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Conservative Communism

Every so often, politics creates a term so bizarre it sounds like it was assembled by smashing magnets together in a microwave. Jumbo shrimp. Military intelligence. Sugar-free candy corn.

And now: Conservative Communism.

Yes, I know. The phrase sounds like something a cable news panel would yell over each other while a giant graphic behind them catches fire. But hear me out.

This is not about your uncle with the “Don’t Tread on Me” sticker who grills hot dogs in cargo shorts and still thinks Ronald Reagan personally balanced the federal budget. This is not even about traditional conservatism—at least not the version conservatives once proudly described as limited government, constitutional restraint, free markets, skepticism toward concentrated power and respect for institutions bigger than any one politician.

That version of conservatism, whether it always lived up to the brochure or not, at least had a brochure.

What has formed around Donald Trump is something else entirely.

Because conservatism, as traditionally understood, has not merely evolved. It has been hijacked, spray-painted gold, and repurposed into a loyalty machine where principle is optional, institutions are disposable, and the Constitution gets treated like an Apple terms-and-conditions agreement: everyone says they respect it, nobody reads it, and parts are ignored whenever they become annoying.

That brings us to Conservative Communism.

And no, not textbook communism. No one is proposing a five-year tractor plan.

This is more American than that.

Ownership does not need to become state-owned to become politically controlled. It simply moves toward those most useful to the ruling agenda.

The politically loyal gain influence.

The wealthy donors gain access.

Media allies gain reach.

Private equity firms, circling essential industries like sharks at a floating buffet, gain leverage.

And everyone else is told this is simply the free market doing what free markets do—which would sound more convincing if we weren’t already watching institutions built over generations being dismantled in real time.

We’ve seen career public health experts—people who have spent decades studying dangerous viruses, outbreak response, epidemiology, and pandemic preparedness—sidelined, ignored, or openly attacked because expertise itself has become politically inconvenient.

People whose entire professional lives have been devoted to understanding the next global outbreak are treated not as assets, but as obstacles.

Scientists warning about climate change—many of whom have spent careers measuring and documenting environmental shifts—are dismissed, mocked or painted as ideological enemies because the facts they present interfere with short-term political narratives and the financial interests attached to them.

And perhaps one of the ugliest examples of all: when humanitarian aid itself begins looking less like humanitarian aid and more like leverage.

When desperately needed support tied to HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment can be withheld from countries like Zambia unless political or economic interests—like access to mineral resources—align favorably, that is no longer leadership rooted in partnership. That starts looking like vulnerable people becoming bargaining chips in a global negotiation.

And that is exactly what Conservative Communism does.

It turns institutions into tools.

Expertise into inconvenience.

Aid into leverage.

Markets into loyalty networks.

Public trust into a transaction.

Private equity is a perfect example, because private equity has already spent years buying hospitals, nursing homes, housing, veterinary clinics, utilities and countless businesses that people depend on every day.

Then the pattern repeats.

Cut staffing.

Reduce services.

Raise prices.

Package profits.

Move on.

Which is already bleak enough.

Nobody wants to discover their emergency room is being run with the same long-term planning as someone flipping a condo after watching three episodes of HGTV.

But pair that with political favoritism, and it gets worse.

Businesses aligned with power get protection.

Industries useful to power get access.

Billionaires financing the machine become “visionaries.”

Critics become enemies.

Oversight becomes selective.

Regulation becomes optional.

Competition narrows, and the market stops behaving like a market. It becomes capitalism with a guest list, a free market where the winners somehow keep being the same people funding the event.

That is why “Conservative Communism” fits, because it keeps the aesthetics of capitalism.

Private ownership remains.

Corporate logos stay polished.

Executives still ring opening bells and talk about innovation.

Everyone continues saying “freedom,” “choice,” and “American values.”

But underneath the branding, power consolidates.

Economic opportunity narrows.

Monopolies expand.

Necessities become harder to afford.

Healthcare and housing cost more.

Consumers get fewer choices.

Workers lose leverage.

Communities lose control.

And all of it gets wrapped in patriotic language and sold back to the public like a subscription service nobody remembers signing up for.

That is the trick.

The movement condemns “big government” while centralizing power.

It praises “free markets” while rewarding insiders.

It champions “individual liberty” while demanding ideological obedience.

It warns about authoritarianism while orbiting one leader whose every contradiction must be defended with the confidence of someone insisting a raccoon in the kitchen is actually part of the renovation.

And dissent? Not welcome.

Question policy and you’re out.

Challenge the leader, and suddenly decades of conservative credentials mean absolutely nothing.

Because the ideology is no longer anchored in principle.

It is anchored in loyalty.

And loyalty, once elevated above principle, consumes everything around it.

Courts.

Media.

Science.

Markets.

Government agencies.

Party leadership.

Until eventually everyone in orbit begins behaving less like independent thinkers and more like contestants on a game show called Who Can Agree the Fastest?

The irony is almost breathtaking.

A movement claiming to protect freedom can become incredibly efficient at narrowing it.

Not with tanks.

Not overnight.

Not with one dramatic decree.

But through concentration.

Through patronage.

Through monopolies.

Through dismantling expertise.

Through hollowing out institutions.

Through teaching ordinary people that paying more for less while fewer and fewer people control more and more of daily life is somehow patriotism.

And maybe that is why the phrase feels so uncomfortable.

Because it names a contradiction Americans are not used to saying out loud.

That you can preserve private ownership and still centralize power.

That you can wave flags while weakening institutions.

That you can invoke freedom while narrowing who meaningfully benefits from it.

That you can hijack conservatism while still using the name.

At some point, the branding stops mattering.

Reality matters.

And when political loyalty becomes the gatekeeper to influence, when concentrated capital merges with concentrated power, when experts are sidelined, institutions are hollowed out, and the public is told to celebrate paying more for less while fewer people hold more leverage—then “Conservative Communism” stops sounding like an oxymoron and starts sounding like a disturbingly familiar business plan.

Which, to be fair, still doesn’t guarantee success.

And Americans may want to remember that before buying in.

Because even a “great” business plan can still end in bankruptcy.

And if there is one thing Donald Trump’s business history has demonstrated repeatedly, it is that branding something as strong, brilliant, and wildly successful does not magically prevent it from collapsing six separate times.

Before loyalty became currency in the modern GOP, many of Donald Trump’s loudest defenders were among his clearest critics.

Ted Cruz called Trump a “pathological liar,” a “narcissist,” and refused to endorse him at the 2016 Republican convention, telling Americans to “vote your conscience.” He was booed by his own party for it. Lindsey Graham was even more direct: Trump was a “race-baiting, xenophobic religious bigot.” He also warned: “If we nominate Trump, we will get destroyed... and we will deserve it.” Then he became one of Trump’s most dependable defenders.

Marco Rubio called Trump a “con artist” and said he was “wholly unprepared to be president.” He warned Americans not to hand “the nuclear codes... to an erratic individual.” I’m not sure how his wife sleeps next to him at night or looks him in the eye. I remember a time when he had some respect as a legislator.

Pete Hegseth was publicly skeptical in 2016, saying Trump hadn’t demonstrated consistent conservative principles and questioning whether he was truly committed to the movement he wanted to lead. That skepticism didn’t survive Trump’s rise.

And then there’s JD Vance — maybe the starkest reversal of all. Vance compared Trump to “America’s Hitler,” called him “reprehensible,” and wrote that Trump’s promises were “the needle in America’s collective vein” — a dangerous and addictive political escape. Today, he stands as one of Trump’s fiercest champions.

That’s what makes the transformation so striking: many of the people closest to Trump once described him in terms his critics still use today. The difference wasn’t what they saw. The difference was what they decided to do after they saw it.

When will the bottom give way? In some cynical way, Trump can be thanked for rapidly exposing the rot in U.S. politics. It’s just unfortunate that too many were foaming at the mouth to throw their support behind such an un honorably disingenuous con artist.

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MSU loses president to Clemson



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Local music update: New venue, album and act



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Babe's Corner releases summer seafood rolls

Cover photo by Mike Ellis

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THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW

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PULSE

NEWS & OPINION

Meet the local women leading efforts to provide the ‘dignity of work’

By DANIELLE BROWN and JASMINE SNOW

No matter how successful Shara Trierweiler became in her years-long finance career, it never seemed to make being a mom to her two children, Philomena and Dominic, any easier.

Balancing a demanding career with motherhood is notoriously difficult, but Trierweiler's challenges were unique. Her son Dominic is autistic and requires special care — a guardianship most people in corporate America struggle to comprehend.

The rigidity and demands of jobs clashed with parenting, particularly with her son's need for care: late nights, stressful travel and short rest.

Trierweiler is just one of many Black women who are choosing to transform their dreams in ways that allow them to also act as caretakers for those with special needs. The transition allows their loved ones to live full lives.

For Trierweiler, the unhappiness weighed on her. That was until a chance meeting that changed her life.

Seeking a break from her routine, Trierweiler took her kids to enjoy a state fair. While admiring the livestock, she struck up a conversation with a woman she initially mistook for a volunteer. Trierweiler was surprised to learn she was actually the owner.

“She introduced me to the organic movement, and that was it. I was like, ‘You know what? I like mushrooms, and I like to eat pork,’” Trierweiler said.

So, she traded finance for agriculture, opening Agape Farms in Dansville in 2020 to raise pigs and grow mushrooms. While farming brought new kinds of stress and chaos, it also gave the flexibility she needed for her children.

“Dominic loves the farm. He lives for it,” Trierweiler said. “Having a son with autism and seeing him have the dignity of work is just fantastic.”

People with disabilities face a highly complex pathway to employment. These hurdles extend far beyond societal barriers such as an unconscious bias that affect many during the hiring process. Some disabilities make full-time work impossible, cutting employees off from crucial employer-sponsored benefits and health insurance.

While federal programs like Social Security Disability Insurance and Sup-



Photo by Danielle Brown

Cody Titus (left), an Able Allies participant, is learning service skills at Poppa's Cookbook, a Lansing restaurant and catering business.



Photo by Sofia Pate

Shara Trierweiler smiles at her Dansville farm, a hard-working lifestyle that gives her great flexibility with her children.

plemental Security Income offer financial and medical lifelines, access is dictated by disability severity, work history, strict financial caps and the ability to navigate an increasingly opaque system. To receive financial support from SSI, most participants must have income at or below the poverty line. Yet, this government support alone rarely covers the actual cost of living.

This creates a devastating catch-22 for those who want to work: A regular-paying job builds assets that can jeopardize SSDI and SSI status, even if that income can't cover private health

insurance.

“It keeps people stuck in poverty,” Ajauné Thomas, director of leadership programs at the Michigan Disability Rights Coalition, said. Losing that safety net could drastically change a person's quality of life, and forced to choose between a paycheck and survival, many avoid earning income altogether. Navigating the application processes to reinstate government aid can be punishing, and application wait times are aggravated by historic backlogs.

Work goes beyond a paycheck. It provides a social connection, fosters inde-

pendence and develops life skills.

That's exactly what Dominic finds back at the farm, where he enjoys most of all bagging, moving and harvesting mushrooms.

Working with her son brings Trierweiler joy. “It gives me the best opportunity to be a mother and to be able to be functional in my children's lives,” she said.

Michigan offers additional dedicated resources designed to supplement federal aid benefits. Wendi King, a former special education teacher, pointed to Michigan's support for young adults beyond the age of 18 through the Free Appropriate Public Education program. Michigan's Department of Education allows students with disabilities to attend public school until they are 26. This helps provide those with learning and developmental disabilities more time for the instruction, structure and community provided by public school systems.

“In my experience, Michigan is probably one of the better places to live if you have a different kind of ability level,” King said.

In the classroom, King saw firsthand how these programs could benefit some students. Yet she agonized over the reality waiting for them on the other side of graduation. She said she saw capable, eager young adults sidelined by a job market unwilling to accommodate them. When public schooling ends at age 26, it can mean losing opportunity and community.

King often agonized about her students' futures. “If I retire or they graduate, what's going to happen to them?” she said.

After more than 30 years of teaching, King did retire and co-founded Able Allies, a nonprofit vocational training program for individuals with diverse abilities, including many of her former students.

Cody Titus, an Able Allies participant, is learning service skills at Poppa's Cookbook, a local restaurant and catering business. Titus is often tasked with greeting customers and delivering orders. Some days he also helps in the kitchen. He's become a bit of a local legend, particularly on Sundays.

See Dignity of work, Page 6

'Midwest is best': World-class roller derby came to Lansing and delivered

By JAMES BRAINS

Sometime around 1 p.m. on Sunday (May 31), with about 100 fans gathered inside the Lansing Center, a chant broke out from the Ohio Roller Derby cheering section.

"I say 'Rat!' You say 'Chet!'"

"RAT -"

With cheeky grins, the crowd replied "CHET," sounding suspiciously like the sh-word.

The chant was for Ohio jammer Ratchet. It was also, somehow, a perfect introduction to what the 2026 Women's Flat Track Derby Association North American Playoffs brought to downtown Lansing over Memorial Day weekend: a hard-to-explain, genuinely compelling sport with a devoted community, an irreverent sense of humor and stakes most people don't realize exist.

The stakes were a berth in the WFTDA Championships this October in Malmö, Sweden.

Twelve of the top roller derby leagues in North America, including two from Michigan, competed in the Friday-through-Sunday event, hosted by Lansing Roller Derby. The winner of each game earned points toward their global ranking, and top finishers secured their spot in Malmö. For a sport that has spent two decades building itself from the ground up, it was a big deal.

Walking in on Friday afternoon, that wasn't immediately obvious. The track was tucked into the back of the Lansing Center with minimal signage guiding the way, giving the whole thing the feel of stumbling onto something you weren't supposed to see. Think "Fight Club," but with roller skates and a full rulebook.

By Sunday evening, it felt like something else entirely.

Detroit Roller Derby came in as the



Members of Arch Rival Roller Derby, based in St. Louis, faced off against Gotham All Stars of New York Sunday afternoon at the WFTDA North American Playoffs in Lansing. The two teams are headed to the WFTDA championships in Sweden in October.

sixth seed and played like a team with something to prove. Jammer Melissa "Donnie" McDonald was a standout, racking up multiple 20-point jams to secure Saturday's win over St. Louis' Arch Nemesis, 232 to 155. Detroit's fans leaned into the city's Coney dog reputation with full commitment, a few of them even showing up in hot dog costumes.

The best bout of the weekend, though, was Ann Arbor Roller Derby versus Ohio on Sunday. It was a defensive clinic where the pack of skaters seemed to move clockwise as often as it went counterclockwise, the usual derby direction. Most of the game was played in grinding walls of blockers, jammers fighting for every inch. Ann Arbor led 111 to 87 with nine minutes left. Then Ohio rattled off 34 unanswered points, capped by a Ratchet jam, defying gravity as she

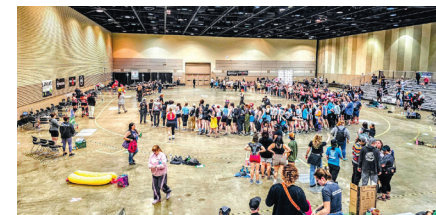
wickedly tiptoed along the boundary line to sneak past Ann Arbor blockers. Ann Arbor scored eight in the final jam, but it wasn't enough. Final: Ohio 121, Ann Arbor 119. The Michigan squad finished 0-2 for the weekend.

The 17th and final game of the weekend, the regional championship, was not a nail biter. The Arch Rival All Stars of St. Louis dismantled the Gotham All Stars of New York, 250 to 54. Arch Rival jumped out to a 76 to 14 lead before Gotham ever controlled a jam. Arch Rival jammers Swanson and Hart were dominant throughout, and "Midwest is best" became the arena's unofficial motto. About 300 fans were on hand, and many more watched via the WFTDA's pay-per-view stream, which averaged around 900 viewers per day across the weekend, according to Karen Kauffman, WFTDA senior director of global programs.

Photos by James Brains



Boston Roller Derby and Detroit Roller Derby competed at the WFTDA North American roller derby playoffs in Lansing over the weekend.



Arch Rival dominated at last weekend's event.

"From all accounts, the tournament was, and not surprisingly, very well run by Lansing Roller Derby," Kauffman said. "We look forward to seeing Arch Rival and Gotham again in Malmö."

One thing worth knowing before you chase down a local bout: What played at the Lansing Center last weekend was elite, optimized derby. The games were heavy on defensive walls and lighter on the speed and chaos that make the sport insanely fun to watch.

Lansing Roller Derby's home bouts are a better entry point. The action is faster. The game is more accessible to newcomers.

And, there's a much lower chance you'll accidentally yell "SHIT!" in front of strangers.

Dignity of work

from page 5

But he doesn't go home with a traditional paycheck because of an arrangement that King said allows his family to retain the state-sponsored benefits that help keep him healthy and safe.

"So, Cody gets paid in Diet Coke and free food," King said.

Without opportunities like those on the farm and through Able Allies, opportunities for adults like Dominic and Cody are scarce. Still, creating these experiences can have a personal toll that most would not understand. The cost — financial and physical — is mounting for King and Trierweiler. King has put off rest, and



Photo by Sofia Pate

Shara Trierweiler shows off her racks of mushrooms, one of the foundations of her Agape Organic Farms business.

her partner has pushed through health challenges. Trierweiler says she dreams of the "opportunity to exhale" on the farm.

But Trierweiler has another quiet motivation that keeps her going: her daughter, Philomena, who left for college in 2022 at the University of Michigan.

"I want her to see that this thing I have fought for, this thing that we've had to sacrifice so much for, has actually worked," Trierweiler said.

King knows the grind will bring her and her husband to a halt if they don't slow down, but she says that providing opportunities for young adults through Able Allies will always be the priority.

