

# CityPULSE

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## DON'T BLINK

### PUBLIC ART IS EVERYWHERE, BUT IT COULD BE GONE IN A FLASH

See Page 12



**sidebar**  
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**LANSING-AREA**

# MISSING PERSON



Facial hair should be similar to how it appears in this photo

**63-year-old Richard (Rick) Johnson is missing from the Lansing area since 5-7-23**

Rick has Huntington's Disease, which can affect his memory. He may not respond to his name. Last seen at Plum Tree Apartments on Lansing's Westside. Possible sighting at Kroger on Creyts and Saginaw.

**Call Justin Johnson  
517-894-3158**

# PULSE

# NEWS & OPINION

## ‘Smoke and mirrors’ budgeting keeps Lansing’s spending in balance

In 2022, the FBI listed Lansing as the 17th most violent city in the nation. The city saw a 3% increase in violence overall and a 50% increase in homicides.

The city put four new officers to work last week and expects to deploy another four by the end of the month. But there are still 14 sworn officer positions and 13 other posts in the department that are vacant.

Filling those vacancies and others in the city, which is the city’s goal, will improve policing and services — but there’s a Catch-22: Doing so could contribute to throwing the city budget out of balance, resulting in potential layoffs or a reduction in other city services.

That’s what City Council member Patricia Spitzley calls “smoke and mirrors” budgeting, whereby the city balances its budget because it counts on not filling budgeted vacancies.

The Council said no on Monday night to tapping the city’s rainy day fund, as Mayor Andy Schor sought to do. But yes to more smoke and mirrors.

It adopted a budget that slashed operational spending for nine of the city’s 12 departments. Police, fire and public services were exempt, and no positions were eliminated or cut in any department.

Operational budgets fund things like fuel for code compliance vehicles or the paper and ink necessary for the city’s day-to-day operations.

The Council cut Schor’s proposed General Fund budget almost \$5 million to \$159 million. At-large member Peter Spadafore was the only dissenting vote (although at his request the Council broke out the Police, Fire and Public Services department budgets so he could vote yes on them).

He opposed the way the Council had addressed the budget with cuts to operations.

“I’ve never believed that a hammer is a way to approach a problem that requires a scalpel,” Spadafore said. Instead, members looked at the budgets from this current budget year, determined what was not spent — mostly dollars allocated for positions that went unfilled — and eliminated that

amount from the operational budgets of the departments.

“That was incongruent to me from a budgeting philosophy,” Spadafore said.

“Our goal was to make sure we live within our means,” said Council President Carol Wood. “We are estimating we’ll have about \$161 million in revenues. This budget is \$159 million and it doesn’t dip into the rainy day fund. In fact, it adds back to it.”

Schor’s budget proposal called for tapping the rainy day fund for about \$2.6 million out of a projected \$23.3 million.

The total budget proposal, including restricted dollars like grants, was around \$275 million total. The General Fund comprises unrestricted dollars that can be used by the administration as appropriated by City Council for city operations.

“I would not have supported that budget as it was presented,” Wood said of Schor’s March proposal. Making the cuts was necessary to prevent the city from once again dipping into the rainy day fund, she said. The fund is essentially the city’s savings account. “I was here when Mayor Hollister created that fund. It was supposed to be for rainy days. It’s not raining.”

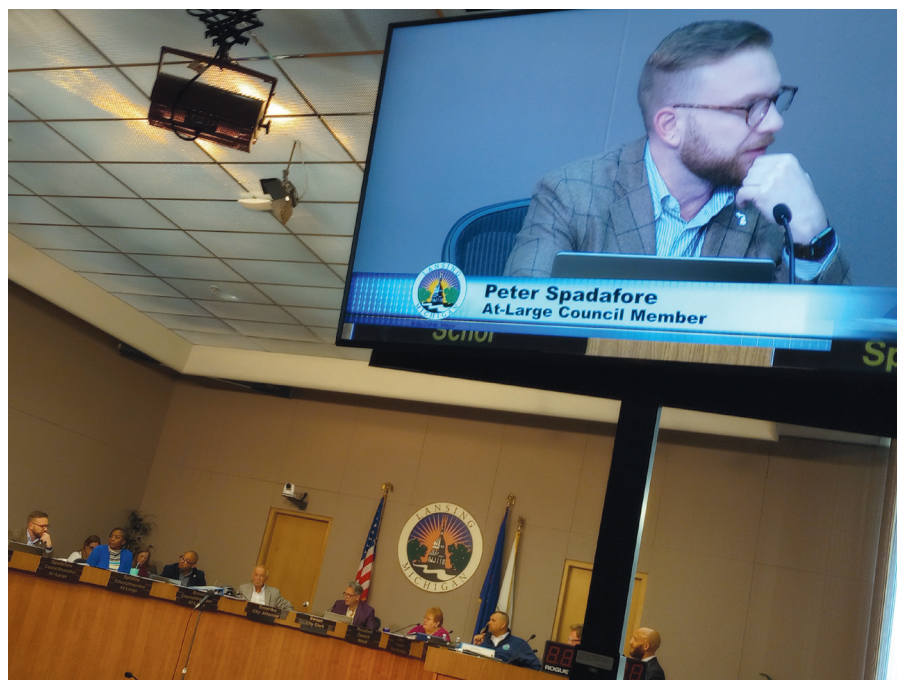
But residents may be feeling the rain in the quality and frequency of services delivered due to the number of vacancies in the city.

“We’re hearing this work is getting done, but I am boots on the ground, and that’s not what I am hearing,” said First Ward Councilman Ryan Kost. “Constituents are reaching out to me. I am getting calls about housing issues, code issues, trash bin issues, trash not being picked up issues, street light problems. Neighborhood issues, constituent issues. All of those are executive branch jobs that are not getting done.”

Schor said the city is struggling to fill all the vacant positions.

“Nobody can hire these days, and we’re actually doing OK,” relatively speaking, Schor said.

The Fire Department has 14 positions open, nine of which are firefighters. Kost said if there were a crisis, the



Todd Heywood/City Pulse

The Lansing City Council cut Mayor Andy Schor’s proposed budget Monday night. Council member Peter Spadafore (foreground) cast the lone dissenting voice.

city’s fire units “would not have the human resources or the equipment that it needs to respond.”

The Public Services Department has 50 vacancies, while Economic Planning and Development, which houses the city’s beleaguered Code Compliance Office, has 10 vacancies.

In all, administration spokesperson Scott Bean was able to identify 131 vacancies funded by either general fund or restricted fund dollars.

Second Ward Councilmember Jeremy Garza proposed a budget amendment to create \$5,000 signing bonuses, using \$300,000 in interest from \$49 million in federal COVID relief dollars. The amendment was adopted Monday night. The bonuses are contingent on whether the city’s unions approve of the spending. If rejected, the money goes into the rainy day fund, Wood said.

Spitzley said the city has been avoiding a structural deficit for years.

“It’s all smoke and mirrors,” she said of the plans to use rollover cash from unfilled positions to plug budget holes in coming months. “The fact is, we are spending more than we are bringing in. How are we going to fix that?”

Until Spitzley sees a plan to address the structural issues, she will not vote in favor of any budget resolutions. That includes the resolutions to close out the current fiscal year, and the rollover windfall other elected officials hope will surgically repair the damage in the budget as it currently stands.

“My administration will put together some options and share them with Council, our employee unions, and the public,” said Schor. “We invite our City Council partners, the public and our unions to also provide their ideas for long-term structural change, as well as review the ideas that we come up with so we can focus on solutions together. Many solutions will take legislative changes, so I look forward to working with City Council as they legislate long-term policy for structural changes.”

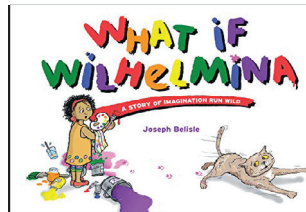
Said Kost, “There are going to need to be frank conversations in coming years. There is a gap. We will have to address that. I like to think we can’t just continue down this path where we can just pull it out of the rainy day fund.”

— TODD HEYWOOD

# CityPULSE

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**PAGE 10**

East Lansing Art Festival features sensory-friendly musical and much more



**PAGE 21**

Cannabis products perfect for "Star Wars" fans



**PAGE 24**

Get your daily dose of vegetables with Thai red curry

Cover collage courtesy of the MSU Broad Art Museum

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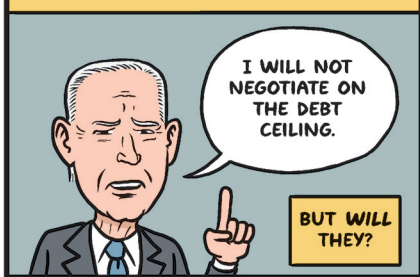
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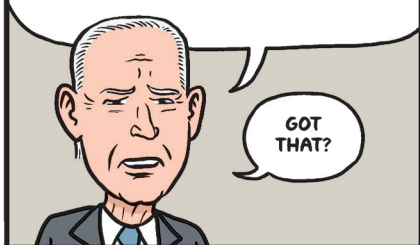
ONCE AGAIN, REPUBLICANS ARE THREATENING TO BLOW UP THE ECONOMY OVER THE DEBT CEILING, WHICH THEY RAISED THREE TIMES UNDER TRUMP. DEMS HAVE VOWED TO STAND FIRM.



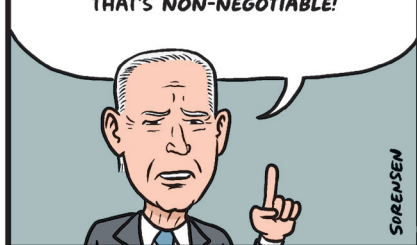
LATER...  
I WILL NOT NEGOTIATE, BUT I'M OPEN TO A PARALLEL AND TOTALLY UNRELATED DISCUSSION ABOUT THE BUDGET.



EVEN LATER...  
I WILL NOT NEGOTIATE UNLESS ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY. REST ASSURED I WILL NOT GIVE INTO DEMANDS— ESPECIALLY DEMANDS THAT I NOT GIVE INTO DEMANDS.



AFTERWARDS...  
I WILL NEVER AGAIN NEGOTIATE WITH THE ECONOMIC BLACKMAILERS WHO I DID NOT JUST NEGOTIATE WITH. AND THAT'S NON-NEGOTIABLE!



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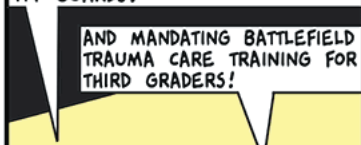
## THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW

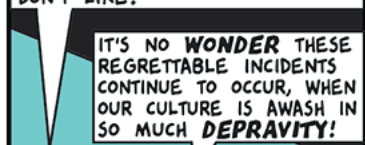
THERE'S BEEN ANOTHER REGRETTABLE MASS FATALITY INCIDENT THAT HAPPENED TO INVOLVE FIREARMS!



RIGHT! LIKE TURNING EVERY SCHOOL, SHOPPING MALL, AND NIGHTCLUB INTO A SECURE FORTRESS PATROLLED BY HEAVILY ARMED SECURITY GUARDS!



ALSO, WE NEED TO BAN TIKTOK, AND CRITICAL RACE THEORY, AND DRAG QUEEN STORY HOURS, AND A BUNCH OF OTHER THINGS I DON'T LIKE!



