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November 25 - December 1, 2026

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Silver Bells are ringing
City Pulse's 2026 Holiday Gift Guide

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The Needle Moves, But the Madness Remains

I took a huge sigh of relief after the election. But before I could even exhale and take some time to relax, I've got ICE in my city kidnapping people, reports of police brutality in cities around the country, and the relentless stream of election deniers insisting they have information that none of the rest of us ever seem to see.

Apparently, there's a mountain of evidence proving elections are rigged, but somehow there's also an equally enormous pile of evidence pointing to corruption, conflicts of interest, and questionable conduct within the Trump administration that remains completely invisible to them. It's an interesting phenomenon. Some people seem to have an extraordinary ability to see things that aren't there while remaining completely blind to what's right in front of them.

It reminds me that there really is no such thing as victory. There are only moments when we manage to move the needle in a direction that might reduce some of the damage being inflicted. We get a little breathing room, perhaps a reason to feel optimistic, and then we're reminded that the work is nowhere near finished.

I suppose that's the nature of living in a country where the political divide has become so deeply entrenched that even agreeing on what we're looking at has become an accomplishment.

Here's the conundrum wrapped up in an enigma: How can two groups of people look at the same country, the same events, and the same political leadership and arrive at such diametrically opposed conclusions?

I'm diametrically opposed to MAGA because I see the harm I believe its movement is causing. They are diametrically opposed to my left-leaning views, presumably because they believe those views are harmful, too. And I'm sure if you ask either side, they'll tell you they're defending the country, democracy, freedom, and the American way of life.

But we both can't be right, right?

Or can we?

I don't mean that both sides are necessarily equally right or equally wrong. That's an important distinction, because the truth isn't some participation trophy handed out to everyone who shows up with an opinion. Facts don't become negotiable simply because they make us uncomfortable, and accountability shouldn't depend on which political jersey someone happens to be wearing.

But there's something worth examining in the certainty with which we all approach our political beliefs. At what point does conviction become an unwillingness to consider that we might be wrong? When does defending our principles become defending the people who claim to represent them, regardless of what they actually do?

I can recognize that there are people who genuinely believe their conservative values are under attack. I can disagree with their conclusions without pretending their concerns don't exist. But I also expect those same people to recognize that my concerns aren't manufactured by some liberal conspiracy or an addiction to outrage. There are legitimate reasons to question government actions, demand transparency, and expect elected officials to answer for their decisions. And that expectation shouldn't be partisan.

If we're going to demand accountability, it has to apply to everyone. If we're going to insist that elections be fair, we have to accept the results when they don't go our way. If we're going to claim to care about law and order, that standard cannot suddenly disappear when law enforcement is involved in conduct we find politically convenient. And if we're going to wave the American flag while talking about freedom, perhaps we should occasionally remember that the people who disagree with us are Americans, too.

I'm not suggesting that we all need to hold hands, sing Kumbaya, and pretend our differences don't matter. They do. Some differences are fundamental, and some political decisions have consequences that cannot simply be explained away as differences of opinion.

But I'm increasingly concerned that we've reached a point where winning an argument, defeating the other side, or humiliating someone with an opposing viewpoint has become more important than actually making the country better.

And that's a pretty miserable way to govern a country.

The election gave me a moment of relief, and I'll take it. But relief isn't resolution. Moving the needle isn't the same as fixing the problem, and changing who's in charge doesn't automatically change the culture that allowed so many of these problems to develop in the first place.

I don't want to spend the rest of my life treating every election like the final battle for the soul of the country. I'd much rather see a government that makes that kind of anxiety unnecessary. One that actually works for the people, protects their rights, respects the rule of law, and understands that public service isn't an opportunity to enrich yourself or punish those who disagree with you.

Maybe that's asking too much.

But if we can't agree that those are worthwhile goals, then perhaps the problem is bigger than our political differences.

And if we're going to keep insisting that the other side is destroying America, maybe we should occasionally ask ourselves what we're doing to help save it.

Please email me at lansingallstar@gmail.com.

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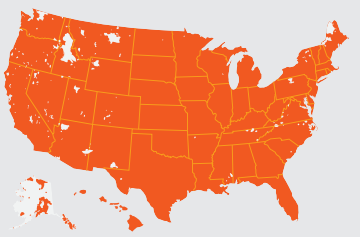

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Lansing has a new $40 million City Hall



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DeSean 'Whipdog' Whipple returns to the ring



PAGE 30

A heart for Golden Harvest and its $15 breakfasts

Cover photo by Raymond Holt

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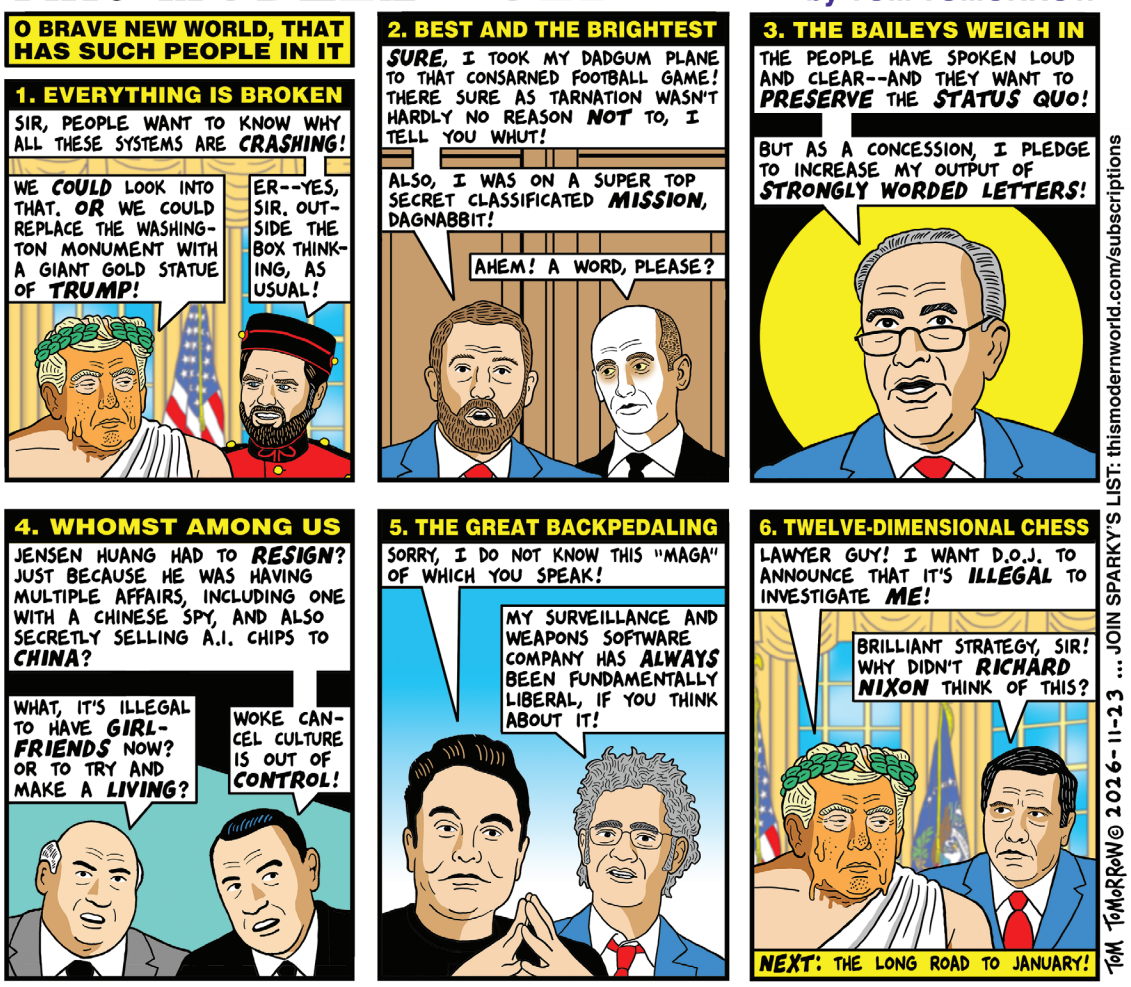
City Pulse was founded as an alternative weekly in 2001.

THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW



PULSE NEWS & OPINION

Silver Bells, Silver Bells ... soon it will be Christmas Day

Silver Bells in the City is typically the biggest event in Lansing each year, and the mild weather Friday night (Nov. 20) — starting in the 60s — brought out significant crowds, likely well above the projected 40,000. The annual event features a light parade, the lighting of the state Christmas tree, a drone show and fireworks as well as a vendor village and a sing-along.

Photos by Raymond Holt for City Pulse



The Waverly School Marching Band is a menace to gravity.



Elisea and her 7-week-old son, Malachi, made their first Silver Bells appearance together.



An unseasonably warm and sunny November day made for a pleasant Silver Bells.



Smiles were made under the state Christmas tree.



A large crowd turned their cameras to catch the moment the state Christmas tree was lit.

Lansing Police confirm ICE in town

By MIKE ELLIS

In a social media post on Friday (Nov. 20), the Lansing Police Department confirmed that ICE was active in Lansing that morning, the day of the city's biggest annual event, Silver Bells in the City.

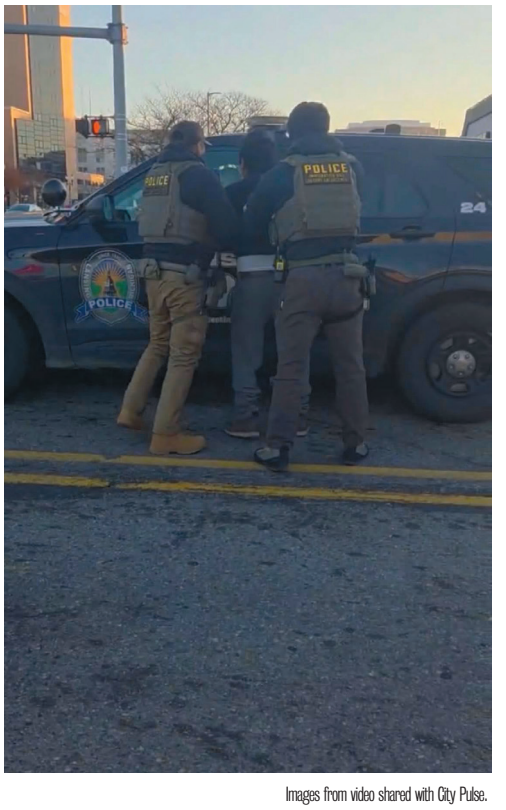
More than 40,000 people were expected to come to the event, and Michigan State University was also playing Oregon later that day, making it one of the busiest days in the region this year.

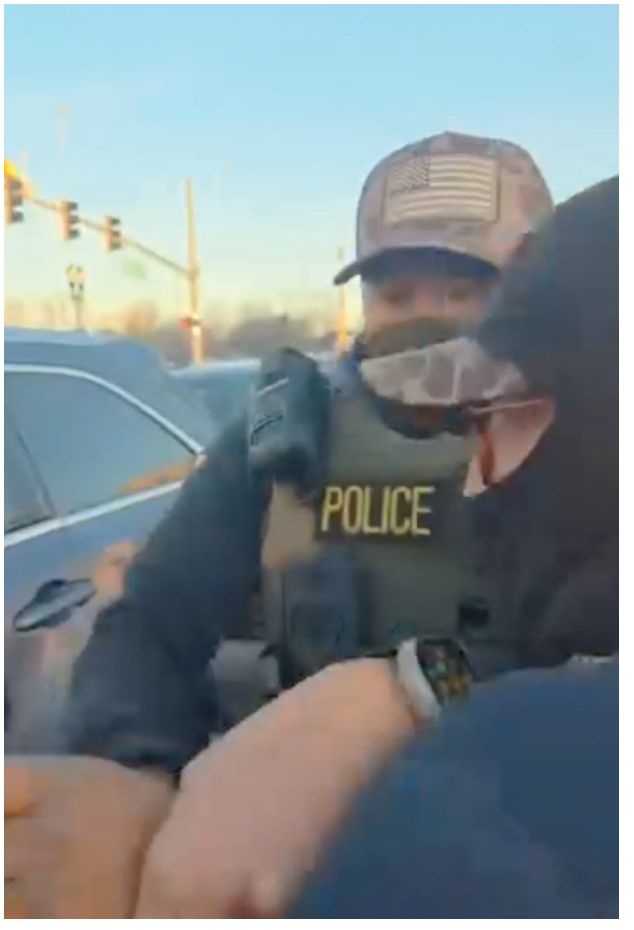
"Although an LPD vehicle was at the intersection," the police department said in the social media post, "we were NOT involved, as the officer was there for a different, unrelated reason. We have no other details at this time but we wanted to share this information out of an abundance of transparency."

Lansing Migra Watch, a group that in part monitors ICE activities, posted on Facebook that "This morning at 8am two community members were kidnapped by ICE working closely with LPD."

Images shared by the group show masked and unmasked officials apparently arresting someone and holding them against a Lansing Police Department vehicle. The people in the photos are wearing "police" branding, and in the video, some of the people are wearing Enforcement and Removal Operations insignia, indicating they are part of the ICE division.

Lansing Migra Watch and dozens of people protested Friday.





Images from video shared with City Pulse.

CITY OF GRAND LEDGE
NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF PROPOSED PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN FOR PUBLIC REVIEW
&
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS

A draft 5-year Parks and Recreation Master Plan for the City of Grand Ledge is available for public review and comments. Anyone interested can send comments to the Parks and Recreation Commission or will be given an opportunity to comment at the following public hearing:

City Council: Monday, 14 December 2026, at 7:00 p.m.
Grand Ledge City Hall, 310 Greenwood Street, Grand Ledge, MI 48837

Written comments may be sent to:

Grand Ledge Parks and Recreation Commission c/o Community Development Department

310 Greenwood Street Grand Ledge, MI 48837
or emailed to

cityhall@cityofgrandledge.com

Copies of the plan are on file at the following locations:

Grand Ledge City Hall: 310 Greenwood Street, Grand Ledge, MI 48837
Grand Ledge Area District Library: 131 E. Jefferson Street, Grand Ledge, MI 48837

A copy of the plan is also available on the City's website: cityofgrandledge.com

For more information contact:

Rich Morrison, Community Development Director

The meeting location is accessible to people with disabilities. The City of Grand Ledge will provide necessary auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the learning impaired and audiotapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting to individuals with disabilities at the meeting upon one week's notice to the City of Grand Ledge. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aid or services should contact the City of Grand Ledge by writing or calling the following:

Gregory Newman, City Clerk
310 Greenwood Street, Grand Ledge, MI 48837
Voice: (517)-627-2149 Email: gnewman@cityofgrandledge.com

CP#26-434

CITY OF EAST LANSING SUMMARY
OF ADOPTED ORDINANCE NO. 1584

On November 17, 2026, the East Lansing City Council adopted an Ordinance of the City of East Lansing, to restate and amend Ordinance No. 1173 of the Code of the City of East Lansing, which provides for a service charge in lieu of taxes for the multiple family dwelling development located at 1801 N. Hagadorn, and more commonly known as the East Glen Apartments, for elderly and handicapped persons of low and moderate income which is financed or assisted pursuant to the provisions of the State Housing Development Authority Act of 1966, Public Act 346 of 1966, as amended, for the purpose of amending section 3. H. by amending the definition of "sponsor" to include a sponsor's "successors and assigns and to include the initial successor/assignee East Glen Owner Limited Dividend Housing Association, LLC."

Effective date: Pursuant to Charter Section 6.3., Upon Publication

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

Emily Gordon,
East Lansing City Clerk

CP#26-435

CITY OF EAST LANSING SUMMARY
OF ADOPTED ORDINANCE # 1575

On November 17, 2026, the East Lansing City Council adopted an Ordinance of the City of East Lansing, Michigan, to amend the Zoning Use District Map of Chapter 50 – Zoning – of the code of the City of East Lansing. Amendments include, but are not limited to, EV charging and parking, landscaping, beekeeping, and other recommendations of the Green Code Study Committee.

Effective date: Pursuant to Charter Section 6.3,Upon publication

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

Emily Gordon,
East Lansing City Clerk

CP#26-436

Michigan airport officials expect smooth holiday travel despite groundstop fallout

By ALEXANDER BOESCH
Capital News Service

LANSING – Recent disruptions in aviation have cast doubt on the industry's ability to get people around the country this holiday season following the mid-November nationwide grounding of commercial planes and the resulting fallout.

The Federal Aviation Administration issued the nationwide ground order on Nov. 13 due to complications from maintenance problems. The ground order was lifted the following day, but many stranded passengers needed multiple days to get back on track.

