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Remembering That Bad Times Create Strong People

Jimmy Carr, the English-Irish standup comic, presenter and writer, was asked a question from an audience member during a performance, and his answer blew me away:

Question: *How many more years does civilization have left?*

Answer: *Well, I think if I'm right, and I'm an optimist, I think this my friend, is the beginning of infinity. I think there's been 100 billion people so far, roughly speaking, and I think there's could be trillions of people in our future, if we can get through this stage. I think civilization will be fine.*

I'm a big reader of history. I like Neil Howe, who wrote this book called The Fourth Turning, and he believes there's cycles in history. So, 2008 is 1929, that financial crash. The Dust Bowl in America is the climate crisis. Covid is the Spanish Flu. History doesn't repeat, but it rhymes, right? And at the end of that terrible period, 1929 to 1945, we were reborn.

And that was our foundation myth, and if you notice now, our foundation myth of World War II is crumbling. But we will rebuild. There's a revolution. Revolutions are replacements of elites. The elites of the world are being replaced. Whether it's media, or old political parties, they're being replaced. We're gonna rebuild. It's gonna be great, I mean, there were peaceful revolutions, but we'll rebuild.

There were worse times than this in the past. You know, good times create weak men, weak men create bad times. Bad times create strong men. We're gonna have some fucking heroes on our hands in 20 years. I think we'll be ok.

I love listening to people who can put things into a perspective that I sometimes find elusive as an American living under Trump's regime. I, too, think we'll be okay.

Every day there's another bomb dropped, and I mean that literally as well as figuratively. There's plenty of bad news being shared widely, and it's hard not to live in a constant state of rage. If I'm being fair, most of my outrage comes from knowing that people are suffering in so many ways. My heart breaks because it seems injustice under this president is being normalized to the point that we can't even keep up. I'd have to take up the entire paper just to list all of our grievances.

But Jimmy Carr is absolutely right about one thing: bad times create strong people. I see it every day.

There are so many people living outside the spotlight who are doing extraordinary things. They aren't famous. They aren't looking for attention. They aren't necessarily trying to become symbols of anything. They are simply reaching a point where they can no longer remain silent or stand by while other people are being harmed.

Look at Renee Good and Alex Pretti, who should both be alive today. Both expressed their opposition to people being targeted in communities across the country. Their deaths should have been moments of fear and retreat. Instead, they became catalysts. Their deaths did not silence people. They inspired more people to come out and protest an agency they believe has become corrupt and abusive.

Remember Brian McGinnis, a U.S. Marine veteran who was physically removed from an Armed Services subcommittee hearing while protesting the war in Iran? Remember Air Force Major Jason Watson, who was arrested in uniform on the steps of the U.S. Capitol for calling for the impeachment of the president?

These are strong people. And the remarkable thing is that, under normal circumstances, most of us would never know their names.

That is one of the things I think gets lost when we spend every day watching the latest outrage unfold. We tend to measure the strength of a country by the people who hold the most power. We watch the

president, Congress, billionaires, television personalities and political operatives and assume they are the people shaping our future.

They aren't the only ones.

Sometimes the people shaping the future are the ones standing in a crowd with a homemade sign. Sometimes they are the person willing to stand up in a hearing and say, "No." Sometimes they are the person who risks their own safety because they believe someone else deserves to be safe.

And sometimes they are the people we know personally. In my own circle, I know many. Some young, some old. I couldn't be prouder to have so many people around me who lift me up when I start to feel lost. People who remind me that courage doesn't always look heroic. Sometimes it looks like showing up. Sometimes it means speaking when it would be easier to stay quiet. Sometimes it means helping someone who will never be able to repay you.

That is where I think Jimmy Carr's optimism becomes particularly meaningful.

What I sometimes lose sight of in all the unserious mess of the current business of the U.S. government is that, while I'm dismayed that so many people are still supporting much of what is happening, they are not the majority.

There are far too many brilliant people who still remember what decency looks like. People who still understand what bravery means. People who recognize that we may not know everything, but we are smart enough to keep learning.

That matters. Because evolution never stops. Even when we hit a bump in the road, we keep learning. We adapt. We change. We become better at understanding the world around us.

That is what humans have always done. And perhaps that is the part of Carr's answer I needed to hear.

Civilization isn't some fragile thing that depends entirely on the people currently sitting in positions of power. It is built by generations of ordinary people who survive difficult times, learn from them, push back against injustice and then teach the next generation what they learned.

Bad times can create strong people. And maybe we are watching that happen right now.

Maybe the heroes Carr predicts we'll have in 20 years aren't waiting somewhere in the future. Maybe they're already here. Maybe we just haven't learned all of their names yet.

And maybe, despite everything, that is reason enough to believe we're going to be okay.

Please email me at lansingallstar@gmail.com.

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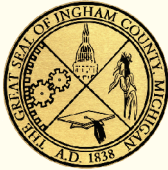
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Registration: 8:30 AM - Auction 10:00 AM
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Property 3332 - Lansing
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Property 3334 - Lansing
4511 S. Pennsylvania Ave.



Property 3335 - Lansing
5210 S. Washington Ave.



Property 3336 - Lansing
6255 Marywood Ave.



Property 3337- Holt
2082 Thornburn St.



Property 3338 - Lansing
1316 W. Lenawee St.



Property 3339 - Lansing
506 N. Fairview Ave.



Property 3340 - Lansing
411 N. Francis Ave.



Property 3341 - Lansing
1121 Bement St.



Property 3342 - Lansing
1915 Devonshire Ave.



Property 3343 - Lansing
600 Fenton St.



Property 3344 - Lansing
1701 Maisonette E. Dr.



Property 3345 - Lansing
6015 Coulson Ct.



Property 3346 - Lansing
3621 Kendalwood Dr.



Property 3347 - Lansing
1416 N. Jenison



Property 3348 - Lansing
1013 N. Larch St.



Property 3349 - Lansing
1706 Massachusetts Ave.



Property 3350 - Lansing
1008 E. Cesar E. Chavez Ave.



Property 3351 - Leslie
430 Russell St.



Property 3352 - Lansing
229 Dunlap St.



Property 3353 - Lansing
225 Lahoma St.



Property 3354 - Lansing
811 W. Shiawassee St.



Property 3355 - Lansing
325 Lathrop St.



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CityPULSE

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Potter Park's beloved Kota the lion dies



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Retired judge's new novel tackles the unwanted significance of race



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The Cosmos has finger food for grownups

Cover illustration by Justin Bilicki

SOMEDAY, ONE HOPES, THE GIANT LUXURY PICKUP TRUCK FAD WILL END. WHAT WILL BECOME OF ALL THE TRUCKS?

SOLUTION TO HOUSING CRISIS

THE LITTLE OLD WOMAN WHO LIVED IN A CREW CAB

DONATED TO THE MUSEUM OF HUMAN ABSURDITY

YES, AMERICANS ACTUALLY USED THESE TO GO TO THE POST OFFICE.

KILLER

SORENSEN

THEME RESTAURANTS

BIG GRILLE'S Grill

ABANDONED IN THE DESERT TO BE USED BY COUNTERCULTURAL FESTIVALS

WELCOME TO BURNING RAM

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THIS MODERN WORLD

EVERY-THING IS SO STUPID

ROUND AND ROUND WE GO

ARGH! IRAN SUCKS AND I WILL DESTROY THEIR CIVILIAN INFRASTRUCTURE!

WAIT! THE VOICES IN MY HEAD SAY WE ARE ON THE BRINK OF A TREMENDOUS DEAL!

HOLD IT! THEY ARE BEGGING TO SURRENDER! TIME FOR ANOTHER STOCK MARKET RALLY!

NEVER MIND! THE LYING BASTARDS SAY THERE IS NO DEAL! OPERATION WAR CRIMES IS A GO!

OBVIOUS LIES ARE OBVIOUS

THE REFLECTING POND WAS SABOTAGED BY ANTIFA TERRORISTS WITH BOX CUTTERS! I HAVE SAID THESE WORDS, AND EVERYONE AROUND ME MUST PRETEND TO BELIEVE THEM!

AND WE ABSOLUTELY WILL, SIR!

ER--YES. WHAT COULD GO WRONG.

THE SUGGESTION BOX

LISTEN UP, WARFIGHTERS! WE'RE SOLICITING IDEAS FOR CREATIVE NEW WAYS TO CRUSH THE ENEMY! A TOTALLY NORMAL THING TO DO IN THE MIDDLE OF A WAR!

I ASKED GROK, BUT IT JUST GAVE ME A SHRUGGY EMOJI!

*ALSO A REAL THING!

COOKING WITH BOBBY

WELCOME TO THE REAL FOOD SHOW! TODAY WE'LL BE PREPARING A DELICIOUS LARVAE-CRUSTED POSSUM SMOTHERED IN BEEF TALLOW!

OR MAYBE IT'S A GROUNDHOG. HARD TO TELL, IT'S PRETTY FLAT.

*A REAL THING!

THE GOLDEN AGE OF KLEPTOCRACY

I HAD TO PROMISE THAT THE SLUSH FUND IS DEAD--BUT YOU STILL HAVE FULL IMMUNITY FROM AUDITS!

I WANT MY SLUSH FUND, THOUGH.

NO PROBLEM! NOW THAT I'M CONFIRMED, I'LL JUST TELL CONGRESS I CHANGED MY MIND!

WHAT ARE THEY GONNA DO, USE THEIR CONSTITUTIONAL OVERSIGHT AUTHORITY?

HA! HA! GOOD JOKE, LAWYER GUY!

TOM TOMORROW © 2026-08-10 ... JOIN SPARKY'S LIST: thismodernworld.com/subscriptions

PULSE

NEWS & OPINION

Fewer services, bigger bills for Lansing

By MIKE ELLIS

Bus services in Lansing are shrinking and utility bills will probably get

higher, according to leaders of the Capital Area Transportation Authority and the Lansing Board of Water

and Light.

Leaders for both organizations pointed to their peers around Mich-

igan and in other big cities and said Lansing's residents are getting a far better deal than others.

Bus routes shrinking



Mike Ellis/City Pulse

CATA Transportation Center in downtown Lansing.

At least half a dozen bus routes affecting Lansing riders are expected to change on Aug. 24.

CATA is cutting services, and about 8% of its budget, as pandemic funds dry up.

The routes being reduced, or in some cases cut, generally had low ridership, said Brad Funkhouser, CEO of CATA.

"I think that's the direction it's going to go for the next couple of years," Funkhouser said, citing the end of pandemic funding.

CATA has publicly projected, for at least a year, that it would likely need to trim services in mid-2026, so these reductions were expected and have included public meetings.

The cuts will affect routes 1, 9, 18, 20 and 46 and 48.

Funkhouser said the changes to routes, which is part of an annual

tweaking based on ridership, are a short-term solution. The longer-term solutions being studied will include different vehicle types and types of services for riders, he said.

Council Member Deyanira Nevarez Martinez said she wanted to speak up for her Michigan State University students, who are not excused from class if the bus gets them to her classroom late.

Students may not be eager to attend the public comment meetings CATA hosted prior to the changes, she said.

Funkhouser said that's true, and it's also a bit curious to expect people who ride the bus to go to meetings in person, so one of CATA's main methods is to do frequent bus listening sessions with CATA workers riding the bus to talk to riders, from students to elderly and beyond.

Affected routes – visit cata.org/services for the full list and to confirm your existing routes

Route 1, which serves downtown Lansing and the Meridian Mall, would get decreased frequency with late night Thursday through Saturday routes being eliminated in place of an Uber Transit pilot program.

Route 9, from S. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd to Miller, would eliminate an outbound loop through downtown Lansing and no longer travel to Lansing Community College (other routes would cover LCC) and will decrease frequency on several trips.

Route 18, the Capital City Cross-town, would serve Spartan Village (route 20 would no longer do so) and would adjust times.

Route 20, South Harrison to Jolly-Dunckel, would reduce frequency during the week and expand on weekends

Route 46 and 48, Mason and Williamston-Webberville limited routes, would be eliminated and replaced with a new connector route and a smaller bus

Lansing Board of Water and Light is proposing another rate increase

Lansing's city-owned utility is proposing a rate hike this year, which would make it five years in a row.

BWL's board approved the rate proposal Tuesday, the new rates will be effective on Oct. 1.

BWL is seeking to get a 2.1% rate increase for electricity for residential customers, or about \$2 a month for the average customer, according to the utility. And a 2.4%- 3% increase for water for residential customers, or about \$1 a month for the average customer, according to the utility.

The utility has increased water and electric rates every year since 2021, when it was paused during the pandemic.

Cumulatively, the increases, if approved, would amount to about 42% more since 2021 for water and about 20% more for electricity.

BWL CEO Dick Peffley said the increase reflects rising labor and material costs and are far lower than the 10% increases facing three-quarters of Michigan residents.

Consumers Energy had a 6% rate increase and DTE had a 4% rate increase this year.

The average U.S. energy rate increase over the past quarter century is about 2.8% a year, according to the U.S. Energy Information Agency but rates in the past five years have been more than twice as high.

The Michigan Public Service Commission recently released a report with recommendations that could help to restrict annual high electric rate increases by utilities including DTE and Consumers Energy. The state regulatory body oversees investor-owned utilities like the two biggest providers in Michigan but municipality-owned utilities like BWL are not subject to the same state oversight and are overseen by a local board.



Mike Ellis/City Pulse

BWL headquarters and cogeneration plant in REO Town.

Nevarez Martinez questioned why industrial and large utility customers were paying a smaller percentage increase.

"The gross amount these folks pay is a lot but percentage-wise we're expecting residents to pay more for their electric," she said, adding that Peffley has a salary higher than the president of the United States.

High-load customers, like large factories, can pay a third as much per kilowatt hour as residential customers in Lansing, as well as elsewhere.

Peffley said the utility keeps classes of ratepayers - including small businesses - and the rates reflect the cost of providing electricity to those classes.

BWL Chief Financial Officer Scott Taylor said the utility has cut \$7 million from its budget this year. Some of the savings came from more efficient tree trimming and bringing some work in-house instead of using consultants, he said.

Council members peppered the utility leaders with questions as council member Ryan Kost said there is little that City Council members can do to control rate increases at the city-owned Lansing Board of Water and Light and he encouraged people to go to BWL meetings to voice opposition.

Brink, Maasdam join Lawrence for unity event after splitting moderate vote

By ANDREW ROTH/
Michigan Advance
MichiganAdvance.com

Following a hard-fought primary, former U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine Bridget Brink and former Navy SEAL Matt Maasdam came together to support Democratic nominee for U.S. House in Michigan's 7th Congressional District William Lawrence.

Brink and Maasdam split the moderate vote in the Aug. 4 primary nearly evenly, with 28.8% and 27.6% respectively, allowing Lawrence to win with a plurality of 43.7%, according to unofficial results.

Lawrence said both candidates called him Tuesday night and offered their full support.