WOW, THOSE ARE CERTAINLY WORDS THAT YOU ARE SPEAKING! BUT I CAN'T HELP BUT WONDER IF THERE'S A COMMON DENOMINATOR IN ALL THESE GUN MASSACRES THAT YOU MIGHT BE OVERLOOKING!



NOPE, SORRY, CAN'T THINK OF ANYTHING LIKE THAT.



YEAH, I'M COMING UP BLANK.



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We work hard to keep you informed and up to date on the issues that matter most to you.

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# Working together: Spartan Housing Cooperative celebrates 50 years

Last Saturday founding members of the Spartan Housing Cooperative, more commonly known as the MSU Student Co-ops, gathered for a 50th-anniversary reunion. The question on everyone's mind: "Are we voting on anything today?"

"Seriously though, that is such a co-op thing," quipped executive director Holly Jo Sparks, who is going into her 10th year as co-op organization's leader. About 15 people had RSVPed, but Sparks expected far more. "It's just like that with co-op people," she said, "You try to sit down in a restaurant with four or five people and all of a sudden you run into someone, then three more. Then, you're pushing tables together."

She was right: About 40 attended, crowding into a pavilion outside Potter Park Zoo.

Addressing them, Sparks recalled hearing Grace Lee Boggs, a late author and social activist, speak about the "critical and often overlooked potential of young people to change the world." Sparks spoke about how making decisions together about seemingly mundane things like home repair or dishes is an exercise that changes its participants and teaches people to work together. She remarked on the intensity of living in shared space. Her lesson was that learning to live with other people you don't know at all is challenging, but it promotes skills that apply to the rest of adult life.

The co-op's current president, Clay Griffith, always wanted to live in a co-op. Griffith's interest in cooperative living stemmed from a passion for social justice and a desire to "be a revolutionary" that began as far back as middle school. While researching "Movement houses," or places where "intentional" living and political organizing took place, Griffith became interested in living in a student co-op. "I just thought, 'When I get to college, that's when my life is going to start.'"

Other current "co-operators" Ester Lee and Rowan Price are in graduate programs, both choosing to live in shared housing after positive experiences during their undergraduate degrees. Lee described cooperative housing as a "small-scale experiment" that teaches important skills like conflict resolution, facilitation, and home ownership and repair. After school, she is interested in translating her experience into the realm of cooperative finance. Price described how co-ops bring together an interesting diversity of people and spoke fondly of sharing the history of the houses across generations.



Chelsea Lake Roberts for City Pulse

The 50th-year reunion of the Spartan Housing Cooperative attracted some 40 people to Potter Park in Lansing on Saturday, including (from left) current "co-operators" Rowan Price, Ester Lee and Clay Griffith, who is this year's president.

Ingham County Treasurer Alan Fox was the first student ever elected to the East Lansing City Council in 1977.

A former "co-op kid," Fox spoke at the reunion about changes to East Lansing and Greater Lansing over

the past 50 years and the need to address our area's housing crisis. "We are 40,000 housing units short of what's needed, and we're only building about 1,500 per year." Fox stressed that alternative models to single-family housing are crucial.

Jim Jones, one of the co-op organization's founders, had returned from a four-year stint in the Peace Corps in 1971 to find a nation completely changed by the "Summer of Love," Woodstock, and the mass protests for feminism and LGBTQ rights. Unable to find a teaching job, he enrolled in graduate school at age 29 and lived in the co-ops as a way to avoid social isolation.

Back then, houses like Montie, Elsworth (now the David Bowie Memorial Coop) and Hedrick were loosely organized through an organization called the Inter-Cooperative Council. There was also a 45-member women's co-op called Ulrey on Abbot Road, named for the "godfather" of East Lansing cooperative housing, Orion Ulrey. At the time, these houses had radical differences along political and cultural divides. Jones remembers that in 1971,



Chelsea Lake Roberts for City Pulse

Phillip Bazzo and Jim Jones, founding members of the Spartan Housing Cooperative in 1971, were among those who attended the reunion, which was delayed two years because of the pandemic.

## Co-op

from page 5

Montie House was “a very conservative place filled with fraternity types. They thought we were the dirty hippies and the activists,” while Hedrick House was a middle-of-the-road community known for its longevity. Jones referred to his friend Phil Bazzo as the “technician,” saying that Bazzo understood the paperwork required to get the houses incorporated and get through the jargon and red tape. Bazzo noted that it was Jones’ kindness and maturity that were the driving forces in making it all

work together.

One of the primary goals of Spartan Housing Cooperative in 1971 was to purchase housing for the Ulrey women and to provide a financial base to expand ownership. Jones described cooperative housing as an alternative ecosystem of home ownership that, even and especially today, offers hope to the consumer.

Having worked nationally with the North American Students of Cooperation, Jones has seen co-ops all over the country. Still, he noted that Spartan is one of the most innovative and special cooperative communities, attributing this to the Midwestern roots of so many

at Michigan State University. “People here don’t want to just talk about things, you actually want to get things done.”

After some good natured jokes about land contracts, plumbing and the nature of meetings, Jones ended his speech by reading aloud an excerpt from the 1972 SHC Annual Report:

“This year has been.....Eventful. Since our last Annual Meeting we’ve had 4 Presidents, 4 Treasurers, 2 Secretaries and ½ Business Manager. We’ve

had fights, threatened withdrawals, traumas, and lost opportunities. Bus somehow we’ve survived, and even grown... And most, important of all, we have become a little more aware of our power to cooperatively control our lives... I think that many people have learned this year how much simple cooperation can accomplish, and how much division can destroy. Call this the educational function of cooperatives. It’s our greatest asset.”

## CORRECTIONS

Because of an editing error, the caption of a photo in the May 3 story on the Lansing Symphony Orchestra’s 2023-’24 season incorrectly said that flutist and composer Valerie Coleman will appear to perform her work “Umoja Anthem of Unity.” The symphony will perform the composition, but she will not

appear.

In the May 10 issue, two houses were misidentified on a list of 21 properties that have been red-tagged in the City of Lansing for more than 10 years. Below are photos of the houses with their correct addresses, owners and the dates when they were red-tagged.



1722 Donora St., owned by 1309 Vermont Ave. LLC, Sept. 22, 2006



922 N. Walnut St., Joseph P. Vitale, Nov. 28, 2011

Notice to Creditors. Decedent’s Estate. **Case No. 23-580-DE.** Estate of Patricia Ann Bell Date of birth: 07/07/1953. The decedent, Patricia Ann Bell, died 04/23/2023. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Mary Tyler, personal representative, or to both the Ingham County Probate Court at 313 W Kalamazoo St, MI 48933 and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice. **05/17/2023.** Mary Tyler PO Box 70028, Lansing, MI 48908.


CP#23-118

**Notice to Creditors.** Decedent’s Estate. Estate of Theresa Petronilla Yuncker. Date of birth 04/23/1960. The decedent, Theresa Petronilla Yuncker, died 04/04/2023. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Brianna Edwards, personal representative, or to both the Shiawassee County Probate Court at 110 E. Mack St. #1 Corunna, MI 48817 and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice. 05/09/2023. Brianna Edwards 8847 Old M 78 Haslett, MI 48840 517.282.7405

CP#23-113

**B/23/116 IMPRINTED T-SHIRTS, HATS, ETC.** for the Parks and Recreation Department as per the specifications provided by the City of Lansing. The City of Lansing will accept bids at The City of Lansing, Purchasing Office, 124 W. Michigan Ave. 3rd Floor, Lansing, Michigan 48933 or electronically submitted thru MITN Site ([www.Mitn.Info](http://www.Mitn.Info)) until 2PM local time in effect on MAY 31, 2023. Complete specifications and forms required to submit bids are available by contacting Marilyn Chick at (517) 483-4282, or [Marilyn.chick@lansingmi.gov](mailto:Marilyn.chick@lansingmi.gov) or go to [www.mitn.info](http://www.mitn.info). The City of Lansing encourages bids from All Vendors Including MBE/WBE Vendors and Lansing-Based Businesses.

CP#23-117



**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN, INGHAM COUNTY**  
**LEGAL AD NOTICE: SPECIAL USE PERMIT #23012 (DVNK)**  
**MONDAY, JUNE 12, 2023**

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**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN**  
**LEGAL NOTICE**  
**SPECIAL USE PERMIT #23012 (DVNK)**  
**PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE**

JNotice is hereby given that the Planning Commission of the Charter Township of Meridian will hold a public hearing on Monday, June 12, 2023 at 6:30 p.m., in the Meridian Township Municipal Building, Town Hall Room, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, to hear all persons interested in a request from The W. Investment Holdings to construct a medical marijuana provisioning center at 1614 W. Grand River, Okemos, MI 48864. The approximately 2.7-acre parcel is zoned C-2 – Commercial.

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 prior to the Planning Commission, Charter Township of Meridian, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, Michigan, 48864, or by email to [shorkey@meridian.mi.us](mailto:shorkey@meridian.mi.us), or at the public hearing.

**Deborah Guthrie**  
**Township Clerk**

**CP#23-115**

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**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS**  
**EAST LANSING HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION**

**Notice is hereby given** of the following public hearings to be held by the East Lansing Historic District Commission on **Thursday, June 8, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.**, at the **East Lansing Hannah Community Center**, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing, MI, 48823.

- A public hearing will be held to consider a request from Kristine Bowman to replace their fence at 929 Roxburgh Avenue.
- A public hearing will be held to consider a request from Lynne Benson to demolish a chimney at 140 Center Street.
- A public hearing will be held to consider a request to replace a fence in the side yard of 711 W. Grand River Avenue.

For more information on the request please contact Taylor Van Winkle at (517) 319-6828 or [twinkle@cityofeastlansing.com](mailto:twinkle@cityofeastlansing.com). Materials related to the request are available for viewing at the Department of Planning, Building, and Development, East Lansing City Hall, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, MI, 48823 between the hours of 8:00 am and 5:00 pm or on the City’s website located at [www.cityofeastlansing.com/currentapplications](http://www.cityofeastlansing.com/currentapplications). Written comments may be sent prior to the public hearing to the Historic District Commission, City of East Lansing, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, Michigan, 48823, or by email to [coelhistoricdistricts@cityofeastlansing.com](mailto:coelhistoricdistricts@cityofeastlansing.com).

The City of East Lansing will provide reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as interpreters for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting, to individuals with disabilities upon request received by the City seven (7) calendar days prior to the meeting. Individuals with disabilities requiring aids or services must contact the City Manager’s Office, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, MI, 48823, (517) 319-6920 (TDD Number: 1-800-649-3777) or via email at [nmostel@cityofeastlansing.com](mailto:nmostel@cityofeastlansing.com).

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

Marie E. Wicks  
City Clerk

**CP#23-116**

# REWIND

## NEWS HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE LAST 7 DAYS

BY NICOLE NOECHEL



**Term-limited former Democratic state Rep. Leslie Love announced her candidacy for the U.S. Senate in 2024.** Love represented Detroit in the state Legislature from 2015 to 2020. She was a member of the state's National Resource Committee from 2021 until last week, when she resigned to pursue a Senate campaign. Other Democratic candidates

in the race are U.S. Rep Elissa Slotkin, Dearborn businessman Nasser Beydoun and lawyer Zack Burns. While Slotkin has raised more than \$3 million for her campaign as of April, Love said, "This election is about more than who raises the most money. This campaign is about giving people a choice. It's about representation."

