

Lansing's largest circulation newspaper

July 22-28, 2026

CityPULSE

www.lansingcitypulse.com

A newspaper for the rest of us



GREWAL LAW

protecting your rights PLLC

517.393.3000

Sponsored Content

Freedom Is Mandatory Living in the Future of MAGA

Imagine waking up in the America MAGA promised.

The election is only weeks away, but everyone already knows the outcome. The maps have been drawn, the rules rewritten, the courts stacked, and voting has become less an act of choosing your leaders than participating in a ritual designed to legitimize decisions already made.

Your neighborhood no longer resembles the America you once knew. Diversity has become a memory. Those who were deported are gone. Those with the means to leave did so voluntarily, deciding that hope had become too expensive to afford. The people left behind are those with nowhere else to go.

The country has become a tale of two Americas.

At the top are the ultra-wealthy, living behind gates and guarded by private security. They look remarkably alike: overwhelmingly white men in tailored suits, surrounded by carefully curated images of patriotism and success. A few token minorities occupy highly visible positions—not to challenge the system, but to validate it. Their spouses smile beside them, maintaining appearances while power remains concentrated in familiar hands.

Below them are everyone else.

Poor white families still searching for someone else to blame for their circumstances. Some continue worshipping billionaires who would never learn their names, convinced that one day they'll join them. Entire communities of Black Americans remain trapped, not because they lacked ambition, but because they lacked the resources to escape before the doors closed behind them.

Nearly everything once considered a public good has been privatized.

Healthcare is no longer a right or even a realistic expectation. If you can pay, you live. If you can't, illness becomes a death sentence.

Education is no longer designed to create informed citizens. It exists to produce obedient workers. Critical thinking is replaced with propaganda. History becomes mythology. Science becomes politics. Students learn just enough to operate the machinery they'll spend their lives maintaining until their bodies give out and they're discarded for younger, cheaper replacements.

Water is something you buy.

Clean air exists because you're told it does. The evidence isn't scientific; it's political. "If you can't see pollution," they insist, "it must not exist."

Data centers become the nervous system of government control. Every purchase, every movement, every search, every opinion, every relationship, every moment of dissent is catalogued, analyzed, and quietly scored. The algorithms don't merely predict behavior; they shape it. Freedom isn't outlawed. It's simply made impossible.

Poverty breeds desperation. Desperation breeds crime. Eventually, prison becomes more stable than freedom, offering food, shelter, and routine that life outside can no longer guarantee. Incarceration transforms from punishment into social housing for the forgotten.

The American Dream survives—but only as a luxury brand.

It still exists inside gated estates, private jets and beachfront compounds. For everyone below the poverty line, it has become folklore, spoken about the way grandparents once described pensions, affordable homes, clean drinking water and college degrees that actually opened doors.

Even the winners lose.

The wealthy discover that absolute power comes with absolute isolation. Having cast out immigrants, intellectuals, journalists, artists, scientists, political opponents, and anyone who challenged them, they eventually run out of enemies. They begin turning on one another because cruelty, once normalized, always seeks a new target.

A nation cannot sustain itself on grievance forever.

Eventually there is nobody interesting left. Innovation dries up. Culture

becomes propaganda. Patriotism becomes mandatory. Loyalty replaces competence.

Around the world, America is no longer viewed as a beacon of democracy but as a warning. Travel advisories replace admiration. Former allies keep their distance. Refugees no longer dream of coming here; Americans dream of escaping.

And for those fortunate enough to make it out, introducing themselves becomes awkward.

"I'm American."

A sentence once spoken with pride now carries the same quiet embarrassment once reserved for citizens fleeing authoritarian regimes. People nod sympathetically instead of admiringly.

This isn't a prediction. It's a warning.

Dystopias rarely arrive overnight. They are built one exception at a time, one institution at a time, one surrendered freedom at a time—until people can no longer remember what normal felt like.

The future is not inevitable. It is elected.

Vote.

"Round up the communists." Silence the protests. Replace dissent with rallies celebrating the Dear Leader and self-proclaimed savior. That's the atmosphere being cultivated as the midterm elections approach.

The so-called SAVE America Act isn't just legislation—it's political messaging. Its purpose is to convince supporters that widespread voter fraud is an ever-present threat, while making it more difficult for segments of the opposition to vote. Fear becomes the justification, and disenfranchisement becomes the strategy.

But the logic behind the election fraud narrative falls apart the moment you examine it. Donald Trump won in 2016 while Democrats occupied the White House. He lost in 2020 while he was the incumbent president, overseeing the executive branch. Then he won again in 2024 while Democrats once again controlled the White House.

If Democrats truly possessed the ability to rig presidential elections, why would they have lost the two elections in which they supposedly had the greatest opportunity to cheat, yet won the one in which Trump himself held power? The theory contradicts itself.

There's another inconvenient fact: Trump received more votes than Kamala Harris in 2024, but more Americans voted for someone other than Donald Trump than voted for him. That doesn't diminish his victory, but it does undermine the claim that he represents some overwhelming national consensus.

When every setback is explained by conspiracy and every victory is proof of virtue, evidence no longer matters. The pattern becomes familiar: every accusation serves to justify the next action. And far too often, every accusation sounds suspiciously like a confession.

Please email me at lansingallstar@gmail.com

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

CityPULSE

Thanks for your support



City Pulse is nearing 25 years of providing
readers with a unique alternative.
Show us your support and help keep
City Pulse going.
Sign up for our newsletter using the QR code
on the right and learn how to
support local news.



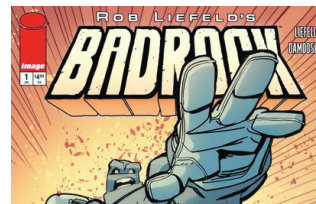
CityPULSE

**VOL. 25
ISSUE 50**

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



Bernie, AOC, El-Sayed and Lawrence barnstorm Lansing

**PAGE
7**


Grand Rapids artist picked to illustrate new Badrock comic

**PAGE
20**


Foster parent opens Great Harvest Bread Co. franchise downtown

**PAGE
29**

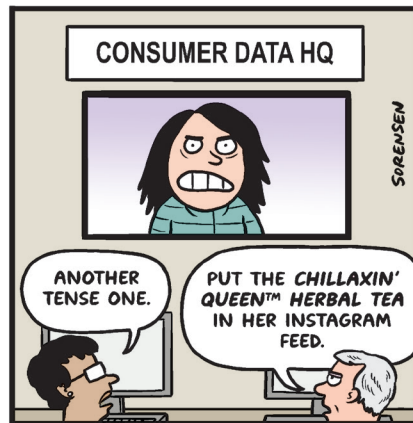
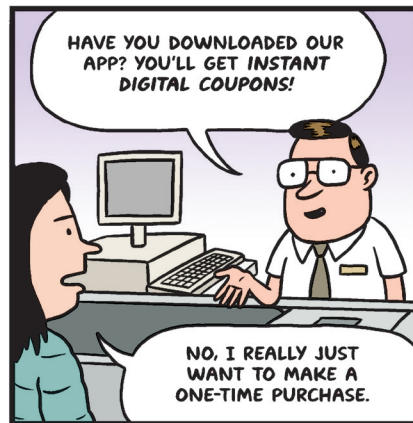
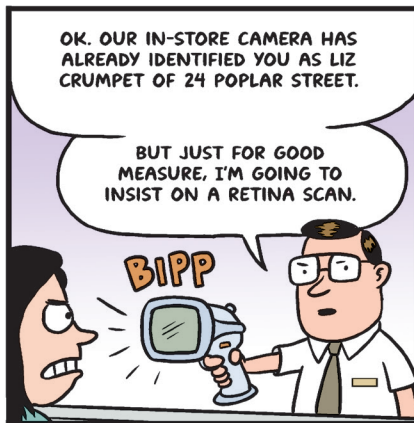
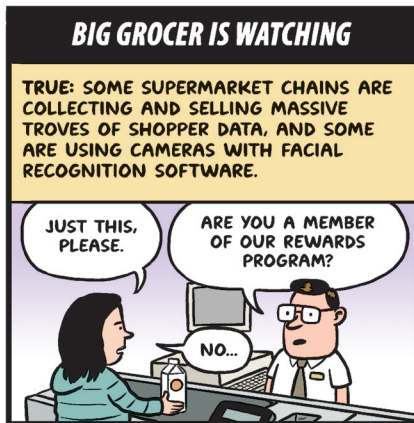
Cover illustration by Dennis Preston

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

PUBLISHER • Lonnie Scott
lonnie@buriedledemedia.com
EDITOR • Sarah Leach
sarah@buriedledemedia.com
MANAGING EDITOR • Mike Ellis
mike@lansingcitypulse.com • (517) 999-6707
GENERAL MANAGER • Steve Underwood
steve@lansingcitypulse.com • (517) 999-6704
ARTS & CULTURE/EVENTS EDITOR • Nicole Noechel
nicole@lansingcitypulse.com • (517) 999-5066
SENIOR STAFF WRITER • Lawrence Cosentino
lawrence@lansingcitypulse.com • (517) 999-5065
REPORTER • Lieza Klemm
lieza@lansingcitypulse.com • (517) 999-5063

ADVERTISING DIRECTOR • Jaclyn Holland
jaclyn@buriedledemedia.com
Contributors: Bryan Beverly, Courtney Bowerman, Rob Brezsky, James Brains, Capital News Service, Ryan Claytor, Mary C. Cusack, Dana DeMink, Lizzy Ferguson, Erick Diaz Veliz, Mark Gmazel, Raymond Holt, Leo V. Kaplan, Kurt Krug, Ari LeVaux, Gabrielle Lawrence, Kyle Melinn, Tom Perkins, Dennis Preston, Vic Rauch, Lora Root, Chris Silva, Jen Sorensen, Nevin Speerbrecker, Heather VanDyke, David Winkelstern, Victor Wooddell
Delivery drivers: Teri Cross, Cindy Heistand, Curt Lauck, James McKinnie, Diane Scofield, Seth Smith

City Pulse was founded as an alternative weekly in 2001.



© Jen Sorensen - jensorensen.com



CityPULSE

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

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



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

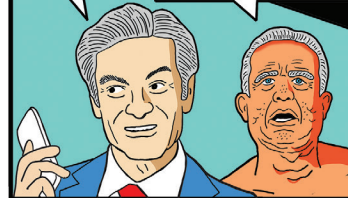


THIS MODERN WORLD

AMERICA 2026: GREATNESS LIKE NOBODY'S EVER SEEN BEFORE!
THAT EXPLOSIVE DIARRHEA OUTBREAK

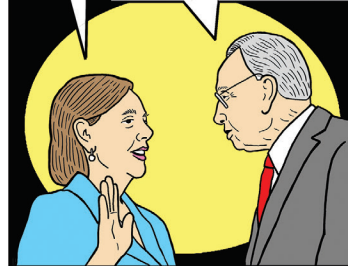
WOW, SOMEBODY SHOULD REALLY DO SOMETHING ABOUT THAT! I GUESS.

I'LL SEE IF GROK HAS ANY IDEAS! MAYBE IF WE JUST IGNORE THE WHOLE THING, IT WILL GO AWAY!


THE RITE OF SUCCESSION

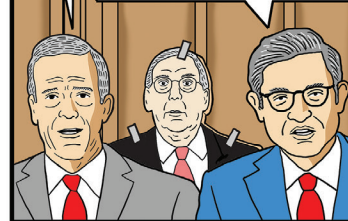
I, LINDSEY GRAHAM'S SISTER, SWEAR TO FAITHFULLY OBEY AND DEFEND DONALD TRUMP NO MATTER WHAT-- JUST LIKE MY BROTHER!

WELCOME TO THE UNITED STATES SENATE, SENATOR LINDSEY GRAHAM'S SISTER!


THE MYSTERIOUS CASE OF THE VANISHING SENATOR

SENATOR MCCONNELL HAS BEEN SENT TO A FARM UPSTATE, WHERE HE CAN RUN FREELY THROUGH EXPANSIVE, ROLLING MEADOWS!

IN THE MEANTIME, WE'VE PREPARED THIS LIFELIKE CARDBOARD CUTOUT TO STAND IN FOR HIM!


ELECTION INTEGRITY IS OUR TOP PRIORITY

LOOK, IT'S SIMPLE! DUMOCRATS DIDN'T CHEAT WHEN THEY WERE IN CHARGE AND I WON--BUT THEY DID CHEAT WHEN I WAS IN CHARGE AND SUPPOSEDLY LOST!

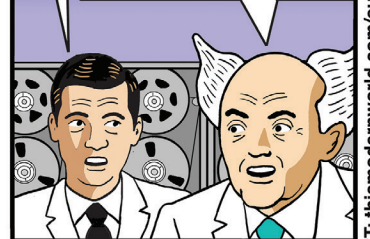
TRY TO KEEP UP, TINY BRAINS!



by TOM TOMORROW

SCHRÖDINGER'S WAR WITH IRAN
 I DON'T UNDERSTAND, PROFESSOR-- IS THE STRAIT OF HORMUZ OPEN OR CLOSED?

BOTH, YOU FOOL! THE STRAIT IS IN A QUANTUM SUPERPOSITION, SIMULTANEOUSLY OPEN AND CLOSED--UNTIL THE PRESIDENT POSTS AGAIN!


THE WAR AT HOME

AS A TRUE AMERICAN PATRIOT, I AM PROUD TO SERVE IN THE PRESIDENT'S ROVING PARAMILITARY EXECUTION SQUADS!

WE'LL RESTORE LAW AND ORDER TO THIS COUNTRY IF WE HAVE TO BURN THE PLACE DOWN IN A BRUTAL ORGY OF LAWLESS VIOLENCE!



NEXT: GREATER GREATNESS THAN YOU EVER IMAGINED POSSIBLE!

 TOM TOMORROW © 2016-07-20... JOIN SPARKY'S LIST: thismodernworld.com/subscriptions

PULSE

NEWS & OPINION

Decades in the making: Lansing previews new City Hall



Lieza Klemm/City Pulse

Lansing Mayor Andy Schor during a July 16 tour of the new Lansing City Hall.



Lieza Klemm/City Pulse

The new Lansing City Hall at 425 S. Grand Ave.

By LIEZA KLEMM

“It was just an empty parking lot,” Lansing Mayor Andy Schor said, standing in the 65,000-square-foot, three-story building that will be the new City Hall.

Construction crews broke ground on the site 15 months ago, and the pieces are finally coming together. The building is designed to be a “one-stop shop” for residents and house more accessible City Council chambers.

Walking under unfinished ceilings and past sheeted windows, Schor said he pictures centralized city services. “It’s becoming real,” he said. “We have a few months before it’s finished, but this is exciting.”

The process of finding a new City Hall goes back several mayors ago, before Schor’s time. David Hollister, who served between 1993 and 2003, recommended budgeting for a new City Hall decades ago.

Built in the 1950s, the current City Hall is falling apart, compounded by years of neglected maintenance that has led to recurring issues. “We see the heat go out all the time,” Schor said. “If you go into the garage, you can see stuff falling down.”

The city has estimated the cost to upgrade the building to maintain it as City Hall would be nearly \$80 million.

According to the city’s website,

Schor issued a Request for Proposal in 2021 to see if the project was possible, asking potential bidders to “provide creative funding costs” to help the city with costs.

Voters approved a millage in 2022 to build a complex to move the Lansing Police Department, Lansing Fire Department administration and training facilities, district courts and lock-up, as well as to house a new fire station. Separating these departments from City Hall significantly reduced the size of the original proposal.

The new safety complex, at 2500 S. Washington Ave., is slated to open in the spring of next year.

When Lansing received a one-time \$40 million state appropriation in 2023 to relocate City Hall, the project turned from a pipe dream into a reality. Officials considered converting the historic but vacant Masonic building.

Plans were sent back to the drawing board after City Council and the mayor disagreed on the building.

In 2024, Schor proposed a Grand Avenue parking lot across from CA-TA’s downtown transportation center as the new location.

Instead of sending residents to multiple buildings to pay taxes, obtain permits, register to vote and conduct other city business, the new building will consolidate those services into a first-floor customer service center.

“Right now, you’ve got to go to eight different places,” Schor said. “It’s efficient for the government, but it’s not efficient for customers.”

City Council chambers are also located on the first floor, fitting up to 170 people. The hallway outside the chambers is meant for overflow crowds. Unlike the current chambers, visitors won’t have to navigate elevators or multiple levels to attend meetings.

“You just have to walk through the door,” Schor said. “It’s flat, so that makes it easier.”

Deputy Mayor Christopher Mumby said between 250 and 300 employees will work out of the new City Hall. The second and third floors will hold other city departments, including the 311 call center.

The building also offers short-term parking spaces surrounding the property for people conducting quick business with the city. The spots will likely be either 15- or 30-minute parking.

“We’d like to have free parking for those who are coming in to do work,” Schor said.

City officials expect staff to begin moving into the building in October, though the transition will happen in phases. Departments are digitizing records and reducing paper storage to fit into a building that is roughly

a third of the size of the current City Hall.

“It’s not just bringing in a bunch of moving vans,” Schor said. “We’re making sure things get scanned, saved and archived.”

Once city employees leave the current City Hall, the building won’t sit vacant for long. The City Council approved the sale of the building in 2024 to a Chicago-based developer for nearly \$2.8 million. Under a longstanding agreement, the building is expected to be converted into a hotel with restaurant and retail space.

This plays into the city’s broader vision for a more active downtown where hundreds of new residents, visitors and concertgoers are expected to arrive over the next several years. Just blocks away, the Ovation Center for Music and Arts is nearing completion, a 28-story residential tower is under construction, and additional housing developments continue to reshape the area.

Schor believes the new City Hall is another piece of that transformation.

“My expectation is, five years from now, people are going to forget we even had the old City Hall,” he said. “They’re going to come here, they’re going to know this is where they have to go, and they’re going to say, ‘That’s not City Hall anymore. That’s a hotel.’”

Detroit group to lead Mod Pod/Nova housing program

BY LIEZA KLEMM
Lansing city officials announced that Detroit Rescue Mission Ministries will run the long-awaited transitional housing program known as the NOVA Housing Initiative. As the only applicant for the job, DRMM will manage the day-to-day operations and case management of the Mod Pod community, intended for people experiencing homelessness. Leaders called this a major step for the program, which was designed to provide transitional shelter and longer-term support for the city’s unhoused. In a press release, Mayor Andy Schor described DRMM as “a well-qualified and respected organization working with the unhoused communities across Michigan.” “Daily operation and case man-

agement for the residents here will be critical for the success of the program, and DRMM is ready to get to work on this program,” he said. “Work continues to progress rapidly on site preparation and pre-construction planning, and we look forward to physical construction happening very soon.” According to DRMM’s website, it started serving Detroit’s homeless and addicted communities in 1909 and is one of the state’s largest housing and treatment providers. The announcement is part of the city’s broader mission to establish more housing and support for the unhoused in Lansing, an ongoing struggle. The latest city-commissioned study found rates of homelessness have increased in Lansing, with at least 2,371 people experiencing homelessness in 2023.

In August 2025, Lansing City Council members approved the purchase of 50 Mod Pod units. The possible location for the pods was widely contested by residents before the city finally designated a portion of a parking lot behind the Ingham County Department of Health and Human Services during a special joint meeting of city officials in January. The annual cost of running the pods, including restrooms, laundry facilities, a community room, meeting and training spaces, 24/7 security and “resident empowerment programming,” is estimated at \$952,335. The City Council set aside about \$1.9 million for site preparation and construction. That amount includes \$600,00 from the Ingham County Housing Trust to purchase the units,

city spokesman Scott Bean said. Chad Audi, president and CEO of DRMM, said the partnership will bring the community together. “It’s not going to be staffed by people from Detroit,” he said in an interview. “It’s going to be Lansing people serving Lansing people.” The City of Lansing and DRMM previously partnered during an emergency winter warming center initiative. The warming centers, designed to allow people to stay overnight, received backlash from the public due to their lack of sleeping accommodations. Audi said the facilities were inadequate to “really provide the quality service that we want to.”

**NOTICE OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT AND
NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS**

July 22, 2026

City of Lansing Department of Economic Development and Planning
316 N. Capitol Ave
Lansing, MI 48933
(517) 483-4040

AND

Lansing Housing Commission
419 Cherry Street
Lansing, Michigan 48933

These notices satisfy two separate but related procedural requirements for activities to be undertaken by the City of Lansing, MI.

REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or about **August 3, 2026**, the City of Lansing, MI authorize the Lansing Housing Commission to submit a request to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Detroit Field Office for the release of Project Based Vouchers (PBV) funds under Section 8 (o)(13) of the U.S. Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(o)(13)), as amended, to undertake a project known as Summer Place Townhomes located at 4901 S. Waverly Road in Lansing, MI. The proposed rehabilitation project consists of the renovation of the existing multifamily residential apartment complex (built by 1971) totaling approximately 136 dwelling units across 17 residential buildings. The scope of work includes interior unit renovations, selective exterior envelope improvements, site repairs, and replacement of mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems. The proposed project will utilize approximately \$14,995,794 of short-term tax-exempt bonds from MSHDA thru their Pass Through program that will get repaid after renovations. The project will receive a 4% LIHTC reservation from MSHDA. The Lansing Housing Commission (LHC) intends to provide new PBV Housing Assistance Payments Contracts (HAPC) for the 22 unsubsidized units at this property at closing. The remaining 114 residential units are already covered by an existing PBRA HAPC.