Cortez Strickland, the communications and public relations manager at the Wayne County Airport Authority, said his agency does not make decisions on cancellations or delays, but the airport encourages travellers to check flight information ahead of time.

The authority, which oversees the Detroit Metropolitan Wayne County Airport (DTW), is anticipating more than four million passengers throughout the holiday travel season that stretches from Nov. 20 to Jan. 3.

"We continue to remain focused on providing a world-class experience for our customers and guests just like we would any other day of the calendar year," Strickland said.

Strickland said that the airport is opening a new short-term waiting area for pickups, reducing traffic at the pickup curb. The lot is expected to open before the holiday season.

"It's in a more convenient location than the previous North Cell Phone Lot, which is intended to reduce congestion at the curb and create a safer environment for everyone moving through our airport," Strickland said.

Kevin Klein, the CEO of Cherry Capital Airport in Traverse City, said the airport anticipates around 2,000 passengers a day for the holiday season, with travel typically peaking around the Thanksgiving holiday and then picking up again in mid-December.

It's the state's third-busiest airport after DTW and the Gerald R. Ford International Airport in Grand Rapids.

Klein said that he does not expect lingering fallout from the nationwide grounding on Nov. 13 to disrupt the holiday season.

"The system didn't stop, and that's the one thing that I want to make sure people are reassured by the fact that yes, there was an issue with some communication, but the system didn't stop," said Klein.

"It still kept operating. It just was diminished, and when it was diminished, it was very similar to almost like a heavy snowstorm," said Klein.



Mike Ellis/City Pulse

U.S. Secretary of Transportation Sean Duffy at the Capital Region International Airport this summer.

U.S. Secretary of Transportation Sean Duffy said the outage was due to either faulty equipment or an installation error during routine maintenance, which disrupted communication and the radar feed.

"When we see that, your safety is paramount. We shut down the airspace, and we do it safely. We get you on the ground, and then we work on isolating the problem and then opening the airspace back up, which is what we did yesterday," Duffy said at a press conference the day after the shutdown.

Duffy reiterated that the FAA system is outdated, and that the administration needs additional funding to overhaul systems from analog to digital. Duffy said that delays would become more common as the system ages.

Lansing's new City Hall aims for first-floor efficiency

By MIKE ELLIS

Lansing's new City Hall opened to the public Monday (Nov. 23). It was on time and on budget, before the end of the year and funded by a $40 million state appropriation.

The building is designed for efficient public service, making the "one-stop shop" area on the first floor, where the public goes, look like a bank or a post office with walk-up teller windows and self-service kiosks.

Mayor Andy Schor has emphasized the "one-stop shop" focus throughout his role in the process. But the new city hall idea predates him and has been a priority of mayors since at least David Hollister in the 1990s. The current building was finished in 1958 and is expected to be redeveloped into a hotel by Bietler Real Estate Services, based in the Chicago area.

The new city hall will retain the name of David Hollister, who died in September, just two months before the opening.

Hollister was involved in some of the planning elements of the current building, including where his name will appear, said deputy mayor Christopher Mumby, who hosted City Pulse and other media in a tour of the building on Wednesday.

More than 200 city workers will work in the building; IT workers began moving in recently but most workers didn't get to move in until late last week or on Monday.



Mike Ellis/City Pulse

Lansing's new City Hall is at the intersection of Grand Avenue and East Lenawee Street.

Most of city business will be done – at least the public-facing side – from the building. Bills, permits, economic development, passports and more will be handled at the first-floor kiosks first. There are breakout rooms, conference rooms and other spaces but most of the public will be in either the "one stop shop" area or the city council chambers.

The chambers will have flexible seating that can be rearranged, but not exactly tossed around like wrestling chairs, Mumby said.

About 155 people can fit in the chambers, with another 35 able to sit outside the glass doors.

Parking has been a key concern for people ahead of the opening. There will be 10 spaces for the public right out front and additional street parking nearby, along with a garage.

The building's funding was secured with the help of state Sen. Sarah Anthony, a Lansing Democrat who is expected to continue in her powerful role as Senate Appropriations chair, according to incoming Senate Majority Leader Darrin Camilleri, a Trenton Democrat.

East Lansing approves $472K federal grant with strings that conflict with sanctuary city policy

By ERICK DÍAZ VELIZ

East Lansing City Council members voted 3-1 at a Nov. 17 meeting to accept a $472,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Justice, which would replace decade-old security cameras at municipal facilities, despite residents' concerns that strings attached to the federal funding could conflict with the city's 2023 sanctuary city policies and expose immigrant communities to immigration enforcement.

"This money is important for the city," East Lansing Mayor Erik Altmann said. "We don't have the luxury of half-million-dollar grants falling into our laps. We're a city that doesn't have two nickels to rub together and we spend an awful lot of time figuring out how to pay for the things we need. Now we have an opportunity to do that, and I think we should grab it."

The grant will fund upgrades to about 350 cameras across 19 municipal buildings and facilities, including City Hall, the Hannah Community Center and parking structures. It was awarded through the DOJ's Community-Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Technology and Equipment Program.

But there are three controversial conditions:

- requiring the city not to restrict the sharing of information about individuals' citizenship or immigration status with federal, state and local government agencies, including ICE;
- requiring the city to certify that it does not operate diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) programs
- requiring compliance with presidential memoranda and executive federal orders.

Several residents said, during the Nov. 17 council meeting, that the change could require local cooperation with federal immigration authorities, including ICE, as well as conditions refuting certain DEI policies. Several residents urged officials to reject the funding or postpone the vote to a public hearing until they could review the federal conditions more thoroughly.

City staff told council members that East Lansing had only until Nov. 20 to sign the grant agreement, leaving the city just three days after the meeting to finalize its decision.

Karen Hoene, chair of the city's Human Rights Commission, questioned why the grant had initially been placed on the consent agenda, which allows council members to approve multiple items together without separate discussion. It was later moved to the business agenda.

Abbie Tykocki, a member of the East Lansing School Board who said she was speaking as a private citizen, warned that accepting the funding could transfer the consequences of a federal dispute to immigrant residents. "Elected officials are supposed to make difficult decisions and accept responsibility for the consequences, and I believe council members should be willing to take risks when those risks fall on themselves," Tykocki said. "Don't ask the immigrants to pay for city surveillance cameras with their safety. Don't ask our most vulnerable residents to bear risks that you aren't willing to bear yourselves."

MSU alum Cassidy Howard questioned the city's decision to prioritize such a large sum of money, given the vulnerability of immigrant residents under federal conditions.



Erick Diaz Veliz for City Pulse

East Lansing City Council members during a Nov. 17 meeting.

"I believe you have been put in these seats to take care of us," she said. "And not compromise our safety, especially, as stated, the many immigrants and international students who find a home here. I believe we deserve safety, and I believe our neighbors are worth more than $472,000."

City staff explained that the existing cameras were installed primarily in 2014 and 2016 and have exceeded their expected six-to-eight-year life cycle. Some equipment has been kept working only with repairs and replacement parts. The proposed cameras would be used for security and for reviewing incidents at municipal facilities, not for facial recognition, tracking individuals, or connecting to external databases, according to the city.

Councilmember Mark Meadows argued that the federal conditions raised constitutional concerns and said accepting the grant did not require East Lansing to abandon its existing immigration policies. He said the city would formally notify the federal government that it intended to maintain its sanctuary city policies. Under the grant agreement, the DOJ could terminate the award or seek repayment if the city failed to comply with its conditions.

Meadows acknowledged that challenging potential federal enforcement could result in expensive litigation but argued that the city should defend its established policies.

Altmann, who introduced the motion to accept the agreement, supported moving forward, saying the funding was important for replacing critical infrastructure and that the city should not abandon its existing protections for immigrants. The motion passed with Mayor Altmann and council members Mark Meadows and Steven Whelan voting in favor. Mayor pro tem Chuck Grigsby voted against it. Councilmember Kerry Ebersole Singh was absent.

WILLIAMSTOWN TOWNSHIP
Board Meeting Synopsis – November 18, 2026

The Williamstown Township Board held a regular Board Meeting on Wednesday, November 18, 2026 with Supervisor Poth, Clerk Cleveland, Treasurer VanErp, Trustee Brinker, Trustee Creagh, Trustee Duffy, and Trustee Steinberg present. The Board approved the following:

- Consent Agenda
- Re-appointment of Brian Johnston, Jerry Eidt, Lisa Fletcher to the Board of Review (BOR) and re-appointment of Kevin Mark as alternate to the BOR with 2-year terms to expire 12-31-2028.
- Appointed Clerk Robin Cleveland as Responsible Entity Officer (REO) for wage reporting at the Social Security Administration.
- Public Hearing for the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) for December 9, 2026.
- Revision of frequency for review of the CIP to only even-numbered years.
- Made amendments to the Cemetery Ordinance related to natural burial.
- Purchase of two mowers for the park and cemeteries.
- Safe Routes to School resolution, authorizing the City of Williamston to utilize grant monies previously awarded to Williamstown Township.

The next regular Board meeting will be held December 9, 2026 at 6:30pm in the Community Room of the Township Hall, 4990 Zimmer Rd., Williamston. There will also be a public hearing for the Capital Improvement Plan at this meeting. Visit williamstownmi.gov for the latest agenda, documents, and updates. Phone (517) 655-3193.

Robin A. Cleveland, MiPMC
Williamstown Township Clerk

CP#26-437

CITY OF GRAND LEDGE
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Grand Ledge Planning Commission will hold a public hearing during its regular meeting at 6:30 p.m., on Thursday, 03 December 2026, to consider and receive public input on a proposed ordinance amending the City Code, Chapter 46 – Zoning, Article I – In General, Section 46-19 – Keeping of Animals. The proposed ordinance is available for review on the City's website at www.cityofgrandledge.com and at the City Clerk's office, 310 Greenwood St., Grand Ledge, Michigan, between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

The meeting will be held in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 310 Greenwood St., Grand Ledge MI 48837, in compliance with the Open Meetings Act, as amended, and will also be livestreamed via Zoom for informational purposes only. The online stream can be accessed at https://www.zoom.us with the Meeting ID: 872 0439 1493, or by calling +1 305 224 1968, +1 309 205 3325, +1 312 626 6799 (Chicago), +1 646 876 9923 (New York), +1 646 931 3860, +1 301 715 8592 (Washington DC), +1 564 217 2000, +1 669 444 9171, +1 669 900 6833 (San Jose), +1 689 278 1000, +1 719 359 4580, +1 253 205 0468, +1 253 215 8782 (Tacoma), +1 346 248 7799 (Houston), +1 360 209 5623, +1 386 347 5053, +1 408 638 0968 (San Jose), +1 507 473 4847 with Meeting ID: 872 0439 1493.

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

Gregory Newman, City Clerk

CP#26-438

REWIND

NEWS HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE LAST 7 DAYS

COMPILED BY STEVE UNDERWOOD FROM LOCAL NEWS SOURCES



Michigan State University's largest academic building, the Biomedical Physical Sciences Building, was briefly evacuated Monday as a precaution when a nearby under-construction building caught fire. No injuries were reported in the fire, which happened at the Plant and Environmental Science Building, which remained closed, according to a Monday update from the university.

The Department of Homeland Security told WILX News 10 that Immigration and Customs Enforcement officials arrested a man from Honduras during an enforcement operation Friday morning in an incident that led to a large community outcry. In the statement, DHS officials told WILX that a man ran from officers during a vehicle stop and was ultimately arrested. The station also reported that the man remained in ICE custody pending immigration proceedings, citing the DHS statement. The Lansing Police Department said an officer(s) was nearby for an unrelated reason but the department was not involved in the ICE operations.

Impact 89/WDBM-FM has been named the best student-run station in the country for the third time. The award for National College Audio Outlet of the Year is given by the College Media Association (CMA). In two major award contests in the last month, the CMA and the College Broadcasting Inc., about 20 of MSU's student-run station journalists racked up individual awards as well. "These awards truly reflect the hard work and dedication of our student staff," said Kennedy DeMars, station manager, in a statement. "Every student here at Impact 89FM constantly demonstrates the high quality of work that is possible at a student media organization."



Former Lansing Mayor David Hollister was honored Monday in a ceremony at Lansing Community College, which followed his death in September. The former mayor was recognized by a laundry list of state politicians and city leaders, who remembered his causes and jovial nature. Hollister was inspired by a chance meeting with Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., which helped him to move from being a social studies teacher at Durand and Lansing Eastern high schools to elected office as a county commissioner and then state representative, before becoming mayor. Hollister later left office to take a role in the administration of Gov. Jennifer Granholm. He later disclosed a Parkinson's diagnosis, but still kept his long routine of running or walking throughout his life. He is widely credited with leading the push to reverse a GM decision to close a Lansing auto plant. Hollister's ceremony happened on the same day that the city opened up its new City Hall, a building he had championed. His name will adorn the new City Hall, as it did the old one.



Students at Everett High School filled the bleachers in the school's gym Friday for a pep rally where players on the MSU men's basketball team, along with head coach Tom Izzo, talked about young adult mental health. According to a 2024 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention report, suicide is the second leading cause of death among young adults ages 10-24. In his speech, Izzo told students to treat mental health concerns like physical or academic struggles. "If you want to get academically better, you go see your teacher," he said, "if you want to get physically better, you go see your coach. If you want to get mentally better, it should be the same approach." The assembly, hosted by nonprofit CareSource, was a warm-up to MSU's upcoming game against the University of Arkansas. The two schools will face each other for a Thanksgiving game at Little Caesars Arena in Detroit as part of the CareSource Invitational, a series of college basketball games centered around supporting youth mental health, with an emphasis on suicide prevention.

...

Izzo said events like the invitational make uncomfortable conversations, like those about mental health, a little easier. Invoking the name of the high school's famous graduate and NBA Hall of Famer, Earvin "Magic" Johnson, Izzo told the students to take care of each other. "As Earvin said, don't be a great friend ... be an elite friend and take care of the people around you." Brandon Saho, a former sports reporter turned mental health awareness advocate, also spoke during the rally. "You never know what someone's going through," he said. "You might change someone's day, even change or save their life." Later to reporters, Izzo said that as a coach, he is often one of the first to see the mental health challenges of his players. "If we have any inclination, we try to get them set up with professionals," he said. "And definitely make them realize this is not a negative. This is a positive." He wants students to know that asking for help is not a weakness. "It's actually a strength."



Sheep are munching away at the last of the summer grass in and around a small solar panel farm in Lansing Township. The flock of 125 will soon be trucked away to warm up during the winter. Sheep, it turns out, are the best grass-eaters for solar farms. Goats would climb the panels like a jungle gym and cows would use the post for scratching. But sheep? Docile, gentle and easily transportable, sheep are exactly what a solar farm needs. Using livestock can help save money over human mowing crews and curbing some of the gas-powered mowers will help to move the needle on the utility's environmental goals, said Dick Peffley, CEO of the Lansing Board of Water and Light. Shepherd Egypt Krohn, owner of Dragonfly Downs Farm in Grand Ledge, said the sheep require little water, no more than 20-30 gallons a day on the hot days and that fits in a small tank on the back of her truck. The flock is kept there behind a portable electric fence, run by its own small independent solar array.

...

The solar farm generates about 6MW of power from about 13,000 panels on a site at Lake Lansing Road and Wood Street, on the site of a former gravel pit and disposal site. The ground is now covered in grass except for the large banks of solar panels. Solar accounts for around 10% of BWL's generation; gas is around half. The Lake Lansing Solar site is relatively small at 6MW. BWL gets 115MW from the Whitetail Solar array in Washtenaw County and between 10MW and 80MW from three other solar sites in Eaton, Clinton and Shiawassee counties. But its location on Lake Lansing Road in the Lansing Township-Lansing-East Lansing borderlands makes it a prominent reminder of BWL's green initiatives. Peffley said the sheep and the site amounted to a bit of a defiant act, pointing to criticism about farmland being turned into solar farms. "We came up with this idea to do the exact opposite here," he said. "This has always been light industrial; now we're going to use it for agricultural use."

State of Michigan Probate Court, County of Ingham, Proof of Service, File #2023-1109-GA. In the matter of Yvonne Denise Bunce: Annual Report of Guardian on Condition of Legally Incapacitated Individual. After diligent search and inquiry, I have been unable to find and serve the following interested persons. I have served these persons by publication. Attached are copies of form PC 617: Cameron M. Bunce. I declare under the penalties of perjury that this proof of service has been examined by me and that its contents are true to the best of my information, knowledge, and belief. 11/25/26, Kyilah A Harris.