"They are going to get to be as able as they can for as long as I have breath," she said. "And hopefully after I'm gone."

\$1 million raise isn't enough to keep MSU's president

Kevin Guskiewicz takes a lower-paying job at Clemson University after board scuffles

By **MIKE ELLIS**

MSU President Kevin Guskiewicz is leaving to take up the presidency at Clemson University.

Guskiewicz has cited frustrations with Michigan State University's board and, on May 27, announced he was getting a new job.

Ten days before he announced the split, board members approved what was, in hindsight, a Hail Mary \$1 million raise, along with other incentives, in a hastily called meeting.

It wasn't enough.

"Today, President Kevin M. Guskiewicz shared that he will be leaving MSU to become the next president of Clemson University," the university stated in a May 27 Facebook post.

In a letter to the MSU community sent out May 27, Guskiewicz cited concerns with board members.

"It has become increasingly clear that there are differing perspectives within the Board of Trustees regarding how best to move MSU forward. At times, too much energy has been spent revisiting past conflicts and internal disagreements rather than focusing collectively on the opportunities and aspirations ahead of us," he wrote. "What is perhaps most troubling is the actions of some to abuse their access to privileged and confidential information to misrepresent facts, manipulate situations and selectively use and leak that information to promote personal agendas."

Guskiewicz said he is "appreciative of the five trustees who recently voted to strengthen their code of ethics and conduct."

Five of the eight board members voted to adopt several provisions apparently aimed at reducing infighting in the same hastily arranged May board meeting.

Those changes included language stating board members "shall not divulge to an unauthorized person, confidential information acquired in the course of trustee service in advance of the time prescribed for its authorized release to the public."

Clemson University's longtime president Jim Clements left at the end of 2025.

Clemson's board approved the hiring of Guskiewicz on May 27, with a starting timeline to be determined. His Clemson salary is reported to be around \$1.2 million, significantly less than the

roughly \$2 million package he was offered by MSU.

Guskiewicz is familiar with the Carolinas, having served as the 12th chancellor of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He is a neuroscientist, academic leader and concussion researcher in addition to his administrative work.

Guskiewicz has been at MSU for a little more than two years; he began in March 2024.

MSU President Lou Anna K. Simon resigned in January 2018 amid the

fallout of the Larry Nassar scandal. An acting president, Bill Beekman, served for about a week until former Michigan Gov. John Engler took over as interim president for just under a year.

Acting President Satish Udpa served for about six months until permanent President Samuel Stanley held the job for a contemporary record of a little more than three years, from August 2019 until November 2022. Interim President Teresa Woodruff ran the university until March 2024, when Guskiewicz was hired.

MSU has not named an interim. Guskiewicz has said he plans to stay on for several weeks.



Courtesy MSU

Kevin Guskiewicz



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REWIND

NEWS HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE LAST 7 DAYS

COMPILED BY STEVE UNDERWOOD FROM LOCAL NEWS SOURCES



The Michigan State Police have finished their investigation into the April 15 fatal police shooting of Isaiah Kirby

by East Lansing officers. The investigation has been submitted to the Michigan Department of Attorney General's Office for an independent review. The Ingham County Prosecutor's Office has a policy of referring officer-involved deaths to the state and, in this case, also identified a conflict due to personal and professional relationships with Douglas Mielock, who was allegedly stabbed by Kirby shortly before the police shooting. When police shot him, Kirby was holding a knife and running in the direction of several officers, who fired three distinct series of gunshots at him. Kirby was days away from graduating from MSU. The Attorney General's Office will make determinations about the next steps in the investigation, according to a statement from the Ingham County Prosecutor's Office.

The owners of The Coral Gables restaurant announced Tuesday that they will be closing the storied East Lansing eatery and venue at the end of June.



A Facebook post by owners Stuart Vanis, Anastasia and Grigoris Kimbouris, and George Tesseris, broke the news, calling it a difficult decision, citing two generations of ownership over the past century, including their own 58 years. The Gables has been "the setting for countless meaningful moments," they said. "This place holds a special significance not only for our patrons but for our family and staff as well. Closing our doors is bittersweet, as we reflect with nostalgia on the memories while recognizing that the time has come." The restaurant's website notes that Coral Gables was originally built in the 1920s as a roadhouse and in the '30s and '40s Tommy Dorsey and his orchestra, and Duke Ellington played there, among many others. The building burned down in 1957, then was rebuilt, becoming a hangout for MSU students. In recent years, it has become a perennial winner in the Best Restaurant for

Seniors category in the City Pulse Top of the Town Contest.



The Lansing Housing Commission has wrapped up construction on two downtown apartment buildings, Riverview 220 and Grand Vista Place. The apartment buildings will house more than 100 units and have cost around \$41 million. Doug Fleming, executive director of LHC, said the new housing is part of a \$200 million effort from the commission to boost local housing options. "We are so pleased to see these projects finally come to fruition. It's humbling to have played a part in literally changing the city skyline and extremely gratifying to think of the positive impact these apartments will have on the lives of new residents." Riverview 220 has seven market-rate apartments and 56 reserved for low-income residents, along with commercial space. Grand Vista Place, just south of Lenawee Street, has another 55 units that are considered affordable rate.



City of Lansing employees are now expected to be in the office more frequently. Lansing sent a memo on Monday telling employees that they should now work in the office, unless a manager gives an exception for an occasional day or a half day. The new policy could be seen as a way to nudge state government into doing something similar, which would have an outsized effect compared to the city's effort. The city employs around 920 people, and the change would only affect around 43 of those employees, the ones that have pre-existing authorization to work remotely, according to Scott Bean, a spokesperson for the mayor's office.

Ingham County Parks named their new mascots in a social media competition that ended this week. The



mascots are a pair of stuffed animals, a skunk and an eagle, that will spend the summer touring the county park system. Plucked from a series of four names each, the winning names were Wildflower for the skunk and Sky for the eagle. Follow Ingham County Parks on their Facebook page @inghamcountyparks or Instagram account this summer to keep up with the pair.

Lansing's Ovation had its first major opening ceremony, but it will be another year or so before the main stage is ready for the big lights.



In the meantime, the Lansing Public Media Center and the offices for Ovation are open for business, which means anyone can sign up to use the rooms and equipment to produce their own videos, podcasts, music and more. The 12,000-square-foot building at 500 S. Washington is the initial phase of the Ovation plan and it gives a permanent home to the Public Media crew, who have shifted locations in recent years. They help people to produce their own material as well as content for the city and city's public airways. The first phase was completed for about \$3 million and renovated an existing building for the high-tech backbone that will support what is anticipated to be one of the area's biggest attractions. The big show will be right next door, in what is now an empty lot. Large underground supports for the venue are expected to go in within days, setting the foundation for the 49,000-square-foot Ovation. That will be the centerpiece, expected to be a home-for-the-night for big-name touring bands in the main space (2,100 standing, 1,450 sitting) as well as hosting acts and performances in a smaller room for 250. The first full-fledged Ovation shows could be as early as August 2027 but the first-ever Ova-

tion performance was done on May 29 by LVRS, a Lansing indie band, to accompany the initial ribbon cutting.



East Lansing City Manager Robert Belleman was placed on administrative leave at noon on May 27.

A unanimous City Council voted to place Belleman on paid leave until the city can identify questions and hire the Thrun Law Firm for an outside investigation. The city has designated interim Fire Chief John Newman as acting city manager, according to Carrie Sampson, a spokesperson for the city. Belleman was named during a city council meeting in May by a current employee, who alleged harassment and abusive behavior in the workplace. Prior to placing Belleman on leave, the city council had voted to release an internal legal memo from the fall, when the employee made the allegations internally. That initial law firm investigation found no evidence to support the employee's most serious allegations but did recommend training for Belleman and identified some workplace culture concerns. Employees who spoke to investigators said they did not witness any sort of sexual harassment, but many pointed to a strict boss. "Multiple interviewees reported that Belleman 'has favorites,' 'dresses people down,' and is stern or scolding—particularly toward women," according to the report. "Although not substantiated as gender-based, this pattern could present future risk if it continues." Belleman was hired in August 2023 following significant turnover in the city.



A 34-year-old man was killed in a multi-vehicle crash in Clinton

County Monday evening, deputies say. The Clinton County Sheriff's Office responded to the crash on N. Hollister Road in Duplain Township shortly after 8:30 p.m. When deputies arrived at the scene, they said the 34-year-old man from Elsie crossed over into the path of a car traveling northbound. Two other drivers were injured along with several passengers, according to deputies.

Prayer Walk for Peace in Lansing



Supporters took an interfaith Prayer Walk for Peace, Justice, and Dignity for Immigrants on Sunday, May 31, traveling from the First Presbyterian Church to the Michigan Capitol lawn.



Greater Lansing residents gathered on the Capitol grounds in support of justice for immigrants at Sunday's event, hosted by the Michigan NETWORK Advocates Team.



FENNER NATURE PRESCHOOL AT MAPLE GROVE
Registration Open! | MyNatureCenter.org/preschool

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CITY PULSE MEETS ALL STATE REQUIREMENTS

For more information, call or email Steve Underwood at (517) 999-6704 or steve@lansingcitypulse.com



CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN, INGHAM COUNTY LEGAL AD NOTICE: ORDINANCE 2025-07 PARKING LOT LANDSCAPING

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN, INGHAM COUNTY LEGAL AD NOTICE: Ordinance #2025-07 (Parking Lot Landscaping)

The Township Board at its regular meeting on September 16, 2025 approved for final adoption Ordinance 2025-07 to amend the Zoning Ordinance at Section 86-752, Landscaping, to update the regulations for parking lot landscaping in the Township.

A complete copy of the amendment may be examined at the Department of Community Planning and Development, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, Michigan 48864-1198, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Angela Demas, Township Clerk
June 3, 2026

CP#26-213

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CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN, INGHAM COUNTY LEGAL AD NOTICE: ORDINANCE 2026-03 DATA CENTER MORATORIUM

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN LEGAL NOTICE Zoning Amendment #2026-03 (Data Center Moratorium)

The Township Board at its regular meeting on May 19, 2026 approved for final adoption Ordinance 2026-03 to establish a six month moratorium on data center applications in the Township while regulations are developed.

A complete copy of the amendment may be examined at the Department of Community Planning and Development, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, Michigan 48864-1198, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Angela Demas, Township Clerk
June 3, 2026

CP#26-214

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CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN, INGHAM COUNTY LEGAL AD NOTICE: ORDINANCE 2026-04 BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEMS MORATORIUM

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN LEGAL NOTICE Zoning Amendment #2026-04 (Battery Energy Storage Systems Moratorium)

The Township Board at its regular meeting on May 19, 2026 approved for final adoption Ordinance 2026-04 to establish a six month moratorium on battery energy storage systems applications in the Township while regulations are developed.

A complete copy of the amendment may be examined at the Department of Community Planning and Development, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, Michigan 48864-1198, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Angela Demas, Township Clerk
June 3, 2026

CP#26-215

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**CITY OF EAST LANSING SUMMARY
OF ADOPTED ORDINANCE # 1568**

On May 26, 2026, the East Lansing City Council adopted an Ordinance of the City of East Lansing, Michigan, to rezone 1049 Cresenwood Road to C Community Facilities for use as a public park, and to amend the Zoning Use District Map of Chapter 50 – Zoning – of the code of the City of East Lansing for such purposes.

Effective date: Pursuant to Charter Section 6.3, Upon publication
Notice: The full text of this Ordinance is available for review at the City Clerk's Office, 1st Floor, City Hall, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, Michigan.

**Emily Gordon,
East Lansing City Clerk**

CP#26-211

**CITY OF GRAND LEDGE
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING – MASTER PLAN**

The Grand Ledge Planning Commission will hold a public hearing during a special meeting at 6:30 p.m., on Thursday, 18 June 2026, to consider and receive public input on the City of Grand Ledge Master Plan 2026. The proposed Master Plan is available for review on the City's website at www.cityofgrandledge.com and at the City Clerk's office, 310 Greenwood St., Grand Ledge, Michigan, between 8:00 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

The meeting will be held in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 310 Greenwood St., Grand Ledge MI 48837, in compliance with the Open Meetings Act, as amended, and will also be livestreamed via Zoom for informational purposes only. The online stream can be accessed at <https://www.zoom.us> with the Meeting ID: 824 2194 6258, or by calling +1 301 715 8592 (Washington DC), +1 305 224 1968, +1 309 205 3325, +1 312 626 6799 (Chicago), +1 646 876 9923 (New York), +1 646 931 3860, +1 507 473 4847, +1 564 217 2000, +1 669 444 9171, +1 669 900 6833 (San Jose), +1 689 278 1000, +1 719 359 4580, +1 253 205 0468, +1 253 215 8782 (Tacoma), +1 346 248 7799 (Houston), +1 360 209 5623, +1 386 347 5053, +1 408 638 0968 (San Jose) with Meeting ID: 824 2194 6258.

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

Gregory Newman, City Clerk

CP#26-209

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
EAST LANSING BUILDING BOARD OF APPEALS**

Notice is hereby given of the following public hearing to be held by the East Lansing Building Board of Appeals on Thursday, June 25, 2026, at 7:00 p.m., Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing, Michigan 48823:

A public hearing will be held to consider the appeal of **Peak Management, LLC, owner of 500 W. Lake Lansing Rd**, requesting a variance to reconsider the decision of the Building Board of Appeals' that previously decided the use of recirculating fans in apartment bathrooms is not grandfathered from compliance with the International Property Maintenance Code of 2006 ("IPMC") under the City's ordinances.

**403.2 BATHROOM/TOILET ROOMS VENTILATION
ACTION: IF THE BATHROOM HAS NO FUNCTIONAL WINDOW, THEN IT MUST
HAVE A VENTING FAN. THIS FAN MUST BE VENTED TO THE EXTERIOR.**

For more information on the request please contact Tim Schultz at (517) 319-6821 or tschultz@cityofeastlansing.com. Materials related to the request are available for viewing at the Department of Planning, Building, and Development, East Lansing City Hall, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, MI, 48823 between the hours of 8:00 am and 5:00 pm. Written comments may be sent prior to the public hearing to the Building Board of Appeals, City of East Lansing, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, Michigan, 48823, or by email to bba@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 Manager's Office, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, MI, 48823, (517) 319-6920 (TDD Number: 1-800-649-3777) or via email at egordon@cityofeastlansing.com

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

Dated: May 28, 2026
East Lansing, MI 48823

Emily Gordon
City Clerk

CP#26-210

You can't handle a little critique? You're not the leader MSU needs

Michigan State University's elected Board of Trustees has run another president out of East Lansing?

That's an easy storyline. Kevin Guskiewicz is making it sound like that's the case. We know MSU's board has a storied tradition of dysfunction.

But before we verbally flog three elected trustees for having the audacity to publicly challenge some of Guskiewicz's decisions, let's be clear about what the commotion is all about.

Again, we're taking the North Carolinian at his word that he can't take some light heat from a minority of the board so he's getting out of the kitchen. It feels like he and his family love the South and can't wait to get back to the Carolinas, but let's take him at his word.

Trustee Rema Vassar thinks Guskiewicz kowtowed to President Donald Trump by scaling back the school's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion program. Point taken.

Trustees Dennis Denno and Mike Balow are suspicious about this for-profit Spartan Media Ventures scheme to handle the broadcasting rights for MSU football, basketball and other sports down the line.

Why do they need to sign non-disclosure agreements? Why can't the funders of the thing be made public? The Williams family went public after all! What if some unseemly characters sneak in the door?

Both Denno and Balow have reasons to be suspicious. In Denno's eyes, the MSU administration tried to get Gov. Whitmer to run him off the board over some trumped-up allegations. Balow feels the school lied to him when they got rid of the swimming and diving program.

Now, post-Nassar, they're expected to join the inner circle on some hush-hush private venture that profits off student athletes?

Now, I'm not taking a position on DEI and I can't say I completely understand this Spartan Media Ventures deal (who does, honestly?).

By nearly all reports, Guskiewicz has been a good president.

Forward thinking. Great public presence. Publicly accessible. Had the majority of the Board of Trustees in his hip pocket. Good leadership.

We all thought he was the guy to lead the school out of the tumultuous Larry Nassar years and into something better,

but he was missing one thing. Thick skin.

It's easy to say this as a political scribe, but the only thing Guskiewicz needs to do in his role is count to five.

Five trustees. That's the majority. That's all he needs. Once he doesn't have five, he needs to change direction, but until then, he can stay on his current path.

Being the president of a university with publicly elected trustees will be political. Shoot, reporting to any engaged board is politics, regardless of how they're selected.

The Clemson trustees gleefully clapped last week when they successfully lured Guskiewicz away, as if they had just knocked MSU out of the NCAA tournament or something. But in two years, there will be some dissension in the ranks. There just will be if he's doing his job right, and they're doing their jobs right.

And maybe those trustees don't talk publicly on a podcast that nobody listens to, maybe they don't spout off in a newspaper editorial. They'll needle the guy behind the scenes. But to think every decision Guskiewicz is going to make at Clemson is going to be 13-0 is naive.

To think some Clemson trustee isn't going to try to make life hard for him when six of its members are political appointees seems unrealistic.

It's good to know now that Guskiewicz isn't tough enough to serve as president of an institution where elected leaders speak their minds (God forbid) like Michigan State University. It's good to know now that he wilts under the slightest pressure.

Hopefully, Athletic Director J Batt isn't this fragile.

In the meantime, the trustees need to expand their next presidential search to someone with some political experience. I'm not suggesting outgoing Gretchen Whitmer or Gary Peters, but it's probably worth considering.

At the very least, both have thrived amid much, much more challenging personalities.