Project funding sources include:
(x22) Lansing Housing Commission PBVs
\$8,118,000 Freddie Taxable Immediate
\$409,842 Transferred Reserves
\$3,165,506 Seller Note – LHC
\$2,455,815 LHC Sponsor Loan
\$141,730 Interim Income
\$353,413 Accrued Acquisition Loan & Sponsor Loan Interest
\$632,960 Investment Income
\$4,447,769 Assumed MRN
\$10,426,548 LIHTC Equity
\$1,594,478 Deferred Development Fee

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The City of Lansing, Michigan has determined that the project will have no significant impact on the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) is not required. Additional project information is contained in the Environmental Review Record (ERR) on file at www.lansingmi.gov/development or City of Lansing Department of Economic Development and Planning, 316 N. Capitol Ave, Lansing, MI 48933 and may be examined or copied weekdays 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday – Friday.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to The City of Lansing Department of Economic Development and Planning, 316 N. Capitol Ave, Lansing, MI 48933. The comment period is **July 23, 2026 – July 31, 2026**. All comments received by **August 3, 2026**, will be considered by the City of Lansing prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. Comments should specify which notice they are addressing.

ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION

The City of Lansing certifies to HUD that Rawley Van Fossen, in his capacity as the City of Lansing, Economic Development & Planning (EDP) Director consents to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to the environmental review process and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. HUD’s approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities and allows the Lansing Housing Commission to use Program funds.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

HUD will accept objections to its release of fund and the City of Lansing’s certification for a period of fifteen days following the anticipated submission date or its actual receipt of the request (whichever is later) only if they are on one of the following bases: (a) the certification was not executed by the Certifying Officer of the City of Lansing (b) the City of Lansing has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by HUD regulations at 24 CFR part 58; (c) the grant recipient has committed funds or incurred costs not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of a release of funds by HUD; or (d) another Federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality. Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedures (24 CFR Part 58, Sec 58.76) and shall be addressed to Michelle King, PIH Representative, Detroit Field Office, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development at 477 Michigan Avenue 16th Floor, Detroit Michigan 48226. Objections can also be submitted via email at Environmental-PublicComments@hud.gov . Potential Objectors should contact Michelle King via telephone at: 313.234.7397 or by email at Michelle.d.king@hud.gov to verify the actual last day of the objection.

Rawley Van Fossen, City of Lansing, Economic Development & Planning Director

Bernie and AOC champion Abdul El-Sayed in Lansing



U.S. Sen. Bernie Sanders

A large rally Sunday (July 19) at the Lansing Center brought out hundreds of supporters for Abdul El-Sayed, a candidate for U.S. Senate. El-Sayed was joined by U.S. Sen. Bernie Sanders, U.S. Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez and 7th Congressional District candidate Will Lawrence.

Lawrence reiterated his opposition to super PACS and election spending and said he intends to push for Medicare for all, stopping new data centers and removing big money from politics. Lawrence, an activist and organizer, is running against former U.S. Navy SEAL Matt Maasdam and former U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine Bridget Brink. El-Sayed is running in a narrowed race against U.S. Rep Haley Stevens for the Democratic nomination, after Mallory McMorrow dropped out. During the rally, Ocasio-Cortez said

El-Sayed is the clear choice. She did not mention Lawrence by name and pointedly did not appear with him on stage at the end of the rally; Lawrence was joined by El-Sayed and Sanders. Ocasio-Cortez later told Michigan Advance that she is careful with endorsements.

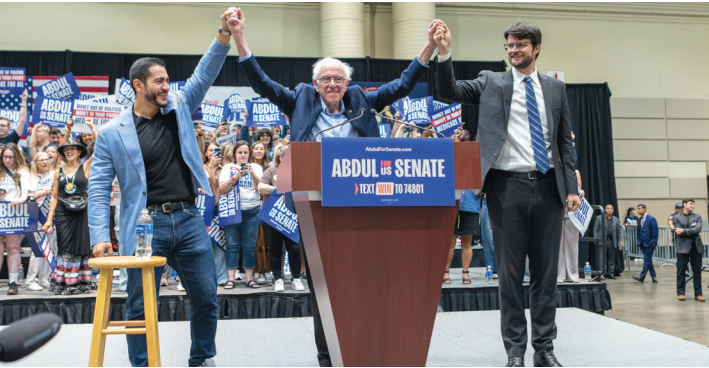
Photos by
Raymond Holt



U.S. Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez



U.S. Senate candidate Abdul El-Sayed



From left: El-Sayed, Sanders and 7th Congressional District candidate Will Lawrence

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS EAST LANSING HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

Notice is hereby given of the following public hearings to be held by the East Lansing Historic District Commission on **Thursday, August 13, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.**, at the City of East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing, Michigan 48823:

1. A public hearing to receive and discuss consideration of a Certificate of Appropriateness from Jennifer Cleary, located at 51 University Drive. The applicant request is to replace the existing six panel wood and glass garage door with an alternate wood door.
2. A public hearing to receive and discuss consideration of a Certificate of Appropriateness from Calvin Snuggerud, located at 360 Charles Street. The applicant request is to replace the wood fence dumpster enclosure in kind.
3. A public hearing to receive and discuss consideration of a Certificate of Appropriateness from Jennifer Headley-Nordman, located at 841 Huntington Road. The applicant request is to remove the window shutters and remove the front storm door.
4. A public hearing to receive and discuss consideration of a Certificate of Appropriateness from Allison Prchlik, located at 233 University Drive. The applicant request is to replace the front concrete porch with brick and replace the handrail in kind.
5. A public hearing to receive and discuss consideration of a Certificate of Appropriateness from Mary-Kay and Jerry Belant, located at 134 Kensington Road. The applicant request is to replace the 2nd floor door to the roof with an egress window and replace first floor windows.
6. A public hearing to receive and discuss consideration of a Certificate of Appropriateness from Abigail Knauss, located at 548 M.A.C. Avenue. The applicant request is to replace k-style aluminum 5" gutters and 2 ¼"x3" downspouts with 6" gutters and 3"x4" downspouts on the front, side and rear of the building and install rain barrels at the base of the south and northeast downspouts.

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

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

For more information on the request please contact Alycia Reiten at (517) 319-6941 or areiten@cityofeastlansing.com. Materials related to the request are available for viewing at:

Department of Planning, Building, and Housing
East Lansing City Hall,
410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, MI, 48823

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

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

Dated: July 16, 2026
East Lansing, MI 48823

Emily Gordon
City Clerk

REWIND

NEWS HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE LAST 7 DAYS

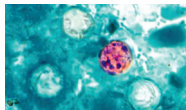
COMPILED BY STEVE UNDERWOOD FROM LOCAL NEWS SOURCES



Early in-person voting starts this weekend, with hours from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Lansing, and now there are bounce houses involved. There

are eight proposals for Lansing voters, as well as primary elections for governor, U.S. Senate, U.S. House, Michigan Senate and Michigan House candidates. The Lansing Elections Office (701 W. Jolly Rd.) and Foster Community Center (200 N. Foster Ave.) are each hosting bounce houses, weather permitting, to encourage voters to come out; check online for specific hours and dates. Absentee votes have already started, and the primary election is on Aug. 4; early voting offers a similar in-person experience.

The federal Centers for Disease Control identified sources for the outbreak of cyclosporiasis — including Taco Bell and lettuce bags sold at Walmart and their popular supplier — but on Sunday said the tests were a false positive. Testing for Cyclospora is difficult and experts “re-reviewed” the samples, according to the update. “As of July 19, 2026, there are no confirmed positive sample results for product testing for Cyclospora,” the CDC said in its update, referring to federal Food and Drug Administration testing. “FDA has notified Taylor Farms and continues working with the firm to ensure product implicated in this outbreak has been removed from the market.” Testing continues, with Michigan reporting more than 6,500 cases since the outbreak began in late June (the state usually gets around 50 cases a year). Ingham County is reporting 393 cases.



Michigan was blanketed by a thick campfire smell for days as particulates in the air reached hazardous levels last week, much higher than the 2023 and 2025 summer smoke. Like before, this year’s smoke was caused by Canadian wildfires. The smoke has eased up but remains in the very unhealthy to unhealthy range for the Upper Peninsula and unhealthy for sensi-

tive groups in mid-Michigan, including the Greater Lansing area, according to a forecast from the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy’s MiAir division. “High pressure will settle over the region on Wednesday and Thursday, bringing dry conditions and gradually warming temperatures as the week progresses. Under this warmer, dry setup, there is potential for increased smoke formation, so we will issue another forecast update on Wednesday to refine expectations for smoke for the rest of the week. Despite the dry pattern, cooler surface and upper-level temperatures should help keep ozone levels from rising above the Moderate range through mid-week,” according to the EGLE forecast. There may be stray smoke in the coming days, and it is difficult to forecast smoke more than 48 hours in advance, so the state will be issuing another update on Wednesday. Visit lansingcitypulse.com or subscribe to our newsletter to stay informed.



The Lansing Board of Water & Light (BWL) will hold hearings at 10 a.m., Friday, Aug. 1 and 5:30 p.m. Monday, Aug. 4 at its REO Depot location at 1201 S. Washington Ave. to give its customers a chance to respond to its proposals for rate hikes. The proposed increases are for 2.1% — or an average of \$2 per month — for residential electric customers and 2.39% to 3.34% depending on average usage — or about \$1 a month — for water customers. Commissioners are slated to vote Monday, Aug. 11 on whether to approve the increases, which would go into effect in October. “The proposed increases are attributed to rising costs tied to inflation, aging infrastructure and the increasing cost to maintain reliable utility services,” said BWL spokesperson Amy Adamy in a statement.

The wife of the former Michigan Speaker of the House Lee Chatfield was sentenced on Monday to probation, community service and a fine. Stephanie Chatfield had previously pleaded guilty in



Ingham County’s 30th Circuit Court to one felony count of Embezzlement from a Non-Profit, \$200 to \$1,000, according to a statement from Attorney General Dana Nessel’s office. “Proximity to influence does not grant immunity from accountability, and no one can use their nexus to power to unlawfully enrich themselves,” Nessel said in the statement. “Mrs. Chatfield was a willing participant on the Peninsula Fund gravy train, enjoying a lifestyle funded by money meant to support public welfare.”



U-M announced Monday that its athletic director, Warde Manuel, will step down at the end of 2026. The announce-

ment follows the university’s release of a summary of an independent investigation from the Chicago law firm Jenner & Block into the culture of its athletic department. Football coach Sherrone Moore was fired last year after being arrested, he had been having an inappropriate relationship with a staff member and there have been other legal issues involving assistant coaches. The release stated that, on the one hand, “Neither the investigation nor the culture review found that misconduct was widespread throughout the department.” But on the other, “found that weaknesses in accountability, organizational structure, oversight, and reporting created conditions in which misconduct was not always addressed.”

No one was injured in a house fire Monday morning on the 200 block of S. Hayford Avenue, off of Michigan Avenue, according to a story from WILX. The cause of the fire was not immediately available, according to the report.



The Lansing Economic Development Corporation (LEDC) is highlighting two properties in a new online platform: the Kalamazoo Gateway site near downtown, where the Deep

Green data center would have been, and the long-vacant F. Preuss Building in Old Town. Kris Klein, executive director of the LEDC, said additional sites will be added. The two featured properties were selected because of their visibility and redevelopment potential. The Kalamazoo Gateway site sits near several major downtown investments, including projects along the riverfront. Klein said recent development momentum makes it an ideal time to reintroduce the property to potential investors. The Deep Green data center proposal there was withdrawn earlier this year, and City Council recently adopted a six-month moratorium on new data centers. The Preuss Building, located at 308 E. Cesar E. Chavez Ave. in Old Town, has been vacant for decades. Klein said the historic structure has deteriorated significantly, but the city hopes a developer can preserve the building while giving it a new purpose. “We’d like to see the existing building maintained, if at all possible,” he said, adding that preserving its architectural character would be a priority.



... The relaunch is more than a website update, Klein said. “The goal is to get more eyes on these sites and the opportunities they represent,” he said. “We wanted a platform that we could update more easily and used to promote redevelopment throughout Lansing.” The website is part of the Build Lansing initiative to develop publicly owned properties within the City of Lansing. Property listings were previously hosted on the city’s website. Klein said housing is a major focus of Lansing’s redevelopment efforts. Mixed-use projects with commercial space and residential units are among the possibilities, particularly for the Preuss Building, while the larger Kalamazoo Gateway site could support multifamily housing, hotels, or other mixed-use development. The platform also aims to simplify the redevelopment process by centralizing information about environmental assessments and other tools that can help offset redevelopment costs, particularly for sites that require rehabilitation or environmental cleanup. Klein said Lansing competes with other legacy cities for investment but believes the capital city’s recent growth is a competitive advantage.

State of Michigan Probate Court, Ingham County, Notice to Creditors, Decedent's Estate, Case No. 26-242-DE. Estate of Judy A. Hamilton – Date of Birth: April 3, 1938. Notice to all creditors: The decedent, Judy A. Hamilton, died March 10, 2026. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to William E. Hamilton, personal representative, or to both the probate court at 313 West Kalamazoo St., Lansing, MI 48933, 517-483-6300, and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice, 07/22/2026. Personal representative: William E. Hamilton, 2753 Hagadorn Rd, Mason, MI 517-881-7725.

CP#26-280

State of Michigan Probate Court, Ingham County, Notice to Creditors, Decedent's Estate, Case No. 26-761-DE. Estate of Martin Kelly Dunivon – Date of Birth: 08/04/1959. Notice to all creditors: The decedent, Martin Kelly Dunivon, died 02/13/2026. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Susan Dunivon, personal representative, or to both the probate court at 313 West Kalamazoo St., Lansing, MI 48933, 517-483-6300, and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice, 07/22/2026. Attorney: Kimberly L. Savage, P68267, 1483 Haslett Rd, Haslett, MI 48840, 517-515-5000. Personal representative: Susan Dunivon, 6005 Haverhill Drive, Lansing, MI 48911, 517-488-9793.

CP#26-279

CITY OF LANSING
NOTICE OF ELECTION
FOR TUESDAY, AUGUST 4, 2026

To the qualified electors of the City of Lansing:

Please take notice that the City of Lansing will hold the State Primary Election on Tuesday, August 4, 2026. The polls will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

For the purpose of nominating candidates for the following offices:

U.S. Senator, U.S. Representative in Congress, Governor, State Senator, State Representative, Delegate to County Convention

For the purpose of voting on the following proposals:

Ingham County: Potter Park Zoo and Potter Park Operational Millage, Countywide System of Trails and Parks Millage, Public Transportation System for Elderly and Disabled Millage, Tourism, Entertainment Facilities, and Arts Proposal

Eaton County (Precinct 22 Only): Juvenile Millage, 9-1-1 and Central Dispatch Millage

City: City of Lansing Ballot Question

District Library: Capital Area District Library District Wide Tax Proposal

Full text of the ballot proposals may be obtained at www.LansingVotes.gov, or the Lansing Elections Office, 701 W. Jolly Rd., Lansing, Michigan 48910, telephone: (517) 483-4131.

Voting Precincts and Polling Places are:

City of Lansing Ward 1

Pct. 1 – Gier Park Community Center
Pct. 2 – Johnson Fieldhouse
Pct. 3 – Post Oak School
Pct. 5 – Foster Community Center
Pct. 8 – Johnson Fieldhouse
Pct. 9 – Potter Park Zoo
Pct. 10 – Potter Park Zoo

City of Lansing Ward 2

Pct. 12 – Bethlehem Lutheran Church
Pct. 13 – Cavanaugh School
Pct. 14 – Bethlehem Lutheran Church
Pct. 15 – Parker Memorial Baptist Church
Pct. 17 – Parker Memorial Baptist Church
Pct. 18 – Epicenter of Worship Church
Pct. 20 – Epicenter of Worship Church

City of Lansing Ward 3

Pct. 22 – Alfreda Schmidt Southside Community Center
Pct. 23 – Dwight Rich School
Pct. 25 – Tabernacle of David Church
Pct. 27 – Dr. Halik Professional Development Center
Pct. 28 – Alfreda Schmidt Southside Community Center
Pct. 30 – Alfreda Schmidt Southside Community Center

City of Lansing Ward 4

Pct. 32 – Dr. Evans Welcome Center
Pct. 34 – Bread House Church
Pct. 35 – Letts Community Center
Pct. 36 – First Presbyterian Church
Pct. 37 – Neighborhood Empowerment Center
Pct. 38 – Letts Community Center
Pct. 39 – Hope Christian Ministries International Church

Sample ballots can be found at www.Michigan.gov/vote. To comply with the Help America Vote Act (HAVA), voting instructions will be available in audio format and in Braille. Arrangements for obtaining the instructions in these alternative formats can be made by contacting the City Clerk's Office in advance of the election. All polling locations are accessible for voters with disabilities.

To see if you are registered or to find your polling location, please visit www.Michigan.gov/vote.

Photo Identification OR Affidavit Required to Vote:

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

Anyone who qualifies as an elector may register to vote in person with proof of residency (MCL 168.492) at the following locations and times:

Location	Address	Regular Business Hours June 25 – July 31
Lansing City Hall	124 W Michigan Ave. 9 th Floor Lansing, MI 48933	Monday – Friday 8am – 5pm
Lansing Elections Office	701 W. Jolly Rd. Lansing, MI 48910	Monday – Friday 9am – 5pm Wednesdays 9am – 7pm

Additional times outside of the above listed regular business hours are as follows:

Location	Address	Additional Hours
Lansing City Hall	124 W Michigan Ave. 9 th Floor Lansing, MI 48933	Monday August 3 8am – 4pm Election Day August 4 8am – 5pm
Lansing Elections Office	701 W. Jolly Rd. Lansing, MI 48910	Saturday August 1 9am – 5pm Sunday August 2 9am – 5pm Monday August 3 9am – 4pm Election Day August 4 7am – 8pm

ABSENT VOTER BALLOTS

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

The Lansing City Clerk's Office must have a signed application from the voter to issue an Absent Voter Ballot. Applications are available at the locations referenced in the above tables or by visiting our website at lansingvotes.gov.

Friday, July 31, 2026, at 5:00 pm is the deadline to request an absentee ballot be mailed to you.

Monday, August 3, 2026, at 4:00 pm is the deadline to request an absentee ballot in person, except for those who register to vote on Election Day.

Those registering to vote on Election Day, Tuesday, August 4, 2026, are eligible to receive an absent voter ballot at the Lansing City Clerk's Office, locations referenced in the above table.

Chris Swope, MMC/MiPMC
Lansing City Clerk
Phone: 517-483-4131
Email: city.clerk@lansingmi.gov
Website: www.LansingVotes.gov
www.facebook.com/LansingClerkSwope

CP#26-291

CITY OF LANSING

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing will be held on Monday, July 27, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. in the Tony Benavides Lansing City Council Chambers, 10th Floor, Lansing City Hall, 124 W. Michigan Avenue, Lansing, Michigan for the purpose of considering:

An ordinance of the City of Lansing, Michigan, to amend Title 8 of the Lansing Codified Ordinances to add Chapter 247, Sections 247.01 to 247.04 in order to transition existing City boards and commissions to the ward structure provided for by the current Charter.

Persons with disabilities who need an accommodation to fully participate in these meetings should contact the City Council Office at 517-483-4177 (TDD (517) 483-4479) 24 hour notice may be needed for certain accommodations. An attempt will be made to grant all reasonable accommodation requests.

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

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

CP#26-288

CITY OF LANSING

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing will be held on Monday, July 27, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. in the Tony Benavides Lansing City Council Chambers, 10th Floor, Lansing City Hall, 124 W. Michigan Avenue, Lansing, Michigan for the purpose of considering:

An ordinance of the City of Lansing, Michigan, to amend Chapter 248 of the Lansing Codified Ordinances to add Section 248.02 in order to transition existing Board of Water and Light members to the ward structure provided for by the current Charter.

Persons with disabilities who need an accommodation to fully participate in these meetings should contact the City Council Office at 517-483-4177 (TDD (517) 483-4479) 24 hour notice may be needed for certain accommodations. An attempt will be made to grant all reasonable accommodation requests.

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

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

CP#26-289

NOTICE OF PRIMARY ELECTION TO BE HELD ON
TUESDAY, 04 AUGUST 2026
CITY OF GRAND LEDGE, EATON COUNTY, MICHIGAN

TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS of the City of Grand Ledge, Eaton County, Michigan:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a Primary Election will be held the City of Grand Ledge on Tuesday, 04 August 2026. The polls will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. for the purpose of voting for the candidates of the Democratic Party and Republican Party seeking nomination to the following partisan offices to be voted for in Grand Ledge, Eaton County:

Governor, U.S. Senator, U.S. Representative in Congress 7th District, State Representative 77th District (Precincts 1, 2, and 3), State Representative 76th District (Precinct 4), and Precinct Delegates.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the following proposals will appear on the ballot:

JUVENILE MILLAGE RENEWAL AND RESTORATION PROPOSAL

For the purpose of continuing funding for detaining and housing Eaton County juveniles who are delinquent, to provide protective services for abused and neglected children, and to operate new and existing prevention and treatment programs for such juveniles and children, shall the constitutional limitation upon the total amount of taxes which may be assessed in one (1) year upon all taxable real and tangible personal property within the County of Eaton, Michigan, be increased in an amount not to exceed 0.35 mill (\$0.35 on each \$1,000 of taxable value) for a period of five (5) years, 2029 to 2033, inclusive and shall the County levy such millage for said purposes? This is a renewal of a millage expiring in 2028 that has been rolled down over the years to 0.3495 by the Headlee Amendment and a restoration of that millage to the original 0.35 mill, and if approved and levied in its entirety, this millage will raise an estimated \$2,046,777 for juvenile housing and programs during the first calendar year of the levy based on taxable value. A small portion of the revenue collected (approximately \$39,564 in 2029) may be required to be distributed to Downtown Development Authorities, Tax Increment Financing Authorities, Local Development Financing Authorities, Corridor Improvement Authorities and Brownfield Redevelopment Financing Authorities established in the cities of Charlotte, Eaton Rapids, Grand Ledge, Pottersville, Olivet, Township of Delta, and Village of Bellevue.