**Gregory Tracy, a Lansing police officer, was accused of retail fraud for allegedly switching the prices on boxes of sports cards.** Tracy, 42, allegedly marked more expensive boxes of cards as less valuable to purchase them for cheap at local Meijer stores, then attempted to sell the cards to others. He is charged with one count of first-degree retail fraud and one count of organized retail fraud. Michigan State Police found video surveillance evidence of Tracy switching prices at Meijer stores at least 84 times between Jan. 9 and April 3. Meijer is believed to have lost at least \$11,458. When he was interviewed, Tracy admitted to the retail fraud and said he had also switched prices at Walmart and Target stores. Police found stolen items from Meijer after searching his car and phone. He was placed on paid administrative leave until the investigation is finished. He waived his right to a preliminary examination on May 5, and his case will continue in circuit court.



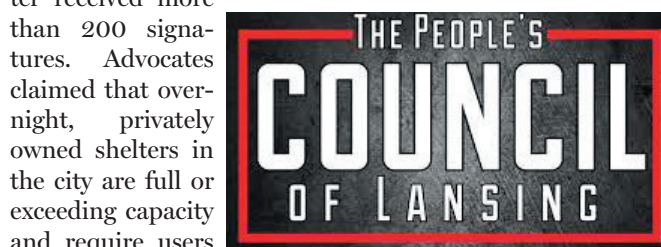
**Michigan State University selected its new vice president for civil rights and Title IX education.** Laura Rugless is an Army veteran and former lawyer who has worked in higher education and state and federal compliance for more than 15 years. Most recently, she served as the associate vice president for the Office of Institutional Equity and Title IX at Cornell University in Ithaca, New York, and was formerly the school's Title IX coordinator. She was also the executive director of equity and access services and Title IX coordinator at Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond, Virginia. In



her role at MSU, which was elevated from an associate vice president to vice president position, she will serve as the school's Title IX coordinator, leading its civil rights and Title IX compliance. She will oversee the Office of Institutional Equity; the Prevention, Outreach and Education Department; the Resolution Office; the Office of Support and Equity; the

equity review officer; and the Americans with Disabilities Act coordinator. Pending approval from MSU's Board of Trustees, Rugless' term will begin July 1.

**The City of Lansing found it would be too expensive to open a 24-hour, year-round homeless shelter, the Lansing State Journal reported.** Earlier this year, a Change.org petition by the grassroots accountability organization The People's Council of Lansing asking the city to open a taxpayer-funded shelter received more than 200 signatures. Advocates claimed that overnight, privately owned shelters in the city are full or exceeding capacity and require users to leave during the day, except in extreme weather, causing many to be left out in the cold during the winter or in the heat during the summer. Mayor Andy Schor asked the Human Relations and Community Services Department to draft an estimate for the cost of a 24-hour, taxpayer-funded shelter run by the city. The department estimated that it would cost the city about \$2.6 million to purchase and renovate a 5,000-square-foot space into a shelter that would serve 100 to 150 adults and \$877,640 annually to operate it. "The cost to taxpayers and the city budget would be far too great to do that," City spokesperson Scott Bean told the Journal. Instead, the city asked for \$800,000 in funding from the state and federal governments to "utilize existing space and services offered by community partners," Bean said.



**The Federal Aviation Administration approved a petition from American Airlines to continue two nonstop flights between Lansing and Washington.** The 7-year-old daily service, which was scheduled to expire in October, to the Ronald Reagan National Airport was extended five years, through October 2028. Mid-Michigan residents, government officials and business leaders sent around 900 emails and letters to the FAA and the U.S. Transportation Department urging renewal.



**The Greater Lansing Convention and Visitors Bureau launched its new digital Lansing Experience Pass.** With the pass, users can receive discounts and accumulate points when they check in to attractions, museums, outdoor recreation spots, art venues and family-friendly activities in Greater Lansing. The points can be redeemed for decals, socks, playing cards, T-shirts and more. The pass is free and available all year. To sign up, visit [lansing.org/experiencepass](http://lansing.org/experiencepass).



4623 Hughes Road, Lansing

This one-story, 1953 home with 1,043 square feet of living space features boarded-up windows, partial metal screen door frames hanging from the front and a window with a softball-sized hole in it. The white paint is peeling off and the grass on Tuesday was nearing knee-high.

A peak inside shows some work has been done on the property, including electrical sockets and wiring. But that work stopped after a building permit expired in 2021. It has been red-tagged since Nov. 2, 2020, according to city records. It's also been subject to notices on grass and weeds seven times and trash six times. It was also cited for construction without a permit in August 2020. In March 2021, it was cited over a disabled vehicle.

City records show hundreds of dollars are due for monitoring and late fees.

The property was purchased by Kelly Curtis and Hooper Nojac in July 2020. Ingham County property records show \$5,326.97 in overdue property taxes. The taxes from 2021, \$4051.60, were paid on Feb. 24 this year. Efforts to locate the owners for comment were unsuccessful.

— TODD HEYWOOD

"Eyesore of the Week" is our weekly look at some of the seedier properties in Lansing. It rotates with Eye Candy of the Week and Eye for Design. Have a suggestion? Email [eye@lansingcitypulse.com](mailto:eye@lansingcitypulse.com) or call in a nomination to (517) 999-6704.

In January, Democrats secured full control of Michigan government for the first time in four decades. They have not wasted any time. Gov. Gretchen Whitmer has signed bills into law strengthening gun control, restoring prevailing wages, increasing worker tax credits, protecting abortion rights, enhancing school security, supporting school breakfasts, prohibiting sexual orientation discrimination, moving Michigan earlier in the presidential nomination process, and subsidizing factories. Democrats have overturned key accomplishments of the prior Republican trifecta, including right-to-work legislation, third-grade reading requirements and retirement taxes. It is an exhilarating time to be a Democrat in Lansing.

One sign that Republicans did not expect to lose control of the Legislature is that they left billions of dollars in unspent federal money on the table alongside a gushing post-COVID state revenue stream. Democrats have dutifully started spending, with large investments in business, housing, law enforcement, education and health.

Now they are mostly bypassing Republicans to proceed on their own budget plans. But this one-sided jubilation may be short-lived.

The Democratic success is founded on a slim majority of two seats each in the House and Senate. This was not a given. Studies suggest that the party in power typically manages to move policy only about 1% toward their own preferences during their average term of full government control. By primarily excluding Republicans, they risk delaying when initiatives take effect and potentially alienating voters.

Their mandate from Michigan's swing state voters remains somewhat murky. In 2022, they profited from a historic independent redistricting process, a disproportionate state response to the Supreme Court's abortion decisions due to Proposal 3, and an unappealing statewide ticket of Republican candidates. In that environment, they only scraped by. A minor shift to the right in a few districts in 2024 or 2026 could truncate this experiment in Democratic control.

Public opinion often swings in the opposite ideological direction of policymaking, with subsequent elections typically moving against the party in complete control of government.

There is an opportunity for Democrats to lay the groundwork for prolonged success. This session marks not only a historic change in partisan control but also a potential shift in incentives for cooperation. Over half of the House is newly elected, and with term limit reforms, many could serve in the House for 12 years (double the previously allowed tenure). If they remain together for over a decade, they are likely to experience stints in the majority and minority

and in divided government.

In a politically competitive state like Michigan, sustained bipartisan attention and difficult trade-offs will be needed to address pressing issues. After promising to "fix the damn roads," Democrats have not found a magic solution. A recent report highlighted an ongoing annual infrastructure spending deficit of almost \$4 billion. Economic development without working-age population growth, another priority of the governor and Legislature, is also a tall order. Throwing money at companies for factory-placement ribbon cuttings is not a long-term solution. Moreover, Michigan students are lagging in reading

and math due to pandemic school closures and stress, necessitating a long-term, proactive plan.

The timing of state revenues has proved fortuitous for Democrats. It is easy to reach agreement on what to fund when you can say yes to nearly everyone. But the federal money will run dry and state

revenues will face downturns, requiring more difficult choices that depend on bipartisan agreements.

Democrats' focus on top priorities is understandable after a long hiatus from power, but it does not guarantee voter-noticeable successes. A study of 27 indicators of government success — from crime rates to income growth to

pollution — found that precisely none of them move consistently due to Democratic rather than Republican control of state government. Even when policy changes yield results, they may take longer than expected and produce unintended consequences as well.

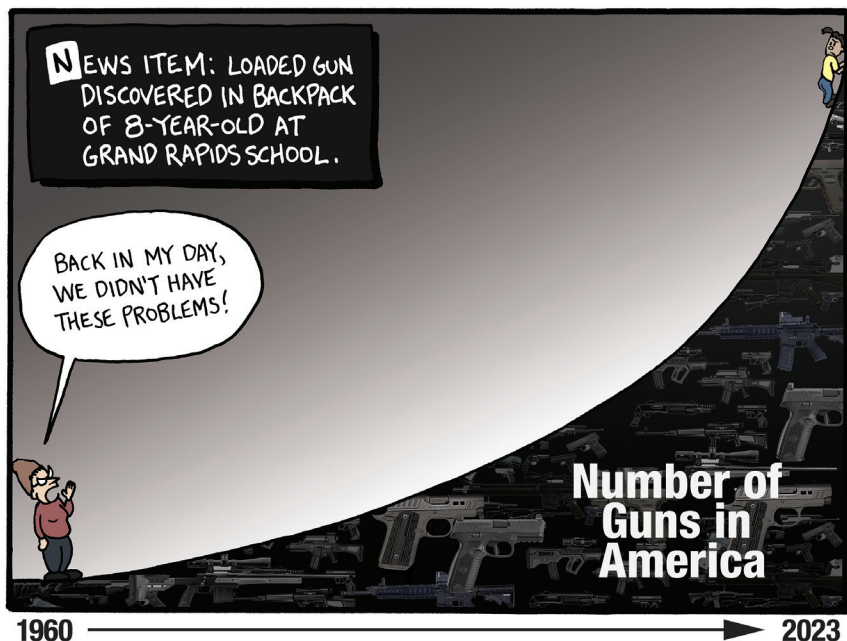
Whitmer is now using Democrats' policy progress to seek freedom-seeking transplants from conservative states. That seems ambitious, but Michigan's current political vibrancy could appeal to idealistic young politicians. Lansing, as the capital city, has much at stake in the success of state government. The political transformation in progress can take some of the sting out of a less vibrant city center with fewer state workers since the pandemic. The continued allure of Lansing will depend on a sense that state government offers opportunities for those with dreams of making a difference.

As Michigan Democrats ride high on the wave of their influence and success, they should cherish their rapid progress but not count on long-term dominance. The political winds will change. Since successful state policy depends on durable, bipartisan relationships, now is an opportune moment to engage more Republicans in policymaking, paving the way for a more shared sense of accomplishment.

