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The 2026 Fall Arts & Culture Issue**



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The Comfort of Ignorance

Ignorance is bliss.

I'm so tired of hearing people say that white liberals have destroyed the meaning of the word racism. Apparently, acknowledging racism is now somehow more offensive than racism itself.

But racism in America isn't some imaginary specter invented by liberals to win elections. It is part of our history, part of our institutions, and still part of the political and social landscape we live in today. Ask Black Americans whether race has anything to do with how they are treated by police. Ask Latino Americans what it feels like to have their citizenship questioned because of the color of their skin. Ask someone who has watched a neighbor become afraid to leave their house because immigration agents are in the neighborhood.

Black people are not criminals any more than white people are. Latino and Mexican people are not "illegal." They are human beings, neighbors, coworkers, parents and children.

And increasingly, standing up for them comes with a cost.

There was a time when we appeared to be moving in the right direction. Equality was no longer just an aspiration; it seemed like something we were slowly making real. Overt racism became socially unacceptable. People could be confronted with their own words and actions. Social media, for all its faults, gave ordinary people the ability to record hatred and expose it.

Then something changed.

The things we once hid began being displayed proudly.

Extremist imagery that once existed on the fringes began appearing in public spaces alongside symbols of racial and political identity. People who openly promote racial hierarchy found audiences willing to applaud them rather than condemn them. And language changed with it.

Suddenly, opposing discrimination became "woke." Diversity became "reverse racism." Efforts to address historical inequality became the thing supposedly causing inequality.

We didn't eliminate racism. We started arguing about whether we were allowed to call it racism.

That is how Orwellian societies work. You don't have to erase reality if you can make people afraid to describe it.

Ignorance is bliss.

Climate change works much the same way. For decades, scientists have been telling us that the planet is warming because of human activity. We argued. We politicized it. We called people who wanted action "tree huggers," as though caring about the planet were some humiliating character flaw.

Meanwhile, the thermometer kept working. 2025 was the third-warmest year in the global instrumental record, behind only 2024 and 2023. All ten of the warmest years on record have occurred since 2015 (<https://www.ncei.noaa.gov/news/global-climate-202513>).

The argument wasn't won by the people denying climate change. The argument simply stopped mattering to them. That's the trick.

If reality becomes inconvenient, attack the people describing it. Call them alarmists. Call them extremists. Tell them they're destroying the economy. Tell them they're hysterical. Then go back to pretending the water isn't rising.

Ignorance is bliss.

And perhaps the most disturbing part is how easily we have learned to accept contradictions. We can be told that racism doesn't exist while watching racial grievances become political currency. We can be told that government is being weaponized against Americans while accepting

extraordinary government power when it is used against the people we don't like.

We can be told that censorship is tyranny while demanding that inconvenient information disappear, or that compassion is weakness while celebrating cruelty as strength, or that immigrants are destroying America while ignoring the fact that immigrants are our coworkers, our neighbors, our caregivers, our construction workers, our teachers, our restaurant workers and our doctors. Or we can be told that DEI is the source of America's racial problems while conveniently forgetting that America had centuries of racial inequality before DEI existed.

And somehow, the contradictions don't matter. Because the story feels good.

That's what makes modern propaganda so effective. It doesn't have to be believable in its entirety. It only has to give people enough pieces of a story that they can construct their own reality from them.

Fifteen years ago, if you had told me that Americans would openly argue over whether Nazis were really Nazis, I would have assumed you were describing a dystopian novel. If you told me that people would defend political leaders by claiming every accusation against them was simultaneously fabricated, persecutory and proof of their innocence, I would have thought you were exaggerating. If you told me that people would become so exhausted by political lies that they would simply stop caring whether anything was true, I would have hoped you were wrong.

But here we are.

From surveillance cameras collecting more and more information about ordinary people, to enormous data centers consuming staggering amounts of energy, to people dying because they cannot afford food or medical care, we are watching power expand while our ability to agree on reality contracts.

And that may be the most Orwellian part of all. The danger isn't simply that someone lies to us. The danger is that we become so exhausted by lies that we stop demanding the truth.

Orwell understood something that should terrify us: authoritarianism doesn't require everyone to believe the same lie. It only requires enough people to stop caring whether anything is true.

That is how you make ignorance feel like freedom. That is how you make apathy feel like neutrality. That is how you make cruelty feel like common sense.

And eventually, that is how you make people defend the very things that are destroying them.

Ignorance is bliss. Until the consequences arrive. Then ignorance isn't bliss anymore. It's just ignorance. And apathy is lethal.

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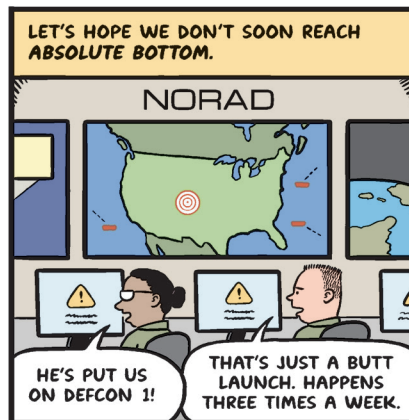
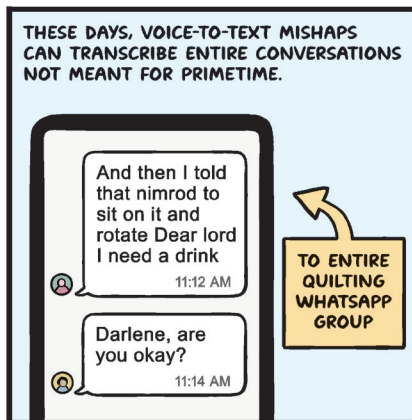
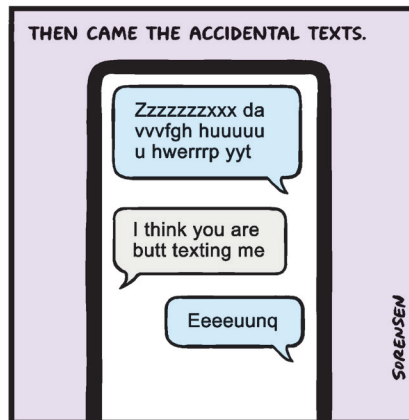
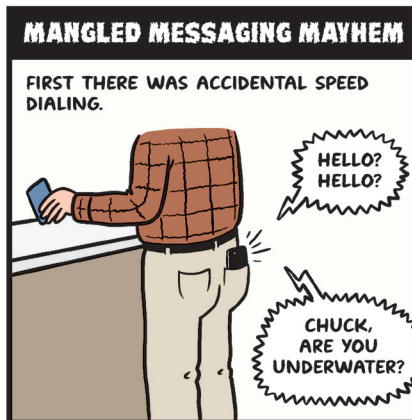
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MSU's College of Music bringing out the hits as it hits 20 years

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Holt artist takes over illustration duties for "Transformers" comic

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Cover photo by Mike Ellis, image digitally reversed

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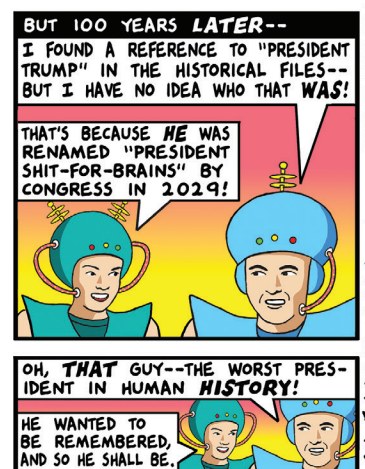
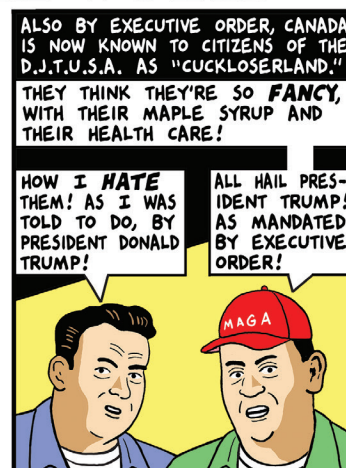
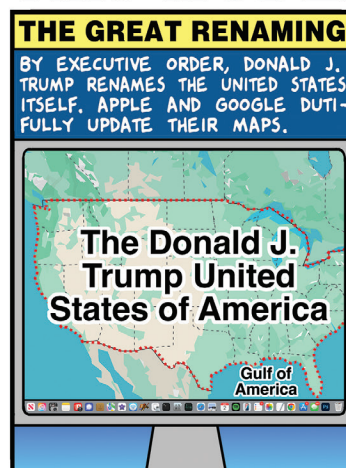
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THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW



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PULSE

NEWS & OPINION

More spaces for standing at Ovation as venue nears one-year countdown

By MIKE ELLIS

At this time next year, if all goes well, you'll be able to buy tickets for the first shows at Lansing's Ovation.

With standing room for 2,250, Ovation will unlock a new tier of touring artists who have avoided the Greater Lansing region for years.

"They're saying October of 2027 is the projected date," said Dominic Cochran, founding director of the Ovation Center of Music and Arts. "We're not talent buying and show booking but we are having conversations."

The first bookings will likely happen as soon as the building is enclosed, when the venue and the bookers can be confident, Cochran said.

The next step for enclosing the building is putting up the visible walls and elevator shafts, with masonry work expected to start this week. That might get pushed back a day or two depending on how much the ground has dried up from the super-soaker last week.

"Six weeks after that is when steel goes on site," Cochran said, "and it gets real when the steel goes up."

After decades of waiting, a bit of rain isn't a problem.

Having walls and steel will be a relief for music fans and for Cochran.

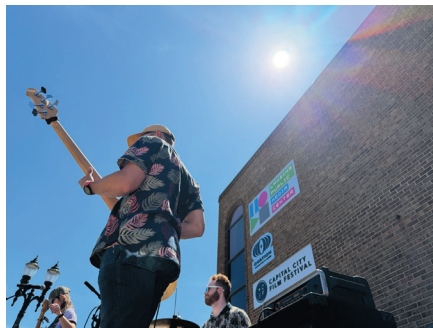
Years of delays have made people hungry for progress and most of the visible work so far has been on the neighboring Lansing Public Media Center.

The center opened with a late May ribboncutting, and an outdoor concert by local indie group LVRS, the first concert at the Ovation site. Bookmark that little LVRS nugget, it'll be a trivia question years from now when Ovation has brought a lot of big names into town.

The Public Media Center is one of the most unique parts of Ovation, a built-in place for young people and adults to learn music production and other skills and to get a front-row seat to some of the largest acts in the region.

Cochran said a public media center integrated into a venue like this is beyond rare and adds an incentive that makes Lansing a destination for touring acts and promoters.

"You can go to the media center as a



LVRS, a Lansing indie group, performed in May at the opening of the Lansing Public Media Center, which is attached to the under-construction Ovation Center of Music and Arts.

kid interested in music or production and learn how to do it and have the tools and grow and be doing all that attached to the place where your favorite artist is coming through," Cochran said. "There's going to be a lot of kids saying 'I can play on that stage and creating that desire early on will help with our retention.'"

Touring acts are struggling and audiences are gripping tight to their wallets in Greater Lansing as with other places and because of that, just like with other venues, Ovation looks for sponsors and donors.

There is a big push for small donors, with ownership pins and recognition that will now include digital light projections. Your name could be on the wall, projected in the signature palette of visiting artists, say the polka dot scheme of Angeline de Poitrine or the Spartan Green of Michigan State University.

Cochran said the Public Media Center opens doors, not only for Lansing's youth, but for donors.

"They tell us they're not interested in venues, they're only interested in STEAM projects," Cochran said, about the Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Mathematics acronym. "Well, we do STEAM here."

Donors have seen the public media attachment and the community portion as a huge difference between this and a typical venue, Cochran said.

Ovation aims to be the center of Lansing's entertainment world

Plans for a large venue in downtown



Construction continues on Ovation, with walls and an elevator shaft expected to rise soon and steel beams to follow.

Lansing date back at least to the 1990s and for years there were financial struggles for the building, which is expected to come in at \$28 million. The current iteration came after a redesign a year ago, which scaled back what was intended to be a cantilevered roof as steel tariffs and labor costs drove up initial estimates.

The latest changes have mostly been small internal ones, with the standing capacity growing a bit since the late May projections, Cochran said.

With a standing capacity of 2,250, it won't be the biggest venue in Greater Lansing. Spartan Stadium and Breslin Center have far more capacity but aren't typically music venues.

Ovation would be more than twice the size of Grewal Hall, which has a standing capacity of around 900 and itself unlocked a tier of touring artists like Don Was & the Pan-Detroit Ensemble, The Verve Pipe, PUP and CupcakKe.

Most concerts in Lansing's ecosystem happen at smaller venues like The Green Door, Macs Bar, The Robin Theatre, UrbanBeat and more.

City Pulse's Live&Local lists up to 50 venues a week, many of them even smaller than those, so there are lots of places for shows across the spectrum but Ovation would add a whole new tier of acts for Lansing.

The Ovation/Grewal Hall truce

Having lots of venues in the same place is usually an advantage, Cochran said, because it fosters a community and gets people used to seeing shows and having options.

There's the flexibility of having smaller venues nearby in case ticket sales collapse,

with the flipside being that producers could upgrade a show from Grewal to Ovation if sales get strong enough early on.

Ovation has already started conversations with Grewal Hall about avoiding head-to-head nights.

"The lightest end of cooperation is collaborating in genre," Cochran said. "We don't have the audience yet where we can both have an R&B show, we would cannibalize the audience for each other so we're not going to do the same genre on the same night."

Cochran said Grewal Hall books and produces its own shows.

Ovation will likely produce only about 10% of its own shows, with producers from Grewal Hall and other local venues working to bring in a wide variety of talent.

Cochran said he tried to book a De La Soul show at MSU's auditorium in the mid-1990s and Ovation would be a venue for promoters to get shows like that into the Greater Lansing area.

"We've ended up with an entertainment district that wasn't envisioned that way from the beginning," Cochran said. "It starts with The Robin Theatre on the smaller end and in our area that's a 250-capacity, and there's Grewal at around 900. Our big room is 2,250 in its latest occupancy, a bit more than originally designed."

Hold up, what's the parking situation?

Ovation is not building their own parking garage.

Cochran said parking studies recommended 600-700 spaces for the venue.

"There are 1,500 spaces with a two or three block radius, they're all free after 5 p.m.," Cochran said.

If you're seeing a sold-out show in the middle of a workweek while the Capitol is in session or there's a major protest in town, there might be a challenge with parking.

But if you're seeing a show in the evening, like most shows, you should be able to find parking, and Ovation plans to offer valet parking when it fits the performance.

Photos by
Mike Ellis/
City Pulse

US Supreme Court declines to hear application on Michigan citizens-only voting ballot measure

By **KATHERINE DAILEY/**
Michigan Advance
MichiganAdvance.com

U.S. Supreme Court Justice Brett Kavanaugh declined an application from Americans for Citizen Voting-Michigan seeking to appeal a deadlocked decision by the Michigan Board of State Canvassers that left a citizens-only voting proposal off the November general election ballot due to a lack of valid petition signatures.

The decision was posted without a filing or opinion on the court's docket Thursday, the day before the November ballot must be finalized.

Later on Thursday evening, the Michigan Supreme Court also declined to take up the case on an expedited basis,

ruling that Americans for Citizen voting were not entitled to mandamus relief — or rather, a ruling that would have compelled the Board of State Canvassers to approve the petition.

Sponsors of the ballot measure filed the application to the U.S. Supreme Court Monday, requesting an emergency injunction from the nation's highest court. They argued that the due process rights of Michiganders who signed the petition were violated when the Board of State Canvassers determined that affidavits validating nine rejected signatures were submitted



Courtesy

Supreme Court Justice Brett Kavanaugh.

too late and as such could not be used to validate those signatures, which would have put the petition over the required threshold.

However, in the state's response to the application, filed on Wednesday, lawyers argued that the relief requested by the sponsors — an injunction that would force the state to place the referendum on the November general election ballot — would be granting the applicants “all the relief they could ever recover for their claims.” The state argued that the application does “little to justify such an unusual request, other than to repeat the number of signatures they gathered—without acknowledging or contending with the high number of signatures that were found to be invalid.”

Mark Brewer, a lawyer for the opposition to the proposal, wrote in a message to the Michigan Advance that his clients are “pleased with the decision by Justice Kavanaugh.”

Lawyers for the applicants did not immediately respond to requests for com-

ment. This story will be updated when a response is received.

Americans for Citizen Voting also filed a petition with the Michigan Supreme Court — the more standard avenue for recourse against the Board of State Canvassers' decision — four days before filing its application with the U.S. Supreme Court. The response from the state notes that, as there has been no hearing or opinion issued by the state court, the application is highly unusual for asking the nation's highest court to be the first court to review their claims.