9-1-1 AND CENTRAL DISPATCH MILLAGE RENEWAL PROPOSAL

For the purpose of continuing funding for a comprehensive, Countywide Enhanced 9-1-1 Emergency Telephone and Central Dispatch Services, shall the constitutional limitation upon the total amount of taxes which may be assessed in one (1) year upon all taxable real and tangible personal property within the County of Eaton, Michigan, be increased in an amount not to exceed 0.95 mill (\$0.95 on each \$1,000 of taxable value) for a period of five (5) years, 2029 to 2033, inclusive and shall the County levy such millage for said purposes? This is a renewal of a millage expiring in 2028 that has been rolled down over the years to 0.9486 by the Headlee Amendment and a restoration of that millage to the original 0.9500 mill, and if approved and levied in its entirety, this millage would raise an estimated \$5,555,537 in the first calendar year of levy to be distributed to Central Dispatch for countywide 9-1-1 facilities, functions and services as provided in the Eaton County 9-1-1 Service Plan. A small portion of the revenue collected (approximately \$107,389 in 2029) may be required to be distributed to Downtown Development Authorities, Tax Increment Financing Authorities, Local Development Financing Authorities, Corridor Improvement Authorities and Brownfield Redevelopment Financing Authorities established in the cities of Charlotte, Eaton Rapids, Grand Ledge, Pottersville, Olivet, Township of Delta, and Village of Bellevue.

GRAND LEDGE AREA EMERGENCY SERVICES AUTHORITY MILLAGE RENEWAL
AND RESTORATION PROPOSAL

This proposal will allow the Grand Ledge Area Emergency Services Authority to continue to levy up to 2.00 mills that was previously approved by the electors to fund operations for 6 years Of the 2.00 mills, 1.9551 mills represents a renewal of the 2.00 mills authorization approved by the electors in 2020, which expired with the 2025 tax levy and 0.0449 mill represents a restoration of that portion of the same millage authority which was reduced by application of the Headlee Amendment. Shall the limitation on the amount of taxes which may be imposed on taxable property in the Grand Ledge Area Emergency Services Authority, County of Eaton, Michigan be increased by 2.0000 mills (\$2.00 per thousand dollars of taxable value) for a period of six (6) years, 2026 to 2031, inclusive, as a renewal of the 1.9551 mills previously authorized by the electors which expired with the 2025 levy plus new additional millage in the amount of 0.0449 mill, for emergency services authority operations? It is estimated that, if levied, the 2.00 mills would raise approximately \$1,093,466 when first levied in 2026.

SAMPLE BALLOTS may be viewed at www.mi.gov/vote or at the City Clerk's office. To comply with the Help America Vote Act (HAVA), voting instructions will be available in audio format and in Braille. Arrangements for obtaining the instructions in these alternative formats can be made by contacting the City Clerk in advance of the election. All polling locations are accessible for voters with disabilities.

ABSENT VOTER BALLOTS

Any registered voter may request an absent voter ballot. No reason is required. The City Clerk's office must have a signed application to issue an Absent Voter Ballot, unless the registered voter is on the permanent ballot list. Applications are available at the City Clerk's office or by visiting <https://mvlc.sos.state.mi.us/>.

Monday, 03 August 2026 at 4:00 p.m. is the deadline to request an absent voter ballot except for those who register to vote on Election Day. Absent voter ballots issued on Monday, 03 August 2026 may be requested in person at the City Clerk's office. Those registering to vote on Election Day, Tuesday, 04 August 2026, are eligible to receive an absent voter ballot at the City Clerk's office.

POLLING LOCATIONS:

Precinct 1	Sawdon Administration Building, 220 Lamson St, Grand Ledge 48837
Precinct 2	Sawdon Administration Building, 220 Lamson St, Grand Ledge 48837
Precinct 3	Sawdon Administration Building, 220 Lamson St, Grand Ledge 48837
Precinct 4	Sawdon Administration Building, 220 Lamson St, Grand Ledge 48837

Persons with special needs as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act should contact the City Clerk's office or call the Michigan Relay Center TDD # 1-800-649-3777.

This Notice is given pursuant to MCL 168.653a and 211.203 (3).

City of Grand Ledge
Gregory Newman, City Clerk

CP#26-283

Democratic candidates lay out how they would represent residents if elected in MI-7

**By KYLE DAVIDSON/
Michigan Advance
MichiganAdvance.com**

With absentee ballots in the mail and less than three weeks to the Aug. 4 primary, the trio of candidates seeking the Democratic nomination in Michigan’s 7th Congressional District gathered at the Eastside Community Action Center in Lansing to answer ten questions on their political priorities and plans moving toward the November election.

In a forum lasting roughly an hour, Delta Township Supervisor Fonda Brewer asked political organizer William Lawrence, former U.S. ambassador to Ukraine Bridget Brink and retired Navy SEAL Matt Maasdam about their priorities, their positions on key issues and why each believes they are the best candidate to defeat the incumbent, U.S. Rep. Tom Barrett (R-Charlotte).

Whoever emerges victorious from the Democratic primary will face another hotly contested race.

Brink described herself as the granddaughter of a Lansing autoworker, a third-generation union member, and a 28-year Foreign Service worker who served on President Barack Obama’s National Security Council and said she was the only candidate in the race who had directly stood up to President Donald Trump, referencing her decision to resign as ambassador over opposition to



Bridget Brink

the Trump administration’s foreign policy approach to the war between Russia and Ukraine.

Lawrence discussed his Lansing ties and his background as a community organizer, advocating for the Inflation Reduction Act in D.C. and for tenant protections and affordable housing at both the local and state level in Michigan.

Maasdam pointed to his 20-year career as a Navy SEAL and his role as military aide carrying nuclear codes for Obama, before noting his recent endorsement by U.S. Sen. Elissa Slotkin (D-Holly), who previously represented the 7th Congressional District.

After introductions, the candidates



Matt Maasdam

made their case for why they should be the one to face off against Barrett in November.

Lawrence argued Barrett’s constituent services were lacking, while pointing to his own efforts hosting a food drive outside Barrett’s office amid an expected lapse in SNAP benefits, raising more than \$100,000 to help cancel medical debt after Congress failed to extend Affordable Care Act subsidies, and setting up a desk outside Barrett’s office in Lansing, where residents could ask him anything.

He also noted his engagement with independent voters on issues like data centers and ceasing U.S. arms sales to Israel.



William Lawrence

Maasdam pointed to his opposition to corruption in Washington, D.C., calling for a ban on congressional stock trading – which Barrett also supports – while noting his support from unions like the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Michigan, the Michigan Professional Fire Fighters Union, and the Teamsters Local 243.

Maasdam also argued it would take a veteran to get a veteran out of the seat, noting that Barrett, who spent more than two decades as an Army helicopter pilot, would not have that advantage if he were to face Maasdam in the general election.

See Candidates, Page 13



SAVE \$350 when you transform your patio into an outdoor oasis.



- Instant shade at the touch of a button.
- Enjoy more quality time with family and friends.
- Up to 10-Year Limited Warranty.

Call 1-877-460-5504 now to **SAVE \$350 TODAY!**

Consumer Cellular®

**OVER 50?
UNLIMITED
FOR JUST
\$35/MONTH.**

Backed by #1 Network Coverage and Customer Satisfaction.*

Switch & Save Today. 844-802-2125

**100% U.S. BASED
CUSTOMER SERVICE.**
Ranked #1 in customer satisfaction by ACSI®.*



**FAST, RELIABLE
NATIONWIDE COVERAGE.**
Ranked #1 in network coverage by ACSI®.*

© 2026 Consumer Cellular, Inc. Terms and Conditions subject to change. Plans shown include \$5 credit for AutoPay and E-billing. Taxes and other fees apply. Credit approval required for new service. Cellular service is not available in all areas and is subject to system limitations. For unlimited plans, high-speed data is reduced after 35GB on single-line plans and 10GB of combined usage on multi-line plans for the remainder of your billing cycle. Unlimited data plans only for customers age 50+. Age validation required. *2025 ACSI® Survey of customers rating their own wireless service provider. ACSI® and its logo are registered trademarks of the American Customer Satisfaction Index LLC. For more about the ACSI®, visit www.thecsi.org.

SAVE TAX DOLLARS

PUBLISH PUBLIC NOTICES IN CITY PULSE

Clerks: City Pulse has better rates than any other publication in Greater Lansing. Call Steve at (517) 999-6704 or email notices@lansingcitypulse.com for details.



CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN, INGHAM

COUNTY LEGAL AD NOTICE: NOTICE OF ELECTION

DATE: TUESDAY, AUGUST 4, 2026

Meridian Charter Township

Notice of August 4, 2026 Primary Election

TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a Primary Election will be held in Meridian Township, Ingham County, Michigan, on Tuesday, August 4, 2026.

For the purposes of nominating candidates for the following office:

- GOVERNOR
- UNITED STATES SENATOR
- REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS
- STATE SENATOR
- REPRESENTATIVE IN STATE LEGISLATURE
- TOWNSHIP TREASURER
- DELEGATE TO COUNTY CONVENTION

For the purposes of voting on the following proposals as listed below:

- INGHAM COUNTY POTTER PARK ZOO AND POTTER PARK OPERATIONAL MILLAGE RENEWAL AND RESTORATION QUESTION
- INGHAM COUNTY COUNTYWIDE SYSTEM OF TRAILS AND PARKS MILLAGE RENEWAL AND RESTORATION QUESTION
- INGHAM COUNTY PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM FOR ELDERLY AND DISABLED MILLAGE RENEWAL AND RESTORATION QUESTION
- INGHAM COUNTY TOURISM, ENTERTAINMENT FACILITIES, AND ARTS PROPOSAL
- CAPITAL AREA DISTRICT LIBRARY BALLOT PROPOSAL FOR A DISTRICT WIDE TAX

The full text of the ballot proposals and sample ballots can be found at www.mi.gov/vote or can be viewed at the Meridian Township Clerk's Office, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864.

Persons with disabilities needing accommodations should contact the Clerk's Office.

Polls at said election will be open at 7:00 a.m. and will remain open until 8:00 p.m.

Photo Identification OR Affidavit Required to Vote:

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

LIST OF POLLING LOCATIONS:

Pct. 1	St. Luke Lutheran Church, 5589 Van Atta Rd, Haslett, MI 48840	Pct. 8	Faith Lutheran Church, 4515 Dobie Rd., Okemos, MI 48864
Pct. 2	Haslett Community Church, 1427 Haslett Rd., Haslett, MI 48840	Pct. 9	Okemos Community Church, 4734 Okemos Rd., Okemos, MI 48864
Pct. 3	St. Luke Lutheran Church, 5589 Van Atta Rd, Haslett, MI 48840	Pct. 10	Meridian Service Center, 2100 Gaylord C Smith Ct, Haslett, MI 48840
Pct. 4	Haslett Community Church, 1427 Haslett Rd., Haslett, MI 48840	Pct. 11	Okemos Library, 4321 Okemos Rd., Okemos, MI 48864
Pct. 5	Okemos Community Church, 4734 Okemos Rd., Okemos, MI 48864	Pct. 12	Central Fire Station #91, 5000 Okemos Road, Okemos, MI 48864

Pct. 6	Red Cedar Church, 550 W. Grand River, Okemos, MI 38864	Pct. 13	2 42 Community Church 2600 Bennett Rd, Okemos, MI 48864
Pct. 7	Ingham County Rehab Facility, 3860 Dobie Rd., Okemos, MI 48864	Pct. 14	2 42 Community Church 2600 Bennett Rd, Okemos, MI 48864

To comply with the Help America Vote Act (HAVA), voting instructions will be available in audio format and in Braille. Arrangements for obtaining the instructions in these alternative formats can be made by contacting the township clerk in advance of the election. All polling locations are accessible for voters with disabilities.

Beginning Tuesday, July 21st, anyone who qualifies as an elector must register to vote in person with proof of residency (MCL 168.492) at the following locations and times:

Meridian Township Clerk
Municipal Building
5151 Marsh Road
Okemos, MI 48864

Regular Business Hours:
Monday-Friday from 8 am to 5 pm

In addition to regular business hours, the Meridian Township Clerk's Office will be open the following dates and times:

- Saturday, August 1, 2026, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- Sunday, August 2, 2026, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- Election Day, Tuesday, August 4th from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

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

ABSENT VOTER BALLOTS:

Any registered voter may request an Absent Voter Ballot. The Meridian Township Clerk's Office must have a signed application to issue an Absent Voter Ballot. You may apply online at www.mi.gov/vote or at the Meridian Township Clerk's Office.

Monday, August 3, 2026, at 4 pm is the deadline to request an absentee ballot in person, except for those who register to vote on Election Day. Those registering to vote on Election Day, August 4, 2026, are eligible to receive an Absent Voter Ballot at the Meridian Township Clerk's Office.

EARLY VOTING CENTER:

All qualified electors in the Meridian Township Clerk's Office have the option to vote early in person, beginning Saturday, July 25th through Sunday, August 2nd, 2026.

On Saturday, July 25th, 2026, the Early Voting Center will be open from 7:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., due to preparation for the Celebrate Meridian Festival. Central Park Drive will be closed, and voters must enter through the Marsh Road entrance. Parking will be reserved for early voters.

From Sunday, July 26th through Sunday, August 2nd, 2026, the Early Voting Center will be open from 9:00a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

The Early Voting Center is located at:

**Meridian Township Town Hall Room Municipal Building
5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864**

**Angela Demas
Meridian Township Clerk**

CP#26-293

Candidates

from page 11

Brink stressed that she's a coalition builder, noting she'd racked up endorsements from individuals and groups including the Michigan Education Association, the Michigan Laborers District Council, Lansing Mayor Andy Schor, State Sen. Sam Singh (D-East Lansing) and former Governors Jennifer Granholm and Jim Blanchard. She also cited her experience working under five presidents as an advantage over her competitors.

When asked about their priorities if elected to Congress, Maasdam discussed his plan to address the high cost of living, address corruption in Congress, and hold individuals accountable when they violate the Constitution, pointing to the deaths of people including Alex Pretti and Renee Good at the hands of federal immigration agents.

"As a SEAL, if a SEAL had shot somebody like that, that SEAL would be in jail, like immediately, and everybody in the group would be fired," Maasdam said.

Brink said she would work to fix the U.S. healthcare system, calling for reversing federal Medicaid cuts in the One Big Beautiful Bill Act, an extension of the expired Affordable Care Act subsidies, and efforts to rein in insurance and pharmaceutical companies, including an end to direct-to-consumer drug advertising and caps on pharmaceuticals like insulin and EpiPens.

She also called for Congress to take action on high costs by standing up to Trump, before noting that defending democracy was also a priority.

Lawrence said his first priority would be to build a first-class constituent services office, so that he could serve all residents regardless of the power balance in D.C. He also noted his support of Medicare for All, and for ending U.S. wars abroad, to bring the nation's resources back home to invest in healthcare, housing and other needs.

Brewer also asked the candidates what they would like their constituents to hold them accountable for if they are elected.

Brink said she wanted to be accessible to her constituents, while committing to taking action to address costs, the burden of healthcare, and anti-corruption, calling for a ban on stock trading for White House employees, members of Congress, executive branch employees and U.S. Supreme Court justices. She also proposed a ban on members of Congress becoming lobbyists.

Lawrence said he'd like to be held accountable for working to restrain the

"out-of-control" Department of Defense budget in addition to working toward Medicare for All, supporting efforts to build more housing and protect tenants' rights in the district and providing an excellent constituent service office.

He also said he'd like to be held accountable for his words, addressing comments he'd made in a 2024 podcast episode while speaking with Khury Petersen-Smith, the Michael Ratner Middle East Fellow at the Institute for Policy Studies, about organizing young Black voters in support of Palestine.

"It's not something I can talk too much about because I'm white and it's not my struggle," Lawrence said, while asking Petersen-Smith about engaging young Black voters who are falling away from the Democratic Party. "That being said, like the extent to which the older generation of Black political leadership are such of a pillar, frankly, for estab-

lishment, capitalist, imperialist, American power through their role, you know, as this kind of traditionalist, establishmentist pillar of the Democratic Party, it's a big problem. It's a big problem for left politics in this country, and it gets us every single time, and it really defangs the white left, and puts us in, you know, impossible positions, really. It's very effective politically."

After the HuffPost published Lawrence's comments in an article on June 11, he has faced criticism from U.S. House Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries (D-NY) and members of the Congressional Black Caucus and the caucus's political action committee.

Lawrence said the article had attempted to paint him in opposition to African Americans, and that nothing could be further from the truth.

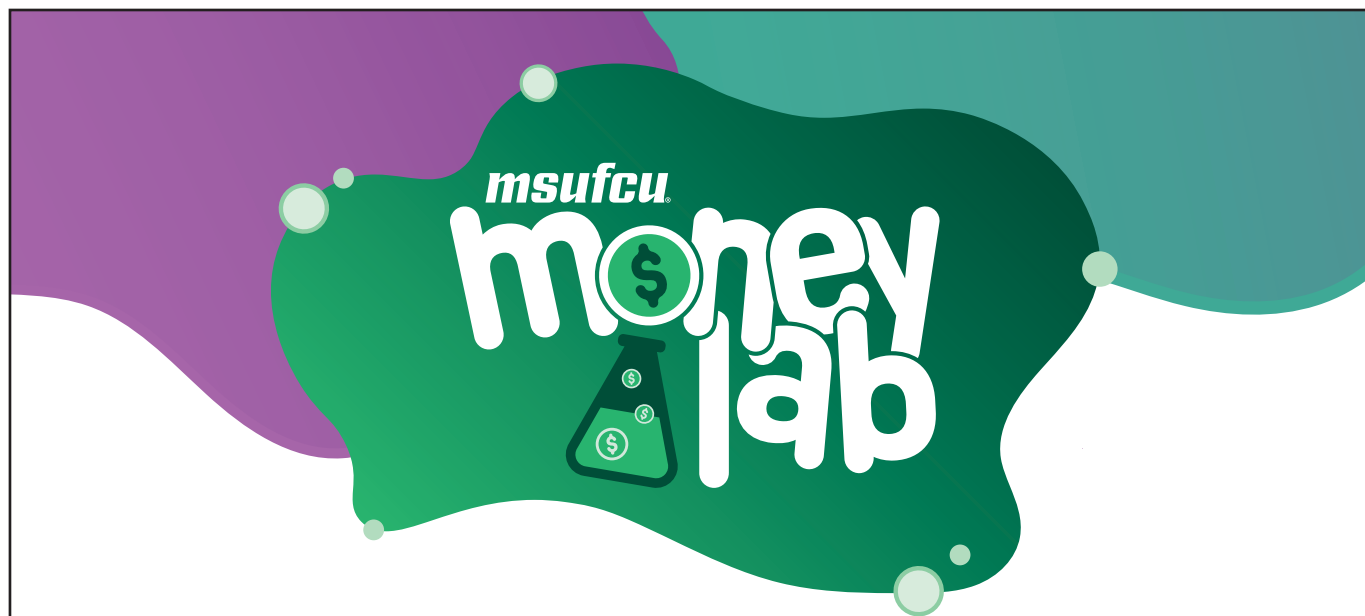
"I didn't make my point and what I believe as clearly and directly as I could

have. And so then, in public life, there are consequences for that," Lawrence said, inviting anyone with questions to come talk with him during the forum's meet and greet period, and to share their feelings about the article.

Maasdam said he hoped to be held accountable in his efforts to engage Congress to take back their power from Trump, exercising their power of the purse and powers over war.

He vowed to ban stock trading in Congress, noting this is a popular issue among Americans. He also committed to reaching across the aisle, pointing to the Great Lakes and addressing prescription drug costs as potential points for common ground.

Like his opponents, Maasdam also committed to being there for his constituents, promising an open door for both those he agrees with and those bringing a new perspective.



Where Cash and Curiosity Meet

The MSUFCU Money Lab is a kid-friendly interactive space for parents and children to experience banking together.

The Money Lab is available exclusively to MSUFCU members, located at 311 Abbot Road in downtown East Lansing.



Learn More
msufcu.org/moneylab



Federally insured by NCUA



CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN, INGHAM COUNTY
LEGAL AD NOTICE: VARIANCE REQUEST 26-08
1930 & 1878 WEST GRAND RIVER AVENUE
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 19, 2026

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
LEGAL NOTICE
Variance Request #26-08
1930 & 1878 West Grand River Avenue
Public Hearing

Notice is hereby given that the Zoning Board of Appeals of the Charter Township of Meridian will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, August 19, 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 variance request from Sheetz, Inc. The applicant is proposing to exceed the maximum number of vehicle fueling stations at 1930 & 1878 West Grand River Avenue. The subject 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 Zoning Board of Appeals, Charter Township of Meridian, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, Michigan, 48864, or by email to chapman@meridian.mi.us, or at the public hearing.

Angela Demas, Township Clerk

July 22, 2026

CP#26-285

Providing a safe and welcoming, sustainable, prime community.

A PRIME COMMUNITY
meridian.mi.us



CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN, INGHAM COUNTY
LEGAL AD NOTICE: SANCTUARY #2 PUBLIC STREETLIGHTING
IMPROVEMENT SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT NO. 430
TUESDAY, AUGUST 18, 2026

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN - LEGAL NOTICE
SANCTUARY #2 PUBLIC STREETLIGHTING IMPROVEMENT
SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT NO. 430
NOTICE OF HEARING

TO THE RECORD OWNERS OF, OR PARTIES IN INTEREST IN, THE FOLLOWING PROPERTY CONSTITUTING THE PROPOSED SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT: Lots 1 through 7 (inclusive), Sanctuary #2.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Township Board of the Charter Township of Meridian, acting on a request from property owners of Sanctuary #2 and on its own initiative, pursuant to Act 188, Public Acts of Michigan, 1954, as amended, has determined to make the following described public streetlighting improvement: **Operate, and maintain four (4) 46-watt LED streetlights with Traditional fixtures with cut-off, and standard fiberglass poles along Crane Circle;** and to defray the cost thereof by special assessment against the properties specially benefitted 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, August 18, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.** at the Meridian Township Municipal Building, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, Michigan 48864-1198, for the for the purpose of reviewing said special assessment roll and hearing objections thereto.

