhythmic quick quick, slow slow pattern

and moves counter-clockwise around the floor. Class meets for eight weeks. 7:50 p.m. Michigan Athletic Club, 2900 Hannah Blvd, East Lansing. 517-364-8888. [themac.org](http://themac.org).

**Bookend Gallery Display by Lansing Women's Art Collective** - Noon-4 p.m. Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. [cadl.org/about/get-involved/friends-library/haslett](http://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](http://ceahow.org/en/find-a-meeting).

**East Lansing Public Library's April Art Exhibit** - 10 a.m.-9 p.m. 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. [elpl.org](http://elpl.org).

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

**The Informed Renter** - This homeownership seminar from MSU Extension will provide you with valuable information about the home buying process. Noon-1 p.m. Virtual — register at [canr.msu.edu/mimoneyhealth](http://canr.msu.edu/mimoneyhealth).

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

**Lansing Lugnuts vs. West Michigan Whitecaps** - 6:05 p.m. Jackson Field, 505 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. [milb.com/lansing](http://milb.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](http://ruhalacenter.com).

**Matter of Balance** - Eight-session workshop designed to improve balance, flexibility, and strength, helping older adults reduce fall risks and become more active. 9:30-11:30 a.m. Delta 39'ers Enrichment Center, 4538 Elizabeth Road, Lansing. To register, call 517-887-1465 or email [mailhost-edc@tcoa.org](mailto:mailhost-edc@tcoa.org).

**Minecraft Mania** - An evening of fun and friendly competition. We'll have our server set up and laptops ready to go. 6-8 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. [gladl.org](http://gladl.org).

**"Moments in Time," Watercolors by Janis Barr McElmurry** - 9 a.m.-5 p.m. The Peoples Church, 200 W. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. 517-332-5073.

**Online Extension Extras for Parents: The Birds and the Bees — Talking With Kids About Sex** - We'll explore the importance of having honest discussions about bodies, sex, and sexuality and how to have age-appropriate conversations with your child. 7:30-9 p.m. Fowlerville. [www.canr.msu.edu](http://www.canr.msu.edu).

**Open Swim Improv Comedy** - Anyone in the community can come to participate in silly improv comedy games, or just sit in the audience, suggest prompts, and watch the silliness unfold! The event is free for your first visit and \$20 annually after that. 7-9 p.m. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. [riverwalktheatre.com/barebones.html](http://riverwalktheatre.com/barebones.html).

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

**Preschool Family Storytime** - Ages 1-6 and caregivers: join us for fun stories, songs, and a simple craft each week! 11 a.m.-noon. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. [gladl.org](http://gladl.org).

**STATE OF MICHIGAN**  
**IN THE INGHAM COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT**

In re: Petition of Ingham County Land Bank Fast Track Authority for Expedited Quiet Title and Foreclosure of Certain Parcels of Real Property

Case No. 26-1157-CH

Hon. Richard J. Garcia

Date: March 6, 2026

Respectfully submitted,

COHL, STOKER & TOSKEY, P.C.

/s/ Timothy M. Perrone

Timothy M. Perrone (P37940)  
Attorney for Petitioner  
601 N. Capitol Ave.  
Lansing, MI 48933  
(517) 372-9000

Timothy M. Perrone (P37940)  
COHL, STOKER & TOSKEY, P.C.  
Attorneys for Petitioner  
601 N. Capitol Ave.  
Lansing, MI 48933  
(517) 372-9000

**EXHIBIT A**

**Individual parcels of property located in the City of Lansing, County of Ingham, State of Michigan, legally described as:**