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



KYLE MELINN

POLITICS



June Pride events in Michigan and nearby

By **NICOLE NOECHEL**
and **MIKE ELLIS**

Suits and the City Pride celebration

6-8 p.m. Wednesday, June 3
Sir Pizza Old Town
201 E. César E. Chávez Ave., Lansing
suitsandthecity.org/events

Milwaukee PrideFest

4 p.m.-midnight Thursday, June 4
3 p.m.-midnight Friday, June 5
Noon-midnight Saturday, June 6
Henry Maier Festival Park
200 N. Harbor Drive, Milwaukee
pridefest.com

Pride Night in the Park

3-8 p.m. Thursday, June 4
Dodge Park
40620 Utica Road, Sterling Heights
sterlingheights.gov/1236/Dodge-Park-Thursdays

Kalamazoo Pride

6 p.m.-midnight Friday, June 5
2 p.m.-midnight Saturday, June 6
Arcadia Creek Festival Place
145 E. Water St., Kalamazoo
outfrontkzoo.org/pride2025

Saugatuck-Douglas Pride parade

10:30 a.m., Saturday, June 6
Saugatuck High School (401 Eliza
beth St., Saugatuck) through
downtown Douglas
communitypridemi.org

Saugatuck-Douglas Pride in the Park

11:30 a.m.-6 p.m., Saturday, June 6
Beery Field
8 Center St., Douglas
communitypridemi.org

Ironwood Pride in the Park

12-5 p.m. Saturday, June 6
Downtown City Square
127 W. Aurora St., Ironwood
ironwoodareapride.com

Ironwood Karaoke Afterparty

6-9 p.m. Saturday, June 6

Cold Iron Brewing
104 S. Lowell St., Ironwood
ironwoodareapride.com

Keweenaw Pridefest

1-5 p.m. Saturday, June 6
Calumet Colosseum
110 Red Jacket Road, Calumet
keweenawpridefest.org

Lowell Pride

10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday, June 6
Downtown Lowell
lowellpride.org

Milan Pride parade

11:15 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Saturday, June 6
Downtown Milan
facebook.com/groups/1218243265464237

Motor City Pride

1-9 p.m. Saturday, June 6
Noon-7 p.m. Sunday, June 7
Hart Plaza
1 W. Jefferson Ave., Detroit
motorcitypride.org

Muskegon Pride

10 a.m.-7 p.m. Saturday, June 6
Hackley Park
350 W. Webster Ave., Muskegon
muskpride.org

Madison Heights Arts & Pride Festival

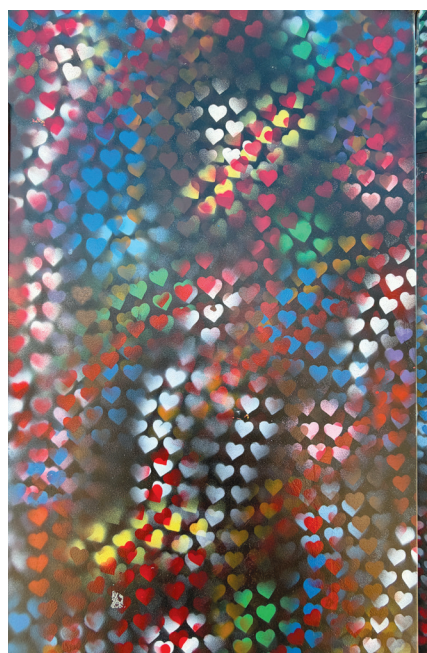
1-5 p.m. Saturday, June 7
Civic Center Park
300 W. 13 Mile Road, Madison
Heights
facebook.com/MHArtsBoard

Pride in the CLE

11 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday, June 7
Malls B and C, downtown Cleveland,
Ohio
lgbtcleveland.org/pride

Lansing Lugnuts Pride Night

7:05 p.m. Tuesday, June 9
Jackson Field
505 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing
milb.com/lansing



Indy Pride

June 12-14
Multiple locations
indypride.org

Pride Month Boozy Book Fair

5-9 p.m. Friday, June 12
Hooked
3142 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing
hookedlansing.com

East Lansing Pride

4-9 p.m. Saturday, June 13
Downtown East Lansing
cityofeastlansing.com/2548/East-Lansing-Pride

Grand Haven Pride

Noon-TBD Saturday, June 13
Lynne Sherwood Waterfront Stadium
1 N. Harbor Drive, Grand Haven
ghpride.org

Howell Pride parade and festival

Noon-4 p.m. Saturday, June 13
Livingston County Courthouse
200 E. Grand River Ave., Howell
facebook.com/pridealliancelivingston

Michiana PrideFest

12 p.m.-6 p.m. Saturday, June 13
Tyler Fields
1329 Lake St, Niles
www.outcenter.org/michiana-pridefest

Michigan City Pride Fest

1-8 p.m. Saturday, June 13
Guy Foreman Amphitheatre
115 Lake Shore Drive, Michigan City,
Indiana
michiganacitypride.com

Southgate Pride

2-3 p.m. Saturday, June 13
Southgate Veterans Memorial Library
14680 Dix-Toledo Road, Southgate
southgate.lib.mi.us

Upper Peninsula Pride Fest

Noon-11 p.m. Saturday, June 13
Ellwood A. Mattson Lower Harbor
Park
200 N. Lakeshore Blvd., Marquette
uprainbowpride.org

Warren City Pride

Noon-6 p.m. Saturday, June 13
Warren Civic Center
1 City Square, Warren
warrencitypride.com

Ypsi Pride

Noon-10 p.m. Friday, July 18
Depot Town, Ypsilanti
facebook.com/YpsiPride

Columbus Pride

4-10 p.m. Friday, June 19
11 a.m.-8 p.m. Saturday, June 20
Goodale Park
120 W. Goodale St., Columbus, Ohio
stonewallcolumbus.org/pride/festival

Downriver Pride

Noon-11 p.m. Friday-Saturday,
June 19-20
Downtown Wyandotte
downriverpride.com

June Pride

from page 11

Cass County PrideFest

4-8 p.m. Saturday, June 20
Dowagiac District Library event pavilion
206 Main St., Dowagiac
outcenter.org/pridefest

Chicago Pride Fest

11 a.m.-10 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, June 20-21
Northalsted neighborhood, Chicago
northalsted.com/main-events/chicago-pride-fest

Fenton Pride

2-5 p.m. Saturday, June 20
Rackham Park
150 S Leroy St, Fenton
fentonpride.org

Grand Rapids Pride

Noon-10 p.m. Saturday, June 20
Noon-8 p.m. Sunday, June 21
Calder Plaza
320 Ottawa Ave. NW, Grand Rapids
grpride.org/pride-festival

Grosse Pointe Pride

10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Saturday, June 20
Corner of Kercheval Avenue and Fisher Road, Grosse Pointe
wegp.org

Mount Pleasant Pride Festival

2-5 p.m. Saturday, June 20
Broadway Park
2451 Nish Na Be Anong Road, Mount Pleasant
greatlakesbaypride.org

Livonia Pride

11 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday June 20

Schoolcraft College
18600 Haggerty Road, Livonia
livoniapride.org

St. Johns COMMUNITY: Pride in the Park

Noon-4 p.m. Sunday, June 21
Downtown St. Johns
facebook.com/sjpridefest

Detroit Tigers Pride Night

6:40 p.m. June 23
Comerica Park
2100 Woodward Ave., Detroit
mlb.com/tigers/tickets/specials/events

Canton Pride OUTside

6-8:30 p.m. Thursday, June 25
Heritage Park
1150 S. Canton Center, Canton
facebook.com/cantonfun

Pride Toronto

June 25-28
Church Street, Toronto
pridetoronto.com

Holly Pride Picnic

11 a.m. until over Saturday, June 27
American Legion Post #149
408 S Saginaw St, Holly
www.facebook.com/americanlegion.mi

Great Lakes Bay Pride

11 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday, June 27
Jolt Credit Union Event Park
300 Johnson St., Saginaw
greatlakesbaypride.org

Hastings Pride Festival

1-6 p.m. Saturday, June 27
Thornapple Plaza
301 E. State St., Hastings
facebook.com/groups/1741562419585424



Photos by Mike Ellis

From left: Lansing Mayor Andy Schor, Lansing City Council member Ryan Kost and Lansing Pride organizer Ben Dowd take part in a Pride flag-raising ceremony outside of Lansing City Hall on Monday, June 1. The flag ceremony started several years ago with Kost's support, and officials said it may be the last year for this site, but not for the flag. Lansing's City Hall is moving several blocks away from the state Capitol grounds and may be open by next June.

Holland Pride

1-6 p.m. Saturday, June 27
Kollen Park
240 Kollen Park Drive, Holland
outonthelakeshore.org/holland-pride

Kalamazoo Youth Pride

Noon-6 p.m. Saturday, June 27
Girl Scouts Heart of Michigan
601 W. Maple St., Kalamazoo
outfrontkzoo.org/youthpride

Lansing Pride

1-9 p.m. Saturday, June 27
Old Town, Lansing
lansingpride.org

Monroe County Pride

1-7 p.m. Saturday, June 27
St. Mary's Park
111 W. Elm Ave., Monroe
monroecountypride.org

South Haven Pride

Noon-10 p.m. Saturday, June 27
10 a.m.-2 p.m. Sunday, June 28
Stanley Johnston Park
202 Dyckman Ave., South Haven
facebook.com/southhavenmichiganpride

Twin Cities PrideFest

Noon-8 p.m. Saturday, June 27
Shadowland Pavilion
101 Broad St., St. Joseph
outcenter.org

Pride Big Rapids

Noon-8 p.m. Sunday, June 28
Downtown Big Rapids
pridebigrapids.org

Blue Water Pride

1-7 p.m. Sunday, June 28

McMorran Plaza
701 McMorran Blvd., Port Huron
bluewaterallies.com/team-1

Chicago Pride Parade

11 a.m. Sunday, June 28
Visit pridechicago.org/faq-and-map for route

DeWitt Pride in the Park

Noon-3 p.m. Sunday, June 28
Riverside Park
405 S. Bridge St., DeWitt
midewittpride.org

Berkley Pride

1-5 p.m. Sunday, June 28
Downtown Berkley
downtownberkley.com/berkley-pride

Mason Pride Picnic

Noon-3 p.m. Sunday, June 28
Rayner Park
738 E. Ash St., Mason
facebook.com/theequitytaskforce

Plymouth Pride

11 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday, June 28
Nelson Memorial Park
235 Water St., Plymouth
www.plymouthprideinc.com/pride2026

Pride in the Park Rochester

Noon-4 p.m. Sunday, June 28
Rochester Municipal Park
400 6th St., Rochester
facebook.com/profile.php?id=61575818228068

Buchanan Pride on the Common

1-8 p.m. Sunday June 28
Buchanan Common
122 Days Ave., Buchanan
buchananpride.com/

Your Journey is Our Journey

Edgewood United Church

469 N. Hagadorn Rd., East Lansing www.edgewooducc.org

Sunday service: 10 a.m.

Jumpstart your college journey with College Connect.

Boost your math, reading and writing in just four-weeks. · lcc.edu/cc



The 1971 gay march on the state Capitol was chronicled in gay newspapers such as the Detroit-based Gay Liberator.



Raymond Holt for City Pulse

Colton Hughes flies a rainbow flag at a March 2025 LGBTQ+ rights protest.

Ten touchstones in local LGBTQ+ history

By LEO V. KAPLAN AND TIM RETZLOFF

In 1971, gay activists in East Lansing demanded protections in the city government's hiring process from their City Council. They came, they fought, and they won: East Lansing's early 1992 civil rights ordinance was the first of its kind in the country.

In the Greater Lansing area, that story has repeated again and again. It repeated in 1980, when the Lansing Association for Human Rights alleged patrons of local gay bars were unfairly targeted by undercover police operations. It repeated in 1996, when a Lansing civil rights ordinance was passed by the City Council before being repealed by voters, and then again in 2006, when a similar ordinance was passed that remains today.

Last year, when two trans women were threatened at The Avenue, a new group formed to demand recognition and protection from the City Council. Within a month, the city was formally declared an "LGBTQ+ welcoming city," with the council recommending additional measures.

The following 10 touchstones in local queer and trans history include these efforts and many more, showcasing just some of the ways LGBTQ+ people have made history in Greater Lansing. But while it provides a window into several moments in queer and trans individuals' ever-evolving legacy in Lansing, it is far from comprehensive. This list does not include the 2023 election of Lansing resident Emily Dievendorf, the state's first openly nonbinary representative, or the 2005 election of Lansing City Clerk Chris Swope, the city's first openly gay elected official. It does not include coverage of the AIDS crisis in Lansing. It does not include the histories of Lansing's gay and lesbian bars, such as Club 505, which closed in 2017, nor does it include coverage of Terri Jewell, a poet and Black lesbian activist who died tragically in 1995.

What it does provide, or at least aims to, is a sense of lineage, something to tie together the 150 gay activists who marched on the state Capitol in 1971 and the 200 who turned up to do the same in 2025.

(Leo V. Kaplan wrote this story. Tim Retzloff, who teaches history and LGBTQ+ studies at Michigan State University, selected many of the topics and provided substantial research assistance, including providing some primary source materials.)

First gay march on the state Capitol (1971)

The Stonewall riots in June 1969 kicked off a wave of organizing in local communities, with small, grassroots groups cropping up across the country. Several of those organizations in Michigan came together in January 1971 to march on the Capitol in opposition to a proposed revision to the state's penal code, the first statewide action of its kind.

The revised penal code, spearheaded by then-state Rep. Bob Traxler, would actually have legalized "sodomy" and reduced crossdressing and "loitering to solicit" for deviant sex — that is to say, "cruising" — from misdemeanors to civil infractions.

But on Dec. 4, 1971, about "150 gay people from all over Michigan," according to coverage in the Detroit-based Gay Liberator, marched from Reutter Park to the Capitol to oppose the bill, which they felt was a step forward for gay and lesbian rights but a step back in other ways: According to the January 1972 Liberator, the bill would have illegalized abortion in all cases except to save the mother's life, tightened restrictions on public gatherings and given increased power to the state Parole Board in determining prison sentences. Leaving cross-dressing and cruising illegal, some argued, did not constitute enough of a victory to earn gay rights groups' support.

The groups "recognized that to give tacit or outright support to these changes would mean fighting for gay rights at the expense of the rights of others," according to The Liberator, choosing instead to oppose the bill and demand all the rights it did not include, such as employment protections.

East Lansing civil rights ordinance (1972)

On March 7, 1972, East Lansing made history as the first municipality in the country to pass an ordinance banning the city from discriminating on the basis of homosexuality in its hiring process.

The ordinance was spearheaded by the East Lansing Gay Liberation Movement, a Michigan State University student organization that began in 1970 amid the formation of similar "Gay Liberation Front" groups across the country. Coverage in The Gay Liberator explains that the GLM first presented East Lansing City Council with the proposed changes in October 1971, but after four months of radio silence, the group began

protesting the Council's inaction.

The Gay Liberator reports that then-City Manager John Patriarche said he had been directed to study the matter but had not been specifically directed to report his findings. When pressed, he recommended against the changes, but after six gay residents spoke in favor, the council voted 3-1 that the changes be drawn up.

Before the ordinance passed, however, an addition was made to ban homosexual "solicitation" while on the job, which advocates successfully opposed. Then-Mayor Wilbur Brookover, the sole vote in favor of keeping the amendment, was reported by The Liberator as having said the measure would have prevented gay hires from turning other city employees gay.

"No person is a homosexual by nature," Brookover said, according to The Liberator. "Their pattern of behavior is to try and get recruits by telling people homosexuality is natural. I don't feel the employees of the city should be left open to this possibility."

The ordinance came on the heels of a similar policy in New York, though that was an administrative policy rather than an ordinance, and it was quickly followed by similar ordinances in Ann Arbor and San Francisco. The latter claimed a historical first, leading to a May 10 headline in gay newspaper The Advocate that read "Oops, E. Lansing first with hiring law."

The policy has been expanded several times, now protecting gay and transgender residents from housing discrimination, employment discrimination and more.

The Lansing State Journal reported that, following the amendment's passage, MSU senior Chuck Will laid a sprig of marijuana on the table in front of Patriarche, spoke in favor of reducing the penalty for marijuana possession, and described himself as "so high I can hardly stand up."

It was very much the early '70s.

Lesbian Connection (1994)

Lesbian Connection, a bimonthly, internationally distributed periodical by and for lesbians, was founded in 1974 on the heels of the Midwest Lesbian Conference and Music Festival.

The conference followed a cross-country road trip that founders Margy Leshner and her then-girlfriend,

LGBTQ+ history

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Goldie, took the previous year to connect with lesbians across the country. A 1974 story in radical feminist publication *Off Our Backs* describes the event as having been inspired by the West Coast Lesbian Conference in 1973.

The Midwest Lesbian Conference was held from May 17 through 19, 1974, in East Lansing. Sessions included workshops on “self-help” (then a term referring to self-healthcare), a panel on legal issues led by a lesbian lawyer, lectures on lesbian motherhood and a panel on how to improve and find alternative social spots to gay and lesbian bars, according to *Off Our Backs*. Two Black lesbians from Tennessee came to lead a workshop about the Black lesbian community, and National Black Feminist Organization co-founder Margaret Sloan-Hunter gave an address.

Lesbian Connection “was one of the groups that came to be after that conference,” according to an interview with Leshner in the MSU Libraries’ Stephen O. Murray and Keelung Hong Special Collections.

“One of the hard things with the conference was trying to figure out how to publicize it, because there were very few, maybe a handful of lesbian publications that were even existent at the time,” Leshner said, adding that a few big cities had dedicated women’s or feminist publications, but smaller cities like Lansing did not.

“So, that was how the idea for Lesbian Connection came about. It was a way to get the word out about these things that lesbians were trying to put together and create,” Leshner said.