An owner or party in interest, or his or her agent, may appear in person at the hearing to protest the special assessment, or shall be permitted to file his or her appearance or protest by letter with the Township Clerk before the close of this hearing, and his or her personal appearance is not required. The owner or any person having an interest in the real property who protests in person or in writing at the hearing may file a written appeal of the special assessment with the Michigan Tax Tribunal within 30 days after the confirmation of the special assessment roll.

"FOR PURPOSES OF THIS HEARING, THE AMOUNT TO BE ASSESSED AGAINST YOUR PROPERTY IS ESTIMATED TO BE:

First Year Cost:	\$ 208.25/Lot
Annually Thereafter:	\$ 104.13/Lot

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN

Angela Demas, Township Clerk

CP#26-269

Providing a safe and welcoming, sustainable, prime community.

A PRIME COMMUNITY
meridian.mi.us

Record outside spending for Stevens a sign of larger fight

By **KYLE MELINN**

My son's 14-year-old friends had go-karts on their brains as we pulled into High Caliber for some birthday party fun when one of them uncorked this question:

"What's up with this Haley Stevens?"

Was he responding to my joke about detouring to the Lansing Center to watch the Bernie Sanders rally instead?

"The U.S. Senate candidate? Why do you ask?"

He looked back at me with a bit of an agitated look.

"Her ads are literally on ALL OF THE TIME. I'm so sick of them."

That's what \$52 million will get you. A blanket of paid media that's so thick even teenage boys are talking about it.

To blow this out a bit more, consider this:

- Haley Stevens's campaign has only spent \$1.18 million in TV ads this primary season. That's 1/50th of the amount promoting her at this point.

- Her chief opponent, Abdul El-Sayed, and a political action committee spending on his behalf have spent about \$4.5 million in paid media, less than 1/10th of money spent on Stevens.

- Mallory McMorrow, who dropped out of the race a couple of weeks ago because she couldn't keep up with the astronomical spending, combined with a PAC supporting her for about \$9 million in TV ads.

- In short, take what pro-El-Sayed and pro-McMorrow interests have spent, multiply it by four, and you'll about equal the pro-Stevens spending.

So, who are these PACs? This United Democracy Project? A Stronger Michigan? Fight for Michigan? Center Forward? United to Win? Center for Democratic Priorities?

Incredibly, they're not required to disclose their funders, but the Associated Press reported this weekend that at least \$30 million of it is coming from the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC), a pro-Israel lobbying group that ABSOLUTELY doesn't want someone who openly talks about "genocide" in the Gaza Strip in the U.S. Senate.

All of the other pro-Stevens messages being shared in the ads – checking President Donald Trump, standing up to ICE, being an effective member of

Congress – may all be true.

But the core of this spending, the reason we're seeing a likely record amount of outside money being spent on a Democratic U.S Senate primary, is that one candidate is openly campaigning to end U.S. government support for Israel and the other is not.

Israel remains at war with Hamas in Gaza and continues military operations against Hezbollah in southern Lebanon.

Like U.S. Rep. Rashida Tlaib, El-Sayed is the type of rabble rouser who could presumably gin up more public discontent against Israel going forward.

Stevens, meanwhile, is a vocal supporter of Israel. This position alone, though, isn't going to win her the Democratic primary. Not in 2026.

An AP-NORC poll from June 11-17 found that 58% of Democrats believe the United States is too supportive of the Israelis in their conflict with the Palestinians.

That's why if you're looking for Stevens's backing of Israel and its fight against Muslim militants in this avalanche of TV spending, you won't find it.

But, ironically, that's why you're seeing the ads.

If members of the Democratic establishment aren't nervous about all of this, they should be. If El-Sayed and his strong cadre of progressives like Will Lawrence and Donovan McKinney in Detroit are successful, will AIPAC involve itself in November's general election in support of Republican Mike Rogers in the fall?

If as much as \$50 million in outside interests feel this strongly about El-Sayed this summer, what is stopping them from spending in support of another pro-Israel politician in Rogers?

And if this type of money is going to the Republican, what does this mean for Democrats down ballot? Does this hurt Jocelyn Benson? The chances of the Democrats retaining the state Senate or taking over the state House?

There's more at stake with these seemingly endless commercials in support of Haley Stevens. It's one battle in a much larger war.

Literally.

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

POLITICS



KYLE MELINN

Lansing's very own cryptid, revealed

Woldumar camp counselors spill the baked beans about the Hooga Hooga

By **LAWRENCE COSENTINO**

In the golden July sunshine, with the smell of wildflowers filling the air and every blade of grass in sharp focus, Lansing's 180-acre Woldumar Nature Center doesn't feel like a place with a deep, dark secret.

But it has one.

The clueless adult hikers, joggers, birders and nature lovers who blithely trip along Woldumar's 5 miles of wooded trails have no idea what lurks under their Keens and Merrells.

But the secret is well known to thousands of young campers, many of whom have gone on to become camp counselors and passed the secret on to the next generation.

They don't volunteer the information unless they are asked. But when you ask them, their eyes flash with a faraway purple light.

They will tell you that Woldumar is home to the Hooga Hooga, mysterious, hairy, secretive beings akin to Bigfoot that tunnel in unknown numbers under the nature center's meadows, forests, streams and wetlands. Hooga Hoogas are only found at Woldumar — nowhere else in the world.

Just to be clear, Woldumar is a proper nonprofit nature center rooted in level-headed science. (The staff doesn't even like it when you call it a park.) The counselors and naturalists are always ready to teach about the life cycles of painted turtles, great blue herons, maple-beech forests, native meadows and so on.

But it really lights them up to be the proud stewards of Lansing's very own cryptid, as localized as the Loch Ness Monster and as much an emblem of the city as the state Capitol or the Oldsmobile.

And Hooga Hoogas not the only secret at Woldumar. The nature center itself is one of Lansing's best kept secrets, a gorgeous swath of spacious meadow and rolling woodland that helps thousands of kids a year experience the joys of outdoor life and unravel the mysteries of nature.

It's just that some of those mysteries are more mysterious than others.



Illustration by Dennis Preston

Like the creatures themselves, Hooga Hooga lore is a bit fuzzy, but all sources agree that the rarely seen beasts are deathly averse to grape jelly.

Under the surface

The theme of last week's Camp Discovery at Woldumar, "under the surface," was particularly appropriate.

On the sunny, hot morning of July 14, about 80 kids gathered near the converted barns on the nature center's lush grounds to prepare for another day of the weeklong camp. About 900 kids attend day camp at Woldumar during the 11 weeks it's offered each summer.

Woldumar executive director Kevin Wernet put the combined number of students served by field trips from regional schools, educational programs

and summer camps at 5,000 to 6,000 a year.

The day campers poked under logs, turned over rocks and took sample dips from the woodland pond, hunting for hidden organisms. Even before they set off into the woods, a few kids were bent to the ground, watching a mole burrow into the grass near the barn.

"He's still down there, but let's not bother him," a counselor said.

It was all fun and educational, but there's something much more charismatic and elusive "under the surface" at Woldumar.

Counselor Colum Shutler took a break from minding the kids to share the secret.

"They look like Bigfoot, covered in fur," Shutler said. "It was a legend even before I started camping here. We never see them, because they can get from one spot to another by underground tunnels." Shutler began camping at Woldumar 15 years ago, at age 5.

There's a lot of doubtful and apocryphal Hooga Hooga lore, but some things are pretty much agreed upon.

They are 7 to 9 feet tall, and they have brown-black hair all over.

"You can repel them with grape jelly, which actually burns them on contact," longtime camp counselor Patrick Reichel said. "You can also do a Hooga Hooga war dance, a sign of aggression. Fortunately for us, it looks a lot like the chicken dance, so it's easy to teach."

Reichel first attended camp at Woldumar at age 5 and "just never left." He became a junior counselor in his teens and a senior counselor at 18. (He's now 27.)

"In certain lighting conditions, the fur changes color," Reichel said. "One of the colors you can perceive is purple. We've seen shades closer to orange. It varies from Hooga Hooga to Hooga Hooga." Another counselor reported that they flat-out dyed their fur purple this summer.

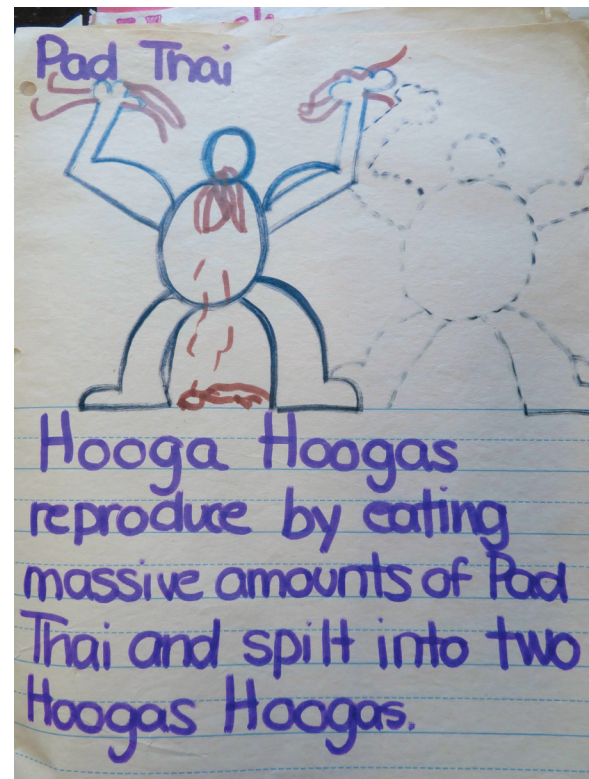
They are said to be fond of pad Thai and cheese sandwiches.

"Allegedly, if a Hooga Hooga consumes a large amount of pad Thai, it will undergo mitosis and divide into two Hooga Hoogas," Reichel said. "I only heard this once. It could be true, it could be just a story, or it could even be a Hooga Hooga pulling a joke on us."

A joke? Does that mean they can communicate with humans? As a "Hoogameister," or liaison to the creatures, Reichel helped set the terms of an agreement that made Hooga Hooga Island, a small bit of land in the Grand River, off limits to humans. He thinks they picked up English from eavesdropping on campers.

"The island has the only known entrance to a Hooga Hooga tunnel," he said. "We didn't want to disrupt their

See Hooga Hooga, Page 16



Some drawings that Woldumar campers have made of the Hooga Hooga over the years.

Hooga Hooga

from page 15

comings and goings.”

They appear to be sanitary creatures.

“Sometimes we’ll find animal scat in a large quantity and someone will say, ‘A Hooga Hooga left it,’ but only as a joke,” Reichel said. “I never saw any.”

The biggest animal native to Woldumar, the white-tailed deer, leaves modest, Milk Dud-sized droppings.

If the pile is prodigious, a dog is the likely culprit.

Going vegan

These days, Woldumar counselors preach peaceful coexistence with the Hooga Hooga, but that wasn’t always the case.

When Reichel was a tyke, campers were told that Hooga Hoogas caught and ate unwary kids who strayed too far from their counselors.

“It was a modern fairy tale,” Reichel said. “You don’t go out into the woods alone.”

A hair-raising handmade booklet drawn by camp kids more than 20 years ago portrayed the creatures as smooth-skinned, angular demons and warned of nocturnal encounters “ending in blood.” Nervous camp staffers asked us not to reproduce any images from that early chronicle.

For years, safe shelters built of sticks, shrubs and leaves, with names like “Bob’s Fort” of “Miguel’s Fort,” stood alongside paths as physical evidence of an ongoing war between the Hooga Hoogas and the staff of Woldumar.

Zeke Polken started camping at

Woldumar in 2005, at 5 years old, and served as a counselor through his college years, until 2019.

“The whole thing was a cautionary tale to make campers stay with the groups,” Polken said.

What happened next is a little fuzzy. Reichel said the Hooga Hoogas “evolved into vegetarians.”

“They no longer wanted to eat the children,” Polken said.

Shutler elaborated further.

“There was a time when they left and

See Hooga Hooga, Page 17

Hooga Hooga

from page 16

went on vacation for a few years,” he said. “They went to Florida. When they came back, we made a truce with them, and they decided to become vegan. Our part of the truce was to keep no grape jelly here at all, ever.”

In a remarkable stroke of luck, the Hooga Hoogas evolved from scary flesh eaters to shy vegetarians (vegans, even) at the same time kids’ summer camps shifted their emphasis from “fear and compliance” to “understanding and curiosity,” in the words of Woldumar development director Sam Inglot.

It was a serendipitous coincidence.

The mellowing of the Hooga Hoogas came as a relief to Woldumar executive director Kevin Wernet.

“Somewhere in the early to mid-2010s, we started to get feedback from parents,” Wernet said. “We’re a nature camp, and we want kids to be curious, to explore nature, observe science.”

Luckily, the Hooga Hoogas were evolving in the same direction.

“We kind of took a turn and made it a little more playful and used it as a mechanism to explore relationships in nature,” Wernet said.

The way Reichel tells the story, it sounds almost as if the whole thing is an elastic fable, altered to suit the spirit of the times, and not an amazing evolutionary convergence of human and Hooga Hooga culture.

“We recognized that the sensibili-



Lawrence Cosentino/City Pulse

About 90 kids stretched and sang before exploring Woldumar Nature Center’s fields, woods and waters on July 14.

ties of the times had changed,” Reichel said. “We realized it wasn’t the greatest thing to be telling kids that there was something in the forest that would eat you.”

“At a certain point, it turned into, ‘We can’t talk about this because the younger campers are freaking out about it,’” Polken said.

There’s another possible explanation for the change in tone from 1990s slasher movie to gee-whiz David Atten-

borough. Is it possible that the Hooga Hoogas were peaceful all along but misunderstood and feared by the campers and staff, as the unknown often is?

Wernet was intrigued by the hypothesis and instantly turned it into a teachable moment.

“If you look at the natural history of human-wildlife interactions, we see that with mountain lions, with wolves,” he said. If this were a 1950s sci-fi flick, he would have puffed thoughtfully on

a pipe. “I won’t say the Hooga Hoogas are predators, but predators get a bad reputation with people who don’t dive deeper into natural systems.”

He added that nocturnal creatures like opossums, raccoons and bats also get “a bad rap.”

“Maybe there are some malevolent ones, but I don’t think the species as a whole is ill-intentioned.”

See Hooga Hooga, Page 18



Lawrence Cosentino/City Pulse

Humans are barred from Hooga Hooga Island, an isolated spot in a lagoon on Woldumar’s north side and the only known entrance to a Hooga Hooga tunnel.



Lawrence Cosentino/City Pulse

Woldumar executive director Kevin Wernet called the legendary Hooga Hoogas “a unique factor that sets Woldumar apart.”

Hooga Hooga

from page 17

Rocky the rock

The tangle of Hooga Hooga legends has picked up a lot of fanciful and doubtful baggage over the years.

Polken, Reichel and Reichel's twin sister, Callie, went so far as to compile a "Hooga Hooga Encyclopedia" from 2009 to 2011, with contributions from other young campers.

The scrapbook details the personalities of individual Hooga Hoogas and identifies some of their enemies, including the Triapothon, "half velociraptor and half praying mantis."

A chubby woodchuck named Stu is celebrated as a dogged defender of the nature center, chasing Hooga Hoogas off in the night and returning to his cage in the visitor's center by morning. (The visitor's center at Woldumar no longer keeps caged animals.)

The keepers of the legend were entering their early teens, so it's no surprise that they began to attribute adolescent concerns to the creatures, including unrequited crushes and body makeovers.

Only one dead, blood-covered camper is depicted in the scrapbook, a young kid stubbornly stuck in the old school.

There's no telling what's canon and what isn't, but camp lore is a loose, baggy monster, more open-air open mic than fussy chronicle of Middle-earth. When excited kids are packed together into a summer camp, stories spring up like bioluminescent mushrooms.

"The curiosity and goofiness of camp is what makes it so cool," Inglot said.

It goes on to this day. While gearing up for camp activities last week, a group of kids danced around a log, where an elaborate stick lodge had suddenly materialized at one end.

One of them held out a flat rock.

"It's a home for Rocky the rock," he grinned.

The week before, another group of kids banded together and called themselves the "sneaky avocados."

"All week, you could hear the screams of the sneaky avocados," Inglot said. Another group found 40 crayfish in the pond one day and called themselves the "crayfish empire."

Last week, a brand-new legend sprang up at Woldumar when the kids dubbed taciturn counselor Ethan Kilgore "banana head."

Within a day or so, the counselors themselves were riffing on the



Lawrence Cosentino/City Pulse

A Woldumar camp counselor known as Banana Head (see name tag) gave a pep talk to kids at the start of daily activities on July 14.

"banana head" theme as they led the morning song:

"Banana head, banana head, where is banana head?"

Prior to his metamorphosis into banana head, Kilgore was notorious for his unsmiling, intense demeanor. The following morning, he showed up with a banana bandana on his head and was smiling.

"Who's smiling all the time?" the kids chanted. "Banana head, banana head."

Hooga Hoogas aren't the only ones who can change their ways.

Peak Lansing

Hooga Hoogas embody many things at Woldumar, and one of them is the sheer fun and wonderment of being outdoors. You can hear the delight and love in Reichel's voice when he talks about camping. He's organized countless camp activities and served as a naturalist for many educational and outreach programs.

"My times at Woldumar are some of the best times I've ever had," he said.

He's come to know the nature center's varied biomes — distinct areas with their own plants, animals, soil and even climate — like the back of his hand.

The grounds at Woldumar, like 90% of Michigan, were clear cut in the logging boom from 1860 to 1910. The decimation of old-growth forest and conversion to farmland may have driven the Hooga Hoogas underground, but no one knows for sure.

Among Reichel's favorite spots is a beech-maple forest informally called "the highlands" because of its rolling terrain. He loves to show campers one of the oldest stands of trees on the property and explain the stages of succession, or forest regrowth.

Since farming days nearly a century ago, Woldumar's forests have regenerated into a diverse labyrinth of mixed beech and maple forest, showcase species like the leafy pawpaw and a towering white pine plantation that's often compared to a Gothic cathedral.

Inglot pointed out that the young forest still has a lot of understory — bushes, vines, shrubs and young trees that provide plenty of cover for secretive underground dwellers like the Hooga Hooga.

The forests at Woldumar have been a part of Reichel's life since he was a little boy. He fondly recalls sunny afternoons at camp when counselors would section off a huge chunk of the nature center, divide the area in two and supervise a "tag"-style melee called "capture the flag."

"We'd be running around through the woods, up and down the hills, weaving through the trees," he said. "It was just an incredible experience."

The furry, mysterious inhabitants living beneath Woldumar, and nowhere else in the world, also embody the nature center's status as a local treasure — "peak Lansing," in Inglot's words.

The very land on which Woldumar sits was a working farm where the iconic Lansingite Ransom E. Olds built a home for his daughter Gladys Olds An-

derson.

In the mid-1960s, Anderson made an agreement with the nonprofit nature center, which had no permanent home for its programs, to use the property, and she ceded it outright in the early 1970s. There's no evidence that Anderson ceded the land as the result of a Hooga Hooga scare, but who knows? It's not the kind of thing you put in a deed.

Woldumar is also unique in its status as the only private nonprofit nature center Lansing, according to Inglot.

"Memberships, grants and donations keep the lights on — although we don't really have that many lights," Inglot said. "But they keep the trails open and keep the programs running." Event rentals are another key source of income.

Volunteers log about a thousand hours per year helping with events and activities, clearing brush and invasive species and generally keeping the place in top form. (The last of three summer creek cleanups is set for Aug. 15, and volunteers are always welcome.)

One of Woldumar's most famous structures is a rustic cabin built in 1860 where Lansing's most famous architect, Darius Moon, lived as a child. Moon went on to design the Turner-Dodge House, the historic Rogers-Carrier House at Lansing Community College and grand mansions for E.W. Sparrow and R.E. Olds.

"This place just oozes Lansing history, as well as being a cool summer camp," Inglot said.

The Hooga Hooga are more than just hairy icing on the cake.

"It's part of why Woldumar is such a unique and special place," Polken said.

Polken is studying for a master's degree in education. He credits the nature center for planting the seeds of his future career.

"I didn't realize I wanted to work with kids until I started working with kids at Woldumar," he said.

He plans to return to Woldumar Aug. 8 for the woodsy wedding of his one-time camp buddy and fellow "Hooga Hooga Encyclopedia" contributor Callie Reichel. (Woldumar has a wooded amphitheater often used for weddings and a glittery dance venue, the R.E. Olds Anderson Rotary Barn.)

Once the place gets into your blood, it's impossible to stay away for long.

"It's a unique place I've known since I was a kid, the closest thing I have to a childhood home I can go back to," Polken said. "The Hooga Hoogas help to bring out the kids' sense of wonder and discovery. There just isn't anywhere else like Woldumar."

Live & Local

CityPULSE

Ann Street Plaza

Corner of M.A.C. and Albert avenues,
downtown East Lansing
BadMojo
Fri., July 24, 6-8 p.m.

The Avenue

2021 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing
Nocturne Carnival w/ rinbossanova + friends
Fri., July 24, 9 p.m.
Feral at 5
Sun., July 26, 7 p.m.

Beaumont Tower

375 W. Circle Drive, East Lansing
Summer Carillon Series: Ellen Dickinson
Wed., July 22, 6 p.m.
Summer Carillon Series: Margaret Pan
Wed., July 29, 6 p.m.

Blue Gill Grill

1591 Lake Lansing Road, Haslett
Rush Clement
Thurs., July 23, 6-9 p.m.
Justin Holcomb
Sun., July 26, 2-5 p.m.

BrickHaven Brewing Co.

200 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge
AJ Mayer
Fri., July 24, 6-9 p.m.