1. Lot 58 Park Manor Heights, Lansing, Ingham County, Michigan, according to the recorded plat thereof, Ingham County Records.  
Parcel ID #33-01-01-03-376-161  
Commonly known as (2116) High St., Lansing, MI 48906
2. West 39.5 feet of Lot 114 and South 33 feet of North 66 feet of Lot 119, Knollwood Park Subdivision, Lansing, Ingham County, Michigan, according to the re-recorded plat thereof, Ingham County Records.  
Parcel ID #33-01-01-08-282-161  
Commonly known as (1312) Roosevelt St., Lansing, MI 48915
3. South 21 feet of Lot 8 and the North 26 feet of Lot 7, Smith's Subdivision, Lansing, Ingham County, Michigan, according to the recorded plat thereof, as recorded in Liber 7 of Plats, Page 7, Ingham County Records.  
Parcel ID #33-01-01-09-180-011  
Commonly known as 1342 N. Walnut St., Lansing, MI 48906
4. Lot 2 except West 1 Rod, Assessor's Plat No. 30 of Block 19, Original Plat, Lansing, Ingham County, Michigan, according to the recorded plat thereof, Ingham County Records.  
Parcel ID #33-01-01-09-430-401  
Commonly known as (528) E. Maple St., Lansing, MI 48906
5. West 2 Rods of Lots 42 and 46, Torrance Farms Addition, Lansing, Ingham County, Michigan, according to the recorded plat thereof, as recorded in Liber 3 of Plats, Page 27, Ingham County Records.  
Parcel ID #33-01-01-21-431-045  
Commonly known as 613 Avon St., Lansing, MI 48910
6. Lot 6, Duplex Park Addition, Lansing, Ingham County, Michigan, according to the recorded plat thereof, Ingham County Records.  
Parcel ID #33-01-01-28-102-181  
Commonly known as (619) W. Mt. Hope Ave., Lansing, MI 48910
7. North 116 feet of Lot 179, Webster Farms Subdivision No. 3, Lansing, Ingham County, Michigan, according to the recorded plat thereof, Ingham County Records.  
Parcel ID #33-01-05-06-427-065  
Commonly known as (0).Horace Rd., Lansing, MI 48911

**NOTICE OF HEARING**

To: Mayhla Murray, Charles Trainor, 917 Chittock St., LLC (Neil Wright, Agent), Rama Gupta, Estate of Amar N. Gupta (Rama Gupta, PR), Stanley Bloomfield, Daniel D'Haene, Evelyn D'Haene, Nicholas Male, and all persons having an interest in the subject properties listed in Exhibit A

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a hearing on the Petition of Ingham County Land Bank Fast Track Authority for Expedited Quiet Title and Foreclosure of Certain Parcels of Real Property shall be held before the Honorable Richard J. Garcia, Ingham County Circuit Judge, at the Ingham County Courthouse, 315 S. Jefferson St., 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Mason, MI 48854, on **Thursday, April 23, 2026, at 2:00 p.m.**, or as soon thereafter as counsel may be heard.

This Notice pertains to the real property located in the City of Lansing, County of Ingham, State of Michigan, as set forth in Exhibit A.

Notice of Pending Expedited Quiet Title and Foreclosure Action (Form 4329) for each of the subject properties was recorded with the Ingham County Register of Deeds on March 4, 2026.

Judgment of the Court after this hearing may result in title to the property vesting in the Ingham County Land Bank Fast Track Authority, 3024 N. Turner St., Lansing, MI 48906 – Telephone (517) 267-5221.

Any persons with information regarding the owner or prior owner of the subject properties are requested to contact the Land Bank.

Any rights of redemption and any ownership interest in the subject properties may be extinguished by the judgment of the Court.

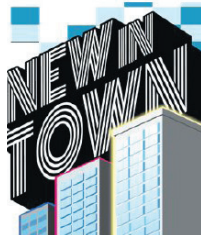
Any person with a property interest in the subject properties may lose his or her interest, if any, as a result of the quiet title and foreclosure hearing.

THIS PROPERTY HAS BEEN TRANSFERRED TO THE INGHAM COUNTY LAND BANK FAST TRACK AUTHORITY AND IS SUBJECT TO AN EXPEDITED QUIET TITLE AND FORECLOSURE ACTION. PERSONS WITH INFORMATION REGARDING THE PRIOR OWNER OF THE PROPERTY ARE REQUESTED TO CONTACT THE LAND BANK FAST TRACK AUTHORITY AT 3024 N. TURNER ST., LANSING, MICHIGAN 48906, TELEPHONE (517) 267-5221.