Cheryl VanDeKerkhove is a local lesbian activist who owned the former LGBTQ+ bookstore Real World Emporium in Old Town and was instrumental in the 1996 push for an LGBTQ+ civil rights ordinance in Lansing. She worked at Lesbian Connection for seven years and said it provided an invaluable service in connecting a pre-internet lesbian community.

“It was the original chatroom,” VanDeKerkhove said. “The readers wrote everything that went in it, and then everybody would write back and respond to what someone else wrote.”

LC, or “Elsie,” continues to publish today and still operates on a pay-what-you-can model.

Rachel Crandall-Crocker founds Transgender Michigan (1997) and Transgender Day of Visibility (2009)

When Lansing local Rachel Crandall-Crocker came out as transgender in 1997, she was fired from her job on top of losing her marriage.

“I kind of lost everything,” she said. “And I decided what I would do was that I would try to create an organization to make sure it didn’t have to happen to anyone else, and I called that organization Transgender Michigan.”

Transgender Michigan held early meetings at Potter Park in 1997. It was a time when “hardly anyone knew what trans was,” Crandall-Crocker said, and resources for trans individuals were few and far between.

Transgender Michigan hosts events such as transgender health and job fairs alongside providing information about

trans healthcare and other resources on its website.

Today, Crandall-Crocker is primarily known for founding International Transgender Day of Visibility, created in 2009 to supplement the Transgender Day of Remembrance. The latter, observed annually since its inception on Nov. 20, 1999, honors transgender individuals who have been murdered because of their identity. The day of visibility, meanwhile, held on March 31, celebrates trans lives and contributions.

“Every year, on the day of remembrance, I would get so depressed,” Crandall-Crocker said. “After a while, I couldn’t even go to the ceremonies because I would get so depressed, and it would last for weeks. And that’s one reason why I started the day of visibility: I wanted a day that I could feel happy about. I wanted a day where people could be proud to be trans.”

Former President Joe Biden recognized Trans Day of Remembrance in 2020.

Lansing LGBTQ+ civil rights ordinances (1996; 2006)

Firings like Rachel Crandall-Crocker experienced would have been illegal, at least in Lansing, under the comprehensive civil rights ordinance that included protections based on sexuality and gender identity that City Council passed in 1996.

VanDeKerkhove, who was on then-Mayor David Hollister’s LGBT advisory board and served various roles in the Lansing Association for Human Rights, said LAHR and other organizations had worked collaboratively with the city government to craft the ordinance, which passed.

But opposition to the ordinance, led by a group called Majority Opposed to Special Treatment, petitioned to put it to a vote.

VanDeKerkhove said MOST intentionally misled petition signers about their intentions, telling supporters of the ordinance that the petition would help ensure it remained in effect and opponents that the petition was intended to do away with the ordinance.

A space that VanDeKerkhove had been intending to use for an LGBTQ+ coffee shop became an impromptu campaign headquarters as local activists fought in favor of the ordinance. When exit polls predicted the ordinance would survive, supporters held a victory party.

But the exit polls turned out to be wrong. Voters had overturned the ordinance, and it did not go into effect.

“It was heartbreaking,” VanDeKerkhove said. “But if you look back at it in context, we were just a couple of years out from Clinton instituting ‘don’t ask, don’t tell’ when we were voting on this. The environment for gay people and lesbians was still pretty rough.”

In that context, she thinks, a narrow 2% loss was a kind of success, too.

The ordinance, during its brief tenure in effect, was the second of its kind in Michigan to include protections for transgender people as well as gay, lesbian and bisexual people. It was a controversial decision internally, VanDeKerkhove said, for prescient reasons.

“They were worried that if we included gender orientation, we were going to get into the bathroom wars, and child-care-by-a-man-who-is-a-woman, and all these things we’re seeing today,” she said.



Leo V. Kaplan for City Pulse

A poster for the Midwest Lesbian Conference by the Chicago Women’s Graphics Collective is reprinted on the stacks of MSU Libraries’ Special Collections. These stacks are not accessible to students, but their contents can be requested online by anyone.



Leo V. Kaplan for City Pulse

Several issues of the Dyke Heights Dispatch are available in MSU Libraries’ Special Collections.

Did hate kill Bob Gross?

Activists question murder of Lansing sportswriter



photo: Rosemary Ruppert

The murder of Bob Gross was discussed in an historic meeting between Lansing community activists and police on July 25.

copyright 1996 by Between The Lines

BY ANNE HARRIS

LANSING - Bob Gross, a beloved Lansing sports writer, lived his life in the closet and would have remained there if not for the circumstances of his death. Gross, 59, was found murdered in his home on June 26. Many gay and lesbian activists have termed the killing an anti-gay bias crime.

Employees of Rudy Stober's Bar at 812 E. Michigan Avenue report that Gross left the bar with another man around 1:30 a.m. on the day of his death. Gross' body was found later that morning by firefighters who came to his 624 W. Ottawa residence to put out a fire. He had been strangled with a lamp cord and stabbed repeatedly. Police believe the fire was set in

continued on page 9

Lansing State Journal sportswriter Bob Gross was murdered in 1996 after leaving Rudy Stober's Bar with another man, who later killed him.

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Ten years later, a nearly identical ordinance was passed by City Council with less fanfare. Some of the MOST organizers turned up again with the same playbook, but it didn't work out, and the ordinance remains in effect today.

Murder of Bob Gross (1996)

Few knew that Bob Gross was gay — at least not until after his death. Then everybody knew.

The Lansing State Journal sportswriter was murdered in 1996 after leaving Rudy Stober's Bar with another man, who later killed him. He had been with the Journal for 34 years and was a well-known figure publicly, but he was not "out" publicly, at least outside of the gay scene.

Gross' murder was a "pick-up crime," in which a criminal, usually a robber, makes their way to a victim's home under a sexual pretext. Gay people, especially those in the closet, are often targeted because they are less likely to out themselves. That puts them in a murky area under hate crime designations.

The Journal's coverage did not acknowledge Gross' sexuality, but he was posthumously "outed" by the Detroit-based Triangle Foundation, according to a 1996 story in the Michigan LGBTQ+ newspaper Between The Lines.

The debate around whether to discuss Gross' sexuality situates Lansing in a long lineage of debates around the politics of "outing." When Oliver Sipple foiled an attempt on then-President Gerald Ford's life in 1975, for instance, Harvey Milk outed him as gay in an attempt to portray a gay man as a heroic figure, a controversial decision due to the stress it brought Sipple and his family. In 2016, the late Whitney Houston's husband caused controversy by posthumously outing her as bisexual.

Gay men continued to be targeted by pick-up crimes in Lansing, such as the 2016 targeting of local reporter Todd Heywood, who wrote about his experience for City Pulse.

Dyke Heights

Folk singer and lesbian feminist activist Alix Dobkin memorialized Lansing's most sapphic community in a 1992 recording of her song Lesbian Code: "In Lansing 48912 / She lives in Dyke Heights."

It's not clear when 48912 became Dyke Heights, but by the mid-'90s, the neighborhood had its own newsletter (the Dyke Heights Dispatch), the highest concentration worldwide of Lesbian Connection subscribers and, according to VanDeKerkhove, the highest lesbian homeownership per capita in the country.

"I honestly don't know how it organically became Dyke Heights, but it's definitely where the women were, on the east side, 48912," she said. "It was known that if you wanted to be in the lesbian community, rent or buy in this area."

The Dispatch, which followed the local newsletter Lesbian Alliance, was edited by philosopher and influential radical feminist Marilyn Frye, a Michigan State University professor.

The Dispatch contained community announcements, essays, some news and a skill-swap section called the Lesbian Energy Network, in which locals traded skilled services with each other in a sort of mutual aid network.

The September 1996 issue highlights MSU's Special Collections, describing MSU librarian Anne Tracy — and the collection she built — as "undiscovered treasures for mid-Michigan lesbians."

The issue is now in that collection itself, alongside many other issues of the Dispatch.

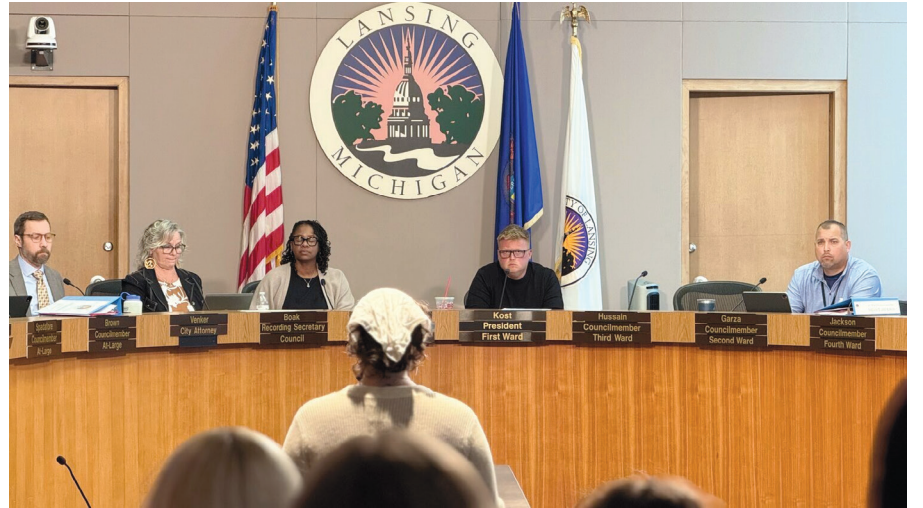
Layne Ingram comes out as trans (2017)

So far, most local coverage of transgender people in sports in the 2020s has focused on the role of trans women — that is, people born male who transition to female — in sports. The topic has ignited fierce debate across the country — a debate far outsized to the very small number of trans women who actually participate in school sports.

In 2017, though, the Lansing State Journal ran a front-page story about Layne Ingram, the women's basketball coach at Lansing Community College. Layne's story is the inverse: Born female, he began his transition to male that year.

A front-page Journal story featuring positive coverage of a transgender Black man was, admittedly, a refreshing read after the far less positive coverage from the '70s and '80s reviewed for this story. The piece was also informative regarding the process of gender transition, including a photo of Ingram taking a testosterone shot.

Ingram appeared on "Dr. Phil" in 2022 to discuss trans inclusion in sports.



Leo V. Kaplan for City Pulse

Aria Morey speaks in favor of the resolution declaring Lansing an "LGBTQ+ welcoming city," which passed later that night.

Lansing declared an 'LGBTQ+ welcoming city' (2025)

After a self-proclaimed Charlie Kirk supporter made violent threats against two trans women at The Avenue Cafe in Lansing last year, the community came together to demand change.

On Sept. 29, more than a dozen people asked for support from City Council members amid an uptick in anti-trans rhetoric fueled by the federal government. Brian T. Jackson, then head of the City Council's equity, diversity and inclusion task force, called an open meeting in response, which drew about 75 attendees, including 30 speakers.

Organizers with the Lansing Advocates for Trans Safety, a grassroots organization that formed in response

to the threats, made three demands: a statement affirming the city's commitment to LGBTQ+ inclusion, an LGBTQ+ advisory board, and funding and support for queer or trans-owned businesses.

The next week, the council unanimously passed an ordinance that declared Lansing an "LGBTQ+ welcoming city." The ordinance met the group's first demand. The group asked the city to implement the other two, but the council did not have the power to do so.

Organizer Lyra Opalikhin, speaking at the meeting, called the ordinance "a signal that the city will dedicate itself to protecting and uplifting its LGBTQ+ residents, not merely because it's convenient, but because it's necessary."

bit.ly/4mLjiYH



Scan to explore your next rainbow read!

Read with pride!





Teen Pride Party
Friday, June 26
3-5pm



bit.ly/4uUPs7g

Celebrate the T in LGBTQ!



East Lansing Public Library



YOUR LIVE & LOCAL MUSIC UP HERE

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Live & Local

CityPULSE

Ann Street Plaza

Corner of Albert and M.A.C. Avenues,
downtown East Lansing
Elements of Soul
Fri., June 5, 6-8 p.m.

The Avenue

2021 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing
**User Ikon, Nunya, Vampire
Cowgirl, Snart**
Sat., June 6, 9 p.m.
Summoning Circle
Sun., June 7, 7 p.m.

BAD Brewing Co.

440 S. Jefferson St., Mason
Mark Warner
Sat., June 6, noon-3 p.m.
Atomic Annie
Sat., June 6, 5-8 p.m.

Bailey Park

300 Bailey St., East Lansing
**Pumpstock Festival of American
Roots Music**
Sat., June 6, 2-8 p.m.

Beal Botanical Garden

330 W. Circle Drive, East Lansing
**Music and the Garden: Mirana
String Quartet**
Sun., June 7, 1 p.m.

Blue Gill Grill

1591 Lake Lansing Road, Haslett
Crystal Hoffman
Thurs., June 4, 6-9 p.m.
Darin Larner Sr.
Sun., June 7, 6-9 p.m.

Blue House concerts (Lansing)

Email bluehouseconcerts@yahoo.
com for address
Kitty Donohoe
Sun., June 7, doors 3 p.m., show
4 p.m.

BrickHaven Brewing Co.

200 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge
Cover Brothers
Fri., June 5, 6:30-9:30 p.m.
We Three Strings
Sat., June 6, 6:30-9:30 p.m.

Buddies Grill

2040 N. Aurelius Road, Holt
Kathy Ford Band
Sat., June 6, 8-11 p.m.

Classic Pub & Grill

16219 Old U.S. 27, Lansing
Sandra Faye Band
Fri., June 5, 8 p.m.-midnight
Sudden Impact
Sat., June 6, 8 p.m.-midnight

Cleats Bar & Grill

5801 N. Aurelius Road, Lansing
Capo the Second
Thurs., June 4, 6-9 p.m.
Kathy Ford Trio
Tues., June 9, 6-9 p.m.

Courthouse Square Museum

100 W. Lawrence Ave., Charlotte
Sea Cruisers
Thurs., June 4, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

DeWitt High School

13601 Panther Drive, DeWitt
**"We Are Timeless": Sistrum
Chorus Concert**
Fri., June 5, 7 p.m.
Sat., June 6, 3 p.m.

Dimes Brewhouse

145 Bridge St., Dimondale
Open mic night
Thurs., June 4, 7-10 p.m.
Shane Gruesbeck
Fri., June 5, 7-9 p.m.

EagleMonk Pub and Brewery

4906 W. Mount Hope Hwy., Lansing
**Songwriters' night, with Cody
Wilson**
Wed., June 3, 7-9 p.m.
Feral at 5
Sun., June 7, 6-8 p.m.

Eaton Rapids Craft Co.

204 N. Main St., Eaton Rapids
Tyler Payne
Fri., June 5, 6-9 p.m.
The Dangling Particples
Sat., June 6, 6-9 p.m.

Fish Ladder Music Park

216 E. Grand River Ave., Lansing
**Fish Ladder Fusion Fest, with
Caleb Robinson & Reaching,
Atomic Boogaloo**
Thurs., June 4, 7-10:30 p.m.

Graham Vineyards

8920 W. Britton Road, Laingsburg
The Rusty Snails
Fri., June 5, 6-9 p.m.
The Exes
Sat., June 6, 6-9 p.m.

The Green Door

2005 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing
Wavelength
Wed., June 3, 8 p.m.-1 a.m.
**Jenn's Apartment, Paper
Lanterns, A Rueful Noise, No
Problemo!**
Fri., June 5, doors 7 p.m., show 8 p.m.
**Nunslaughter, Sauron, The Black
Temple, Room 101**
Sat., June 6, doors 7 p.m., show 8 p.m.
Wavelength
Wed., June 10, 8 p.m.-1 a.m.

Grewal Hall

224 S. Washington Square, Lansing
**Delta Sleep, Michael Cera Palin,
Combat**
Fri., June 5, 7 p.m.

Holt Farmers Market

2150 N. Cedar St., Holt
**Food Frenzy: B3 and Roadside
Attraction**
Wed., June 10, 4:30-8 p.m.

Homebrew Tabletop Game Lounge

219 1/2 N. Bridge St., Grand Ledge
Justin Deason
Wed., June 3, 7-9 p.m.
Royce Vaughn
Wed., June 10, 7-9 p.m.

Horrocks Farm Market

7420 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing
Wild Honey Ramblers
Fri., June 5, 5-8 p.m.
Jeff Gower
Sat., June 6, 5-8 p.m.
John Beltran
Sun., June 7, 2-6 p.m.

The Irish Pub

1910 W. Saginaw St., Lansing
Open mic night, with Scott Seth
Thurs., June 4, 6:30-9:30 p.m.
**CABS Blues Night: The Further
Adventures of FatBoy &
JiveTurkey**
Sat., June 6, 8-11 p.m.

Lake Lansing Park South

1621 Pike St., Haslett
Mike Skory & Friends
Fri., June 5, 6-9 p.m.

Lansing Brewing Co.

518 E. Shiawassee St., Lansing
Jerry Sprague
Fri., June 5, 5:30-8:30 p.m.

Lansing Shuffle

325 Riverfront Drive, Lansing
Skory & Frog
Sat., June 6, 4-7 p.m.
Marc Finger Family & Friends
Sun., June 7, 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Looking Glass Brewing Co.

108 W. Main St., Dewitt
Gwen Doerfler
Fri., June 5, 6-9 p.m.

Mac's Bar

2700 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing
**The Will Conrad Band, Modus
Operandi, The Bloody Pickups,
Bad Mouth, Ritual Suns, Go!**
Fri., June 5, 6 p.m.
**Spiral Fracture, Vale End, Moth
Dude, Blue Waffle Syrup**
Sun., June 7, 6 p.m.
Devil's Cut
Mon., June 8, 7 p.m.
Open mic night
Mon., June 8, 6-8 p.m.
Unity — In Music
Thurs., June 4, 9 p.m.-2 a.m.
Tues., June 9, 10 p.m.-2 a.m.