CP#26-441

CITY OF GRAND LEDGE
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Grand Ledge Planning Commission will hold a public hearing during its regular meeting at 6:30 p.m., on Thursday, 03 December 2026, to consider and receive public input on a proposed ordinance amending the City Code, Chapter 46 – Zoning, Article I – In General, Section 46-67 – Definitions, to redefine "Livestock." The proposed ordinance is available for review on the City's website at www.cityofgrandledge.com and at the City Clerk's office, 310 Greenwood St., Grand Ledge, Michigan, between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

The meeting will be held in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 310 Greenwood St., Grand Ledge MI 48837, in compliance with the Open Meetings Act, as amended, and will also be livestreamed via Zoom for informational purposes only. The online stream can be accessed at https://www.zoom.us with the Meeting ID: 872 0439 1493, or by calling +1 305 224 1968, +1 309 205 3325, +1 312 626 6799 (Chicago), +1 646 876 9923 (New York), +1 646 931 3860, +1 301 715 8592 (Washington DC), +1 564 217 2000, +1 669 444 9171, +1 669 900 6833 (San Jose), +1 689 278 1000, +1 719 359 4580, +1 253 205 0468, +1 253 215 8782 (Tacoma), +1 346 248 7799 (Houston), +1 360 209 5623, +1 386 347 5053, +1 408 638 0968 (San Jose), +1 507 473 4847 with Meeting ID: 872 0439 1493.

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

Gregory Newman, City Clerk

CP#26-439

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN, INGHAM COUNTY
LEGAL AD NOTICE: ZONING AMENDMENT #26040
HARD CIDER PRODUCTION
MONDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2026

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
LEGAL NOTICE
Zoning Amendment #26040 – Hard Cider Production
Public Hearing

Notice is hereby given that the Planning Commission of the Charter Township of Meridian will hold a public hearing on Monday, December 14, 2026 at 6:30 p.m. in the Meridian Municipal Building, Town Hall Room, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI, 48864 to hear all persons interested in a proposed zoning amendment. The Meridian Township Planning Commission has proposed to amend Sec. 86-368 of the Zoning Ordinance to add hard cider production as a customary agricultural operation.

A complete copy of the amendment may be viewed at the Community Planning and Development office, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, Michigan 48864-1198 (phone 517-853-4560), between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Written comments may be sent prior to the public hearing to the Planning Commission, Charter Township of Meridian, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, Michigan, 48864, or by email to shorkey@meridian.mi.us.

Angela Demas, Township Clerk
November 25, 2026

CP#26-440

Providing a safe and welcoming, sustainable, prime community.

A PRIME COMMUNITY
meridian.mi.us

David Hollister showed Lansing what an effective mayor could do

By KYLE MELINN

Moments before David Hollister's public celebration of life began on Monday, who should come up to me but former Lansing Mayor Virg Bernero?



POLITICS

His first line to me was this:

"If it wasn't for Mayor Hollister, there would have not been a Mayor Bernero."

It took me a minute to register what he meant.

Does that mean Hollister recruited him to run? Did Hollister go to bat for him in either of his campaigns, the one he lost in 2003 or the one he won in 2005?

The answer to all those questions was no.

What he meant was this: Former Mayor David Hollister showed Virg (and all of us, really) what a mayor could do to transform a city.

If you had the right person in place - that was Hollister - you could use the office of mayor to do great things.

Virg told me he never had visions of being the mayor of Lansing when he started his political career, first as a legislative staffer, county commissioner and legislator. He confided that he saw himself going to Washington someday as a member of Congress.

The office of mayor was not on his radar.

Terry McKane was Lansing's mayor in the late '80s and early '90s when Bernero started his political career as a legislative staffer.

At that time, Lansing was ... well, not what it is today. Strip clubs once stood where Jackson Field is today. Entire blocks of Michigan Avenue were urban wasteland. Outside of Kewpee's and the Peanut Shop, not much was going on downtown.

But under Hollister, Lansing turned things around. Roughly $2.9 billion in public and private investment. A new downtown transportation center, a minor league baseball stadium and new state office buildings led to a livelier downtown and to Old Town became a real thing

And then, of course, came Hollister refusing to let General Motors leave town. He brought together everybody – labor, government, business, community leaders – to figure out how to keep auto manufacturing in the region.

Bernero said he saw what was possible. He wanted to be like Hollister.

Do you remember how often Virg talked about Mayor Hollister during his campaigns for mayor? Having covered all of his campaigns for mayor, I sure do.

It was a lot.

Tony Benavides -- who succeeded Hollister in 2003 and then lost to Bernero in 2005 – was so annoyed by Virg's constant references to the former mayor that he once told Bernero, "You talk about Hollister so much, I can get you his pants for you."

There's a lot to say about Bernero.

However, it's not disputed that he helped bring in $2 billion in private investment in Lansing. Does the Ottawa Street Power Station become the Accident Fund's headquarters without him? Is the river trail system kept up as it is?

Of course, Bernero wasn't Hollister. Lansing Mayor Andy Schor is not David Hollister, either. But both have used Hollister as a guidepost to measure what a successful mayor in Lansing can accomplish.

Both have governed with an energy and a determination so Lansing does not slip backward. They refuse to be complacent and push for progress.

That enormous crane dangling over the new 28-story Tower on Grand, Lansing's newest development, is proof of that.

So is the new city hall, another Hollister vision that, interestingly, became a reality the exact day of Hollister's celebration of life.

"It's one of the first things he talked to me about when I told him I wanted to run for mayor," said Schor, adding that Hollister told him, "Find a way to make it happen."

"And we did so," Schor said.

If Lansing keeps electing collaborative, go-getting dreamers, the new David C. Hollister Lansing City Hall couldn't be more appropriately named.

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

Gift Guide 2026

Set yourself apart

Don't be known as the online algorithm shopper this year

Here's a list of some Lansing area shops that offer unique gifts, many of them are locally made and all of them will be a hit this year.

We've picked out a selection of gifts, including Lansing-centered (and Big Penny) art from Ryan Holmes, glass ornaments from Great Lakes Art & Gifts or you can give friends and family the supplies they need to make their own masterpieces from Odd Nodd Art Supply.

And one of the most flexible gifts you can give can be perfectly crafted in Lansing: Gift baskets.

You can pack your own basket – grab a basket at a thrift store and wipe it down, line it with some colored tissue paper or a scrap of fabric.

Fill your basket by visiting a variety of Lansing shops to pick up chocolates, nuts, cheese, coffee and local beer.

Make it easy and take a stroll through one of the major shopping districts: Old Town, REO Town, downtown and Frandor for starters.

The fun part about building a basket is making it click for the person you're gifting to because a basket can be an incredible personal touch.

Or just grab a ready-made basket off the shelf at Horrocks, and many of the places on the list offer their own baskets too.

And if a food-centered gift isn't right, we've got music, books and shops that offer a ton of odds and ends and especially things you won't find on those online apps.



Books

A Novel Concept
Starting at $18 for new softcovers
Tues.-Fri. 11a-6p; Sat. 11a-4p
222 S Washington Square
www.anovelconcept517.com

A Novel Concept is a queer, feminist bookstore in downtown Lansing. It offers tailored recommendations and offers a space for local performances as the host of #LansingReads book club. There are always new recommendations, including a batch for the holiday season.

Chocolates

Fabiano's Candies
$14.50 for a half pound
M-F 9:30a-5:30p; Sat. 10a-4p
1427 E. Michigan Ave.
fabianoscandies.com

Fabiano's has been serving up the good stuff – like candy and ice cream – for 100 years and is a capitol institution. Grab a ready-to-go box of chocolates, $14.50 for a half pound, or choose from their showcase selections of chocolates and candies. Or dive right in and walk out with a five-pound box of chocolates, enough to last you a full holiday party and maybe have some leftover.





Compact discs

Flat, Black and Circular
$5 for CDs
Noon-6p, all week
541 E Grand River Ave.
flatblackandcircular.net

The East Lansing institution, since 1977, is back in the circular swing of CDs. Vinyl record albums are still popular, but the more affordable CDs are moving like they haven't in years. The cheap bin starts at $1 per CD with more used CD choices available from hundreds of acts, and start at $5. The shop also sells clothing, artwork, books and offers gift cards.





Baskets

Horrocks Farm Market
Prices vary
7a-10p (beer garden and tavern are open for shorter hours)
7420 W. Saginaw Hwy.
www.shophorrocks.com

Horrocks is a Lansing classic: An old-school grocery store with a wide variety of snacks, speciality foods and hard-to-find ingredients. Their holiday baskets include plenty of under-$50 options as well as premium ones like a full fruit bushel for $186. Horrocks has beer, wine, gourmet and office-focused basket options. The store can also make custom baskets, or you can pile up your cart with everything you'd want someone else to gift you.

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Gift Guide

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Soaps

Slyvia's Sudsery
Baskets for $30
10a-7p, Tues.-Sat.
11a-4p, Sun.; closed Mon.
223 S. Washington Sq., Lansing
sylviassudsery.com

The effervescent soap shop fills downtown most days with soap bubbles, leaving a trail of scent to draw in visitors. The Sudsery has all the body care products you'd expect, plus there are regular soap-making classes ($65, includes the soap you make). Body butters start at $8 and there are pre-made baskets for $30.





Glass ornaments and Michigan handmade gifts

Great Lakes Art & Gifts
$12/ornament or 2/$20; handmade gifts vary
Thur.-Sat., 12 p-4 p; Tues., Wed., Sun., 12 p-4 p; closed Mon.
306 E César E. Chávez Ave
glagoldtown.com

Great Lakes Art & Gifts is an artist collective stocked with mediums from ceramics and wood turning to sewing and soaps. The shop has work from more than 30 Michigan artists, with plenty of smalls that would work in a basket, including stickers and greeting cards, from $4 to $5.50. Or go for the full-size works like fused glass or paintings or printings.





Peanuts and snacks

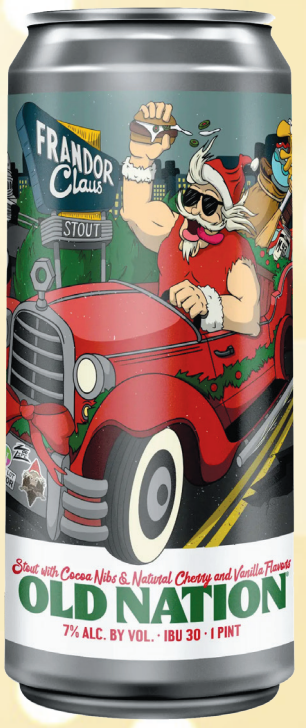
The Peanut Shop
$7.25 for a half pound of Capital City mix; snacks are available in gift tins (starting at around $20 filled)
Mon.-Sat.: 9:30a-5:30p
117 S. Washington Sq., Lansing
www.lansingpeanutshop.com

A Lansing classic and holiday staple, The Peanut Shop knows what the people want: Snacks. Get all the nuts, sweets, chocolates, candies and treats that people have been demanding for generations and generations. Pick up a variety tin and gift several different mixes at once. This year, they've added cinnamon; try the "Cinnamon Best Mix" at $10/half pound.

Beer

Old Nation Brewing Co.
$16 for a four-pack of Frandor Claus
Brewpub hours vary; available in stores too
1500 Grand River Ave.
oldnationbrewing.com

When what to my wondering eyes did appear, but a jolly old dude and he's slamming a beer? In 2023, local social media jokesters at Lansing Facts reminded everyone to leave a beer out for Frandor Claus, a holiday hero named for our most famous — or perhaps infamous — shopping center. Returning this year, Old Nation's Frandor Claus stout, blessed by the owners of Frandor, is available at stores statewide.



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A new year deserves a new skill!

View fun, non-credit community classes at **lcc.edu/keeplearning**

LANSING COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Adult Enrichment Program

Gift Guide

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Ryan Holmes Art

Prints for $15
ryanholmesart.bigcartel.com

Holmes crafts a ton of great Lansing art, with themes like "The Elusive Sasquatch and the Search for Chip Dip" and "The Creature from the Flooded (Potter Park) Zoo" just scratching the surface. He is one of many local artists to have found inspiration in Lansing's maybe-too-short Pennsylvania Street bridge, nicknamed Penny the Truck Munching Bridge. Holmes said his "Big Penny 100th Munch" print, with the bridge enjoying a candy bar-branded semi-truck, is a popular choice and on sale now for $9.

Art supplies

Odd Nodd Art Supply
King Art Acrylic Paint roller pens, $15
Mon.-Sat. Noon-6p, until 5p on Sundays; open Fridays and Saturdays until 8pm through Christmas
317 E. Cesar E. Chavez Ave.
Odd Nodd Art Supply



The art and writing supply shop has all the paints, pencils and other gear to get started or finished. They are featuring Blackwing pencils - used by artists like John Steinbeck, Chuck Jones and Quincy Jones - with licensed branding like Mickey Mouse and Fender guitars and in sizes like an Audubon Society Birding journal. They have popular blind boxes, including squeeze toys. The King Art roller pens are exactly what you've always imagined colorful roller pens would be, pop in and test one out. These pens are always getting reordered.



Cards and stationery

Dear Ollie & Co.
Cards start at $5
Tues.-Sat. 11a-6p
222 S. Washington Sq.
www.DearOllie.com

Make memories on paper in a digital world, stop by Dear Ollie and get unique and hand-crafted cards. The shop offers a wide selection of journals, painting kits, notepads, stickers and ornaments. Ditch the Hallmark tradition this year and give them a card that's a bit more personal and a lot cooler.

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UNITED WAY
South Central Michigan

UNITED IS THE WAY™

we build thriving communities for all

JOIN US

UnitedForSCMI.org

GIVE TODAY



Gift Guide

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Stained glass

Lansing Art Supply
Pieces start around $15
Mon., Wed., Fri.: 10:30a-6p; Tues., Thur.: 10:30a-5:15p; Sat. 10a-4p
2320 E. Michigan Ave.
www.lansingartglass.weebly.com

The sun is still diminishing for another few weeks and what better way to celebrate the season, and the little bits of sun, than to put up a suncatcher. Lansing Art Supply has a wide variety of stained glass decorations, from small and large window displays and holiday pieces to ornaments and they also repair lamps or other glass pieces.

Florals, gifts and cooking

Twiggies
Handmade Michigan-shaped ceramic spoon rest, $19
10a-6p, Thurs, Fri.; 10a-7p, Sat.; 10a-5pm, Mon-Wed.
117 E. Cesar E. Chavez Ave., Lansing
https://twiggiesoldtown.com/

The modern-day general store includes a florist, a wide coffee selection, cooking and pantry supplies and a clothing boutique. Owner Beth Herendeen loves baskets and crafted a ginormous and weighty $500 basket for a Silver Bells auction, featuring Michigan products like a cutting board, seasonings, jellies, cooking supplies and more. Most of their baskets are a much easier on the back and on the wallet but they can make it as big as you want.





Refillable coffee tin

517 Coffee Co.
701 E. South St., Lansing
M-F 7a-2p; Sat. and Sun. 9a-3p
www.517coffeecompany.com
Coffee fans who buy their beans from local roasters know it only takes a month for beans to start going stale. Not only does this Airscape Coffee Canister ($45, including the first pound) from local roasters 517 Coffee Co. help you to keep coffee fresh for several months, the canister allows you to come back for $15/pound refills of any non-seasonal 517 coffee beans, saving about $5 each time.



Want to keep shopping?

Find more music at The Record Lounge (1027 S. Washington Ave.), Westlund's Apple Market (2301 E. Grand River) and Music Manor (3333 S. Cedar St.).
Find more books at Triple Goddess Bookstore (2019 E. Michigan Ave.), Deadtime Stories (1132 S. Washington Ave.) and a Barnes & Noble at Frandor.
Get tie-dye, headbands, jewelry and accessories at The Capital Hippie (121 S. Washington Sq.).
And consider filling your basket with more general store finds or candy from Bad Annie's Sweary Goods (1209 Turner Road), Kean's (406 S. Jefferson St., Mason) and Rocket Fizz (217 E. Grand River Ave.)



Great Lakes Current

Local Journalism. Statewide Perspective.

This Column Cannot Be Hacked



LONNIE SCOTT

THE PUBLISHER'S PORCH

I don't know about you, but lately I've started wondering if the entire internet is being held together with duct tape and a prayer.

Over the past few weeks, we've watched some of the biggest technology companies and most important systems in the country experience one failure after another.

Microsoft went down, locking people out of email. FAA issues grounded flights nationwide. Banks couldn't process transactions, and Apple services like iCloud and Apple Pay sputtered.