# FOOD & DRINK

## DINING OUT IN GREATER LANSING

### Floral-themed cafe honors historic building's past



#### PetalPop Cafe

519 W. Ionia St.,  
Lansing  
7 a.m.-2:30 p.m. daily  
(517) 999-1551  
petalpopcafe.com

By **LEO V. KAPLAN**

From their spot right between downtown Lansing and the Genesee neighborhood, the Bailey Buildings on West Ionia Street have played host to barbers, booksellers and brewers, and that's just a few of the "Bs" since they were built in 1922.

To Syreeta Brown, co-owner of the Bailey Buildings' newest chapter, PetalPop Cafe, the most significant business to occupy the buildings was Belen's Flowers.

The floral shop was founded by local politician Elizabeth Lehman Belen in 1936 and later run by her daughter,

Lucile, who also served on Lansing City Council for 40 years and is remembered as a pioneer for women in local politics. The shop operated in the Bailey Buildings from 1969 until Lucile's death in 2010.

It's the Belens, and particularly Lucile, that Brown is paying homage to with PetalPop's floral theme.

"She was quite a frontrunner, and since then, a lot of the limelight has gone off women's rights," Brown said. "And I'm a Native American, Black woman, I've got four daughters and six granddaughters, so it's kind of important to me. I want to build something that shows them they can do stuff, too."

PetalPop opened March 26, serving American breakfast and lunch dishes and floral-inspired craft soda drinks. Brown, who has worked in restaurant management in and around Lansing



Leo V. Kaplan for City Pulse

for nearly 30 years, designed the menu with comfort food in mind, including items that her parents made growing up. Biscuits and gravy, chicken and waffles, cheeseburgers and breakfast skillet are complemented by coffee from 517 Coffee Co. and craft soda from Northwoods Soda near Traverse City.

A floral mural, floral lights and petals atop the store's mocktails root PetalPop in the building's history. Brown is determined to make it feel like home for customers.

"I even got a Pac-Man game," she said, pointing at an arcade table. "It's supposed to bring you back to your childhood. It's supposed to make you feel like you're welcome. There are a lot of people who don't have anyone, and this way people are able to connect with people, talk to each other. There are no TVs, so you're stuck talking to your friends."

The cafe is open from 7 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. daily. When summer hits, Brown will set up eight tables outdoors. She also eventually wants to open for dinner,

where she says she really shines, but the bar still won't serve alcohol.

"We're not going to have any alcohol because we're trying to be a community restaurant, and alcohol isn't a big push for communities," Brown said, adding the soda bar will offer sober patrons the opportunity to sit at a bar and order drinks.

Over the course of a 20-minute interview at the bar, three customers came up to start or continue conversations with Brown, she effortlessly guided them into larger group conversations. Some customers chimed in to answer City Pulse's questions and voice their support for the cafe. When Brown was asked what the cafe brought to the area, radio DJ and local mainstay Metro Melik chimed in first: "A bathroom," he said.

Brown's answer is made-to-order food. The cooks patty their own burgers from ground meat, even. It means the food takes a little longer, but Brown thinks it's worth it.

Just two weeks into operating, Brown said community turnout has been great, bringing people from both downtown and the Genesee neighborhood together. Just like Lucile's shop did, Brown hopes.

"We've had a really good turnout from the churches, we've had a really good turnout from the people in the neighborhood itself, which, we really want the neighborhood to be here," she said. "And we got quite a nice lunch push from the state buildings, which is wonderful, because it's like they're giving back to the community themselves."