He thanked Maasdam for "the fury I hear in his voice when he talks about the unconstitutional abuses committed by ICE" and Brink for "her principled resignation of the Trump administration and her focus on good healthcare."

Lawrence said he will "unite and mobilize every single potential ally and resource to flip this district," because "if we do not, the president's attempts to establish an AI-powered surveillance state with permanently rigged elections may very well succeed."

That includes fundraising efforts. While Lawrence said he will not accept campaign contributions from corporate PACs, "there's going to be money from people that I disagree with."

"There's no purity in this, winning a general election in a swing district," Lawrence said. "We've got to raise a lot of money."

Lawrence said he expects the full support of the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee, calling U.S. House Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries the next speaker of the House.

Michigan Democratic Party Chair Curtis Hertel, who lost his own campaign for the seat to now-U.S. Rep. Tom Barrett in 2024, said the party will do everything it can to get Lawrence elected.

"The only opportunity that we have to take this country back is to take back districts like this," Hertel said. "And if we fail, if we do not accomplish that, then it's on us what happens moving forward. I want to end what's happening in this country. I know you do, too. And the only way to do that is to get behind Will Lawrence."

Hertel called Lawrence "one of the hardest working campaigners I've ever seen," noting that he knocked more than 100,000 doors in the primary.

"He has been literally going door to



Raymond Holt for City Pulse

Will Lawrence at an election night watch party at The Avenue in Lansing.

door building a movement throughout this campaign," Hertel said. "That is exactly what we need in order to win in November."

Barrett congratulated Lawrence in a social media post Wednesday, saying he wouldn't underestimate him as a general election opponent, unlike Brink and Maasdam.

But Lawrence said he doesn't think Brink or Maasdam underestimated him.

"I think it was a tough-fought campaign and all three candidates worked hard and earned a lot of support, and I'm happy to have come out on top," Lawrence said.

Brink and Maasdam did not speak at the unity event and appeared to mostly avoid interacting with one another, frequently standing on opposite sides of the room. The final week of the campaign saw Maasdam call on Brink to end her campaign because it "would be tough to be third in the race and know that you're taking votes from other people."

The three took a picture together after the event. While Brink mingled with audience members after, Maasdam departed immediately.

Brink said she was there to support Lawrence because Democrats winning the U.S. House is more important than the primary.

"That is the thing that is going to

throw sand in the gears of the Trump administration and Donald Trump's effort to undermine our democracy, make life more expensive, make healthcare less affordable and accessible," Brink said.

Lawrence said he would be holding additional campaign events with Brink and Maasdam in the future.

While some Democratic strategists expressed concern leading up to the primary that the party establishment's failure to coalesce around a single moderate candidate would allow Lawrence to win with a plurality, Lawrence praised the party for running a fair primary.

"It's easy to put a finger on the scale sometimes, but you really didn't do that," Lawrence said. "You allowed the voters to decide, and that is absolutely essential at a time when we need to restore trust in the foundation of our democracy."

Hertel urged voters to "join his movement," saying, "I don't care what side of the Democratic Party that you're on. At the end of the day, we are one team, one party now."

Lawrence said he is open to having conversations with voters who supported Brink and Maasdam to listen and learn. Even if they can't reach an agreement on a particular issue, he said the goal remains the same.

"We can be united on this essen-

tial objective of flipping the district and electing a Democratic speaker of the House, and we can still maintain strong disagreements about policy matters," Lawrence said.

Hertel, a former state senator, called Barrett "one of the worst people that I ever served with in the Michigan Senate."

"I was certainly sad to lose the election, but I'm more sad for the country, because Tom Barrett represents the worst of what politics is," Hertel said.

Lawrence said Barrett has been inaccessible and votes out of step with constituents on policy issues.

"We are suffering. We are struggling. The rent is too damn high, and we can't bear it any longer," Lawrence said, playing on Barrett's last name.

But Lawrence said he will also stand up to Democratic leaders on issues like data center development and getting money out of politics.

"These stands are both principled and popular," Lawrence said. "I couldn't run as, and I don't think anyone is really looking for, someone to move in complete lockstep with just one party line. They're looking for someone who will represent the people of this district, and that's what I fully intend to do."

Lawrence responded to a question from an audience member about his decision to let his Democratic Socialists of America membership lapse by refuting "any attempt to label me in a way which is intended to divide or to frighten."

"There's a lot of things I agree on with a lot of people in DSA, but the fact of the matter is the national organization has a tendency of producing statements that are neither consistent with the general will of the membership, nor grounded in any clear and consistent political strategy," Lawrence said. "And at a time we need to fend off all of these national media narratives trying to pigeonhole me into some box, we simply cannot afford that distraction."

He addressed another audience member's question about how he will make inroads with rural parts of the district, including Livingston County, by saying the strategy will largely be the same as in the primary.

"We're going to do it one conversation at a time, like we do anywhere, and we're now going to have a lot more capacity to reach every single corner of the district that we may not have spent as much time in in the primary," Lawrence said.

Progressives William Lawrence and Abdul El-Sayed both won primaries in some of the priciest races in the country. Here are the Lansing and East Lansing results

Michigan 7th

Will Lawrence has won the Democratic primary for Michigan's 7th Congressional District. He will face U.S. Rep. Tom Barrett, a Charlotte Republican, in the November general election. See page 6 for more.

Senate race

Abdul El-Sayed has won the Democratic primary for Michigan's open Senate seat. He will be facing former U.S. Rep. Mike Rogers, who was unopposed in the primary. He won 48.5% of the vote.

"I want to congratulate Abdul El-Sayed on winning the Democratic nomination for U.S. Senate," said U.S. Rep. Haley Stevens, his primary opponent, in a statement. "He is a doctor, a community health official, a Rhodes Scholar, and a dedicated Michigander. I am proud to offer my support as he takes on Mike Rogers in the general election."

Governor

Michigan Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson won the Democratic primary for governor, handily defeating Genesee Sheriff Chris Swanson with 83% of the vote, according to unofficial state results.

She will face U.S. Rep. John James, the winner of the Republican primary. James had 50% of the vote against challengers former Michigan Attorney General Mike Cox and businessman Perry Johnson.

Lansing proposal results

Potter Park Zoo

A millage to renew and restore the

zoo was approved with 75% of the vote.

Trails and parks

A millage to support Lansing trails and parks was approved with 74% of the vote.

Public transit for elderly and disabled

A millage to support public transit for the elderly and disabled was approved with 79% of the vote.

Hotel tax increase

A proposal to increase the city's hotel tax from 5% to 8% — with money to support tourism, entertainment and the arts — was approved with 62% of the vote.

Sale of Lansing Shuffle

A proposal asking voters to authorize the sale of city property containing Lansing Shuffle failed with 53% of voters rejecting the idea.

East Lansing proposal results

Amend council terms

A proposal to change council terms so that elected council members assume office shortly after the certification of elections was approved with 91% of the vote.

Adjust timing of mayor and pro tem

A proposal to adjust the timing of the mayor and mayor pro tem was approved with 90% of the vote.

Residency for city manager

A proposal to change residency requirements for city manager was approved with 88% of the vote.



Lieza Klemm/City Pulse

Michigan Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson, Lansing Mayor Andy Schor and Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer pose for photos at a post-election event at UrbanBeat in Lansing on Aug. 5.

Capital Area District Library results

A proposal for a Capital Area District Library tax renewal was approved with 74% of the vote.



Raymond Holt for City Pulse

Supporters wait for results at the election night watch party for Will Lawrence at The Avenue in Lansing.



Raymond Holt for City Pulse

Abdul El-Sayed, U.S. Sen. Bernie Sanders and Will Lawrence at a July 19 rally in Lansing.

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REWIND

NEWS HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE LAST 7 DAYS

COMPILED BY STEVE UNDERWOOD FROM LOCAL NEWS SOURCES



Lansing voters will get to consider, in the November election, a proposal that would amend the city charter to add a Citizens' Advisory Healthcare Action Board. The board would review healthcare policies and suggest changes that could curb costs and improve outcomes for residents. City Clerk Chris Swope said the board would look into community health care from a variety of perspectives and present a plan to City Council, which would need to publish the plan. City Council, however, would not be able to make the changes, due to a wording tweak made during the meeting and explained by City Attorney Greg Venker. Venker said the published plan would be a pathway for changes, but the city cannot be the body that makes those changes. The city provides healthcare for employees but does not provide public health care. Ingham County does provide some healthcare options for residents. There are similar city charter efforts in East Lansing, Portage, Benton Harbor, Battle Creek and Kalamazoo; all led by the nonprofit Community Action Michigan. The efforts start with petitions; for Lansing, it was 7,000 signatures and then needing to get local approval to get on the November ballot.

There has been a noticeable increase in drug-related deaths in the Greater Lansing area, according to a report Monday from local medical examiners. There were 48 deaths in the seven-county region during the first three months of 2026, up from 35 at the same time in 2025. The counties are Clinton, Eaton, Ingham, Ionia, Isabella, Livingston and Shiawassee. This year is on pace to exceed last year's 120 drug-related deaths, which rose in the last three-quarters of 2025, according to the report from University of Michigan-Sparrow pathologists. Ingham

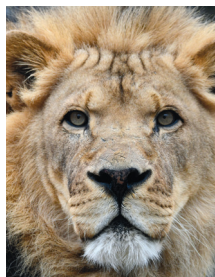


County is the most populous and had the most deaths, 20. All but one were determined to have been accidental overdoses and the other was inconclusive. Some of the deaths in other counties were determined to be suicide. If you're in need of help with drugs, call the Mid-State Health Network at 1-844-405-3095 or reach out to county mental health services at 800-372-8460.



The number of cyclosporiasis cases is slowing in Michigan, and experts are telling the public that the worst may be past and that lettuce is back on the menu. The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services said last week that residents can return to routine washing of lettuce and salad greens because new cyclosporiasis cases and ER visits are declining. "As new data has emerged, our guidance has evolved to reflect the best available evidence, helping ensure that prevention recommendations are accurate, actionable and responsive to the changing situation," said Dr. Natasha Bagdasarjan, the state's chief medical executive, in a statement. The state has had 12,485 reported cases since June with most exposures in late June to early July. The majority of the contaminated produce is likely no longer available, according to the state.

Potter Park Zoo said Monday that its lion, Kota, has been euthanized. The 19-year-old lion recently changed behavior and was found to have a severe spinal disease, commonly seen in old large cats. The zoo now faces an expected but significant challenge. In the past year, it has lost three of its signature animals: Kota the lion, Vikentii the tiger and Doppsee the rhino. The zoo still has one



rhino, red pandas and an okapi, along with many other popular animals. But losing so many headlining animals in one year is difficult for both keepers and the community. Like Vikentii, the death of Kota was not unexpected. Large felines with big and heavy heads often develop back problems in zoos, where they live much longer lives, said Dr. Ronan Eustace, Potter Park's veterinarian, who is involved in a national study of all lion deaths in zoos. Eustace spoke with City Pulse earlier this year following Vikentii's death.

When a popular zoo animal dies, it's often not a surprise and something zoo officials have been working years to prepare for, said Hollie Colahan, the executive director of the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum in Tucson and chair of the American Zoo Association's Animal Population Management committee. Colahan spoke to City Pulse earlier this year. "A lion over 15, we'd call that geriatric and flag that zoo as needing a new cub," said Colahan, who has been head of the lion part of the AZA's Species Survival Program. Surgery was not a viable option for Kota and staff moved to providing comfort and quality of life until the lion no longer responded, according to a statement from the zoo. Kota spent most of his life at the Potter Park Zoo, a rarity for a large animal at a smaller zoo like Potter Park because of breeding opportunities elsewhere. He was one of the oldest male lions in an AZA-accredited zoo and lived beyond the median life expectancy of almost 17 years. Kota was known for an unmistakable roar and was an ambassador for lions.



Ingham County residents have until this Friday to send feedback to ITC Michigan regarding proposed routes for a new high-voltage

transmission line that go through parts of 15 localities over a 50-mile span from Oneida, south of Grand Ledge, to Sabine Lake, north of Fowlerville. In June, the Ingham County Board of Commissioners opposed four of the seven routes that would cut through Burchfield Park in Holt -- which is the county's largest park and attracts about a half-million visitors each year. Parks Director Tim Morgan told WKAR News that having a power line in the park could threaten his department's ability to secure grants. ITC held public forums in late July to allow for feedback, but residents can also do so online here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ITCOSL2>. The Michigan Public Service Commission is responsible for approval of the project's final route.



UM-Health-Sparrow broke ground last week on its new \$83 million Janice M. Granger Behavioral Health Building on North Pennsylvania Ave., on the site of the old Eastern High School just north of its hospital in Lansing. The facility will have 64 beds for adolescent, adult and geriatric patients, with 16 dedicated to children and adolescents. Officials have termed it the first dedicated behavioral health treatment facility for young people in this region and set a completion date of 2028. The facility will include a gym, a commercial kitchen, indoor and outdoor gardens and will support inpatient and outpatient programs. U-M Health-Sparrow earlier this year received an undisclosed eight-figure donation from the Alton L. and Janice M. Granger Charitable Gift Fund. The late Janice Granger, who passed in 2024, was a nurse regarded as a strong proponent for educational opportunities in Lansing.

Polling is tough stuff; look at the primary results for proof

By **KYLE MELINN**

According to polling, Abdul El-Sayed was supposed to win the Democratic U.S. Senate primary by 14 points. Or 15. Or 16.

He won by one.

Which brings me to a poll MIRS News decided not to publish two months ago — and the national story that decision generated.

To take a step back, Mitchell Research and Communications and MIRS News have had a long relationship dating back several years. Sometimes we pay them to poll certain races. Sometimes the owner, Steve Mitchell, just gives us polls we can run.

The poll conducted June 11 through 13 fell into the latter category. Mitchell polled the Republican and Democratic primaries and then made a general election poll using data from both.

The Democratic primary showed El-Sayed 42%, Haley Stevens 33%, and Mallory McMorrow 6%, marking the first poll showing McMorrow in single digits. She had not dropped out at that point.

I shared this information with all

three campaigns for response. The McMorrow campaign came back with a question about how the poll was conducted: “Was this an open-link poll?”

Maybe you’ve received text messages asking you to fill out a poll online. Respondents click a link and complete the survey using SurveyMonkey or a similar service.

Not being completely informed on the industry, I thought all these links were private links. You respond to the link. You fill out the survey. The link goes away. I was wrong.

Mitchell, Emerson College and others use “open links,” where the web address is live for whoever wants to complete a survey during a certain window of time.

It’s apparently cheaper to do it this way. I’m told it costs a lot of money to run a “closed-link” poll. For the open link polls, however, safeguards are put in place to protect people from stuffing a survey. Polls that are completed very quickly or surveys using the same IP addresses are tossed out.

But, theoretically, if someone was savvy enough to share a link with a group of friends to influence the results of a poll, it could be done. I tested it myself.

I didn’t feel comfortable with the

results of this particular Mitchell poll.