As of Thursday evening, the only order issued by the state Supreme Court was to accept a number of amicus briefs, but no order had been made on the actual application from the ballot petition sponsors.

The measure, if passed, would have established strict voter ID rules — which opponents argued would have disenfranchised many legal voters.

The Board of State Canvassers will meet on Friday morning to finalize the ballot — including voting on ballot language for the citizens-only voting measure, though it is still not expected to be on the ballot.

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The following self-storage units containing household and other goods will be sold for cash by Legacy Airport & Grand River Self Storage located at 4495 West Grand River Ave., and 4400 Millwood Rd, Lansing, MI 48906 to satisfy a lien on September 23, 2026, at 10:00 AM at storagetreasures.com: 169 Scott Dunham, 202 Shermisha McClayton.

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REWIND

NEWS HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE LAST 7 DAYS

COMPILED BY STEVE UNDERWOOD FROM LOCAL NEWS SOURCES



Michigan’s Secretary of State Office is reprinting more than 8,000 driver’s licenses and state IDs after people received IDs with someone else’s photo and information. The state says the incorrect IDs had a generic photo and generic identifying information, rather than someone’s real data. The IDs were misprinted on Aug. 26. Anyone who got a bad ID should already be getting a correct one automatically and can get temporary IDs from a Secretary of State office in the meantime.



Lansing Community College is hosting a voter registration and voting information drive Sept. 14–17 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day outside of the Arts & Sciences Building. There will be absentee ballot applications and information about voting at home and voting early, along with pre-voter registration for 16- and 17-year-olds. City of Lansing voters can use an election drop box across the street from LCC’s downtown campus at the Shiawassee Street Fire Station. “We need to engage and communicate with first-time and infrequent voters,” said Lansing City Clerk Chris Swope, in a statement. “We want to make it as convenient as possible to become engaged and help students plan to vote. Any voter can vote early, vote at home, or vote on Election Day.” For more information about voting and to register to vote online, please visit lansingvotes.gov.

A Ford Explorer struck two cyclists east of Williamston Saturday, killing a 12-year-old boy and critically injuring his 13-year-old sister, while traveling westbound on Grand River Avenue near N. Meech Road. The siblings were riding on the shoulder of the road when the vehicle



hit them. The boy was pronounced dead at the scene. The girl is being treated for a severe head injury. A GoFundMe effort — launched by the family’s church — has received more than \$110,000 in pledges as of Tuesday afternoon (<https://www.gofundme.com/f/support-the-shepard-family>). The driver of the SUV, a 64-year-old woman from Williamston, was not injured in the crash.



Thousands lost power last week amid thunderstorms, heavy winds and rain last Thursday and Friday. Downtown East Lansing lost power on Thursday night, just before the long Labor Day weekend, with students having freshly arrived at Michigan State University. The storm left significant damage in some area locations, including at a pavilion at Lake Lansing Park South, which also had dozens of trees uprooted in the park and is temporarily closed.

MSU’s Berkey Hall was closed last Thursday after a reported threat relayed by a medical professional. Authorities took a person in Washtenaw County into protective custody, according to university police, and indicated the individual is not a MSU student or employee.

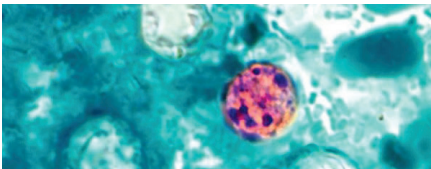


The death of a 57-year-old man found Aug. 30 near Old Town is being treated as a homicide, according to a statement from the Lansing Police Department. The man was found unconscious with facial trauma on Sunday near Old Town around 3:30 a.m. and later died, according to police.

“We are currently investigating this as a homicide,” the statement said. “We are waiting for additional information from the medical examiner to find out the cause of death.”

Ingham County prosecutors have charged Edward Joseph Smith with open murder in the Aug. 20 stabbing death of Daniel Lusk. Smith was charged as a habitual second offender and is being held without bond after an arraignment in the 54-A District Court. Lusk was found under the bridge at E. Michigan Avenue and S. Grand Avenue around 4 a.m. on Aug. 20, according to prosecutors.

An Ann-Arbor-based solar energy company, Prometheus Power Group, is seeking a conditional land use permit from Eaton Rapids Township to build a 32-acre, 5-megawatt solar facility. The proposed site is located at 7638 E. Clinton Trail, owned by Mock Properties. The township’s planning commission has set a hearing for 6 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 15, at the township’s 2512 S. Canal Road offices, to consider the permit. Prometheus’ project manager Tyler Stark told the Lansing State Journal that the project could create up to 20 construction jobs and generate about \$40,000 in annual tax revenues.



The Cyclospora outbreak in Michigan this summer was closely linked to iceberg lettuce and a single restaurant chain, according to a new interim report on the outbreak published last week in the New England Journal of Medicine. “Food history data ... indicated that iceberg lettuce and consumption at one restaurant chain were potential exposure sources,” according to the report. The report looked in detail at the May 10 through July 18 time period, which were the early weeks of one of the largest outbreaks of the diarrheal illness in U.S. history. The NEJM interim report does not name the restaurant

chain and most of the national Centers for Disease Control alerts and reports referenced identify a supplier, Taylor Farms. But one of the supporting links in the NEJM study goes to a July FDA alert which identifies Taco Bell, and does not name any other restaurant chains, as having stopped its supply from Taylor Farms.

... The interim report uses data from 3,114 patients who were interviewed, with 70% of them having eaten at that restaurant chain and 90% of those people having eaten iceberg lettuce. The report notes that there were likely two batches, or one staggered batch, of contaminated food because of bimodal outbreaks in Michigan. From June 22 through Aug. 26, Michigan had 14,492 cases, 356 reported hospitalizations and two deaths associated with cyclosporiasis. The NEJM report found that “iceberg lettuce at restaurant Chain A was a strong epidemiologic indicator,” but there were many Cyclospora patients surveyed in detail who did not recall eating lettuce or eating at the restaurant. The study also included chain B, which had 27% of respondents recalling eating there, and chains C and D, which had about 10%.

The prediction market platform Kalshi has been blocked, according to Michigan Attorney General Dana Nessel, from offering unlawful online sports wagers in the state. Nessel’s office



said Wednesday in a statement that a preliminary injunction had been issued in a lawsuit that began in March and followed a similar order in June that has since expired. “Kalshi long attempted to pass itself off as a legitimate gaming operation in our state, and I am relieved that this order further protects Michigan residents from its predatory, unlicensed practices,” Nessel said in the statement. The preliminary injunction was signed Monday by 30th Circuit Court Judge Rosemarie Aquilina. In a statement, Kalshi head of communications Elisabeth Diana reiterated previous statements that the company disagreed with the June order and would fight the case in court. “Kalshi is subject to exclusive federal jurisdiction,” Diana said. “We won’t be bullied by interests that care more about protecting their monopolies than their consumers. In the meantime, we’re implementing restrictions.” The Attorney General contends that Kalshi conducts business in Michigan without the licensing approval of the Michigan Gaming Control Board and in violation of the Lawful Sports Betting Act, which sets minimum ages and other requirements.

For ‘Money Out of Politics,’ political timing couldn’t be better

By **KYLE MELINN**

The dust has settled. The Supreme Court(s) have spoken.

We’ll have two statewide ballot proposals this fall: whether to rewrite our state’s constitution and whether large state contractors and public utilities can give to political candidates.

I’ve written about the former before. In a nutshell, nothing would shake up Lansing more than Proposal 1 passing. That’s why practically nobody in the state government is urging a yes vote. Lots of uncertainty. Lots of tumult. Lots of work.

The other is a politically ingenious



POLITICS

play constructed along the same anti-corporation/anti-establishment vein as Proposal 1.

Environmentalists and citizens-action groups that historically get steamrolled by DTE and Consumers Energy’s vast resources and political connections have whipped up a proposal that bans regulated utilities from writing checks to political candidates.

Michiganders for Money Out of Politics’ proposal also bans the roughly 1,000 state government contractors with more than \$250,000 in state business from giving to politicians.

The genius behind Proposal 2 is the timing. It’s like a “heater” in gambling or like striking oil in the middle of seemingly worthless land.

Voters on the political left and right are openly agitated about their electric

bills. They feel power companies get all the price increases they want, whenever they want them. We all have no choice but to pay.

And then the power goes out after a storm.

It’s expensive to bury power lines. Most of them are strung up on poles high above ground. The wind blows trees into the power lines. They snap. No power. (We love our trees, though, don’t we?)

Shame on the power companies for not burying the lines.

The rest of the ballot proposal speaks to the Golden Rule in politics (or business, life, college football...): “Those who have the gold make the rules.”

Yup. People are tired of it. The affordability squeeze is touching more people than ever. Campaigning off this concept

is working.

Shoot, Abdul El-Sayed — a Muslim who can’t clearly state whether he believes Israel should exist — may win Michigan’s U.S. Senate seat (in part) on his “getting money out of politics” message.

The guy had more than \$60 million dumped on him in what AdImpact has declared to be the most expensive Democratic U.S. Senate primary in U.S. history, and he still won the primary.

The D.C. Republicans are committing another \$51 million to knocking him off, and El-Sayed is still leading in some polls.

Look at Perry Johnson, the gazillionaire who blew \$33 million of his own money during the gubernatorial primary. He literally spent \$100 for every vote he got in the Republican contest.

He lost.

Big money in politics is not a guarantee in 2026. Two organizations connected with Consumers Energy put at least \$290,000 into targeting state Rep. Steve Carra in Coldwater. Didn’t work. Carra won with 58.5% of the vote.

Deep-pocketed cryptocurrency guy Shri Thanedar won’t be serving in the next Congress.

A Democratic state representative in Detroit who chaired the House Energy Committee during the trifecta but declined to “hold DTE accountable” during her tenure lost her primary.

The question isn’t whether MMOP will pass. It’s the amount. It should easily get 70% support. Will it get 80%?

The utilities, Blue Cross Blue Shield and other contractors are wisely saving their money for the upcoming court battle on this one. No point wasting it on a “no” campaign. Not in this environment.

They have much better odds arguing “my dollars, my voice” in this post-Citizens United world to a Trump-leaning U.S. Supreme Court.

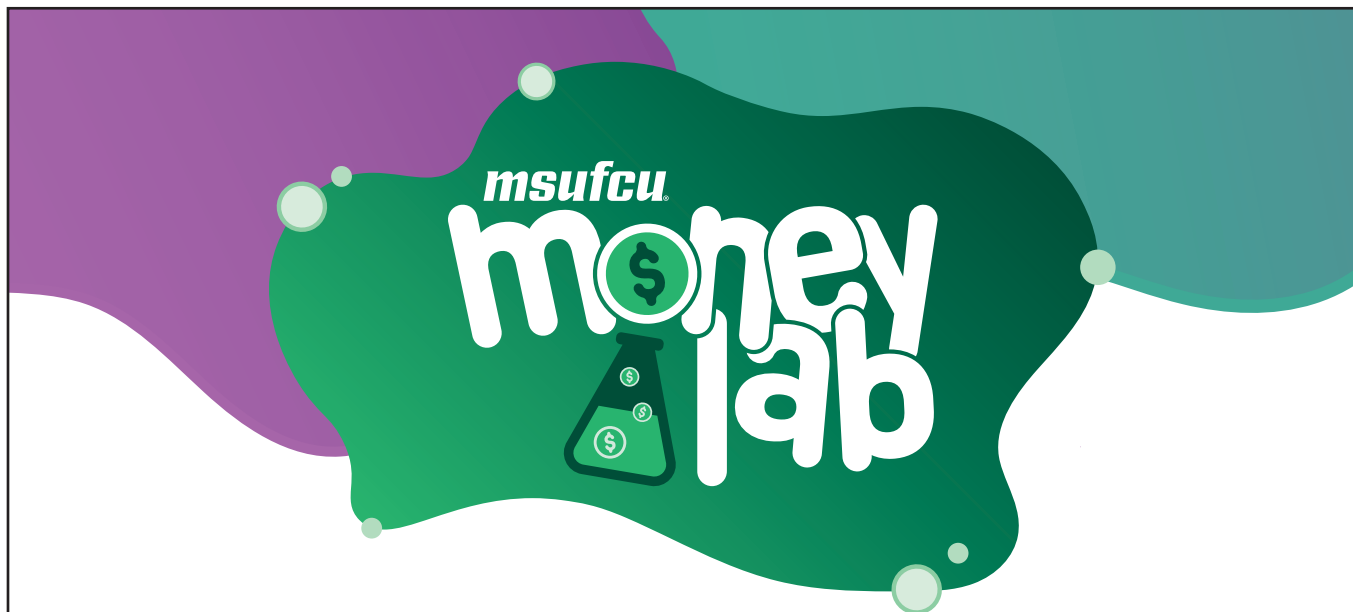
This speaks to the other brilliant maneuver by MMOP. Once voters adopt this thing in November, it becomes state law. The attorney general, fueled by endless tax dollars, must defend it.

Michigan United, Clean Water Action and the other groups that got MMOP on the ballot? They’ll surely write a court brief about how New Jersey’s similar law is still on the books. Georgia and other states have much narrower limitations on who can give to elected energy regulators.

But arguing in court that MMOP is not a bridge too far?

That will be the state’s job.

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



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ARTS & CULTURE

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'A case for the future' MSU College of Music marks 20 years of growth

By **LAWRENCE COSENTINO**

The Michigan State University College of Music's 2026-'27 season is poised to bring Greater Lansing a rolling, world-class music festival, bigger and more diverse than ever.

The college is celebrating its 20th year with a bottomless cornucopia, from cutting edge 21st-century music to mainstays like Mozart and Bach, diverse global sounds, opera, early music, huge ensembles, chamber groups and a barrage of bebop and beyond from one of the most acclaimed jazz studies programs in existence.

Like the ambrosial ice cream at the MSU Dairy Store, the concert series gives the college an appealing public face, but there's a lot more to the story. Just as the ice cream comes from vats, churns, chillers and pipes leading to cows and fields unseen, the music, too, is the product of careful cultivation and hard work.

The fully winged College of Music emerged from its larval status as a department in the College of Arts and Letters in March 2007, with the support of then-Dean Wendy Wilkins and interim Dean Patrick McConeghy.

It was no mere bureaucratic shuffle.

"It was a vote of confidence that music has a distinct place in the fabric of Michigan State and that the arts play a role in the lives of people," College of Music Dean James Forger said.

The "college" designation put the music program on an equal footing with engineering, human medicine, law, agriculture and other fields of human endeavor to which MSU has made a lasting commitment.

"It enables you to make a case for your future," Forger said. "Our donor base is very broad. Like the library or athletics, it's a discipline, a medium, most people have in their lives."

College deans work directly with the provost and with other deans on many



Courtesy

MSU's Symphony (pictured) and Concert orchestras will stretch out in 10 ambitious concerts this season.



Photo by Roberto Cifarelli

One of the world's top jazz stars and living legends, bassist John Patitucci, will join the student jazz nonets for a memorable March 18 Jazz Spectacular concert.

levels, including the all-important area of fundraising.

"It enables you to develop your own fundraising operation and take greater responsibility for raising dollars for a discipline that has some major expenses," Forger said.

That capability proved invaluable as the college looked to upgrade its aging facilities and grow its international reach.

No angel swooped into the picture, as billionaire Eli Broad did when he bankrolled a new art museum for MSU in 2012. When the College of Music was formed, capital outlays were drying up



Courtesy

MSU Opera Theatre will mount two fully staged audience pleasers this season, Gilbert & Sullivan's "The Gondoliers" in November and Mozart's "Così fan tutte" in early April.

like watering holes in the Gobi Desert.

"It went from 100% to 75%, to 50, to 25, to 'good luck,'" Forger said.

Long-held dreams of a brand-new facility proved to be unrealistic, so the college tapped its loyal pool of donors, found some new ones and undertook an incremental, judicious mix of renovation, innovation and new construction. Fairchild Theatre, MSU Auditorium and Cook Recital Hall got state-of-the-art acoustic redesigns by a Chicago-based acoustic designer. Demonstration Hall was refitted to protect the hearing of the marching band.

The 1939 Music Building's "old wheezer" of an HVAC system was replaced. Practice and rehearsal rooms

got floating floors that dampen vibrations.

The crowning achievement is a new facility, the Billman Music Pavilion, seamlessly joined to the historic Music Building. It holds new classrooms, rehearsal halls, student lounges and a heavy dose of cutting-edge sonic science — another top priority for the college as it trains students in computer-assisted sound design, video game music and other new frontiers of the music industry. The ambisonic speaker array in the Billman Pavilion's Eichler Hall, with 146 surround-sound speakers, is the largest such array in North America.

Students love the new learning spaces, and audiences appreciate the acoustics and comfort, but it's people, not facilities, that give the College of Music its resounding impact.

Forger singled out three goals the college has pursued in the past 20 years.