Marketplace on the Green

1995 Central Park Drive, Okemos
Sea Cruisers
Wed., June 3, 6:30 p.m.
Atomic Annie
Wed., June 10, 6:30 p.m.

Mash Bar

212 Albert Ave., East Lansing
Alexandria McMath
Fri., May 29, 8:30 p.m.-midnight

Moores Park

400 Moores River Drive, Lansing
Root Doctor
Wed., June 10, 7-9 p.m.

Moriarty's Pub

802 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing
Open mic night, with Jen Sygit
Wed., June 3, 8-11 p.m.
Jazz Doggs
Thurs., June 4, 8 p.m.-midnight
Spoonful
Fri., June 5, 8 p.m.-midnight
Live music
Sat., June 6, 8 p.m.-midnight
Jazz Tuesdays
Tues., June 9, 7-10 p.m.
Open mic night, with Jen Sygit
Wed., June 10, 8-11 p.m.

Nico's Pub and Grill

117 S. Bridge St., Dimondale
Frog & the Beeftones
Fri., June 5, 7:30-11:30 p.m.

Nuthouse Sports Grill

420 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing
Twilight Tunes Dueling Pianos
Sat., June 6, 7-11 p.m.

One North East Lansing

1310 Abbot Road, East Lansing
Rhys Mitchell
Fri., June 5, 7-10 p.m.
Greg Smith
Sat., June 6, 7-10 p.m.

One North Lansing

5001 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing
Mike Skory
Thurs., June 4, 6-9 p.m.
David Salvador
Fri., June 5, 7-10 p.m.
Steve Spees
Sat., June 6, 7-10 p.m.
**Open mic night, with Kathy
Ford**
Mon., June 8, 6:30-9 p.m.

The Peanut Barrel

521 E. Grand River Ave., East
Lansing
Marc Finger Family & Friends
Fri., June 5, 8-10 p.m.
Bump Halbritter
Tues., June 9, 6-8 p.m.

Pins & Pints

2120 E. Saginaw St., East Lansing
Martini & Rossi
Thurs., June 4, 6-8 p.m.

Red Cedar Spirits

2000 Merritt Road, East Lansing
Randy Napoleon Trio
Sun., June 7, 6-9 p.m.

Renó's North

16460 Old U.S. 27, Lansing
Colin Coffey
Wed., June 3, 6-9 p.m.
Don Middlebrook
Thurs., June 4, 6-9 p.m.
We're Mike & Steve
Fri., June 5, 6-9 p.m.
Jerry Sprague
Sat., June 6, 6-9 p.m.
Carl Pawluk
Wed., June 10, 6-9 p.m.

REO Town Pub

1145 S. Washington Ave, Lansing
Craig Hendershott
Thurs., June 4, 7 p.m.

The Robin Theatre

1105 S. Washington Ave., Lansing
**Mia Chinni Trio + open jazz
session**
Sat., June 6, 1-3 p.m.

Side Bar

246 E. Saginaw St., East Lansing
Alexandria McMath
Fri., June 5, 7-10 p.m.

Stober's Bar

812 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing
DJ Corey ChicagoMuzik
Sun., June 7, 10 p.m.-1 a.m.
Jazz Doggs
Tues., June 9, 10 p.m.-1 a.m.

Summerlands Brewing Co.

1957 Cedar St., Holt
Napoleon
Thurs., June 4, 7-9 p.m.
The Hot Beef Project
Fri., June 5, 7:30-11:30 p.m.
Second Time Around
Sat., June 6, 5-8 p.m.
Open mic night
Tues., June 9, 7-10 p.m.

Tony M's Restaurant & Banquet Center

3420 S. Creyts Road, Lansing
The New Blue Rhythm Boys
Sun., June 7, 3-6 p.m.
Krosby's Conspiracy
Wed., June 10, 6-9 p.m.

UrbanBeat

1213 Turner St., Lansing
Lansing's Hidden Talent open mic
Wed., June 3, 6-9 p.m.

La La Delivery, 800G

Thurs., June 4, 6:30 p.m.
Tiffany Gridiron
Fri., June 5, 7 p.m.

**Rock the Vote Show: Billy
Gunther & the Midwest Riders,
Mark Lavengood, Stan Craig
Band, Brandon McCoy & Friends**
Sat., June 6, 7 p.m.

Pzazz ... an afternoon of poetry & jazz

Sun., June 7, 4 p.m.
Lansing's Hidden Talent open mic
Wed., June 10, 6-9 p.m.

Williamston Roadhouse

3700 E. Grand River Road,
Williamston
Greg Smith
Wed., June 3, 7-10 p.m.
Navarre solo acoustic
Wed., June 10, 7-10 p.m.

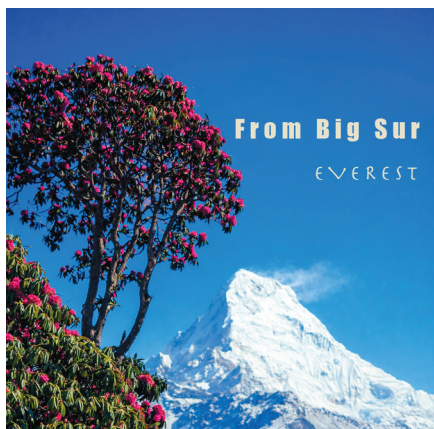
ARTS & CULTURE

ART • BOOKS • FILM • MUSIC

A roundup of recent Lansing-area music news

By NICOLE NOECHEL

The past couple of months have been busy for the local music scene. Here are three pieces of news you may have missed among all the commotion.



From Big Sur releases double LP

After three years of writing and recording, Lansing experimental rock band From Big Sur dropped a 25-track double album in mid-April. Titled “Everest,” it spans several genres and styles.

“We had this funny little thing where we would pull different songs, genres or bands out of a hat and then try to play something that would be related to that — at least style-wise, not actually copying any music at all — and we kind of wrote songs that way,” keyboardist Mark King said. “There are acoustic songs, more folky kind of stuff, but we didn’t want to have three or four acoustic songs in a row, so they’re kind of spaced out. Same with the more ‘80s synth-pop influences we have, as well as some of the more classic rock influences. We thought that would make people want to listen to the whole album because they wouldn’t know what was coming next.”

The instrumentation on the album also runs the gamut from standard instruments like drums, bass, guitars, piano and synthesizer to congas, bongos, rainmaker, organ, banjo, theremin, stylophone, cowbell and many more out-of-left-field choices.

“We all have different interests. Our drummer is a really big rock and roller, as well as our guitar player. I’m the keyboard player, so I tend to come from more of an ‘80s synth-pop kind of direction. Our bass player likes the alternative, so we had a lot of different kinds



Photo by Jena Hovey

From Big Sur.

of styles that we melded together,” King said.

After taking a break from playing shows while making the record, the band is ready to get back on the stage. Its next gig is Saturday (June 6) at Moriarty’s Pub in Lansing.

“We’re going to play locally around the area and then maybe play a little bit regionally, too. We’ll try to get a few other shows, you know, maybe try to play some summer festivals if any pop up our way,” King said. “Our diversity is something that we really strive for. We’re trying to do something a little bit different than what other bands are doing around town, so we’re just really

excited to debut these songs out on the road.”

New duo in town: Botanical Underground

Despite a packed schedule as a prolific DJ, frontwoman of the beloved ‘80s cover band Starfarm and founder of the entertainment company Top Energy Productions, Whitney Who has added another project to her roster: a new acoustic duo with singer-songwriter and multi-instrumentalist Dan MacLachlan, Botanical Underground.

“In Starfarm, I sing the same songs all the time, and I love them, I love what I do, but there’s a whole world of songs

that I would love to perform that I don’t get to,” she said.

This led her to reach out to MacLachlan in 2019. They started to learn some material, but then the pandemic hit.

“Literally five years later, I was like, ‘Hey, circling back to this conversation, do you still want to do this?’ And we just thought it was insane because that’s sort of the timeline I operate on, but here we are in 2026, and we were finally given a deadline. We booked a show at Pins and Pints that happened a few weeks ago, and I work best with deadlines, so we were like, ‘Okay, let’s make it happen.’”

The duo’s repertoire includes pop, rock, alternative, country and soul covers, from classics to current hits.

“I’m not gonna apologize for the amount of ‘90s alternative that’s in here, because that’s what I grew up with and what I loved, so I’m getting to sing some songs that I’ve been singing to myself for 30 years,” Whitney Who said. “Weirdly, we ended up with a pretty large country block, which took me by surprise. It started with ‘Jolene,’ by Dolly Parton, and then kind of snowballed from there. So, we’re doing some Shania Twain, we’re doing Lady Gaga and Bradley Cooper’s “Shallow” — it’s literally all over the place.”

Botanical Underground plans to play about one show per month, working around Whitney’s Starfarm and DJ schedules.

“We’re actually booked till the end of the year,” she said. “We were invited to do the Lugnuts Pride night on June 9, which, I’m definitely a queer performer, and we’re going to be leaning into those avenues. We’re also going to be playing at Cleats Bar and Grille in July. We’ll be back at Pins and Pints. We’re doing three dates at Horrocks Beer Garden, and then possibly something like Mash in the winter months, but right now we’ve got patio season all booked out, which is lovely.”

Displaced Manor finds a place on Holmes Street

About two years ago, Alexandra Saenz, owner of Lansing punk- and metal-centric house venue Displaced Manor, posted a link to a GoFundMe on the venue’s social media pages, asking for financial help with her goal of finding a new, more accessible space.



Photo by Sylvia Santuzario

Botanical Underground.

See Roundup, Page 18

Roundup

from page 17

A car ran into the house about a month and a half later, exacerbating the need for a new space. Shortly thereafter, Saenz made a social media post stating she had been “chasing a spot” for two or three months, sharing another link to the GoFundMe.

“I had my eye on this building for a long time,” she said. “It was a good distance away from everybody, a good location, it was a good price, and it was big enough that I was confident I could fill it on the regular,

you know, not too big, not too little. It went on sale the month that I quit doing house shows, and I was on it right from the get-go.”

Though it took about 14 months, she was able to purchase the building, located at 801 S. Holmes St. in Lansing. It was built as a bank vault in 1957 and has had several owners since, but it has never been updated. Needless to say, it has needed some renovations.

“There’s a lot to it,” Saenz said. “I knew there was going to be a lot, but you never know until you’re there. It’s taking longer than expected. I’m on the last part of it, really, which is the

most expensive part, and then I can open. I’m chugging along, trying to fix it up every day.”

Another barrier to opening is zoning. Supporters are encouraged to come out to an event June 11 at the Allen Neighborhood Center to petition the Lansing Board of Appeals to rezone the building as a music venue.

“I had always known zoning was going to be an issue. That’s kind of why I bought this building where it was. I didn’t want any issues with anybody, and this was originally a house venue, so I wanted to be cool with the neighbors and everybody around there,” Saenz said. “I’m just trying to get on top of this so I can open. I’d like to open before the fall.”

Once open, she hopes Displaced Manor will serve as more than just a music venue.

“I have a history of booking shows, so I’d like to get that done first, but I would like to have retail space for artists to rent out, like display cases,” she said. “I’ve already been talking to people about some local groups, comedy groups, and about game nights, movie nights, just kind of an all-around community center.”

Overall, her goal is to help the com-



Courtesy

munity — both the one she’s cultivated through hosting shows and the one surrounding the new venue — in any way she can.

“I know that it’s a bad area, but I would really like to clean up that area, make it nice,” she said. “I really don’t want any issues with anybody. It’s a non-alcoholic, all-ages place. I would enforce no reentry, security, you know. I just want it to be a safe place for everybody, and for people to connect and do what they love.”

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN 2026 ORDER TO MAINTAIN SIDEWALK SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT #22

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

TO THE RECORD OWNERS OF, OR PARTIES IN INTEREST IN, THE FOLLOWING PROPERTY CONSTITUTING THE PROPOSED SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT:

- Carriage Hill Estates: Lot 10 and 12
- Carriage Hill Estates No. 2: Lot 24
- Carriage Hill Estates No. 3: Lot 29, 34, 53,68, 70, 71, 85
- Crestwood No. 2: Lot 9, 11, 15, 21, 26, 32
- Crestwood No. 3: Lot 41, 58
- Crestwood No. 5: Lot 79, 87
- Everett Farms No. 4: Lot 71
- Everett Hills: Lot 1 Everett Woods: Lot 45 Heritage Hills: Lot 46
- Heritage Hills No. 3: Lot 88 and 118
- Heritage Hills No. 4: Lot 142, 146, 148, 149 Sierra Ridge Estates: Stormwater Detention
- Sierra Ridge Estates No. 2: Lot 45
- Whitehills Lakes: Lot 2 Whitehills Lakes No. 1: Lot 35 Wood Creek: Lot 12

Township Ordinance Section 58-32 places the duty to maintain the sidewalk in a good and usable condition with the adjacent property owner; and also states the Township Board may order the maintenance of the sidewalk and establish an assessment district of the benefited properties. The adjacent property owner will be allowed 20 days, from date of notification, to perform the work, and if not completed, the Township shall proceed with the work and assess the cost in accordance with the assessment district.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Township Board of the Charter Township of Meridian, acting on its own initiative as permitted by Act 188, Public Acts of Michigan, 1954, as amended, has determined for the public health, safety, and welfare of the Township and its inhabitants to make the following described public sidewalk improvements: repair and maintain sidewalk in the aforementioned proposed special assessment district and to defray the cost thereof by special assessment against the properties specially benefited thereby. Plans and estimates have been prepared and are on file with the Township Clerk for public examination.

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the Township Board will meet Tuesday, June 16, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. at the Meridian Township Municipal Building, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864-1198, for the purpose of hearing objections, written or oral, to the proposed improvement, special assessment, and the special assessment district therefore. The Township Board is also interested in hearing those that favor the proposed project.

Appearance and protest at the hearing in the special assessment proceedings is required in order to appeal the amount of the special assessment to the state tax tribunal. Your personal appearance at the hearing is not required, but you or your agent may appear in person at the hearing and protest the special assessment. To make an appearance and protest, you must file your written objections by letter or other writing with the Township Clerk before the close of this hearing. The owner or any person having an interest in the real property may file a written appeal of the special assessment with the state tax tribunal with 30 days after the confirmation of the special assessment roll if that person appeared and protested the special assessment at this hearing.

Dated: June 3, 2026

Angela Demas, Township Clerk
Charter Township of Meridian

CP#26-218

Legal Notice Mid-Michigan Leadership Academy Attention: HVAC Modification(s) 2026

The Mid Michigan Leadership Academy is requesting proposals for the removal & installation of (1) boiler & installation of (28) HVAC mini-split units 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 by May 22, 2026. Additional voluntary walk-thru inspections are scheduled for May 1 & 2, 2026, at 1:30 pm, 730 W Maple Street, Lansing, MI 48906.

All proposals must be submitted no later than 12:00 pm, June 5, 2026. All proposals should be delivered in a sealed envelope and addressed to the Mid-Michigan Leadership Academy and be clearly marked: “HVAC Modification(s) 2026”. 052926

CP#26-216

State of Michigan Probate Court, County of Eaton, Publication of Notice. In the matter of Barbara A. Kowalk-Kelsey (aka Barbara A. Kowalk), Deceased: To all interested persons: and creditors (known and unknown) whose address(es) are unknown and whose interest in the matter may be barred or affected by the following: Take Notice: The Settlor, Barbara A. Kowalk-Kelsey (aka Barbara A. Kowalk) (DOB 07/24/1934) who lived at 5812 Peachtree Dr., Grand Ledge, MI 48837 died on 05/22/2026. There is no personal representative of the settlors estates to whom letters of administration have been issued. Creditors of the decedents are notified that all claims against Barbara A. Kowalk-Kelsey (aka Barbara A. Kowalk) will forever be barred unless presented to Stephen W. Kowalk, Trustee of The Revocable Living Trust Agreement of Barbara Ann Kowalk-Kelsey dated August 31, 1994, at 12420 Avenida Consentido, San Diego, CA 92128 within four months after the date of publication. Notice is further given that the Trust will thereafter be assigned and distributed to the persons entitled to it. 6/1/26. Attorney: Benjamin L. Cwayna, P70266, 11973 Sweetwater Dr., Grand Ledge, MI 48837, 517-622-1900. Petitioner: Stephen W. Kowalk, 12420 Avenida Consentido, San Diego, CA 92128, 248-444-8768.

CP#26-217

Notice of Public Hearing

Mid-Michigan Leadership Academy will hold a public hearing June 8, 2026 at 5:00 pm at 730 W. Maple Street, Lansing, MI 48906, (517) 485-5379, to review the proposed 2026-2027 operating budget. A copy of the proposed budget is available for public inspection at the above address.

CP#26-208

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

**WILLIAMSTOWN TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION
INGHAM COUNTY, MICHIGAN**

Pursuant to Public Act 110 of 2006, as amended (the Michigan Zoning Enabling Act), the Williamstown Township Planning Commission will hold a public hearing at its regular meeting on **June 24, 2026, at 6:30 p.m.** at the Township Hall, 4990 Zimmer Road, Williamston, Michigan.

The purpose of the hearing is to take public comments on proposed amendments to Article 8.02(RR) regarding **Keeping of Farm Animals on Non-Farm Parcels or Lots**. The amendments are intended to address conditions on parcels or lots in the R-1 and R-1-S Districts. Specifically, the second paragraph of subsection 1, Introduction, is proposed to read as follows:

The regulations in this section apply to all non-farm parcels or lots in the One Family Residential (R-1) and the Suburban Residential (R-1-S) districts and to non-farm parcels or lots that are three (3) acres or smaller in area zoned Rural Residential (RR), Rural Estates (RE), Agricultural Small Farms (AG-SF), and Commercial Agriculture (AG-C).