How could McMorrow, who had polled at 17% only a month prior, suddenly be in the single digits?

And then the cross tabs on the 400-voter sample were strange. El-Sayed polling at 86% among voters aged 18 to 44?

I told Mitchell and the other campaigns I didn’t feel comfortable with the June 11 through 13 results. It’s possible someone played games with the results, and I didn’t want our name attached to it.

The next day, a Politico reporter called. He obtained the poll results. His story was that MIRS wasn’t running the results because we buckled under pressure from the McMorrow campaign. Then they published the results.

The insinuation was, “McMorrow doesn’t like this poll, therefore we’re killing it.” That wasn’t what happened. The campaign raised a methodological question. I investigated it, looked harder at the numbers and found results I couldn’t comfortably defend to readers.

Fast forward to Aug. 4. Primary election day. Going in, Emerson had El-Sayed winning by 15 points. A July 28 and 29 Mitchell poll (which we also didn’t run) had El-Sayed winning

by 14 points. Tulchin Research, which does polling for El-Sayed interests, had him winning by 16.

El-Sayed defeated Stevens, 48.5% to 47.5%.

Polling has always been a tough business. Predicting the exact universe of people who will vote in each election is tough stuff.

Now, pollsters are trying to figure out a way to connect with these voters — without manipulation — at a price an increasingly cash-strapped media can afford.

In this case with El-Sayed, maybe the sampling was way off. Maybe not enough little ol’ ladies who watch “Wheel of Fortune” and “Jeopardy!” were called. Maybe some other methodological quirk skewed the result. Who knows?

What is clear is that polling is harder. Cheaper options carry risks. Turnout models can fail if a certain demographic isn’t responding.

Polls are useful. They aren’t gospel.

Journalists shouldn’t treat them that way.

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



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Ferment, flourishing and fun

My 25 years with City Pulse

By **LAWRENCE COSENTINO**

I'm sitting at my dining room window one morning in November 2013, nervously waiting for Yo-Yo Ma to call me. In my hand is a 3 x 5 card scribbled with carefully researched questions.

The phone rings. I pick it up.

"Hey, Larry, this is Yo-Yo," chirps a cheerful voice. The tension in my gut starts to relax.

"You've interviewed two of my favorite people in the world, Dave Brubeck and E.O. Wilson. Did you speak to E.O. Wilson recently? I just read his book, 'Letters to a Young Scientist.'"

Whaaa? Yo-Yo Ma, the world's most famous classical musician, cellist for popes and presidents, was asking me about stuff? He took the trouble to look into what I've been doing?

I forgot about the card. We started talking about ants.

"They can teach us so much," he said.

To avoid dropping the first footnote in the 25-year history of City Pulse, I'll quickly note that E.O. Wilson was a distinguished biologist and the world's top expert on ants. Brubeck, of course, was a great jazz pianist and creator of the classic hit "Take Five."

Both were also great humanitarians, like Yo-Yo Ma.

I'm digging this memory up now because I've been asked to write something personal about my 25 years with City Pulse, and this is the best way I can think of to get a foothold.

The quarter-century arc of City Pulse, its remarkable survival against so many odds, is a grand occasion for amazement and gratitude.

To look at it another way, each of the thousands of stories I've written in those 25 years — amounting to over two and a half million words by my rough count — is a tiny occasion for amazement and gratitude.

I climb down from this inky mountain like Moses, my hair white with age, if not wisdom, my face baked red with bright memories of thousands of amazing interviews and encounters.

Yo-Yo Ma, and many other wonderful people, taught me there is no such thing as a routine encounter or an uninteresting subject. At some point, he must have made up his mind to make sure



Lawrence Cosentino bifurcates with curiosity while reporting on an exhibit at MSU's Broad Art Museum.

that every interaction with other people — even his 700th interview with a pesky local journalist — meant something to both parties.

And did I mention that his concert was sold out? He didn't have to do a press interview at all.

I've been very lucky to talk with amazing people like Ravi Shankar (courteous and warm), Tony Curtis (a manic extrovert who loved to drop f-bombs), Neil deGrasse Tyson (the consummate explainer), Ian Anderson of Jethro Tull (would not STFU and let me get back to



Photo by Austin Mann

Cosentino's first conversation with world-renowned cellist Yo-Yo Ma is one of the highlights of his quarter century with City Pulse.

work) and on and on.

But all of that was just a sideshow. When I look back on the last 25 years, it's not the famous people I've interviewed that stick with me the most.

In greater Lansing, we are graced with more talented, good and generous spirits than a legion of journalists could ever adequately recognize and describe.

Musicians, artists, writers, poets, businesspeople, scientists, architects, activists — there have been so many I dare not name one, or even a few, and leave out so many others.

Both the MSU Jazz Studies program and the Lansing Symphony Orchestra embarked upon a golden age just as I settled into the front row, and that's just for starters. Whether it's visual arts, the poetry scene, the folk scene, local theater, public art — name any cultural delight humans come up with, it's probably flourishing here, punching well above the city's middleweight statistical status.

I'm also amazed and grateful for the many wonderful people I've worked with — especially the arts and entertainment (aka arts and culture) editors, a long line of hard-working, generous and talented people that gravitated to



Mike Ellis/City Pulse

The City Pulse office at 1905 E. Michigan Ave. in Lansing.

25 years

from page 10

City Pulse and gave it their all.

Again, it's tempting to unroll a long scroll of names, but if I started, there would be no end to it, and some important people would surely be left out.

However, there is one name it would be criminal to omit. City Pulse founder and publisher Berl Schwartz kept the paper going through a brutal recession, a direct challenge from a faux alternative weekly bankrolled by Gannett, a never-ending onslaught of local and national turmoil, and, finally, a crippling and nearly fatal pandemic.

It was always thus. The day before my first published story appeared — Sept. 12, 2001 — well, you know what happened.

Berl not only took a chance on an unproven writer with a modest initial assignment (to write reviews of the Lansing Symphony) — he kept on pushing me into bigger fields of clover. He encouraged me to do off-the-wall things like a crazy Christmas story called “I Took a Jew to Frankenmuth” and didn’t balk at headlines like “Kitschy Coup” (about an exhibition of velvet art).

City Pulse gave me the opportunity to dive into hundreds of in-depth arts and culture stories, giving me the space to write a profile or cover story at magazine length, when so many other outlets were cutting back.

Sometimes even a cover story wasn’t enough. Along the way, we created massive special sections detailing the quarter century’s biggest local architectural triumphs, the conversion of the Art Deco Ottawa Power Station to the headquarters of the Accident Fund and the construction of the MSU Broad Art

Museum, designed by Zaha Hadid.

I feel nothing but outrageously lucky to have been in the perfect perch to observe and describe so cultural ferment, flourishing and fun.

I have a great photo of Hadid smiling at me while glamorously getting into a car after the Broad Museum’s opening ceremony, with my bicycle in the background, parked next to a Dumpster.

Oh yes, the bicycle. Lansing being Lansing, connected by miles of excellent trails and still relatively sane when it comes to road traffic, I’ve been able to do most of my reporting in the past 25 years by bicycle. Nice work of you can get it.

And I’m still chasing stories on that bike. City Pulse’s miraculous longevity reminds me of Michael Corleone’s remark about the aging gangster Hyman Roth from “The Godfather Part II:” “He’s been dying of the same heart attack for 20 years.”

Only City Pulse isn’t dying at all. Now, to my surprise, the future holds renewed promise.

My latest cause for amazement and gratitude is that City Pulse’s new owner, the Michigan Independent Media Group, has not only carried on the paper’s support for in-depth arts and culture coverage, but is looking to expand and deepen the paper’s community ties and its political and cultural reach.

Amazingly, City Pulse zooms on, like that jet-pack-wearing mascot who appeared on the very first cover in 2001 and returns for the cover of today’s 25th anniversary issue.

Of course, nothing lasts forever. The first line of my very first City Pulse story in September 2001 read, “Even the grandest house of music falls the minute the air ceases to vibrate.” (It took a couple of years for me



Courtesy

Lawrence also had the opportunity to interview the late scientist E.O. Wilson for City Pulse, which piqued Yo-Yo Ma’s interest.

to cut some of the chicken fat out of my prose.) This 25th anniversary brings me back to bittersweet thoughts of transience.

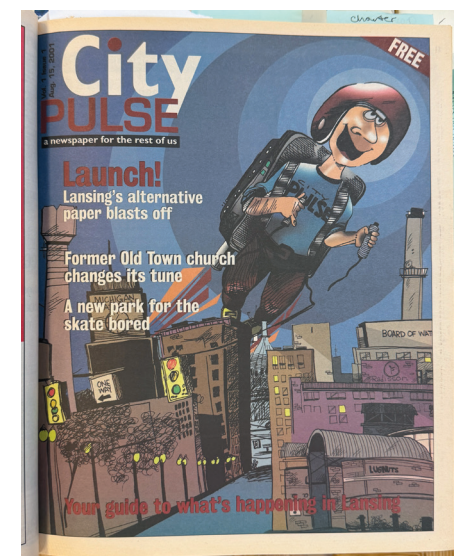
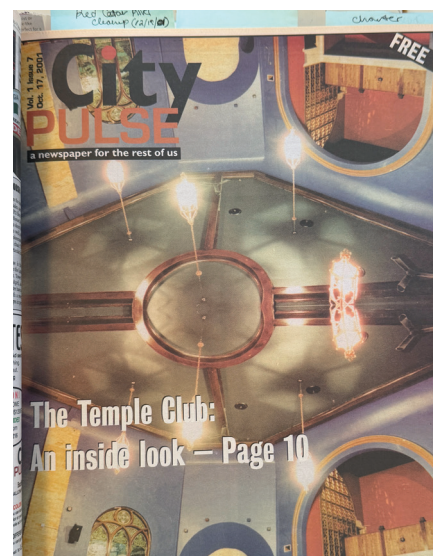
One of the deeper things Yo-Yo Ma and I talked about is why music is so great. I suggested to him that music comes into being, has a duration and ends, just like life itself — that it’s a simulacrum of life.

“Exactly,” he said. “You hit just the right notes.” (I recall resolving never to wash my left ear again after that.)

Nothing reminds you of the fleeting

nature of life like a big, round number. Nearly every week for the last 25 years, I worried that I would survive City Pulse, as it hung precariously by one thread or another, but now it’s beginning to look like the reverse.

I’m amazed and grateful that I, and the paper, have made it to this point. But I’m even more amazed and grateful to see a new chapter unfold in the story, and see a crop of younger writers sprout up, ready and eager to take up the never-ending chronicle. Here’s to the next 25 years.



Some of the earliest covers of City Pulse, from issues in August, September and October 2001.

The first month of City Pulse

By MIKE ELLIS

The first issue of City Pulse was Aug. 15, 2001.

The cover image featured someone with a boyish grin flying in a rocket pack, and the sales prototype was explicit about the paper's goals: "Lansing's newest media outlet reaches lucrative advertising market."

City Pulse launched to reach people who weren't reading stories about themselves and as a platform for businesses to reach people at rates they could afford.

The first headlines carried the same rocket prototype image, and the first news stories were about the Ranney Skate Park (being built with \$600,000 in city support despite naysayers saying you'd have to be a "sadist" to want it in such a risky spot) and The Temple Club's impending opening (the club with a sprawling dance floor would operate for about five years with the 1905 building becoming the Temple Lofts a few years ago).

The second issue focused on East Lansing's early high-rises and asked: "Is this progress?"

The plan — build housing in downtown to goose the number of shoppers and shops — is being repeated in downtown Lansing.

Many of the same challenges — suburban people unaccustomed to parking and the rise of the Internet — are familiar, but others like competition from powerful malls are a little fainter.

The story lamented the withdrawal of planned downtown East Lansing anchors Tower Records and Jacobson's department store and celebrated the coming of CVS as well as the mainstay of Flat, Black and Circular. The record store is still around and is now owned by Jon Howard, an employee who was quoted in the 2001 story.

The third issue of City Pulse came out on Sept. 12, 2001.

The fourth began to reckon with a new world.

What a time

Launching a media enterprise in 2001 wasn't an insane idea.

There was a new energy in the media environment. Websites and free media and the Internet were showing the first signs of toppling the still-dom-



Mike Ellis/City Pulse



Mike Ellis/City Pulse

inant dinosaurs of TV, radio, books, newspapers and more.

AOL had bought up venerated Time Warner and Yahoo! (with a period-correct exclamation point!) was headed back up to its financial heights.

The Internet was around and helpful, but was more of a curiosity or occasional tool for most people. City Pulse's website was lansing.com and we wish we still had that domain! Look for lansingcitypulse.com.

But the September 2001 attacks marked a quick shift in the landscape and suddenly, a new Lansing newspaper that was flying high on ambition and chutzpah seemed to be a much more risky proposition.

City Pulse was born to be an alternative paper

Over 25 years, we've been with you through a lot of changes. Old buildings saved and lost, downtown workforces swelling and the downtown becoming a ghost town during the pandemic.

We've been through the Iraq and Afghanistan wars and are now amid wars in Ukraine and Iran.

City Pulse predates the iPhone and Facebook.

Somewhere along the way, City Pulse adopted the "alternative" tagline.

We're not 100% about what "al-

ternative" means, but we know City Pulse is a great alternative to everything out there.

It means we can use 'hell' or even the stronger swear words if it's appropriate and we pursue what our readers want.

More importantly, it means we're a paper for everyone.

An alternative to the big mainstream publications.

We're not beholden to national trends and powers or out-of-state goals.

City Pulse is operated by Buried Lede Media and owned by Michigan Independent Media Group, which also owns Tribune Recorder Leader, Yale Expositor, Tri-City Times and the Hamtramck Review. MIMG has partnered with Civic Media to acquire five Upper Peninsula radio stations.

In practice, City Pulse is a paper that has something for everyone. 'Alternative' has lost a lot of meaning over the years as it's easier than ever to find stories about people like yourself.

Which is why we're committed to bringing you stories you still can't find anywhere else.

We cover Lansing and East Lansing news as well as other local news that affects our region. We cover arts and culture better than anyone else in the area, from weekly live music roundups from dozens of venues to deep profiles on local and national music figures.

City Pulse's food coverage reaches into your kitchen, your weekend plans and your lunch recommendations. Today's City Pulse is also delivered in newsletters, with a special food-specific newsletter on Saturdays.

What's changed?

City Pulse remains, in a surprising number of ways, unchanged from a quarter century ago.

Looking back at the very first issues: Tom Tomorrow's comics still run, Rob Brezney's astrology reports still run, we call our weekly food stories "The Dish," and we feature illustrations and photographs on our cover instead of lots of words.

And we hope to see you around in another 25 years.

Mike Ellis was a college dropout 25 years ago. He has been a professional journalist for 20 years and became the managing editor of City Pulse last fall.

ARTS & CULTURE

ART • BOOKS • FILM • MUSIC

Cap City Jam demonstrates breaking at its finest

By NICOLE NOEHEL

According to Ozay Moore, executive director of All of the Above Hip Hop Academy, breaking is a fundamental part of hip-hop culture.