"One is to develop the very best professional training for performance, music education, composition, and work in theory and history — it's all related," he said.

Standards are high. Out of about 240 people who apply and audition to study piano, for example, about 60 are invited to campus, and maybe 40 are admitted.

But when it comes to impact, the College of Music is the opposite of a bubble — it's more like a lawn sprinkler, with about 2,500 non-music majors dancing in the spray each year, joining about 600 music majors.

That's Forger's second big priority. The non-majors do many things, such as playing in the Concert Orchestra, singing in choral ensembles and studying computer music to develop game design skills, helping weave music into the broader university while enriching their own lives. Virtually every college has students in the MSU Marching Band, including engineering, veterinary medicine and nursing.

"For students to take classes in busi-

See College of Music, Page 10

**MSU College of Music
2026-'27 season**

music.msu.edu/events
music.msu.edu/brochure

Williamston Theatre gears up for 20th season

By **COURTNEY BOWERMAN**

For Williamston Theatre's founders, every new season is special, but the upcoming 20th season is an opportunity for them to reflect on the theater's legacy and how far it has come.

"We opened in 2006, when the economy was just starting to do its long, lovely tanking," Emily Sutton-Smith, the theater's executive director, said. "We've survived the ups and downs of doing professional theater in a Midwest state, we survived a global health crisis, we've survived shifts in our industry, and we're still here."

The 2026-'27 season will kick off with the season launch party to-night at Eagle Eye Golf Club in Bath. The annual fundraiser is usually an opportunity for patrons to

get a sneak peek of the season's shows. However, managing director Chris Purchis said this year's event will be a more elegant affair, celebrating the 20-year milestone by paying tribute to the past.

BEHIND THE CURTAIN



Williamston Theatre season launch party

5:30-8 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 9
Eagle Eye Golf Club
15500 Chandler Road, Bath

"We're going to have a little bit of Williamston Theatre history with costumes, props and photographs from the past 20 years for people to look at it," Purchis said.

According to artistic director Tony Caselli, all five of this season's shows are linked by a common theme.

"A lot of our scripts and stories deal with legacy: what you've built, what you're leaving



Courtesy

Williamston Theatre's founders. From left: Chris Purchis, Emily Sutton-Smith, John Lepard and Tony Caselli.

behind, what you're creating and what you're handing off to the next group," Caselli said. "Which is fitting because it's the 20th season, so hitting some stories that are a little bit about legacy makes sense."

The theme applies especially to "The One Good Thing or 'Are Ya Patrick Swayze?'" (Sept. 24 through Oct. 25)

and "The Apiary" (April 8 through May 9). The former is a simple story about Irish brothers whose worlds are turned upside down by a sudden revelation, while the latter focuses on the future of the planet, taking place 20 years in the future when honeybees have gone extinct.

See Theatre, Page 11

College of Music

from page 9

ness and electrical engineering and then be able to have a few hours singing in harmony with other human beings — the power of music, doing something collectively with others, is an important part of our contribution to the MSU campus," Forger said.

The college's third priority, after professional training and offerings for non-majors, is outreach.

Among the highlights of the past 20 years is the establishment of a Community Music School in East Lansing that serves about 1,000 people, offering early childhood to adult beginner bands and jazz bands, private lessons and music therapy.

To make a mark beyond the campus, the college raised \$600,000 a year to start an early childhood program in Detroit that serves about 1,000 kids between the ages of 0 and 5 at 35 sites across the city. The program brings musical education to public schools, charter schools, Head Start programs and temporary shelters serving battered women and children.

"We have music therapy in the Detroit children's hospital," Forger said. "We use the power of music for palliative care,

cancer care. Music plays a role in health and wellness."

Even the ice cream the college has produced along the way — its concert series — has thickened and diversified in the past 20 years.

The college has held the torch aloft for the familiar Western canon, with evenings devoted to the likes of Mozart, Bach, Chopin and the rest, but its offerings have exploded beyond the classics, with new music woven into the programs of every ensemble, large and small.

"It's about all kinds of different music," Forger said. "Music education has courses on hip-hop in the classroom, and there's improvisation throughout the curriculum."

To pick a few cherries from the 100-plus events scheduled for the upcoming season, Chicago's Ensemble Dal Niente will bring a globe-spanning banquet of music Sept. 23, from hypnotic microtones to impressionistic washes of harmony. Homegrown new music specialists Musique 21 will mount four concerts of ear-stretching new sounds, spread throughout the season.

MSU Opera Theatre will mount two fully staged audience pleasers, Gilbert & Sullivan's "The Gondoliers" in November and Mozart's "Così fan tutte" in early April.

The Dutch chorus Cappella Praten-sis and the wind band Piffaro will join forces to bring a Renaissance mass by Spanish master Francisco Guerrero to the Fairchild Theatre March 2.

Jazz studies will roll out another stellar slate of artists in residence, sponsored by MSU Federal Credit Union, to work and perform with students, including guitarist Ed Cherry (concert Oct. 11), trombonist Andrew Martin (concert Dec. 6) and saxophonist Ralph Moore (concert April 23). One of the world's top jazz stars and living legends, bassist John Patitucci, will join the student jazz nonets for a memorable March 18 Jazz Spectacular concert.

MSU's Symphony Orchestra and Concert Orchestra will stretch out in 10 ambitious concerts this year, including the local premiere Feb. 9 of MSU composer Ricardo Lorenz's "Humboldt's Nature," commissioned and premiered to a standing ovation by the Los Angeles Philharmonic last fall.

The Symphony Band, Wind Symphony and Concert Band, all mighty pillars of fire that are underappreciated amidst the college's musical riches, have dozens of ambitious new works up their sleeves in a full slate of five concerts at Wharton Center's Cobb Great Hall. The Wind Symphony will preview its Carnegie Hall debut concert, featuring new

music by two MSU composers, Feb. 4 at Wharton.

The African Diaspora Percussion Ensemble will mount two concerts, Nov. 5 and April 9, and who can forget the low-but-not-slow Tuba and Euphonium Ensemble, rumbling into the Fairchild Theatre Feb. 3?

The 20th anniversary season will reach its apotheosis in a special May 1 "Collage Concert" that will throw just about everything against the wall and dare it to stick.

"It will flow seamlessly from small to large ensembles, jazz bands, a solo flute in the audience, people hanging — it will be the best of the best," Forger said.

We'll let that cryptic "people hanging" remark hang and quickly mention another concert keyed explicitly to the 20th anniversary: a 20-year reunion of the h2 Quartet, a virtuoso alumni saxophone quartet whose repertoire spans classical, modern and jazz music. The members of the quartet are converging from Virginia, Florida and Oklahoma, where they are all leading educators, performers and administrators, to show their national-award-winning stuff at their alma mater Oct. 13.

"They all stepped up, knowing it was the 20th year," Forger said. "It'll be phenomenal."

Theatre

from page 10

“It’s a parable of how we treat nature and how nature treats us,” Caselli said of “The Apiary.” “It’s funny, sweet and a little horrifying, but it also has this beautiful theme of love that runs through it.”

Perhaps the most anticipated production of the season is “A Lansing Christmas Adventure” (Nov. 19 through Dec. 27). Written by “Robert Hawlmark,” a pseudonym for co-founder John Lepard, the show is a sequel to the theater’s beloved “A Very Williamston Christmas.”

While Lepard expects a big turnout for his fun-filled Christmas adventure, he believes that “The Apiary” will have more staying power with audiences.

“I think it will be the one that people will come away from having the most conversation, because it has a lot of stuff going on,” he said.

For those seeking something lighter, there’s the satirical farce “For Closure!” (Feb. 9 through March 14).

“A psychic, a handyman and a stripper walk into a Florida mansion,” Sutton-Smith summed up. “The outcome? A perfectly unhinged mess you won’t see coming.” Getting serious, she added, “It does have this relationship between these two women who have to weather the storm of chaos together, and when they come out on the other side, they realize, ‘Oh, you’re my person!’ It’s got a little heart to it.”

Ending the season is the returning favorite “Guys on Ice” (July 8 through Aug. 15). The ice-fishing musical has been one of the most requested shows by audiences since its debut in 2007. Original cast member Joseph Albright is returning for the new production.

“Twenty years ago, Albright, who is a wonderful Michigan actor, played the younger male character,” Sutton-Smith said. “In this production, he’s playing the older one, so it’s come full circle. He gets to come back and do the show again, but in a different role.”

All four founders are grateful for the theater’s success. With several other theaters having closed over the past two decades, they never expected Williamston to beat the odds, especially after such humble beginnings.

“Just having transformed a building that was a grocery store into a theater and making something where there was nothing before, as far as arts go, is a pretty cool accomplishment,” Lepard said.

More than anything, they agreed

that they owe the theater’s success to all the community support over the years.

“We’ve established this wonderful

little oasis in the middle of a small town,” Purcell said. “None of us were sure what was going to happen, but we said, ‘Let’s give it a shot,’ and here we

2026–‘27 theater productions:

All-of-Us Express Children’s Theatre
Performance locations TBA
(517)–756-4260
allofusexpress.org
“Emily Brontë, Teenage Necromancer”
Oct. 30–Nov. 1 and Nov. 6–8
Disney’s “Frozen” Kids
Dec. 12–13
“Hometown”: Teen Edition
Feb. 5–7 and 12–14
Disney’s “The Jungle Book” Kids
April 16–17
“Taking Back Neverland”
April 23–25 and 30–May 2
“She Kills Monsters”: Young Adventurers Edition
May 14–15
Rodgers and Hammerstein’s “Cinderella”: Youth Edition
July 30–Aug. 1 and Aug. 6–8

Evolve Theatrics
Performances at Delta Presbyterian Church, 6100 W. Michigan Ave., Lansing
(517) 282-4699
evolvetheatrics.com
“Annie”
Oct. 16–18 and 23–25

Fowlerville Community Theatre
Performances at Fowlerville High School, 700 N. Grand Ave., Fowlerville
(810) 207-5126
fowlervilletheatre.com
“Mary Poppins”
Nov. 20–22
“The Stinky Cheese Man and Other Fairly Stupid Tales”
Coming spring 2027

Ixion Ensemble Theatre
Performances at Stage One, 2200 Lake Lansing Road, Lansing
(517) 775-4246
facebook.com/IxionEnsemble
“Mauritius”
Oct. 2–3 and 9–10
“The Thin Puppet”
Dec. 4–5 and 11–12
“Help”: A Collection of Short Plays
July 9–10 and 16–17

Lansing Community College
(517) 483-1122
lcc.edu/showinfo
“Layers, or ‘The Casserole Play’”
Oct. 9–11 and 16–17
Black Box Theatre
“Eurydice”
Nov. 6–8 and 13–14
Dart Auditorium
“Hir”
Feb. 19–21 and 26–27
Black Box Theatre
“Machinal”
April 9–11 and 16–17
Dart Auditorium

Lebowsky Center for Performing Arts
122 E. Main St., Owosso
(989) 723-4003

lebowskycenter.com
“Come from Away”
Sept. 11–20
“Holiday at Lebowsky”
Dec. 4–13
“Les Misérables”
Feb. 19–28
“Birthday Candles”
April 9–18
“Dear Evan Hansen”
May 14–23

Michigan State University
(517) 355-6690
theatre.msu.edu
“Discovery”: A New Musical
Sept. 24–27
Wharton Center Pasant Theatre
“Midnite”
Oct. 9–18
Arena Theatre
“Antigone”
Nov. 6–15
Wharton Center Pasant Theatre
“Rhinoceros”
Nov. 18–22
Studio 60 Theatre
“MSU Unscripted”
Dec. 3–6
Studio 60 Theatre
“Mean Girls”
Feb. 19–28
Fairchild Theatre
“The Wolves”
March 26–April 4
Wharton Center Pasant Theatre
“Sleeping Giant”
April 7–11
Studio 60 Theatre
“Night, by Ghostlight”
April 23–May 2
Arena Theatre

Peppermint Creek Theatre Co.
Performances at Stage One, 2200 Lake Lansing Road, Lansing
(517) 927-3016
peppermintcreek.org
“Ransacking Troy”
Sept. 11–13 and 17–20
“Witch”
Nov. 6–8 and 12–15
“The Old Man and the Old Moon”
Feb. 19–21 and 25–28
“Dance Nation”
April 23–25 and 29–May 2
“Octet”
June 4–6 and 10–14

Riverwalk Theatre
228 Museum Drive, Lansing
(517) 482-5700
riverwalktheatre.com
“Reefer Madness”
Sept. 10–13 and 17–20
“Come from Away”
Oct. 15–18 and 22–25
“Clybourne Park”
Nov. 5–8 and 12–15
“A Charlie Brown Christmas”

are. Our audiences have been amazing, especially this past season, and we can’t wait to welcome them all back for season 20.”

Dec. 12–13
“Nine”
Jan. 21–24 and 28–31
“The Comedy of Errors”
Feb. 18–21 and 25–28
Ken Ludwig’s “Sherwood: The Adventures of Robin Hood”
March 11–14 and 18–21
An Evening with Tennessee Williams: “Suddenly Last Summer” and “Something Unspoken”
May 6–9 and 13–16
“Mean Girls”
June 3–6 and 10–13

Starlight Dinner Theatre
Performances at Waverly East Intermediate School, 3131 W. Michigan Ave., Lansing
(517) 243-6040
starlightdinnertheatre.com
“The Butler Did It”
Oct. 24–25 and 30–Nov. 1
“The Fantasticks”
Coming spring 2027

Wharton Center
750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing
(517) 432-2000
whartoncenter.com
“Beetlejuice”
Sept. 18–20
“The Notebook”
Oct. 27–Nov. 1
“What Do You Do with a Problem?”
Nov. 15
“Six”
Dec. 1–6
Alicia Keys’ “Hell’s Kitchen”
Jan. 19–24
The Acting Company: “A Midsummer Night’s Dream”
Feb. 9
“Three Little Pigs and Other Tales”
Feb. 13
“Boop! The Musical”
Feb. 23–28
Disney’s “The Lion King”
April 8–25
“The Boy Who Cried Wolf”
May 1
“The Outsiders”
June 22–27
“The Phantom of the Opera”
Aug. 25–Sept. 5

Williamston Theatre
122 S. Putnam St., Williamston
(517) 655-7469
williamstontheatre.org
“The One Good Thing or ‘Are Ya Patrick Swayze?’”
Sept. 24–Oct. 25
“A Lansing Christmas Adventure”
Nov. 19–Dec. 27
“For Closure!”
Feb. 4–March 14
“The Apiary”
April 8–May 9
“Guys on Ice”
July 8–Aug. 15

A brief brush up on Wharton's and LSO's upcoming seasons

By **LAWRENCE COSENTINO**

Editor's note: In case you missed Lawrence Cosentino's April coverage of the Wharton Center's 2026-'27 fine arts season or the several articles he wrote about the Lansing Symphony Orchestra's search for a new music director following longtime maestro Timothy Muffitt's departure, he's got you covered with abbreviated reminders of what to expect from two of Greater Lansing's biggest arts leaders.

Lansing Symphony Orchestra: Duel for all the donuts

It's been 20 years since the Lansing Symphony Orchestra tackled the task of choosing a new music director, and just as long since it's had a crazy-quilt concert season like the one coming up. (Some maniacs decide such matters with cage matches, but Lansing is much too classy for that.)

In a once-in-a-generation pageant of top orchestral maestros, five candidates for the Lansing gig will direct one concert each, beginning Oct. 2 with a deep dive into the "Symphonie Fantastique" of Hector Berlioz, courtesy of athletic Oklahoma maestro **Scott Seaton**. Shanghai-born **Yue Bao**, currently assistant conductor of the Houston Symphony, will deploy her joy to conjure an evening of music by Dvořák, Tchaikovsky and MSU composer Zhou Tian Oct. 16. Thunder wizard **Joshua Gersen**, most recently assistant conductor of the New York Philharmonic, will lead a meaty Nov. 20 concert pairing Beethoven's Fifth Symphony with the Sibelius violin concerto. Charismatic Tokyo-born maestro **Shizuo Kuwahara** will lead a stupendous all-Russian program Jan. 29, anchored by Dmitri Shostakovich's epic 10th Symphony. Finally, New York innovator **James Blachly**, director of the Experiential



Courtesy photos

Five candidates are vying this season for the position of Lansing Symphony Orchestra maestro: Scott Seaton, Yue Bao, Joshua Gersen, Shizuo Kuwahara and James Blachly.

Orchestra and the Johnstown Symphony, will get in the last licks March 20 with the help of Tchaikovsky's rambunctious Fourth Symphony and music by Samuel Barber.

All the conductors have shown a strong commitment to new music, and each concert will feature one work by a new or emerging composer. They've all worked at top venues around the nation and the world, from New York to Chicago to Shanghai to St. Petersburg (both the one in Florida and the one in Russia). Now it's time to see which of the five candidates wants regular access to Quality Dairy long johns, and just how badly they want it.