And if that wasn't enough, the National Security Agency, the people we count on to help protect our nation's most sensitive information, had problems with its own internal communications systems, which were down for multiple days.

Software glitches, equipment failures, and potential cyberattacks have all been blamed.

I'll leave it to you to decide how much confidence we should place in those explanations. Either way, none of it is particularly reassuring.

We've built a world where nearly everything depends on technology working exactly as it's supposed to. And when something breaks, we're left staring at a screen, hoping somebody somewhere knows how to fix it.

I'm certainly not anti-technology. Our newspapers depend on computers, websites, and digital publishing systems every day.

I often joke that The Yale Expositor was founded in 1882, and until our recent website update, I'm pretty sure the old site was built that same year.

But with Thanksgiving arriving tomorrow, I've been thinking about some of the simpler things we have to be thankful for.

Family. Friends. Good food. Our communities.

And, if you'll allow me a little shameless self-promotion, the newspaper you're holding in your hands.

Think about it.

This newspaper doesn't require a password. It doesn't need a software update. You won't be asked to verify your identity just to read about your local school board or the high school football team.

It won't crash because somebody halfway across the country accidentally unplugged a server.

And perhaps best of all, you can read the entire thing without a single pop-up asking you to accept cookies.

Unless you're at the Thanksgiving table — in which case, accept all the cookies you can get.

Now, newspapers aren't perfect. Printing presses break, delivery trucks have problems, and publishers sometimes forget to

See PORCH next page



Muhith Mahmood was sworn into office in a ceremony at the Hamtramck High School Community Center. **[Charles Sercombe/The Hamtramck Review]**

Mayor Mahmood: 'Every resident deserves to be welcomed and represented'

BY CHARLES SERCOMBE
The Hamtramck Review

HAMTRAMCK — Hamtramck has a new historic first.

After a year-long tussle over who really won the November 2025 election, Muhith Mahmood was sworn into office in a ceremony at the Hamtramck High School Community Center.

He is the city's first Bangladeshi American to become mayor, as well as the first in the state.

Mahmood was joined by about 200 fellow Bengalis and others in an inauguration that featured musical performances and dances. There was even a little bit of Elvis Presley on the bill.

Yes, you read that right — but more on that later.

Mahmood promised to usher in an era of transparency and to seek government funding to address long-standing issues with the city's infrastructure, such as the replacement of old water and sewer lines and the repairing of the city's roads.

His road to victory took no ordinary route.

As reported many times by a number of news outlets, Mahmood withstood one legal battle after another, starting with having 37 uncounted ballots included in last year's November mayoral election count.

He succeeded in that battle, and then faced a legal hurdle over whether he is truly a resident of the city.

In the meantime, while those legal matters were being resolved, Adam Alharbi, who initially won the mayoral election by 11 votes last November, served in that role.

Alharbi was heavily involved in the legal process to prevent this day from happening.

With the court victories now won — although Alharbi insists his legal fight is "far from over" — Mahmood said his victory represents a "new chapter" for the city, in his speech on Sunday.

"I'll serve you regardless of

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Great Lakes Current

Porch

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submit their columns on time.

But there's something reassuring about holding a newspaper. You can share it with a neighbor, clip out a story about your grandkid, or save it for years to come.

And none of that requires Wi-Fi.

More importantly, I'm thankful for you. Every subscriber, advertiser, and reader who supports our newspapers helps keep local journalism alive in communities across Michigan.

That's something worth celebrating.

So, from all of us at Buried Lede Media, Happy Thanksgiving.

Enjoy your turkey, spend time with the people you love, and take a little comfort in knowing that the newspaper you're holding can't be hacked.

Although your relatives can still steal it.

And if they do, remember that a newspaper subscription makes a wonderful Christmas gift. I'll see you — and maybe Aunt Linda — back here on the porch next week.

The battle over who is mayor is not over yet

BY CHARLES SERCOMBE
The Hamtramck Review

HAMTRAMCK — Former mayor Adam Alharbi isn't giving up the fight to reclaim his office.

He has asked for a recount of 37 ballots that have been at the center of a dispute over who won the mayoral seat in last year's November election.

His challenger in that election, Muhith Mahmood, successfully won his fight to have those ballots included in the results. The 37 ballots in question were found in the city clerk's office a day after the November 2025 election.

Alharbi insisted that they should not be counted since they had lost their "chain of custody," while Mahmood argued that not counting the ballots would disenfranchise those voters.

The state court of appeals eventually sided with Mahmood, and ordered the Wayne County Board of Canvassers to count those votes.

When the dust had cleared, Mahmood ended up winning the mayoral election by 12 votes.

Alharbi had recently requested a recount of the entire November 2025 election, but the Wayne County Board of Canvassers rejected that request.



Former Hamtramck mayor Adam Alharbi has asked for a recount of 37 ballots that have been at the center of a dispute over who won the mayoral seat in last year's November election. **[Charles Sercombe/The Hamtramck Review]**

A recount had already taken place for that election without including the 37 uncounted ballots, and it did nothing to change who had won the position of mayor.

That recount request was made by Mahmood right after the November 2025 election. Alharbi had been determined the winner by 11 votes.

In most election ballot recounts, it is rare for there to end up being any significant changes in the final tally.

At press time, the recount had not yet begun.

That's not all Alharbi is doing to reclaim the title of mayor.

He is also appealing a Wayne County Circuit Court decision that rejected his argument that Mahmood is not actually a resident of Hamtramck, and instead lives in Troy with this wife and family.

The judge in that case said the evidence Alharbi submitted over the residency issue was "scant, at best."

But he is still persisting in the matter.

See ALHARBI, next page

Mayor

From previous page

your background, faith, political affiliation," Mahmood said. "Every resident deserves to be welcomed and represented."

And, like many Hamtramck politicians have said in the past, Mahmood says he will look into various funding sources for infrastructure repair, housing, and public safety.

He continued: "I promise to show up, listen, work hard, and be honest with all of you. Building a stronger Hamtramck will take all of us."

This being Hamtramck, where elected officials often go off-script, the ceremony had one moment that has the town talking: Council Member Mohammed Hassan used his short turn at the lectern to taunt former Mayor Adam Alharbi, saying:

"Habibi, come here, see who is the mayor today."

That jibe made the word habibi, which is another way of saying "buddy" or "pal" in Arabic, a running joke in Hamtramck.

Alharbi was not present at the ceremony.

On Monday, fellow Council Member Nayeem Choudhury chastised fellow Bengali Hassan on social media.

"It was well-noted in the city administration, that was unacceptable, disrespectful toward the former mayor," Choudhury said. "I hope our new mayor will come out and condemn this, and apologize on behalf of the community."

Mahmood declined to jump into the fray, telling The Review that "I'm trying to stay neutral."

On Monday, Hassan was defiant, saying on social media he was criticizing Alharbi for "dividing the community," and for getting the city to pay his $200,000-plus legal bill to prevent Mahmood from taking office.

(A bare majority of three council members, Choudhury, Muhtasin Sadman, and Abu Musa, voted to have taxpayers pay for Alharbi's legal fees.)

Hassan also criticized Alharbi for filing a lawsuit against the city after the city council fired former city manager Adel Al-Adlani. Alharbi lost that lawsuit, but the city was forced to pay legal fees to defend the council.

Because of that lawsuit, Hassan said, "the city has to pay a lot of attorney fees."

But at a city council meeting a few days later, Hassan attempted to downplay his dig at Alharbi by saying he was "joking."

As for Elvis Presley, a Bangladeshi singer somewhat oddly chose to belt out what's become a wedding standard, Presley's "Can't Help Falling in Love," during the brief entertainment portion of the event.

That portion of the ceremony also featured an all-female dance troupe, clad in folk costumes, performing a Bangladeshi dance, as Mahmood was swamped by well-wishers and friends, each taking a turn to be photographed with him.

Mahmood's first city council meeting as mayor did not go smoothly. The meeting lasted for over two hours and featured numerous outbreaks of arguments between council members and even the public.

Great Lakes Current

Honoring veterans

Community honors service, sacrifice at downtown memorial

BY DAVE FREDRICK
The Yale Expositor

YALE — A chilly and gloomy Wednesday morning did little to dampen the warmth and gratitude shared in downtown Yale as community members, school leaders, and local musicians gathered at the Yale Veterans Memorial site for the annual Veterans Day service.

The solemn ceremony brought residents together to honor servicemen and servicewomen past and present, offering a dedicated time to reflect on their service and remember those who have passed away.

Guests of honor at this year's gathering included 11 local veterans who were formally recognized by the community: Jim Muldoon, Paul Williams, Andy Sanchez, Terry McGuire, Reyes Lopez, Tom Thielman, Karl Adrian, Duane Peyerk, Kevin Morris, Paul McIvor, and Mike Suwinski. Among those extending personal thanks were Yale High School Principal Brad Dykstra and Superintendent Kurt Sutton, who shook hands with the veterans and thanked them for their dedication to the country.

Music provided a spirited centerpiece for the morning's tribute. Under the direction of Stacie Gerbe, the Yale High School marching band performed a medley of songs honoring veterans. As the band struck up the national anthem, members of the Yale VFW stood at attention and saluted the American flag.

Despite the brisk November weather, the annual gathering once again served as a poignant reminder of the community's deep appreciation for its military heroes.



Yale VFW veterans salute the flag while the Yale High School marching band plays the national anthem. A handful of community members and servicemen and servicewomen gathered at the Yale Veterans Memorial site last week for the annual Veterans Day service. **[Dave Fredrick/ Expositor staff]**

Capac Main Street work nearing completion

BY DAVE FREDRICK
The Tri-City Times

CAPAC — Work on Main Street in Capac continues to make progress, despite crews missing the anticipated completion date estimated to be the end of October.

The work on the multimillion-dollar project got underway in July and has faced a number of delays along the way, including decaying infrastructure and the discovery of old water lines not previously known.

The scope of the project has included a complete reconstruction of the street, curbing, sidewalks, and utilities on a four-block section of Main Street in the Central Business District. During construction, local and through traffic has been detoured around the worksite, putting additional pressure on some village side streets.

Businesses within the construction area have struggled to stay open, with some closing until the work is completed. Patrons have had to use rear entrances of businesses while new parking spaces were created as part of the project.

The street received a major overhaul several years ago; however, the poured concrete roadway did not hold up to large volumes of traffic and winter weather. Over time, the main thoroughfare became riddled with large potholes and gaping cracks.

The village was able to secure additional funding for the current project so residents would not have to shoulder the entire cost of the work. M.L. Chartier is the general contractor on the job and is hoping to finish in the coming days.



Heavy equipment is lined up along South Main Street in Capac where work has continued on the rebuilding of the village's busiest street. **[Dave Fredrick/Tri-City Times staff]**

Alharbi

From previous page

"I want Hamtramck residents to have clear answers about how those ballots were handled and counted," Alharbi said, on his Facebook page.

And if all that fails, Alharbi said there is an "alternative path," hinting he will call for the community to support a recall election against Mahmood.

"If the court system fails to enforce justice, then there's an alternative path our residents will take to resolve this issue," he said.

Alharbi told The Review:

"That 'alternative path' is simply letting the voters weigh in through a recall election. People in our community are frustrated and want to see accountability. If the courts don't resolve the issue, residents have every legal right to organize, gather signatures, and let the voters decide."

In Michigan, recalls can't take place in the first or last six months of an elected official's term. Mahmood has only been in office for a little over a week.

There is also another hurdle: getting approval for the language of a recall petition has become tougher.

Most recall petitions are rejected, based on the lack of clarity in the language of the proposed ballot question.

So far, Hamtramck taxpayers are picking up the legal tab for Alharbi's fight to regain the job of mayor. That bill now stands at about $200,000. A bare majority of city councilmembers — Abu Musa, Nayeem Choudhury and Muhtasin Sadman —approved Alharbi's request for the city to pay his legal fees.

Reaction to Alharbi's call for voters to remove Mahmood ranged from support for his position to appeals for him to drop the matter and move on.

"Brother Adam, sometimes the real battle is not in the courts or ballot boxes, but in our ability to bring people together and unite hearts," said Abo Adam, on social media.

"That is why I hope you do not exhaust all your energy and time in appeals, with all our respect for the judiciary and your right to seek justice. Look to the future, prepare now for the next stage, and make your goal bringing together the sons of the community instead of increasing the distances between them."

But others encouraged Alharbi to continue the fight.

"Good luck; God willing, you are on the right path, and this is a step that serves the community and fights corruption if it exists," said Farooq Ali.

Great Lakes Current

Measles case confirmed in Sanilac

Health officials urge residents to watch for symptoms

BY CARLA ARNOLD
The Tribune Recorder Leader

SANILAC COUNTY — A case of measles has been confirmed in Sanilac County, marking the first reported case in the county in several years, according to local health officials.

The Sanilac County Health Department is working to assess potential exposures and take steps to protect the community.

Measles is a highly contagious viral illness that spreads through the air when an infected person breathes, coughs or sneezes. The virus can remain in the air for up to two hours after an infected person has left an area, making it possible for others to become infected without having direct contact with the sick individual.

Symptoms typically develop seven to 14 days after exposure, although they can take up to 21 days to appear. People who may have been exposed should monitor themselves for symptoms during that period.

Early symptoms often resemble those of a common respiratory illness and include:

- High fever, which can reach 104 degrees or higher
- Cough
- Runny nose
- Red, watery eyes, also known as conjunctivitis
- Small white spots may also appear inside the mouth
- A red, blotchy rash typically develops several days after the initial symptoms, beginning on the face or along the hairline before spreading down the neck, torso, arms and legs.

Complications can be serious

Although some people recover without major problems, measles can cause serious complications, particularly in children younger than 5, adults older than 20, pregnant women and people with weakened immune systems.

Complications can include ear infections, diarrhea, dehydration and pneumonia. In more serious cases, measles can cause inflammation of the brain, known as encephalitis, which can lead to seizures, permanent brain damage or death. Rarely, a serious and potentially fatal brain condition can develop years after the initial infection.

Pregnant women who contract measles also face an increased risk of complications, including premature birth and low birth weight.

What to do if you suspect exposure

Anyone who believes they may have been exposed to measles should contact their healthcare provider or the Sanilac County Health Department for guidance, even if they are not experiencing symptoms.

It is important to call ahead rather than walk into a doctor's office, emergency department or clinic without warning. Because measles spreads so easily, healthcare providers need to take precautions to prevent exposing other patients and staff.

People who develop symptoms should stay home, avoid contact with others and seek medical guidance by phone. They should not go to work, school, public gatherings or other places where they could spread the virus.

There is no specific antiviral treatment for measles. Care generally focuses on managing symptoms, preventing dehydration and treating complications if they develop. Medical attention is especially important if someone experiences difficulty breathing, signs of dehydration, confusion, seizures or other severe symptoms.

Vaccination remains the best protection

The measles, mumps and rubella (MMR) vaccine is the most effective way to prevent measles. Two doses provide approximately 97% protection against the disease.

People who are unsure of their vaccination status or believe they may be at risk should speak with their healthcare provider or local health department. Vaccination after exposure may also help prevent illness in some circumstances, making it important to seek advice promptly.

Residents can contact the Sanilac County Health Department for additional information about possible exposure, vaccination and steps to protect themselves and their families.

Lansing's James Gardin scores 2 songs in 'NBA 2K27'

BY MR. JOE WALKER
Lansing City Pulse


Gardin

Multi-hyphenate entertainer James Gardin does not have "Basketball Player" on his extensive resume.

But two songs by Gardin, "Move Out the Way" and "Watch Yo Step", can be heard on the video game NBA 2K27.

"What's crazy is I'm not a huge video game player in general, but when I was in high school," said Gardin, who graduated from Sexton High School. "I haven't owned a console since the first XBOX. That lets you know how long I've been out of the game."

The NBA 2K video game franchise began in the late 1990s. The 2K27 edition was released in September and is the top-selling video game of 2026, according to Circana.

Gardin was able to get into NBA 2K through sync licensing, a permit that allows the pairing of copyrighted songs and musical pieces with films, television shows, commercials, and other forms of visual media. To date, Gardin has landed high-profile placements with ESPN's "First Take", Peacock's "Bel-Air", OWN's "Queen Sugar", CW's "All American", and major brands like Saks Fifth Avenue, Tommy Hilfiger, Fox Sports, Puma, Square and Apple.

"Maybe I should get back into playing video games at this point, at least to hear myself in action," Gardin said. "Video games are a huge placement to get in general, but people are telling me there's songs they love because they were on 2K.