# The case for bipartisanship now

## The CP Edit

### Opinion



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- E-mail: [letters@lansingcitypulse.com](mailto:letters@lansingcitypulse.com)
- Snail mail: City Pulse, 1905 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing, MI 48912
- At [lansingcitypulse.com](http://lansingcitypulse.com)

**2 Write a guest column.**

Contact Berl Schwartz for more information: [publisher@lansingcitypulse.com](mailto:publisher@lansingcitypulse.com) or (517) 999-5061. (Please include your name, address and telephone number so we can reach you. Keep letters to 250 words or fewer. City Pulse reserves the right to edit letters and columns.)



# Fusionist concept could bury GOP in minority status for a while

As if Michigan's Republican Party didn't have enough problems, political consultant Jeff Timmer and like-minded moderates nationwide are on the verge of extending the party's electoral futility for at least the next election cycle, but maybe many more.



KYLE MELINN

POLITICS

Opinion

Timmer and his political allies will soon be rounding up 45,000 signatures in Michigan to create the Common Sense Party, which won't field its own candidates. Rather, it will collect information about the candidates already on the ballot and endorse among that lot.

For example, the Common Sense Party could endorse a Democrat for the U.S. House of Representatives but a Republican for the U.S. Senate. Any straight-ticket votes for the party would go to its endorsers.

In a return to the "fusionist" voting tactic used in Michigan in the 1880s and '90s, candidates in politically competitive districts would need to move toward the political middle if they hope to get the Common Sense Party's votes.

That, let's say, 5% could make the difference in a competitive race.

Timmer, the former executive director of the state GOP, isn't alone in putting this creative concept together. He has on his side former U.S. Reps. David Trott and Joe Schwarz, plus Bob LaBrant, who was a longtime Michigan Chamber of Commerce executive and has advised four Michigan Republican governors.

Meanwhile, nationally, a moderate political group calling itself No Labels is taking shape. It recently sponsored a panel on bipartisanship at Cornell University that featured Fred Upton, another former congressman from Michigan. The Detroit News is reporting the group, whose leadership includes former Democratic vice presidential candidate Joseph Lieberman and former Republican Gov. Larry Hogan of Maryland, has \$70 million in the bank.

These two approaches spell trouble for the Michigan Republican Party. Its grassroots leaders are successfully cleansing the GOP ranks of RINOs — Republicans In Name Only.

Once an acronym for moderate Republicans, RINOs are now anyone who doesn't believe Trump won the 2020 election. RINOs also refuse to embrace a Christian nationalism-type political ideology caked in conspiracy, unbridled gun possession and some level of social isolationism.

MRP Chair Kristina Karamo is trying to grow a bigger party by circling wagons of tight-fisted dissidents.

All reports are that this isn't going well.

Former Republicans like the aforementioned crew are fleeing the MRP, but they are finding they have nowhere to go. They're not liberal Democrats.

The Michigan Libertarian Party is a sideshow of internal turf wars. It's nowhere near ready to make that jump to legitimate third-party status.

Could these disaffected find a home in the Common Sense Party?

It's quite possible.

It worked more than 130 years ago. Back then, the Republicans won everything in Michigan. In the election of 1880, Republicans won a 30-2 majority in the Senate and an 86-14 majority in the House.

To push back against this dominance, Democrats teamed up with obscure third parties such as Greenbacks, the Labor Party, Populists and others to create "Fusionist" tickets. They all agreed that votes for their parties would go to a common candidate.

And in 1882, "Fusionist" Josiah Begole became the governor of Michigan. Eight years later, a Democrat named Edwin Winans became governor using the same Fusionist coalition.

After that, Republican legislators vowed to stop it. In 1895, Michigan, Ohio, Wisconsin and Oregon passed laws to prevent cooperation between Democrats and third parties. From that point on, a political candidate could only be nominated by one political party. If that candidate didn't choose a party, the state must do it for them.

That's why, if the Common Sense Party is successful in forming, the next step will be to immediately go to the Court of Claims to overturn the state law that prevents fusionist-style voting.

If Timmer and company are successful, they could disassociate with the fringe element that's taken over the Republican Party and advocate for moderate candidates.

Democrats have shown with U.S. Rep. Elissa Slotkin and state Rep. Angela Witwer, in particular, that they have no problem advancing politically centrist candidates when a district calls for one.

A Common Sense Party will give home to RINOs until the Republican Party membership realizes that echo chambers of philosophical soulmates are a recipe for perennial minority status, not a path to broad leadership.

*(Email Kyle Melinn of the Capitol news service MIRS at melinnky@gmail.com.)*

## COUNTY OF INGHAM NOTICE OF CLOSEOUT PUBLIC HEARING FOR MICHIGAN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) FUNDING FOR HOMEOWNER REHABILITATION GRANT

Ingham County will conduct a closeout public hearing on June 13, 2023 at 6:30 pm at Ingham County Courthouse in Mason, Third Floor for the purpose of affording citizens an opportunity to submit comments and receive a final report on the completion of the CARES CDBG Grant.

The CDBG grant provided funding to assist in reimbursing for unexpected costs associated with COVID-19. The CDBG project benefitted at least 48.1% low to moderate income individuals.

Interested parties are invited to comment on the project in person at the public hearing.

Citizen views and comments on the CDBG project are welcome.

Ingham County  
Megan Oberlin  
Program Analyst, CDBG  
(517) 230-2716

CP#23-114

## STATE OF MICHIGAN OFFICE OF THE INGHAM COUNTY DRAIN COMMISSIONER NOTICE OF DRAINAGE BOARD MEETING TO HEAR OBJECTIONS TO APPORTIONMENTS OF COST OF PROCTOR DRAIN

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 20 of 1956, PA 40, as amended, that a meeting of the Drainage Board for the Proctor Drain (a Chapter 20 Drain) will be held at the following date, time, and location:

**Wednesday, June 7, 2023, at 5:30 p.m.**

Ingham County Human Services Building - Conference Room A  
5303 South Cedar Street, Lansing, MI 48911

The purpose of this meeting is to hear objections to the proposed apportionments for the Proctor Drain Emergency Maintenance and Repair Project only, and to discuss any other business that may come before the Board. The proposed apportionments for the Proctor Drain Emergency Maintenance and Repair Project are as follows:

Meridian Charter Township City of East Lansing	50.00%
County of Ingham	50.00%
Michigan Dept. of Transportation	0.00%
Total	100.00%

For ordinary maintenance separate from this Project, the historical apportionments will remain in place. The historical apportionments among the public corporations for the Proctor Drain are:

Meridian Charter Township City of East Lansing	67.51%
County of Ingham	22.60%
Michigan Dept. of Transportation	9.60%
Total	100.00%

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that any public corporation to be assessed, or any taxpayer thereof, will be entitled to be heard at the time and place of the hearing; and that after consideration of all objections to the apportionments, the Drainage Board shall determine whether the apportionments fairly reflect the benefits to accrue to each public corporation and the extent to which each public corporation contributes to the conditions making the drain expenses necessary. If the Drainage Board determines that the apportionments are equitable, then it will enter a Final Order of Apportionment confirming the apportionments.

For purposes of providing input or asking questions on any business that will come before the public body at the meeting, you may contact Paul Pratt, Ingham County Deputy Drain Commissioner via email (ppratt@ingham.org). Persons with disabilities needing accommodations for effective participation in meeting should contact the Michigan Relay Center at 711 (TTY) at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting to request visual, hearing or other assistance. Minutes of the meeting will be on file at the office of the Ingham County Drain Commissioner.

Dated: May 4, 2023

PROCTOR DRAIN DRAINAGE BOARD  
By: Patrick E. Lindemann, Chairperson  
Ingham County Drain Commissioner

CP#23-112

# ARTS & CULTURE

ART • BOOKS • FILM • MUSIC

## East Lansing Art Festival focuses on inclusivity for its 60th year

By NICOLE NOECHEL

“What if Wilhelmina,” written and illustrated by Joseph Belisle, was chosen as one of The Best Children’s Books of the Year in 2022 for ages 4 to 6 by Bank Street College of Education in New York City. It tells the story of a 7-year-old girl whose cat, Wilhelmina, goes missing. The girl, Faith, is full of fear but develops coping skills to help her through the difficult time.

Dionne O’Dell, artistic director of the Michigan State University Department of Theatre’s Sense-Ability Ensemble, was drawn to the book by its focus on stress.

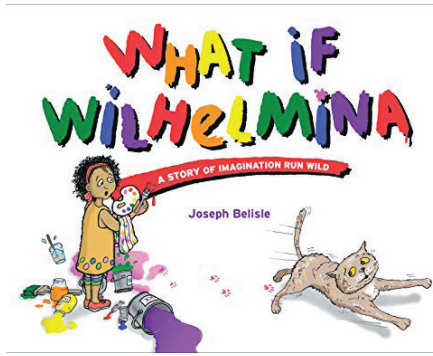
“A lot of the children that we work with have anxiety, and I loved how the story dealt with worry in an imaginative and creative way,” she said.

She took it upon herself to develop the book into a musical, which the ensemble will perform at the East Lansing Art Festival at 10 a.m. Saturday and Sunday (May 20 and 21). The book will be for sale, and Belisle will be on hand to sign copies.

The Sense-Ability Ensemble was created in 2019 to produce multi-sensory, interactive theatrical performances for neurodiverse audiences. The performers are trained to respond sensitively, tailoring sensory experiences to individual audience members and highlighting the power of diversity.

“Many children who identify as neurodiverse can get overwhelmed by typical sensory stimuli,” O’Dell said. “These shows that we develop specifically for this type of audience are sensitive to that. They are multisensory and participatory. They use puppets and music to engage audiences in a more direct way. There is a lot of one-on-one actor and audience member interaction. These methods also work great for kindergarteners through third graders.”

“What if Wilhelmina” includes music, puppets and other sensory el-



Courtesy of Amazon

The Michigan State University Sense-Ability Ensemble will perform its theatrical adaptation of Joseph Belisle’s children’s book “What if Wilhelmina” 10 a.m. Saturday (May 20) and Sunday (May 21) at the corner of Albert and M.A.C. avenues. Belisle will sign copies of his book.

ements. It’s recommended for neurodiverse audiences and children ages 1 through 8.

“If they wish to, the children in the audience will get to experience what a cat’s tongue and whiskers feel like on their skin, they will get to help search for Wilhelmina when she goes missing, smell roses and learn to tango,” O’Dell said.

This wasn’t the first time O’Dell has written a production from the ground up, but it was her first experience adapting a children’s book into a musical.

“I worked closely with the author and illustrator to be certain I was honoring his vision,” she said. “I wouldn’t say it was difficult, but one of the creative challenges was that the book doesn’t have a lot of dialogue, so I had to decide how to tell the story by expanding the dialogue and remaining true to the central message.”

She wrote all the lyrics to the original songs and worked with Chelle Peterson, who holds an associate’s degree in music from Lansing Community College and a bachelor’s degree in theater design from MSU, for the score. Peterson has worked with O’Dell on past productions, includ-



Courtesy of the East Lansing Art Festival

More than 150 artists will have booths on Albert and M.A.C. avenues at the 60th annual East Lansing Art Festival, selling and exhibiting their work with a variety of mediums.

ing “Farm! A Musical Experience,” which the Sense-Ability Ensemble debuted in 2019, and “MAKE ME FAMOUS,” which the Department of Theatre produced in 2014.