The proposed amendment may be examined at the Township Hall during regular business hours, Tuesday 10:00 am–4:00 pm, Wednesday 10:00 am–6:00 pm, & Thursday 10:00 am–4:00 pm. Interested persons are invited to attend the public hearing or submit written comments to the Planning Commission at the address noted above.

Individuals needing special services to fully participate in the meeting may contact the Township Office at (517) 655-3193 at least 5 days prior to the meeting to request necessary assistance.

Robin A. Cleveland, MiPMC
Williamstown Township Clerk

CP#26-205

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

**WILLIAMSTOWN TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION
INGHAM COUNTY, MICHIGAN**

Pursuant to Public Act 110 of 2006, as amended (the Michigan Zoning Enabling Act), the Williamstown Township Planning Commission will hold a public hearing at its regular meeting on **June 24, 2026 at 6:30 p.m.** at the Township Hall, 4990 Zimmer Road, Williamston, Michigan 48895.

The purpose of the hearing is to take public comment on proposal to amend the Zoning Map by rezoning a portion of a 38.29-acre parcel located on the east side of Branch Road, south of Germany Road, from AG-C (Commercial Agriculture) to AG-SF (Agricultural Small Farms). The portion proposed to be rezoned measures 11.04 acres gross, or 10.10 acres net (minus road rights-of-way).

The portion proposed to be rezoned is described as follows:

A parcel of land in the Northwest ¼ of Section 22, T4N, R1W, Williamstown Township, Ingham County, Michigan, the surveyed boundary of said parcel described as: Commencing at the northwest corner of said Section 22; then 89°54'02"E along the North line of said Section 22 a distance of 241.72 feet to the point of beginning of this description; thence S89°54'02"E continuing along said North line 169.50 feet; thence S03°57'18"E parallel with the West line of said Section 22 a distance of 1315.22 feet to the South line of the North ½ of the Northwest ¼ of said Section 22; thence N89°51'39"W along said South line 411.24 feet to said West line; thence N03°57'18"W along said West line 1073.22 feet; thence S89°54'02"E parallel with said North line 241.72 feet; thence N03°57'18"W parallel with said West line 241.72 feet to the point of beginning.

The rezoning application may be examined at the Township Hall during regular business hours, Tuesday 10:00 am–4:00 pm, Wednesday 10:00 am–6:00 pm, & Thursday 10:00 am–4:00 pm. Interested persons are invited to attend the public hearing or submit written comments to the Planning Commission at the address noted above.

Individuals needing special services to fully participate in the meeting may contact the Township Office at (517) 655-3193 at least 5 days prior to the meeting to request necessary assistance.

Robin A. Cleveland, MiPMC
Williamstown Township Clerk

CP#26-204

**CITY OF EAST LANSING SUMMARY
OF ADOPTED ORDINANCE # 1571**

On May 26, 2026, the East Lansing City Council adopted an Ordinance of the City of East Lansing, Michigan, to amend Chapter 2, Article V, Division 9 of the code of the City of East Lansing, titled "University Student Commission," for the purposes of amending Section 2-421 to add "term" to the section title, to expand the categories of student groups that are eligible for inclusion on the commission, to replace certain groups on the commission that are no longer active, and to designate the term of membership for each member of the commission; amending Section 2-422 to expand on the purpose and duties of the commission by requiring the commission to review the division every three years to representative membership of the student body and issue an annual report; and amending Section 2-423 to expand the categories of student groups that are eligible for inclusion on the commission.

Effective date: Pursuant to Charter Section 6.3, Upon publication

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

Emily Gordon,
East Lansing City Clerk

CP#26-212



**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN, INGHAM COUNTY
LEGAL AD NOTICE: SPECIAL USE PERMIT #26018 (7-ELEVEN)
MONDAY, JUNE 22, 2026**

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
LEGAL NOTICE
Special Use Permit #26018 (7-Eleven)
Public Hearing**

Notice is hereby given that the Planning Commission of the Charter Township of Meridian will hold a public hearing on Monday, June 22, 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 CESO, Inc. to allow the redevelopment of the subject property, an approximately 1.5-acre project site located at 2736 Grand River Avenue, into a new gas station and convenience store. 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/businessdevelopment/community-planning-development/> 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.

June 3, 2026
Angela Demas Township Clerk

CP#26-207

Providing a safe and welcoming, sustainable, prime community.



**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN, INGHAM COUNTY
LEGAL AD NOTICE: SPECIAL USE PERMIT #26017 (SHEETZ)
MONDAY, JUNE 22, 2026**

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
LEGAL NOTICE
Special Use Permit #26017 (Sheetz)
Public Hearing**

Notice is hereby given that the Planning Commission of the Charter Township of Meridian will hold a public hearing on Monday, June 22, 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 Sheetz, Inc. to allow the redevelopment of the subject property, an approximately 5.1-acre project site, located at 1930 and 1878 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.

June 3, 2026
Angela Demas Township Clerk

CP#26-206

Providing a safe and welcoming, sustainable, prime community.



'Defiance' plays out in seven scenes by Ixion Ensemble

By **MARK GMAZEL**

Ixion Ensemble Theatre's final show of the season is a lively and well-received collection of seven scenes, each exploring the theme of "defiance."

"Defiance: A Collection of Short Plays" runs about an hour and a half, with a 10-minute intermission. The costumes are appropriate and eye-catching, with well-executed and minimal lighting, sound and projection cues that punctuate the onstage action effectively.

Each scene is delivered in an attentive, smart and energetic manner, with smooth and efficient scene changes. Each performer matches the other in style and tone. Kudos to director Jordan Taylor and company.

The first scene is "The Kiss," by George Sapio, which expands on the three key players in the very famous V-J Day photograph from Times Square at the end of World War II. Quinn Kelly plays the boisterous and exuberant sailor, who gets more to think about than he expected. Nurse Milichelle Deleon makes it clear that her consent isn't automatic as she contends with avaricious photographer Mr. Eisenstaedt, well played by Sam Johnson.

Scene two features boundary testing and turnabout as fair play in "The College Interview," by Hank Kimmel, in which admissions dean Janell Hall seeks to "humanize" an apparently inhumane process while 'going beyond the obvi-

ous' to determine whether prospective student Kayla Henry's special abilities involving video gaming and playing Fantasy Football will translate to college success. Hall is clear and credible here, and Henry is playful and slightly antagonistic in a fun way.



Review

"Defiance: A Collection of Short Plays"

7 p.m. Friday and Saturday, June 5 and 6

3 p.m. Sunday, June 7

Stage One at Sycamore Creek Church Eastwood
onsthestage.tickets/show/ixion-ensemble

Tickets \$15

Scene three has a Roman theme as two men get escorted by a terse guard to face death in the gladiatorial battles of the Colosseum. "Breaking Bread," by Rishi Chowdhary, contrasts the heroic warrior Optimus (Heath Sartorius) with the practical, realistic kitchen servant Hummus (Ellison Hall), all while getting absolutely no sympathy from the fierce and callous guard (Tim Lewis). Sartorius is a delight with his swaggering attitude, and his commanding presence is matched by his use of a deeper vocal register.

Hall has strong comic abilities in timing and phrasing, and he nails the role of the skeptic. Hall reminds me here of Gregory Hines in that one Mel Brooks movie.

"Every Seven Minutes," by Ken Preuss, features two individuals in hazmat suits, the seasoned vet Worker (Holly Kay-Cannon), who trains the Newbie (Patti Spinner) on the requirements and expectations of their computer job, randomizing the events that occur every seven minutes to someone anywhere on earth. Some random events are good, some are bad, and some have more personal impact than anticipated. Kay-Can-

non plays with creativity the entire range of her character's journey - from blasé to agitated and back again. Spinner does a very nice job with her character, someone who seems mousy, but when crunch time comes, she is willing to put her foot down.

Following the intermission, "The Inquisition," by Don Grimme, explores a Kafkaesque proceeding: Those who espouse free speech are persecuted rebels, and all opinions are discouraged and punished. Inquisitor Heath Sartorius tries to make Frank (Sam Johnson) confess to being the underground graffiti artist known as "Voltaire" while debating the concept of a "Higher Power"; meanwhile, Deborah (Holly Kay-Cannon) arrives and complicates matters. Brush up on your Voltaire for this and you will be rewarded.

"Old, Bored, Troubled, Dead," by John Allison, illustrates themes of mortality, obligation and duty in a strong scene featuring seasoned Rose Jangmi Cooper as the Grandmother who may be running out of time, Janell Hall as the burdened and busy Mother and the grounded and realistic Hanna Kent as Janine, the impatient granddaughter. This is a very enjoyable scene; the realism of this story



Auction Ensemble

Janell Hall, Tim Lewis and Heath Sartorius in a scene from Ixion Ensemble Theatre's "Defiance: A Collection of Short Plays."

contrasts well with earlier, more tongue-in-cheek and absurd pieces.

The evening ends with "Seeds," by Holly Hepp-Gavin. This final scene features Heath Sartorius, Janell Hall and Tim Lewis who use movement and magical realism in a near-apocalyptic reality where a woman decides to become a tree, and the men debate how they should face the end of the world, with selfishness or with hope. Lewis has a great moment to end the show, speaking with simplicity and in trust of language and repetition, sharing a message of hope and positivity to end the night. Well done.



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Eagle Township, Clinton County Board Meeting Synopsis

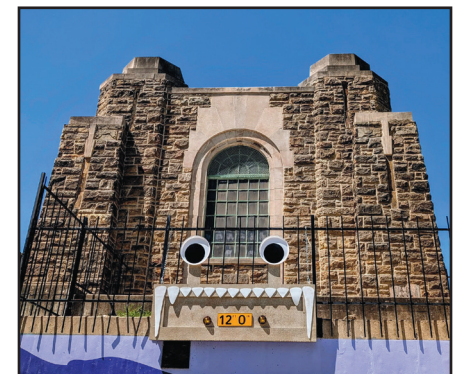
May 19, 2026, at 6:00 pm - Present: Supervisor Stroud, Clerk Briggs-Dudley, Treasurer C. Hoppes, Trustee Currie, Trustee M. Hoppes and 14 citizens
Board Actions:

- 1) Approved repaving of Little Lake Dr
- 2) Approved temporary road closures for bike race events on June 13 and 14.
- 3) Approved payment of bills for May 2026.
- 4) Approved McKenna contract amendment for permanent zoning ordinance.
- 5) Approved hall kitchen upgrades for countertop, ranges, and stainless steel islands.
- 6) Approved repaving parking lot.
- 7) Approved electrical improvements for the township hall.
- 8) Approved septic tank repairs and pumping for the township hall.
- 9) Approved assessor agreement with Jesse Truitt.
- 10) Approved board policy updates regarding meeting packets.
- 11) Approved budget amendments for FY 26-27.
- 12) Approved board to sign MTA Principals of Governance pledge.

A complete copy of the minutes is available by contacting Laurie Briggs-Dudley, Clerk. Next regular meeting of the Eagle Township Board is June 16, 2026, at 6 pm at Eagle Township Hall, 14318 Michigan St, Eagle, MI. See www.eagletownshipmi.gov for latest updates.

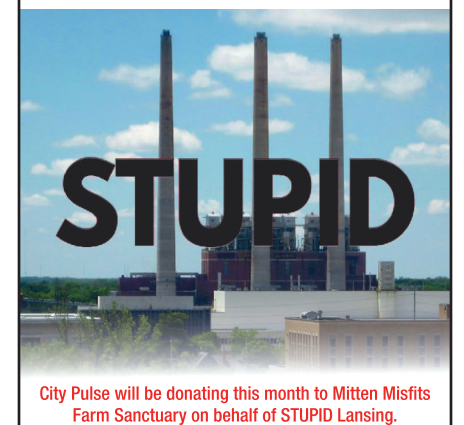
Prepared by: Laurie Briggs-Dudley, Eagle Township Clerk
Approved by: Troy Stroud, Eagle Township Supervisor

CP#26-203



Look who's at the Fish Ladder

A bridge-under-construction gets hungry in the summer. STUPID-Lansing officials have spotted Penny the Truck Munching Bridge miles from her home and fishing on the Grand River in Lansing, camouflaged by the Fish Ladder Hydro House.



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

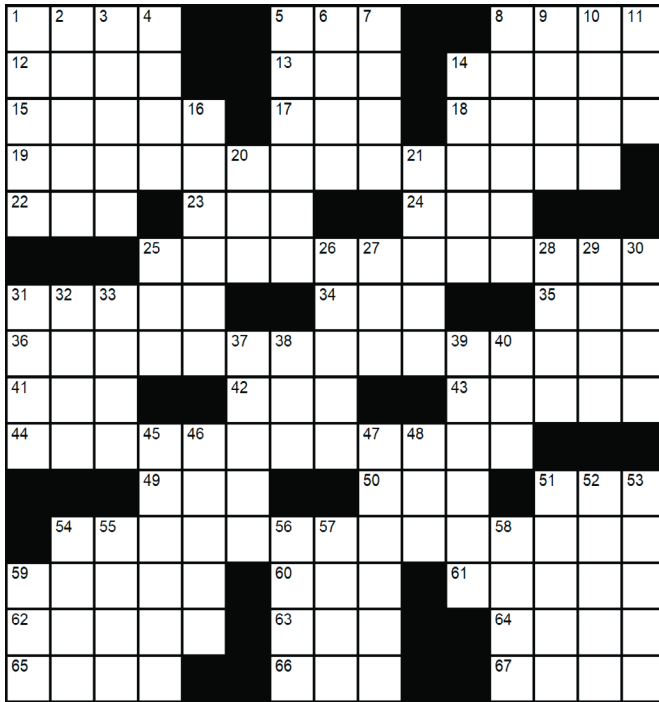
Jonesin' Crossword

By Matt Jones

"Double Dealing"
-- I'll throw in two extra.
by Matt Jones
© 2026 Matt Jones

ACROSS

- 1. Scottish map word
- 5. First-aid box
- 8. Superfood seed (no, it's not acai-related)
- 12. Buffalo's lake
- 13. Alias letters
- 14. Garden mixes
- 15. Star
- 17. Arya Stark's father
- 18. Abandoned ships
- 19. What remote controls are good for, power-wise?
- 22. Conductor _____ Pekka Salonen
- 23. Prefix with thermal
- 24. Hackneyed
- 25. Widely accepted game of hoops?
- 31. Forbidden
- 34. Here, to Hergé
- 35. TV chef Garten
- 36. Workbench tool that only works in dangerous winds?
- 41. Suffix with glob
- 42. Govt. agency once headed by Patricia Harris
- 43. Upwords pieces
- 44. Thought similar to "External computer storage can be so crude"?
- 49. Fresh
- 50. Neither counterpart
- 51. Screen abbr.
- 54. Back when a mopey cartoon character was popular?
- 59. Girder material
- 60. Trollish response to a celebrity game show contestant list
- 61. Ready to go
- 62. Parcel units



- 63. Feel like crap
 - 64. Zippo
 - 65. Pork cut
 - 66. Physique
 - 67. "It is too hard a ___ for me t' untie": "Twelfth Night"
- DOWN**
- 1. Dulce de ___
 - 2. Nabisco cookies
 - 3. British singer/actress Black
 - 4. Pay attention to
 - 5. Hat brand popularized by LL Cool J and Samuel L. Jackson
 - 6. Retailer with a blue-and-yellow logo
 - 7. Big reveal sound
 - 8. Might have, informally
 - 9. Palatine or Esquiline, e.g.
 - 10. Varieties
 - 11. It may follow dumb or smart
 - 14. Cabinet position?
 - 16. Half of OutKast
 - 20. Org. that sponsors "Read Across America"
 - 21. Shaped like a martini glass (minus the stem)
 - 25. Queens, e.g., for short
 - 26. "Bob's Burgers" spouse
 - 27. Tumbler contents, maybe
 - 28. Medicine bottle
 - 29. "Next one's ___!"
 - 30. They have distinctive flows
 - 31. Impact sound
 - 32. "___ Lang Syne"
 - 33. Title of a trickster rabbit
 - 37. Like mochi
 - 38. National Black Business mo.
 - 39. Vertebra that supports the weight of the head
 - 40. "Would I ___ to You?"
 - 45. Completely committed
 - 46. Meat case options
 - 47. Play out (or splay out)
 - 48. British miler Sebastian
 - 51. Closest airport to MIT
 - 52. Doctrine
 - 53. Emulate the Pied Piper
 - 54. Desire
 - 55. "I, Claudius" role
 - 56. Cotton bud
 - 57. State called the "Mother of Presidents"
 - 58. Pull hard
 - 59. Small pouch