Originating in New York City in the late '60s and early '70s, breaking served as a precursor to many hip-hop dance styles. It was itself inspired by several different dances and martial arts, from capoeira and kung fu to tap, jazz and beyond. It eventually spread all over the globe, reaching its height in the '80s and '90s, and has continued to be passed down from generation to generation.

"You have four to five generations deep of breakers and crews from all over the world who passed the legacy on in their respective communities," Moore said.

All of the Above works to pass that legacy on to local youth not only through its classes, but also through its Cap City Breaking Jam, returning for a fifth year Saturday.

"The work that we do at All of the Above centers various different hip-hop elements as a way for youth engagement, community development, skill transfer, and cultural preservation and advancement," Moore said. "Breaking is one of those elements of hip-hop that kind of brings all the pieces together. It brings the MC, brings the DJ, it brings the dancer, it brings the visual art."

The term "breaking" — sometimes referred to as "breakdancing," though Moore said that term was coined by someone outside of the community — comes from the "break" in a song, the moment when the rest of the music cuts out and only the drumbeat remains.

"The break is actually a foundational element for hip-hop culture in general," Moore said. "It's where the music comes from. It's where the style, the swagger, the flavor, the essence of hip-hop music come from."

Breaks were especially prominent in funk music, Moore noted, before being picked up by hip-hop musicians.

"Breaks have evolved into people taking the pace of the music or the tempo of



Courtesy All of the Above Hip Hop Academy

All of the Above Hip Hop Academy's annual Cap City Breaking Jam attracts youth competitors from all over the country, who travel to Lansing to show their stuff in front of a panel of esteemed judges.

the music and adding other elements to it," he said. "You hear it in hip-hop music, but it was really, really prominent in funk. So, funk was kind of the musical soundscape for breaking in its earlier stages and has gone on to be a staple in the type of music that you will hear at

a breaking jam, mixed with some more modern takes on it as well."

Though there is often a competitive aspect, and there may even be prizes, Moore stressed that breaking jams are, above all, spaces for the community to gather.

"At the core of breaking jams is this opportunity for dancers and breakers to get together and commune with each other, and I think the heart of that is the cipher," he said. "The cipher is kind of this exchange. It's essentially like a circle, and people go into the middle of the circle and dance for each other. But that cipher is a conversation between dancers. So, the breaking community is used to kind of being nomadic and traveling from jam to jam, state to state, city to city, country to country in search of great music, great community and those ciphers for the exchange."

Jams range in size from major events like the Red Bull BC One to qualifiers,



Courtesy

"It's just going to be a great time," Moore said of this year's jam. "Good music, good vibes, family friendly."

freestyle sessions and beyond. All of the Above's Cap City Jam attracts youth competitors from across the country as well as high-caliber judges, some of whom even competed in the 2024 Olympics.

"It definitely attracts like some of the best of the best in the world, and definitely in our nation," Moore said.

This year's jam will be held on the patio at Lansing Shuffle. DJs Omega Watts, Yz and Foojin will be set up out there, as will the event's primary floor. There will be other floors scattered around for ciphers and for people to practice on throughout the day.

The event will kick off with an all-ages workshop led by Bboy Orb, aka Orbitron of Circle of Fire in Seattle. Then comes the youth preliminary round, with the winner taking home a cash prize of \$500 and a trophy created by local welder Andrew Sandstedt. Judges for the youth preliminary include Bgirl Shade of Creative Genius Academy in Ontario, Bboy Rama of Chicago's Brickheadz crew and Bboy TV Breaks of Michigan's 99 Stylez crew, which is co-hosting the event alongside AOTA.

After some art therapy led by Bgirl Shade, attendees will reconvene for the adult preliminary. Participants will compete for a cash prize of \$2,500 and a trophy made by Sandstedt. Judges include Bboy Orb, Bgirl Baby Girl of



Courtesy

All of the Above executive director Ozay Moore emcees a past Cap City Jam.

Houston and Bboy Seoul of Indianapolis.

"It's just going to be a great time," Moore said. "Good music, good vibes, family friendly. Some of the highest level of athleticism and dance and rhythm and ability, right in the heart of our own downtown. It's cool, it's attractive, and it's such a gift for dancers to put these displays on for the community."

5th annual Cap City Breaking Jam

11 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 15
Lansing Shuffle
325 Riverfront Drive,
Lansing
alloftheabovehiphop.org/capcity

A lifetime of stories

Retired LCC Professor Mary Fox on poetry, grief and connection

By **MASAKI TAKAHASHI**

LeBron James was drafted when I was in high school.

I still remember the hype. The high school phenom. The Chosen One.

Before he ever stepped onto an NBA court, the world already had expectations for who he was supposed to become. More than two decades later, he is still playing. Watching him stay this healthy for so long is incredible. I never call professional athletes fragile because I know if I pick up a box the wrong way, I'll be giving myself a four- to six-week injury report.

It's strange how we measure our own lives through other people's timelines. One day you're watching an athlete get drafted. The next, you've spent over 20 years following their career. It makes you realize you've been growing older, too.

When Mary Fox was born, the NBA had only existed for one year.

During her lifetime, Wilt Chamberlain scored 100 points, color television became commonplace, computers entered our homes, and mobile phones changed how we communicate. She has watched nearly eight decades of history unfold.

Fox is one of the elders of the Poetry Room community.

Before retiring, she taught at Lansing Community College. Although she always loved poetry and storytelling, she didn't seriously share her work until she was 65 years old. She told me she finally had the time and space to give poetry the attention it deserved.

That space came after a season of unimaginable loss. Within a short period of time, Fox lost close friends, family members and eventually her husband to cancer. Doctors initially gave him two to six weeks to live, but he lived for nearly another year.

Fox remembers his cough more than anything. It's one of those details that becomes impossible to separate from the person you loved. Instead of letting illness define that final year, they filled it with life. Her husband tended the garden he loved and cooked for his family; together, they made the most of the time they had.

When I asked Fox how she survived grief, she didn't talk about being strong. She talked about people. She drew her friends closer and became intentional



Photo by Jasper Baldwin

Mary Fox.



Courtesy Mary Fox

Fox with her late husband, Ray.



Courtesy Rosalie Sanara Petrouske

Fox with fellow poet Rosalie Sanara Petrouske, who died in 2023.



Photo by Jasper Baldwin

Mary Fox book release event with Masaki Takahashi.

about spending time with them. She especially appreciated the small acts of kindness, like friends checking in during Michigan's poor air quality days. Those moments reminded her that connection matters.

Poetry became another way for her to connect. She told me writing gives her a voice because older people are often overlooked. Poetry gave her a way to share her experiences and tell the stories only she could tell.

She has also seen poetry challenge people. At one Poetry Room event, she performed a poem about needing her husband's signature to receive a bank loan, reflecting on a time when women were often denied financial independence. During the performance, someone in the audience shouted an exple-

tive and walked out.

The room fell silent.

But Fox finished the poem.

As the host, I walked back on stage, applauded and celebrated her.

I told the audience that moments like this are what writers hope for. Not because someone walked out, but because the poem reached someone so deeply they couldn't stay quiet.

That is the power of art. Sometimes the goal isn't to make everyone comfortable. Sometimes the goal is to make people listen.

My favorite poem of Fox's is about grief. It is about making Christmas cookies after her husband died, preserving a tradition embedded with both love and loss. That's the beauty of poetry. The details make a poem personal,

but they're also what make it universal. Honest storytelling helps us recognize ourselves in someone else's life.

Fox's latest collection, "Erasure Mark," honors memories, relationships and the people who shaped her life. When I asked if she had any regrets, her answer surprised me.

She wished she had traveled more. Everything else, it seemed, she embraced.

LeBron James entered adulthood with the world watching. Mary Fox spent decades quietly living a life worth writing about. One journey began with expectations. The other began with experience. Fox didn't become a poet at 65 because she was late. She became one because she was ready.

"Erasure Mark" is available online and at *The Robin Books*.

Former Michigan judge releases debut novel

By **KURT ANTHONY KRUG**

When former Michigan administrative law judge Renée Ozburn began writing personal essays for various media outlets, a number of them addressed the unwanted significance of race in her life.

That topic went on to inspire her debut novel, “Unwanted Significance” (Black Rose Writing, \$19.95), which releases Thursday (Aug. 13).

“I’m fascinated by the eternal phenomenon of people who are academically and professionally successful yet frequently failing in personal relationships,” said Ozburn, who splits her time between Williamston and Paris, France.

The novel occurs in 1995. Psychology professor Tyler Carson and musician/linguist Alana Adler, both 38, meet on a train. He is white, and she is Black. Neither of them has made time for serious relationships in the past, but this trip changes that.

However, their growing passion — which plays out in atmospheric settings from Cape Cod to San Francisco — is no match for the intergenerational forces working to tear them apart. In addition to Tyler’s doting, manipulative mother and his long-lost father who reappears with a new identity, deeply buried secrets in Alana’s family begin to emerge. Ultimately, the unwanted significance of race and a past they had nothing to do with tests the limits of their love, creating unexpected outcomes for both.

“I wanted to tell this story through characters with a little maturity and skills to intentionally grapple with the dilemmas of communicating and miscommunicating in personal relation-

ships,” Ozburn said. “Tyler Carson is a man who might be described, in some writing circles, as a ‘book boyfriend’ — the kind of man many real women complain can only be found in the pages of books. I don’t believe this, but I understand why the belief is widespread. Alana Adler is a woman who wants a relationship with deep intimacy but can’t get past elements of her upbringing that get in the way of that happening. I think that describes a lot of women.”

It took Ozburn four or five years to finish the book’s manuscript, then another three to four years to revise and rewrite it while trying to find an agent and publisher.

“By far, breaking into the world of being traditionally published and all the things I’ve had to learn about marketing and publishing has been the hardest part of this journey,” she said.

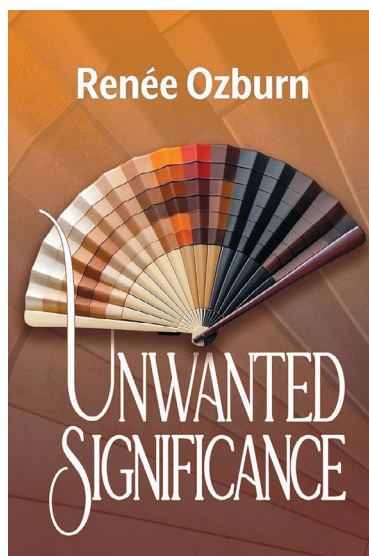
Born in Detroit, Ozburn is a graduate of Henry Ford High School. She earned a bachelor’s degree in elementary education from Michigan State University and a juris doctor degree from Cooley Law School.

“I grew up in Detroit and came to East Lansing in 1969 to attend MSU, thinking, ‘Four years and then I’ll be living on one of the coasts.’ Fifty-six years later, I’m still living in the Lansing area,” she said. “I majored in elementary education at MSU and graduated in 1973, knowing I was not meant to teach. I looked, at most, about one to two years older than the fifth graders I was assigned to

during my student teaching!”

She admitted to not having a master plan. She became an attorney to escape her dead-end job.

“I loved school, and I knew a law de-



Upcoming “Unwanted Significance” readings and author events

1-3 p.m. Sat., Aug. 15
Barnes & Noble
420 Frandor Ave., Lansing

7:30-9:30 p.m. Aug. 21
The Coffeehouse at All Saints
800 Abbot Road, East Lansing

6:30-8 p.m. Sept. 8
Schuler Books
1982 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos

2 p.m. Sept. 19
Hooked
3142 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing

10:30 a.m.-noon Oct. 3
East Lansing Public Library
950 Abbot Road, East Lansing



Courtesy

Renée Ozburn

gree would open doors. A few years after I graduated from MSU, Cooley opened in Lansing, which made it possible to work full time and go to law school full time in mid-Michigan. I graduated and passed the bar in 1980,” she said.

She was a judge for 35 years, during which she took part in several creative communities.

“When I retired, I started taking English-language writing classes during my annual visits to Paris,” she said. “I got hooked on writing through the encouragement of other writers and writing mentors.”

In 2016, she completed the Paris American Academy’s monthlong writing program and was invited back as a fellow for its 2017 program. In 2021, she was accepted into Stanford University’s two-year novel-writing certificate program, graduating in 2023. She’s also participated in numerous writing workshops in the United States, France and online.

Her essay “A Redbone’s Reality” won the Los Angeles Review’s literary award for creative nonfiction. A few of her travel articles have been featured in International Living magazine.

Currently, Ozburn is at work on her second novel, called “The Price We Pay.”

She spoke about what makes “Unwanted Significance” stand out from other books.

“I’ve tried to tell a good story that will engage readers, compel them to keep turning the pages and make them want to pass it on to other readers who get engaged and compelled,” she said. “The best part of writing this novel has been sharing the story and making the characters come alive. I love being a part of different writing communities and listening when others describe my characters like they’re real. Sometimes I talk with friends about Tyler and Alana like they’re people we both know.”

Keep up with Ozburn at reneezburn.com.

Gold Crown extracts are hitting Pure Options shelves — and if you know, you know



Courtesy Gold Crown

By CHRIS SILVA

Starting this week, Gold Crown products are available at Pure Options — one of Lansing's most respected independent dispensaries and a longtime pillar of this city's cannabis scene. If you've been paying attention to Michigan cannabis for any length of time, both of these names should mean something to you.

Jonathan Kellow is 34. His partner Mike Yaldoo is 29. They started Gold Crown — then operating under the caregiver system — 10 years ago in the Metro Detroit area. Mike was 19 years old. Read that again: 19 years old, starting a cannabis company in the gray market, before legalization, before any of this was straightforward.

"We started off as a five-person company," Kellow told me recently. "Me, Mike, my mom, his mom, my sister, his dad — basically family run."

Today, Gold Crown employs 95 people. Those original family members are still around. That's not a talking point — that's a culture.

They started with open blasting and BHO products, moving concentrate through dispensaries and patient networks before anyone had a real framework for how any of this was supposed to work. In 2019, they became the first processing license approved in Warren, a hub of Michigan's cannabis manufacturing infrastructure. Being first in that market doesn't happen by accident.

I'll tell you something else about Gold Crown that gives me confidence in the

product: I know them.

When I was managing Pharmhouse dispensary in Grand Rapids, Evo Farms — the licensed entity behind the Gold Crown and Anarchy brands — was one of the first vendors to offer quality concentrate. I carried their entire product line. The quality was there then. It's only gotten better.

What's coming to Pure Options

Gold Crown is bringing three product lines to Pure Options Lansing, all under their flagship Gold Crown brand, and all carrying the brand's signature commitment: everything is live resin-infused. Not distillate. Not homogenized trim oil. Live resin. That's a meaningful distinction in a market where cutting corners on input material has become common practice.