Wharton Center: Familiar and surprising

The old "crispy creamy" cookie paradox — how can they be both? — doesn't bother Michigan State University's Wharton Center for the Performing Arts one bit. Wharton's 2026-'27 fine arts season deftly juggles performances that are both familiar and surprising, often at the same time.

A perfect example is **Ballets Jazz Montréal's** "Dance Me" (Nov. 5), a probing excursion into the world of singer-songwriter Leonard Cohen.

Whether you dig Cohen's music but have never been to a ballet or the other way around, you get to have it both ways. (If you don't know Cohen AND you've never been to a ballet, you can check two big life boxes.)

Another season highlight is the Dec. 8 pairing of two of the world's greatest musicians, cellist **Yo-Yo Ma** and pianist **Emanuel Ax**, a follow-up to their 2024 "Beethoven for Three" sellout at Wharton with violinist Leonidas Kavakos. Ma and Ax have worked together for 55 years, but their busy schedules make a public recital a rare occasion.

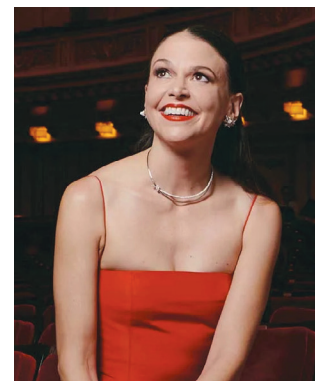
The same can be said of the **Berlin Philharmonic Brass** (Feb. 2), stopping at Wharton for one of only three dates on a whirlwind North American tour. In an opening salvo of jazz, ebullient bassist, longtime "Late Show with Stephen Colbert" mainstay and MSU alumna **Endea Owens** will bring her trio, The Cookout, to Wharton's Pasant Theatre Oct. 9 — a homecoming for Owens during MSU's own homecoming week. In a neat convergence of local treasures and national ones, MSU vocal Professor **Carmen Bradford** will have a chance to showcase her longstanding association with the **Count Basie Orchestra** Jan. 12.

Upping the ante on the recent return

of live theater to Wharton, the **Acting Company** will take a break from a New York run of Shakespeare's "**A Midsummer Night's Dream**" to bring a fully staged version to Wharton Feb. 9.

Another high point in Wharton's fine arts season is a cabaret-style evening with Tony-winning star **Sutton Foster** (Oct. 3), one of the most prominent actors and singers on the Broadway stage today. If her name rings a bell, that might be because Foster grew up in Troy and is the namesake of Wharton's Sutton Foster Awards, recognizing top Michigan high school theater productions and performances.

Wharton's web site has the full list of events — only it's never really complete, because dates are added all the time when performers become available. Besides Wharton's two main venues, the Cobb Great Hall and the Pasant Theatre, there's a full slate of comedy, cabaret and musical talent at the facility's cozy, drink-y, cabaret-style venue, Club 750. A standout this season at Club 750 is **Brittany Davis** (Jan. 6), a charismatic, powerful singer-songwriter-pianist who fuses gospel, blues, hip-hop, jazz and funk with overwhelming originality and energy.



Courtesy photos

Highlights of the Wharton Center's 2026-'27 fine arts season include a concert by cellist Yo-Yo Ma and pianist Emanuel Ax, a visit by the Berlin Philharmonic Brass, a production of Shakespeare's "A Midsummer Night's Dream" by the Acting Company and a cabaret-style evening with Broadway star Sutton Foster.

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Student artists from Refugee Development Center bring colorful art to downtown East Lansing

By MIKE ELLIS

The latest public art in downtown East Lansing is a set of four double-sided panels, each one 4 feet by 6 feet, with artwork on each side created by student artists from the Refugee Development Center.

The artwork is facilitated by Marissa Tawney Thaler, a teaching artist at REACH Studio Art Center. The panels were installed in mid-August and will be rotated out in November to individual frames in parking garage stairwells.

“One of REACH’s core values is community, and being able to foster that community through art within the context of identity and inclusion has been awesome,” Thaler said in a statement. “The pride these students experience when they have success during the creation process is so special, and I am so excited to share their pieces with the City of East Lansing.”

The Refugee Development Center is a Lansing-based non-profit organization created in 2002 to provide critical services for refugees in mid-Michigan.

“RDC is home to many cultures from all over the world, and our classroom community is a reflection of what can happen when we come together. This project has allowed for our students to explore the idea of identity and to share bits of their home culture with their peers, and now with the broader community,” said Jackson Schooley, youth education coordinator for the Refugee Development Center.

The rotating art display was established by the city’s Downtown Development Authority in 2021. It includes four double-sided exhibit panels along the 400 block of Albert Avenue on the north side of the Division Street Parking Garage.

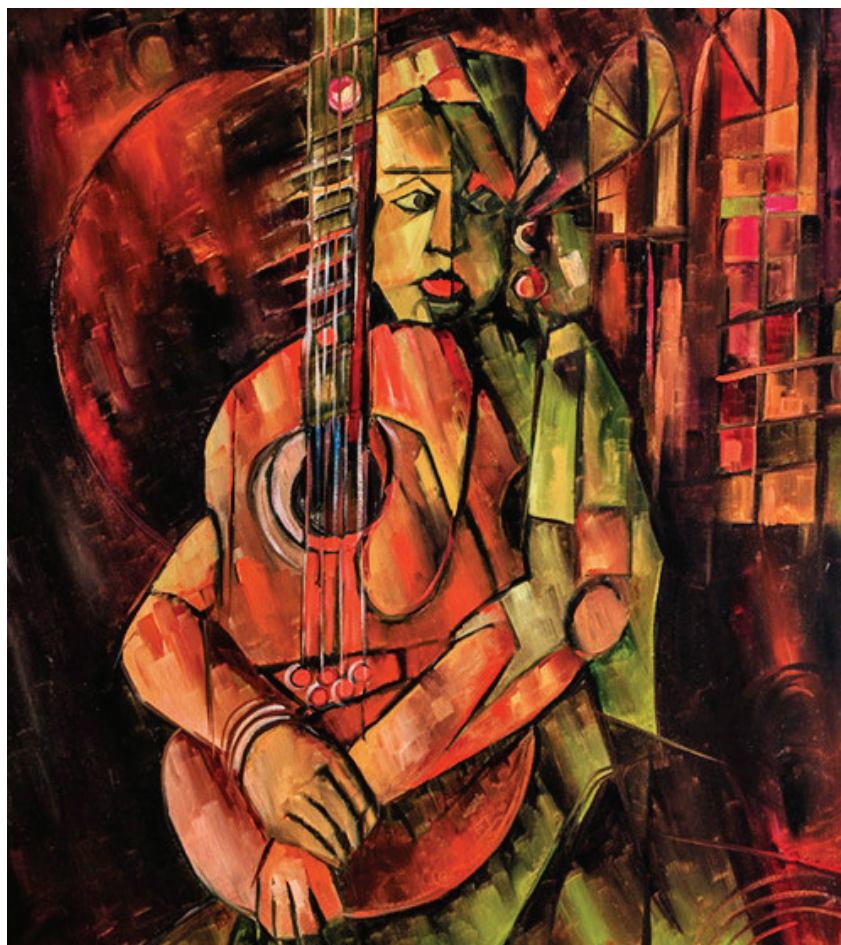


Photos by
Mike Ellis/
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Tim Orkri

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This year's **Michigan BluesFest** brings four days of top-shelf talent to Old Town Lansing, filling Michigan's capital city with the best in Blues.

Michigan BluesFest has earned its spot as a musical jewel in the capital region's crown, attracting thousands of attendees and welcoming performers of regional and national renown for a weekend of great music and great times, including multiple stages, clinics, workshops, and children's activities. We have a terrific line-up of artists who will be performing new and exciting arrangements. Enjoy a weekend of music, food and beverages. Meet old friends and make new ones.

ENJOY THE SOCIAL DISTRICT › Old Town's designation as a social district means festival-goers can buy, consume, and walk on the streets with appropriately labeled alcoholic beverages from sponsors UrbanBeat and Ozone's while experiencing all the festival has to offer.

Come to **Michigan BluesFest** on the streets of **Old Town**.

On Turner St at Cesar Chavez Ave. Old Town Lansing (517) 371-4600 1210 Turner St. Lansing • micharts.org

Wednesday 16

7:00pm • URBANBEAT STAGE



Greg Nagy & Ray Goodman

Blues Music Award-nominated artist with multiple #1-charting releases, Nagy has performed at B.B. King's Blues Club, and collaborated with artists including Larry McCray, Bobby Murray, and Ronnie Earl. *"An exceptionally soulful and creative blues artist."* — All About Jazz.

7:00pm • FISH LADDER STAGE



Brotha Earth

Brotha Earth is a five piece band featuring three former touring members of the legendary Motown band Rare Earth. With the release of their new album "Game Changer" the band is looking forward to bringing their high energy show Michigan's BluesFest.

Thursday 17

7:00pm • URBANBEAT STAGE



Tom Duffield

Tom Duffield's piano work has been a fixture of the blues scene for decades, bringing a deep repertoire of standards and unexpected selections to festivals and stages across Michigan with a style that is both seasoned and full of surprises.

Also playing on Sat • UrbanBeat stage

MICA STAGE



DJ McCoy

Lansing's DJ McCoy brings years of experience behind the decks and drums, known for his work with the Scratch Pilots and a deep connection to the region's funk, soul, rock, and blues scene.

Also performing on Sat • MICA stage

Friday 18

5:00pm • URBANBEAT STAGE



Clique Vocals

Dan Templin and Kelly Sandula-Gruner will perform a variety of blues songs arranged in a unique style with tight harmonies.

Also playing on Sat • UrbanBeat stage

8:30pm • MICA STAGE



Big L & Code Blü

BIG L & Code Blü, a CABS winner, will be playing blues seasoned with funk and pop and lush vocal harmonies and a rhythm section as tight as the grooves you know and love. This band from South Central Michigan isn't one you want to miss.

6:00pm • MICA STAGE



Lady Champagne

Lady Champagne is a Detroit blues veteran with more than 30 years on stage, an acclaimed vocalist who has shared the spotlight with legends including B.B. King, Bobby "Blue" Bland, Koko Taylor, and Martha Reeves, earned a Detroit Blues Hall of Fame induction, and won the Detroit Music Award for Outstanding Blues Artist.

9:00pm • URBANBEAT STAGE



Generator Blues Band

This high-energy six-piece blues band features vocalists Regina Bynum and Judy Franklin, with Michael "Bones" Franklin on drums, Eric Hamilton on bass, Dan O'Malley on lead guitar, and Roger Little on keys, delivering hard-driving and classic blues that keeps audiences moving.

Saturday 18

3:00pm • URBANBEAT STAGE

Dave Mingus • 3pm

Lansing well-loved guitarist Dave Mingus is a longtime fixture of the Mid-Michigan music scene, bringing years of experience and a deep feel for blues, soul, and groove to stages throughout the region, playing weekly performances at UrbanBeat.

3:00pm • FISH LADDER STAGE



Sassiety

A dynamic three-piece band featuring lead guitarist Nick Pigeon, seasoned percussionist Renee Rose, and multi-bassist David “Wink” Winkelstern. Wink has performed with a variety of local and touring bands and is known for his flashy outfits and showmanship, while all three members deliver potent lead and harmony vocals.

4:00pm • MICA STAGE



Grady Hall & The Disciples of Funk

Grady Hall & the Disciples of Funk fuse deep blues roots with the grooves of funk, R&B, and Latin music, creating a distinctive sound anchored in the blues and backed by their 2018 Capitol Area Blues Brawl Viewer’s Choice Award.

5:00pm • FISH LADDER STAGE



517 Funktet

517 Funktet, winners of the Capitol Area Blues Society Battle of the Bands, will represent the Capitol region at the International Blues Challenge in Memphis, TN, this January, bringing their soulful blend of funk, blues, jazz, and groove to the world stage.

WEDNESDAY KICK OFF CONCERT \$5 (indoor at Urbanbeat)
THURSDAY BENEFIT CONCERT \$10 (indoor at Urbanbeat)
FRIDAY \$10 | SATURDAY \$10 (indoor and outdoor / 3 Stages)

TICKETS: Buy on-site or online at michiganbluesfest.com



6:00pm • MICA STAGE



Stan Craig Band

Led by Mid-Michigan slide guitar legend Stan Budzynski, the Stan Craig Band brings more than 25 years of blues tradition to the stage, backed by two CABS Blues Brawl wins and three trips representing Mid-Michigan at the International Blues Challenge. The group delivers a high-energy blend of Delta, Chicago, and Southern blues.

7:00pm • FISH LADDER STAGE



Nicky T & The Snake Charmers

Detroit blues guitarist Nicky T, a longtime member of The Alligators and collaborator with Ronnie Earl, contributed to five of Earl’s recordings before founding Nicky T and The Snake Charmers in 2019, blending the traditions of B.B. King and Magic Sam with his own seasoned sound.

8:30pm • MICA STAGE



Carl Caballero & The Wreckage

Carl Caballero & The Wreckage are a Detroit-area blues-rock ensemble led by harmonica sensation Carl Caballero, whose high-energy sound has earned appearances on WDIV and CBS Detroit and opening slots for blues artists including Albert Cummings, Chris Duarte, and Popa Chubby.



LONGEST JAM
28-30th SEPT

A 60 hour
longest jam
record-breaking
attempt

This is a call for musicians to gather at UrbanBeat in Old Town from Monday morning Sept 28 to Wednesday night Sept 30th, to try to break the record for the world's longest continuous jam session.



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WORLD RECORD AT



Musicians
sign up today at
longestjam.com



MiCA
GALLERY

1210 Turner St

September Show

Timothy Orikri

Detroit based Nigerian artist Timothy Orikri’s work is rooted in themes of hope, harmony, compassion, and human connection.

Ammy Amorette

Ammy is a multidisciplinary Chilean-born artist, singer-composer, and painter.

Kani Icho

Kani Icho’s compelling collection explores transformation, ancestral memory, and the divine feminine through a sophisticated blend of mysticism and commanding aesthetics.

Coming Oct/Nov
Mid-Michigan Art Guild
Group Show



MiCA

Michigan Institute for Contemporary Art, a 501(c)3 nonprofit, serves as a catalyst for positive community transformation through the arts.

MICA creates spaces where people can come together, meet old friends, and make new friends.

MICA’s year around exhibitions in the visual arts and programs in music, performance, film, and literature provide opportunities to entertain, educate, and inspire. For more, see micharts.org.

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DIY art gallery Chairstation offers a place for everyone

By LIEZA KLEMM

Options are limited for young or new artists trying to display their work in Lansing. The closure of the Lansing Art Gallery last year winnowed choices even further.

There are a handful of galleries, like the MSU Broad Art Museum, (SCENE) Metrospace and smaller, more curated spaces, but it usually comes down to who you know.

Without connections, young artists are left to apply to few-and-far-between open calls for art. Those open calls might not fit an artist's medium (murals, sculptures, etc.), they may require an application fee, or they might be too intimidating for someone just starting out.

Abbey Behan knows the feeling. She graduated from Michigan State University a few years ago with a degree in packaging and studio art and committed to being an artist in Lansing.

When looking for spaces to display her art, she struggled to find accessible galleries. The Broad and (SCENE) Metro-space are both tied to the university, and she wanted something more community oriented.

"I was kind of just waiting around, and nothing happened," she said. "So, I figured I might as well start doing something."

She worked in galleries as a student and had dreams of running her own, but "that felt like a bit of a pipe dream," she said.

However, she took a leap of faith and opened Chairstation, a DIY exhibition space in the Cedar Street Art Collective that doubles as her work studio.

Born out of Behan's desire to build connections with artists and audiences, the gallery embodies the "do-it-yourself" spirit, offering a space for young artists to display their work without added pressure.

"I'm more focused on creating community compared to having this hierarchy in artwork," Behan said.

The gallery's name comes from a sculpture that sits in Behan's living room.

"I kind of started falling in love with the chair just as an object," she said. "It showed up a lot more in my work as a repetition."

Bouncing ideas off a friend ("Cloud Space" was a contender at one point), Behan settled on Chairstation.

"It just rolled off the tongue really nicely," she said.

Since the first open call to artists in



Courtesy

Abbey Behan is the founder and operator of Chairstation, a DIY exhibition space located in the Cedar Street Art Collective.



Courtesy

The solo show "Things Once Missed," by MSU graduate student Shelby Freehling, explored how people navigate complex relationships with others and the environment. "It was a really, really breathtaking show," Behan said. "I've never seen something so transformative like that in my space before."



Courtesy

"Been Here All Along," the first Chairstation exhibition, featured submissions from 11 young artists.



Lawrence Cosentino for City Pulse

Flags hanging as part of the "We Are This Land" exhibit at MSU's Broad Art Museum.