Classic Pub & Grill

16219 Old U.S. 27, Lansing
DJ Atomic Sounds
Fri., July 24, 7-11 p.m.
Maxwell Brothers
Sat., July 25, 8 p.m.-midnight

Cleats Bar & Grille

5801 N. Aurelius Road, Lansing
Gwendellyn
Thurs., July 23, 6-9 p.m.

Cook Recital Hall

333 W. Circle Drive, East Lansing
Celebrating the Spectrum Finale Concert
Sat., July 25, 4 p.m.

Courthouse Square Museum

100 W. Lawrence Ave., Charlotte
Twilight Big Band
Thurs., July 23, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Dimes Brewhouse

145 Bridge St., Dimondale
Acoustic Liberty
Fri., July 24, 6-9 p.m.
Capo the Second
Sat., July 25, 7-9 p.m.

EagleMonk Pub and Brewery

4906 W. Mount Hope Hwy., Lansing
Feral at 5
Wed., July 22, 7-9 p.m.
Samantha Shessia
Wed., July 29, 7-9 p.m.

Eaton Rapids Craft Co.

204 N. Main St., Eaton Rapids
Deacon Earl
Fri., July 24, 6-9 p.m.
Chris Muethel
Sat., July 25, 6-9 p.m.

Fish Ladder Music Park

216 E. Grand River Ave., Lansing
Raising the Dead (Grateful Dead tribute), Brian Byrnes
Sat., July 25, 7-10:30 p.m.
Global Village
Wed., July 29, 7-9 p.m.

The Fledge

1300 Eureka St., Lansing
Small Parks, Hexing, FiDGET, Trophy Husband
Fri., July 24, doors 7 p.m., show 8 p.m.

The Green Door

2005 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing
Wavelength
Wed., July 22, 8 p.m.-1 a.m.
Finkel, Cattle Dogs, La La Delivery
Fri., July 24, doors 5 p.m., show 5:30 p.m.
Left Lane Cruiser, Cheap Droids, Slumlord Radio
Sat., July 25, doors 7 p.m., show 8 p.m.
Brotherkenzie, Dirt Buyer, Benjamin James Childs
Mon., July 27, doors 7 p.m., show 8 p.m.
Wavelength
Wed., July 29, 8 p.m.-1 a.m.

Grewal Hall

224 S. Washington Square, Lansing
Dinosaur Jr., Stef Chura
Fri., July 24, 7 p.m.
Anthony Green, Geoff Rickly, Keith Goodwin
Sun., July 26, 6 p.m.

Homebrew Tabletop Game Lounge

219 1/2 N. Bridge St., Grand Ledge
Steven Allen
Wed., July 22, 7-9 p.m.

Horrocks Farm Market

7420 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing
Shelby & Jake
Thurs., July 23, 5-8 p.m.
Lucid Vibe
Fri., July 24, 5-8 p.m.
Kelly Quinn Blues Experience
Sat., July 25, 5-8 p.m.
John Beltran
Sun., July 26, 3-8 p.m.

Ingham County Courthouse lawn

315 S. Jefferson St., Mason
Kaelee & Matt Foreman
Thurs., July 23, 6:30-8 p.m.

The Irish Pub

1910 W. Saginaw St., Lansing
Open mic night, with Scott Seth
Thurs., July 23, 6:30-9:30 p.m.
Barley Priest
Sat., July 25, 7-10 p.m.

Jackson Field

505 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing
James Bourland & His Ex-Husbands
Thurs., July 23, 5:30 p.m.
Smokey Bear
Sat., July 25, 5:30 p.m.

Jaycee Park

525 E. River St., Grand Ledge
Shakedown (Bob Seger tribute)
Thurs., July 23, 7 p.m.

Lake Lansing Park South

1621 Pike St., Haslett
Sea Cruisers, wsg Martini & Rossi
Fri., July 24, 6-9 p.m.

Lansing Brewing Co.

518 E. Shiawassee St., Lansing
Jerry Sprague
Fri., July 24, 5:30-8:30 p.m.

Lansing Shuffle

325 Riverfront Drive, Lansing
Atomic Annie Duo
Sun., July 26, 5:30-8:30 p.m.

Looking Glass Brewing Co.

108 W. Main St., Dewitt
Charlie Richardson
Fri., July 24, 6-9 p.m.

Mac's Bar

2700 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing
The Convalescence, Metal Mustang, City Limits, Chemical Valley Mutants
Thurs., July 23, 6:30 p.m.
Open mic night
Mon., July 27, 6-8 p.m.
Unity — In Music
Thurs., July 23, 9 p.m.-2 a.m.
Tues., July 28, 10 p.m.-2 a.m.

Marketplace on the Green

1995 Central Park Drive, Okemos
Slick Jimmy
Wed., July 22, 6:30 p.m.
Geech
Wed., July 29, 6:30 p.m.

Mash Bar

212 Albert Ave., East Lansing
Cooper Johnson
Thurs., July 23, 8-11 p.m.
Blake James, Shelby & Jake
Fri., July 24, 5-11:30 p.m.
Sharrow & Hughey, Eric Moore & the Fugitives
Sat., July 25, 5-11:30 p.m.

McClintock Park

208 Irene St., Laingsburg
Sudden Impact, wsg New Creation
Thurs., July 23, 6-9 p.m.

McCormick Park

300 N. Putnam St., Williamston
Local Talent All-Stars
Thurs., July 23, 7-9 p.m.

Midtown Brewing Co.

402 S. Washington Square, Lansing
Gwendellyn
Sat., July 25, 7-9 p.m.

Moriarty's Pub

802 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing
Open mic night, with Jen Sygit
Wed., July 22, 8-11 p.m.
Blues jam
Thurs., July 23, 9 p.m.-midnight
The Polaroids
Fri., July 24, 8 p.m.-midnight
Medusa
Sat., July 25, 8 p.m.-midnight
Jazz Tuesdays
Tues., July 28, 7-10 p.m.
Open mic night, with Jen Sygit
Wed., July 29, 8-11 p.m.

Nelson Gallery

113 S. Washington Square, Lansing
The Deadly String Band
Thurs., July 23, 4:30-6:30 p.m.

Nico's Pub and Grill

117 S. Bridge St., Dimondale
Tad and the Fat Katz
Fri., July 24, 7:30-11:30 p.m.

Old Town Cultural Center

408 E. César E. Chávez Ave., Lansing
Annie & Rod Capps Trio
Sat., July 25, 7:30 p.m.

One North East Lansing

1310 Abbot Road, East Lansing
El Capitan
Fri., July 24, 8-11 p.m.
Kevin Nichols
Sat., July 25, 7-11 p.m.
Don Middlebrook & Friends
Wed., July 29, 6-9 p.m.

One North Lansing

5001 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing
Kathy Ford
Thurs., July 23, 6-9 p.m.
Darin Larner Sr.
Fri., July 24, 8-11 p.m.
Keith Minaya
Sat., July 25, 7-11 p.m.
Open mic night, with Kathy Ford
Mon., July 27, 6:30-9 p.m.

The Peanut Barrel

521 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing
Brian Byrnes
Fri., July 24, 8-10 p.m.
Jeff Boog Band
Tues., July 28, 6-8 p.m.

Pins & Pints

2120 E. Saginaw St., East Lansing
Brian Byrnes
Thurs., July 23, 6-8 p.m.

Red Cedar Spirits

2000 Merritt Road, East Lansing
Randy Napoleon Trio
Sun., July 26, 6-9 p.m.

Reno's North

16460 Old U.S. 27, Lansing
Carl Pawluk
Wed., July 22, 6-9 p.m.
Greg Smith
Fri., July 24, 6-9 p.m.
Kathy Ford
Sat., July 25, 6-9 p.m.
Andrew Corbin
Wed., July 29, 6-9 p.m.

Riverfront Plaza

333 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing
Full House
Thurs., July 23, 6-8 p.m.

Riverside Park

315 S. Bridge St., DeWitt
Exit 86
Thurs., July 23, 7-9 p.m.

Sholty's Bar

1821 S. Washington Ave., Lansing
Spoonful
Tues., July 28, 6-9 p.m.

Sidebar

246 E. Saginaw St., East Lansing
The Dangling Particples Duo
Fri., July 24, 7-10 p.m.

Sir Pizza Grand Café

201 E. César E. Chávez Ave., Lansing
Sassiety, Mercadez Kelly
Sat., July 25, 6:30-9:30 p.m.

St. Johns City Park

801 W. Park St., St. Johns
Toppermost (Beatles tribute)
Wed., July 22, 7-9 p.m.
Wilson Thicket
Wed., July 29, 7-9 p.m.

Stober's Bar

812 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing
Lynx Band
Sat., July 25, 6-9 p.m.
Lady Luck
Sun., July 26, 10 p.m.-1 a.m.
Your Dad
Tues., July 28, 10 p.m.-1 a.m.

Summerlands Brewing Co.

1957 Cedar St., Holt
Lynx Band
Fri., July 24, 8-11 p.m.
Sonic Voodoo
Sat., July 25, 8-11 p.m.

Tony W's Restaurant & Banquet Center

3420 S. Creyts Road, Lansing
Gimme Five
Wed., July 22, 6-9 p.m.
Performer TBA
Sun., July 26, 3-6 p.m.

UrbanBeat

1213 Turner St., Lansing
Lansing's Hidden Talent open mic
Wed., July 22, 6-9 p.m.
Walter Blanding with his Jazz Ambassadors playing Herbie Hancock
Wed., July 22, 9 p.m.
Stan Craig Band
Fri., July 24, 6:30-9:30 p.m.
Ann Bell does Tom Waits
Sat., July 25, 7:30-10 p.m.
Lansing's Hidden Talent open mic
Wed., July 29, 6-9 p.m.

Veterans Memorial Gardens

2074 N. Aurelius Road, Holt
The Pocket
Thurs., July 23, 7-9 p.m.

Williamston Roadhouse

3700 E. Grand River Road, Williamston
Jacob Smith
Wed., July 22, 7-10 p.m.
Velocity Shift
Sat., July 25, 7-11 p.m.
Kevin Wolff
Wed., July 29, 7-10 p.m.

Wilson Park

801 Stanley St., Lansing
Generator
Wed., July 22, 7-9 p.m.

ARTS & CULTURE

ART • BOOKS • FILM • MUSIC

'Summer of Youngblood' brings Badrock spinoff title

By KURT ANTHONY KRUG

The "Summer of Youngblood" is well underway.

Not only did "Youngblood" — the very first comic book produced by Image Comics in 1992, created by well-known artist/writer Rob Liefeld — reach its milestone 100th issue and return for a second printing, but Grand Rapids-based artist Seth Damoose is demonstrating his artistry on its spinoff title, called "Badrock." The first issue, written by Liefeld, debuted Wednesday, July 15.

"Youngblood" was the first comic out of the gates for Image, and I remember that everyone seemed drawn to Badrock — as well as the whole Youngblood team — from the beginning," Damoose said. "Being a part of Rob Liefeld's Summer of Youngblood is an honor. It's wild to be a part of something that I've been such a fan of for most of my life. I'm truly just happy to be here."

Liefeld believes that if superheroes existed in the real world, they would be treated the same way as famous actors, pop stars and pro athletes. Youngblood is a team of superheroes sanctioned by the U.S. government. Not only do they fight crime, but they also have agents, publicists and managers who help them navigate the world of endorsement deals, TV shows and being in the media spotlight constantly.

Youngblood's most famous member is Badrock, a teenager transformed into a giant mass of granite, making him super strong and resilient. However, he retains the emotional maturity of a teenager. His alter ego is Thomas John McCall, an average, underachieving 16-year-old who swallowed a vial of top-secret genetic material in his father's lab, which transformed him into Badrock and got him recruited into Youngblood.

Badrock has been in every iteration of "Youngblood." One of Image's flagship characters, he has teamed up with Marvel Comics' Spider-Man and Wolverine over the years.

"He's a teenager living and working in giant, rock-skinned body. He's about as tough as they come, which is good because he still runs at problems like a kid who doesn't know any better. He's growing up and having to deal with the consequences while still having to be a hero operating in the public eye," Damoose



Courtesy Seth Damoose

"Badrock" artist Seth Damoose at his studio in Grand Rapids.

said. "I think Badrock touches on the kid in all of us. Inside, he's just a teenager, after all. Play that against his rocky and enormous physique, and I think we have ourselves a winner."

Originally, the character was named Bedrock, and his catchphrase was, "Yabba-dabba-DOOM!" (a play on Fred Flintstone's catchphrase, "Yabba-dabba-doo!"). However, to avoid any legal disputes with Hanna-Barbera, Liefeld changed his name to Badrock.

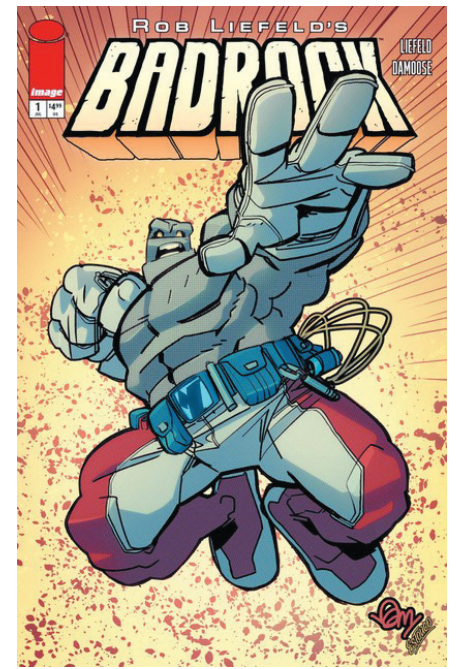
"Badrock is the heart of Youngblood," Liefeld said. "Giving him his own title allows us to go deeper into his character, his humor and his sheer power. If you're a fan of high-stakes, high-octane action that's loaded with laughs, this is the book you've been waiting for."

The new series explores the heavy burden Badrock carries into his personal life after his mother is kidnapped by supervillains due to his celebrity status.

"Badrock is on a break after the events of 'Youngblood' No. 100, and while at home enjoying some downtime, he's attacked," Liefeld said. "During the attack, his mom is kidnapped, and we don't know why. The book opens with action and keeps that action rolling throughout. If you like big action, this one's for



One of several covers to Image Comics' "Badrock" No. 1, illustrated by creator Rob Liefeld.



Another cover to "Badrock" No. 1, illustrated by Damoose.

you."

Damoose is an alumnus of East Kentwood High School and studied studio art at Grand Rapids Community College. Growing up reading comics, he was inspired to write and draw his own stories, collaborating with his friends. They came up with their own superheroes and storylines, illustrating their ideas and stapling all the pages together to create their comic books.

"About halfway through producing that first comic book at 10 years old, I was hooked. I knew then that making comics is what I wanted to do with my life," he said. "I started with drawing and showing fan art in comic book forums back in the day. I was constantly drawing, and the internet provided a way for me to reach as many people as possible in the quickest amount of time. I joined forums for art, comics, fantasy, wherever I thought someone might connect with the artwork I was making."

"Eventually, my art made its way in front of (Image co-founder) Jim Valentino at Shadowline Comics, and he offered me a gig," Damoose continued.

Damoose's first published comic was the third volume of Image's "Bomb Queen" in 2007. His artwork also ap-

peared in Source Point Press' "Tales of Mr. Rhee."

He contributed to IDW Publishing's "Star Trek" No. 400, which earned an Eisner Award nomination.

"That was wild!" Damoose said of the nomination. "I'm still not sure how to feel about that. I'm honored to even have been a part of that issue. There's so much talent that was involved in the creation of that issue. For my small eight-page story to be included was truly an honor."

He spoke about getting the "Badrock" gig.

"A couple years ago, I had an idea to spend the month of October drawing one Liefeld-created character per day and call it 'Robtober,'" he recalled. "I've always been a fan of his fun and over-the-top creations and wanted to have a go at them myself. Lo and behold, that garnered the attention of the man himself! Rob reached out and asked if I would be interested in helping launch a new 'Badrock' series to go along with his relaunch of 'Youngblood.'"

Damoose spoke highly of Liefeld.

"Working with Rob is a dream come true for me. He's been nothing but supportive and positive in every conversa-

See Badrock, Page 21

Historical fiction novel retraces perilous journey of pioneer woman

By **KURT ANTHONY KRUG**

It took Tom Huggler 20 years to write “The Woman She Left Behind” (Sunacumen Press, \$19.99).

This is Huggler’s second fiction novel after authoring 20 nonfiction books. The Sunfield resident, 81, will speak about and sign copies of the book on a tour spanning three cities, including Lansing.

The book occurs during the Civil War, in the spring of 1862. A widowed woman named Rachel Barnum leaves her three children — twin daughters Hester and Helena 10, and a son, Watson, 16 — in Sunfield Township with her farm’s hired hand to embark upon either a fool’s errand or a hero’s journey. She will stop at nothing to find her son Dwight, 18, a Union soldier in the Second Michigan Cavalry who was badly wounded on a Missouri battlefield. However, she fears the chances of finding her eldest and bringing him back alive are dwindling with each passing day.

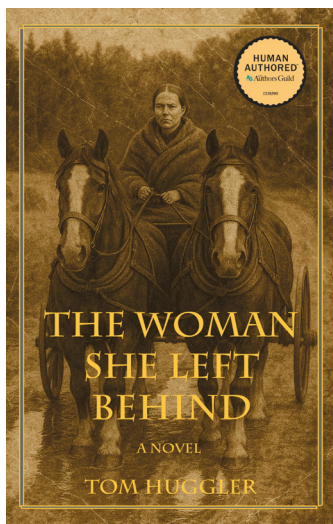
Barnum’s great-great-grandson informed Huggler about a journal Barnum’s granddaughter wrote in 1884. The 136 typewritten pages contained the following excerpt: “She and Mr. Barnum had four children. Dwight, born Feb. 16, 1844, a Union soldier in the War

of the Rebellion, died while in service April 20, 1862. Grandma Rachel drove an ox team hitched to a buckboard and brought Dwight’s body home to be buried. I believe it was in Tennessee. I’m not sure. Made the trip all by herself.”

“Not only was I consumed with wondering if Rachel actually did this, but also why she did it. It was a man’s world in 1862. She had to travel through a warzone. Alone,” Huggler said. “The physical challenges seemed insurmountable, especially after I researched where Dwight actually was (New Madrid, Missouri). The flooded Mississippi River set a new record that spring, impassable roads, tornadoes and an island fortified with thousands of Rebel soldiers. She had to overcome these obstacles just to get to her son. And then she had to bring him home.”

In the two decades it took Huggler to write the book, he conducted extensive research, gathering information from the aforementioned journal, military records, local library and county courthouse records, and the Michigan History Center in Lansing. He also retraced Barnum’s journey via

the same modes of travel she had at her disposal, such as horse and buggy, trains



Tom Huggler’s book tour

Huggler will bring his “The Woman She Left Behind” tour to the following cities:

Portland

7–8 p.m. Thursday, July 23
First Congregational Church
421 E. Bridge St.
(517) 647-6441

Grand Rapids

1–3 p.m. Aug. 1
Schuler Books
2660 28th St. SE
(616) 942-2561

Lansing

1–3 p.m. Aug. 8
EVERYbody Reads
2019 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing
(517) 346-9900



Photo by Jodi Janka/J Photography

Tom Huggler

and Mississippi riverboat.

“I could imagine how difficult the journey was. The experience helped me understand why she went and the challenges she had to overcome,” Huggler said. “Rachel’s courage, determination and resolve came from her Christian faith. Also, she loved talking about pioneering life and coming to the Michigan wilderness but took the story of her journey to find her son and bring him home to her grave. She never talked about it.”

According to Huggler, Barnum was born in New Jersey in 1822. When she was 16, she came to Michigan with her family. She was widowed with four children on the eve of the Civil War. She died in 1918 at age 96.

“Rachel’s long life was one of repetitive loss and redemption,” Huggler said. “She outlived a twin sister at the tender age of 4, two husbands and all four of her children from the first marriage. What kept her from giving up?”

Initially, Huggler planned to write a documentary about Barnum.

“Upon learning I couldn’t connect all the dots, even after years of deep re-

search, I decided to write her story as fiction based upon known facts,” he said. “I had to get Rachel into my head, to think as she may have thought. When Rachel began waking me at night — in the sense that I couldn’t stop thinking about her — the story gelled and began to take on a life of its own.”

The middle of three sons, Huggler was born in Detroit but grew up in the Flint area. He moved to mid-Michigan in 1989.

He attributed his love of the great outdoors to his father.

“Our father supplied my brothers and me with a fishing rod, a shotgun and a rifle. He fished and hunted with his sons,” Huggler recalled.

Huggler has been married to his second wife, Laura, for 37 years. He has two adopted children and one grandson.

A two-time alumnus of the University of Michigan, he holds undergraduate and graduate degrees in English language and literature. He also completed 30 postgraduate hours in educational leadership at Eastern Michigan University. Additionally, he has been a member of the Outdoor Writers Association of America for 52 years, even serving as president from 1992 to ‘93.

Huggler spent 14 years in public education. He taught English, speech and journalism at his alma mater. He also spent five years in administration as an assistant principal, an athletic director and a community education director.

“I’ve always enjoyed young people and wanted to make a difference in their lives,” he said. “I didn’t enjoy administrative work, so I returned to the classroom and made up the difference in lost income by freelancing articles to outdoor magazines. I took a year’s leave of absence to write a book and found out I could make a living as a freelance writer. I left the profession in 1982.”

See Fiction novel, Page 22

Badrock

from page 20

tion we’ve had. I’m inspired by his creativity, as well as the energy he has. It comes through in the scripts and keeps me excited throughout the creation process,” he said. “I love the energy and excitement that comes from Rob’s scripts, and I can’t help but infuse my own into the pages as I’m drawing them. This is truly a comic made from the love of the superhero medium and passion for storytelling art.”

In turn, Liefeld praised Damoose.