## TOP 5 DINING GUIDE

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

### TOP 5 INDIAN RESTAURANTS

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

#### 1. Grains Indian Cuisine

Family-owned Indian restaurant offering authentic dishes made with fresh ingredients  
1601 S. Waverly Road, Lansing  
(517) 855-0648  
grainsindiancuisine.com  
11 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Thursday  
11 a.m.-9:30 p.m. Friday  
11:30 a.m.-9:30 p.m. Saturday-Sunday

#### 2. Persis Indian Grill

Casual Indian restaurant serving biryani and other classic dishes  
3536 Meridian Crossing Drive, Okemos  
(517) 993-5927  
persisokemos.com  
11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m., 5-9 p.m.  
Monday-Thursday  
11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m., 5-9:30 p.m. Friday

Noon-3 p.m., 5-9:30 p.m. Saturday  
Noon-3 p.m., 6-9 p.m. Sunday

#### 3. Sindhu Indian Cuisine

Family-owned Indian restaurant offering hearty portions, plus a lunch buffet  
4790 Hagadorn Road, Ste. 132, East Lansing  
(517) 351-3080  
misindhu.com

11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m., 5-9:30 p.m.  
Monday-Tuesday, Thursday-Friday  
Noon-3:30 p.m., 5-9:30 p.m.  
Saturday-Sunday

#### 4. Sree Saffron

Intimate restaurant serving a variety of authentic Indian dishes  
4750 Hagadorn Road, Ste. 60, East Lansing  
(517) 993-5979  
sreesaffron.com  
11:30 a.m.-9:30 p.m. Tuesday-Sunday

#### 5. Swagath Indian Cuisine

Relaxed eatery serving tandoori dishes, vegetarian mains and other Indian eats  
1060 Trowbridge Road, Ste. 3, East Lansing  
(517) 763-2277  
swagathcuisine.com  
11:30 a.m.-3 p.m., 5-9:30 p.m.  
Monday, Wednesday-Sunday

## Advances in nacho technology

By **LIZY FERGUSON**

The selection of eateries at Lansing Shuffle is looking a little sparse these days, but what remains is solid: Taquitos AF (Mexican-style street food), Lalafish (sushi, bowls), Kin Thai (Southeast Asian street food) and Browndog (burgers, ice cream). The patio overlooking the river makes the food hall a great spot for Friday evening drinks and eats as the weather



#### Crab Rangoon nachos

\$10  
Kin Thai  
325 Riverfront Drive, Lansing  
11 a.m.-9 p.m. Tuesday-Sunday  
(517) 803-2188  
kinthailansing.com

warms up, and you don't have to worry as much as with other restaurants about there being something to meet everyone's end-of-week, "I deserve a treat" cravings.

If I had to pick my favorite appetizers, crab Rangoon and nachos would easily make the top five. I've heard about the crab Rangoon nachos at Kin Thai many times, but I've never been able to bring myself to order them as a

See Dish, Page 27

# Dish

from page 26

meal, having been raised to always have at least one vegetable on my plate. However, I'm occasionally blessed to attend group dinners with generous friends who are always willing to share.

I made short work of my own relatively sensible meal, but when the nachos arrived at the table, I was glad I'd come from the gym and had plenty more room. A tower of crispy, golden wontons was topped with light-as-air ribbons of imitation crab, melty cream cheese, scallions and Thai sweet chili sauce. A nacho devotee, I wholeheartedly sign off on this version. The warm cream cheese was the consistency of queso, and the light, almost fluffy imitation crab and fresh scallions added a wonderful brightness to the otherwise heavy dish.

Everything was present for maximum satisfaction and dopamine production: crispy, creamy, sweet, savory, cheesy and tangy. It was the kind of dish that required self-control not to overindulge and ruin a good thing. Would I recommend it as a main course? No. But I don't think you should visit Lansing Shuffle without getting an order for the table.



Lizy Ferguson for City Pulse

**Thank You For Voting Us The Best!**

voted #1 Top of the Town 2025 CityPULSE WKAR

**Best BBQ**  
**Best BBQ Sauce**  
**Best Wings**  
**Best Caterer/Catering service**

**meat**  
SOUTHERN B.B.Q. & CARNIVORE CLUISINE

## THE PULSIFIEDS

Mtpl openings avail at Quicksilver IT Solutions LLC, in Okemos, MI & unanticipated client locations throughout the US:

**Sr. Software Engineer:** Dvlp & maintain continuous integration & deployment pipelines using tools like Jenkins & AWS code pipeline. Engage w/ stakeholders to rpt on proj status, perfrmnc metrics, & strat recommendations. Trvl & relocation are possible to unanticipated client locations throughout the US.