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

Answers on page 24

SUDOKU

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

Intermediate

Fun By The Numbers

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

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

Free Will Astrology

By Rob Breznsy

June 3-9, 2026

ARIES (March 21-April 19): You are often the best possible remedy for stale, unoriginal thinking that's festering in your vicinity. And you are especially so these days. Others might have the gall to disrupt the deadening status quo, but you have the charm to do it without scorching every bridge and laying waste to the land. So, I invite you to step into the role of cheerful troublemaker. Unleash your iconoclastic sparks with the intention of making life friskier and more imaginative, not more tangled and irritating.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): In many farming cultures, including parts of India, growers speak or sing to their crops as they walk through the fields. It's a gesture of personal care that mirrors growing scientific interest in how plants respond to sound and vibration. Some studies suggest that plants exposed to sustained speech and song may grow more vigorously. Your assignment in the coming weeks, Taurus, is to speak to the growing things in your life with similar devotion. Talk to your projects. Sing to your relationships. Tell jokes to your dreams. The universe is extra responsive to your sweet voice.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Neurologist Oliver Sacks said, "I am haunted by the density of experience." He meant that every moment contains far more richness than we can fully register or remember. This observation will be especially relevant for you in the coming weeks. Your mind (and heart!) will be flooded with an abundance of stimuli, ideas, feelings, and impressions. It might initially feel overwhelming, but it will ultimately be a boon — especially if you prepare yourself for the intensity and abundance. Imagine yourself standing next to a fountain and feeling cheerful about getting soaked.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You have superpowers that hardened hearts and tough guys can't fathom. Receptivity is a key part of your genius, for example. Emotional fluency is at the root of your intelligence. Your ability to feel so much and so deeply makes you dangerous to status quos managed by people who overthink everything. Wait! There's more. You can nurture without smothering and protect without imprisoning. You wield the powers of memory without being enslaved by nostalgia. You make home a verb, not a noun, as you build shelter for yourself and your tribe. I hope you will express these gorgeous talents to the max in the coming weeks and months.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): An astrologer rooted in older traditions might claim that now is an ideal time to promote your personal agenda through sly, gossipy maneuvering. But since I am devoted to building a new culture grounded in compassionate values that nourish the soul, my message is different. I'm pleased to tell you that the coming weeks will be a potent phase to engage in elevating gossip that serves the greater good, to celebrate unsung heroes, and to call attention to everything that is thriving. For practical dreamers like you and me, carelessly speaking ill of others undermines our own aspirations. One of the most effective ways to expand our own possibilities is to use the power of language to boost other people's chances for joy and success.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): The ancient Library of Alexandria contained over half a million scrolls. If you devoted eight hours a day to reading, you could finish about 5,000 books over the course of your life. The librarians back then knew they would never read all the texts they managed and protected. Their job wasn't to consume all knowledge but to be stewards of abundance. They're good role models for you, Virgo. The wonderful fact is that you don't have to master every single thing that attracts your attention. Your far more relaxing task is to curate with care and wisdom. Your growing edge is to know what to preserve and what to release. One of your noblest projects is to commune pleasurably with the intriguing mysteries that life brings you, not obsess on them.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Libra psychologist Carol Dweck distinguishes between fixed mindsets ("I'm

not smart enough") and growth mindsets ("I can become smarter"). When you have a fixed mindset, obstacles weigh you down. With a growth mindset, they motivate you to develop. What determines your trajectory isn't your current skill level but how you relate to your edge. With this in mind, Libra, I invite you to monitor your self-talk as you encounter challenges. Are you prone to thinking that limitations are permanent, or do you see them as temporary states you can use as opportunities? You now have a good chance to instill the latter as a root habit.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): What's something you wish you could change about yourself? Is it a trait, pattern, fear, or story about your body? And what exactly tells you that this can never change? Is it loyalty to old expectations or a rotting prophecy someone laid on you? Consider the possibility that maybe the "can't" is really a "won't," or a "don't know how yet," or "I'm afraid of who I'd be without this." Then imagine that you don't have to transform this thing instantly, but, for starters, need only shift it by 10% in the direction of mercy and freedom. What small, specific action would generate that 10%?

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): What's your most vital relationship? I dare you to surprise each other in the coming weeks. Refresh your bond with playful experimentation. Here are adventures you two could explore: 1. Take a walk together with no destination in mind, letting curiosity guide you. Talk about the paths you have not yet taken in life but might like to. 2. Describe the most beautiful future you can imagine for each other. Share practical steps you could take to make these scenarios happen. 3. Choose a treat you both love, speak a blessing over it, then eat it slowly together as you name what you are most grateful for in your connection.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Chess masters and accomplished musicians practice differently from amateurs. They focus most intensely on their weak points, less so on rehearsing what they already do well. It's uncomfortable to confront inadequacy, but they're better for it. In my astrological opinion, Capricorn, you should specialize in a similar courage during the coming weeks. I invite you to direct your generous attention toward your shakiest skills and most uncertain territories. Glorious growth will happen at the edge of your competence.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Be more like a lightning storm over a green meadow and less like a porch light attracting moths. Be more like a spiritual riddle in an ecstatic poem and less like a slogan printed on a T-shirt. Be more like a Miles Davis improvisation and less like a tune played note-for-note from the sheet music for a formulaic pop song. Can you stretch yourself into more fertile wildness, Aquarius? Will you expand your future with adventures that thrill your imagination? I believe you can and should. For bonus magic, be more like a dream of wandering in a rowdy paradise and less like the old version of yourself. Trust the frontier signals that make your pulse quicken and speak less about the obvious truths that make everyone nod in agreement.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Are you ready to assess the state of your emotional pain? Every few years, I invite you to take stock. I ask you to reflect on how well you've been cultivating meaningful stress while avoiding useless pain and misery. So, how's your progress since our last check-in? Have you improved at sidestepping dull torments you've relived a thousand times? Are you less vulnerable to being wounded by ignorant or thoughtless people? Can you more swiftly shake off the sting of minor troubles? Most importantly, are you increasingly magnetized to the intriguing dilemmas that challenge you to grow wiser and more resourceful?

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

OUT on the TOWN

Events & Happenings in Lansing This Week

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

Wednesday, June 3

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

An Evening with Author Laura Boonstra: "Our Family Is Not a Tree" - With nearly 10,000 kids in the foster care system, Samaritas is teaming up with author Laura Boonstra to encourage more Michiganders to become licensed foster parents. 5:30-7:30 p.m. 1545 Keystone Ave., Lansing. facebook.com/lamSamaritas.

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.

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

Free Community Meal - 5:30-7 p.m. First United Methodist Church, 411 Harrison St., Grand Ledge. 517-627-3256.

Independent Painting, with Philip Ruelle - Receive one-on-one instruction while exploring the painting genre of your choice. Pre-registration & payment are required. June 3-July 8. Noon-3 p.m. Shiawassee Arts Center, 206 Curwood Castle Drive, Owosso. 989-723-8354. shiawasseearts.org

Little Mania Mini Wrestling - Get ready for the biggest little wrestling event of the year! The Mini Wrestling All Stars are coming to town, and these pint-sized powerhouses pack a punch! 8-10 p.m. The Studio at 414, 410 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. eventbrite.com/o/90067055783

Matter of Balance - Eight-session workshop designed to improve balance, flexibility and strength,

helping older adults reduce fall risks and become more active. 10 a.m.-noon. St. Thomas Aquinas Church, 955 Alton Road, East Lansing. To register, call 517-887-1465 or email histedc@tcoa.org.

Meditation - Meditation in the tradition of Thích Nhất Hạnh. Contact Robert at 517-420-5820. 7-9 p.m. Chau Van Hanh, 3015 S. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Lansing.

Motivated by Nature Trail Run/Walk - This run/walk immerses you in a mixed forest via a 2.25-mile trail loop through the 100-acre Harris Nature Center and Eastgate Park. After crossing the finish line, there will be refreshments and fun! 6 p.m. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road, Okemos. meridian.mi.us/hnc.

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. lapsg.org.

Plant Bingo at The Irish Pub - Everyone gets a plant! Ten games played! Choose your own plants! Four percent of proceeds support breast cancer programs. 7-9 p.m. 1910 W. Saginaw St., Lansing. eventbrite.com/o/112217525241.

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.

Summer Strings Rehearsal at MSU Community Music School - Summer Strings is the CMS Adult Ensembles - Orchestra for the summer session. It's open to all adults wanting to play in an orchestra. 7-8 p.m. 4930 S. Hagadorn Road, East Lansing. cmsaemusic.weebly.com.

Unearth a Story: Illustrated History of the Soo Locks - Take a deep dive into the history of the Soo Locks with Chief Park Ranger Michelle Briggs. 6-8 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. gladl.libcal.com.

Weaving the Web: Witches' Pyramid - 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.

Thursday, June 4

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

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

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

Bike Night at Summerlands Brewing Co. - Kick back with an ice-cold brew, grab a burger, and check out some awesome bikes while enjoying great company and laid-back vibes. 7-10 p.m. 1957 Cedar St., Holt. facebook.com/summerlandsbrewing.

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

Chipmunk Story Time - Story time comes alive as children interact with puppets Chicory Chipmunk

R.E. Olds Transportation Museum Wayside signs ribbon cuttings
Wednesday, June 3
Noon at the museum, 240 Museum Drive, Lansing
12:30 p.m. at Turner Park, 1200 Turner St., Lansing
1 p.m. on South Washington Avenue in REO Town

'Assembled in Lansing' exhibit opening
3-5 p.m. Wednesday, June 3
240 Museum Drive, Lansing
reoldsmuseum.org

Assembled In Lansing: Building a Workforce. Building a Union.



R.E. Olds Transportation Museum will celebrate the opening of its new permanent exhibit, "Assembled in Lansing: Building a Workforce. Building a Union," with a ribbon cutting and exhibit chat with former UAW official Mark Strolle this afternoon.

But what sets this apart from most exhibit openings is the ribbon-cutting road marathon earlier in the day, for a different kind of educational display.

The museum will unveil a dozen Wayside signs at three Lansing locations, each telling a part of mid-Michigan's automotive history, from Michigan State University's connection to the industry to the building of Interstate 496, World War II and more. Frequently used by the National Park Service, Wayside signs are outdoor displays designed to provide information and guidance for visitors of parks, historical sites, cities and other areas of interest.

Three more signs are planned for Charlotte, and another five are planned at two other mid-Michigan sites.

Museum admission will be free after 2 p.m. The "Assembled in Lansing" exhibit was developed in partnership with America250MI, the initiative spearheading the state's commemoration of the nation's 250th anniversary. It examines the labor rights movement in Lansing and the surrounding areas, highlighting the ongoing struggle for fair working conditions and basic human rights.

The museum's executive director, Chris Haas, said the exhibit can help viewers understand how labor history has impacted today's workers and offer perspective on current labor rights issues.

"The greatest perk of this exhibit is its ability to be continuously updated with new photos, stories and artifacts as more people share their stories with us," Haas said.

and his animal friends. Stories are followed by nature activities and a guided walk. 10 a.m. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road, Okemos. meridian.mi.us/hnc.

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

Field Crops Virtual Breakfast Series — IPM in Sugar Beets: Cercospora Management, with Dr. Jaime Wilbur - 7-8 a.m. Virtual — register at canr.msu.edu/field_crops.

"I've Got a Text" Thursdays | "Love Island" Watch Nights at MP Social - Join us every Thursday night as we stream the latest episode of "Love Island" on the big screens. 4-10 p.m. 313 N. Cedar St., Lansing. facebook.com/mpsocial.lansing.

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.

MAC Group Dance Class: Beginning Salsa - An easy to learn and fun Latin dance. 8-8:50 p.m. Michigan Athletic Club, 2900 Hannah Blvd., East Lansing. Register by calling 517-364-8800. themac.org.

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. lapsg.org.

Preserving MI Harvest: Preserving Meat - Discover the many ways to enjoy meat: grilling, smoking, curing, and dehydrating. 1-2 and 6-7 p.m. Virtual — register at canr.msu.edu/food_preservation.

"Seussical" - A fantastical, magical, musical extravaganza blending characters and stories from various Dr. Seuss books. 7 p.m. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. riverwalk-theatre.com.

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THE PULSIFIEDS

SENIOR INFRASTRUCTURE DBA

Delta Dental. FT Senior Infrastructure DBA. Ensure reliability, performance & security of enterprise DB systems. Subject matter expert for DB mgmt. 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. \$143,221.50/yr. Visa spons. not avail.

RELEASE MANAGER

Delta Dental seeks FT Release Manager. Organize & prov. oversight to deploy. & release act. for applications. Req: Bach. or equiv.+ 5 yrs. exp. Jobsite: Okemos, MI. Hybrid pos. w/ in-office req. Must live within commut. dist. of Okemos, MI & be able to work in-office as req. Apply online: www.deltadentalmi.com/careers. Salary: \$125,303.66/yr. Visa spons. not avail. for position.

Events

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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.

Spring Cheese Pairings and Charcuterie - We'll explore a variety of spring cheese pairings, and we'll put together the perfect appetizer plate that will replace any need to labor for long in the kitchen. 6-8 p.m. Bradly's HG, 319 E. César E. Chávez Ave., Lansing. bradlyshg.com.

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

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

Friday, June 5

Clayworks Summer Pottery Sale - Community members can shop handmade pottery and support local artists. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. 13121 S. Wacousta Road, Grand Ledge. clayworkspottery.net.

Copper Beech Tree 80th Birthday Party - The beloved copper beech tree at the heart of the Healing Gardens is turning 80 years old this year! Join us to celebrate this magnificent octogenarian tree while the gardens are in full bloom. 3-7 p.m. MSU Radiology Healing Gardens, 846 Service Drive, East Lansing. radiology.msu.edu.

Cornbread & Beans Comedy Showcase - Cornbread & Beans Ent. is bringing another hilarious showcase to the Lansing area. This time we're at the Clever Caddie in Potterville. 8-10 p.m. 121 Lansing Road, Ste. A, Potterville. eventbrite.com/o/120626855359.

Double Clutch Free Karaoke - First, second & third Fridays from 7-10:30 p.m. Bring your friends, significant other or coworkers and sing your little hearts out! High Caliber, 1982 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. highcaliberkarting.com.

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

National Donut Day: Wine & Donut Flights - Celebrate National Donut Day with a sweet little pairing at Burgdorf's Winery! Noon-9 p.m. Burgdorf's Winery, 4212 Holt Road, Webberville. facebook.com/wine.burgdorfs.

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

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

Self-Honoring Circle Chapter 4: There Is Not Enough ... - What beliefs do we carry about scarcity, lack, and limitation? And what begins to shift when we create space to notice support? Four-week course. 1-4 p.m. Virtual — register at deepsouls-creativeart.my.canva.site.

"Seussical" - 7 p.m. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. riverwalktheatre.com.

TGI Friday's Patio Opening Dance Party - Most attended event of the year. Doors 7 p.m., line dance lesson 7:15 p.m., dance 8 p.m. to midnight. Sea Cruisers

band on the patio. DJ Jim Kitchen in the house. Dinner buffet provided. Cash/credit bar available. Hawk Hollow Banquet Center, 15101 Chandler Road, Bath. tgifdance.com.

Twilight Adventures - From 6 to 9 p.m., explore the zoo with a themed scavenger hunt, make friendship bracelets, paint rocks for pollinators, play yard games, and enjoy s'mores by the fire. Along the way, discover simple ways to help animals and the planet. Potter Park Zoo, 1301 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. potterparkzoo.org.

Wake Up Old Town Summer Series - These mornings are a great opportunity to collaborate, stay informed, and help shape the future of Old Town while enjoying coffee and conversation with neighbors and friends. 8:30-10 a.m. Twiggies, 117 E. Cesar E. Chavez Ave., Lansing. facebook.com/OldTownLansing.

Saturday, June 6

Chalk of the Town - Watch incredible chalk masterpieces come to life on Turner Street and César E. Chávez Avenue, explore our unique boutiques and restaurants, and cheer on your favorites as guest judges award prizes to the best creations! Noon-4 p.m. Old Town, Lansing. facebook.com/OldTownLansing.

The Chronicle 40th Anniversary Legacy Gala - For 40 years, The Chronicle News has been a pillar of truth, culture, and connection. This milestone celebration honors that legacy while boldly stepping into the future of community storytelling. 4-9 p.m. LCC Michigan Room, 600 N. Grand Ave., Lansing. thechroniclenews.com.

Clayworks Summer Pottery Sale - 10 a.m.-5 p.m. 13121 S. Wacousta Road, Grand Ledge. clayworkspottery.net.

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

Eaton Rapids Spring Cleanup - We're partnering with Granger Waste Services and the Eaton County Resource Recovery Mobile Recycling Program to offer both waste disposal and recycling. 8:30 a.m.-noon. Howe Memorial Park, 100 Howe Drive, Eaton Rapids. facebook.com/CityOfEatonRapids.

Eaton Rapids Summer Kickoff - Kick off the summer season with a full day of family-friendly activities happening throughout downtown Eaton Rapids and GAR Island Park! From fishing and shopping to art, music, and classic boats, there will be something for everyone to enjoy. 9 a.m.-2 p.m. facebook.com/CityOfEatonRapids.

Family Day: SHINE - How does light move in art? Make art that invites light to filter, bounce and shine, inspired by the exhibition "Jan Tichy: Darkness." 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, East Lansing. broadmuseum.msu.edu.

Friends of the Okemos Library Book Sale - Books range from 25-cent paperbacks to \$1 hardbacks. Special editions individually priced. Selection of vinyl records, too. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Okemos Masonic Center, 2175 Hamilton Road, Okemos. cadl.org/about/get-involved/friends-library/okemos.

Haunting in RED Town Marketplace - This year's lineup includes guest speakers, museum tours, vendors, cosplay, tarot, paranormal investigators and more. Free entry. 11 a.m.-6 p.m. 1023 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. facebook.com/Screamcraft.

Italian Night - Carrabbas, Olive Garden and Fazoli's won't disappoint! Silent auction, music and a Peruvian slideshow. Proceeds go toward orphanages, medical supplies, wells and food for children in Peru. 5-8 p.m. House of Ezekiel, 2470 S. Cochran Road, Charlotte. eventbrite.com/o/110886663971.

Literally Figurative Exhibit Opening Reception - Williamston Figure Study is an annual art course open to students and the public. "Literally Figurative" showcases the results of this class. 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Art Williamston Gallery, 3845 Vanneter Road, Williamston. facebook.com/ArtWilliamston.



Old Town Roper Romp

11 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday, June 6

Tickets \$25

iloveoldtown.org/2026roperromp

It's tough to think of someone more lovable, zany and up for it than Helen Roper.