“I’ve been following Seth’s work for years. He was the only artist I envisioned for a ‘Badrock’ series,” Liefeld said. “He’s an incredible storyteller and illustrator. Fans are in for a huge treat.” Liefeld rose to prominence in 1990 when he revitalized Marvel’s “The New Mutants,” an “X-Men” spinoff, by co-creating the characters Deadpool and Cable. He turned “The New Mutants” into “X-Force,” and the first issue of the latter title still holds the record as the second best-selling comic of all time.

In 1992, Liefeld, along with fellow Marvel artists Valentino (“Guardians of the Galaxy”), Jim Lee (“X-Men”), Todd McFarlane (“The Amazing Spi-

der-Man”), Erik Larsen (“The Amazing Spider-Man”), Marc Silvestri (“Wolverine”) and Whilce Portacio (“Uncanny X-Men”), abruptly left Marvel and formed Image, wanting to own their own creations and characters. One of the provisions was that no Image partner would interfere — creatively or financially — with any other partner’s work.

Image became an overnight success. Pre-orders for “Youngblood” No. 1 were just under 1 million. McFarlane’s “Spawn” No. 1, Image’s second comic, sold 1.7 million copies.

Robert Kirkman, COO of Image Comics and creator of “The Walking Dead”

(which later inspired the TV franchise of the same name), said “Youngblood” is one of the most important independent comics ever published.

“It started the Image revolution and paved the way for everything that followed,” he said. “As a corporate super-team that uses media manipulation and treats its heroes as celebrities, you can find its DNA in the Marvel Cinematic Universe, ‘The Boys,’ ‘Invincible’ and dozens of other modern superhero takes. The influence of Rob Liefeld’s creation reaches far and wide into all aspects of the entertainment industry.”

Williamston's '39 Steps' is a joyride through a classic thriller



Photo by Chris Purchis

Caitlin Cavanaugh (left) and Ryan Patrick Welsh in Williamston Theatre's production of "The 39 Steps."

By MARY CUSACK

There may be no better balm from the heat domes and smoke-filled skies of July in Greater Lansing than Williamston Theatre's production of "The 39 Steps." The company closes out its 19th season with the kind of fast-paced, hilarious farce it does so well.

The play itself has as frenzied a history as the performance. Playwright Patrick Barlow adapted Alfred Hitchcock's 1935 film, which was adapted from a 1915 novel by John Buchan. The witty stage show utilizes a cast of just four actors, requiring all but the lead to portray multiple characters to pull off the complex spy story.

Bored bachelor Richard Hannay (Ryan Patrick Welsh) meets a mysterious woman named Annabella Schmidt (Caitlin Cavanaugh) at the theater. She confides in him that she is a spy protecting British secrets and asks him to hide her. When he finds her murdered, Richard must go on the run to avoid arrest and expose the spy ring. Along the way, he is helped by a beautiful young farmer's wife and hindered by the icy Margaret, both also played by Cavanaugh.

The cast is rounded out by Emily Sutton-Smith and Patrick Loos, who tirelessly play over 50 characters throughout the show. Billed as Clown 1 and Clown 2 respectively, Sutton-Smith and Loos are a joy to watch, expertly confident despite the physical energy of their roles and the whiplash-fast pace of character and accent changes, often done mid-scene.

Compared to the heavy lifting of the

character swaps the rest of the cast must make, one might assume that Welsh has it easy by playing a single character. Poppycock. As the one constant figure, Welsh drives the entire play and also makes believable Richard's transition from a man hopelessly mired by ennui to a desperate man on the run to a passionate hero. It doesn't hurt that Welsh has the good looks and great hair — as well as a killer pencil mustache — of a leading man.



Review

"The 39 Steps"

Through Aug. 16
2 p.m. Thursday, Saturday-Sunday
7:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday
Williamston Theatre
122 S. Putnam St., Williamston
(517) 655-7469
williamstontheatre.org

Cavanaugh has great fun with her portrayals of the sultry Annabella and the lonely and randy Pamela, but she really shines as Margaret. At first cold and emotionally impenetrable, when Margaret warms up to Richard, the chemistry between Cavanaugh and

Welsh is electric.

The play was imagined as a low-tech affair, and action scenes such as Richard jumping from a train trestle, running from airplanes or losing the cops in a crowd are represented through ridiculously goofy projections by Dustin D. Miller.

I had the privilege of seeing "The 39 Steps" during its run in London's West End in 2009. I can say with confidence that Williamston Theatre's production is as funny and possibly more creative than that version, utilizing every inch of its physical space and depth of its incredible acting and production talent to give audiences a joyride through a classic thriller.

Fiction novel

from page 21

It was Huggler's fourth-grade teacher, Sarah Price, who inspired him to become a writer.

"She encouraged me to rewrite the ending of a book I had read for an oral report to our class. I didn't like the ending. When I rewrote the ending, she and my classmates liked it better than the original," he recalled.

He wrote his first novel, "Westwind Woods," in 1978 exclusively for an eighth-grade class of reluctant readers. He has published articles in many media outlets, and his work has appeared in numerous anthologies. He's also written scripts for

video productions.

Currently, he's working on an anthology of columns and essays with the working title "My Michigan." He also hopes to write a sequel — possibly a trilogy — to Barnum's story because "there's more to tell."

He's looking forward to his book tour, which kicks off Thursday.

"It reminds me of my teaching years. I get to share Rachel's incredible story as well as my own discoveries by following her footsteps," he said. "She's buried with her original family only 6 miles or so from where I live. I like taking interested people to the family burial plot. I've always been a teacher at heart."

Keep up with Huggler at tomhuggler.com.

20 Years of EVERYbody Reads 'Every child can find a book that tells their story'

By STEVE UNDERWOOD

Bustling with customers old and new, EVERYbody Reads bookstore was in full loving chaos Saturday (July 18) as proprietor Scott Harris found time to marvel at how the shop has made it through 20 years.

Harris' original goal was to create a resource center for those in need after becoming a single father to a 4-year-old and an 8-year-old when his wife died. "I was fortunate that I found resources, and it afforded us a chance to work through our grief and to heal," he said. "A lot of people I'd come across didn't have knowledge of or access to those resources, and that was a catalyst for the bookstore."

"We wanted to have tangible books to serve underrepresented and underserved individuals, families and communities," he continued, pointing out a small, simple but very meaningful sticker above the back door. "We wanted to offer a safe haven, and if you look right above our sign, there's a 'Z' for a safe zone, for which we were certified by Child and Family Services."

Harris, 62, admits he had "a wide-eyed, almost naïve idea" of what the bookstore would become.

"I had a vision of what I wanted it to look like, and it has morphed into something far different. People in the community would come in and say, 'Well, how about books if a child has a parent that's incarcerated?' Or people would come in looking for books related to other experiences that were new to me and not on my radar. So, the more people would share with me, the more I thought, 'Here's another group that's underrepresented.'"

The scene Saturday was a prime ex-

ample of what Harris has helped to foster. Saved by Zade was out front, running a can drive fundraiser to help tackle feline overpopulation. In the back of the shop, folks were snacking on vegan treats at a table raising funds for the Immigrant and Refugee Resource Collaborative.

Others were preparing for an open-mic poetry reading, including Ruelaine Stokes, Lansing's poet laureate from 2024 to earlier this year.

"The theme of the open mic reading, 'we were all strangers once,' is to let everyone know that we're all brothers and sisters," Harris said.

Thriving in the same big space, Triple Goddess Bookstore, owned by Dawne Botke-Coe and Alan Coe, occupies much of the front section of the store. The nonprofit comic shop Creating Heroes Stephen's Way, run by Monica Jahner, has made a home in the back.

Harris admits the store has never broken even financially. Thanks to another full-time job of his, he said he can run the shop with a small, dedicated staff (including manager Diane Krantz and Mike Carlson) and a cadre of volunteers.

"People bring in wonderful books and wonderful stories," Harris said. "This is my favorite part. Good people find good people, and the bookstore — we found some really good people."

One of those people is Omar Karim, who sees EVERYbody Reads as a place of community, acceptance and kindness.

"Scott is truly a leader," Karim said at the anniversary event. "He would never define himself as such, but he's a leader."

Jonesin' Crossword

By Matt Jones

“No Notes” -- except for those seven.
by Matt Jones
© 2026 Matt Jones

- ACROSS
1. They’re often exchanged
5. Created, as a spiderweb
9. Arranges by category
14. “___ Have Nothing” (1970 Tom Jones album)
15. Ding Dong alternative
16. 1970s veep Agnew
17. According to Autoweek, 1978’s “first American-made front-wheel-drive econobox”
20. Crushing defeats
21. Diminutive Italian suffix
22. California wine, for short
23. Reuben ingredient
25. Pig’s place
26. Apt to meddle
27. +, on a battery
28. “Swan Lake” wear
31. Super Bowl of 2007
33. 1970s-’80s TV planet
34. Kitchen fixture
36. Apartments
40. “Either you do it will”
41. Notes that appear here and nowhere else in the solved grid
43. Little kid
44. Sleep aid brand
46. ___ speak (as it were)
47. ___ Lanka
48. “The ___” (Diana Ross musical)
50. Mezcal bottle addition
52. Labor Day day, for short
53. MGM mascot
56. Solar wind particle

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12	13
14					15					16				
17					18					19				
			20					21				22		
23	24							25			26			
27					28	29	30			31	32			
33					34			35		36		37	38	39
40					41					42		43		
44			45			46						47		
			48		49		50			51		52		
53	54	55			56	57				58	59			
60					61				62	63				
64			65				66						67	68
69						70					71			
72						73					74			

58. Lovers’ secret meeting
60. “Walk-___ welcome”
61. Fiscal yr. part
62. “This Is How You Lose Her” author Diaz
64. Home of the Blues
69. “Lemon Tree” singer Lopez
70. Electric resistance measures
71. Horse’s pace
72. “This is ___ happening!”
73. Gritty film genre
74. Little imp
- DOWN
1. Kind of pass or treatment
2. Nocturnal raptor
3. Words from the cautious
4. “We are,” in Argentina
5. Closed off
6. Cooking vessels
7. “Lemme think ...”
8. Like a perfect game in baseball
9. Antidepressant, for short
10. Nail polish brand
11. Muppet rat
12. Three, to Trudeau
13. Bono who didn’t lead U2
18. Boot from office
19. Dark form of quartz
23. Silverware drawer piece
24. Fret
25. Setting time?
26. Diarist Anais
29. PC port type
30. Muscle twinges
32. Drag along
35. High-fat, low-carb diet
37. Words from the next?
38. Barcelona bulls
39. Job duration
41. Actor Mahershala
42. On the pro side
45. Possess
49. Baked pasta dish
51. Range components, briefly
53. Shopping memos
54. Opening lines
55. “Do Ya” country singer K.T.
57. “Citizen Kane” director Welles
59. Questlove’s band, with “The”
61. Go cold turkey
62. “Purple Haze” rocker Hendrix
63. “Back in the ___”
65. Sean ___ Lennon
66. Conductance measure, once (and reverse of one of 70-Across)
67. Pooh’s friend
68. “Addams Family” cousin

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

Answers on page 25

SUDOKU

Advanced

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

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 Brezсны

July 22-28, 2026

ARIES (March 21–April 19): Authentic love songs are rare. Much of contemporary music leans toward infatuation, sex, heartbreak, and fury, while few artists seem interested in singing unabashedly about unique expressions of tenderness and enduring devotion. In the months ahead, Aries, your inner life will be gloriously out of step with that trend. Your heart is poised to wake up in sometimes surprising ways. Even if you’re not a trained vocalist, you may feel regular urges to express your passion and adoration in song. If I could give you a gift, it might be a curated playlist packed with the most radiant love songs of the last 60 years, so you’d have a soundtrack worthy of the lush emotions that I suspect will bloom in you.

TAURUS (April 20–May 20): Nobel Prize-winning Taurus physicist Richard Feynman kept a notebook titled, “Things I Don’t Know About.” When he came across a question he couldn’t answer, he added it to the collection. I recommend a similar discipline for you now, Taurus, but with a twist. Keep a log of “Beautiful Mysteries I Don’t Really Need to Solve.” Rejoice that not every paradox and puzzle needs resolution. Savor the fun fact that some riddles enrich your life precisely because they remain open-ended. Hooray for not knowing! My theory is that some of your finest qualities will flourish in the presence of productive uncertainty.

GEMINI (May 21–June 20): In the early days of radio broadcasting, engineers sometimes spoke of “tuning the receiver.” Even when a station was transmitting clearly, a listener might hear static until their radio dial was adjusted to exactly the right frequency. The message was present and clear; the challenge was homing in on it. There’s a similar phenomenon going on in your life, Gemini. Useful information, fun inspiration, and interesting possibilities may be circulating in your vicinity. But you will need to adjust your attention so you can actually receive them. To bring the signals into focus, listen differently. Or pose alternate questions. Or pay attention to sources you don’t usually notice.

CANCER (June 21–July 22): Neuroscientists have found that remembering the past and imagining the future rely on many of the same brain networks. That overlap helps explain why vivid visualization may influence our emotions and behavior. When we repeatedly simulate alarming scenarios about what could conceivably happen, our brains treat them much like memories. This makes us prone to spotting “threats” in places that may be relatively safe. The good news is that the coming months will be an excellent time to retrain this habit, Cancerian. More than ever, your imagination can be a precision instrument you use to recalibrate yourself away from fear and toward possibility. Fantasize about wonderful possibilities with the same intensity that in the past you have dwelled on scary speculations.

LEO (July 23–Aug. 22): Oak trees produce far more acorns than could ever grow into trees. Squirrels bury thousands and forget many of them, preparing the way for the next generation of forest. The trees succeed through strategic overproduction. I invite you to adopt their method, Leo. In the coming weeks, overproduce. Make more than you can track. Release more than you can manage. You don’t need to be perfect, just abundant. PS: This expansive capacity is yours to explore with delight and confidence, I guarantee it.

VIRGO (Aug. 23–Sept. 22): In the 19th century, Virgo naturalist Alexander von Humboldt helped launch the modern science of ecology. While exploring South America, he came to a revolutionary conclusion that’s obvious to us now: Nature isn’t a collection of separate objects but an intricate web of relationships. Mountains shape the weather. Plants and pollinators rely on each other. Underground mycelial networks perform many services for the trees. I propose that you channel your inner Humboldt, Virgo. Shift your focus away from isolated problems and instead observe the larger systems. Solutions may be elusive when you’re bound to a narrow view but strikingly clear

when you perceive the wider pattern. If you’d like to take bold action, rely on the spacious perspective.

LIBRA (Sept. 23–Oct. 22): The coming months will be a favorable time to triple your devotion to the art of rowdy fun. I urge you to attend more revels and celebrations than usual and always be ready to energize social functions with infusions of festive wit and gleeful conviviality. You will also have extra power to inject buoyant amusements into your intimate liaisons. Therefore, dear Libra, I designate you to be the Party Maestro of the Zodiac. I hope you will carry out your role with maximum exuberance, ingenuity, and joy.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23–Nov. 21): What if I told you that your most personal and potent dream can come true—but only through months of persistence, disciplined sacrifice, and stretches of bewildering but fascinating uncertainty? Would you reorder your priorities to chase it with every ounce of creativity you have? Or would you set it aside in favor of a safer and easier possibility? Between now and the end of October, I predict the moment will arrive to choose one path or the other.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22–Dec. 21): On some occasions, you just don’t have the power to act with impeccable integrity and do the totally right thing. Doing the partially right thing may, however, be a useful and compassionate option. I bet this will soon be helpful advice for you. Blunt truth: There are moments when the “perfect” ethical, emotional, or practical choice simply isn’t available. The timing is off, resources are thin, or someone else’s limits block the ideal outcome. In those situations, waiting around for the flawless solution is a kind of paralysis that keeps you stuck in guilt or indecision. Instead, you can aim for the best available good.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22–Jan. 19): In botany and gardening, there is a practice called “companion planting.” Certain plants thrive when grown near each other because they share nutrients, repel pests, or improve soil and microclimate. For example, Indigenous peoples of the Americas planted the “three sisters” together: Corn gave beans a living trellis, beans added nitrogen to the soil, and squash shaded the ground to hold moisture and deter weeds. This principle may be useful for you to contemplate now, Capricorn. The people, tools, and influences you place near one another will influence your productivity and well-being. By blending complementary energies, your efforts will flourish without strain.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20–Feb. 18): Author Alain de Botton observed that “the person we marry is always far more remarkable, frightening, and complex than we quite realized when we first declared our love.” Rather than feeling alarmed by this revelation, I invite you to find it thrilling as you apply it to your best allies. The fact that they contain mysteries you haven’t yet plumbed means the relationships aren’t likely to grow stale. There are undiscovered depths in those you may think you know completely. My advice: Approach even your most familiar intimacies as ongoing discoveries.

PISCES (Feb. 19–March 20): Do you ever fear or distrust your own desires? Are you suspicious of achieving “too much” success? Do you ever feel starved for hope but belittle yourself for wanting it? Do you go emotionally blank in the face of possibilities that should thrill you? If so, the coming weeks could bring healing and a breakthrough. You will have a chance to perform a rare kind of exorcism—not of garish demons or foolish ghosts, but of the quiet defeatism and lack of faith that dull your brilliance. Seize this moment, dear Pisces! Purge the automatic doubts that the world has trained you to mistake for wisdom.

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, July 22

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.

Bookend Gallery Display by Lezlee Worthington - Noon-4 p.m. Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. cadl.org/about/our-locations/haslett.

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.

Chronic Pain PATH - Six-week workshop designed to help individuals with chronic pain improve their health and feel better. 1-3:30 p.m. Briggs District Library, 108 Railroad St., St. Johns. To register, call 517-887-1465 or email histedc@tcoa.org.

DJ Trivia at Summerlands Brewing Co. - Free to play. Prizes for the top three teams. Bring your friends and test your knowledge! 7 p.m. 1957 Cedar St., Holt. facebook.com/summerlandsbrewing.

EnhanceFitness - Join us for free, fun, core-strengthening exercise. We meet at All Saints Lutheran Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. 9-10 a.m. 720 W. South St., Mason. allsaintsmason.org.

Financial Reality Fair - Give your high school student a practical, hands-on introduction to managing money and making everyday financial decisions at LAFCU's free Financial Reality Fair. Noon-3 p.m. Child and Family Charities, 407 W. Greenlawn Ave., Lansing. lafcu.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.

"Going Medieval!" - Two comedic Plays from the 1400s - Free admission. 7 p.m. LCC Dart Auditorium, 500 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing. lcc.edu/showinfo.

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. 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Schuler Chapbook Cafe, 1982 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. facebook.com/ArtsCouncilGL.

Lansing Lugnuts vs. Great Lakes Loons - 7:05 p.m. Jackson Field, 505 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. milb.com/lansing.

Move in the Garden - This free outdoor program combines stretching, strengthening, flow, and relaxation movements to support overall mobility. Sessions meet most Wednesdays through Sept. 30. 12:10-1 p.m. Beal Botanical Garden, 330 W. Circle Drive, East Lansing. facebook.com/bealgar-den.msu.

Nursing Hiring Fair for the New Crisis Care Center - Registered nurses of all skill levels can learn more about the Crisis Care Center, meet with human resources and hiring staff, and experience a tour of the new state-of-the-art facilities. 1-5 p.m. 2900 Stabler St., Lansing. eventbrite.com/o/120770620721.

Parkinson's Exercise: Tai Chi - Free group class tailored for people with Parkinson's and their

caregivers. Improve balance and strength. 1 p.m. Michigan Athletic Club, 2900 Hannah Blvd., East Lansing. To register, call 517-364-8800. lpsg.org.

Parkinson's Support Group Social Lunch - Join us for a relaxed social lunch. Cost of meal is your responsibility. 11:30 a.m. Michigan Athletic Club, 2900 Hannah Blvd., East Lansing. lpsg.org.

SporeLive 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.

Switch Gaming: Player's Choice - Join us for an afternoon of fun and friendly Switch gaming! We'll decide which game to play from a few library-provided choices. 2-4 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. gladlibcal.com.

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

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

Thursday, July 23

10th Annual MSU Autism Conference: Navigating Autism Science & Identity in the (Mis)Information Age - 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Kellogg Hotel and Conference Center, 219 S. Harrison Road, East Lansing. eventbrite.com/o/17719520422.

"The 39 Steps" - This beloved mystery is a hilarious comedy full of dazzling stagecraft and virtuoso performances that will have you rolling in the aisles until the death-defying, climactic finale. 2 p.m. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam St., Williamston. williamstontheatre.org.

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

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

Bath Farmers Market - 3-6:30 p.m. James Couzens Memorial Park, 13753 Main St., Bath. bathtownship.us/departments/farmers-market.php.

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.

Bookend Gallery Display by Lezlee Worthington - Noon-4 p.m. Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. cadl.org/about/our-locations/haslett.

Community Chalk Walk - Community members of all ages will come together to make a mosaic art piece. Event will also feature a petting zoo, ice pops, face painting and ELPL's Library on the Go. 5-7 p.m. Ann Street Plaza, corner of Albert & M.A.C. avenues,

'Going Medieval'

7 p.m. Wednesday, July 22-Sunday, July 26
Dart Auditorium
500 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing
Free
lcc.edu/showinfo

Lansing Community College is 'Going Medieval' with its final Summer Stage production of the season.

The school is staging two comedic plays from the middle ages, both directed by Paige Duncel. One of the most well-known mystery plays of the period, "The Second Shepherd's Play," follows three shepherds before the Nativity. It blends religious themes and regional humor and was part of the Wakefield Mystery Cycle, which depicted Bible stories as early thespians toured small towns and villages.

The other play, "Mankind," was written around 1470 and is considered to be one of the funniest and most controversial shows of its kind to have survived into the internet era. It follows the character of Mankind's temptation into sin by characters representing four worldly vices.

The production is recommended for adults. Admission is free. Audience members should pick up seat vouchers at the box office, which opens 30 minutes before curtain.



Photo by Cass Hopp

East Lansing. cityofeastlansing.com.

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.