Offrd salary: \$113,277.00 / year. Benfts offered.

**To apply:** Pls e-mail resume & pos applied for to: Madhan Kumar, HR Manager at hr@quicksilveritsolutions.com.

**Senior Software Designer/Implementer (Oracle/J2EE)**

Delta Dental. FT Senior Software Designer/Implementer (Oracle/J2EE) (mult. pos. avail.). Lead/contribute to analysis & design specs. & perform programming & testing of syst. components. Req: Bach. or equiv.+ 5 yrs. exp. or in alt.: Master's or equiv.+ 3 yrs. exp. Jobsite: Okemos, MI. Hybrid pos. w/ in-office req. Must live within commutable dist. of Okemos, MI & be able to work in-office as req. Apply online: www.deltadentalmi.com/careers. Sal. \$130,000 to \$138,000/yr. Visa spons. not avail.

**Manager, Application Development & Support**

Delta Dental. FT Manager, Application Development & Support. Delivery of appl. Dev. &/or support initiatives through managing activities of team. Req: Bach. or equiv.+ 5 yrs. exp. Jobsite: Okemos, MI. Hybrid pos. w/ in-office req. Must live within commutable dist. of Okemos, MI & be able to work in-office as req. Apply online: www.deltadentalmi.com/careers. Sal. \$159,619 /yr. Visa spons. not avail.

## SAVE THE DATE ► SATURDAY APRIL 18, 10AM-4PM FREE HEALTH & WELLNESS FAIR



### BETTER HEALTH FRANDOR

**305 N. CLIPPERT AVE.  
LANSING, MI 48912**

- Meet Dr. Tracy Kreider, ND and National Educator for Vital Planet for expert advice on Digestive Health
- FREE Healthy Snack and Drink Samples throughout the store
- FREE Hand Massage with Belle Lavande Lavender Products
- FREE Frequency Therapies, AcuDetox and Ear Seeds with LiveWell Healing Community
- FREE 5-minute Chair Massage With Colton Hughes From Element Massage
- Raffle for a certificate for 50% off a CIMT (carotid intima media thickness scan) from The Center for Optimal Health
  - Free 10 minute Pulse Electro Magnetic Field Sessions with Centropix
  - Free B12 injections with Revive Wellness
- Gift Baskets for Raffle Every Hour and More!!
  - Large Amounts of FREE Samples
  - FREE Face Painting for the kids

**BetterHealth**  
MARKET  
www.BetterHealthMarket.com

Click the QR code right to sign up and find out more!

# Capital City Film Festival

## April 8-18, 2026

**THIRD COAST WAVES**  
ALL OF THE ABOVE HIP HOP ACADEMY  
CCFF + ALL OF THE ABOVE

**FREE EVENT**  
CCFF and AOTA join forces to present an evening celebrating the dynamic history and culture of hip hop, Lansing's own Golden Era, and local efforts to make waves in the industry.  
6 PM | Wednesday, April 15



**NARRATIVE FEATURE**  
**Edie Arnold is a Loser**  
Loser choir girl classmates at "Our Lady of Perpetual Sadness" rebel against The Man—or in this case The Mother Superior—by forming a punk rock band called THE NUNDEAD.  
10 PM | Friday, April 10



**Symphonic Cinema:**  
ft. Timothy Blackmon Jr + the Loud Pack

A FREE screening of *Animal Farm* (1954) with a new original score performed live.  
7 PM | Sunday, April 12

**DOCUMENTARY FEATURE**  
**Rising Through the Fray**  
Uniting from across continents to bring representation to the sport they love, Indigenous Rising laces up their skates to claim their space on the roller derby track.  
8 PM | Saturday, April 11

**DOCUMENTARY FEATURE**  
**Joybubbles**  
In the 1950s, a boy discovers he can control the global telephone system simply by whistling a magic tone. Born blind and hungry for connection, his early obsession with the telephone sparks a subculture that shapes the future of hacking and modern technology in the 20th century.  
6 PM | Friday, April 17



**ccff.co/schedule**  
Get passes and see the full lineup.