Infused Joints — Gold Crown does infused pre-rolls right, and they do them under two distinct brand lines. Jesters is their flagship infused joint brand, and Anarchy is the sister line. These are infused the right way — layered, not mixed — which means you get a clean flower burn that opens up into something considerably bigger as you smoke it. If you haven't tried a properly-made infused joint, this is your introduction. If you have, you know exactly why the method of infusion matters.

Gold Crown Gummies — Here's something worth paying attention to even if you're not vegan or gluten-free: Gold Crown's gummies are made with pectin instead of gelatin. That makes them vegan and gluten-free. But here's

the practical reason everyone else should care — pectin has a significantly higher melting point than gelatin. That means these gummies are not going to turn into a sticky puddle in your car, your pocket, or your bag in the middle of a Michigan summer. If you've ever opened an edible that had basically liquefied by the time you got to it, you understand why this is a big deal.

Gold Crown concentrates

Here's where Evo Farms really separates itself from the pack. Gold Crown's concentrate lineup — which includes sugar, badder, and shatter — is built on a foundation that most extraction companies don't bother with: they start with flower from carefully selected Michigan cultivator partners, including Peninsula Gardens and Legasea. These are the kinds of cultivation partnerships that make the difference between a concentrate that tastes like something and one that just gets you high.

The collaboration model matters. Evo Farms brings the extraction expertise; their partners bring the genetics and the grow. The result is a concentrate line where the input material is never an afterthought. Sugar wax, badder, shatter — whatever form ends up on the Pure Options shelf, it starts with quality flower and gets treated right through the extraction process. Which specific forms Pure Options will be carrying is still being finalized, but if Gold Crown's track record is any indication, whatever lands on that shelf is worth picking up.



Pure Options and the Lansing connection

If you don't know Pure Options, you should. Owner Sam Usman has been a fixture in Lansing's cannabis scene since before most people were paying attention — one of those operators who helped build legitimacy in this market when legitimacy wasn't easy to come by. Kellow put it well when we talked: "I've always viewed him as a pioneer in the industry."

That framing matters. Gold Crown came up in the Detroit market the same way Pure Options came up in Lansing — through hustle, through relationships, through a commitment to quality when the easier path was to cut corners. These are not two companies that found each other through a distributor. They found each other because they operate by the same code.

"It's cool seeing these family-owned businesses get pretty big," Kellow said. "That's one of the things I liked most about working with Pure Options — they're Michigan-based, they're family-owned, and they're not small."

What's next for Gold Crown

Gold Crown and its sister brand Anarchy are Michigan institutions, but Kellow has his eyes on something larger. The company is developing a national brand — separate from Gold Crown and Anarchy, which will stay rooted in Michigan — designed to scale into other markets as legalization continues to spread across the country. "Gold Crown is Michigan at home and it always will be," he said. "But when we launch the national brand, we'll see it everywhere."

That kind of ambition, coming from a company that started with two kids and their mothers in a Metro Detroit basement, is exactly what Michigan cannabis was supposed to produce. The talent was always here. The work ethic was always here. The quality was always here.

It just took a while for the rest of the world to catch up.

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

Stars shine brightly in ‘Anne of Green Gables: The Musical’

By DAVID WINKELSTERN

To pick the definitive star of Alive Theatre’s production of “Anne of Green Gables: The Musical” is a challenge. In the lead role of Anne Shirley, Kiyah Marcellus shines. Her displays of emotion — and her potent singing and dancing — never stop earning the audience’s affection.

But all the roles in the musical, based on the novel by L.M. Montgomery, are performed superbly.

Kimberly Michalcewicz and Doug Irving are charming as the sister and brother who take in the orphan Anne. Vadis Pekrul is delightful as Anne’s best friend, Diana Barry. Sage Chick, as Gilbert Blythe, is the perfect adolescent boyfriend.

Anne Miranda seamlessly assumes the role of town busybody Rachel Lynde. Garrett Shinner is convincing as schoolhouse teacher Mr. Phillips. Lexy Irving, who plays replacement teacher Miss Stacy, has a voice that could blow the tiles off a space station.

The amiable 14 townspeople of Avon-

lea and the 12 schoolchildren also qualify for star status. They continually impress with their expressions, physicality and vocal and dance skills.

To me, the person who selected such a cast and guided them so brilliantly has to be the MVP of Alive’s “Green Gables.” Director and producer Christine Hall somehow managed to choose and mold all the actors, in major and minor roles, so they embodied the personalities of their characters. No one on the stage seems petty. No one ever has a mundane expression or pose.

Add in Amanda Tollstam’s imaginative choreography, Aja Jenks’ substantial sets, Britt Harris’ props and Deb Ramirez’s exquisite costumes, and Alive’s production is a theatrical gem.

Getting a group of mostly kids to perform complicated dance moves in unison (including a spectacular jump-rope dance) is a real accomplishment. Movable and often detailed sets, including a two-story home with a real staircase, appear professional. The characters, from their hats to their bloomers or argyle socks, are dressed more like a touring com-

pany than a community theater troupe. And who can forget about Anne’s remarkable long red hair.

“Anne of Green Gables” was written in 1905, and the musical has a “Little House on the Prairie” meets ‘60s sitcom kind of wholesomeness that suits a young audience. However, kids might struggle with the nearly three-hour runtime, while audience members of all ages might find Mr. Phillips’ creepy flirting with (and later engagement to) one of his students bothersome.

The story is full of highs and lows, with a mix of flashy musical numbers and serious dialogue. And its sad ending is unusually anti-climactic for a musical.

But issues with the script don’t diminish praise for Hall’s accomplishments. Any ringmaster who can expertly herd a circus of up to 35 actors on a stage deserves kudos.



Photo by Studio M

From left: Vadis Pekrul, Kiyah Marcellus and Doug Irving in Alive Theatre’s production of “Anne of Green Gables: The Musical.”



Review

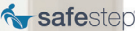
“Anne of Green Gables: The Musical”

7 p.m. Friday, Aug. 14
2 and 7 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 15
Waverly High School
160 Snow Road, Lansing
alivetheatrics.com

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The Ingham County Housing Commission announces the availability of 5-Year Mainstream Section 8 Project-Based Vouchers (PBV) for Projects Receiving Low Income Housing Tax Credit Funds (LIHTC)

ICHC expects PBV vouchers to be available in 2026, subject to HUD and ICHC funding. To which the project furthers the ICHC’s ability to expand housing and economic opportunities by servicing the area of Ingham County generally referred to as “Out County” in that the residents of the proposed project would not have a City of Lansing address. PBV contracts may be awarded for up to 20 years, with renewal options. Assistance will help cover rent for eligible households with incomes generally at or below 30% of AMI and no higher than 50% of AMI. Projects already under construction are not eligible. Before an AHAP contract can be executed, required subsidy layering and environmental reviews must be completed and approved by HUD or its designee.;

Request: Up to eight (8) PBV units, or 25% of a project’s total units, whichever is less. Exceptions to the 25% cap (up to eight units) may be approved for units serving disabled families and/or elderly during the PBV contract term.

Unit Requirements: Eligible units must be 1- or 2-bedroom family units for persons with disabilities. Preference will be given to projects located outside Lansing, Michigan within the County of Ingham. Projects serving a specific disability group or clients of a particular provider are not eligible. The ICHC reserves the right to limit voucher awards per project. The ICHC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, to waive informalities and minor irregularities, and/or to modify or cancel this solicitation.

Tenants will be referred exclusively from ICHC waiting lists. Sponsors must comply with all applicable Mainstream Section 8 PBV regulations (24 CFR Part 983) and ICHC Administrative Plan requirements.

Selection Criteria: Applicants must demonstrate project need, financial feasibility, readiness to proceed, compliance with County obligations, and eligibility to work with HUD. Preference will be given to projects that create new affordable housing, serve persons with disabilities, maintain affordability beyond 20 years, provide units affordable to lower-income households, support sustainable development, and leverage additional funding sources.

Who Should Apply: Owners and developers proposing new construction or rehabilitation projects that expand long-term affordable housing for very low- and extremely low-income households. Only LIHTC proposals requesting ICHC PBV assistance in response to this notice will be considered.

Submission Information: ICHC will accept request for proposals for PBV beginning August 5, 2026. Proposals are due no later than **4:00 p.m. on Monday, September 21, 2026.**

For information or detail of this RFP contact ICHC Consultant, Shanda Johnston at shanda.revitalizellc@gmail.com.

CP#26-308

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Live & Local

CityPULSE

The Avenue

2021 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing
Songs of the Sky: A Tribute to Nelt Brando feat. **The Plurals**, **Moon Flesh**, **A Rueful Noise**, **Ladyship Warship** + open mic
Sat., Aug. 15, 8 p.m.
Matthew Carlson, **Teutonosaur**
Sun., Aug. 16, 7 p.m.

Beal Botanical Garden

330 W. Circle Drive, East Lansing
Music and the Garden: Tayovan Trio
Sun., Aug. 16, 1 p.m.

Blue Gill Grill

1591 Lake Lansing Road, Haslett
Justin Holcomb
Thurs., Aug. 13, 6-9 p.m.
El Capitan
Sun., Aug. 16, 2-5 p.m.

BrickHaven Brewing Co.

200 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge
Sweet C & the Sunset Riders
Fri., Aug. 14, 6-9 p.m.

Charlotte Performing Arts Center

378 State St., Charlotte
Michigan Country Music Hall of Fame Induction Show
Sat., Aug. 15, 7 p.m.

Classic Pub & Grill

16219 Old U.S. 27, Lansing
DJ Atomic Sounds
Fri., Aug. 14, 7-11 p.m.
Jimmy G & the Capitals
Sat., Aug. 15, 8 p.m.-midnight

Cleats Bar & Grille

5801 N. Aurelius Road, Lansing
Billy Gunther
Thurs., Aug. 13, 6-9 p.m.

Courthouse Square Museum

100 W. Lawrence Ave., Charlotte
Sunday Dive
Thurs., Aug. 13, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Dimes Brewhouse

145 Bridge St., Dimondale
Bart Moore
Fri., Aug. 14, 7-9 p.m.
Filomena and Roger
Sat., Aug. 15, 7-9 p.m.

Dublin Square

327 Abbot Road, East Lansing
Bill Oeming
Fri., Aug. 14, 9 p.m.-midnight

EagleMonk Pub and Brewery

4906 W. Mount Hope Hwy., Lansing
Charlie Richardson and Friends
Wed., Aug. 12, 7-9 p.m.
Bart Moore and Friends
Sat., Aug. 15, 2-4 p.m.
Jimmy Likes Pie
Sat., Aug. 15, 7-9 p.m.
The Instigators
Sun., Aug. 16 6-8 p.m.
Chad and Ed of Flat Water Band
Wed., Aug. 19, 7-9 p.m.

Eastwood Towne Center

3003 Preyde Blvd., Lansing
Life Support
Tues., Aug. 18, 6-8 p.m.

Eaton Rapids Craft Co.

204 N. Main St., Eaton Rapids
Adam Ross
Fri., Aug. 14, 6-9 p.m.
Just Magnetic
Sat., Aug. 15, 6-9 p.m.

Graham Vineyards

8920 W. Britton Road, Laingsburg
JP Peters
Sat., Aug. 15, 6-9 p.m.

The Green Door

2005 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing
Wavelength
Wed., Aug. 12, 8 p.m.-1 a.m.
Slaughter of the Soul, **Dirtflesh**, **Wizardbane**
Fri., Aug. 14, doors 7 p.m., show 8 p.m.
The Insiders: A Tribute to Tom Petty
Sat., Aug. 15, doors 7 p.m., show 8 p.m.
Rent Strike, **Mother's Day Rogers**, **Worm**, **Itch Y Tomato**
Sun., Aug. 16, doors 6 p.m., show 7 p.m.
Wavelength
Wed., Aug. 19, 8 p.m.-1 a.m.

Grewal Hall

224 S. Washington Square, Lansing
Horn & Holland
Fri., Aug. 14, 7 p.m.

Holt Farmers Market

2150 N. Cedar St., Holt
Stringville, **Northside Rhythm Kings**
Wed., Aug. 12, 4:30-8 p.m.

Homebrew Tabletop Game Lounge

219 1/2 N. Bridge St., Grand Ledge
Deacon Earl
Wed., Aug. 12, 7-9 p.m.
Royce Vaughn
Wed., Aug. 19, 7-9 p.m.

Horrocks Farm Market

7420 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing
La Media Hora
Wed., Aug. 12, 5-8 p.m.
Mix Pack
Thurs., Aug. 13, 6-9 p.m.
The Louderthans
Fri., Aug. 14, 5-8 p.m.
The Temperances
Sat., Aug. 15, 5-8 p.m.
John Beltran
Sun., Aug. 16, 3-8 p.m.

Ingham County Courthouse lawn

315 S. Jefferson St., Mason
The Pocket
Thurs., Aug. 13, 6:30-8 p.m.

The Irish Pub

1910 W. Saginaw St., Lansing
Open mic night, with Scott Seth
Thurs., Aug. 13, 6:30-9:30 p.m.
Just Magnetic
Fri., Aug. 14, 7-10 p.m.

Jaycee Park

525 E. River St., Grand Ledge
Starfarm
Thurs., Aug. 13, 7 p.m.

Joe's on Jolly

2360 Jolly Road, Okemos
We're Mike and Steve
Fri., Aug. 14, 6-9 p.m.

Lake Lansing Park South

1621 Pike St., Haslett
Three Men and a Tenor, **wsg Martini & Rossi**
Fri., Aug. 14, 6-9 p.m.

Lansing Brewing Co.

518 E. Shiawassee St., Lansing
Jerry Sprague
Fri., Aug. 14, 5:30-8:30 p.m.

Lansing Shuffle

325 Riverfront Drive, Lansing
Martini & Rossi
Sun., Aug. 16, 4-7 p.m.

Mac's Bar

2700 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing
Open mic night
Mon., Aug. 17, 6-8 p.m.
Unity — In Music
Thurs., Aug. 13, 9 p.m.-2 a.m.
Tues., Aug. 18, 10 p.m.-2 a.m.

Marketplace on the Green

1995 Central Park Drive, Okemos
Generator
Wed., Aug. 12, 6:30 p.m.
The Collective
Wed., Aug. 19, 6:30 p.m.

Mash Bar

212 Albert Ave., East Lansing
Cooper Johnson
Thurs., Aug. 13, 8-11 p.m.
Rory Nevins
Fri., Aug. 14, 6-8:30 p.m.
RJ Redline
Sat., Aug. 15, 6-8:30 p.m.

McClintock Park

208 Irene St., Laingsburg
Electric Flower Co., **wsg Double Dose**
Thurs., Aug. 13, 6-9 p.m.

McCormick Park

300 N. Putnam St., Williamston
Elements of Soul
Thurs., Aug. 13, 7-9 p.m.

Midtown Brewing Co.