May 2025, Behan has hosted a dozen group and solo exhibitions. Some group shows have themes, and others don't, but Behan curates them all to be as inclusive and welcoming as possible.

See Gallery, Page 17

Other local galleries and museums

Loewen Studio and Gallery
128 W. Grand River Ave., Williamston
10 a.m.-5 p.m. Wednesday, Friday
11 a.m.-7 p.m. Thursday
10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday
loewengallery.com

MSU Broad Art Museum
547 E. Circle Drive, East Lansing
10 a.m.-6 p.m. Wednesday-Sunday
broadmuseum.msu.edu

Michigan History Museum
702 W. Kalamazoo St., Lansing
10 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday
1-5 p.m. Sunday
michigan.gov/mhc/museums/mhm

Michigan Institute for Contemporary Art
1210 Turner St., Lansing
Noon-5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday
micharts.org

MSU Museum
409 W. Circle Drive, East Lansing
10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday
museum.msu.edu

Nelson Gallery
113 S. Washington Square, Lansing
11 a.m.-7 p.m. Monday-Friday
10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday
thenelsongallery.com

Struk Studio
2916 Turner St., Lansing
Noon-4 p.m. Friday, Saturday
struk.studio

Holt teen heads to Interlochen to hone music skills

By NICOLE NOECHEL

Unlike most local high school freshmen, who are learning to navigate hallways congested with upperclassmen and getting their first taste of Friday night lights, 14-year-old Caleb Worthington is facing changes of an entirely different sort: a new city, new peers and a whole new curriculum.

Worthington, of Holt, recently began his first year at Interlochen Arts Academy, a specialized boarding school near Traverse City. With 570 students from 45 states and 25 countries, it was named the No. 1 best high school for the arts in America by Niche, the country's leading college and school search platform.

Worthington is studying drum performance and composition, participating in daily classes, electives, frequent performances and the school's signature social-emotional learning program known as the Interlochen 5.

He joins the ranks of countless distinguished alumni, such as New York Times best-selling authors Brittany Cavallaro and Doug Stanton, Metropolitan Opera Orchestra principal oboist Elaine Douvas, New York Philharmonic principal clarinetist Anthony McGill, Martha Graham Dance Co. artistic director Janet Eilber, painter Nathaniel Mary Quinn, actor Benjamin Walker, Grammy-nominated singer and actress Alexandra Silber and Grammy winners Peter Dinklage and Jewel, to name a few. Approximately 17% of the nation's professional orchestra musicians have attended Interlochen, and alumni have been awarded more than 100 Grammy Awards.

Worthington began drumming at 9 years old. He was drawn to the instrument after watching the 2003 comedy



Courtesy

Caleb Worthington, 14, recently began his first year at Interlochen Arts Academy, where he's studying drum performance and composition.

"School of Rock."

"And then I found this place called School of Rock, and I started taking drum lessons because I thought the drummer character was kind of cool in that movie — and I just liked hitting things," he said.

He plays in School of Rock's House Band, which performs regularly around the area. In addition to drumming, he also fills in on guitar and bass at shows.

Just playing music wasn't enough, however. At 12 years old, Worthington began composing his own music. At 13, he released his first recordings under the name P1.E on all major streaming plat-

forms.

"It all started when my dad was showing me some music, some classical music, and explaining how it all functioned," Worthington said. "And then he showed me this program on his computer called MuseScore. He showed me a little thing that he composed, and I started modifying it and extending it, and then I just made it my own thing. I was like, 'Wow, this is really fun!' So, I just started writing my own stuff and going from there."

He enjoys metal, jazz and classical music, fusing all three in his innovative compositions. Currently, he's in the process of re-recording the music he's re-

leased to improve the quality.

"I think the main reason I'm into those is because of the technical proficiency required to play those genres," Worthington said. "With jazz, you have to have a very good knowledge of music theory and know how music works, and with metal, especially progressive metal, which is my main genre, you have to not only have a good knowledge of theory, but you also have to be insanely skilled at your instrument. I like complex music and whatnot."

At Interlochen, he hopes to continue honing his skills.

"But I also hope to meet a bunch of cool people that'll be creative like me," he said. "I felt a little bit out of place in public school because the classes aren't designed for people whose minds wander. They're mainly designed for people who just kind of sit and do their work, nose to the grindstone. 'I'm doing this because my parents are telling me I have to.' So, I'm really excited to be in a place that's designed for people like me."

After Interlochen, his goal is to attend Berklee College of Music in Boston.

"The acceptance rate into choice colleges after you're done at Interlochen is stupidly high," he said. "I'm gonna try and get into Berklee because my uncle went there, and he's a really good musician. I mean, he can just pick up an instrument and start playing it. It's insane."

"Also, that's gonna look really good on a resume. I mean, you went to one of the most prestigious music colleges ever," he continued. "And it's the same reason I'm going to Interlochen, people that are like me. Also, I like Massachusetts."

Gallery

from page 16

The list of requirements for submissions is short. Artists must be over the age of 18 and can submit up to three pieces that fit through a standard-sized door. Behan said open calls are for both novice and experienced artists.

"If I think it will fit the show, I'd love to have it," she said. "I really try not to turn people away."

Casually walking into an art gallery can be daunting for people unfamiliar

with contemporary art. Chairstation is for those people, the ones who don't know where to start or think art is limited to huge galleries protected by lasers and pressure plates.

"It's for the artists to celebrate their work," Behan said, "but also for people to get exposure to stuff that's different than what they've seen."

Since Chairstation is a one-person operation, Behan coordinates art drop-offs, prepares the exhibition and sets up the reception. She also covers the costs of running the gallery herself, removing the financial obstacle some artists face.

"I want people to be able to find each

other and the richness of art," she said.

While open calls are for everyone, Behan typically handpicks artists for solo shows. Whether it's through networking or on social media, she said she looks for people who will "do something exciting and interesting with the space."

Exhibitions usually run for five days, and because Behan balances operating the gallery with working her full-time job, there isn't a set schedule. She said the most recent open call, focused on art about the body, had so many submissions that she decided to add a second show at the end of September.

"There were kind of two different themes within the works that were showing up in the submissions," she said.

What once seemed like a pipe dream has developed into a grassroots effort to nurture the contemporary art scene in Lansing. There's more to art than Van Gogh and da Vinci, something Chairstation is proving with each new exhibition.

"There's a lot of really exciting and unknown underground art that's happening in our own community that would be really cool to have exposure to," Behan said. "It's for everyone."

'More than meets the eye'

LCC alum illustrates 'Transformers' comic series

By KURT ANTHONY KRUG

Meeting Robert Kirkman was a turning point in artist Jason Howard's career.

"He was already established and liked my work," said Howard, of Holt.

Kirkman is one of the six members of Image Comics' board of directors, as well as its COO. He also co-founded Skybound Entertainment in 2010. He is a prolific creator, his most notable titles being "The Walking Dead" and "Invincible," both of which have been adapted for the small screen.

With Kirkman writing, Howard is currently illustrating Image/Skybound's "Transformers" comics, based on the Hasbro toy line. The titular characters are alien robots who can transform into vehicles, among other forms. The two factions of Transformers — the heroic Autobots and the evil Decepticons — are locked in a millennia-spanning war.

Howard began illustrating "Transformers" with the 32nd issue. "Transformers" No. 36 debuts today (Sept. 9).

"When Robert took over the title, he asked me to join him. It's a good fit," Howard said. "Working on 'Transformers' has really been fun. I grew up watching the original cartoon. Skybound is intentionally going back to basics on their look, which fits me perfectly because it's how I picture them in my head."

Illustrating the series isn't without its challenges, however.

"It's not the easiest book to draw, as far as getting the characters on model. You have to make these boxy, robotic characters look dynamic and cool. The shapes are completely different," Howard explained. "When drawing a character like the Hulk, human anatomy is the same, just bigger and exaggerated. With Transformers, there's crazy shapes in different spaces, which takes a little bit of work. After drawing them three to four times, you see how it goes, but the first few times it was slow."

Howard met Kirkman at Wizard Chicago (now called Fan Expo Chicago) in 2003, around the time "The Walking Dead" and "Invincible" debuted.

"I was aware of his previous comics and thought, 'This guy's a really



Courtesy

Jason Howard.

good writer.' I introduced myself, and we talked for a few minutes," Howard recalled. "In his early issues of 'Invincible,' he'd run pinups in the back from artists I didn't know who appeared to be beginners. I asked if I could do one. Robert said, 'Here's my email. I can't pay you, but if you want to do one, send it. No promises.' I went home and did the coolest Invincible drawing I was capable of doing at the time. He loved and published it."

Howard pointed out that at the time, Kirkman wasn't the prominent figure in the entertainment industry that he is now.

"Robert was just another comic book guy hustling and starting to make it. He was a couple steps ahead of me," Howard said. "That eventually led us to do one issue of 'The Pact,' a team-up comic with Invincible and other Image characters. He told me that it probably wouldn't make a lot of money, but I thought, 'I get to draw Invincible and work with Robert? That'll be fun.' We got along well creatively and talked about doing other stuff."

That led to Howard and Kirkman's collaborations on 2007-2010's "The Astounding Wolfman," 2011's "Super Dinosaur" and 2021's "C.O.D.E." — all published by Image/Skybound — before their recent reunion on "Transformers."

"Robert writes his stories like he's an artist. He's visualizing things not as a story with words, but as a visual story. As an artist, it's really fun to draw what he visualized," Howard



A "Transformers" scene, illustrated by Howard.

said.

The eldest of four, Howard was born in Minnesota, but his family moved to Perry when he was young. A graduate of Perry Christian High School, he went on to earn an associate degree in illustration at Lansing Community College (where two of his three children are currently enrolled).

"I've been drawing ever since I was a little kid. A lot of people draw when they're very young; I was one of those who didn't stop," Howard said. "Part of the reason was that I grew up on a farm outside of Perry, and there weren't a lot of neighbors close by. After school and during the summers, there weren't many kids my age to play with. We didn't have cable out there, so TV was limited. You had to find other things to do with your time, and drawing was one of those things I stuck with."

"As I got older, I got better at drawing — 'Oh, you're good at that!' That leads you to think, 'I enjoy this, I'm decent at this, maybe that's a direction,'" he continued.

One of Howard's major influences is artist Todd McFarlane. A "rock star" of the comic book medium, McFarlane rose to prominence with his work on Marvel Comics' "The Amazing Spider-Man" and "Spider-Man" (he wrote and illustrated the latter title). In 1992, McFarlane left Marvel and formed Image alongside six other fan-favorite artists who wanted to retain ownership and financial rights over their creations.

"I was right there when it was happening. I was graduating from high school around that time. I saw peo-



A variant cover to DC's "I Am Batman" No. 17, illustrated by Howard.

ple doing comics as a job, and it felt like an achievable thing," Howard said.

McFarlane's "Spawn" was the second comic Image published. Its first issue sold 1.7 million copies, making Image a contender against Marvel and DC Comics.

"McFarlane's 'Spider-Man' was so different looking than all the other comics at the time. To my mind, it looked so cool and better than real life; it was exciting and dynamic. When I started, I didn't want to draw comics — I wanted to be Todd McFarlane!" Howard recalled, laughing. "There's still a big painting I did of Spider-Man in my old bedroom in my parents' basement that's based

Community arts events you can get into

By MASAKI TAKAHASHI

Looking for a way to get creative, meet some local artists or just try something new? You don't have to consider yourself a poet, actor or artist to get involved. Here are a few Lansing-area events and groups where you can show up, make something and maybe meet some new people along the way. Yes, this is your sign to get out of the house!

The Poetry Room Open Mic

I host these events, so I'm definitely biased, but they're always packed!

The Poetry Room Open Mic has 27 performance spots, and they typically fill up fast, with people starting to line up about 30 minutes before doors open. If you want to share a poem, I recommend arriving early to get your name on the sign-up sheet.

The rules are simple: one original poem and under five minutes on stage.

The night moves pretty quickly, but it's a fun and welcoming space whether you're reading your first poem in public or you've been performing for years. And if getting on stage isn't your thing, you can always just come listen. The Poetry Room's performance videos have reached millions of views online, so you can also check out our Instagram or TikTok for a sneak peek at what the room feels like.

Free; donations accepted.

Follow The Poetry Room at facebook.com/the517poetryroom for upcoming events, our Substack and more. We'll also be announcing a new storytelling event soon.

Questions? Email

masaki.takahashi@thepoetryroom.org.

Bare Bones Improv Open Swim

Maybe poetry isn't your thing, and you'd rather make people laugh.

Bare Bones Improv gives Lansing residents a chance to do more than just watch local comedy. The group's weekly Open Swim invites anyone to jump into improv games, meet other per-



Courtesy

Takahashi with the Michigan State Poetry Club, which focuses on writing, discussing and sharing all forms of poetry through regular meetings and campus showcases.

formers or simply watch and throw out suggestions.

No theater or improv experience is necessary, which is kind of the point.

Open Swim takes place every Tuesday from 7 to 9 p.m. at Riverwalk Theatre.

Free to participate.

Questions?

Email bareboneslansing@gmail.com.

Next Step Poetry Workshop: "Crash Ethos: Poetry and Play"

If you want to write but aren't quite ready for an open mic, a workshop might be a good place to start. Poet Laureate Emeritus Dennis Hinrichsen will lead "Crash Ethos: Poetry and Play" as part of the Lansing Lit festival. The workshop promises to be a playful one: Participants will crash words from existing texts together to discover strange possibilities for new poems, expand their vocabulary and flex their figurative imaginations.

The workshop takes place at 11 a.m. Sept. 19 at The Robin Theatre.

Suggested registration fee: \$15.

Limited to 15 participants.

Bring a couple of your favorite books, something to write on and something to write with. Register through The Robin Theatre at therobintheatre.com.

Annual Drawing Marathon

If eight hours of drawing sounds either incredibly relaxing or slightly unhinged, this one might be for you. MSU's Department of Art, Art History, and Design is bringing back its annual Drawing Marathon from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sept. 23 at the Summer Circle Theatre Courtyard in front of Kresge Art Center.

The free event includes guided and collaborative drawing from both life and imagination. Supplies are provided, but you're welcome to bring your own.

You also don't need to stay for all eight hours, and you definitely don't need to consider yourself an artist. There's no experience necessary. Just show up, draw something and have fun.



Photo by Jasper Baldwin

Claire Donohoe (left) and Masaki Takahashi host The Poetry Room Open Mic.



Courtesy

Bare Bones Improv's weekly Open Swim invites anyone to jump into improv games, meet other performers or simply watch and throw out suggestions.

Michigan State Poetry Club

For MSU students looking for a regular poetry community, keep an eye out for the Michigan State Poetry Club.

The student organization focuses on writing, discussing and sharing all forms of poetry through regular meetings and campus showcases. The group typically meets on Wednesdays and will be announcing its meeting time and location soon.

For more information, email slamteammsu@gmail.com.

The Poetry Room will also share the club's updated meeting information on our social media once it's announced.

Books

from page 18

loosely on a McFarlane drawing. It's very inspiring to look at."

Upon graduating from LCC, Howard realized his craft wasn't where it needed to be in terms of drawing comics professionally. His day job was working at Dart Container in Mason, eventually be-

coming its art director.

In 1996, he published his first comic book, "The Wraith," through a now-defunct small press publisher in Detroit called Blink Comics.

"That got me doing comics. I enjoyed working with people, working from a script. I kept plugging away for different small presses like Caliber Press (also based in Detroit) and doing sample pages for Marvel and DC," he said. "For 10 years, I had the day job, but I

was getting more and more traction on the comics side. It was a little frustrating at times. In hindsight, it worked out well because we had our kids during the time I had a stable, normal job. It would've been more difficult if I had been a beginning comic book artist."

Howard resigned from his day job in 2007 and has been illustrating comics full-time ever since. His art has appeared in Image's "Trees"

and DC's "Batman," "Absolute Green Lantern," "Superman Red and Blue" and a "Flash" one-shot.

He said the best part of his job is getting to draw pictures all day.

"There are times when things can be frustrating, but when I sit down to work most days, I get to draw cool stuff. I feel very fortunate to be in that position. It's something I've wanted to do for a long time."

Keep up with Howard at jason-howardart.com.

Simply the blues, preserved for you

By MIKE ELLIS

Joe Kimble is a law professor best known for sticking up for plain language and also for his sprawling collection of blues art and memorabilia.

The Cooley Law School professor emeritus is putting his blues and rock collection on display again on a Honolulu Blue-free day (the Detroit Lions are off Sept. 20, thanks to a Thursday game).

Kimble's collection ranges from early pioneers to Chuck Berry, from the Stones to Springsteen, and includes posters and paintings tucked behind museum glass. There's also a 10-foot stone guitar, a Korg-ish S-shaped piece that needs a bit more than a shoulder strap.

Kimble grew up in Linden, a small town about 50 miles from Flint.