"I think it's going to be a huge moment," Gardin said, "especially for the companies I work with. I also think there's going to be a whole bunch of people who get introduced to my music."

For both of his 2K bops, Gardin collaborated with The Other Guys!, a production duo comprised of Grammy-nominated producer Ryan "Super Tight Woody" Woodcock and sync licensing dynamo Dennis Coronel FKA Soulplusmind.

"I just started pooling ideas, and said to them, can we make something that lives in this universe?" Gardin recalled. "They sent me four or five records, submitted them to some agencies, and a couple months later we found out we got two records picked for NBA 2K!"

In Lansing, Gardin has been recognized as a mentor with All of the Above HipHop Academy, a non-profit organization that mentors community youth using the elements of Hip Hop culture

He was picked by the academy's higher-ups to be both their Lead Curriculum Coach and a Teaching Artist. His roles in their B.A.R.S. (Beats and Rhymes Sessions) and The Cook Up programs get him to be in sync with students who are gamers and keep him fresh.

"I want kids to know that they can take their art further than they're probably thinking now," Gardin said.

"Being in Lansing is not a hotbed for the industry, so they might think there's a cap or a ceiling on what you can and can not do. But if you make good product, and you're willing to network and do good business, I don't think there is truly a limit to what we can do."

The NBA2K placement is a huge play and Gardin said it is a way for people to start connecting with the rest of his music catalog.

"The next step is people saying we like this, let's listen to his music to hear what else he has," Gardin said.

"That could be the only thing that would really make it better. Right now it's definitely a dunk, but to make it a slam dunk would be those other things."

CityPULSE

Thanks for another year!



25 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

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Live & Local

CityPULSE

The Avenue
2021 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing
Punksgiving w/ The Louderthans, The Aliens
Wed., Nov. 25, 9 p.m.
General Defense Committee benefit dance party
Fri., Nov. 27, 9 p.m.
Space Dogg Collective
Sat., Nov. 28, 9 p.m.
Red Thyme
Sun., Nov. 29, 7 p.m.

Blue Gill Grill
1591 Lake Lansing Road, Haslett
Showdown
Fri., Nov. 27, 8-11 p.m.

BrickHaven Brewing Co.
200 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge
Mark Weaks
Fri., Nov. 27, 6-9 p.m.
Last Minute
Sat., Nov. 28, 6-9 p.m.

Classic Pub & Grill
16219 Old U.S. 27, Lansing
Medusa
Fri., Nov. 27, 8 p.m.-midnight
Showdown
Sat., Nov. 28, 8 p.m.-midnight

Dublin Square
327 Abbot Road, East Lansing
The Reason You Came
Wed., Nov. 25, 9 p.m.-midnight

EagleMonk Pub and Brewery
4906 W. Mount Hope Hwy., Lansing
Tammy Cook and Mary Borroum
Wed., Nov. 25, 7-9 p.m.
Songwriters' night, with Bart Moore
Wed., Dec. 2, 7-9 p.m.

Eaton Rapids Craft Co.
204 N. Main St., Eaton Rapids
First annual Ghetto Nerd Bash, featuring Skitzo, Insane Poetry, Project Born, The Michigan Misfits, Meathammer, Black Majik the Infidel, Mvndi, La Purp + more
Fri., Nov. 27, doors 6 p.m., show 7 p.m.

Gjoni's Bar and Restaurant
662 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos
Peggy Nusz & MichiganRay
Wed., Nov. 25, 6-8 p.m.
Greg Smith
Fri., Nov. 27, 6-8 p.m.

The Green Door
2005 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing
Global Village
Wed., Nov. 25, doors 7 p.m., show 8 p.m.
Wavelength
Sat., Nov. 28, 10 p.m.-2 a.m.
Grupo Primer Elemento
Sun., Nov. 29, doors 7 p.m., show 8 p.m.
Wavelength
Wed., Dec. 2, 10 p.m.-2 a.m.

Horrocks Farm Market
7420 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing
Frog & the Beeftones
Wed., Nov. 25, 5-8 p.m.
DJ Whitney Who
Fri., Nov. 27, 6-9 p.m.
Atomic Annie
Sat., Nov. 28, 5-8 p.m.
John Beltran
Sun., Nov. 29, 2-7 p.m.

The Irish Pub
1910 W. Saginaw St., Lansing
Universe Band
Wed., Nov. 25, 8-11 p.m.
Velocity Shift
Sat., Nov. 28, 7-11 p.m.

Lansing Shuffle
325 Riverfront Drive, Lansing
Friendsgiving Wednesday w/ DJ E-Nyce and DJ Frost
Wed., Nov. 25, 10 p.m.-1:30 a.m.

Looking Glass Brewing Co.
115 N. Bridge St., DeWitt
David Salvador
Fri., Nov. 27, 6-9 p.m.

Mac's Bar
2700 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing
Open mic night
Mon., Nov. 30, 6-8 p.m.
Unity — In Music
Thurs., Nov. 26, 9 p.m.-2 a.m.
Tues., Dec. 1, 10 p.m.-2 a.m.

Mash Bar
212 Albert Ave., East Lansing
Double Wide Ride
Wed., Dec. 2, 7-10 p.m.

Mayfair Bar
1589 Lake Lansing Road, Haslett
Open mic night
Mon., Nov. 30, 9-11 p.m.

Midtown Brewing Co.
402 S. Washington Square, Lansing
Unity in Music Thanksgiving Eve
Wed., Nov. 25, 5:30-10 p.m.
Open mic night
Mon., Nov. 30, 6-9 p.m.

Moriarty's Pub
802 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing
Open mic night, with Jen Sygit
Wed., Nov. 25, 8-11 p.m.
From Big Sur
Fri., Nov. 27, 8 p.m.-midnight
Dead Honey Collective
Sat., Nov. 28, 8 p.m.-midnight
Freddie Cunningham blues jam
Sun., Nov. 29, 4-8 p.m.
Jazz Tuesdays
Tues., Dec. 1, 7-10 p.m.
Open mic night, with Jen Sygit
Wed., Dec. 2, 8-11 p.m.

MSU College of Music
Trombone Ensembles
Mon., Nov. 30, 7:30 p.m.
Fairchild Theatre, 542 Auditorium Road, East Lansing
Viridis and Campus Choir
Tues., Dec. 1, 7:30 p.m.
Fairchild Theatre
Mosaic and Singing Spartans
Wed., Dec. 2, 7:30 p.m.
Fairchild Theatre

Nico's Pub and Grill
117 S. Bridge St., Dimondale
Velocity Shift
Wed., Nov. 25, 8-11:30 p.m.
Cheep Tequila
Fri., Nov. 27, 7:30-11:30 p.m.

Nuthouse Sports Grill
420 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing
Starfarm
Wed., Nov. 25, 8:30 p.m.

One North Lansing
5001 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing
Open mic night, with Kathy Ford
Mon., Nov. 30, 6:30-9 p.m.

The Peanut Barrel
521 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing
Rory Nevins
Fri., Nov. 27, 8-10 p.m.
Quality Jerry
Tues., Dec. 1, 6-8 p.m.

Red Cedar Spirits
2000 Merritt Road, East Lansing
Live music
Fri., Nov. 27, 7:30-10:30 p.m.
Live jazz music
Sun., Nov. 29, 6-9 p.m.

Sholty's Bar
1821 S. Washington Ave., Lansing
Frog & Koop
Tues., Dec. 1, 6-9 p.m.

Sir Pizza Grand Cafe
201 E. César E. Chávez Ave., Lansing
Stephen Lubera, Leo Port, Leap Year, Two Dollar Bills
Fri., Nov. 27, 7:30 p.m.

Stober's Bar
812 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing
Brandon McCoy
Sun., Nov. 29, 10 p.m.-1 a.m.
Spoonful
Tues., Dec. 1, 10 p.m.-1 a.m.

Summerlands Brewing Co.
1957 Cedar St., Holt
Open mic & karaoke
Wed., Nov. 25, 7-11 p.m.
Mark Grinnell
Sat., Nov. 28, 7-10 p.m.

Tony M's Restaurant & Banquet Center
3420 S. Creyts Road, Lansing
Gimme Five
Wed., Nov. 25, 6-9 p.m.

Unicorn Bar
327 E. César E. Chávez Ave., Lansing
Atomic Annie
Wed., Nov. 25, 8 p.m.
Miranda & the M80s
Fri., Nov. 27, 7 p.m.
The Hattrick Band
Sat., Nov. 28, 8 p.m.

UrbanBeat
1213 Turner St., Lansing
Thanks for Nothing Party, feat. Orion's Note
Wed., Nov. 25, 5-10 p.m.
Time2Play
Fri., Nov. 27, 6 p.m.
Orrick Ewing
Sat., Nov. 28, 7:30 p.m.
Alirna
Sun., Nov. 29, 7:30 p.m.
Walter Blanding and his Jazz Ambassadors
Wed., Dec. 2, 8 p.m.

Williamston Roadhouse
3700 E. Grand River Road, Williamston
DJ Tyler
Wed., Nov. 25, 7-11 p.m.
Roadside Attraction
Sat., Nov. 28, 7-11 p.m.
Billy Joe Hunt
Wed., Dec. 2, 7-10 p.m.

ARTS & CULTURE

ART • BOOKS • FILM • MUSIC

David Campbell Hill returns from nearly five-decade hiatus with first solo novel

By KURT ANTHONY KRUG

There was a 46-year gap between Lansing author David Campbell Hill's last novel, 1980's "Invader," and his latest novel, "Pandora's Daughter" (Sunacumen Press, $24.95).

"The number of years between books astonishes me," said Hill, 75, who co-authored "Invader" with his late father, Albert Fay Hill. "I did write a screenplay with my father and a novel on my own in the early 1980s, but at that point, it was clear I wasn't going to get rich any time soon. Our agent was not interested in my solo book.

"I started looking for real work," he continued. "I never really stopped writing, but it was piecemeal and competed with a full-time job, another career change and getting married twice, not to mention 10 years in skydiving. The publishing market changed tremendously. I sent manuscripts out every now and then but couldn't attract much interest."

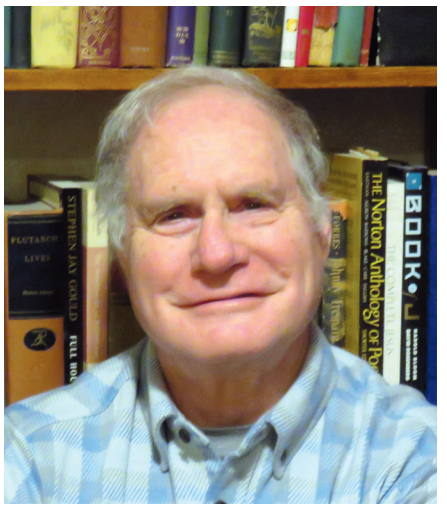


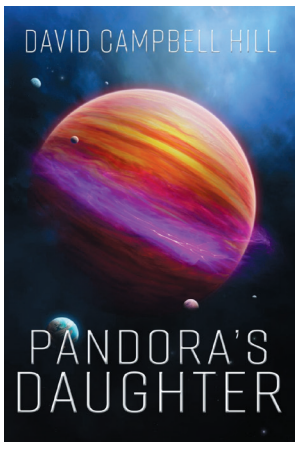
Photo by Libby Rice

David Campbell Hill



Courtesy

Hill (right) with his late father and two-time co-author, Albert Fay Hill.



He began "Pandora's Daughter" in 2004. He retired in 2018, which freed up a lot of time.

"I promised myself I would get back to writing and would show that I could complete novels without my father's help," he said. "I went to workshops, joined a couple of writing groups, got on the board of A Rally of Writers, cleaned up my old solo novel, finished 'Pandora's Daughter' and started an entirely new book."

He spoke about the impetus to write "Pandora's Daughter."

"After being stuck for a long time, I decided to give up on the idea of writing a bestseller and just write something that was fun," he said. "Since I like history, geopolitics and physics, all I needed was an idea. That came when I read about the almost certainly apocryphal 'Philadelphia Experiment.' It doesn't appear in the book at all, but it led to a chain of ideas that (became) 'Pandora's Daughter.'"

In the book, barbarism and chaos run rampant throughout the galaxy. In the midst of it, a dying empire searches for an ancient fount of knowledge that holds the key to humanity's perseverance.

Emperor Stuart II fears that his empire, which has kept order for millennia, will collapse after his death. His daughter, Fuji, embarks on a six-month voyage into the decaying and lost realms of the empire in search of the wisdom that will hold it together. Aboard a powerful warship, the princess confronts an alien species that has taken a keen interest in her search for the lost planet that might harbor all the answers: Earth.

"Emperor Stuart II is directly inspired by the Roman emperor Marcus Aurelius and his despicable son Commodus," Hill said. "Fuji was supposed to be a love interest, not the main character. After all, I am a guy, and I wasn't sure I could get inside a female character's head. But as I continued writing, she took over the story, and my original protagonist fell into the role of love interest. I decided to go with it."

Hill self-published "Pandora's Daughter" instead of having it traditionally published like he did with "Invader" and 1976's "The Deadly Messiah" (which he also co-authored with his father).

"I contacted over 100 agents and got a few nibbles, but nothing developed," he said. "I had hoped that my publishing history might get me an 'in,' especially since one agent said he had worked for the publisher of 'Invader' and offered to read it, but I never heard from him again. I talked with many other writers and found agreement that self-publishing was the new normal. I had help from people who had already done it, which showed me a path forward."

The author discussed how the publishing industry has changed in the 46 years between novels.

"It's become bigger, faster, more commercial. There's less interest in non-established authors," he said. "I found a lot of agents wanted writing by traditionally oppressed groups. I used to send out manuscripts with stamped, self-addressed envelopes. Now it's all done online, which is kind of cool, actually."

Major influences on Hill's work include his interest in physics and history, particularly the Roman Empire, as well as "Star Trek: The Original Series" and

See Hill, Page 22

Origin of 'The North Avenue Irregulars'

A World War II veteran and Purple Heart recipient, Albert Fay Hill was a pastor in New Rochelle, New York. During his time as senior pastor at North Avenue Presbyterian Church, Hill led the fight against organized crime, which had taken over the suburb. After local gangsters brutally murdered a young man for failing to pay his gambling debts, Hill began his own inquiries into the influence of organized crime and formulated a plan for reclaiming the community.

When his efforts spread, he was contacted by U.S. Treasury agents. He agreed to form a citizen's task force, but he encountered reluctance from his male parishioners to volunteer. However, when he approached women in the congregation, they enthusiastically agreed. Using the information gleaned from the women, Treasury agents organized raids on a number of gambling houses. Word of the team's success spread, and one of the larger raids was featured on the front page of The New York Times. Look magazine followed up with an article on Hill and his task force.

Soon thereafter, Cowles Publishing approached him about writing a book. In 1968, "The North Avenue Irregulars" was released. Walt Disney Productions purchased the movie rights, and in 1979, the film adaptation was released, starring Edward Herrmann ("Gilmore Girls") and Cloris Leachman ("The Last Picture Show").

SOURCE: David Campbell Hill and IMDb.

Little Free Libraries provide books, community sharing

By NAOMI MAXWELL
Capital News Service

Michigan has community-run book exchanges called Little Free Libraries, located in neighborhoods, parks, schools and outside local organizations.

The boxes, often mounted on poles, let community members leave a book for others to enjoy or pick up a new book for free.

Michigan now has more than 3,400 such book exchanges across the state after seeing steady increases over the last decade, according to the Little Free Libraries website.

That does not include the little libraries that people build independently from the organization, so it's likely there are more across the state.

According to the Little Free Libraries website, its Impact Library Program "provides no-cost Little Free Library book-sharing boxes to underserved communities where they can make a meaningful impact on book access and literacy engagement."

The website has a map where people can find libraries in their area by searching with their zip code.

In Ann Arbor, a Little Free Library is located on the grounds of Leslie Science and Nature Center.

Susan Westhoff, CEO of the science center, said, "We have over 50,000 people on our site every year. Many are children, and the idea of providing a space for books to be exchanged or found was very appealing."

The Little Free Library box has been around for quite a few years, but Westhoff said it has become more popular recently.

"I've seen more changeover in the books since mid-summer, which made me so happy."

In the first few years, staff brought books in to keep the library going, Westhoff said.

Additionally, she said, "We know we have kids coming by that have books at home, but from some of our conversations there are children who do not have that luxury."

Her hope is that when children visit the center, "they may find a new treasure to take home with them."