Dine & Discovery: Knife Skills - Join chef Matt Jones and Tony Evans of Hometown Hone for a workshop on safe knife handling, essential techniques, proper care, and how to choose the right knives. You'll also get hands-on practice making dinner with your neighbors. 6-9 p.m. Allen Marketplace, 1629 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. eventbrite.com/o/26136752469.

Field Crops Virtual Breakfast Series - Field Drainage and Water Management, with Dr. Ehsan Ghane - 7-8 a.m. Virtual — register at canr.msu.edu/outreach.

"Going Medieval!" - Two comedic Plays from the 1400s - Free admission. 7 p.m. LCC Dart Auditorium, 500 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing. lcc.edu/showinfo.

Hittin' the Bricks: A Historical Visit to Grand Ledge Face Brick Co. - Join us for a trip back to the heyday of brick and clay manufacturing here in Grand Ledge. 6-8 p.m. Lincoln Brick Park, 13991 Tallman Road, Grand Ledge. gladlibcal.com.

"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.

Lansing Lugnuts vs. Great Lakes Loons - 7:05 p.m. Jackson Field, 505 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. milb.com/lansing.

Moonlight Film Festival: "How to Train Your Dragon" (2025) - Free. 9:30 p.m. Valley Court Park, 280 Valley Court, East Lansing. cityofeastlansing.com.

Moonlight Market - Moonlight Market is returning to Curwood Castle Park for five Thursday evenings of local vendors, food, family activities, live music, historic sites, nonprofit exhibits and com-

munity fun along the Shiawassee River. 5:30-8:30 p.m. 400 W. Main St., Owosso. downtownowosso-farmersmarket.com/moonlight-market.

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

Playwriting Class for Teens and Adults - We start with writing monologues, then scenes, then one-act plays. Ten-week class. 3:15-5:30 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. gladlibcal.com.

Red Cross Adult & Pediatric CPR w/AED Training - Learn adult and pediatric CPR, automated external defibrillator (AED), and emergency procedures like rescue breathing and the Heimlich maneuver. Registration req. 3:15-5:30 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. gladlibcal.com.

Red Cross Babysitting Workshop - Learn emergency procedures, discipline techniques, age-appropriate activities and basic first aid skills needed while babysitting. Ages 12+. Registration req. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. gladlibcal.com.

Relax & Rewind w/ DJ Butcher - Chill out and vibe to smooth throwback beats. 7-11 p.m. The Comfort Zone Cigar Lounge & Bistro, 600 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. eventbrite.com/o/73827881753.

South Lansing Farmers Market - 3-7 p.m. 5016 S. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Lansing. facebook.com/SouthLansingFarmersMarket.

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.

See Events, Page 25

Events

from page 24

Stage Management & Technical Theatre Class for Teens and Adults - A brief introduction to all aspects of technical theatre. Ten-week class. 6:30-8 p.m. Ruhala Holistic Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. ruhalacenter.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.

Wacousta Picnic Playdate - Meet at our new Wacousta branch location for an outdoor family storytime filled with different themed activities, like music, bubbles and water play, plus time for play with your friends, too! 11 a.m.-noon. 9135 W. Herbison Road, Eagle. gladl.libcal.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.

Zoo Nights - This adult-only extravaganza boasts delectable samples from nearby eateries and drinks from local breweries, wineries, and more. Explore the zoo after hours, mingling with curious creatures and creating unforgettable moments. 5-8 p.m. Potter Park Zoo, 1301 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. potterparkzoo.org.

Friday, July 24

“The 39 Steps” - 7:30 p.m. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam St., Williamston. williamstontheatre.org.

Bookend Gallery Display by Lezlee Worthington - Noon-4 p.m. Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. cadl.org/about/our-locations/haslett.

Cruise to Holt - All types and years of cars welcome. 5-8 p.m. Holt Farmers Market, 2150 Cedar St., Holt. facebook.com/CruisetoHolt.

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.

EnhanceFitness - Join us for free, fun, core-strengthening exercise. We meet at All Saints Lutheran Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. 9-10 a.m. 720 W. South St., Mason. allsaintsmason.org.

Family Art Studio - A free, drop-in art experience where families create and collaborate side by side in a relaxed, playful studio environment. 1-4 p.m. Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, East Lansing. broadmuseum.msu.edu.

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.

Friday Guided Tours - Each Friday at 1 p.m., a guided tour of the museum is conducted by one of our volunteer docents or staff members. Tours run an average of 45 minutes. Participation is covered by general admission to the museum. R.E. Olds Transportation Museum, 240 Museum Drive, Lansing. reoldsmuseum.org.

“Going Medieval!” – Two comedic Plays from the 1400s - Free admission. 7 p.m. LCC Dart Auditorium, 500 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing. lcc.edu/showinfo.

House of Heavy - We're bringing the energy of a packed metal show: the nu metal nostalgia, the alt-metal anthems, the metalcore breakdowns. 9 p.m. The Green Door, 2005 E. Michigan Ave, Lansing. greendoorlive.com.

Irons in the Fire - Worship. Word. Prophecy. Ministry. Pastor Laura Cokonaugher. Minister Caleb Cokonaugher. Apostle Dr. Denise Russell & Gilead Healing Team. 7-9 p.m. Gilead Healing Center, 306 S. Creyts Road, Lansing. eventbrite.com/o/7740042673.

Lansing Lugnuts vs. Great Lakes Loons - 7:05 p.m. Jackson Field, 505 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. milb.com/lansing.

Messy Play Fun Days - Kids can play with chalk, bubbles, goop, squirt bottles, big trucks, mud, and more. Great for manipulative play and sensory engagement. Different activities each week. 11 a.m.-noon. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. gladl.libcal.com.

Moonlight Movies: “Minecraft Movie” - Free. 9 p.m. Veterans Memorial Gardens, 2074 N. Aurelius Road, Holt. delhitownshipmi.gov.

NRT Presents: The Gathering - A Christian community gathering featuring live music, testimony, prayer, worship, fellowship, and authentic connection. 6-10 p.m. Cleats Bar & Grille, 5801 N. Aurelius Road, Lansing. eventbrite.com/o/121442708633.

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.

Trust and Partnership: A Confident Witch Circle - A Confident Witch Circle session about putting some of that weight down, letting someone else carry their share (and what that might cost), and how to work alongside another person without trying to be in control. 8-10 p.m. Keys to Manifestation, 809 Center St., Lansing. manifestlansing.com.

Saturday, July 25

“The 39 Steps” - 2 and 7:30 p.m. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam St., Williamston. williamstontheatre.org.

Bad Brewing Anniversary Party – Help us celebrate 14 years serving the great city of Mason! We'll have live music by Pinter Whitnick, food and drink specials, and the best crowd around. Noon-6 p.m. 440 S. Jefferson St., Mason. badbrewing.com.

See Events, Page 26



Zoo Night

5-8 p.m. Thursday, July 23

Potter Park Zoo

1301 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing

potterparkzoo.org

Attendees of Potter Park's Zoo Night on Thursday will have an opportunity to explore the zoo after dark, when many of the critters get more curious, while enjoying tasty samples from local eateries and drinks from nearby breweries and wineries.

The event will have an animal print theme. Guests who come dressed in animal print will receive extra drink tickets. There will also be a jungle-themed inflatable obstacle course.

Standard tickets are \$30, with a \$5 discount for designated drivers and zoo members. The admission fee includes three drink sample tickets. Additional sample tickets and full-sized beverages will be available for purchase at the zoo bar.

CITY OF LANSING NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing will be held on Monday, July 27, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. in the Tony Benavides Lansing City Council Chambers, 10th Floor, Lansing City Hall, 124 W. Michigan Avenue, Lansing, Michigan for the purpose of considering:

An ordinance of the City of Lansing, Michigan, to amend Chapter 266 of the Lansing Codified Ordinances to amend Section 266.01, remove Section 266.02, and renumber Section 266.03 in order to provide for an eight-member Arts and Culture Commission, in accordance with Section 5-103 of the Charter.

Persons with disabilities who need an accommodation to fully participate in these meetings should contact the City Council Office at 517-483-4177 (TDD (517) 483-4479) 24 hour notice may be needed for certain accommodations. An attempt will be made to grant all reasonable accommodation requests.

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

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

CP#26-296

CITY OF LANSING SUMMARY OF ADOPTED ORDINANCE # 1359

Lansing City Council adopted an Ordinance of the City of Lansing, Michigan, to amend the Code of Ordinances of the City of Lansing by adding Chapter 878, Sections 878.01-878.03 to the Lansing Codified Ordinances to impose a temporary moratorium on new Data Centers.

Effective date: July 28, 2026

Notice: The full text of this Ordinance is available for review at the City Clerk's Office, 9th Floor, City Hall, Lansing, Michigan. A copy of the full text of this Ordinance may be obtained from the City Clerk's Office, 9th Floor, City Hall, Lansing, Michigan at a fee determined by City Council.

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

CP#26-287

CROSSWORD SOLUTION

From Pg. 23

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14					15				16			
17					18				19			
		20						21			22	
23	24					25			26			
27				28	29	30		31	32			
33				34			35	36	37	38	39	
40				41				42		43		
44			45		46					47		
		48		49		50		51		52		
53	54	55		56	57			58	59			
60			61				62	63				
64		65				66				67	68	
69					70					71		
72					73					74		

SUDOKU SOLUTION

From Pg. 23

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

Queer Heart of Michigan Voices winter concert auditions

6 p.m. Monday, July 27

6 p.m. Aug. 3

Eastminster Presbyterian Church
1315 Abbot Road, East Lansing
queerheartofmichigan.org



**QUEER HEART
OF MICHIGAN**

After taking about a month off to rest from its spring concerts and Lansing Pride performance, Queer Heart of Michigan Voices, the area's newest LGBTQ+ chorus, is holding open auditions for its winter concert, "Winter's Snow and Hearth's Glow."

The concert will feature hits from iconic movies such as "Frozen 2," "The Nightmare Before Christmas" and "The Polar Express," as well as wintry tunes by Sia, Pentatonix and more.

Any queer adult, regardless of vocal range, is welcome to try out for the SATB choir. Interested parties should prepare a holiday song of their choosing and bring sheet music. The choir is also looking for piano accompanists.

Email director Jonathan Thurston-Torres at queerheartdirector@gmail.com for further inquiries.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING EAST LANSING CITY COUNCIL

Notice is hereby given of the following public hearings to be held by the East Lansing City Council on **Tuesday, August 11, 2026 at 6:30 p.m.** at the **East Lansing Hannah Community Center**, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing, MI, 48823.

1. A public hearing to receive comments on proposed Ordinance 1575, amendments to Chapter 50 of the City Code, the Zoning Ordinance, and to Chapter 4 of the City Code to modify requirements related to electric vehicles and charging stations; parking ratios for automobiles and bicycles; landscaping, green space, & trees; and the keeping of bees and chickens.

2. A public hearing to receive comments on Ordinance 1570, an amendment to Chapter 50 of the City Code to rezone 3859 Stoll Road (19-20-50-24-400-045) from B4 (Restricted Office Business) to B2 (Retail Sales Business) or R1 (Low-Density Single-Family Residential). This property is surrounded by properties with current DeWitt Township zoning, which are proposed to be rezoned to appropriate City of East Lansing zone districts. The proposed rezoning of 3859 Stoll is intended to align its zoning with the new zoning of those adjacent properties, which may ultimately be a district other than the originally proposed B2 (Retail Sales Business).

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

The public may attend and participate at all meetings in person. Members of the public may also participate virtually via Zoom. Please contact City Clerk Emily Gordon at 517.319.6891 or emily.gordon@cityofeastlansing.com (410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, MI 48823) for additional information. Electronic access information is available on the City's public meeting portal at <https://cityofeastlansing.civicweb.net/Portal/>.

Materials related to the request are available for viewing at the Department of Planning, Building, and Housing, East Lansing City Hall, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, MI, 48823 between the hours of 8:00 am and 12:00 noon or 1:00 pm and 5:00 pm, or on the City's website located at www.cityofeastlansing.com/currentapplications. Written comments may be sent prior to the public hearing to City Council, City of East Lansing, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, Michigan, 48823, or by email to council@cityofeastlansing.com

The City of East Lansing will provide reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as interpreters for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting, to individuals with disabilities upon request received by the City seven (7) calendar days prior to the meeting. Individuals with disabilities requiring aids or services must contact the City Council's Office, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, MI, 48823, (517) 319-6869 (TDD Number: 1-800-649-3777) or via email at ajwilliams@cityofeastlansing.com.

This notice is posted in compliance with P.A. 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: July 16, 2026
East Lansing, MI 48823

Emily Gordon
City Clerk

CP#26-286

Events

from page 25

Bookend Gallery Display by Lezlee Worthington - Noon-2 p.m. Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. cadl.org/about/our-locations/haslett.

Celebrate Meridian Festival - Make the most of your summer with live music by Starfarm, food trucks, children's activities, a drone show and more! 4-11 p.m. Marketplace on the Green, 1995 Central Park Drive, Okemos. meridian.mi.us.

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

Divination Roundtable - Meet like-minded individuals, expand your knowledge, and refine your craft in a casual, friendly setting. 5-8 p.m. Weavers of the Web, 809 Center St., Lansing. weaversoft-heweb.org.

DJ Rock City Birthday Bash - DJ Rock City reunites with special guest DJ Kane, bringing back the energy from their underground Chicago residency days. Expect a mix of 2000s Chicago nightlife, hip-hop, R&B, house, throwbacks, party classics, and open-format heat. 9 p.m.-midnight. Graduate Hotel Rock Bar, 133 Evergreen Ave., East Lansing. facebook.com/djrockcityfans.

Featured Artist Workshop: Eco-Printing, with Mahbube Parnian - Learn how to use leaves and flowers to create one-of-a-kind dyed fabric and paper! 2-5 p.m. Lansing Makers Network, 2730 Alpha Access St., Lansing. eventbrite.com/o/5307332073.

"Going Medieval!" - Two comedic Plays from the 1400s - Free admission. 7 p.m. LCC Dart Auditorium, 500 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing. lcc.edu/showinfo.

Journal Supply Trading Post - Stickers, ephemera,

washi, magazines, journals themselves — anything you consider a material that could be journaled with is fair game to bring to this swap! 4-6 p.m. Dear Ollie & Co., 222 S. Washington Square, Lansing. dearollie.com.

Kellogg Center Wine Tasting & Tour - Sample six wines, enjoy small bite appetizers, and take a guided tour of the hotel's rooms and spaces. 4-5:30 p.m. 219 S. Harrison Road, East Lansing. eventbrite.com/o/35416662283.

Lansing Lugnuts vs. Great Lakes Loons - 7:05 p.m. Jackson Field, 505 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. milb.com/lansing.

LGBTQ History Zine Creation Team - The Greater Lansing LGBTQ+ History Zine Project is looking for community members to help preserve the stories that matter. Join us for a free community meeting and volunteer gathering. 11 a.m.-noon. Everybody Reads, 2019 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. vacafrank@gmail.com.

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

"Mastermind Prayer Circle" on Zoom - Support each other in envisioning our hearts' desires. Lisa Schmidt, facilitator. 8-9:30 a.m. Meeting ID: 177 417 886. Passcode: 601744. unitylansing.org.

Off Campus Night - Dance to edits and soundtrack anthems all night. Themed drinks, stage moments and more. 18+. 7 p.m. Grewal Hall, 224 S. Washington Square, Lansing. hall224.com.

Saturday Guided Tours - Each Saturday at 1 p.m., a guided tour of the museum is conducted by one of our volunteer docents or staff members. Tours run an average of 45 minutes. Participation is covered by general admission to the museum. R.E. Olds Transportation Museum, 240 Museum Drive, Lansing. reoldsmuseum.org.

See Events, Page 27

LANSING'S CONCERTS IN THE PARK 7-9 PM

Month	Date	Artist/Band	Location
June	6.10	Root Doctor	Moore's Park
	6.17	Full House	Wainwright Park
	6.24	Kathy Ford Band	Fenner Nature Center
July	7.08	North Side Rhythm Kings	Bancroft Park
	7.15	Sea Cruisers	Turner-Dodge House
	7.22	Generator	Wilson Park
August	8.05	Lansing Symphony Orchestra	Frances Park
	7.29	Global Village	Fish Ladder Music Park

Sponsors: Sams Club, HAMMOND FARMS, MCPHEE ELECTRIC & TELECOMMUNICATIONS, LAFCU, msufcu, CASE CREDIT UNION, GRANGER, MUSIC INSTRUMENT SWAP.

Events

from page 26

Seasonal Casual Mixology - We'll make mocktails and give out advice on spirit pairing. 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Brady's HG, 319 E. César E. Chávez Ave., Lansing. bradlyshg.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.

When I Grow Up! Career Exploration Series: Naturalist Careers - Kids and families will meet real professionals, explore hands-on activities, and take home an activity to see how their interests can turn into future careers. 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Impression 5 Science Center, 200 Museum Drive, Lansing. facebook.com/impression5.

Yoga by the River: RnB Flow w/ Kambriana - Join OS x BLK Yoga Co. for our monthly morning wellness reset. Yoga, soul, R&B, and community — right by the river. Powered by LAFCU. 10-11 a.m. Lansing Shuffle, 325 Riverfront Drive, Lansing. eventbrite.com/o/66375245943.

Sunday, July 26

"The 39 Steps" - 2 p.m. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam St., Williamston. williamstontheatre.org.

Botanical Art Bar - Bring your friends for a morning filled with botanical crafts and creations. 10 a.m.-noon. MSU Horticulture Garden, 1066 Bogue St., East Lansing. canr.msu.edu/hrt/our_gardens.

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

"Going Medieval!" – Two comedic Plays from the 1400s - Free admission. 7 p.m. LCC Dart Auditorium, 500 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing. lcc.edu/showinfo.

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.

July Worship Services at Regal - If you're looking for a unique, inclusive, welcoming, creative place to gather for worship, come join Sycamore Creek's three campuses at Regal Cinemas in the Lansing Mall every Sunday in July! 10:30 a.m.-noon. 5330 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing. facebook.com/sycamorecreekchurcheastwood.

Lansing Lugnuts vs. Great Lakes Loons - 1:05 p.m. Jackson Field, 505 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. mlb.com/lansing.

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.

Summer Stretch - Enjoy a free outdoor fitness class presented by the Downtown Management Board and instructed by Yoga State of Mind, Body & Soul. 10 a.m. Marriott Plaza, corner of Albert Avenue and Charles Street, East Lansing. cityofeastlansing.com.

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.

Williamston Farm & Artisan Market - 10 a.m.-2 p.m. McCormick Park, 123 High St., Williamston. williamstonfarmmarket.org.

Monday, July 27

AA Women's Meeting - 6-7 p.m. Okemos Community

Church, 4734 Okemos Road, Okemos. 517-377-1444. AALansingMI.org.

Acting Camp for Kids & Teens - Playing theater games that teach us communication, observation, and teamwork! Ages 5-18. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday-Thursday. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. ruhalacenter.com.

Bookend Gallery Display by Lezlee Worthington - Noon-4 p.m. Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. cadl.org/about/our-locations/haslett.

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.

Downtown Development Authority Meeting - 6 p.m. City Hall, 259 Kent St., Portland. 517-647-5027. portland-michigan.org.

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

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. lapsg.org.

Switch Gaming for Teens - Teens, join us for a night of fun and friendly Switch gaming! We'll decide on which game to play from a few library-provided choices. 6-8 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. gladl.libcal.com.

Tuesday, July 28

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.

Bookend Gallery Display by Lezlee Worthington - Noon-4 p.m. Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. cadl.org/about/our-locations/haslett.

Borgen Project Information Event - Learn more about the Borgen Project, a nonprofit dedicated to fighting global poverty, and how to get involved. 1:30-2 p.m. Virtual — register at us04web.zoom.us/j/7978810215.

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.

As Seen On the Cover of CityPulse

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

nevin@nevingraphics.com

517-703-4655

ArtByNevin Art_By_Nevin

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.

Improv Acting Class for Teens and Adults - Perform your characters and learn how to make them funnier and more dramatic! Ten-week class 6:30-8 p.m. Ruhala Holistic Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. meetup.com/lansing.

LAGE Game Night North - A Meetup group that facilitates free board/card gaming experiences for diverse people and cultivates a safe, inclusive, fun gaming community. 6:30-11 p.m. Reno's Sports Bar, 16460 Old U.S. 27, Lansing. meetup.com/lansing.

LAGE Game Night West - 6:30-11 p.m. Frank's Press Box, 7216 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing. meetup.com/lansing.

Open Mic & Karaoke at Summerlands Brewing Co. - 7-10 p.m. 1957 Cedar St., Holt. facebook.com/summerlandsbrewing.

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. lapsg.org.

Play in the Park, featuring Impression 5 - Children and their families can bring a blanket and/or lawn

chairs and enjoy family-friendly entertainment in a beautiful park setting. 7 p.m. Valley Court Park, 280 Valley Court, East Lansing. cityofeastlansing.com.

Songwriting Class for Teens and Adults - This 10-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, July 29

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.

Bookend Gallery Display by Lezlee Worthington - Noon-4 p.m. Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. cadl.org/about/our-locations/haslett.

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.

DJ Trivia at Summerlands Brewing Co. - Free to play. Prizes for the top three teams. Bring your friends and test your knowledge! 7 p.m. 1957 Cedar St., Holt. facebook.com/summerlands-brewing.

Haiti Baby Box & Soaring Unlimited Benefit Rummage & Bake Sale, Holt United Methodist Church, 2321 N. Aurelius Road, Holt. Aug. 14, 9am-6pm; Aug. 15, 9am-1pm.