“I generally send Chelle the lyrics, we discuss them, I badly hum the tune in my head, and then she works her magic,” O’Dell said.

The show was originally developed in spring 2022, and the ensemble toured with it at local elementary schools in April this year. The cast and crew are excited to show off months of practice to patrons at the festival.

“We are honored to be performing at the East Lansing Art Festival this year,” O’Dell said.

Apart from featuring the Sense-Ability Ensemble, the East Lansing Art Festival is working to promote inclusivity this year by accompanying all performances with on-site signage in three languages: English, Spanish and Mandarin.

“This was a recommendation from a community member after last year’s festival,” festival director Heather Majano said. “So, I found a grant, the Michigan Arts and Culture Council Project Support Grant, that would help us to make it happen. We’re excited to add an additional level of accessibility to the festival.”

Also new this year is a featured artist in the Artist Demonstration Area, Jenna Wood, who will demonstrate indigenous basket weaving using traditional materials. The featured

artist was made possible due to a grant from the East Lansing Arts Commission.

The rest of the festival will remain largely the same as last year, with two full days of performances at the Jackson Main Stage, featuring the Greater Lansing Ballet Company, the East Lansing High School Jazz Band, the Flames ‘N Dames fire-dance group, a Native American spirit dancer, a magician and puppeteer, Americana/blues musician Grace Thiesen and more; a food court with everything from grilled cheese, barbecue and desserts to traditional Peruvian, Spanish and Mexican food; and a continued partnership with the MSU Spring Arts and Crafts Show, which runs 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday at the MSU Union.

The festival will also feature 156 artists from all over the United States, including five of the six award-winning artists from last year, who will be exhibiting and selling their work at booths along Albert and M.A.C. avenues. For a full list of artists, including the mediums they work with, see page 14.

“I hope the community is able to meander to downtown East Lansing and enjoy art, their community and the beginning of beautiful weather,” Majano said. “I hope the artists have a positive experience, including making connections with people as well as selling their art!”

### East Lansing Art Festival

Saturday, May 20, 10 a.m.–6 p.m.

Sunday, May 21, 10 a.m.–5 p.m.

Ann Street Plaza  
Corner of Albert and M.A.C.  
Avenues, East Lansing  
elartfest.com

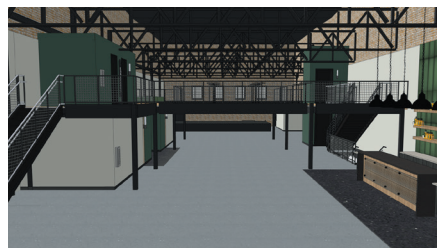
### “What if Wilhelmina”

May 20 and 21  
10 a.m.  
Jackson Main Stage

# TURN IT DOWN!

Loud dispatches from Lansing's music scene **BY RICH TUPICA**

A NEW CHAPTER IN LANSING'S LIVE MUSIC SCENE



Courtesy of Grewal Hall at 224

Grewal Hall at 224, shown here in mock-ups, kicks off a packed schedule with a July 15 concert from local legends The Verve Pipe.

The venue's second-floor mezzanine overlooks the open-concept main floor and offers an incredible view of the stage.

## The Verve Pipe to play inaugural concert at Grewal Hall at 224

Scott Bell has been a pivotal behind-the-scenes figure in Lansing's music scene for years. He's booked countless shows at venues and festivals throughout the area while also touring the world as a road manager for bands. Those years of hard work will reach a new level with the opening of Grewal Hall at 224, a new music venue in the heart of downtown Lansing. The venue's name combines Grewal Law, its naming sponsor, and its address at 224 S. Washington Square.

Its already stacked schedule kicks off July 15 with The Verve Pipe.

Bell, 36, is one of five Grewal Hall at 224 partners and doubles as the newly remodeled room's talent buyer. Built in 1926, the 6,000-square-foot space has a standing room capacity of 900, fits up to 225 in formal banquet seating and accommodates 400 in a theater arrangement. As for the concert calendar, Bell said, "Expect rock, country, EDM, metal, pop, jazz and gospel to all have a home

here."

Here's what else Bell had to say. **How did you end up in the music booking and management world?**

**Scott Bell:** I started setting up out-of-town bands with shows (in Lansing) because I was sick of driving to Detroit to see the music I cared about. There's something in the back of my brain that's always pushed me to be as close to live music as possible. Without that connection to artists creating something special on stage every night, I would be completely lost. Being a promoter, tour manager or stagehand was the best way I knew how to fit into this whole thing.

**Did your years of experience help with ideas for Grewal Hall at 224?**

So much of what has gone into Grewal Hall has come from working in venues across the country for 15 years. We will have a gorgeous 30-foot bar with satellite stations, depending on the gig. The main floor, steel mezzanine overlooking our stage and basement will have a total of 25 bathrooms and Americans with Disabilities Act access with an elevator. The venue is going to thrive on its accessibility.

**What was the process of getting the building ready like?**

We closed on the property on Dec. 31, 2022. We've been restoring and reinventing every part of this 100-plus-year-old structure. The space has been nearly every kind of business. It was the original Knapp's location. It's been shoe stores, restaurants and night-clubs. We even have a photo somewhere of Magic Johnson disco dancing in the back. Breathing new life into a forgotten corner of downtown was a piece of this project we relished from the beginning.

**Would you say this fills a void in Lansing's music venue market?**

If your community takes arts and culture seriously, you need to have venues of every size: big, medium and small. You need to have a place local and regional artists can aspire

to play. In the Lansing and East Lansing area, we were missing a 900-capacity venue that can host national and international touring artists. One of our goals with Grewal Hall at 224 is to make people outside the 517 area code think of Lansing as a destination for live music and events.

### Grewal Hall at 224

224 S. Washington Square, Lansing  
hall224.com

- July 15 - The Verve Pipe
- July 29 - Echoes of Pink Floyd
- Aug. 4 - Joe Hertler & The Rainbow Seekers
- Aug. 10 - The Menzingers
- Aug. 18 - Creed Fisher
- Aug. 31 - Q106 Presents: Otherwise
- Sept. 14 - Parmalee
- Sept. 15 - Death from Above 1979
- Sept. 28 - Andy Frasco & The U.N.
- Oct. 7 - Q106 Presents: Of Virtue
- + more TBA

# Wharton wins with 'Wicked'

By DAVID WINKELSTERN

Some might think booking "Wicked" at the Wharton Center for the fifth time was a gamble. But after witnessing a packed crowd for the second performance of a run lasting until May 28, the decision seems a sure bet.

After each of the musical numbers in the two-act show, the audience roared, whooped and offered thunderous hand smacks. (To call them mere "applause" would be an injustice.)

All the elements of the musical's national touring company provide numerous reasons for such reactions.

Every cast member in the 30-plus troupe gives an outstanding performance. (That includes Sharon Sachs, who replaced Natalie Venetia Belcon in Thursday night's (May 11) show as Madame Morrible.)

Oz's Munchkins, ensemble townspeople and exquisite principals demonstrate rare talent in singing, dancing and athleticism in the constantly evolving

musical by Stephen Schwartz.

Olivia Valli — who took over the role of Elphaba only last week — shows her passion for the part. Valli has a mighty voice with a range that gives reasons for her grandfather, Frankie Valli of the Four Seasons, to be proud. After seeing and hearing her as the green witch, it's hard to imagine anyone else besting her singing or fluid performance.



Review

## "Wicked"

May 17-28  
7:30 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday  
8 p.m. Friday-Saturday  
2 p.m. Saturday  
1 and 6:30 p.m. Sunday  
Wharton Center Cobb Great Hall  
750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing  
517-432-2000  
whartoncenter.com

Celia Hottenstein as the good witch, Glinda, also has a powerful voice and a distinct charm of her own. The talented pair has a marvelous contrast that meshes well. When the two grand witches belt out a song and harmonize superbly together, it's hard not to smack your hands together.

Potent and seamless harmonies by multiple duos and choruses run all through the musical. The orchestra of five traveling musicians and nine local players provides a colossal accompaniment.

"Wicked's" visuals are also a momentous facet of its appeal. Towering sets by Eugene Lee — often with a Steampunk style — slide and have moving gears and parts. A massive proscenium smoke-breathing dragon has eyes that glow. Any rockstar or pop diva would envy the backdrops and Kenneth Posner's cleverly arranged, colorful and spectacular lighting.

Adding dancers (and monkeys) who fly, a witch who floats on a bubble-making sphere, layers of fog, a gigantic mechanical wizard and dazzling special effects by Chic Silber, it's no wonder "Wicked" attracts crowds.

The frequently changed, elaborate costumes, designed by Susan Hilferty, are a blend of period flair, horror-movie props and flamboyant Dr. Seuss characters. No costume is mundane.

"Wicked" intertwines familiar facets of L. Frank Baum's "The Wonderful Wizard of Oz" with a backstory of how the Wicked Witch of the West became — you guessed it — wicked. It's more of a prequel to the original story and the many spinoffs that it spawned.

"Wicked's" attempts to include all the familiar bits of a traditional Oz story sometimes make its plot convoluted. The 2-hour-45-minute-with-intermission musical is admittedly too long. "Wicked"



Courtesy of Joan Marcus

Celia Hottenstein plays the "good" witch, Glinda, in the national touring company of "Wicked," performing at the Wharton Center through May 28.

gives us many climaxes followed by less potent scenes. However, the allure of the production outweighs any complaints.

After debuting in 2003, "Wicked" remains popular and seems especially relevant today, with its themes of good vs. evil, how we treat those who are different from ourselves and what is accepted as truth. Although full of humor, romance, emotion and fantasy, "Wicked" deals with dilemmas we still wrestle with.

Maybe such relatable topics are partly why "Wicked" has grossed over \$2.5 billion worldwide. Combine that with an amazing cast, music, costumes and set, and it's no wonder audiences keep coming back to yet another run at Wharton.

# A look at Greater Lansing's plentiful public art



Bill Castanier/City Pulse

Graffiti on plywood construction barriers near Lansing Community College's downtown campus, photographed in 1971. The mural was adapted into a wedding invitation for Bill and Mary Castanier in 1972.

## By BILL CASTANIER

Look up. Look down. Public art, also called vernacular art, is all over Greater Lansing, whether it's hidden in a bathroom at Harry's Place or splashed across buildings in Old Town, REO Town and downtown.

No matter where you look, do it soon — it could all disappear in a blink.

Take local artist Dennis Preston's

mural he did for the old Free Spirit store on Washington Avenue in 1969. Gone. Or the mural he did at Eastern High School. It could soon be gone.

Many works of public art are ephemeral. Consider the thousands of rock concert posters Preston has drawn since the 1960s. They're now collector's items.

In 1971, I got my own 35-millime-

ter camera, a Pentax without a meter, and a 135-millimeter lens from a Michigan State University artist, with a lens shield that took a blow from a police baton in Chicago in 1968. I wandered around Lansing figuring out the F-stops and shooting anything I liked.

Over the decades, I've photographed public art incessantly. In 1971, I came across graffiti on ply-

wood construction barriers near Lansing Community College's downtown campus. There was a flower on one side and a smiley face on the other.