As far as restocking the library, "We encourage the public to restock, and in the summer we message our camp families to encourage its use. We have about 900 campers on site during the summer, so it's a great opportunity to use the Little Free Library for something new to read," Westhoff said.

Kids have many interests, from graphic novels to classics. For example, a current beloved series is "Dog Man," according to Westhoff. Parents also enjoy little libraries, from fiction to nonfiction, she said.



Photo by Naomi Maxwell

The Towar of Flowers Book Nook, a Little Free Library in East Lansing.

In Howell, a chapter of the Little Free Libraries program is called Reading in the Ravines.

Another Little Free Library, the Towar of Flowers Book Nook in East Lansing's Towar Gardens neighborhood, won one of the city's Crystal Awards. The award recognizes organizations, businesses and individuals that support the community.

A local public library in Big Rapids emphasized the importance of free libraries. According to its website, "These tiny libraries serve as gathering places, bringing neighbors together and facilitating meaningful conversations. They symbolize generosity and collective action, demonstrating knowledge and making it accessible to all."

As the boxes remind users, "Take a book, leave a book."

Small Business Saturday book drive for Little Free Libraries

This weekend, shoppers around the nation will take part in Small Business Saturday, a community-focused counterpart to Black Friday and Cyber Monday. In celebration, a local organization is encouraging community members to donate books at area small businesses.

The organization, called Makenna's Books, was founded in honor of Makenna Morse, an Eaton Rapids English teacher who died in a car crash in 2024. Makenna's Books collects donations and distributes them to Little Free Libraries across the state in memory of Morse and other literary enthusiasts who have passed. Nearly 3,000 books have been donated so far.

Donors can drop off books at the following businesses from Friday (Nov. 27) through Monday (Nov. 30):

Barrett's Books, 111 W. Grand River Ave., Williamston

Bestsellers Books & Coffee, 360 S. Jefferson St., Mason

Sis's Stories, 617 E. Saginaw Hwy., Grand Ledge

The Cozy Corner Bookstore, 144 S. Cochran Ave., Charlotte

Darrell's Market & Hardware, 4520 W. Columbia Road, Mason

Participants will be entered into a drawing for a $25 gift card to the store they made their donation at. Books are labeled with the name of the donor and the loved one they're honoring.

For more information, visit makennasbooks.com.

Hill

from page 21

the works of noted science-fiction authors Isaac Asimov, Arthur C. Clarke, Robert A. Heinlein and Larry Niven.

His father was also a crucial influence.

"He gave me the discipline to develop an entire story, then stick to the process of writing it. He also had contacts that helped get our two books traditionally published. We had long sessions firing ideas at each other. One of us would write a chapter, then the other would edit it, then we would pass it back and forth," Hill explained. "My stepmom also did a lot of editing, which evened out our writing styles. Note to other potential father-son writing teams: It can be embarrassing writing sex scenes with your father. I also deduced a lot about my parents' history from working with them. Sometimes, it's definitely TMI!"

Hill and his father spoke about collaborating after Hill graduated from Northwestern University.

"We discussed the unfortunate fact that we lacked abundant income," Hill said. "My father had earned some money writing a book about his adventures fighting organized crime in New Rochelle, New York, called 'The North Avenue Irregulars,' so we thought that might work. We sketched out a plot before we got home, which turned into 'The Deadly Messiah' in 1976 and 'Invader' in 1980. I also remember hunt-and-peck writing on my parents' old manual typewriter many years before that. I wish I still had some of that stuff. In those days, I couldn't put together a plot or stick with it, but I had an active imagination."

Hill and his father aren't the only writers in the family.

"Friends get cross-eyed listening to conversations around the dinner table. Everybody reads," Hill said. "My sister writes poetry and helped her daughter write her doctoral thesis. My brother is a published author and poet. My father published two more books after we stopped working together, and I have manuscripts for four other novels he wrote but never published. Plus, he published a medical study on his work with cancer immunology. My stepmom's ideal day was sitting on a chaise lounge in the backyard, editing our work. My brother married a college professor who has her books in the Harvard Library. My brother-in-law has a book on golfing."

Hill's writing has come a long way since "The Deadly Messiah."

"When our first book came out, I had delusions of being some sort of wunderkind. I got cured of that pretty quick. It's been a long process of doing the work to learn the craft since then" he said. "I've had fantasies of rewriting the books I wrote with my dad or even the books he wrote himself. I think I could make them a lot better."

For Hill, writing is like meditating.

"You get in a zone," he said. "Everybody needs to create something."

What regional cannabis reform means for Michigan's border goldmine

By CHRIS SILVA

For years, the economic engine powering a massive share of Michigan's border dispensaries — and, by extension, the wholesale cultivators stretching across mid-Michigan — has been prohibition on the other side of our borders. From Menominee in the Upper Peninsula to the retail hubs dotting the Indiana and Ohio borders, Michigan operators have reaped the rewards as neighboring states have dragged their feet on adult-use reform.

But with Ohio and Illinois having already legalized cannabis, incoming leadership in Wisconsin positioning legalization as a crucial fiscal tool to offset state budget and Medicaid funding gaps, and legislative rumblings stirring in Indiana, the writing is on the wall. The regional monopoly Michigan has enjoyed as the lone green oasis in the Midwest faces an expiration date.

As Marijuana Moment recently reported, incoming Wisconsin lawmakers are no longer treating cannabis legalization as a distant cultural debate or a partisan talking point. Instead, they're framing it as a desperate economic necessity to capture tax revenue currently bleeding out across their borders into Illinois and Michigan.

When conservative states start viewing cannabis through the lens of fiscal survival rather than moral panic, reform accelerates rapidly.

And then there's the other Michigan border. While Ohio successfully launched its adult-use market, easing some of the pressure on our southern border, Indiana remains a fortress of prohibition. Yet political analysts note that as tax revenue pours into surrounding jurisdictions, even staunchly conservative lawmakers in Indianapolis are facing intense lobbying from agricultural and business groups eager not to miss out on the green wave.

However, building a regulated market from scratch takes years of administrative buildup, licensing bottlenecks and municipal opt-out battles. Even if neighboring states pass legislation, Michigan still has a multi-year head start on cultivation infrastructure, processing sophistication and retail density.

As Roy Liskey, co-owner of Laingsburg dispensary Local Roots, told City Pulse, "We aren't worried about Ohio or Wisconsin opening tomorrow. Building out a supply chain takes years of bureaucratic heavy lifting. Our advantage right now isn't just geography, it's that our craft operators have spent years dialing in quality while everyone else was arguing in statehouses."



Metro Creative Connection

Midwest legalization is not a crisis to panic over; it's a definitive timeline for market maturation. Far from spelling doom for Michigan's cannabis market, a fully legalized Midwest should serve as a long overdue wake up call for our in-state operators.

For years, Michigan has suffered from substantial overproduction and brutal price compression, largely because our production capacity vastly outstrips in-state consumer demand. While out-of-state consumers have helped absorb excess biomass, true economic stability will only arrive when federal interstate commerce laws allow Michigan's top-tier craft cultivators to legally export their products across state lines to underserved markets nationwide.

When neighboring states finally come online, the operators who survive won't be the ones sitting on the border, hoping for drive-by traffic from out-of-state plates. They'll be the ones with ironclad brand loyalty, superior product quality and distribution networks that stretch across the state, from Grand Rapids and Lansing down to Detroit.

If you're a cultivator relying on border-town stores to move volume, or a retailer padding your monthly sales numbers with out-of-state tourists, now is the time to audit your brand equity. When consumers in Wisconsin, Indiana and beyond no longer have to drive across state lines just to buy clean live resin or premium pre-rolls, your product needs to be good enough that they miss it when it's gone.

The borders won't stay closed forever. The question for Michigan's retailers and cultivators alike is simple: Will you be ready when the rest of the country catches up?

Chris Silva writes the Lansterdam column for City Pulse and serves as a columnist and editor for MiCannaPress. Have a tip? Reach out at chris@gomicannapros.com.

Lansterdam in Review: Midwest cannabis reform



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Lansing's DeSean 'Whipdog' Whipple found his voice through pro wrestling

By MR. JOE WALKER

Media personality DeSean "Whipdog" Whipple was not always the outgoing figure our community recognizes from radio, television and podcasting.

Heard on Power 96.5 (WQHH-FM), seen in a recurring role on TV One's "Fatal Attraction" and serving as a producer/board operator for "The WILS Morning Wake-Up" with Mike Austin, the Detroit native turned Lansing resident is also a highly regarded professional wrestler. He credits the sport for his success and confidence.

"I needed professional wrestling to get me to where I am today," Whipple said. "Growing up, I was the tall, chubby, nerdy kid who didn't like to talk to people. When I originally started professional wrestling, I was a shy, quiet guy who didn't talk much, which is always surprising to people. Now I won't shut up!"

Photos by Mr. Joe Walker

The "Whip thing," as he described it, clicked for him.

"I started feeling confident in the ring and in knowing who I am, which is applicable to real life," Whipple said. "Once you know who you are, then you can make the world believe who you are."

These days, Whipple's life is more about conversations than confrontations. As the creator, producer and host of "The Wrestling Heroes and Insiders Podcast," aka "The WHIP Show," he regularly interviews top talent from World Wrestling Entertainment, Total Nonstop Action Wrestling and All Elite Wrestling.



Local media personality DeSean "Whipdog" Whipple credits his confidence to his experience as a professional wrestler.

Once ranked one of the top 500 wrestlers in the world by Pro Wrestling Illustrated, Whipple will step back into the squared circle on special occasions.

"I don't really consider it coming out of retirement," Whipple said. "I won't be back wrestling weekly, but I do feel being part of something for a good cause is necessary."

Such a cause drew him to Jackson on Nov. 14. After a four-year hiatus, Whipple stepped into the ring for the fundraiser Headlock on Hunger II at the Salvation Army gymnasium. One of 10 competitors in the event's over-the-top-rope battle royale, the 'dog whipped seven guys from the ring to the floor before being eliminated himself.

"Getting back in the ring in front of my people in Jackson felt amazing," Whipple said. "I spent so many years wrestling for them. They literally raised me. Seeing many wrestlers from the city who used to watch me as a fan now get in the ring was definitely a full-circle moment."

Early in his career, Whipple found himself in a tag team with "Canadian Bad Boy" Steven Summers, whom he described as the talker of the duo. As Whipple grew in that space, he said he learned to speak more and gained the ability to be totally open with an audience.

"Whether it's professional wrestling, acting in a movie or commercial, or doing voiceovers or radio, you have to connect with your audience," Whipple explained. "You have to make people notice something about you. Professional wrestling helped me do that."



Whipple raises an elbow for one of his nine battle royale opponents at the Headlock on Hunger II fundraiser Nov. 14 in Jackson.

A graduate of Cass Technical High School, Whipple spent two years at Michigan State University before finishing his business administration degree at Wayne State. But the core of his education, and eventual success, began as a WrestleMania III audience member at Pontiac Silverdome in 1987.

"At 7 years old, I sat at the top of the arena, so high I could have high-fived Jesus," Whipple said. "When I went to Philadelphia for WrestleMania XL and they checked in my name and gave me my lanyard that said "WrestleMania XL media," I had to go to the bathroom and let a couple tears go. It just felt really good."



Joshua Gersen brings disciplined emotion to Lansing Symphony

By LAWRENCE COSENTINO

It would have been fun to report that the Lansing Symphony Orchestra, guest conductor Joshua Gersen and violinist Will Hagen crushed it Saturday night (Nov. 21).

But they didn't crush it. They cupped it, in their steady and strong hands, and gently breathed on it, as if it were a wayward warbler from the Arctic in search of warmth.

"It" was indeed a visitor from the north, the fragile, sincere, nakedly confessional violin concerto of Finnish composer Jean Sibelius.

Looking at Gersen, a no-nonsense conductor with an almost military bearing, and the youthful, bearded Hagen, raring to go and coiled with energy, you'd think a bit of a rumble was in the offing, but these two badass dudes and the orchestral home team weren't here to flex their musical muscles. They gave the concerto a tender, committed performance of breathtaking delicacy.

Gersen, the third of five guest conductors vying for the post of LSO music director, is not a charisma-driven maestro, but on Saturday night, he was the embodiment of musical precision and disciplined emotion.

At every moment, from the most hushed to the most boisterous, he and the orchestra were saying something meaningful — to each other and to the audience.

Review

Everything Hagen did had an emotional underpinning, a reason for being there. If he stretched out a note, it wasn't just to exhibit his velvety tone, but to penetrate the mystery of that note. If he double stopped, playing two notes at once, it wasn't because he was showing off, but because two notes were needed to convey a mixed emotion or complex thought. After an ecstatic run up the scale, he would back off just a hair on the last note, as if to invite the orchestra to respond, making it clear that this concerto is a deep dialogue.

Gersen discreetly managed the mercurial back and forth between soloist and orchestra with transparency and clarity. That dialogue took many forms, from full-on call and response between Hagen and the entire orchestra to tasty little exchanges with individual voices like principal bassoonist Michael Kroth.

Hagen's warm tone got about 15 degrees warmer in the slow movement, when every note carried an almost desperate emotional weight. It was almost a letdown when the finale rolled in, with its bouncy dum-ditty-dums. But after such a prolonged, heartfelt penetration into realms words can't reach, there seemed little more to be said.



Photo by Yotham Eshak

Guest conductor Joshua Gersen and guest soloist Will Hagen gave Finnish composer Jean Sibelius' violin concerto a tender, committed performance at Saturday's Lansing Symphony Orchestra concert.

Another sensitive, delicate performance opened Saturday's concert. As a purely musical experience, Chris Rogerson's "Noble Pond" is an absorbing tone poem, propelled by crosscurrents of bleak tragedy and lyrical beauty.

Gersen and the orchestra took their time and gave the music a grand, even cosmic, sweep while letting each granular detail twinkle on the horizon. A backstory, provided in the concert notes and alluded to by Gersen in brief remarks before the concert, tells us that Rogerson wrote the music in response to a real-life news account of a 5-year-old boy who was killed by a stray bullet while fishing with his grandfather.

You can't un-know what you know. Music wrestles with tragedy all the time, but the specificity of this information made it hard to relax and accept whatever message the music could have conveyed. The boy's death was a cruelly random and horrible accident. However earnest the intent, it made me queasy to see it co-opted as musical material for my comfortable contemplation. Gersen's pre-concert comments on "overcoming adversity" didn't connect the dots, either.

The last work on Saturday's slate, Beethoven's famous Fifth Symphony, carried no such baggage. This music is about Beethoven's struggles — with fate, with love, with deafness, with Napoleon, you name it. It's his party, and he can rage if he wants to.

As the da-da-da-doms of the famous first movement tumbled forth, things got slightly out of sync a couple of times, and there was a bit of juddering in the violins, but Gersen made sure the momentum never let up. After the prodigious energy of those four notes underwent fission into two notes, fusion into four again and was finally spent (at least in its purest form), a spacious sense of grandeur settled in for the rest of the ride.

After the triumphant finale, Gersen did something I've never seen a conductor do. Instead of dispersing individual acknowledgments from the podium like a bride tossing out a bouquet, he waded deep into the wilds of the orchestra like a pith-helmeted ranger in the veldt and hunted down each contributing soloist and section, beginning with principal oboist Stephanie Shapiro, whom he practically lifted by the collar for public celebration. (Shapiro nailed that famous bit where a big orchestral buildup suddenly comes to a stop and the oboe is left to drip dry for about 45 seconds.)

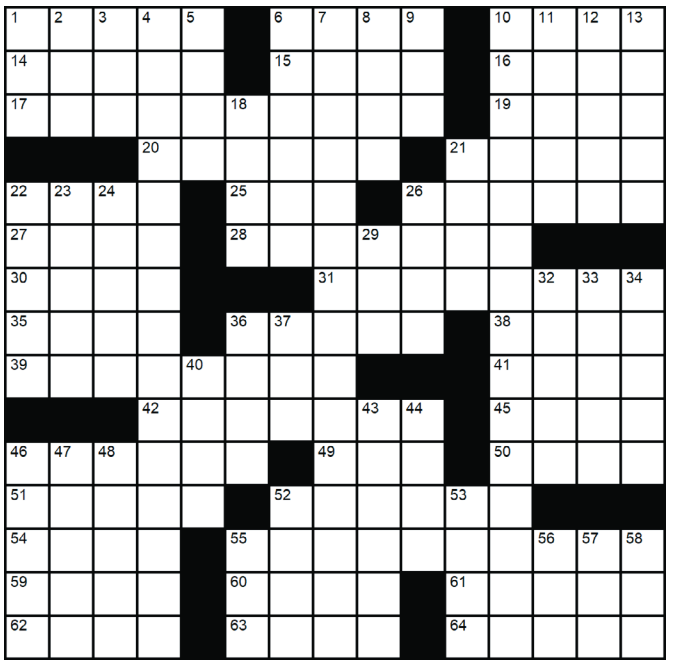
There was a lot to acknowledge, from the subsonic elephant rumbles of principal bassist Ed Fedewa and his crew to the defiant, elk-like blasts of the horns, who appear to be asking for the LSO to do a Wagner "Ring" cycle just so they can strut their stuff.