402 S. Washington Square, Lansing
Brandon McCoy
Fri., Aug. 14, 7-9 p.m.
Deer & Elk
Sat., Aug. 15, 7-9 p.m.
Open mic night
Mon., Aug. 17, 6-9 p.m.

Moriarty's Pub

802 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing
Open mic night, with Jen Sygit
Wed., Aug 12, 8-11 p.m.
Blues Jam
Thurs., Aug. 13, 9 p.m.-midnight
Spoonful
Fri., Aug. 14, 8 p.m.-midnight
Velocity Shift
Sat., Aug. 15, 8 p.m.-midnight
Jazz Tuesdays
Tues., Aug. 18, 7-10 p.m.
Open mic night, with Jen Sygit
Wed., Aug. 19, 8-11 p.m.

Nelson Gallery

113 S. Washington Square, Lansing
Soul Happens
Thurs., Aug. 13, 4:30-6:30 p.m.

Nico's Pub and Grill

117 S. Bridge St., Dimondale
Northside Rhythm Kings
Fri., Aug. 14, 7:30-11:30 p.m.

Nuthouse Sports Grill

420 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing
Global Village
Sat., Aug. 15, 8 p.m.-midnight

One North East Lansing

1310 Abbot Road, East Lansing
El Capitan
Fri., Aug. 14, 8-11 p.m.
Kevin Nichols
Sat., Aug. 15, 8-11 p.m.

One North Lansing

5001 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing
Mike Skory
Thurs., Aug. 13, 6-9 p.m.
Greg Smith
Fri., Aug. 14, 7-10 p.m.
Jason Peek
Sat., Aug. 15, 7-10 p.m.
Open mic night, with Kathy Ford
Mon., Aug. 17, 6:30-9 p.m.

The Peanut Barrel

521 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing
Jeremy Kratky
Fri., Aug. 14, 8-10 p.m.
Jackalope
Tues., Aug. 18, 6-8 p.m.

Pins & Pints

2120 E. Saginaw St., East Lansing
Mark Collins
Thurs., Aug. 13, 6-8 p.m.

Red Cedar Spirits

2000 Merritt Road, East Lansing
Live music
Fri., Aug. 14, 7:30-10:30 p.m.
Randy Napoleon Trio
Sun., Aug. 16, 6-9 p.m.

Sharp Park

1399 Elmwood Road, Lansing
Global Village, 11 Across
Tues, Aug. 18, 6-9 p.m.

Sholty's Bar

1821 S. Washington Ave., Lansing
Darin Larner Band
Tues., Aug. 18, 6-9 p.m.

Sidebar

246 E. Saginaw St., East Lansing
The Rusty Snails
Thurs., Aug. 13, 5-8 p.m.
James Muto
Fri., Aug. 14, 7-10 p.m.

St. Johns City Park

801 W. Park St., St. Johns
Super Trooper (ABBA experience)
Wed., Aug. 12, 7-9 p.m.
Detroit Retro Society
Wed., Aug. 19, 7-9 p.m.

Stober's Bar

812 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing
Your Dad
Sat., Aug. 15, 6-9 p.m.
DJ Patino & Friends
Sun., Aug. 16, 10 p.m.-1 a.m.
Alan B. Sloan
Tues., Aug. 18, 10 p.m.-1 a.m.

Summerlands Brewing Co.

1957 Cedar St., Holt
Two Fifths
Thurs., Aug. 13, 7-9 p.m.
The Dangling Particples Duo
Fri., Aug. 14, 6-9 p.m.
Mark Grinnell
Sat., Aug. 15, 8-11 p.m.
Open mic & karaoke
Tues., Aug. 18, 7-10 p.m.

Tony M's Restaurant & Banquet Center

3420 S. Creyts Road, Lansing
Gimme Five
Wed., Aug. 12, 6-9 p.m.

University United Methodist Church

1120 S. Harrison Road, East Lansing
Mason Symphony Chamber Players
Sat., Aug. 15, 7-9 p.m.

UrbanBeat

1213 Turner St., Lansing
Lansing's Hidden Talent open mic
Wed., Aug. 12, 6-9 p.m.
Brotha Earth
Fri., Aug. 14, 7:30 p.m.
Townscratch FC
Sat., Aug. 15, 7:30 p.m.
Lansing's Hidden Talent open mic
Wed., Aug. 19, 6-9 p.m.

Veterans Memorial Gardens

2074 Aurelius Road, Holt
Motor City Soul
Thurs., Aug. 13, 9 p.m.

Williamston Roadhouse

3700 E. Grand River Road, Williamston
Steve Shelhart
Wed., Aug. 12, 7-10 p.m.
Eclectic Noise
Sat., Aug. 15, 7-11 p.m.
Greg Smith
Wed., Aug. 19, 7-10 p.m.

Wiswasser Park

6499 Park Lake Road, Bath
Showdown
Tues., Aug. 18, 6:30-8:30

The Wooden Nickel II

1029 Jackson St., Dansville
The Outsiders
Wed., Aug. 19, 8 p.m.-midnight

Additionally, the inaugural **Red Cedar Roots Festival** will run Friday and Saturday evenings on Albert Avenue in downtown East Lansing.

Jonesin' Crossword

By Matt Jones

“And My Axl!” -- swapping one for the other.
by Matt Jones
© 2026 Matt Jones

- ACROSS
1. Add sound effects to
4. FIFA official
7. Even score
10. Business card abbr.
13. “Caught ya!”
14. Prefix for the birds?
15. Lovelace of early computing
16. ____ Provencale (cooking style)
17. More uneven, like fabric
19. Falls apart
21. Incredulous response when a terrible show is on after a good one?
23. Descriptor for versatile vacuums
24. Eagle's nest
25. Back of a boat
28. Eight, in España
30. Prom kids, for short
31. Place to stay where your luggage is stretchy?
37. Bird in some clocks
38. Was crawling (with)
42. Go overboard with your fragrance?
46. 2008 bailout recipient
49. Singing quality
50. Cut the grass
51. Second part in an instruction manual
54. Switzerland's largest city
58. With 63-Across, the last MCU movie ever -- if they chose to focus on just Wolverine and Magneto?
63. See 58-Across
64. Derogatory term for an idealized female character in fan fiction
65. Dark bread
66. ____-weekly (newspaper category)

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								67				68		
69														

67. Money made from a bank acct.
68. Pizza option
69. Karl Marx's “ ____ Kapital”
70. Letters on a Canadian speedometer
71. Like many trans allies
72. Cashew, e.g.
- DOWN
1. “That's a no-no!”
2. “That's a no-no!”
3. Tapioca pearls
4. Poker action
5. 1976 Wimbledon champ Chris
6. Dalmatian, traditionally
7. Hunting call
8. “American ____” (TV singing competition)
9. Class that's a breeze
10. They were used in an obstacle course in 2010's “Jackass 3D”
11. Medicinal concoction
12. Drinks that may display foam art
18. “As an aside ...”
20. Opposite direction from WSW
22. Missouri monument
25. One side in the Pro Bowl
26. Strain in the winter
27. Private eye, slangily
29. “Airplane!” automatic pilot
32. Classic Jaguar model driven by Austin Powers
33. Mover's unit
34. August, in Paris
35. “Electric” fish
36. Actor DiCaprio, familiarly
39. ____ Grand Las Vegas
40. Ambient composer Brian
41. Morning drops
43. Twelve-timer's attempt?
44. Adequate,
- informally
45. Like terra cotta tiles
46. Home to the Norse gods
47. 2017 skating film with Robbie as Harding
48. Crystal-lined rocks
52. Slang for Portland, OR (based on its airport code)
53. U.K. pop trio (Barry, Burns, and McNally) with the 2000 hit song “Back Here”
55. Tabriz resident
56. Breath mints brand
57. Rd. with many lanes
59. App with restaurant reviews
60. “ ____ Jeopardy!” (sports trivia show that premiered last month)
61. Party on the beach
62. Post-Mardi Gras observance

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Answers on page 23

SUDOKU

Advanced

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

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

Aug. 12-18, 2026

ARIES (March 21-April 19): At the post office, I mischievously plucked a crumpled piece of red paper out of the trash can. I don't usually do such things, but I sensed some horoscope material was lurking there. It turned out to be a handwritten love note addressed to “My Lush and Luminous Aries Laugh-Lover” and signed by “Your Flawed but Fiery and Funny Provocateur.” The Provocateur had written, “Let's be rowdy investigators of wonders and miracles. Let's hack our way through the frontiers to discover the wildest beauty and truth ever.” I was shocked that anyone would have discarded such a tempting proposal — especially an Aries. Please avoid making comparable errors in the near future, my dear.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): The ancient Romans could be obsessive perfectionists in their approach to building stuff. They were extra thorough and scrupulous. That's why some of the roads they constructed are still usable today, 2,000 years later. Workers dug deep foundations, then layered stones, gravel, and sand before placing the final surface. In the coming weeks, Taurus, I recommend that you, too, carry out meticulous groundwork as you upgrade your foundations and optimize your stability. Don't you dare be lazy or hurried in doing this grunt work. Your dogged and ingenious attention to detail will make your future safety zone shatterproof and shockproof.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): I appoint you to be the Chief Role Model in charge of showing everyone how to be a smart lover in all situations. Yes, *all* situations, not only those involving romance. In addition, I bestow on you the title of Chief Administrator of Amazing Grace, hoping this will inspire you to make elegant interventions in every situation where you have influence. Finally, Gemini, I exhort you to be devoted to seeing the beauty in everyone you encounter, even if you must work hard to find it. In asking you to carry out these humongous responsibilities, I'm interpreting the clues offered by the astrological omens. They have revealed to me that cultivating a generous spirit is crucial to you attracting what you want most.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): I confess I have succumbed to a very modern misdemeanor: tossing the word “sacred” around more often than it deserves. To be fair, I haven't stooped to the tacky depths of New Age hustlers hawking “sacred email marketing” or “sacred dog walking.” But still, I would prefer to invoke the word more sparingly, so that on the rare occasions I do, you will feel a genuine shiver of awe. Like now. I predict you will soon be stirred by marvelous encounters and realizations that flood you with reverent feelings and turn your inner life deliciously upside down.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Given how extra vibrant and refreshed you have been feeling, I would understand if you had zero interest in confronting The Dilemma That Refuses to Fade. Why deliberately tangle with that stale, long-term energy drain when your spirits are so high? Here's why: At this moment, you possess a new and unprecedented advantage over The Dilemma That Refuses to Fade. You may not manage to completely vanquish it once and for all. But then again, you just might. At the very least, you can now sharply curtail its ability to siphon your energy and meddle with your life.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Virgo mathematician Katherine Johnson (1918-2020) was known as a “human computer” who specialized in carrying out large volumes of intricate calculations. She also had an uncanny ability to translate complex problems into elegant equations, which was why NASA called on her help to guide its early space missions. She said she simply asked the right questions until the numbers disclosed their hidden patterns. Be like her in the coming weeks, Virgo. Instead of forcing quick and simple answers, focus on dreaming up the smartest questions. Well-crafted inquiries will unlock sweet insights that brute effort can't.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): In the art of mosaic making, tiny fragments of stone or glass are fitted together into intricate patterns. Each piece is insignificant and meaningless on its own, but together they compose luminous images. Let's deploy the mosaic as a metaphor for your life, Libra. I invite you to consider the possibility that you are assembling minor details and small clues into a big, beautiful masterpiece. You may not even be fully aware of how exactly you're doing it or what it will ultimately look like and do. That's fine. Your higher self is in charge of accomplishing this minor miracle.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Before launching spacecraft, engineers perform countless simulations of situations they hope will never happen. They repeatedly practice failures so that success becomes more likely. This is a different version of your current assignment, Scorpio. Your task is not to worry about disaster but to rehearse courage. So, I encourage you to use your imagination to strengthen your resilience. Visualize yourself responding with creativity, grace, and humor whenever life springs surprises and unexpected blessings. Your confidence will thrive because you will have lots of inner practice in collaborating adeptly with uncertainty.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): The horizon line is always the same distance away from you, about 3 miles at sea level. If you walk toward it, you will never reach it because it moves with you. Now I'd like to propose that some of your personal goals work like horizons. They are orientations, not actual destinations. You're supposed to move toward them indefinitely, never arriving. In the coming weeks, I invite you to distinguish between your horizon goals and your destination goals. Some aims are meant to be reached, while others basically guide your direction without ever needing to be attained.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Here's my normally \$600-per-hour advice, provided at a very low cost to you: Don't get back to where you once belonged. Instead, go toward where you must belong in the future. Maybe the old place feels cozier because it's familiar, even if it no longer fits the person you are now. But I recommend that you heed the subtle pull of the life that's calling you from ahead. Who exactly is the even more beautiful self you're on your way to becoming? Visualize in detail the situation where that sovereign majesty will thrive.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): If you're single, the coming weeks will be one of the most auspicious periods in ages for cultivating your own fan club of admirers. Your allure is turned up higher than usual, and the universe seems to have decided that what once might have counted as excessive is now perfectly appropriate. If, however, you're happily ensconced in a lively monogamous bond, don't sabotage it with daydreams of juggling multiple lovers. Instead, conspire with your partner to expand the range of flavors inside the relationship. Try stepping into different personas together: Adopt new names, experiment with strange accents, and imagine you're living in 1453 Italy, or 1506 Spain, or 1685 Japan, or 1721 France.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): The speed of thought can zip along at over 200 miles per hour. That's the rate at which signals travel through neurons. Electrical impulses in computers, on the other hand, may travel much faster, at half the speed of light. So, your thoughts are very leisurely compared to machines. But they do what computers can't. They're creating meaning, not just moving data. Their slowness is where the richest reality unfolds. Remember that well in the coming weeks, Pisces. It's extra important for your mental and physical health that you not imitate machines and algorithms. You need to ruminate and meditate and muse as gently and unhurriedly as you dare.

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

OUT on the TOWN

Events & Happenings in Lansing This Week

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

Wednesday, Aug. 12

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

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

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

Bookend Gallery Display by Cindy Mielock - 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.

Businesswomen Talking Happy Hour - Join attorneys and "Businesswoman Talking" podcast hosts Amanda Dernovshek and Lindsey Mead for an informal networking event where we share insights, strategies, and stories with women leaders, entrepreneurs, and business owners. 4-5 p.m. Reno's North Sports Bar, 16460 Old U.S. 27, Lansing. fosterswift.com.

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

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.

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.

Holt Food Frenzy - Join us for music, food trucks and fun. 4-8 p.m. Holt Farmers Market, 2150 Cedar St., Holt. holtfoodfrenzy.com.

It's Elementary - Dive underground to learn about the science of dirt! Discover the components that make up soil, examine how animals and plants interact with the soil, and unearth how compost is made. Registration req. 2:30-3:45 p.m. Charlotte Community Library, 226 S. Bostwick St., Charlotte. charlottelibrary.org.