The graffiti featured two inspirational messages. The first read: "Each of us is the only person who

See Public art, Page 13



Bill Castanier/City Pulse

A portion of a mural painted by local artist Dennis Preston in the old Free Spirit store in downtown Lansing. It was lost when the building was repurposed.



Bill Castanier/City Pulse

The streets of Old Town are peppered with murals.



Bill Castanier/City Pulse



**LANSING COMMUNITY COLLEGE**  
LIFELONG LEARNING

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## LCC Youth Summer Camps

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[lcc.edu/seriousfun](http://lcc.edu/seriousfun)

Lansing Community College is an equal opportunity educational institution/employer.



Bill Castanier/City Pulse



Bill Castanier/City Pulse



Bill Castanier/City Pulse

Local libraries, like the East Lansing Public Library (left) and the Delta Township District Library, have utilized public art to make their buildings more friendly.

## Public art

from page 12

can give the other what each of us wants to have." Mirroring that was the second: "It takes BOTH rain & sunshine to make a RAINBOW!"

A couple of years later, when my spouse and I were getting married, we decided to use my photo of the graffiti on our wedding invitation.

As our 50th anniversary approached, I asked local artist Bob

Rose to paint that piece of wall art. Since his reference was a black-and-white photo, he used his imagination to recreate the piece in a rainbow of colors.

With more public art popping up each month, it's difficult to keep up. Some of it was executed decades ago in obscure places like the basements of bars or under bridges. I just discovered a large, pristine mural depicting transportation throughout the ages at Michigan State University's service garage under Spartan

Stadium. It was completed by a former East Lansing High School student in 1986.

MSU buildings are also peppered with adornments by renowned sculptors such as Samuel Cashwan and Corrado Parducci. Some of my favorites are C.L. Schmitz's reliefs on the old Physics Building, which depict Einstein and other physicists.

Before the COVID-19 pandemic, Steven Bridges, now the interim director of MSU's Broad Art Museum, and I lectured on public art at

Lansing Community College has become an art destination, with more than 27 outdoor public art installations on the downtown campus and hundreds more within its facilities.

the John F. Dye Water Conditioning Plant, which has several stunning works of public art by noted muralists and sculptors, including Cashwan.

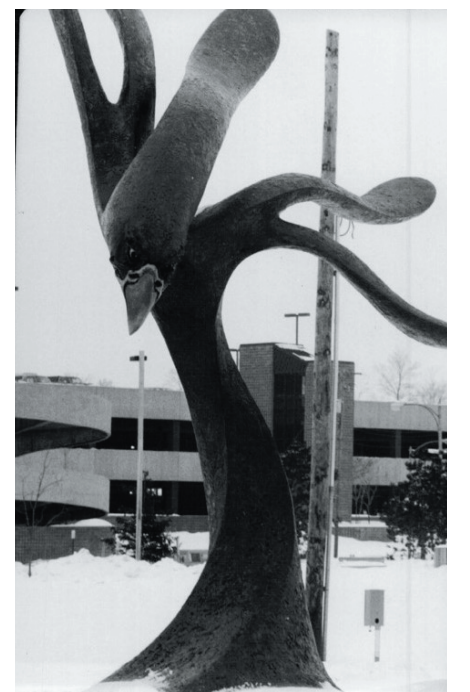
Some of the Lansing area's public art is often taken for granted. For example, the largest collection of public art may be at the end of

See Public art, Page 16



Bill Castanier/City Pulse

Organizations like the Lansing Economic Area Partnership have helped sponsor public art competitions and projects, the most recent being the phantasmagoric ceramic-tile installation on the Shiawassee Street Bridge, spearheaded by Lansing artist Alexandra Leonard. Leonard and local artist Bob Rose used thousands of handmade tiles to create the massive ceramic piece. Rose said the tiles will likely be there thousands of years from now.



Bill Castanier/City Pulse

Martin Eichinger created "Windlord," in Adado Riverfront Park, in 1978 to commemorate the nation's bicentennial. At the time, he was working under the umbrella of the Comprehensive Employment Training Act.

# 2023 East Lansing Art

May 20 & 21, 2023 | Sat 10-6 p.m. & Sun 10-5 p.m. | Downtown East Lansing

## Pinnacle Sponsor



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## Grant Support

The festival is presented by the City of East Lansing.



This two-day celebration of arts and culture kicks off the fine art and fine craft which includes two days of performing arts.

## Jackson Main

### Saturday, May 20

10 a.m.	MSU Department of Theatre production "What if Wilhelmina"
11:45 a.m.	EL High School Jazz Band
1:15 p.m.	Greater Lansing Ballet Company
2:45 p.m.	Migiziikwe Eagle Spirit Dance
4:15 p.m.	Tamarie T. & Thee Elektra Kur

## Artists Demonstrations

### Saturday, May 20, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Jenna Wood, Indigenous Basket weaving
Community Dark Room, photography
East Lansing Ceramics Group, ceramics
East Lansing Public Library, multimedia

## In-Kind Sponsors

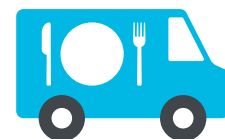
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- Victory on Abbot
- East Lansing Marriot @ University Place
- Campbells Market Basket
- Capital Area Transportation Authority

## Special Thanks

- CITY OF EAST LANSING:** City Council, Arts Commission, Communications, Information Systems, Parking & Code Enforcement (PACE)
- CITY OF EAST LANSING:** Police Department, Fire Department, Public Works & Environmental Services
- ...and the many City employees and community volunteers who go the extra mile to make the festival a success!

## Artist Awards

- MSU Federal Credit Union**: Diamond Excellence Award
- Graduate Hotel**: Go Green Award
- City of East Lansing, Arts Commission & DDA**: People's Choice Award
- Woven Art Yarn & Seams**: Excellence in Fiber

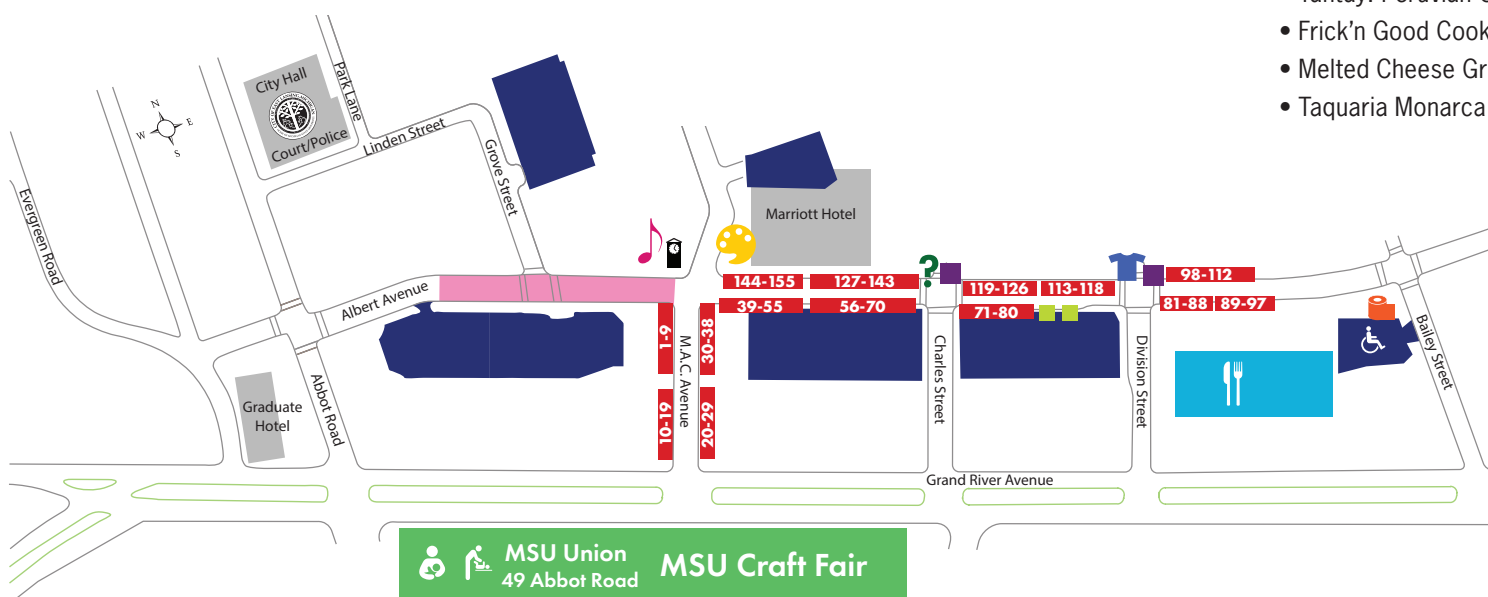


## Food Vendors - Bailey Parking Lot

- Fire and Rice
- The Smoke N Pig BBQ
- Melting Moments
- Tantay: Peruvian Cuisine
- Frick'n Good Cookies
- Melted Cheese Grill
- Taquaria Monarca

## Exhibitors

Booth Number
2.....
7.....
22.....
32.....
42.....
47.....
63.....
77.....
88.....
100.....
117.....
131.....
141.....
148.....
8.....
14.....
13.....
26.....
31.....
56.....
65.....
71.....
80.....
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109.....
138.....
149.....
38.....
54.....
55.....
23.....
64.....
139.....
10.....
40.....
57.....
62.....



MSU Union 49 Abbot Road MSU Craft Fair

Artist Booths	Food Court	EL Fresco Closure	Ann St Plaza Performances	Accessible Parking
Parking	Artist Demo Area	Merch Tent	DDA Parklets	Changing Station
Info Booth	On-site Sponsor	Bathrooms	Nursing Station	

# Festival

Lansing | [elartfest.com](http://elartfest.com) | Free

the local festival season. The East Lansing Art Festival is an outdoor celebration of performances, hands-on art activities and an artist demonstration area.