Jonesin' Crossword

By Matt Jones

"Don't Overdo It" -- so what's left?
by Matt Jones
© 2026 Matt Jones



ACROSS
1. UnitedHealthcare rival
6. Shoe designer Jimmy
10. Grab
14. Go bad
15. Listen to an audiobook (it counts)
16. Lawnmower brand that means "bull"
17. Charles III's protectors
19. 1871 Verdi opera
20. Some Westminster participants
21. Disinfectant spray brand
22. Religious offshoot
25. Athletic org. for Wake Forest and Syracuse
26. Fix-it types, briefly
27. It surrounds a pupil
28. Breakfast meat at a taqueria
30. Go down to the water?
31. Kevin portrayer in "Home Alone"
35. Like integer multiples of 2
36. "The Legend of Zelda" currency
38. "Schitt's Creek" surname
39. Nation north of South Africa
41. Good sense
42. Frequent fliers
45. Where Cleveland and Buffalo are situated
46. It's surrounded by crust
49. Prefix with centennial (come 2076)
50. Bausch & Lomb product
51. Stay away from
52. China feature (the dishware, not the country)
54. Around 2.2 lbs.
55. Overdoes it
59. Panache
60. Prep a piano for performance
61. Nebraska city with a zoo
62. Without, in typography
63. Focus of some centers
64. Thompson who plays host Reese De'What on "SNL"

DOWN
1. "Do I have to ___?"
2. "Pen" lead-in
3. Long weight?
4. Hearing snoring and faucet drips, e.g.?
5. As well
6. Sound of eating corn nuts
7. Skull, vis-a-vis the brain?
8. Regatta needs
9. Unusual
10. Utilize the hotel benefits?
11. Radio static, e.g.
12. Passion
13. Hockey stat
18. Chipotle add-on, informally
21. Minnelli in "Arrested Development"
22. Result of a record adjustment?
23. Cynthia who didn't play Elphaba in the "Nigerian Wicked" sketch on "SNL U.K."
24. Catlike mammal
26. D&D needs
29. Singer (and 2007 "Canadian Idol" contestant) Carly ___ Jepsen
32. Longest river of France
33. "The Lord of the Rings" actor Sean
34. Approvals
36. Steakhouse option
37. Old soul, in new slang
40. Representing any card value
43. Clears the board
44. Droop in the heat
46. Adds up to
47. St. Teresa's Spanish birthplace
48. "Inception" director Christopher
52. Acrid
53. Get a glimpse
55. Game with a recently released "VI" sequel
56. Enthusiast
57. "I see it now!"
58. Tried to get elected

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Answers on page 29

SUDOKU

Advanced

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

Fun By The Numbers

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

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

Free Will Astrology

By Rob Brezsny

Nov. 25-Dec. 1, 2026

ARIES (March 21–April 19): When I tune in to your upcoming future, I envision various blends of fire and water. Sometimes I glimpse poignant scenes, like a soggy firecracker or a candle wavering from a paper boat as it drifts down a stream. In other scenes, I envision you spilling cleansing tears during cathartic orgasms or laughing so hard you sob. Which types of adventures will predominate? Much may hinge on whether you can combine the elemental enchantments of fluidity and flame into one vital force.

TAURUS (April 20–May 20): No matter how good and kind we may be, each of us carries within us a touch of the world's troubles. We can call it a blind spot, old wound, shadow, or bad habit that diverts us from our better judgment. Some people pretend it's not there. Others give it so much power that they feel overwhelmed by it. I prefer a middle path. I acknowledge my shadow without succumbing to it, and I remain alert to how it might influence me. Why do I bring this to your attention, Taurus? Because right now, your own blind spot may be prone to mislead you. Please try my approach or refine your own.

GEMINI (May 21–June 20): If you follow the statistical norm, you may have sex about 2,500 times during your journey on planet Earth. Yet perhaps only a few of those occasions will carry the special fusion of bodily ecstasy and spiritual awakening that will be available for you in the coming weeks. I'm not being melodramatic, Gemini. In my visions of your potentials, life's mysterious flow will offer you peak experiences that are both thrilling and enlightening. To benefit as fully as possible, approach them with openness and unguarded innocence. Locate the inner territory where yearning and tenderness meet. P.S. These possibilities don't require a partner. If you're on your own, release any lingering embarrassment about self-pleasure and investigate its subtler revelations.

CANCER (June 21–July 22): In the ancient myth of Psyche, a woman's complicated love life lands her in trouble with Aphrodite. The goddess gives her an enormous mound of millet, wheat, and poppy seeds and orders her to sort every variety into its own pile. It's an impossible assignment. You may be facing a comparable tangle now: too many details, demands, fragments, or decisions all jumbled together, with no clear way to solve the riddles. But take heart from Psyche's tale. Moved by sympathy, brigades of ants came to her rescue and organized the chaos while she slept. What's your equivalent of the ants? Seek allies or tools whose help can accomplish what solo heroics can't.

LEO (July 23–Aug. 22): I'm drafting a self-help guide for a new therapeutic approach. I call my method "Give It Up and Let It Go and Put It Behind You." To begin, you get a large cloth shopping bag and pack it with enough stones to make it a nuisance to carry. Next, imagine it contains every grievance you keep revisiting, every painful memory you've grown attached to resenting, and every irritation you've rehearsed so often it feels familiar. Then lug the bag around everywhere for two days, and notice how oppressive that feels. The final phase of the method offers the climactic cure: "Give It Up and Let It Go and Put It Behind You."

VIRGO (Aug. 23–Sept. 22): Incubation is your operative metaphor. I hope you will tend to your figurative eggs as a devoted bird would. Keep them warmed and protected while the life inside them gathers strength for its debut. Draw from the artist's method of incubation, too, Virgo. Think rigorously and deeply about the creative choice before you; investigate it until your rational mind has done all it can. Then step away and let the answer gestate in the deep chambers of your awareness, where intuition can do its work. Your third task is to borrow a practice from lucid dreaming: Before sleep, frame a crisp question about a dilemma. Carry it across the threshold into dreamland, trusting that your night mind will return it to you transformed, accompanied by an elegant answer.

LIBRA (Sept. 23–Oct. 22): From time to time, museum curators rediscover neglected and ignored masterpieces that have spent years in oblivion, stowed away in storage areas. The artwork hasn't changed. New scholarship, fresh cultural questions, or more discerning eyes finally unearth the value that had gone unappreciated. I believe you're due for a comparable reappraisal, Libra. A talent, friendship, fascination, or dream that you have underestimated warrants another look. Be willing to override earlier judgments. You're more capable of recognizing certain treasures than you once were.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23–Nov. 21): Centuries ago, as European sailors explored and traded across unfamiliar seas, they learned that prevailing winds could shift predictably with the seasons. A crossing that was slow, risky, or impractical during one season could be swift and easy when the winds reversed. I believe a similar knack for good timing will be extra useful to you in the days ahead, Scorpio. As you evaluate cherished goals, find out what the most favorable conditions will be. Do you know what the term "propitious" means? It's your word of power.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22–Dec. 21): Every year, the Arctic tern migrates from the Arctic to the Antarctic and back, chasing summer from one end of the Earth to the other. Because of this relentless pursuit of light, the tern sees more daylight than any other creature alive. Its whole existence is a pilgrimage toward the sun. Let's make her your spirit creature for now, Sagittarius. Your restless urge to keep moving, exploring, and following the light is how your soul gathers more brightness than a stationary life ever could. Don't let anyone shame your wanderlust. But here's the tern's deeper teaching: It isn't fleeing or escaping. It's always heading toward more light. Be sure your journeys, too, move toward luminosity, not just away from the dark.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22–Jan. 19): I'm thankful for the psychotherapy I've received over the years. It has helped me unlearn destructive mental reflexes and become more skillful at creating happiness. What about you? Do you have a compassionate, perceptive helper you meet with regularly? A guide whose work is to help you understand yourself and create a vital life? If not, now is an excellent time to grant yourself this essential luxury. And if you already work with a capable advisor, I dare you to go further into the conversation. The astrological omens suggest you are able to receive more support than ever before.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20–Feb. 18): Migrating salmon navigate using multiple guidance systems. They draw information from the Earth's magnetic field, visual cues from the sun and sky, shifts in ocean chemistry, and the unique scents of their home streams. One compass alone isn't sufficient. I hope that you Aquarians will be inspired by their versatile approach. Like them, you will be wise to use several forms of knowing. Want some hints? Honor logic. Trust intuition. Notice bodily sensations. Listen to trusted friends. Observe synchronicities. What else can you think of? The best decisions will emerge from the convergence of different kinds of intelligence.

PISCES (Feb. 19–March 20): What ideas, feelings, and situations consistently occupy your attention? What memories and future scenarios do you keep returning to in your imagination? They are all crucial in shaping your experience. If you repeatedly take inventory of what's missing and rehearse your disappointment about it, you become skilled at noticing more proof of deprivation. But if you linger over people, pleasures, possibilities, and small mercies that feel gratifying and nurturing, you're likely to perceive and generate more of them. Now is an excellent time to get into the habit of emphasizing this brighter magic.

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

OUT on the TOWN

Events & Happenings in Lansing This Week

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

Wednesday, Nov. 25

A Course of Love - A Course in Love ongoing book study. All levels of knowledge or curiosity of the book are welcome at any time. 7-8 p.m. Virtual. Meeting ID: 177 417 886. Passcode: 601744. unitylansing.org.

Allen Farmers Market - 3-6:30 p.m. Allen Neighborhood Center, 1629 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. facebook.com/AllenFarmersMarket.

Bar Night Edition of Open Mic/Karaoke at Summerlands Brewing Co. - Kick off Thanksgiving Eve with a night of music, fun, and great company! 7-11 p.m. 1957 Cedar St., Holt. facebook.com/summerlandsbrewing.

The Biggest Bar Night at MP Social - Come enjoy our delicious Thanksgiving drink specials, share a few bites, and catch up with friends who are back in town. 4-10 p.m. 313 N. Cedar St., Lansing. facebook.com/mpsocial.lansing.

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

Eight Ball Chip Pool Tournaments - Head to Royal Scot's Triple P Bar & Grill every Wednesday and Friday night to join the Eight Ball Chip Pool Tournaments! Players of all skill levels welcome! 6-11 p.m. 4722 W. Grand River Ave., Lansing. royalscot.net.

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

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.

Meditation - A free meditation gathering rooted in the tradition of Thich Nhat Hanh, offering a calm space for mindfulness practice and reflection. 7-9 p.m. Chua Van Hanh, 3015 S. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Lansing. lamcsangha.wordpress.com.

Mid Michigan Art Guild Exhibit - Noon-5 p.m. MICA, 1210 Turner St., Lansing. micharts.org.

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

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.

Thanksgiving Eve Baker's Doubles Bowling Tournament - Join us on Thanksgiving Eve for a fun baker's double tournament before we all eat way too much the following day! 9 p.m.-midnight. Royal Scot, 4722 W. Grand River Ave., Lansing. royalscot.net.

Thursday, Nov. 26

Karaoke at Crunchy's - Come on in, grab a burger and a brew, and pick out your songs. You never know, there might be a Simon Cowell in the audience ... although probably not. Ages 21+. 8 p.m.-midnight. 254 W. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. crunchyseastlansing.com.

Thanksgiving Dinner - Join us in person at the Crowne Plaza Hotel for our annual Thanksgiving Dinner celebration. Noon-2:30 p.m. 925 S. Creyts Road, Lansing. eventbrite.com/o/79341388013.

Thanksgiving Dinner at the DoubleTree Lansing - Join us this Thanksgiving for a delicious holiday meal and let us take care of the details while you relax and make memories with your loved ones. Noon-4:30 p.m. 111 N. Grand Ave., Lansing. eventbrite.com/o/121953960519.

Friday, Nov. 27

"A Lansing Christmas Adventure" - 2 and 7:30 p.m. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam St., Williamston. williamstontheatre.org.

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

Eight Ball Chip Pool Tournaments - Head to Royal Scot's Triple P Bar & Grill every Wednesday and Friday night to join the Eight Ball Chip Pool Tournaments! Players of all skill levels welcome! 6-11 p.m. 4722 W. Grand River Ave., Lansing. royalscot.net.

Free Intro: Start to Finish Building a Business with AI - Want to build a business from start to finish with the help of artificial intelligence? Join SteadfastIQ's free 40-minute live intro on Zoom, taught by an experienced industry expert. Beginners welcome, no experience needed. 4 p.m. Virtual — register at steadfastiq.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. Participation is covered by general admission to the museum. R.E. Olds Transportation Museum, 240 Museum Drive, Lansing. reoldsmuseum.org.

Karaoke at Crunchy's - Ages 21+. 8 p.m.-midnight. 254 W. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. crunchyseastlansing.com.

Mason's 25th Holiday Lighted Parade - The celebration begins with our tree lighting ceremony, where the Citizen of the Year will give the official command to light the tree! Shortly afterward, the holiday parade will make its way downtown, with dazzling lights bringing the holiday spirit to life. 6 p.m. Downtown Mason. facebook.com/masonchamber.

Mid Michigan Art Guild Exhibit - Noon-5 p.m. MICA, 1210 Turner St., Lansing. micharts.org.

Small Business Saturday Book Drive - Community members can donate books at several small businesses Nov. 27-30 and will be entered to win a $25 gift certificate to their store! Books will be placed in Little Free Libraries. For a list of participating locations, visit makennasbooks.com.

Wonderland of Lights - Stroll along illuminated paths, enjoy festive music, and soak in the magic of the holiday season at Potter Park Zoo! 5-8 p.m. Potter Park Zoo, 1301 S. Pennsylvania Ave, Lansing. potterparkzoo.org.

Saturday, Nov. 28

"A Lansing Christmas Adventure" - 2 and 7:30 p.m. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam St., Williamston. williamstontheatre.org.



Downtown DeWitt Turkey Trot

8 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 26
3-legged dog yoga + strength studio
117 W. Main St., DeWitt
eventbrite.com/o/33758942911

Turkey Trails

9 a.m. Sunday, Nov. 29
Hawk Island Park
1601 E. Cavanaugh Road, Lansing
runsignup.com/Race/MI/Lansing/TurkeyTrailsLansing

This weekend offers two opportunities to get outside and burn off those extra Thanksgiving calories.

At the annual Turkey Trot 5K, participants of all ages are welcome to run, jog or walk through downtown DeWitt along a turkey-shaped course. There will be free coffee and treats from the DeWitt Biggby at the finish line. Kids can burn off some energy with a 1-mile fun run. Online registration is $12 for the kids' run and $28 for the 5K, plus fees. Check-in begins at 7:15 a.m., the 5K begins at 8 a.m., and the kids' run starts at 9 a.m.

Lansing's Turkey Trails event offers a variety of race options, including a kids' dash, a 1-mile fun run, a 5K, a 10K and a half marathon. Registration fees range from $17 for the kids' dash to $66 for the half marathon, plus fees. Each registration includes a custom medal, photos and a free pie at the finish line. Packet pickup starts at 7:15 a.m., with races beginning at 9 a.m.

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

Christmagiving Paint and Sip - Join us for a night of composition and Chianti as local portrait artist Elijah Hamilton-Wray guides guests on a holiday-themed painting. 7:30-9:30 p.m. Hooked, 3142 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. eventbrite.com/o/30512851222.

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

"Feeling Blue" Art Exhibition by the Lansing Women Artists Collective - All the works are for sale and are by local women artists. Please check the Robin Theatre website for hours, as they vary. The Robin Theatre, 1105 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. therobintheatre.com.

Foundations of Evidential Mediumship with Eli Stewart - Psychic medium and mystic artist Eli Stewart teaches the skill that separates real spirit contact from guesswork: bringing through specific, checkable details about a communicator. 1-4 p.m. Keys to Manifestation, 809 Center St., Lansing. manifestlansing.com.

Free Intro: Start to Finish Building a Business with AI - 4 p.m. Virtual — register at steadfastiq.com.