Lansing Shuffle Big Show - From 7-9 p.m., dive into over a dozen board games, Nintendo Switch, and tabletop shuffle. Then, from 9-11 p.m., take the stage for standard karaoke, hosted by BigMan Genesis. 325 Riverfront Drive, Lansing. lansing-shuffle.com.

Lansing Women Artists Collective - A gallery of 15 women artists' work. Different styles and media make this a truly fantastic show. 10 a.m.-9 p.m. East Lansing Public Library Brick Wall Gallery, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. friendsofelp.org.

Members Night - A one-of-a-kind evening filled with education stations, fun kids' activities and more! Plus, enjoy a light meal featuring hot dogs, chips, drinks and a sweet treat. 5-8 p.m. Potter Park Zoo, 1301 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. potterparkzoo.org.

Meridian Township Farmers Market - 3-7 p.m. Marketplace on the Green, 1995 Central Park Drive, Okemos. meridian.mi.us/recreation-leisure/farmers-market.

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/bealgarden.msu.

MSU Women's Soccer vs. Xavier Musketeers - 7:30 p.m. DeMartin Soccer Complex, 261 Kalamazoo St., East Lansing. msuspartans.com/sports/womens-soccer.

NACW Summer Social & Scholarship Fundraiser - Enjoy an evening filled with good food, drinks and networking. We'll also have a silent auction! 5:30-7:30 p.m. The Courtyard at Delta, 350 S. Marketplace Blvd., Lansing. eventbrite.com/o/16813410745.

New Moon Ritual: Honor - 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.

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

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

Read Between the Wines Book Club - Grab your book, pour a glass, and join us for a cozy evening of wine and conversation. This month's selection is "Love by the Glass," by Dorothy Gaiter. 5-7:30 p.m. Burgdorf's Winery, 4212 E. Holt Road, Webberville. facebook.com/wine.burgdorfs.

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

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

Wacousta Branch Ribbon Cutting - Enjoy treats, giveaways, and see the updated spaces as we welcome the public into the new library. 4:30-6 p.m. GLADL Wacousta branch, 9135 W. Herbison Road, Eagle. gladl.libcal.com.

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.

Yoga Storytime - We'll read a story, try out traditional and nontraditional yoga poses, breathe deep, and groove to a song. Feel bring to bring your own yoga mat or beach towel to sit on. Ages 3-6. 6-7 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. gladl.libcal.com.

Red Cedar Roots Festival

6:30-8:30 p.m. Friday, Aug. 14

5-9:30 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 15

Albert Avenue, downtown East

Lansing

Free

cityofeastlansing.com/2658/

Red-Cedar-Roots-Festival

The inaugural Red Cedar Roots Festival is rooted in the legacy of the Great Lakes Folk Festival, which was put on hiatus in 2017, and its predecessor, the National Folk Festival, which ran from 1999 to 2001.

A committee was formed two years ago to decide whether it was feasible to reestablish a folk festival in East Lansing. After months of discussion and hundreds of comments from local residents, the answer was clear.

Coordinators of the Red Cedar Roots Festival hope it will become an annual event, similar to the GLFF.

The lineup includes The Velvet Boys, Kritya Dance Ensemble, The Flint Southernaires, Celestina y Los Sanchez, Yamini Kalluri & Kritya Music Ensemble and Wilson Thicket.



Thursday, Aug. 13

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

Baby and Me - A lap-sit story time for babies and toddlers with their adult caregivers. Rhymes, songs, cuddles, and play are all included. Older siblings are welcome to attend. 10-10:45 a.m. Charlotte Community Library, 226 S. Bostwick St., Charlotte. charlottelibrary.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 Cindy Mielock - Noon-2 p.m. Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. cadl.org/about/our-locations/haslett.

Elite Club Sweet Indulgence: Wine & Dessert Pairing - Sample a curated flight of Burgdorf's wines, each thoughtfully matched with a delicious sweet treat. Elite Club members: complimentary. Guests: \$15. 6:30-8 p.m. Burgdorf's Winery, 4212 E. Holt Road, Webberville. burgdorfwinery.com.

Field Crops Virtual Breakfast Series: Nematode Management, with Dr. Marisol Quintanilla - 7-8 a.m. Virtual — register at canr.msu.edu/outreach.

Indoor Open Playtime - All ages are welcome for drop-in free play. We will follow children's lead through movement, art, and imagination. Children must be accompanied by an adult. 1-3 p.m. Shora House, 6639 Centurion Drive, Ste. 120, Lansing. shorahouse.com.

Lansing Women Artists Collective - 10 a.m.-9 p.m. East Lansing Public Library Brick Wall Gallery, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. friendsofelp.org.

Mediterranean Summer Cooking - We'll cover a variety of staple flavors and ingredients, celebrating the unique food this region has to offer. 4-6 p.m.

Bradly's HG, 319 E. César E. Chávez Ave., Lansing. bradlyshg.com.

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

Playwriting Class for Teens and Adults - We start with writing monologues, then scenes, then one-act plays. Ten-week class. 6:30-8 p.m. Ruhala Holistic Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. ruhalacenter.com.

Quaker Marching Band Ice Cream Float Sale - The Quaker Marching Band is selling ice cream floats on Aug. 6, 13 and 20 at the Eastern High School marquee sign to raise money for its Disney trip. 2-5 p.m. 626 Marshall St., Lansing. For more information, text 517-614-3592.

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.

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.

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.

See Events, Page 22

Old Town ArtFeast

11 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 15

Turner Street, Old Town

Free

iloveoldtown.org

Billed by organizers as one of Lansing's favorite summer traditions, the annual Old Town ArtFeast returns Saturday. Attendees can browse artwork and handcrafted goods from more than 100 vendors, sample eats from a variety of food trucks and explore all that Old Town's boutiques, galleries, breweries and bars have to offer.

"Whether you're discovering a new local artist, sampling something delicious from one of our many food trucks, shopping with local businesses or spending the afternoon with friends and family, ArtFeast is the perfect way to experience the energy and creativity that define our district," Old Town Commercial Association executive director James Lenon said.



Events

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Friday, Aug. 14

"The 39 Steps" - 7:30 p.m. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam St., Williamston. willamstontheatre.org.

Acrylic Nightlight Workshop - Create a beautiful, one-of-a-kind nightlight. Piece measures approximately 5 by 7 inches and lights up. 6-8 p.m. B's Artistic Studio, 111 W. Lovett St., Charlotte. eventbrite.com/o/121502441859.

"Anne of Green Gables: The Musical" - A heartwarming musical about Anne Shirley, a spirited orphan mistakenly sent to live with an elderly brother and sister in Avonlea. 7 p.m. Waverly High School, 160 Snow Road, Lansing. alivetheatrics.com.

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

Bringing Home the Fire: A Confident Witch Circle - As the wheel turns toward harvest, this Confident Witch Circle asks: What are you bringing back home, and who are you bringing it home to? 8-10 p.m. Keys to Manifestation, 809 Center St., Lansing. manifestlansing.com.

CARDS 16th Annual Electric Fun Fly - Our 16th annual fun fly dedicated solely to electric-powered planes, jets, and helicopters. Pilots are welcome to fly, provided they're members of the Academy of Model Aeronautics. The public is welcome to come out and watch for free. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. CARDS R/C Flying Field, 8238 Otto Road, Grand Ledge.

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

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. weaversoftheweb.org.

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

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

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.

Kindergarten Craft Club - Create a chalk and glitter pterodactyl! Registration req. 4:15-5:15 p.m. Charlotte Community Library, 226 S. Bostwick St., Charlotte. charlottelibrary.org.

Lansing Women Artists Collective - 10 a.m.-6 p.m. East Lansing Public Library Brick Wall Gallery, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. friendsofelp.org.

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.

Mural Art Therapy Group - This unique art therapy group invites participants to work together to design and paint a mural for our movement and play space. The group is facilitated by a registered art therapist and a clinical social worker. 4:30-6 p.m. Shora House, 6639 Centurion Drive, Ste. 120, Lansing. shorahouse.com.

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.

Parkour for Littles at ALIVE - A basic introduction to parkour as imagined through stories. Kids ages 2-6 will build strength, balance, focus, confidence, and problem-solving skills after listening to related stories. 10-10:30 a.m. 800 W. Lawrence Ave., Charlotte. charlottelibrary.org.

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

TGIF Dance Party - Doors 7 p.m., line dance lesson 7:15 p.m., dance 8 p.m. to midnight. Sea Cruisers band on the patio. DJ Jim Kitchen the house. Dinner buffet provided. Cash/credit bar available. Hawk Hollow Banquet Center, 15101 Chandler Road, Bath. tgifdance.com.

Saturday, Aug. 15

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

"Anne of Green Gables: The Musical" - 2 and 7 p.m. Waverly High School, 160 Snow Road, Lansing. alivetheatrics.com.

Author Talk with Derek Wilks - Join Wilks for this installment of On Deck on the Road, the official tour of his debut novel, "On Deck," a high-stakes, enemies-to-lovers romance set in the heart of America. 1-2 p.m. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. elp.bibliocommons.com.

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

Broadway Rave - Sing along to all your favorite Broadway hits while dressed up as your favorite character. 7 p.m. Grewal Hall, 224 S. Washington Square, Lansing. hall224.com.

CARDS 16th Annual Electric Fun Fly - 9 a.m.-5 p.m. CARDS R/C Flying Field, 8238 Otto Road, Grand Ledge.

See Events, Page 23

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

EAST LANSING ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

Notice is hereby given of the following public hearing to be held by the East Lansing Zoning Board of Appeals on **Wednesday, September 2, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.**, at the East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing, MI, 48823:

1. A public hearing will be held to consider an application from Cecil Powless, on behalf of Jes Golka, property owner of 1714 Parkvale Ave., for a variance from the following to expand the existing attached garage:

- Sec 50-301 to have less than the required side yard setback of 8 ft.

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

Materials related to the request are available for viewing at the Department of Planning, Building, and Housing, East Lansing City Hall, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, MI, 48823 between the hours of 8:00 am – 12:00 pm and 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm or on the City's website located at www.cityofeastlansing.com/currentapplications. Written comments may be sent prior to the public hearing to the Zoning Board of Appeals, City of East Lansing, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, Michigan, 48823, or by email to coelzba@cityofeastlansing.com. Written comments must be submitted no later than 5:00 pm on the business day prior to the meeting.

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

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

Emily Gordon
City Clerk

Dated: August 6, 2026
East Lansing, MI 48823

CP#26-312

H&H Mobil Abandoned Auto Auction

Viewing 8/20/26 By Appointment
2818 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing, MI 48912
Call 517-332-6335

Bids must be submitted by 8am 8/24/26
at 1500 Haslett Rd. East Lansing, MI 48823
For more info go to www.hhmobil.com

CP#26-310

State of Michigan Probate Court, Ingham County, Notice to Creditors, Decedent's Estate, Case No. 2026-0000000991-DE, Judge S. Dunning. Estate of Janice Lorraine VanBuren – Date of Birth: 11/3/39. Notice to all creditors: The decedent, Janice Lorraine VanBuren, died 2/28/2026. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Brooke VanBuren-Hay, 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, 08/12/2026. Personal representative: Brooke VanBuren-Hay, 2037 Cumberland, Lansing, MI 48906, 517-230-4165.

CP#26-313

REAL ESTATE AUCTION

By order of the County Treasurer of Eaton County, Thursday, September 17, 2026.
Registration: 5:00 PM - Auction 6:00 PM. Location: Eaton County Governmental Complex, 1045 Independence Blvd, Charlotte, MI 48813.
Dairus Reynnet, Treasurer, Eaton County
Detailed info on parcels and terms at www.BippusUSA.com.

CP#26-314

Events

from page 22

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

Game Night - Our monthly low-pressure hangout for board games, card games and general nerdy joy, hosted in our witch-friendly community space. 5-8 p.m. Weavers of the Web, 809 Center St., Lansing. [weaversoftheweb.org](#).

Kids Night Out: Myth & Motion - A structured drop-off evening built around a kid-friendly version of Path Keepers Warrior Arts (movement games, coordination, confidence, and boundaries), plus crafts, mythic storytelling, and dinner. 6-10 p.m. Weavers of the Web, 809 Center St., Lansing. [weaversoftheweb.org](#).

Kiwanis East Lansing Annual Garage Sale - Public and vendors welcome! 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Sears parking lot, 3131 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. k03414.site.kiwanis.org.

Lansing Queer Almanac - Join us for Lansing Queer Almanac, a grassroots zine project preserving LGBTQIA+ stories, struggles, joy, and history across Lansing and mid-Michigan. 11 a.m.-noon. Everybody Reads, 2019 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. [vacaafrank@gmail.com](#).

Lansing Women Artists Collective - 10 a.m.-6 p.m. East Lansing Public Library Brick Wall Gallery, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. [friendsofelpl.org](#).

Lecture Series: Downriver Detroit — The Working Class, the Environment, & the Bonds of Place - MSU Professor Lisa Fine sheds light on the labor and environmental movements that surrounded the Detroit River to ensure working families could both live and play in the communities they worked in. 3 p.m. R.E. Olds Transportation Museum, 240 Museum Drive, Lansing. [reoldsmuseum.org](#).

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](#).

Meridian Township Farmers Market - 8 a.m.-2 p.m. Marketplace on the Green, 1995 Central Park Drive, Okemos. [meridian.mi.us/recreation-leisure/farmers-market](#).

MSU Bug House: 6 Legged Saturdays - A free opportunity for families to visit the MSU Bug House. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. 288 Farm Lane, East Lansing. [canr.msu.edu/ent](#).

Path Keepers Warrior Arts - In this class, we train from the foundations with stance and breath, footwork, strikes, blocks, and simple combinations, all the building blocks of self-protection and self-mastery. The deeper work is the same: clarity, restraint, boundaries, and presence. 1-2:30 p.m. Keys to Manifestation, 809 Center St., Lansing. [manifestlansing.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](#).

Soil Savvy: Building Better Gardens from the Ground Up - Join MSU Extension for a hands-on workshop on how to build healthy soil for a thriving garden. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Fenner Nature Center, 2020 E. Mount Hope Ave, Lansing. [canr.msu.edu/home_gardening](#).

Thank Drag It's Saturday - Limitless Studios presents our newest drag event, the "Thank Drag It's Saturday" talent showcase! 18+. 8-11:30 p.m. Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. [eventbrite.com/o/112152241431](#).

THE PULSIFIEDS

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.

EMPLOYMENT

Michigan State University has an opening for Assistant Professor of Political Science in East Lansing, MI, responsible for teaching courses assigned by department at the undergraduate and/or graduate levels; normal course load is 2 courses in one semester and 1 course in the other. No travel required. Any applicant who is interested in this position should apply to job reference number 1145919 at <https://careers.msu.edu/jobs/>.