## Stage - Ann Street Plaza

Sunday, May 21		
Production of	10 a.m.	MSU Department of Theatre production of "What if Wilhelmina"
Lead	11:30 a.m.	Eugene Clark
Company	1 p.m.	Risky Music Group
Director	2:30 p.m.	Flames n' Dames
Company	4 p.m.	Grace Theisen

## Demonstration Area - Fountain Square

Sunday, May 21, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.	
	Jenna Wood, <i>Indigenous Basket weaving</i>
	Greater Lansing Pottery Guild, <i>ceramics</i>
	Mid Michigan Art Guild, <i>multimedia</i>
	East Lansing Public Library, <i>multimedia</i>



## Inviting Artists

<p><b>2-D MIXED MEDIA</b></p> <p>Amanda Salagegheh Alexa Karabin Christine Beals Ila Catherine Hofacker Espacia Fotiu Karin Wagner Coron Steph Joy Hogan Victor &amp; Megan Hutson-Field Salina Kalnins Naomi Hart Armando Pedroso Kandy Myny Sarah Anderson Victoria Hankins</p> <p><b>3-D MIXED MEDIA</b></p> <p>Roots Plant Rooters Andy Hill</p> <p><b>CERAMICS • FUNCTIONAL</b></p> <p>Andrew Wender Emily Horst Glenna Tegner Jim Reinert Emily LoPresto Jason Parsley Janelle Tacktor Stan Baker Kathy Sandberg Jan Bostwick Brad Patterson Natalie Liu Jennifer Meeker Virginia Bur</p> <p><b>CERAMICS NON-FUNCTIONAL</b></p> <p>Corey Bechler Linda Lindner Nancy Grimsley</p> <p><b>DIGITAL</b></p> <p>Court Smith Amy Ferguson Paul King</p> <p><b>DRAWING</b></p> <p>Craig Linderman Richard Franz Marissa Tawney Thaler Daniel J. Hogan</p>	<p>68.....Miranda Heward 128.....Tai Taeoalii 132.....Marie Rust</p> <p><b>FIBERS • FUNCTIONAL</b></p> <p>18.....Carol Caron 25.....Dominique Hopf 48.....Kate Keller 59.....Marzena Weber 60.....Megan Roach 79.....Kristin Gereau 89.....Rowan Grey 95.....Beth H. 124.....Mike Barnes 146.....Susan Fleming</p> <p><b>FIBERS • NON-FUNCTIONAL</b></p> <p>16.....April Vilminot 51.....Laura Rangos 73.....Milie Funk 99.....Gabriel Berg 134.....Don Tran</p> <p><b>GLASS</b></p> <p>34.....Jill Gary 58.....MaryGail VanSledright 61.....Melissa Myers 76.....Mark Wagar 107.....John Boyett 123.....George Bochnig 133.....Peter Brown</p> <p><b>JEWELRY • NON-PRECIOUS</b></p> <p>11.....Alex Ran Jewelry 15.....Angela Welti 19.....Carlos Montanaro 35.....Nancy Cooper 50.....Kimberly Ghindea 85.....Mark Thogerson 104.....Nicole Collins 113.....Fred Imhoff 121.....Mark Slaven 122.....GRAMMER 135.....Amy Johnson 137.....Julie Matos 145.....Shawn Bungo</p> <p><b>JEWELRY • PRECIOUS</b></p> <p>1.....Scott Macklin 12.....Amy Taylor 24.....Damen Mroczek 43.....Chip Arnold 46.....Julia MacLachlan</p>	<p>49.....Katherine Johnson 66.....Collyn DeBano 78.....Diane Mater 86.....S. Didia 105.....Jennifer Stratton 108.....John Gulyas &amp; Maryann Posch</p> <p><b>PAINTING</b></p> <p>6.....Michael Miller 30.....Conrad Kaufman 33.....James Gorman 36.....Anita Brett 37.....Betsy O'Neill Fine Art 41.....Anthony Brass 53.....Laurie Schirmer Carpenter 67.....Michelle Detering 70.....Andy Van Schyndle 74.....Theresa Levett 75.....Kelly Ingleright-Telgenhoff 81.....Eva Antebi-Lerman 87.....Thomas LeGault 94.....Zhen Zhong Duan 103.....Sean Panich 114.....Justin Bernhardt 120.....Con Lustig 127.....Wanda Zuchowski-Schick 136.....Anastasia Mak 140.....Robert Bridges 144.....Melvin McGee 147.....Tim Drier</p> <p><b>PHOTOGRAPHY</b></p> <p>27.....Eric Steed 29.....Scott Sternberg 39.....Paul James 44.....John Keuvelaar 45.....Jordan Delmonte 95.....Stone Peng 126.....Larry Downey 130.....Nels Johnson 142.....Josh Merrill</p> <p><b>PRINTS</b></p> <p>3.....Big Mitten Linocuts 52.....Lauren Cummings 72.....Christina Jacobs 106.....Jesse Richard 118.....Jay Wennersten 119.....Red Hydrant Press</p> <p><b>SCULPTURE</b></p> <p>17.....Brandon Johnson 90.....Chad Anderson</p>	<p>110.....Amy Green 125.....Chance Liscomb</p> <p><b>WOOD</b></p> <p>4.....David Lewis 20.....Paul Miller 28.....Eric Beauchamp 69.....Nadia Ogle 82.....Mayolo Haro 101.....Robert Myrvall</p> <p><b>METAL</b></p> <p>98.....Michelle Zorich 111.....Scott LaCosse 116.....Todd Richter</p>
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## Emerging Artists

Booths 150-155

EJ Kipp  
Katie Krive  
Zahra Marvi

Andrew Schultz  
Emma Stoolmaker  
Nicolas Perkowski

The Emerging Artist program encourages future exhibitors by giving up-and-coming artists space to exhibit among seasoned artists in a nationally-renowned, fine art festival setting.



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Bill Castanier/City Pulse



Bill Castanier/City Pulse



Bill Castanier/City Pulse

REACH Studio Art Center in REO Town is an example of how a grassroots art project can lead to an explosion of public art. What makes REACH special is it began with a dream, an empty building and not much more. Today, it's delivering art programs nonstop for students and adults.

What will happen to the three bears on Willow Elementary School if the Lansing School District continues renovating and repurposing buildings?

## Public art

from page 13

Michigan Avenue in the state Capitol, which holds hundreds of pieces, including portraits of many Michigan governors. My favorite is the ghostlike painting of former Gov. John Swainson, which appears to be half-finished. He wanted it to represent his career as unfinished.

Two of my favorite places to shoot photos are Old Town and REO Town, where the backs and fronts of buildings are ablaze with public art. One hidden gem is the 1950s artwork in the basement storage area of REACH Studio Art Center, which was installed when the space was still Maria's bar. I first saw the lusty scenes at fraternity parties in the mid-'60s.

Speaking of bars, murals of famous and almost-famous MSU and Michigan Agricultural College barflies line the backroom at Coral Gables in East Lansing, still there after being

painted 60 years ago by a Lansing resident.

And public art just keeps coming. Work on two murals are scheduled to start today (May 17), one at West Saginaw and Pine streets at the office of The Rathbun Agency, and the other at the Old Town General Store. An additional mural project is expected to begin soon at the new T.A. Forsberg apartment complex on South Washington Avenue. Furthermore, the Lansing Art Gallery, which recently relocated to Knapp's Centre, is hosting an event at 4 p.m. June 2 that will allow community members to make their mark on ArtPath by assisting two ArtPath muralists, Jessica and Zach Kovan, and contributing their own art to an installment.

You may be wondering why there is so much public art in the Lansing area and why it matters.

In 2004, Cathy Babcock, an art activist and former executive director of the Lansing Art Gallery, brought one of the city's most influential vernacular art exhibits, "Wheel Art," to Lansing when the gallery partnered

with General Motors Design Center and Downtown Lansing Inc. to have 20 acrylic-molded cars painted and artistically embellished by Michigan artists. The idea was inspired by cities like Chicago, which sponsored public art of cows in its downtown area.

"It was natural for Lansing since we're a car city," Babcock said.

She believes putting art on the street made it more accessible.

"One reason public art began to flourish is many people were not comfortable in art galleries," she said.

She also pointed to the building-sized REO Motors mural that was completed in REO Town as lighting the fuse for public art. It has since been moved to a site across from R.E. Olds Transportation Museum on Museum Drive.

Lansing isn't alone in recognizing the importance of public art. An app called Let's Roam allows users to view public art in scores of cities. The idea is to provide context and information about the artists. The Arts Council of Greater Lansing had a similar app at 517artsearch.com, but

a recent search for it came up empty.

Let's Roam is blunt about how Detroit Mayor Mike Duggan saw public art as a negative that needed to be erased. Some may remember the debacle he had with famed graffiti artist Shepard Fairey. While Fairey was working on a commissioned piece in Detroit in 2015, the city charged him with vandalism for allegedly tagging buildings with posters of his art. The charges were later dismissed.

Duggan isn't the only one who views public art as a nuisance. Not everyone was happy last year when Rose and Preston were joined by 24 other local artists to spiff up gray traffic-signal boxes around Lansing. The art was viewed as graffiti by some community leaders.

However, Rose said he was inspired by how engaged folks were with his art, asking questions and making thoughtful comments. He was blown away when a man from Kathmandu, Nepal, introduced him-

See Public art, Page 17



Bill Castanier/City Pulse



Bill Castanier/City Pulse



Bill Castanier/City Pulse

Public art makes for interesting juxtapositions — you never know when the perfect moment for a photograph will strike.





Bill Castanier/City Pulse



Bill Castanier/City Pulse



Bill Castanier/City Pulse

Public art can be used to remediate damage done by rioters, as was seen in Lansing following street riots in response to the murder of George Floyd. Storefronts became public palettes as artists rushed to blunt the ugliness, and new ephemeral art installations helped cover expletives and broken windows until repairs could be made.

In REO Town, the backs and fronts of buildings are ablaze with public art.

## Public art

from page 16

self, and a couple of students from India wanted to have their picture taken with the art.

“That art from Lansing is out there flying around the world,” Rose said.

In the last 12 years, the Lansing Economic Area Partnership has sponsored 35 public art projects in the tri-county area and invested \$350,000 in the Public Art for Communities Grant Program.

Bob Trezise, LEAP’s president and CEO, said, “Public art is an effective way of showing we are a culturally creative community, and it also signals we are a sophisticated upscale community, and that attracts economic vitality.”

There’s that, but it’s also just fun to discover and look at.

*(Bill Castanier, a longtime contributor to City Pulse, moved to the Lansing area in 1966 to attend Michigan State University.)*



Bill Castanier/City Pulse

Illustrations of Michigan State University and Michigan Agricultural College barflies adorn the backroom of Coral Gables in a delightful mural.



Bill Castanier/City Pulse

Last year, a group of artists painted 13 utility boxes around downtown Lansing. The outpouring of artists was tremendous, and a range of art styles helped beautify the former eyesores.



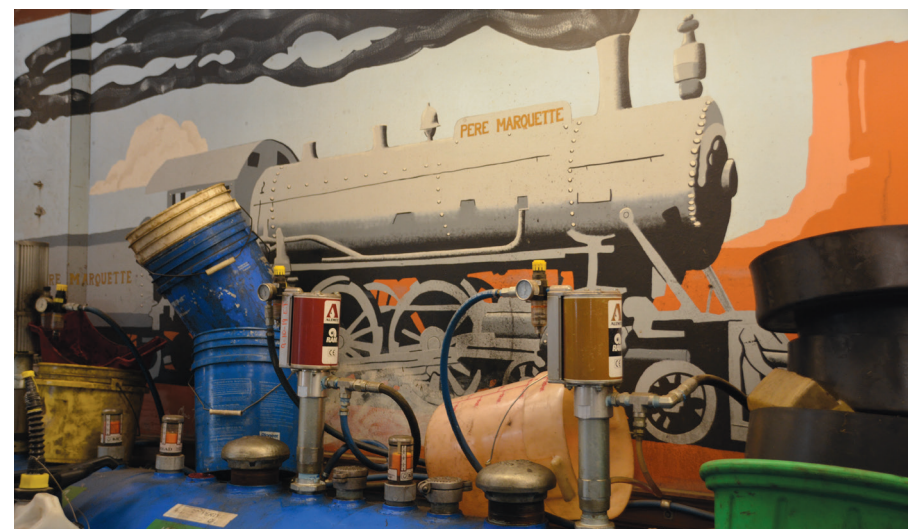
Bill Castanier/City Pulse

The state Capitol holds a large collection of portrait art, including the “unfinished” portrait of former Gov. John Swainson



Bill Castanier/City Pulse

A mural at Michigan State University’s service garage under Spartan Stadium depicts transportation throughout the ages.