"Growing up in the '50s, rock 'n' roll just hit me like a truck," he said.

At 13, his parents took him to a Rock 'n' Roll Caravan show in Flint. The headliners were Chuck Berry, Jerry Lee Lewis and Buddy Holly and the Crickets. Screamin' Jay Hawkins emerged from a coffin to



Bill Castanier for City Pulse

Joe Kimble poses with a paper collage by Lansing artist Brian Whitfield, part of his extensive collection of blues and rock memorabilia.

start the show. Kimble was hooked for life.

"I just loved it, right up through the Beatles, the Stones, Joe Cocker, the Who and all the rest," Kimble told City Pulse in 2017, the same year Berry died.

Tour of blues/rock art collection

1 p.m. Sept. 20
Cooley Law School
300 S. Capitol Ave., Lansing
Email kimblej@cooley.edu to register

Musicians sought for World's Longest Jam in Lansing

Musicians from around the Midwest will gather at UrbanBeat in Lansing Sept. 28 through 30 to try to break the record for the world's longest continuous jam session. The organizing committee is seeking musicians to volunteer to play; sign up at longestjam.com.

The current record is 57 hours, set in Granada, Spain, in August 2023. The World's Longest Jam effort in Lansing has a goal of at least 60 hours. The event will be open to the public, with donations accepted to defray costs. More than 100 musicians are expected to participate.

Terry Terry, owner of UrbanBeat and producer of the event, said the idea for the record-breaking effort came after a jam session with friends.

"Chatting with a few friends this winter after an improv session with our group, The OtherBand, we hit on the idea of seeing if there was a world record for a jam session and then trying to break it," he said.

Turns out the "record" is informal, based on internet searching. Guinness, the traditional arbiter of world records, has no jam record.

The World's Longest Jam committee has developed a definition of a jam:

At least three musicians on stage at all times. Musicians will be rotated in and out at regular intervals.

Continuous music with no breaks. The music never stops.

No "songs" as generally defined, although pieces of music in the public domain and original music are welcome.

Music can be produced with acoustic, electronic or vocal instruments.

A variety of genres (minimum number of 10 genres).

No pre-recorded music.

The idea is to have certain types of music at certain times; jazz for a couple hours, electronica, Dead-style playing, bluegrass and more. The goal is to have musicians with somewhat similar proclivities playing together in a jam setting.

"We just want to have some fun and maybe break a record," Terry said. "As our poster says, 'It's about time!'"

— David Waymire

Parks & Recreation
After School Program

Foster, Gier, & Schmidt Community Centers

- Follows Lansing School district schedules, holidays, and inclement weather days

Info:

- Ages 5-13
- First day: August 26
- Program hours: Monday-Friday 2:30-6:00
- \$30-45/month

3 easy ways to register:

STOP BY IN PERSON

GO ONLINE

CALL A CENTER

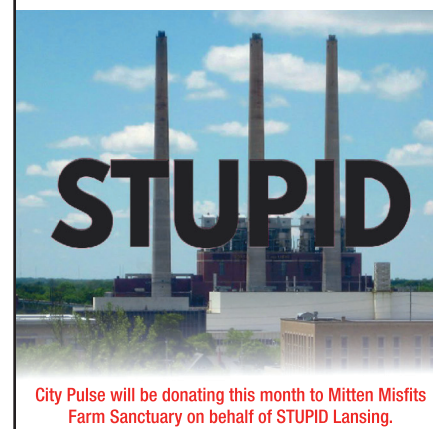
517-483-4277

<https://parksonline.lansingmi.gov/webtrac/web>



Monkeys making movies

Some people dress as monkeys installed a new (totally not Flock) camera to monitor Big Penny for truck munchies. Somehow that sentence makes sense.



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

Live & Local

CityPULSE

The Avenue

2021 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing
Jacob Largen + Had a Dream
Sun., Sept. 13, 7 p.m.

Beaumont Tower

375 W. Circle Drive, East Lansing
Loving Kindness Concert
Wed., Sept. 9, 4 p.m.

Billman Music Pavilion

333 W. Circle Drive, East Lansing
Jazz Swing Dance
Fri., Sept. 11, 7:30 p.m.

Blue Gill Grill

1591 Lake Lansing Road, Haslett
Don Middlebrook
Thurs., Sept. 10, 6-9 p.m.

BrickHaven Brewing Co.

200 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge
Mark Weaks
Fri., Sept. 11, 6:30-9:30 p.m.
Shane Gruesbeck
Sat., Sept. 12, 6:30-9:30 p.m.

Burcham Hills

2700 Burcham Drive, East Lansing
The Power of Music: More than Sound
Sat., Sept. 12, 1:30-4:30 p.m.

Cleats Bar & Grille

5801 N. Aurelius Road, Lansing
David Salvador
Thurs., Sept. 10, 6-9 p.m.
Taylor Taylor
Fri., Sept. 11, 6:30-9:30 p.m.
Sharrow and Hughey
Wed., Sept. 16, 6-9 p.m.

Dublin Square

327 Abbot Road, East Lansing
Brian Byrnes
Wed., Sept. 9, 9 p.m.-midnight
The Reason You Came
Thurs., Sept. 10, 9 p.m.-midnight

EagleMonk Pub and Brewery

4906 W. Mount Hope Hwy., Lansing
Tom & Mary
Wed., Sept. 9, 6-8 p.m.
Chad and Ed of Flat Water Band
Wed., Sept. 16, 7-9 p.m.

Eaton County Fairgrounds

1025 S. Cochran Road, Charlotte
Atomic Annie
Thurs., Sept. 10, 8-11 p.m.
Mallery Lynn
Fri., Sept. 11, 9 p.m.-1 a.m.
Corey Dakota
Sat., Sept. 12, 9 p.m.-1 a.m.

Eaton Rapids Craft Co

204 N. Main St., Eaton Rapids
Scott Seth
Fri., Sept. 11, 6-9 p.m.
JP Peters
Sat., Sept. 12, 6-9 p.m.

Fairchild Theatre

542 Auditorium Road, East Lansing
Ensemble Affect: Colonial Baroque
Tues., Sept. 15, 7:30 p.m.

Fish Ladder Music Park

216 E. Grand River Ave., Lansing
Yacht Rock Night, with Stone Street Revival and Oxymorons
Thurs., Sept. 10, 7-10 p.m.
Elements of Soul
Sun., Sept. 13, 4-7 p.m.

The Fledge

1300 Eureka St., Lansing
Jacob McLeod album release show, with the Scooter and Liam Band, The Flowers, Connor Fischetti
Sat., Sept. 12, doors 6 p.m., show 7 p.m.

Graham Vineyards

8920 W. Britton Road, Laingsburg
Lewie Austin
Fri., Sept. 11, 6-9 p.m.

The Green Door

2005 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing
Wavelength
Wed., Sept. 9, 8 p.m.-1 a.m.
Moravian, Coaster
Fri., Sept. 11, doors 7 p.m., show 8 p.m.
Moral Pollution, Big Life, Armor Class, Drop Rate, Snakeout, Self Absorbed, Scrap Ritual, Triflin’
Sat., Sept. 12, doors 4 p.m., show 4:30 p.m.
Scoochie Boochie, Groovebox
Mon., Sept. 14, doors 7 p.m., show 8 p.m.
Wavelength
Wed., Sept. 16, 8 p.m.-1 a.m.

Holt Farmers Market

2150 Cedar St., Holt
Mark Grinnell, Kathy Ford Band
Wed., Sept. 16, 4:30-8 p.m.

Homebrew Tabletop Game Lounge

219 1/2 N. Bridge St., Grand Ledge
Deacon Earl
Wed., Sept. 9, 7-9 p.m.
Royce Vaughn
Wed., Sept. 16, 7-9 p.m.

Horrocks Farm Market

7420 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing
Twilight Tunes dueling pianos
Thurs., Sept. 10, 5-8 p.m.
Oxymorons
Fri., Sept. 11, 5-8 p.m.

Grateful Dead Jubilee, with Deadly String Band, Dead Honey Collective, Cosmic Rose
Sat., Sept. 12, 12:30-8 p.m.
John Beltran
Sun., Sept. 13, 2-7 p.m.

The Irish Pub

1910 W. Saginaw St., Lansing
Open mic night, with Scott Seth
Thurs., Sept. 10, 6:30-9:30 p.m.
School of Rock
Fri., Sept. 11, 6:30-8:30 p.m.
Lynx Band
Sat., Sept. 12, 8-11 p.m.

Lansing Brewing Co.

325 Riverfront Drive, Lansing
Rory Nevins
Thurs., Sept. 10, 5-8 p.m.
Jerry Sprague
Fri., Sept. 11, 5:30 p.m.

Lansing Shuffle

325 Riverfront Drive, Lansing
Mother’s Little Helpers
Sat., Sept. 12, 4-7 p.m.
Lonnie Spangler
Sun., Sept. 13, 4-7 p.m.

Looking Glass Brewing Co.

115 N. Bridge St., DeWitt
Darin Larner
Fri., Sept. 11, 6-9 p.m.

Mac’s Bar

2700 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing
Wizard Bane, Chance We Take, Tru-Burn
Fri., Sept. 11, 8 p.m.
Willy Blaze and the Bad News Crew
Wed., Sept. 16, 7 p.m.
Open mic night
Mon., Sept. 14, 6-8 p.m.
Unity — In Music
Thurs., Sept. 10, 9 p.m.-2 a.m.
Tues., Sept. 15, 10 p.m.-2 a.m.

Marketplace on the Green

1995 Central Park Drive, Okemos
Northside Rhythm Kings
Wed., Sept. 9, 6:30 p.m.
The Dangling Particples
Sat., Sept. 12, noon-2 p.m.
LaurieTini & Glossi Rossi
Wed., Sept. 16, 6:30 p.m.

Mash Bar

212 Albert Ave., East Lansing
Billy Gunther & the Midwest Riders
Wed., Sept. 9, 7-10 p.m.
Dave Menzo Band
Fri., Sept. 11, 9:30 p.m.-1 a.m.

Midtown Brewing Co.

402 S. Washington Square, Lansing
Open mic night
Mon., Sept. 14, 6-9 p.m.

Moriarty’s Pub

802 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing
Open mic night, with Jen Sygit
Wed., Sept. 9, 8-11 p.m.
Blues jam
Thurs., Sept. 10, 9 p.m.-midnight
Spoonful
Fri., Sept. 11, 8 p.m.-midnight
Sandra Faye Band
Sat., Sept. 12, 8 p.m.-midnight
Jazz Tuesdays
Tues., Sept. 15, 7-10 p.m.
Open mic night, with Jen Sygit
Wed., Sept. 16, 8-11 p.m.

Nuthouse Sports Grill

420 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing
Universe Band
Sat., Sept. 12, 8 p.m.-midnight

Old Town Cultural Center

408 E. César E. Chávez Ave., Lansing
Mark Stuart
Fri., Sept. 11, 7:30 p.m.

One North East Lansing

1310 Abbot Road, East Lansing
Jason Peek
Fri., Sept. 11, 8-11 p.m.
Kevin Nichols
Sat., Sept. 12, 8-11 p.m.

One North Lansing

5001 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing
Rush Clement
Thurs., Sept. 10, 6-9 p.m.
Keith Minaya
Fri., Sept. 11, 7-10 p.m.
El Capitan
Sat., Sept. 12, 7-10 p.m.
Open mic night, with Kathy Ford
Mon., Sept. 14, 6:30-9 p.m.

Pablo’s Mexican Restaurant

2010 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing
Tap Monkeys
Wed., Sept. 9, 6-8 p.m.

The Peanut Barrel

521 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing
Kari Holmes
Fri., Sept. 11, 8-10 p.m.
Deadly String Band
Tues., Sept. 15, 6-8 p.m.

Pins & Pints

2120 E. Saginaw Hwy., East Lansing
Botanical Underground
Thurs., Sept. 10, 6-8 p.m.

Red Cedar Spirits

2000 Merritt Road, East Lansing
Live music
Fri., Sept. 11, 7:30-10:30 p.m.
Randy Napoleon Trio
Sun., Sept. 13, 6-9 p.m.

Reno’s North

16460 Old U.S. 27, Lansing
Tap Monkeys
Wed., Sept. 16, 6-9 p.m.

Riverfront Plaza

333 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing
The Dangling Particples
Thurs., Sept. 10, 6-8 p.m.

The Robin Theatre

1105 S. Washington Ave., Lansing
Mean Mary
Thurs., Sept. 10, 7:30 p.m.

Sholty’s Bar

1821 S. Washington Ave., Lansing
Keith Minaya
Tues., Sept. 15, 6-9 p.m.

Sidebar

246 E. Saginaw St., East Lansing
Aaron Manbeck
Fri., Sept. 11, 7-10 p.m.
Jerry Sprague
Sat., Sept. 12, 7-10 p.m.

Stage One

2200 Lake Lansing Road, Lansing
Good Neighbor Concert Series: Stella!
Tues., Sept. 15, 6:30 p.m.

Stober’s Bar

812 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing
DJ Chicago Muzik
Fri., Sept. 11, 6-9 p.m.
Patino & Friends
Sat., Sept. 12, 6-9 p.m.
Johnny Aimecrier
Sun., Sept. 13, 10 p.m.-1 a.m.
Lady Luck
Tues., Sept. 15, 10 p.m.-1 a.m.

Summerlands Brewing Co.

1957 Cedar St., Holt
Sudden Impact
Fri., Sept. 11, 8-11 p.m.
Mark Grinnell
Sat., Sept. 12, 8-11 p.m.
Open mic & karaoke
Tues., Sept. 15, 7-10 p.m.

Tony M’s Restaurant & Banquet Center

3420 S. Creyts Road, Lansing
Krosby’s Conspiracy
Wed., Sept. 9, 6-9 p.m.
Live music
Sun., Sept. 13, 3-6 p.m.

Twilliger’s Tavern

116 E. Grand River Ave., Laingsburg
Bottom of the Hill Blues Festival
Sat., Sept. 12, 2-11 p.m.

UrbanBeat

1213 Turner St., Lansing
Midweek Music Lounge
Wed., Sept. 9, 6-9 p.m.
Soul Happens
Fri., Sept. 11, 7 p.m.
Pzazz ... an afternoon of poetry & jazz
Sun., Sept. 13, 4-6 p.m.
Michigan BluesFest: Greg Nagy & Ray Goodman
Wed., Sept. 16, 7 p.m.

Williamston Roadhouse

3700 E. Grand River Road, Williamston
Annabelle Sharp
Wed., Sept. 9, 7-11 p.m.
The Shellouts
Sat., Sept. 12, 7-11 p.m.
Billy Joe Hunt
Wed., Sept. 16, 7-10 p.m.

Jonesin' Crossword

By Matt Jones

“The Little Sleep” -- I’ll just step away for a bit.
by Matt Jones
© 2026 Matt Jones

- ACROSS
1. Audibly stunned
6. Obstacle
10. Attempt
14. Firenze’s ____ Vecchio
15. Beginning of a Shakespearean soliloquy
16. Luau tuber
17. Introduction to cooking?
19. Chain selling meatballs (and other, larger things)
20. “300” setting
21. Happening
23. Tuesday offering?
25. Museum guides
26. Like random whistling, say
30. Southwest formation
31. Long-legged wader
32. The “T” in GTA 6
34. Friend-o
37. Cookware items
38. Exhausted
39. Curse
40. ____ Na Na (oldies vocal group)
41. Japanese barberry feature
42. ____-Potty (music festival amenity)
43. Response in court
45. Where wrecks may lead to an x-ray?
47. Close off
50. Farm females
51. 2016 film whose poster was updated slightly in 2026 to fix the angle of a hand
53. One way to get around the U.S.