Grand Ledge Holiday Market - Shop handcrafted items including: jams, hot sauces, pasta, bread, fudge, candy and baked goods, soaps and lotions, essential oil perfumes, jewelry, artwork and more! 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. 517-627-7014. gladl.libcal.com.

Holiday Art Show At Keller's Plaza - Keller's has hosted over 10 years of art and craft shows on Small Business Saturday! Join us again and shop from over a dozen renowned local artisans and craftspeople. 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Keller's Plaza, 100 E. Grand River Ave., Williamston. For more information, visit The Artisan Alcove on Facebook.

See Events, Page 28



Wonderland of Lights

Through Dec. 23
5-8 p.m. Thursday-Sunday; Dec. 21-23
Potter Park Zoo
1301 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing
potterparkzoo.org

This holiday season, visitors can see Lansing's beloved Potter Park Zoo in an entirely different light. Weekends through Dec. 23 (excluding Thanksgiving), guests can stroll through the illuminated zoo grounds and view many of the animals while enjoying festive music. Fridays and Saturdays, Santa will be available for photos. Tickets are $10, with a $3 discount for seniors, military members and children. Kids under 3 enter free. Photo by Raymond Holt for City Pulse; see the full gallery at lansingcitypulse.com.

Events

from page 27

Karaoke at Crunchy's - Ages 21+. 8 p.m.-midnight. 254 W. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. crunchyseastlansing.com.

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

Matcha Workshop - Learn how to create an authentic matcha the traditional way with bamboo whisk and ceramic bowl, which you get to keep. Also includes snacks. 3-4:30 p.m. Chengdu Teahouse, 100 E. César E. Chávez Ave., Lansing. eventbrite.com/o/110833262761.

Meridian Township Farmers Market - 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Meridian Mall, 1982 E. Grand River Ave., Okemos. meridian.mi.us/recreation-leisure/farmers-market.

Mid Michigan Art Guild Exhibit - Noon-5 p.m. MICA, 1210 Turner St., Lansing. micharts.org.

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. Participation is covered by general admission. R.E. Olds Transportation Museum, 240 Museum Drive, Lansing. reoldsmuseum.org.

Wonderland of Lights - Stroll along illuminated paths, enjoy festive music, and soak in the magic of the holiday season at Potter Park Zoo! 5-8 p.m. Potter Park Zoo, 1301 S. Pennsylvania Ave, Lansing. potterparkzoo.org.

Sunday, Nov. 29

"A Lansing Christmas Adventure" - 2 p.m. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam St., Williamston. williamstontheatre.org.

Enchiladas 101, with Lorenzo Lopez - Come have fun with our guest chef while you cook and learn about the history of Mexican foods. 2:30-4:30 p.m. Bradly's HG, 319 E. César E. Chávez Ave., Lansing. eventbrite.com/o/58347119703.

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.

Mid Michigan Art Guild Exhibit - Noon-5 p.m. MICA, 1210 Turner St., Lansing. micharts.org.

MSU Women's Basketball vs. Eastern Michigan Eagles - 2 p.m. Breslin Center, 534 Birch Road, East Lansing. msuspartans.com/sports/womens-basketball.

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.

Wonderland of Lights - 5-8 p.m. Potter Park Zoo, 1301 S. Pennsylvania Ave, Lansing. potterparkzoo.org.

Monday, Nov. 30

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.

American Indian Boarding Schools in Michigan - Odawa Anishinaabe journalist Sierra Biidaaban Nadeau will talk about the history of American Indian boarding schools in Michigan and read from her book, "What the Ancestors Say." 6:30-7:30 p.m. Fowlerville District Library, 130 S. Grand Ave., Fowlerville. fowlervillelibrary.net.

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

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

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

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.

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.

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.

Snowy Winter Pinecone Craft - Make "snowy" pinecones to decorate a wreath, a mantle garland, or to hang on your tree! 6-7 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. gladl.libcal.com.

Tuesday, Dec. 1

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.

See Events, Page 29

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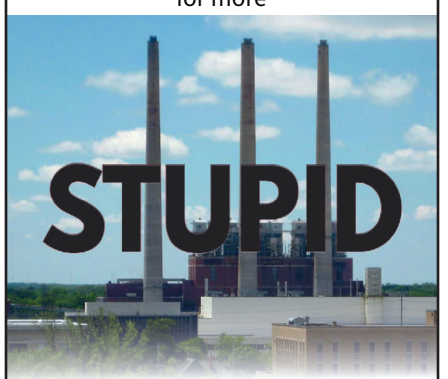
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES WITH A PERSONAL TOUCH
Commercial & residential cleaning plans for your needs!
Licensed • Insured • Bonded
References • Flexible Hours
• Top Down Cleaning
• Move In/Move Out
• New Construction Cleans
• Student Housing
Call 517-819-3250
for a quote or walk-thru!
maximaids1@gmail.com
www.maximaids.net



Big Love for Big Penny

Big Penny's helpers - basically Lansing's own elves - are working with the railroad to get a legit new face for the bridge. One that won't be taken down by the railroad. And thousands of people are signing a petition to help. Visit Stupid-Lansing for more



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

Art By Nevin
As Seen On the Cover of CityPulse
Illustrations • Murals • Graphic Design
Signs • Banners • T-Shirts • Logos
nevin@nevingraphics.com
517-703-4655
ArtByNevin Art_By_Nevin

Events

from page 28

Angel Remembrance Service - This is a service to remember our loved ones who are now in spirit — both people and pets. You may bring an angel ornament to place on our remembrance tree. 6:30-8 p.m. Unity Spiritual Center, 2395 Washington Road, Lansing. unitylansing.org.

Aqua Yoga - Get ready to stretch, relax, and flow with intentional moves in the water — perfect for all levels! 5:30-6:30 p.m. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing. eventbrite.com/o/121095369158.

Dine & Discovery: Lángos - Join chefs Selina and K Máté, owners of Peculiar Coffee Co., in the Maker Kitchen to learn how to make lángos, a Hungarian fried bread. 6-8 p.m. Allen Neighborhood Center, 1629 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. allenneighborhoodcenter.org.

Drop-In Indoor Golf League Tuesdays - Want to join an indoor league but don't want the weekly commitment? The Tuesday Drop-In League is perfect for you! No need to register, just show up! 6-9 p.m. Royal Scot, 4722 W. Grand River Ave., Lansing. royalscot.net.

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.

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.

Greater Lansing History Book Group - 6:30-7:45 p.m. Big Boy, 1408 Old U.S. 27, St. Johns.

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

Little Literary League - A monthly homeschool book club designed for young readers! Dive into exciting stories, share ideas, and connect with other homeschool families. Ages 6-10. Registration req. 11 a.m.-noon. GLADL Wacousta Branch, 9135 W. Herbison Road, Eagle. facebook.com/GrandLedgeLibrary.

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

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

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

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

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.

The Story of Wild Rice (Manoomin), with Chef Sam Anglin - Learn the story of manoomin from migration to harvest and its sacred role in Indigenous lifeways. Participants will enjoy a tasting of a manoomin sweet treat and manoomin three-sister salad. 6-7 p.m. Fowlerville District Library, 130 S. Grand Ave., Fowlerville. fowlervillelibrary.net.

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

Wednesday, Dec. 2

30th Annual Community Tree Lighting - Enjoy cherished holiday traditions, festive carols, and performances by the Holt High School bands and choirs as we gather to welcome Santa and light the community tree. 6:30-7:30 p.m. Veterans Memorial Gardens, 2074 N. Aurelius Road, Holt. delhitownshipmi.gov.

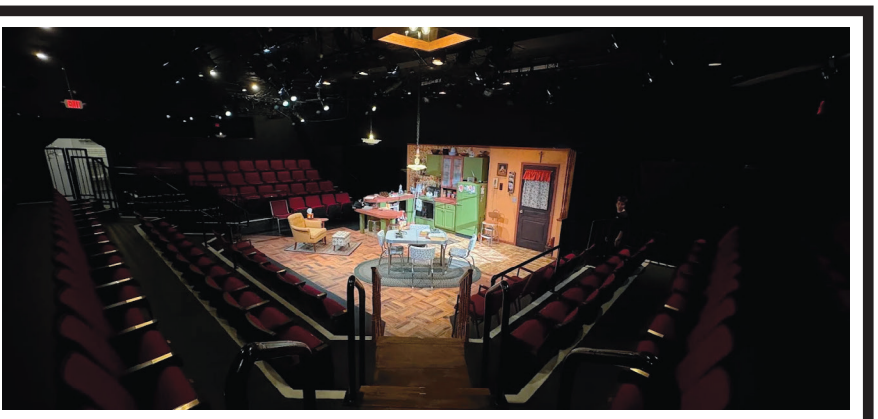
A Course of Love - A Course in Love ongoing book study. All levels of knowledge or curiosity of the book are welcome at any time. 7-8 p.m. Virtual. Meeting ID: 177 417 886. Passcode: 601744. unitylansing.org.

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.

Allen Farmers Market - 3-6:30 p.m. Allen Neighborhood Center, 1629 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. facebook.com/AllenFarmersMarket.

Baubles, Berries, and Evergreens: A Watercolor Mini-Retreat - Join Susan Mahoney for an evening of holiday watercolor painting. This class is perfect for anyone who has dabbled with watercolors and wants to make fun, seasonal projects. 6-8 p.m. Art & Soul Gallery, 215 N. Clinton Ave., St. Johns. facebook.com/ClintonCntyArts.

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.



Williamston Theatre Giving Tuesday Play-A-Thon

11 a.m.-11 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 1
122 S. Putnam St., Williamston
FREE
williamstontheatre.org

For a decade now, Williamston Theatre has been celebrating Giving Tuesday with an annual Play-A-Thon, giving back to the community with a day of free entertainment.

This year's lineup includes three plays, beginning at 11 a.m. with "Reggie Peppers," by Annie Martin. The script follows Reggie and David, two people from different walks of life, as they establish an unlikely companionship and, amid a bizarre series of events, come to terms with what they're willing to risk to break free from a rut.

At 3 p.m. is "Last of the Wild Buffalo," by Ryan Patrick Welsh. When a sophisticated Chicago executive and his pregnant wife celebrate Christmas with his estranged brother and mom, past feelings prove difficult to ignore. Punctuated by the ramblings of a nihilistic talk radio host, an oncoming blizzard and baffling visions of buffalo, the group confronts their past and the curse that haunts the men of the family.

The event concludes at 7 p.m. with "Dear Annie, I Hate You," an autobiographical play by Samantha Ipema. The dark comedy follows the writer and performer after the sudden diagnosis of a fatal brain aneurysm that she dubs "Annie." Navigating her new reality, Ipema explores what makes life worth living.

Reservations are not required, and patrons can attend as many performances as they'd like.

Classical Theatre Class for Teens and Adults - A deep dive into the history and 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.

The Curious Gardener: Holiday Kokedama Workshop - Bring your holiday décor to life with a modern twist on a traditional Japanese garden art! Learn to wrap plant root balls in moss and string as you create three distinct living ornaments. 1-3 p.m. MSU Horticulture Gardens, 1066 Bogue St., East Lansing. facebook.com/MSUHorticultureGardens.

DIY Cookie Mix in a Jar - Using basic dry ingredients, create an aesthetically pleasing "cookie in a jar" to take home for yourself or a holiday gift! Registration req. 5:30-6:30 p.m. GLADL Wacousta Branch, 9135 W. Herbison Road, Eagle. gladl.libcal.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.

Eight Ball Chip Pool Tournaments - Head to Royal Scot's Triple P Bar & Grill every Wednesday and Friday night to join the Eight Ball Chip Pool Tournaments! Players of all skill levels welcome! 6-11 p.m. 4722 W. Grand River Ave., Lansing. royalscot.net.

CROSSWORD SOLUTION

From Pg. 26

A	E	T	N	A	■	C	H	O	O	■	S	N	A	G
S	P	O	I	L	■	R	E	A	D	■	T	O	R	O
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SUDOKU SOLUTION

From Pg. 26

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



A
LANSING CHRISTMAS ADVENTURE
BY ROBERT HAWLMARK

A charming holiday comedy that delivers laughter, nostalgia, and a reminder of what the season is all about.

LIMITED RUN | TICKETS GOING FAST!!

TICKETS ON SALE NOW: WILLIAMSTONTHEATRE.ORG

FOOD & DRINK

DINING OUT IN GREATER LANSING

Golden Harvest is the gold standard for breakfast

By LIZY FERGUSON

When you've just boiled two eggs for breakfast on a Sunday morning and your friend texts you, "Golden Harvest?" you forget everything you said earlier in the week about eating out less. Life is short but also tedious, so — for me, anyway — it's impossible to resist the zest that a tasty meal with a friend can add to life for the sake of things like "practicality" and "a budget."

THE DISH

Home fries deluxe
$15
Golden Harvest
1625 Turner St., Lansing
9 a.m.-2 p.m. Thursday-Sunday
facebook.com/goldenharvestrestaurant

Thankfully, Golden Harvest's flat rate of $15 per breakfast won't break the bank. However, deciding what to get is always a struggle. On my last visit, the restaurant had even more options up on its whiteboards than usual, further complicating things. My friend wanted — and offered to share — the Killer Quesadilla, which I had already planned on ordering after seeing a tantalizing photo of it on Facebook, so I got myself the home fries deluxe plate.

Despite being amiably teased by our waiter for ordering something boring, this dish was anything but. A perfectly cooked and seasoned mountain of diced red potatoes was topped with lightly wilted spinach, onions, peppers, mushrooms, feta cheese, two of the most beautiful sunny-side-up eggs I've ever seen, and a rich and luscious garlic aioli. Every bite of this was so good, I kept putting my fork down and shaking my head in disbelief, wondering why I had ever eaten breakfast anywhere else.



Lizy Ferguson for City Pulse

And then there was the quesadilla, another masterpiece. Fluffy scrambled eggs and melty cheddar cheese were wrapped in a crispy tortilla, accompanied by perfectly ripe avocado, sour cream and homemade salsa that was out of this world. Because the portions are enormous, we both had to get boxes for our leftovers. Mine made for a perfect lunch when I was finally hungry again, many hours later.

People often mention the wait time at Golden Harvest, but it's more than justified when you receive your plate. They refuse to rush in order to deliver a fast but subpar meal, which is a hard impulse to resist and deserves the utmost respect. The proof is in the pudding — specifically the banana pudding French toast, which I've got to try at some point soon.

TOP 5 DINING GUIDE

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

TOP 5 BBQ

Based on your votes in WKAR and City Pulse's 2026 Top of the Town contest. Bon appétit!

1. Capital City BBQ
Cozy eatery serving traditional American barbecue dishes alongside Vietnamese classics
1026 W. Saginaw St., Lansing
(517) 721-1500
facebook.com/capitalcitybbq
11 a.m.-7 p.m. Monday-Saturday

2. Gravity Smokehouse Brew & Que
Lively spot for barbecue eats, draft beer and live entertainment
Temporarily closed due to fire damage
See facebook.com/gravitysmokehouse for updates

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

4. Saddleback BBQ REO Town
Craft barbecue restaurant offering authentic Southern flavors with a Midwestern flair
1147 S. Washington Ave., Lansing
(517) 253-7556
saddlebackbbq.com
11 a.m.-8 p.m. daily

5. The Smoke N' Pig BBQ
Barbecue joint specializing in slow-smoked ribs, pork and brisket, plus homemade sides
908 Elmwood Road, Lansing
(517) 582-5100
smokenpigbbq.com
11 a.m.-9 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday
11 a.m.-10 p.m. Friday-Saturday
Noon-8 p.m. Sunday

MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP EST. 1842

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN, INGHAM COUNTY
LEGAL AD NOTICE: WETLAND USE PERMIT #26-02
INGHAM COUNTY DRAIN COMMISIONER
COSTIGAN DRAIN PROJECT

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
LEGAL NOTICE
Wetland Use Permit #26-02 – Ingham County Drain Commissioner
Public Comment

Notice is hereby given that the Director of Community Planning and Development for the Charter Township of Meridian will receive public comment on Monday, December 21, 2026, at 2:00PM p.m. to hear all persons interested in a wetland use permit request. The Ingham County Drain Commissioner's office has requested a wetland use permit for a series of fills in regulated wetlands to improve the functioning of the Costigan Drain.

Information may be examined at the Department of Community Planning and Development, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, Michigan 48864-1198, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Written comments may be sent to Director of Community Planning and Development Timothy Schmitt, AICP, Charter Township of Meridian, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, Michigan, 48864, or by email to schmitt@meridian.mi.us.

Angela Demas, Township Clerk
November 25, 2026

CP#26-442

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