REAL ESTATE AUCTION
By order of the County Treasurer of Ingham County
Wednesday, August 26, 2026
Registration: 8:30 AM - Auction 10:00 AM
Location: The Lansing Center, 333 E. Michigan Avenue, Lansing MI
Alan Fox, Treasurer, Ingham County
341 S. Jefferson St. Mason MI
517-676-7220 Detailed info on parcels and terms at www.BippusUSA.com
CP#26-294

CELEBRATE MERIDIAN FESTIVAL

SATURDAY, JULY 25 4:00 pm - 11:00 pm

☀ Live Music ☀ Children's Activities ☀ Beer Garden
☀ Nokomis Center ☀ Food Trucks/Vendors ☀ Drone Show
☀ Meridian Historical Village & MORE!

Head out to Marketplace on the Green (1995 Central Park Drive) and Central Park (5151 Marsh Road) to celebrate with friends and family at our biggest event of the year!

CITY OF GRAND LEDGE PUBLIC ACCURACY TEST

The Election Commission will hold a public meeting at 2:00 p.m., on Wednesday, 29 July 2026, in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 310 Greenwood St., Grand Ledge MI 48837, to conduct the Public Accuracy Test of the electronic tabulating equipment to be used in all City of Grand Ledge precincts at the Tuesday, 04 August 2026 election.

Gregory Newman, City Clerk

CP#26-284



Trust the Nation's #1 Roofing Contractor

Award-Winning Roofing and Customer Service

LIMITED TIME OFFER
50% OFF
Installation

FREE ESTIMATE
SCHEDULE TODAY!
Call 1.877.731.6988



\$0 Down Today | Same Day Financing Available
Premium Warranty Protection

Join over 400,000 satisfied homeowners with an ultra-durable roof from **Erie Home**.

CALL TODAY! 1.877.731.6988

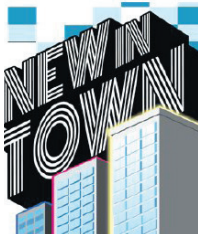


New orders only. Does not include material costs. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Minimum purchase required. Other restrictions may apply. This is an advertisement placed on behalf of Erie Construction Mid-West, Inc ("Erie"). Offer terms and conditions may apply and the offer may not be available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

FOOD & DRINK

DINING OUT IN GREATER LANSING

Great Harvest brings fresh-baked goods and family story to downtown Lansing



Great Harvest Bread Co.

8 a.m.-4 p.m.
Monday-Friday
8 a.m.-7 p.m. Saturday
8 a.m.-3 p.m. Sunday
214 S. Washington
Square, Lansing
(517)367-7400
GreatHarvest.com

By LIEZA KLEMM

Giving back to the community was never a question for Ray Neatfeld. As a foster parent through Lutheran Social Services of Michigan and a longtime Lansing resident, pouring extra time into a cause that matters is second nature for him.

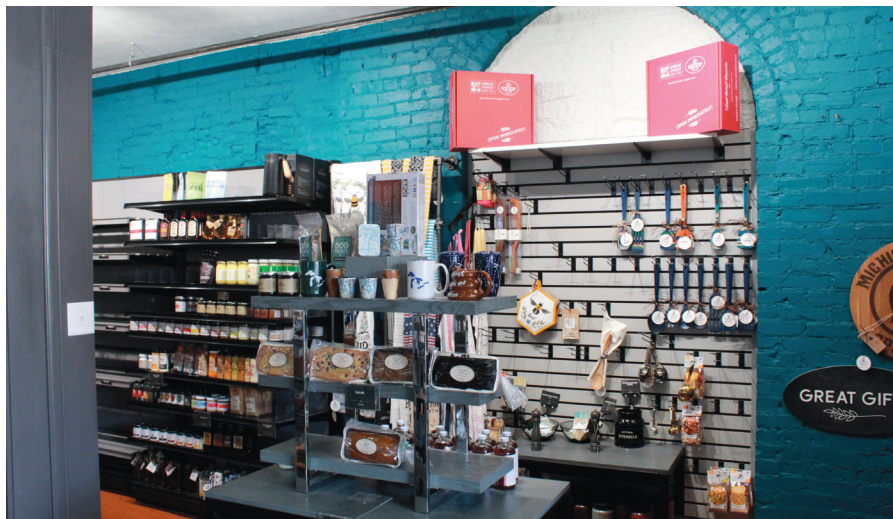
Before getting into the bakery business, Neatfeld spent 25 years working in affordable housing and helping refugees acclimate to life in the United States. He also raised 39 children from other countries.

Now, three of those former foster children are part of his family and his business.

"They didn't have families here," Neatfeld said. "So, we're the family."

He hopes customers feel that family dynamic when they walk into Great Harvest.

Neatfeld owns the new Great Harvest Bakery at 214 S. Washington Square, the former location of Zoup! It is a cafe-style expansion of the Great Harvest Bread Co. franchise he owns on Sagi-



Lieza Klemm/City Pulse

naw Highway. The downtown location serves Great Harvest's traditional bread and sweets, along with a broader menu of breakfast and lunch options, including coffee, breakfast sandwiches, soups, salads and other prepared foods made from scratch with whole foods and fresh ingredients.

"When you come in and get a breakfast sandwich, it might take a few minutes to make it," Neatfeld said. "But we're cracking the eggs, where everyone else is using a patty that was frozen."

The cafe, he said, is meant to be a place where people are cared for, not

simply served quickly and sent on their way.

The cafe also sells Great Harvest staples such as cookies, muffins, scones, cinnamon rolls and tea cakes.

Nearly everything is made by hand.

"There are no machines other than a slicer and a mixer," Neatfeld said.

Many of the bread recipes are more than 40 years old, and Neatfeld said he intentionally maintains an old-fashioned approach. The result is food that's closer to what customers might make at home, or what they might remember from their grandmother's kitchen.

That philosophy extends beyond baked goods.

Neatfeld said he tries to use organic and locally sourced ingredients when possible, without making the food unaffordable. He buys some produce from local farmers and works with retailers that support Michigan producers.

He hopes the cafe encourages customers to think more about where their food comes from, whether that means visiting farmers markets, buying from local stores or simply paying closer attention to the ingredients in their meals.

A bonus of building the business with some of his foster children, he said, is that it has brought them closer together.

Several of his former foster children came to the United States as teenagers and grew up in Lansing. They went through high school, worked alongside Neatfeld and eventually became entrepreneurs themselves.

"It's so great to see them grow," Neatfeld said. "Both personally and with the business."

And at the end of the day, Neatfeld hopes that the newest Great Harvest Bakery location helps people to slow down and appreciate the little things. "You have to take care of your neighbor," he emphasized.

Meating up for Sunday brunch

By LIZY FERGUSON

I got around to leaving for brunch way too late on Sunday, and after discovering predictably long waits at both PetalPop Café and Good Truckin' Diner, I was about to give up. However, the friend I was with is much more resilient than I am and led us a few doors down from Good Truckin' to Meat BBQ. Was it brunch? No. Was it satisfying? Absolutely.

Offering the most carnivorous menu in the area, Meat is a Lansing institution — it was even featured on Guy Fieri's "Diners, Drive-Ins and Dives." From nachos with three different kinds

of meat to a sandwich with five, I was a little concerned about my friend, who doesn't eat pork or beef, being able to find something she wanted on the menu. Thankfully, pulled chicken and smoked turkey were on offer.

I decided on the smoked turkey sandwich, which includes sliced turkey breast, bacon, pepper jack cheese, tomato, sour cream, avocado and, typically, jalapenos, but I opted to leave them off. The turkey was

tender and flavorful, both smoky and sweet. It was complemented well by the rich, creamy avocado and sour cream. The bacon was crispy, as were the fries.

What really brought everything from good to great, though, was the house-made barbecue sauces. My favorite of the five options, all of which were sitting on the table waiting to be sampled, were the coffee-based Black Magic and the Carolina mustard.

I also have to shout out my friend's meal, the stuffed grilled cheese sandwich, which contains mac and cheese, apples, caramelized onions and remoulade. She added pulled chicken. Oh, and what did she get on the side? More mac and cheese, to share with me. What a legend, and what an excellent mac — creamy and rich, with perfectly cooked cavatappi noodles.

What even defines brunch? If it's the presence of an egg dish, then no, Meat doesn't offer brunch. However, if the re-



Lizy Ferguson for City Pulse

quirements are a selection of somewhat decadent foods you wouldn't eat just any old time, the availability of a bloody mary and an early-to-mid-afternoon mealtime, then yes, Meat absolutely offers brunch.

Oh, and I was wrong, the aforementioned five-meat sandwich does, in fact, come with an egg.



Smoked turkey Meatwich

\$15.95

Meat BBQ

1224 Turner St., Lansing
11 a.m.-9 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday
Noon-5 p.m. Sunday
(517) 580-4400
meatbbq.com

Scallop skewers to impress backyard barbecue guests

From METRO CREATIVE CONNECTION

Grilling is a passion shared by millions of people across the globe. For some, there’s simply no better way to prepare meals in summertime than to do so over an open flame.

Recent years have seen many people expanding their culinary horizons beyond traditional grill fare like hamburgers and hot dogs. Indeed, there’s no shortage of options for grilling aficionados looking to expand their repertoire. Those with an affinity for seafood might enjoy this recipe for grilled diver scallops and fall vegetable shish kebabs with hazelnut brown butter, courtesy of John Holl’s “The American Craft Beer Cookbook.”

Grilled diver scallops and fall vegetable shish kebabs with hazelnut brown butter

Makes four servings

12 large diver scallops
Four fennel bulbs, trimmed, cored and diced into 1 1/2-inch cubes
Four large parsnips, peeled and diced into 1 1/2-inch cubes
One medium butternut squash, peeled, seeded and diced into 1 1/2-inch cubes
2 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil
Salt and freshly ground black pepper
One 12-ounce can Oskar Blues Mama’s Little Yella Pils, or similar beer
Eight skewers
1 cup (two sticks) unsalted butter
1 tablespoon toasted hazelnuts, finely chopped

1. Remove the scallops from the refrigerator and let them rest until they’ve reached room temperature. Prepare a medium fire in a gas or charcoal grill. If using charcoal, arrange the coals in a thin layer to evenly control the heat.
2. Combine the fennel, parsnips and butternut squash in a large bowl and toss with 1 tablespoon of the olive oil. Transfer the vegetables to a cast-iron skillet (or another grill-safe pan), season with salt and pepper, and place the pan on the grill. Cook with the lid closed stirring occasionally, until the vegetables are a light golden brown, about 25 minutes.
3. Remove the skillet from the grill and deglaze with 1/4 cup of the beer. Remove the vegetables from the skillet and let cool for five minutes. Reserve any drippings in the skillet for later.
4. Using two skewers for each shish kebab, alternately thread the scallops, fennel, parsnips and butternut squash onto the skewers.
5. Season the kebabs with salt and pepper and lightly coat with the remaining tablespoon of olive oil. Grill the kebabs, turning once, until you’ve



- reached the desired level of doneness for the scallops, about five minutes per side for medium. Set aside and tent with foil while making the sauce.
6. Return the skillet to the grill; add the butter, hazelnuts and remaining 1 1/4 cups beer to the vegetable drippings. Cook, stirring occasionally, until the butter is melted and lightly browned.
 7. Transfer the kebabs to a serving plate, pour the brown butter sauce over the scallops and serve immediately.
- A few beers to try with this recipe:**
- Lagunitas Pils
 - Oskar Blues Mama’s Little Yella Pils
 - Samuel Adams Noble Pils
 - Saranac Bohemian Pilsner



CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN, INGHAM COUNTY

LEGAL AD NOTICE: SIERRA RIDGE #4 PUBLIC STREETLIGHTING IMPROVEMENT SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT NO. 431

TUESDAY, AUGUST 18, 2026

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN - LEGAL NOTICE

SIERRA RIDGE #4 PUBLIC STREETLIGHTING IMPROVEMENT SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT NO. 431

NOTICE OF HEARING

TO THE RECORD OWNERS OF, OR PARTIES IN INTEREST IN, THE FOLLOWING PROPERTY CONSTITUTING THE PROPOSED SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT: Lots 70 through 83 (inclusive), Sierra Ridge #4.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Township Board of the Charter Township of Meridian, acting on a request from property owners of Sierra Ridge #4 and on its own initiative, pursuant to Act 188, Public Acts of Michigan, 1954, as amended, has determined to make the following described public streetlighting improvement: **Operate, and maintain four (4) 47-watt LED streetlights with Traditional fixtures with cut-off, and standard fiberglass poles along Fresno Lane;** and to defray the cost thereof by special assessment against the properties specially benefitted 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, August 18, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.** at the Meridian Township Municipal Building, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, Michigan 48864-1198, for the for the purpose of reviewing said special assessment roll and hearing objections thereto.

An owner or party in interest, or his or her agent, may appear in person at the hearing to protest the special assessment, or shall be permitted to file his or her appearance or protest by letter with the Township Clerk before the close of this hearing, and his or her personal appearance is not required. The owner or any person having an interest in the real property who protests in person or in writing at the hearing may file a written appeal of the special assessment with the Michigan Tax Tribunal within 30 days after the confirmation of the special assessment roll.

"FOR PURPOSES OF THIS HEARING, THE AMOUNT TO BE ASSESSED AGAINST YOUR PROPERTY IS ESTIMATED TO BE:

First Year Cost:	\$ 104.13/Lot
Annually Thereafter:	\$ 52.06/Lot

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN

Angela Demas, Township Clerk

CP#26-270

Providing a safe and welcoming, sustainable, prime community.

A PRIME COMMUNITY
meridian.mi.us

Traditional Spanish cookies to celebrate the World Cup win

Millions of people can trace their heritage to Spain or another Spanish-speaking country. The customs unique to Hispanic countries contribute to the rich tapestry of many local neighborhoods, and food is one of the easiest ways people share their heritage with others. Recipes may be passed down through generations and serve as a way to bring people together.

Polvorones are a traditionally baked, crumbly Spanish shortbread made with a few ingredients. While they are especially popular during the holiday season, these cookies can also be enjoyed at other times of the year, including during National Hispanic Heritage Month between September and October (or when Spain wins the World Cup). Try this recipe for polvorones with chocolate glaze and sesame seeds, courtesy of Lines+Angles.

Polvorones with chocolate glaze and sesame seeds

Makes 28 cookies, approximately

- For the cookies:**
- 1/3 cup ground pecans
 - 2/3 cup confectioner’s sugar
 - 2 1/4 cups all-purpose flour
 - 1/8 teaspoon salt
 - 1/2 cup unsalted butter, cold and cubed
 - 1/2 cup lard, cold and cubed
 - One large egg
- For the glaze:**
- 1/4 cup cocoa powder
 - 3 tablespoons water
 - 1 tablespoon light corn syrup
 - 2 tablespoons butter
 - 3/4 cup confectioner’s sugar
 - 1/2 teaspoon pure vanilla extract
- To decorate:**
- 2 tablespoons sesame seeds
1. For the cookies: Preheat the oven to 350 degrees. Line two large baking sheets with parchment paper.
 2. In a mixing bowl, mix together the pecans and sugar until combined. Set aside.
 3. Combine the flour and salt in a sep
- See Cookies, Page 31**

Cookies

from page 30

arate mixing bowl. Add the butter and lard and work the fats into the flour to create a coarse, crumbly dough.

4. Add the pecan and sugar mixture to the dough and work it in with your hands. Add the egg and combine everything together, thoroughly, until it comes together as a ball of dough.

5. Roll pieces of the dough into 1-inch balls using floured hands.

6. Place the balls on the baking sheets, well spaced apart; flatten slightly with



your fingers.

7. Bake until light golden brown, 12 to 15 minutes. Let cool on the baking sheets for 10 minutes before transferring to cooling racks to finish cooling.

8. For the glaze: Combine the cocoa, water, corn syrup and butter in a saucepan. Cook over low heat, stirring occasionally, until the mixture thickens, three to four minutes. Remove from the heat.

9. Gradually stir in the sugar and vanilla, beating until smooth.

10. Drizzle the glaze over the polvorones and sprinkle with sesame seeds. Leave to set.



• City Pulse's new •

Food Newsletter

Use the QR code to sign up for our food-specific newsletter, bringing you the latest local joint, the classic dishes and our regular She Ate/He Ate reviews, along with special content year-round. Sign up for the free newsletter today.





**PUBLIC NOTICE OF
CAPITAL AREA TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY'S
PROPOSED FISCAL 2027 PROGRAM OF PROJECTS &
PUBLIC HEARING ON ITS PROPOSED FISCAL 2027 BUDGET**

Capital Area Transportation Authority hereby provides notice to the public and to private providers of its proposed fiscal 2027 program of projects and public hearing on its fiscal 2027 budget.

The proposed fiscal 2027 program of projects follows:

PROGRAM OF PROJECTS CAPITAL

Section 5307 Formula Funding

Item	Federal Share	Total Grant Budget
Less Than 30 Foot Replacement Bus With or Without Lift	\$668,000	\$835,000
40 Foot and Greater Replacement Bus With or Without Lift	\$7,600,000	\$9,500,000
Van Replacement, Any Size With or Without Lift	\$512,000	\$640,000
Safety and Security Equipment - Facilities	\$180,000	\$225,000
Support Vehicle Replacement	\$40,000	\$50,000
TOTAL	\$9,000,000	\$11,250,000

**Section 5339 Bus and Bus Facilities
Formula Funding**

Item	Federal Share	Total Grant Budget
Van Replacement, Any Size With or Without Lift	\$440,000	\$550,000
Facility Improvements	\$400,000	\$500,000
TOTAL	\$840,000	\$1,050,000

Section 5310 Formula Funding

Item	Federal Share	Total Grant Budget
Less Than 30 Foot Replacement Bus With or Without Lift	\$470,000	\$587,500
TOTAL	\$470,000	\$587,500

CMAQ Funding Request

Item	Federal Share	Total Grant Budget
40 Foot and Greater Replacement Bus With or Without Lift	\$100,000	\$125,000
TOTAL	\$100,000	\$125,000

OPERATIONS

Federal Share Section 5307 and Other*	\$2,052,000
State Share*	\$21,180,000
Local Share	\$29,966,000
Farebox and Other	\$8,854,600
Total	\$62,052,600
Total Capital/Operations	\$75,065,100

The proposed program of projects will constitute the final program of projects if there are no changes. Additional details on the proposed fiscal 2027 program of projects and a copy of the proposed fiscal 2027 budget are available for public inspection at CATA's Administration Building, 4615 Tranter St., Lansing, MI 48910.

CATA will hold a public hearing on it proposed fiscal year 2027 budget Wednesday, Aug. 19, 2026, at 4 p.m. at 511 S. Washington Ave. (the former Greyhound Bus Station) in Lansing, MI 48933.

The property tax millage rate proposed to be levied to support the proposed budget will be a subject of this hearing. This will be a levy under the current authorized millage. There is NO proposal for a new millage.

Written comments on the program of projects or the budget should be addressed to CATA Marketing, Attn: Program/Budget Comments, 4615 Tranter St., Lansing, MI 48910, or emailed to marketing@cata.org and must be received by 4 p.m., Aug. 19, 2026. Reasonable accommodations will be made for persons with disabilities and should be requested by Aug. 17, 2026.

Capital Area Transportation Authority
Bradley T. Funkhouser, AICP, Chief Executive Officer



*Includes federal and state preventive-maintenance funds.



SPONSORED CONTENT



THE FUTURE OF AIR TRAVEL

STORY AND PHOTOS BY GERALD R. FORD INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

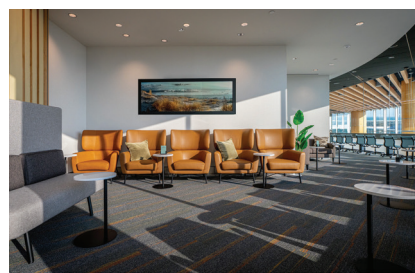
Air travel has come a long way since the first passenger commercial flight in 1914. From the airport terminal to the airline passenger seat, technology, comfort, and efficiency have improved across the industry—and that progress isn't slowing down. According to the International Air Transport Association (IATA), global air passenger demand is expected to more than double by 2050. Around the world, airports are investing in innovative technologies and modern infrastructure designed to reduce stress, streamline processes, and make every step of the journey more efficient.

At Gerald R. Ford International Airport (GRR), that future is already taking shape. Through ELEVATE, one of the largest capital expansions for a small-hub airport in the U.S., \$600+ million in investments are being made in West Michigan's transportation infrastructure to meet growing demand and ensure a seamless gateway to and from the region.

The first completed phase of the enhancement project was a 90,000 square foot expansion of Concourse

A in summer of 2024. The scope included eight additional gates, five new retail and restaurant spaces, The Club GRR executive lounge, and a number of accommodations for passengers of all abilities, such as an adult changing station, animal relief area, and sensory room.

If you've been through the airport in the last year, you may have seen progress on the next ELEVATE projects. As you approach the airport, Phase 1 of the Terminal Enhancement Project (TEP) is currently underway, expanding the southwest side of the building to make room for the installation of a Consolidated Baggage Inspection System (CBIS) on the terminal's lower level. The latest in airport technology, the CBIS along with the new Individual Carrier



Interior of The Club GRR, the new executive lounge located in Concourse A at Gerald R. Ford International Airport.



System (ICS) will streamline the checked luggage process from ticketing to screening to aircraft loading. GRR will be the first U.S. airport to introduce this screening process at baggage drop.

To accommodate these process changes, a new ticket counter space will be created, consolidating all airline counters to the terminal's west end, while the baggage claim area will be expanded with larger carousels, ensuring a more efficient and modernized experience for arriving passengers.

Additionally, on the northeast end of the terminal, GRR's new Consolidated Rental Car Facility (CONRAC) brings all rental car

Rendering of the new 175,000 square foot expansion of the passenger terminal.

services into one centralized, easy-to-access location. This consolidation reduces congestion, shortens wait times, and simplifies the entire rental process, delivering a big impact on overall travel efficiency.

As airports continue to evolve, Gerald R. Ford International Airport is leading the way with thoughtful, traveler-first improvements. Whether you're flying for business or heading out on vacation, these innovations ensure your journey begins and ends with ease. At Gerald R. Ford International Airport, the future of travel isn't coming soon—it's already arrived.