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			

57. Subject of adulation
58. Forensic scientist’s findings
60. Golden Fleece ship
61. Invisible glow
62. “Cars” singer Gary
63. Chips supplier
64. Second-person plural pronoun, to Pittsburgh residents
65. Caught a little shuteye (which can be found in the four longest answers)
- DOWN
1. Alerts from HQ
2. Paltrow lifestyle brand
3. “Black Beauty” novelist Sewell
4. First courses
5. Motivator’s message
6. ____-Foy, Quebec
7. “Chicken Little” denial
8. In ____ (trapped)
9. Settle in
10. Malt liquor hyped in ‘90s hip-hop (and not the “man with seven wives” town)
11. Dismantled
12. “____ you the cutest?”
13. Regatta entrants
18. Racing speed
22. Rapper on “Law & Order: SVU”
24. Bony prefix
26. Amts. in recipes
27. Monument Valley locale
28. It means never having to say you’re sorry?
29. Like a 41-Across
33. “Rubber Duckie” singer
35. Against
36. Tilt to the side
38. Exclamation after getting home
39. Full of oneself
41. Greenish-blue
42. “Bugonia” star Jesse
44. Colombian plains
46. Satirical horror-metal band in giant foam costumes
47. Related to a hipbone
48. Pelvic bones
49. Tedious feeling
52. “Well, shucks”
54. “The ____ of the Ancient Mariner”
55. “Take ____!” (coach’s order)
56. “The Simpsons” news anchor Brockman
59. Ciudad de la ____ (Equatorial Guinea’s new capital, not to be confused with Bolivia’s)

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Answers on page 26

SUDOKU

Beginner

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

Fun By The Numbers

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

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

Free Will Astrology

By Rob Breznsy

Sept. 9-15, 2026

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Cheetahs are the fastest land animals, but they can maintain top tempo for only about 20 to 30 seconds before overheating. When they’re hunting, they usually get just one speedy dash to catch their prey. They must spend far more time stalking and positioning than running. The velocity is sensational, but their patient and prolonged strategy is even more essential. In the coming weeks, Aries, I urge you to be like the cheetah as you pursue what you need and want.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): The dancer Mikhail Baryshnikov said that true mastery means performing with complete intensity while making the movement appear effortless. Behind the grace lies years of disciplined practice. Is there an aptitude or practice you cultivate that fits this description, Taurus? I hope you’re ready to showcase it, flaunt it, and use it to your maximum benefit. It’s time to capitalize bountifully on skills at which you excel. Your well-deserved rewards are more likely to arrive than usual.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): “Dear Oracle: I have contracted a severe case of too-many-tabs-open. My brain has 19 windows running at once, and it’s hard for me to determine which thoughts are the truly important ones. Everything seems equally urgent and equally trifling. Any tips on how I can better figure out what actually matters the most?” — Overstimulated Gemini.” Dear Overstimulated: The secret to fixing this dilemma is to consult your body. Focus your attention on your gut and ask it to send you sweet clues about which yearnings it resonates with most. Check in with your feet and seek their wise counsel about which direction they want to lead you. Pat yourself lovingly on the butt a few times and request its loving guidance about what will make you feel most grounded.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): For some people, laughter is like a spiritual practice. A lot of them are Leos, Aquarians, and Sagittarians. They crack up more often and for longer stretches than most, and they tend to howl at ironies everyone else takes too seriously. I bring this to your attention, dear Cancerian, because you’re in a time when you could and should laugh often in wild, liberating ways. I invite you to explore the weirder areas of your sense of humor and work earnestly to expand what you find funny. PS: There’s credible evidence that laughter can reduce stress physiology, ease anxiety, lift mood, strengthen social connection, and even raise pain tolerance.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): The astronomer Johannes Kepler spent years trying to prove that planetary orbits were perfect circles because he believed the universe should behave that way. Once he abandoned his cherished assumption, he discovered the truth: The planets travel in ellipses. That revision transformed astronomy forever. With this in mind, Leo, I will ask you: Is there an elegant belief you have outgrown? A theory that was once fun and interesting but now limits your vision? The coming weeks will favor corrections. Changing your mind will show you that reality is even more interesting than you previously understood.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Master chefs say that diners first taste food with their eyes. The visual presentation is key to the whole experience. But the beauty must arise from craftsmanship rather than empty decoration. I believe you Virgos are in a phase when this is an important metaphor. Your outer style and inner substance are ready to become better collaborators. Some suggestions: Wear clothes that influence you to feel vividly alive. Relax your face and posture. Beautify your workspace. Polish your presentations. And please make sure the dazzling appearances reflect equally nourishing contents.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): I just finished a delicate peace mission to the contested inner landscape where your nightmares have been causing a big ruckus. In response to my diplomacy, they have agreed to drop their weapons and release their captives. In exchange, they are asking you to sit

with them for a while as they rant and sob and maybe offer them a few kisses and affectionate embraces. Drawing on my long years of coaxing unruly spirits back into semi-sanity, I conclude that a key reason they turned so dramatic and extreme was that they have been starving for your attention. I am very sure that with just a little effort, you can tame their reckless restlessness.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You’re poised at a threshold between what’s comfortably familiar and excitingly possible. A certain reliable part of your life has served you well for a long time but is now ripe for evolution. The paradox is that letting go of a serviceable asset can feel more difficult than shedding what’s obviously harmful. So, here’s the riddle I hope you will meditate on: What good old thing could you relinquish so as to attract and make room for a great new thing in your life?

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): The Renaissance artist Leonardo da Vinci filled his notebooks with sketches of machines that would not become practical until centuries later. Examples are a parachute, a helicopter-like “aerial screw,” and an armored tank. Many of his designs were simply too advanced for the materials and engineering of his era. I suspect you may experience comparable moments of visionary thinking in the coming weeks and months, Sagittarius. To some people and even to yourself, your ideas might seem overly ambitious or ahead of their time. But please don’t dismiss them. Write down your inklings and let them cavort around in your imagination.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Sofia Kovalevskaya was born under the sign of Capricorn in 1850. Early in her life, she displayed mathematical brilliance. She longed to develop her talent, but women weren’t allowed to attend college in her native Russia. So, she devised a workaround: a marriage of convenience with a man who helped her leave the country and gain the freedom to study in Germany. There she eventually became the first woman to earn a doctorate. Inspired by her example, I encourage you to consider creative strategies for obstacles that seem immovable. What indirect routes might lead you to your goals better than frontal assaults? Be willing to zigzag toward your destination.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Most of us have been cursed. The sources of the bad mojo have rarely been evil sorcerers who cast literal spells. Rather, they were harsh pronouncements about our worth or our future, spoken by people we loved or trusted. For example, when I was 20, my astrology teacher dropped an alarming verdict on me: “You will never be seen and appreciated for who you truly are.” That ugly decree became a jinx I spent years struggling with before I finally banished it. Do you carry a comparable hex, Aquarius? Maybe mommy or daddy proclaimed you would never amount to anything. Maybe an ex declared that you would never again find real love. Whatever it might have been, here’s the good news: You now have the power to at least partially dissolve that old scourge and glide into the future less burdened by it.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Ravens often cache shiny objects and interesting novelties that seem to possess no immediate practical value. They apparently delight in collecting intriguing possibilities. I recommend you channel your inner raven in the coming weeks, Pisces. Assemble an array of quirky treasures and raw materials without immediately deciding whether or why they might be useful. Like what? Like fun ideas, memorable quotations, odd facts, provocative images, curious fragments, and fascinating stories. In ways you can’t imagine yet, your playful cluster will inspire imaginative innovations and delightful breakthroughs.

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, Sept. 9

Acting/Improv for Kids - Students will have a blast while gaining confidence, poise and good public speaking skills in this acting course. 5:15-6 p.m. Ruhala Holistic Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. ruhalacenter.com.

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

Bare Bones Improv at The Robin - Bare Bones is Lansing's improv comedy collective. We're hosting a series of performances from a rotating cast of their brilliant improvisers. These shows will feature improv games and probably get pretty weird. Have fun! 7:30 p.m. 1105 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. therobintheatre.com.

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.

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

Classical Theatre Class for Teens and Adults - A deep dive into the history, performance technique, and audition technique of performing the works of Shakespeare, his influencers, and his contemporaries. 8:15-9:30 p.m. Ruhala Holistic Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. ruhalacenter.com.

Creative Collaboratory: Fall Opening Celebration - Celebrate the start of fall semester at the MSU Museum with the opening of new exhibitions, including "Reality Check" and "Gaawii Eta-Go Aaw-izinoo Gaawiye Mkakoons" / "It's Not Just a Quill Box." 4-7 p.m. 409 W. Circle Drive, East Lansing. facebook.com/MSUMuseum.

Creative Dance for Kids - A wonderful opportunity for kids to dance without the pressures of technique and performance competition. 6-7 p.m. Ruhala Holistic Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. ruhalacenter.com.

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

Flower Pounding: Make Your Own Library Tote - Try your hand at flower pounding with the Looking Glass Garden Club and create your own artfully crafted canvas library tote! 6-7 p.m. GLADL Wacousta Branch, 9135 W. Herbison Road, Eagle. gladl.libcal.com.

Glee Singing Classes for Kids - A 45-minute class that introduces young performers to singing. 4:30-5:15 p.m. Ruhala Holistic Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. ruhalacenter.com.

Grant Chats - Stop by for a casual chat and discuss your grant questions and creative ideas with Arts

Council membership and program manager Taylor Haslett. 10-11:30 a.m. Strange Matter Coffee, 337 S. Washington Square, Lansing. facebook.com/ArtsCouncilGL.

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. lansingshuffle.com.

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

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

Parkinson's Support Group: 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. lpsg.org.

Puppetry Class - This class will advance progressively in skill from sock puppet to mascot and everything in between. All ages welcome. 7-8 p.m. Ruhala Holistic Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. ruhalacenter.com.

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 "Educated," by Tara Westover. 5-7:30 p.m. Burgdorf's Winery, 4212 E. Holt Road, Webberville. facebook.com/wine.burgdorfs.

Ross Education Incoming Student Orientation - We'll review all the essential information to ensure a successful start. You'll also get a guided tour of the campus and classrooms, alongside dedicated support to set up your new laptop. 3-4 p.m. Ross Medical Education Center, 4106 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing. rosseducation.edu.

Senior Open House - Curious about what programs and services the library offers that are beneficial to older adults? Join us for an informal, informational get-together in the library's cafe. Coffee and pastries will be provided. 10:30-11:30 a.m. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. elpi.bibliocommons.com.

Songwriting Class - Our songwriting class is designed to help young songwriters develop their craft by giving them assignments that will teach them the foundations of good songwriting. 7-8 p.m. Ruhala Holistic Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. ruhalacenter.com.

Sporcle 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.

'Upcycle Art in the Park'

Through Sept. 27
Shiawassee Arts Center
206 Curwood Castle Drive,
Owosso
Free
shiawasseearts.org/upcycle-art-in-the-park

The Shiawassee Arts Center's third annual "Upcycle Art in the Park" exhibit, on display along the Shiawassee River, features almost two dozen sculptures made by Michigan artists, including Will Behar and Deborah Knipe of Owosso, Scott and Jennifer Ross of Corunna, Birney Adams of East Lansing and Doug DeLind of Mason.

The exhibition aims to highlight the importance of recycling, with sculptures made primarily from repurposed materials gathered from the river and recycling centers.

Awards totaling \$3,500 will be presented to participating artists during the closing reception on Sept. 27. Exhibition visitors have an opportunity to vote for the highly anticipated people's choice award, which will also be announced Sept. 27.



Thursday, Sept. 10

Acting 101 Class for Teens and Adults - Students will learn the fundamentals of acting: diction, projection, stage presence, stage directions, working off their partner, basic script work and improvisation. 7-8 p.m. Ruhala Holistic Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. ruhalacenter.com.

Acting Ensemble Class for Teens & Adults - Actors will learn more than just craft; they'll learn successful strategies for a career in acting, what it takes, and how to move into the business when it's time. 8-9:30 p.m. Ruhala Holistic Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. ruhalacenter.com.

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.

"Birds of a Feather" Opening Reception - Introducing Nelson Gallery's 18th exhibition: "Birds of a Feather," by Christine Beals & Michelle Detering. On display Sept. 1-Oct. 31. 5:30-7 p.m. 113 S. Washington Square, Lansing. facebook.com/NelsonGalleryLansing.

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

Chipmunk Story Time - Story time comes alive as children interact with puppets Chicory Chipmunk and his animal friends. Stories are followed by nature activities and a guided walk. 10 a.m. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road, Okemos. meridian.mi.us/hnc.

Code Club - Explore the basics of coding with Scratch and enjoy fun, hands-on coding activities, games, and creative challenges. Perfect for beginners and young coders who want to learn, create, and have fun together. 4-5 p.m. GLADL Wacousta Branch, 9135 W. Herbison Road, Eagle. gladl.libcal.com.

Cravings Euchre Tournament - Join us for our second euchre tournament, sponsored by our friends at Cravings Popcorn. 7-9:30 p.m. Homebrew Tabletop Game Lounge, 219 1/2 N. Bridge St., Grand Ledge. homebrewgamelounge.com.

Field Crops Virtual Breakfast Series: Precision Agriculture, with Rich Price - 7-8 a.m. Virtual — register at canr.msu.edu/field_crops.

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

Michigan Drag Bus in Lansing - Michigan Drag Bus is a rolling drag show on wheels — bold looks, big personalities, lip syncs, and nonstop fun across Michigan. 6 and 8 p.m. Lansing Shuffle, 325 Riverfront Drive, Lansing. eventbrite.com/e/120802307990.

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

See Events, Page 24

Events

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Pom-Pom Popsicles Craft - Children can come into the library throughout the day and create a pom-pom popsicle. 10 a.m.-7 p.m. GLADL Wacousta Branch, 9135 W. Herbison Road, Eagle. glad.libcal.com.

Powering the Future: Advanced Battery Technologies & Economic Growth in the Lansing Region - Anthony O'Donovan discusses what LG Energy Solution's \$4 billion investment means for Michigan's supply chain, long-term economic growth, and our region's future as a global hub for advanced technology. 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Kellogg Hotel, 219 S. Harrison Road, East Lansing. facebook.com/LansingChamber.

"Reefer Madness" at Riverwalk Theatre - A high camp spin on the 1936 propaganda film of the same name, "Reefer Madness" turns moral panic into musical mayhem. 7 p.m. 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. riverwalktheatre.com.

Ruhala Broadway Ensemble — Performing Group for All Ages - A wonderfully intense twice-a-week training program for students interested in taking their training to the next level. 5:30-7 p.m. Ruhala Holistic Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. ruhalacenter.com.

Shora Family Support Group - A weekly therapeutic community for families who homeschool or who are struggling to get their needs met within traditional school settings. 1-3 p.m. Shora House, 6639 Centurion Drive, Ste. 120, Lansing. shorahouse.com.

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. spiritofmichiganchorus.com.

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

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

Friday, Sept. 11

Bengel Wildlife Center Native Plant Sale - We're partnering with Bendy Stem Farms to present our second native plant sale! Stock up on Michigan-native plants, then stick around for a curated bird hike with our friends at MSU and explore our unique forests and wetlands. 4-7 p.m. Michigan Wildlife Conservancy, 6380 Drumheller Road, Bath. facebook.com/miwildlife.

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

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

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

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.

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

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.

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"Reefer Madness" at Riverwalk Theatre - A high camp spin on the 1936 propaganda film of the same name, "Reefer Madness" turns moral panic into musical mayhem. 8 p.m. 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. riverwalktheatre.com.

Self-Honoring Circle — Chapter 5: I'll Go if You Go - This chapter is an invitation to gently explore your relationship with courage, self-trust, and inner guidance. 1-4 p.m. Virtual — register at deepsoul-creativeart.my.canva.site/self-honoring-circle-landing-page.

Soul Freedom, with Nelson Schuman - Soul wound healing conference. Deal with root causes of health, emotional and spiritual oppression. Be transformed to walk in the full freedom that Jesus paid the price for. 7 p.m. Gilead Healing Center, 306 S. Creyts Road, Lansing. eventbrite.com/o/7740042673.

Spartan Cross Country Invitational - 9 a.m. Forest Akers East Golf Course, 2231 S. Harrison Road, East Lansing. playmakers.com/spartan.

TGIF Margaritaville Dance Party - Calling all Parrotheads! Dress in Hawaiian shirts/beachwear. Doors 7 p.m., line dance lesson 7:15 p.m., dance 8 p.m. to midnight. DJ Ben Kitchen the house. Dinner buffet provided. Cash/credit bar available. Hawk Hollow Banquet Center, 15101 Chandler Road, Bath. tgifdance.com.

The Vessel and the Voice: A Confident Witch Circle - This session is about getting comfortable with uncertainty and tending our long-term commitments anyway. 8-10 p.m. Keys to Manifestation, 809 Center St., Lansing. manifestlansing.com.

Saturday, Sept. 12

1,000 Books Before Kindergarten Party - Come sign up for 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten and celebrate previous finishers! Learn more about the program and enjoy a fun dance party for ages 0-5 and families. Snacks provided while supplies last. 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. elpl.bibliocommons.com.

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

Campfire Show & Tell - Get up in front of the friends you've made over the course of Summer Camp Swap Meets and show and/or tell about something that excites you! 4-6 p.m. Dear Ollie & Co., 222 S. Washington Square, Lansing. dearollie.com.

The Capitol Flea - Love vintage clothing and accessories? Dig supporting your local artisans? Need more trinkets? Want to get your clothing stamped and customized? Come on down! 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Arcanna Lot, 600 S. Capitol Ave., Lansing. instagram.com/arcanna.lansing.

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

Entrepreneurship Mixer Series: Securing Success - This session will help entrepreneurs and small business owners understand how AI, cybersecurity and smart business planning work together to protect their business, private information and financial future while leveraging technology to grow. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. LAFCU, 106 N. Marketplace Blvd., Lansing. lafcu.com.