Songs of the Sky: Music in Tribute of Nell Brandon

7 p.m.-1 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 15

The Avenue

2021 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing

Free, open to the public

[facebook.com/avenuecafe2021](#)

The late Nell Brandon was a sound engineer, artist, activist, musician and staple of Lansing's eastside community. Family, friends and community members are invited to celebrate their life and legacy Saturday evening at The Avenue with performances by some of their favorite artists, including Ladyship Warship, A Rueful Noise and The Plurals. The event will also feature the debut of Moon Flesh, a musical project performing songs written by Brandon. An open mic will run from 8 to 9 p.m. for anyone who wants to share music (one to two songs), words or art in honor of Brandon.



Sunday, Aug. 16

"The 39 Steps" - 2 p.m. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam St., Williamston. [williamstontheatre.org](#).

Capitol Macintosh 20-Year Birthday Block Party - Enjoy live music, food trucks, local vendors and fun for all ages. Bring your computer in for free surface-level diagnostics during the event and give us a try! Noon-6 p.m. 1915 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. [capitolmacintosh.com](#).

Conversations with the Runes - Join HG Wyndell for an ongoing monthly workshop series that explores the runes through story, animism, and hands-on practice. 3-5 p.m. Keys to Manifestation, 809 Center St., Lansing. [manifestlansing.com](#).

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

Free Laser Tag - Join us for one of our biggest events of the year as Zap Zone XL celebrates our Guinness World Records with free laser tag all day long! Noon-9 p.m. Zap Zone XL, 5220 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing. [eventbrite.com/o/73304352523](#).

Intermediate Sourdough Baking - This class is designed for students of our Sourdough for Beginners class or those with sourdough baking experience. Please bring some of your starter to class! 2:30-4 p.m. Brady's HG, 319 E. César E. Chávez Ave., Lansing. [bradlyshg.com](#).

See Events, Page 24

ART BY NEVIN

As Seen On the Cover of CityPulse

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CROSSWORD SOLUTION

From Pg. 20

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SUDOKU SOLUTION

From Pg. 20

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LANSING ROLLER DERBY

Lansing Roller Derby

Big Penny is the new mascot for Lansing Roller Derby.

What happens when an unstoppable force meets an immovable object?

Lansing Roller Derby+Big Penny

STUPID

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

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Crafting for Conservation



POTTER PARK
Zoo

Aug. 15, 2026 - 10 A.M. - 4 P.M.

Included with Zoo Admission!

Crafting for Conservation

10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 15
Potter Park Zoo
1301 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing
Standard admission fees apply
potterparkzoo.org

A unique event Saturday at Potter Park Zoo will showcase local artists, makers and organizations, with the zoo's beloved animals as a backdrop.

Attendees can explore community programs, view original artwork and engaging demonstrations, meet local artists and create some crafts of their own.

Featured artists include Madeline Broekhuizen of Mad Creation Studio, Mark Chamberlin of SmarterPics Photography School, Teresa Morgan of Liefste Luna Ceramics, Sara-Lee Chubb of SheepCreek Felts, Paige Gransden of Yote & Bloom, Jennifer Lamphere and Tea Murduh.

On the conservation side of things, guests will find engaging education stations around the zoo, as well as interactive displays highlighting the connection between art and wildlife. There will also be two enrichment-making classes where visitors can build something fun for the farmyard animals (10-11:30 a.m.) or the spider monkeys (noon-1:30 p.m.).



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Events

from page 23

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

Mega Mall Marketplace & Flea Market Extravaganza - Free admission! Discover your next treasure at Mega Mall, where every visit is an adventure! 9 a.m.-3 p.m. 15487 Old U.S. 27, Lansing. 517-487-3275.

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.

Woman Afraid of Water - Join us at Keys to Manifestation to celebrate the launch of A.C. Fisher Aldag's debut novel. Get your copy signed, meet the author, and spend a Sunday afternoon among people who take the old ways seriously. 3-5 p.m. 809 Center St., Lansing. manifestlansing.com.

Monday, Aug. 17

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

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

Charlotte Forest Garden Work Day - Help us care for this growing community food forest while enjoying time outdoors and making a lasting impact. 8-11 a.m. 1502 Combsdale Drive, Charlotte. eventbrite.com/o/60529651223.

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.

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

Fairy Gardens - Let your creativity grow! Make your very own fairy garden using tiny plants, natural materials, and whimsical decorations. 6-7 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. gladl.libcal.com.

Fiber Circle at Charlotte Community Library - A social gathering for knitters, crocheters, and stitchers of all ages and skill levels. 5:30-7 p.m. 226 S. Bostwick St., Charlotte. charlottelibrary.org.

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

Lansing Women Artists Collective - 10 a.m.-9 p.m. East Lansing Public Library Brick Wall Gallery, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. friendsofelp.org.

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

Athletic Club, 2900 Hannah Blvd., East Lansing. To register, call 517-364-8800. lapsg.org.

Shape Note Singing - First and third Mondays, free, loan books available, beginners and the curious are welcome. 7-9 p.m. Edgewood United Church, 469 N. Hagadorn Road, East Lansing. fasolamichigan.org.

Tuesday, Aug. 18

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

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

Dine & Discovery: Kids' Dino Cookie Decorating with Chef & Baker Erin Witt - Junior chefs and their guardians will learn how to make sugar cookie dough and decorate their dinosaur-shaped creations. 6-8 p.m. Allen Marketplace facility, 1629 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. allenneighborhoodcenter.org.

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.

Karaoke - Grab the mic from 8 to 10 p.m. and enjoy \$7 signature cocktails, \$7 craft beer pints, a \$7 Southern peach mocktail, a \$12 chicken-bacon flatbread and a \$6 cheese quesadilla. One North Kitchen & Bar, 1310 Abbot Road, East Lansing. onenorthdining.com.

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.

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

Lansing Women Artists Collective - 10 a.m.-9 p.m. East Lansing Public Library Brick Wall Gallery, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. friendsofelp.org.

A Literary Legacy: Michigan's Carnegie Libraries, with Adam Oster - Explore the history and impact of the Carnegie library initiative in Michigan and see examples of facilities that continue to serve their communities today. Noon. Virtual — register at facebook.com/hsmichigan.

Mahjong Afternoons - Mahjong is a game of Chinese origin that involves skill, strategy, and luck. This is a drop-in adult program for players of all skill levels. 1-3 p.m. Charlotte Community Library, 226 S. Bostwick St., Charlotte. charlottelibrary.org.

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.

Parkinson's Support Group: Education - Please join us for an informative and fun afternoon. Meg Cullen, specialty sales representative for Amneal Pharmaceuticals, will discuss CREXONT extended-release capsules. 3-4:30 p.m. Burcham Hills Retirement Center, 2700 Burcham Drive, East Lansing. lapsg.org.

FOOD & DRINK

DINING OUT IN GREATER LANSING

A tasty way to add turkey to your mealtime rotation

From METRO CREATIVE CONNECTION

Turkey doesn't find its way onto people's dinner tables all that often. Americans and Canadians may consider it a Thanksgiving staple, but that could be the only day all year when it's the focal point come mealtime.

Turkey perhaps deserves more credit and consideration. It can be prepared in an assortment of ways, each of which is flavorful. If turkey is now on your mind, consider this recipe for turkey roulade with vegetables and fried potatoes, courtesy of Lines+Angles.

Turkey roulade with vegetables and fried potatoes *Makes four servings*

For the roulades:

4 tablespoons rapeseed oil
Four dried apricots, finely chopped
One carrot, peeled and finely diced
One shallot, peeled and finely diced
One clove garlic, peeled and finely diced
Half a yellow pepper, seeded and finely diced
Salt
Freshly ground black pepper
1 teaspoon curry powder
1 teaspoon mustard
3 1/2 ounces cream cheese, softened
Four turkey escalopes, approximately 4 ounces each
Eight slices bacon
2/3 cup chicken stock

For the vegetables:

Oil, for frying
14 ounces potatoes, peeled and cut into chunks

1 teaspoon chopped chives
9 ounces broccolini
7 ounces carrots, peeled and cut into matchsticks
7 ounces Savoy cabbage, finely sliced
One handful Brussels sprouts, halved
Cranberry sauce and chestnuts, to serve

For the filling, heat half the rapeseed oil in a pan and fry the apricots, carrot, shallot, garlic and yellow pepper until softened. Season with salt, pepper and curry powder. Remove from the heat, mix in the mustard and cream cheese, season to taste and leave to cool.

Flatten out the turkey escalopes to an even thickness. Season with salt and pepper. Spread the filling on top, fold in the sides and roll everything up into roulades. Wrap the roulades in bacon

and secure with cocktail sticks or skewers.

For the vegetables, heat the oil and fry the potatoes for 20 minutes, turning occasionally, until golden brown and tender. Season with salt and pepper. Stir in the chives.

While the potatoes are cooking, fry the roulades with the remaining oil in a pan over medium heat until golden brown all over. Pour in the stock, cover and cook the roulades over low heat for about 15 minutes, until cooked through.

Steam the vegetables until al dente. Drain well and arrange on plates with the potatoes and sliced roulades. Drizzle with a little of the cooking juices if desired. Serve with cranberry sauce and chestnuts.

Enjoying a finger-food feast at The Cosmos

By LIZY FERGUSON

Sometimes, when ordering food to pick up directly after a strenuous gym session, I have the tendency to bite off more than I can chew. This was the case last weekend, but with a good friend by my side, a fire lit in my belly and hope in my heart, I persevered.

The Cosmos, attached to and operating in tandem with Zoobie's Old Town Tavern, has long been a go-to when I want an al fresco dining experience. Recently, though, it's secured a spot in my takeout rotation. The reason? It upped its chicken wing game.

I often get takeout with the same friend, and most of the time, all we're looking for is good wings, a good Caesar salad and some fries, which are pretty much always good. In the past, the wings at The Cosmos have left

me underwhelmed, but when I recently gave them another try, I was surprised at how much I enjoyed them.

While we didn't order fries in addition to our wings and salad this time, we did get — starving as we were — both the stuffed corn fritters and the three-cheese garlic bread.

The eight-piece wings, which were tossed in a hot-honey glaze, topped with a sprinkling of fresh green onions and served with some much-appreciated sticks of celery, were crispy and golden brown on the outside, with subtly smoky, tender meat inside. We forgot to get a side of blue cheese, but the delicious, house-made ranch we did remember more than made up for it.

Other notable dipping sauces were the spicy roasted-jalapeno aioli and the sweet and savory to-



Lizy Ferguson for City Pulse

mato jam that accompanied the corn fritters, which were roasty and toasty, stuffed with cream cheese. The Caesar salad was standard but satisfying, with delicious, tangy dressing and big, crispy crostini in place of croutons. Finally, the garlic bread had a satisfyingly charred bottom, contrasting nicely with the melty cheese on top. It was drizzled with a little balsamic glaze and served with a tasty red sauce.

Given our ravenous state, we managed to eat our way through all of this, save for a few breadsticks. Much to the dismay of our dogs who were looking on longingly, they received not a scrap. If that's not a glowing recommendation, I don't know what is.



Wood-fired wings

\$18.72

Stuffed corn fritters

\$14.56

Cosmic Caesar

\$13.52

Three-cheese garlic bread

\$13.52

The Cosmos

1200 N. Larch St., Lansing
11 a.m.-10 p.m. Monday-Thursday
11 a.m.-11 p.m. Friday
Noon-11 p.m. Saturday
Noon-10 p.m. Sunday
(517) 897-3563
thecosmoslansing.com



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Spice up dinnertime with a Cajun classic

From METRO CREATIVE CONNECTION

Experimenting in the kitchen is one of the joys of cooking. Trying new recipes or even going off script and tinkering with an existing recipe can open eyes and treat taste buds to new flavor profiles.

Home cooks who want to expand their culinary repertoires with some particularly notable flavors can look to Cajun cuisine and its distinct dishes. If that sounds like an exciting night in the kitchen, try this recipe for jambalaya with sausage and shrimp from Lines+Angles.

Jambalaya with sausage and shrimp

Makes four servings

1 tablespoon vegetable oil

8 ounces chorizo or andouille sausage, sliced into 1/4-inch rounds
1 pound large, raw, shell-on shrimp
One onion, peeled and finely chopped
One rib of celery, rinsed, trimmed and finely chopped

One small red bell pepper, rinsed, trimmed, seeded and diced
One small green bell pepper, rinsed, trimmed, seeded and diced
Four cloves garlic, peeled and minced
1 1/2 cups long-grain white rice, rinsed

2 tablespoons tomato paste
1 teaspoon salt
1 teaspoon fresh thyme leaves, minced
14 ounces canned diced tomatoes, drained, juice reserved

4 cups clam juice
1 bay leaf
Fresh parsley, rinsed and chopped (for garnish)

1. Preheat the oven to 325 degrees. Adjust the oven rack to the middle position.

2. In a deep cast iron skillet or Dutch oven set over medium-high heat, heat the oil until shimmering but not



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smoking. Add the sausage and cook for 3 to 5 minutes, until browned. Remove the sausage from the pan using a slotted spoon and drain on paper towels. Add the shrimp to the pan and cook until the shells are browned on both sides, about one minute per side. Transfer the shrimp to a large bowl and refrigerate.

3. Add the onion, celery, peppers and garlic to the pan. Reduce the heat to medium and cook, stirring frequently, until the vegetables have softened, about seven to 10 minutes. Add the rice, tomato paste, salt and thyme; cook until the rice is completely coated with oil, about two minutes.

4. Stir in the tomatoes, 1/4 cup reserved tomato juice, clam juice, bay leaf and sausage. Place a piece of aluminum foil directly on the rice. Bring to a boil, cover the pan, transfer to the oven and bake for about 18 to 20 minutes, or until the rice is almost tender and most of the liquid is absorbed.

5. Meanwhile, remove the shrimp from the refrigerator; peel and clean, discarding the shells. Remove the pan from the oven, uncover and remove the aluminum foil. Gently stir in the peeled shrimp. Lay the foil back down over the surface of the rice. Cover with the lid, return to the oven and cook until the rice is tender, all the liquid is absorbed and the shrimp is cooked through, about five minutes.

6. Remove the pan from the oven and uncover. Remove the foil and bay leaf. Sprinkle with chopped parsley and divide between bowls. Serve.

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TOP 5 DINING GUIDE

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

TOP 5 RESTAURANTS FOR SENIORS

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

1. Buddies Pub & Grill — all locations

Relaxed eateries serving burgers, sandwiches and other American classics. See buddiespubandgrill.com for locations, hours and phone numbers

2. Coral Gables — closed permanently

3. Meat BBQ

Casual restaurant offering slow-smoked barbecue standards and inventive, handmade sides
1224 Turner St., Lansing
(517) 580-4400
meatbbq.com
11 a.m.-9 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday
Noon-5 p.m. Sunday



Lizy Ferguson for City Pulse

Smoked turkey meatwich at Meat BBQ.

4. Olive Garden Italian Restaurant — both locations

Lively chain known for its large menu of Italian fare, such as pastas and salads. See olivegarden.com for locations, hours and phone numbers

5. Tavern 109

Modern eatery serving creative pub fare and craft beer
109 E. Grand River Ave., Williamston
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