The third annual Old Town Roper Romp is a half-day event dedicated to the glamorous landlady from "Three's Company" (and "The Ropers").

Dressed in fabulous muumuus, gaudy jewelry and curly red wigs, attendees will strut their stuff as they make their way through the neighborhood, enjoying specials, treats and discounts at each stop. Those who hit every spot on the map will be entered to win a selection of raffle prizes.

At 2 p.m., Ozone's Brewhouse will host a lawn party with games, trivia and more. And don't forget about Chalk of the Town, covered in our Summer Guide, happening concurrently on the sidewalks of Old Town.

Market on the Grand - 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Jaycee Park, 525 E. River St., Grand Ledge. facebook.com/GrandLedgeChamber.

Meridian Pride - This event will bring LGBTQ+ community members, allies, and organizations together to celebrate the Meridian community! 5-10 p.m. Marketplace on the Green, 1995 Central Park Drive, Okemos. meridian.mi.us.

Michigan Waterway Stewards River Cleanup - Help us protect local wildlife and keep our rivers clean by joining Potter Park Zoo's river cleanup day. We'll provide the supplies — you bring the enthusiasm! 10 a.m.-3 p.m. 1301 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. potterparkzoo.org.

Mosaic Lamp Workshop: Make Your Own Turkish Lamp - Discover the beauty of Turkish mosaic lamp making at this hands-on workshop, hosted by Art Masterclass. 10 a.m., 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. 600 E. Michigan Ave., Ste. 100, Lansing. eventbrite.com/o/69090027313.

"Seussical" - 7 p.m. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. riverwalktheatre.com.

Tease A Gogo & HOME Present: Born This Way! A Queer Cabaret Extravaganza - We have the most incredible LGBTQ+ burlesque and drag entertainers in the Midwest lined up, as well as talented artisans and delicious concoctions crafted by The Studio's bar staff! 8 p.m. The Studio at 414, 410 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. teaseagogo.com.

Wacousta Community Block Party - This community event features live music, food trucks, over 40 vendors, and kids' activities to raise funds for the preschool's scholarship fund. 3-7 p.m. 9180 W. Heribson Road, Eagle. facebook.com/Wacousta-CommunityBlockParty.

Welcome Summer Festival - A full day of vendors, workshops, and community ritual held outdoors at beautiful Lake Lansing Park South. We're proud to welcome Oberon Zell — author, artist, and one of the most recognized elders in the modern pagan movement — as our featured headliner. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. 1621 Pike St., Haslett. weaversoftheweb.org.

Williamston Pop-Up Art & Craft Show - Join us June 6 for an eclectic mix of artisans and mediums! 11

a.m.-6 p.m. Keller's Plaza, 100 E. Grand River Ave., Williamston. facebook.com/WilliamstonPopUpArtAndCraftShows.

Sunday, June 7

An Afternoon with Oberon Zell - We're sitting down with Oberon Zell — co-founder of the Church of All Worlds, founder of the Grey School of Wizardry, longtime publisher of Green Egg, and one of the architects of modern American Paganism — for an intimate afternoon of reading, conversation, and book signing. 2-4 p.m. Weavers of the Web, 809 Center St., Lansing. weaversoftheweb.org.

brUNCH & Walk with League 5K - Gather your friends, family and fellow fitness enthusiasts for a memorable morning that blends philanthropy with a dash of exercise and a pinch of deliciousness. 9 a.m. Lansing Shuffle, 325 Riverfront Drive, Lansing. jlansing.org.

DJ Trivia at Summerlands Brewing Co. - Free to play. Prizes for the top three teams. Bring your friends and test your knowledge! 4-5:30 p.m. 1957 Cedar St., Holt. facebook.com/summerlandsbrewing.

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

Friends of the Okemos Library Book Sale - Full bag of books \$5 on Sunday. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Okemos Masonic Center, 2175 Hamilton Road, Okemos. cadl.org/about/get-involved/friends-library/okemos.

GLAM Jam Summer Kickoff - Join the Greater Lansing Area Moms and Downtown East Lansing for a day filled with free fun. This event will include street vendors, children's activities, live music and so much more. Noon-4 p.m. Downtown East Lansing. greaterlansingareamoms.com/glam-jam-summer-kickoff.

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Events

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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.

Mosaic Lamp Workshop: Make Your Own Turkish Lamp - 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. 600 E. Michigan Ave., Ste. 100, Lansing. eventbrite.com/o/69090027313.

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

Refugee Development Center Fundraiser - Love Rose benefit concert — eclectic poetic soul with interpretive dance and audience percussive participation. Silent auction/food drive for the RDC and ceramic art/CD/poster sales. 5-8:30 p.m. Altu's Ethiopian Cuisine, 1312 E. Michigan Ave., East Lansing. facebook.com/altuethiopiancuisine.

"Seussical" - 2 p.m. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. riverwalktheatre.com.

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/summerlands-brewing.

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.

Monday, June 8

AA Women's Meeting - 6-7 p.m. Okemos Community Church, 4734 Okemos Road, Okemos. 517-377-1444. AALansingMI.org.

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

BOSS Youth Day Camp - A week-long day camp for youth entering third through sixth grades. Each day, meet at Bengal Wildlife Center for a different outdoor theme! 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday-Friday. Michigan Wildlife Conservancy, 6380 Drumheller Road, Bath. facebook.com/miwildlife.

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

Broadway Musical Theatre Camp for Kids and Teens - Students will learn basic vocal technique and

Broadway songs. Choreography and staging will then be added to create a musical theatre medley. Ages 5-18. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday-Thursday. Ruhala Holistic Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. ruhalacenter.com.

Broadway Summer Performance Class for Teens and Adults - Develop skills and techniques for singing and acting on stage. Ten-week class. Meets twice per week. 6-7:30 p.m. Ruhala Holistic Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. ruhalacenter.com.

Deep Dive Garden Tour - Whether you've never visited the gardens before or are a weekend regular and want to learn more, these tours will have something for you! Each day, we'll have a prompted, self-guided tour and an optional guided tour of the gardens. 10 a.m.-noon. MSU Horticulture Gardens, 1066 Bogue St., East Lansing. canr.msu.edu/hrt/our_gardens.

DJ Bingo at Summerlands Brewing Co. - Kick off your week with a night of music, laughs, and friendly competition! 7-8:30 p.m. 1957 Cedar St., Holt. facebook.com/summerlandsbrewing.

Drawin' Dinosaurs with Ryan Holmes - Lansing artist Ryan Holmes will be here to demonstrate, share ideas and tips, and draw cool dinosaurs — and other chalk art — on our sidewalk. Grab some chalk and join in! 2-4 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. gladl.libcal.com.

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

Explore Dinosaurs with Paleo Joe - Paleo Joe takes you on a trip back in time to learn about the victims and perpetrators of the prehistoric. Noon-1 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. gladl.libcal.com.

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

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. lapsq.org.

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. 2-4 p.m. Virtual — register at canr.msu.edu/isabella.

Unearth a Story: Summer Reading Kick-Off Party - Stop in to pick up an SRP starter kit with your reading log and surprises inside, make a dinosaur craft or two, search for dinosaurs with our scavenger hunt, decorate a dinosaur scale, play our sidewalk action game, and enjoy a tasty treat! 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. gladl.libcal.com.

Tuesday, June 9

Acting Scene Study Class for Teens and Adults - Students will learn the fundamentals of acting: diction, projection, stage presence, stage directions, working off their partner, basic script work and improvisation. Ten-week class. 6:30-8 p.m. Ruhala Holistic Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. ruhalacenter.com.

Al-Anon Meeting - 9 a.m. Alano Club South, 3500 S. Cedar St., Lansing. cmialanon.org.

Al-Anon Meeting - 7 p.m. St. Jude Church, 801 N. Bridge St., DeWitt. cmialanon.org.

Champions of the Heart Gala - A life-saving event that supports heart health and CPR awareness. 5:30 p.m.-midnight. Breslin Center, 534 Birch Road, East Lansing. thechampionsoftheheart.org.

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

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.

Grant Chats - Stop by for a casual chat and discuss your grant questions and creative ideas with Arts Council membership and program manager Taylor Haslett. Noon-1:30 p.m. Ding Tea, 970 Trowbridge Road, East Lansing. facebook.com/ArtsCouncilGL.

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.

Guidance for Food Handlers and the Management of Halal Food - Participants will increase their knowledge and confidence in how to properly handle halal food for consumers requiring a halal diet. 10-11:30 a.m. Virtual — register at canr.msu.edu/washtenaw.

Improv Acting Class for Teens and Adults - Perform your characters and learn how to make them funnier and more dramatic! We play many theater games and learn why "yes, and" is the basic rule of improv. Ten-week class 6:30-8 p.m. Ruhala Holistic Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. ruhalacenter.com.

Intro to Linocut Printmaking Class Series - This series of classes will cover the basics of planning your design, different transfer methods, carving techniques, inking, and printing. Registration req. 6:30-9 p.m. Odd Nodd Art Supply, 317 E. Cesar E. Chavez Ave., Lansing. oddnodd.com.

Lansing Lugnuts vs. Cedar Rapids Kernels - 7:05 p.m. Jackson Field, 505 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. mlb.com/lansing.

Little Ones & Kindred Playgroup - A standing Tuesday gathering for families in the Weavers community. A low-key, no-agenda space where kids can play and grown-ups can play along or talk to other adults. 4-7 p.m. Weavers of the Web, 809 Center St., Lansing. weaversoftheweb.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.

Open Swim Improv Comedy - Anyone in the community can come to participate in 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.

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. lapsq.org.

Poetry in Motion, a Creative Mixer - Featuring performances by Lansing Poet Laureate Suban Nur Cooley, an open mic that invites you to share your creative expressions, and a stroll through Old Town with Suban to ignite your creative flame. 5:30-8 p.m. UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner St., Lansing. facebook.com/ArtsCouncilGL.

Songwriting Class for Teens and Adults - This ten-week workshop is designed to help songwriters develop their craft. 6:30-8 p.m. Ruhala Holistic Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. ruhalacenter.com.

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

Wednesday, June 10

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.

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

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

Broadway Summer Performance Class for Teens and Adults - Develop skills and techniques for singing and acting on stage. Ten-week class. Meets twice per week. 6-7:30 p.m. Ruhala Holistic Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. ruhalacenter.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.

Deep Dive Garden Tour - 1-3 p.m. MSU Horticulture Gardens, 1066 Bogue St., East Lansing. canr.msu.edu/hrt/our_gardens.

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

Lansing Lugnuts vs. Cedar Rapids Kernels - 7:05 p.m. Jackson Field, 505 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. mlb.com/lansing.

Meditation - Meditation in the tradition of Thích Nhất Hạnh. Contact Robert at 517-420-5820. 7-9 p.m. Chau Van Hanh, 3015 S. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Lansing.

Michigan Agriculture in the Classroom Conference - This in-person event is perfect for educators and anyone passionate about connecting classrooms with the latest in Michigan's ag scene. 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Farm Bureau Insurance Corporate Office, 7373 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing. eventbrite.com/o/120953574495.

National Association of Career Women June Membership Meeting - With keynote speaker Leslie Hart-Davidson, a grief virtuoso who empowers women at Number Ten. 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. The Hidden Gem Event Venue, 4230 Charlar Drive, Delhi Township. eventbrite.com/o/16813410745.

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. lapsq.org.

Parkinson's Support Group: Informal Discussions - Small discussion groups. People with Parkinson's meet in a separate room from caregivers for confidential conversations. 1-3 p.m. Congregation Shaarey Zedek, 1924 Coolidge Road, East Lansing. lapsq.org.

Read Between the Wines Book Club - Grab your book, pour a glass, and join us for a cozy evening of wine and conversation. This month's selections are "Murder at the Cellar" and "Murder at the Festival," by Dani Simms. 5-7:30 p.m. Burgdorf's Winery, 4212 E. Holt Road, Webberville. facebook.com/wine.burgdorfs.

CROSSWORD SOLUTION
From Pg. 21

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SUDOKU SOLUTION
From Pg. 21

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CityPULSE

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FOOD & DRINK

DINING OUT IN GREATER LANSING

Babe's Corner reels in shrimp and lobster rolls

By COURTNEY BOWERMAN

It's hard to find a good lobster roll in the area. The few restaurants that serve them only do so for a limited time. One of these places is Babe's Corner, which recently moved into the downtown Strange Matter Coffee. In an area where there's a sandwich shop on almost every corner, Babe's new summer menu brings a taste of the coast to patrons seeking more than just your average hoagie.

There are three summer sandwich specials: a shrimp roll, a Maine lobster roll and a Connecticut lobster roll. If you're not a lobster lover, then the cheaper shrimp roll will satisfy



Connecticut lobster roll

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331 S. Washington Square,
Lansing

11 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesday-
Saturday

(989) 277-5088

bangosbangosbangos.com

your seafood cravings. However, if you're willing to spend some extra money, the lobster is well worth the price. I decided to order the Connecticut lobster roll because I prefer the warm, toasted sandwich to its chilled Maine counterpart.

The Connecticut roll overflows with 4.5 ounces of butter-dipped lobster meat, served in a New England-style roll that's buttery on its own. It's messy eating, and

you may need a fork to keep everything from falling apart before you're done. Though it's roughly the size of

a hot dog, it's surprising how filling it is. I chalk it up to all the butter. You probably won't need to order a side of chips to go along with it — especially when you're already paying more than \$25 for the roll alone.

I should also mention that Babe's Corner has a selection of ice cream and milkshakes on the summer menu, though, as I said before, the lobster roll is filling enough on its own. I did get a chocolate shake on a separate visit, and I'm happy to report that it was rich and creamy.

On its Facebook page, Babe's claimed to have sold more than 2,000 lobster rolls last summer. No doubt they will be even more popular this year, so be sure to grab one before they're gone! And, if you aren't too full, maybe snag some ice cream, too.



Courtney Bowerman for City Pulse

Bring your burger-making skills to the next level this summer

From METRO CREATIVE CONNECTION

Hamburgers are a staple of summer menus in millions of homes. They're often prepared on a grill, but cooking them on the stovetop can add a new flavor profile to this beloved summertime favorite. Those looking to do just that can try this recipe for beef burgers with onions, spinach, ketchup and blue cheese, courtesy of Lines+Angles.

Beef burgers with onions, spinach, ketchup and blue cheese

Makes four servings

For the sauce:

1 tablespoon olive oil
One small red onion, peeled and finely diced
One or two cloves garlic, peeled and finely diced
1 tablespoon honey
1 tablespoon brown sugar
8 ounces tomato puree
3 1/2 tablespoons tomato passata
1 tablespoon Worcestershire sauce
1 tablespoon apple cider vinegar
1 tablespoon whiskey
1/2 teaspoon salt
1/8 teaspoon freshly ground black

pepper
1/2 teaspoon paprika
1/4 teaspoon chili powder

For the burgers:

1 1/4 pounds ground beef
One onion, peeled and finely diced
1 tablespoon mustard
1 tablespoon Worcestershire sauce
1 tablespoon chili sauce
1 tablespoon vegetable oil
4 ounces Stilton cheese, sliced
4 sesame seed burger buns
Two to three handfuls baby spinach
6 tablespoons crispy onions

For the sauce: Heat the oil in a pan and lightly sauté the diced onion and garlic. Stir in the honey and sugar and simmer briefly. Mix in the tomato puree, passata, Worcestershire sauce, vinegar and whiskey. Simmer until thickened. Season the sauce with salt, pepper, paprika and chili powder to taste.

For the burgers: Place the beef in a bowl. Add the onions, salt, pepper, mustard, Worcestershire sauce and chili sauce and mix well. Shape into four burgers.

Preheat a griddle pan. Lightly oil the pan and grill the burgers for eight to 10 minutes, turning once. During



the last minute of cooking, top the burgers with cheese and allow it to melt. Remove the burgers from the pan and set aside. Halve the burger buns horizontally and toast in the pan, cut side down, for one minute, then remove.

Layer the bottom half of each bun with spinach and sprinkle with crispy onions. Place the burgers on top, drizzle with tomato sauce and cover with the top bun halves. Fix with a skewer if desired and serve with the remaining sauce separately.

TOP 5 DINING GUIDE

THE BEST RESTAURANTS IN GREATER LANSING AS DECIDED BY CITY PULSE AND WKAR VOTERS

TOP 5 NEW RESTAURANTS

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

Bon appétit!

1. Art & Jake's Sports Bar & Grill

Lively, modern sports bar offering draft brews, cocktails and pub eats
2800 Preyde Blvd., Lansing
(517) 855-5000
artjakes.com
11 a.m.-midnight Sunday-Thursday
11 a.m.-1 a.m. Friday-Saturday

2. Cooper's Hawk Winery & Restaurant

Upscale eatery serving steaks, pasta and seafood, with an on-site winery for tastings

2101 Lake Lansing Road, Lansing
(517) 536-1555
chwinery.com
11 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Thursday
11 a.m.-10 p.m. Friday
10 a.m.-10 p.m. Saturday
10 a.m.-9 p.m. Sunday

3. 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

4. That New Place

Casual eatery serving breakfast favorites and lunch fare
146 W. Grand River Ave., Williamston
(517) 242-1810
facebook.com/ThatNewPlace517
7 a.m.-1 p.m. Monday-Wednesday
8 a.m.-2 p.m. Thursday-Saturday
9 a.m.-2 p.m. Sunday

5. The Morning Post

Newspaper-themed breakfast spot known for its playful vibe and Southwest-inspired dishes
1351 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing
(517) 483-2759
themorningpostel.com
8 a.m.-2 p.m. daily



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517-323-9186
Mon-Sat 9am-8pm
Sun 11am-6pm



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