Go Green! Go Art! - On campus for tailgating or the big game? Stop by the museum and make something to show your Spartan spirit! 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, East Lansing. broadmuseum.msu.edu.

Introduction to Food Preservation with Dragonfly Downs Farm - Make the most of your harvest with this comprehensive introduction to food preservation. 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Allen Neighborhood Center, 1611 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. allenneighborhoodcenter.org.

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

MMBC Bonsai Show - Step into a world of miniature wonders, ancient traditions, and incredible artistry at the Mid-Michigan Bonsai Club's annual show! 9 a.m.-7 p.m. Van Atta's, 9006 Old M-78, Haslett. midmichiganbonsai.com.

MSU Football vs. Eastern Michigan Eagles - 3:30 p.m. Spartan Stadium, 325 W. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. msuspartans.com/sports/football.

The Power of Music: More than Sound - Experience music with more than your ears at Burcham Hills' multi-genre, multi-sensory music festival. 1:30-4:30 p.m. 2700 Burcham Drive, East Lansing. burchamhills.com.

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

"Reefer Madness" at Riverwalk Theatre - A high camp spin on the 1936 propaganda film of the same name, "Reefer Madness" turns moral panic into musical mayhem. 8 p.m. 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. riverwalktheatre.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.

Soul Freedom, with Nelson Schuman - 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. Gilead Healing Center, 306 S. Creyts Road, Lansing. eventbrite.com/o/7740042673.

Tales & Tunes Storytime - A monthly music-themed storytime and playtime. 10:30-11:30 a.m. GLADL Wacousta Branch, 9135 W. Herbison Road, Eagle. glad.libcal.com.

Uncle John's Orchard 5K/10K Run - 10 a.m. 8614 N. US-127, St. Johns. facebook.com/UJCiderMill.

Walk for the Red - Raising money and awareness for Michigan firefighters fighting cancer. We'll be in Lansing on Sept. 12, walking past the Capitol to the 9/11 memorial. After, we'll walk to Grand River and head to Portland. 8:30 a.m. Catholic Diocese of Lansing, 228 N. Walnut St., Lansing. walkforthered.org.

Wild About Our Community! - Join us at the zoo for a unique experience featuring local food establishments and service organizations showcasing the best of what they have to offer. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Potter Park Zoo, 1301 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. potterparkzoo.org.

Sunday, Sept. 13

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

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

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

MMBC Bonsai Show - 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Van Atta's, 9006 Old M-78, Haslett. midmichiganbonsai.com.

MSU Field Hockey vs. California Golden Bears - Noon. Ralph Young Field, 325 W. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. msuspartans.com/sports/field-hockey.

Pop Up Storytime with CADL - Join Ms. Cassie for a pop-up storytime at the Michigan History Museum!

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Events

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Each month, we'll explore a new corner of Michigan's past through stories, songs and hands-on fun designed especially for young children and their families. 1:30-2:30 p.m. 702 W. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. facebook.com/MichiganHistoryCenter.

Pyschic Mediumship Open Development Circle - Every month, Eli leads a small group through a hands-on skill practice session. Topics shift month to month. Drop in once or make it a regular practice. 1-3 p.m. Keys to Manifestation, 809 Center St., Lansing. manifestlansing.com.

Puff and Paint - A cannabis-friendly painting experience. Proceeds to benefit art education in the Lansing area. 4-6 p.m. The Fledge, 1300 Eureka St., Lansing. eventbrite.com/o/13619448425.

Pzazz, an Afternoon of Poetry & Jazz - Pzazz is where spoken word and live jazz meet in the most beautiful way. Smooth grooves, soulful poetry, and an atmosphere filled with creativity make this one of UrbanBeat's most unique experiences. 4-6:30 p.m. 1213 Turner St., Lansing. urbanbeatevents.com.

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.

"Reefer Madness" at Riverwalk Theatre - A high camp spin on the 1936 propaganda film of the same name, "Reefer Madness" turns moral panic into musical mayhem. 2 p.m. 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. riverwalktheatre.com.

Sunday Brunch at Summerlands Brewing Co. - Whether you're in the mood for something sweet, savory, hearty, spicy, or somewhere in between, we've got a brunch option with your name on it. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. 1957 Cedar St., Holt. facebook.com/summerlands-brewing.

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

Monday, Sept. 14

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

Acting/Improv for Teens & Adults - Perform your characters and learn how to make them funnier and more dramatic! 6-7 p.m. Ruhala Holistic Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. ruhalacenter.com.

Art Ability Crafts for Adults - This program, held on the first Monday of the month, welcomes adults who may be on the spectrum, seniors, and anyone who is differently abled. 1-2 p.m. Bath Township Public Library, 14051 Webster Road, Bath. bathtownship-publiclibrary.org.

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

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

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.

HIMSS MI Chapter 2026 Fall Conference: Crossing the Bridge - The HIMSS Michigan fall conference brings together Michigan's health IT, clinical, research, and public-sector communities for two days of learning,

collaboration, and statewide impact. 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Lansing Center, 333 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. eventbrite.com/o/39768161033.

HIMSS Michigan 2026 Fall Conference: 9 Hole Scramble - Start the event right with a round of nine holes at Hawk Hollow. Teams will be matched up with a mix of attendees, speakers, board members and sponsors. Coffee and beverages included. 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m. 15101 Chandler Road, Bath. eventbrite.com/o/39768161033.

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

Music Theory for Singers Class - This is a great opportunity for young and older singers to move their singing performances forward! 7-8 p.m. Ruhala Holistic Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. ruhalacenter.com.

One Grand Read Book Club - Join us for a discussion of this year's One Grand Read book selection, "There's Always This Year: On Basketball and Ascension," by Hanif Abdurraquib. 7-8 p.m. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. elpl.bibliocommons.com.

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

Ruhala Broadway Ensemble — Performing Group for All Ages - A wonderfully intense twice-a-week training program for students interested in taking their training to the next level. 5:30-7 p.m. Ruhala Holistic Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. ruhalacenter.com.

Singing for Joy Class - A class designed for people who want to sing just for fun. Whether you're a beginner or an accomplished singer, this class will bring you joy. 8-9:30 p.m. Ruhala Holistic Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. ruhalacenter.com.

Tuesday, Sept. 15

10 Over the Next Ten Awards - Join us in celebrating the 20th year of the 10 Over the Next Ten Awards, presented in partnership with Lansing 5:01. This milestone program honors Greater Lansing's brightest young professionals. 5-7 p.m. University Club, 3435 Forest Road, Lansing. facebook.com/LansingChamber.

A Course in Miracles Study Group - A group study of A Course in Miracles from the Foundation for Inner Peace. All levels of knowledge including beginners are welcome. 7-8 p.m. Virtual — find Zoom link at unitylansing.org.

Acting 101 Class for Teens and Adults - Students will learn the fundamentals of acting: diction, projection, stage presence, stage directions, working off their partner, basic script work and improvisation. 7-8 p.m. Ruhala Holistic Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. ruhalacenter.com.

Acting Ensemble Class for Teens & Adults - Actors will learn more than just craft; they'll learn successful strategies for a career in acting, what it takes, and how to move into the business when it's time. 8-9:30 p.m. Ruhala Holistic Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. ruhalacenter.com.

Acting/Improv for Kids - Students will have a blast while gaining confidence, poise and good public speaking skills in this acting course. 5:15-6 p.m. Ruhala Holistic Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. ruhalacenter.com.

Avoid Medicare/Medicaid Pitfalls - Got questions about Medicare/Medicaid? This education session is for you! 3-4 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. gladl.libcal.com.

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

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Downtown EL '80s Night

6:30-9 p.m. Friday, Sept. 11

Ann Street Plaza

Free

cityofeastlansing.com/2656/Downtown-EL-80s-Night

Break out your leg warmers and get ready to relive the '80s with a night full of totally rad activities in downtown East Lansing.

Pinball Pete's, a local staple since 1977, will provide free-play pinball machines and other arcade games, weather permitting. Supplies will be available for attendees to paint their own vinyl records.

Additionally, '80s cover band Starfarm is slated to perform. The band's song list includes classics by Michael Jackson, Tina Turner, Dolly Parton, Lionel Richie, Journey, The Beastie Boys and more.

To cool down from all the fist pumping, attendees can snag some free ice cream from RJ's Burgers and Ice Cream Co. while supplies last. Guests are encouraged to dress in their best '80s attire.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING EAST LANSING CITY COUNCIL

Notice is hereby given of the following public hearing to be held by the East Lansing City Council on **Tuesday, September 22nd, 2026 at 6:30 p.m.**, at the East Lansing Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing MI 48823.

The purpose of the hearing is to consider an appeal filed under Section 48-96 of the East Lansing City Code regarding a tree removal violation issued for property located at 2982 E. Coleman Road, East Lansing, MI. The violation was issued for the unpermitted removal of trees from the property. The appeal was filed with the City Clerk's office on August 6, 2026, on behalf of the property, within the ten-day period allowed under Section 48-96(a).

At the hearing, the City Council will hear the appellant's presentation and provide an opportunity for adjacent property owners and other interested parties to be heard, as required under Section 48-96(c). Following the hearing, the Council will affirm, affirm with conditions, or reverse the decision of the City Engineer, based on written findings, as provided under Section 48-96(e).

All persons wishing to make comments shall furnish their written comments to Emily Gordon, City Clerk, City of East Lansing, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing MI 48823, or egordon@cityofeastlansing.com.

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

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 Clerk, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, MI 48823, (517) 319-6914, (TDD Number: 1-800-649-3777) or via email at egordon@cityofeastlansing.com.

This notice is posted in compliance with PA 267 of 1976 as amended (Open Meetings Act) and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

Emily Gordon
City Clerk

410 Abbot Road,
East Lansing, MI 48823

CP#26-347

FOOD & DRINK

DINING OUT IN GREATER LANSING

MexiTreats' desserts are as aesthetically pleasing as they are delicious

By LIZY FERGUSON

I've had a pretty ice cream-heavy summer. My place of work serves ice cream, I became obsessed with Arctic Corner's ever-changing soft serve flavors, I discovered Lansing Gardens sells ice cream, and I made at least two trips to the MSU Dairy Store despite the nearby construction.

Since Labor Day weekend is generally considered to be the last hurrah of summer, I decided to round out my season of frozen treats with something a little different.

I've driven by MexiTreats on East Saginaw hundreds of times, but I finally decided to stop in after being inundated on social media with pictures of fruit-laden Mexican delights. I needed dinner first, though, so I ordered a chicken torta from the menu of classic taqueria offerings, which also includes sopas, gorditas and a very tempting item that looked to be a tostada with

a giant chicharon as the base. The torta bread was soft and fresh, filled with deliciously seasoned shredded chicken and plenty of pickled jalapenos.

For the main event, dessert, I had quite a few options, like tres leches cake or churros, as well as the fruit cups I had been drooling over on the internet. However, the mangonada had my heart as soon as I saw the words "mango Italian ice."

The mangonada is actually made with your choice of Italian ice (other flavors include cherry, lime and piña colada) and is topped with fresh mango, chamoy and Tajin. If you're unfamiliar, chamoy is a Mexican condiment made from pickled fruit, chili, lime juice and salt, and it's what makes this treat not only beautiful, but exceptional. Standing out as a dark, plummy red against the vibrant yellow-orange backdrop of the fruit and ice, it's at once sweet, sour and salty. Served

alongside the mangonada is a lime to squeeze on top, which makes all of the flavors sing in perfect harmony.

Perhaps the best part of this exceptional dessert is the banderilla. The tamarind candy-wrapped straw, rolled in Tajin, becomes a lollipop when you've finished the rest. Like summer, you'll want to make it last as long as possible. The mangonada is a summer sunset in a cup, and I can't wait to go back in the dead of winter to soothe my seasonal woes.



Lizy Ferguson for City Pulse



Mangonada

\$8

MexiTreats

400 E. Saginaw St.,
Lansing

11 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-
Saturday

Noon-9 p.m. Sunday
(517) 234-4404

mexi-treats.com

TOP 5
DINING GUIDE

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

TOP 5 SOUP

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

1. Charlie Kang's

Chinese and Korean restaurant serving
traditional entrees in relaxed
surroundings
109 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing
(517) 332-4696
charliekangs.com
11 a.m.-9:30 p.m. Monday-Thursday
11 a.m.-10 p.m. Friday-Saturday
Noon-9:30 p.m. Sunday

2. Corey's Lounge

Laid-back bar and restaurant known
for pizza and other American fare,
plus beer and cocktails
1511 S. Cedar St., Lansing
(517) 482-3132
coreyslounge.com

11 a.m.-10 p.m. Sunday-Monday
11 a.m.-11 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday
11 a.m.-midnight Friday
Noon-midnight Saturday

3. Horrocks Farm Market

Family-owned grocery with a
full-service deli, beer garden and tavern
7420 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing
(517) 323-3782
shophorrocks.com
7 a.m.-10 p.m. daily

4. Soup Spoon Café

Colorful café serving homemade soup,
hearty breakfast dishes and other
homestyle eats
1419 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing
(517) 316-2377
soupspooncafe.com
8 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Saturday

5. That New Place

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

CROSSWORD SOLUTION
From Pg. 22

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

SUDOKU SOLUTION
From Pg. 22

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

Events

from page 25

Constitution Day 2026 - Journalist and author Tim Alberta will present his 2023 book, "The Kingdom, the Power, and the Glory: American Evangelicals in an Age of Extremism," which was an instant New York Times best-seller and one of Barack Obama's favorite books. 10:30 a.m. - noon. LCC Gannon Building, 422 N. Washington Square, Lansing, lcc.edu.

Fall Trivia Night - Bring your team and join the first trivia night at our Wacousta branch! This month, think fall: pop culture, movies, history, cuisine, and nature. Prizes and light refreshments provided. 6-7:30 p.m. 9135 W. Herbison Road, Eagle. gladlibcal.com.

Family Movement Group - This is a parent-child therapeutic movement group designed to support healthy regulation and strengthen family connection through shared movement experiences. 5:30-6:30 p.m. Shora House, 6639 Centurion Drive, Lansing. shorahouse.com.

Free Hunting Seminar - Guest speaker Cpl. Ken Lowell of the Michigan DNR's Recreational Safety Section will explain the state's new deer-hunting rules, share local hunting opportunities, and take questions from the audience. 7-8 p.m. First Congregational Church, 421 E. Bridge St., Portland. 989-714-1407.

Glee Singing Classes for Kids - A 45-minute class that introduces young performers to singing. 4:30-5:15 p.m. Ruhala Holistic Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. ruhalacenter.com.

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.

HIMSS MI Chapter 2026 Fall Conference: Crossing the Bridge - 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Lansing Center, 333 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. eventbrite.com/p/39768161033.

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. oneorthdining.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](https://www.meetup.com/lansing).

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

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](https://www.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 - Monthly educational session for people with Parkinson's and their caregivers or friends. Chris Gregory of Playmakers will present a "footwear matters" clinic. 3-4:30 p.m. Burcham Hills Retirement Center, 2700 Burcham Drive, East Lansing. jansp.org

Story Hour - Participants will enjoy activities including stories, songs, rhymes, guided play, and crafts. Adults leave their children at the program after signing them in, but they must remain in the library.

building. Ages 3-6. 10-11 a.m. Charlotte Community Library, 226 S. Bostwick St., Charlotte. charlottelibrary.org.

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

Voter Registration & Information Day - We'll have registration information, materials, and public access computers available FREE to help you process your registration. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. gladl.libcal.com.

Wednesday, Sept. 16

Acting/Improv for Kids - Students will have a blast while gaining confidence, poise and good public speaking skills in this acting course. 5:15-6 p.m. Ruhala Holistic Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. ruhalacenter.com.

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.

Classical Theatre Class for Teens and Adults - A deep dive into the history, performance technique, and audition technique of performing the works of Shakespeare, his influencers, and his contemporaries. 8:15-9:30 p.m. Ruhala Holistic Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. ruhalacenter.com.

Creative Dance for Kids - A wonderful opportunity for kids to dance without the pressures of technique and performance competition. 6-7 p.m. Ruhala Holistic Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. ruhalacenter.com.

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

Eastside Compost Open House, Fifth Annual Great Michigan Compost Tour - Participate in the fifth annual Great Michigan Compost Tour with a stop at our new, expanded site. You can drop in between 10 a.m. and noon to get a tour of our new facility, ask questions, and meet fellow waste diversion enthusiasts. 713 S. Foster Ave., Lansing. eastside-compost.com.

Emergency Services - 6 p.m. LSW Emergency Services, 7425 Woodbury Road, Laingsburg. laingsburg.us.

MARKET

www.BetterHealthMarket.com

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(Frandor) 305 N Clippert Ave.
Across from Frandor Mall
517-332-6892
Mon-Sat 8am-9pm • Sun 10am-7pm

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6235 West Saginaw Hwy.
517-323-9186
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Sun 11am-6pm

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