Bill Castanier/City Pulse

# A half-century of work in handheld form

By **BILL CASTANIER**

Martin Eichinger was in his mid-20s when he began sculpting “Windlord,” one of Lansing’s monumental sculptures, for the celebration of the nation’s bicentennial. Today, the sculpture sits on the Grand River at Adado Riverfront Park.

A 2021 biography, “From the Heart,” by art critic Richard Speer, details Eichinger’s 50-year career as a sculptor. In the book, Speer describes how Eichinger was barely out of college when he approached the City of Lansing to fund a public art project recognizing the nation’s anniversary.

It wasn’t a typical old-white-guy sculpture of one of the nation’s founders but rather a 16-foot-tall abstract eagle with a black countenance, searing hunter’s eyes and a spreading wingspan.

At first, the proposed sculpture wasn’t widely desired.

“At the time, the artistic climate was not especially receptive to abstract or semi-abstract sculpture,” Eichinger says in the book.

Yet he persisted, and local foundations stepped up to help fund the project. One major source of funding was the recently passed Comprehensive Employment and Training Act, which was a massive program in the 1970s meant to put the unemployed to work in public service jobs. Fortunately for Eichinger, the act, in a throwback to the widely successful Works Progress Administration, helped pay his salary.

Almost simultaneously, a local

filmmaker, Joan Stieber, used borrowed equipment from Lansing’s public access cable channel to produce “The Windlord Documentary,” which was shown on WKAR. It’s currently streaming on Vimeo, and I highly recommend you take a look.

They were heady times, and everything seemed possible. Eichinger began the project in the open space behind the newly opened Impression 5 Science Center, which was one of the first children’s science museums in the country. Following the completion and installation of the sculpture, Eichinger began creating exhibits for the science center.

It was there he met Marilynne Katzen, Impression 5’s founder. Not long after, they were married, and in 1985, when Marilynne landed a prestigious job as the executive director of the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry, the couple moved to Portland, Oregon. Eichinger continued splitting his time between crafting museum exhibits and fine art.

His career blossomed, and he eventually began working full-time as a sculptor, carving out an important role in the emerging Portland art scene. Working out of a converted warehouse, he created a body of work in less than two decades that’s memorialized in the biography.

A stroke in 2009 was a “minor” setback that took Eichinger’s art in a different direction, Speer writes in the book. It altered his perception of the symmetry of faces and

figures. Not to be deterred, though, he opened a creative and entrepreneurial space called Art at the Geode and created two over-the-top installations for the annual Burning Man festival in the desert of Nevada.

One was a 3,500-square-foot bar, lounge and dance floor, complete with a chandelier that misted the crowd. It was widely popular. Another was a phantasmagoric recreation of the biblical Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil, with a snake that “could speak, listen, slither and engage in sometimes bawdy behaviors with viewers.”

A Lansing art collector, known as the Lord of Wingspan, purchased two original maquettes from Eichinger in the mid-1980s. A maquette is a miniature rendering of a piece of art.

The “Windlord” maquette is a bronze casting on about a 1-inch-to-1-foot scale.

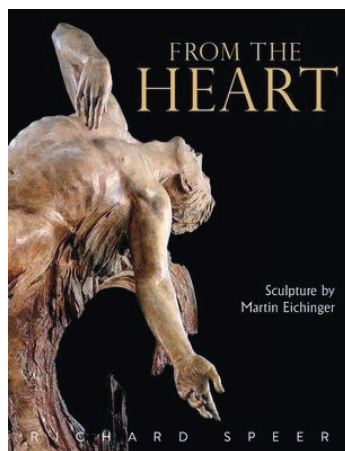
“It is closer to the intent of his original concept for the installation because it is all

bronze, whereas the full-scale model in Adado Park has architectural concrete on the four concave surfaces at the base,” the Lord of Wingspan said.

He believes that the original model was never completed due to financial constraints, but it would’ve reflected light upward on the eagle, creating an “impressive” effect.

The second maquette, titled “Final Adjustments,” shows a godlike figure making adjustments to the universe.

It’s been a long voyage for Eichinger, but the book details how it all started



Courtesy of Martin Eichinger

A 2021 biography, “From the Heart,” details Martin Eichinger’s 50-year career as a sculptor. Originally from Michigan, he created the “Windlord” sculpture that sits on the Grand River at Adado Riverfront Park and married the founder of Impression 5 Science Center.


with his eighth-grade art teacher in Midland. It was in Mr. Hop’s class that he developed his philosophy of art, inspired by the Renaissance.

“It was a beautiful life mission, and as an artist, I thought I might be part of this mission by respecting the scientific pursuit of truth and adventure...” he says in the book.

*Writers Note: I was one of the artists and writers employed by the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act, and in 1975 or 1976, I photographed Eichinger at work on a public sculpture at his outdoor workshop on the banks of the Grand River. Those photos are now stored in the Archives of Michigan, waiting to be discovered.*

*I’m also searching for another sculpture executed by Eichinger, called “Aqueous,” which he created for the Michigan School for the Blind.*

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# Jonesin' Crossword

By Matt Jones

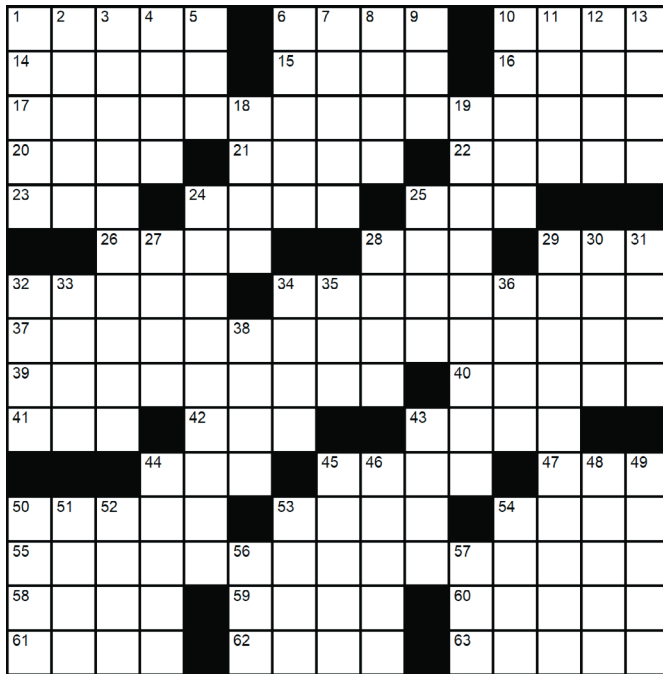
"Sandwiched Between"-- some deep cuts here.

by Matt Jones

© 2023 Matt Jones

**ACROSS**

- 1. Burger essential
- 6. Nadal's nickname
- 10. Limerick, e.g.
- 14. Get along
- 15. Responsibility
- 16. U2's guitarist, with "The"
- 17. Add "minus" to your math skills?
- 20. Like all leap years
- 21. Former "Bake Off" host Fielding
- 22. Amounts on Monopoly cards
- 23. Po's color
- 24. Is apt
- 25. Exuberant feeling
- 26. Fighting
- 28. Question of possibility
- 29. Maple syrup base
- 32. Part of 12-Down
- 34. Face boldly
- 37. Manuscript about the Milky Way, maybe?
- 39. Some of them are famous
- 40. Cancelled
- 41. Check follower?
- 42. Drink suffix
- 43. Comedian Crowder known as "The Liberal Redneck"
- 44. "Harper Valley \_\_\_\_"
- 45. "Frozen" role
- 47. Wiz Khalifa's genre
- 50. Sandy site
- 53. Totally get, slangily
- 54. Taj Mahal site
- 55. Undermining scheme by a blanket hog?

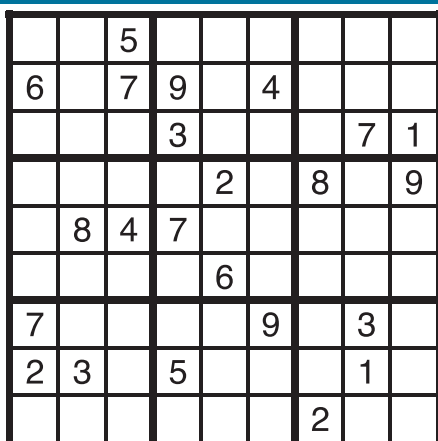


- 58. Numbered piece
  - 59. "I Am Not My Hair" singer India. \_\_\_\_
  - 60. Damages
  - 61. Directors Robbins and Burton
  - 62. Planters products
  - 63. Dental restoration
- DOWN**
- 1. "Table's ready" signaler
  - 2. It's used to make tequila
  - 3. Worked in court, perhaps
  - 4. Al Gore's state, for short
  - 5. "OK"
  - 6. "Futurama" character, maybe
  - 7. Some poker bets
  - 8. Fold up, like a flag
  - 9. Harvard botanist Gray
  - 10. "The Little Rascals" dog
  - 11. "Thor" role for Anthony Hopkins
  - 12. Four-award feat
  - 13. \_\_\_\_ Warehouse (suit retailer)
  - 18. Single part
  - 19. Get carried away at a concert?
  - 24. Moonshine, by another name
  - 25. "Big Yellow Taxi" singer Mitchell
  - 27. Social wisdom
  - 28. Overactors
  - 29. "Mayday" Parker's alter ego
  - 30. "Bonne fete \_\_\_\_" ("Happy Birthday" line, in Canada)
  - 31. Polliwog's place
  - 32. Site of the Kon-Tiki Museum
  - 33. Bridge length
  - 34. "OK"
  - 35. Up in the air, briefly
  - 36. Annapolis inst.
  - 38. Bartender's mixer
  - 43. "\_\_\_\_ On Me" (A-ha song)
  - 44. News coverage
  - 45. Planetary path
  - 46. Really enjoys
  - 48. Tacoma \_\_\_\_ (local slang for a nearby industrial emanation)
  - 49. Violet family flower
  - 50. "Nae" sayer?
  - 51. Arizona language
  - 52. Cell in a Fallopian tube
  - 53. All-knowing advisor
  - 54. \_\_\_\_ alternative
  - 56. \_\_\_\_ Rafael, Calif.
  - 57. Letter after pi

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Answers on page 26

## SUDOKU



## Intermediate

### Fun By The Numbers

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

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

## Free Will Astrology

By Rob Breznsky

May 17-23, 2023

**ARIES (March 21-April 19):** My reading of the astrological omens inspires me to make a series of paradoxical predictions for you. Here are five scenarios I foresee as being quite possible in the coming weeks. 1. An epic journey to a sanctuary close to home. 2. A boundary that doesn't keep people apart but brings them closer. 3. A rambunctious intervention that calms you down and helps you feel more at peace. 4. A complex process that leads to simple clarity. 5. A visit to the past that empowers you to redesign the future.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20):** Do you want a seed to fulfill its destiny? You must bury it in the ground. There, if it's able to draw on water and the proper nutrients, it will break open and sprout. Its life as a seed will be over. The plant it eventually grows into will look nothing like its source. We take this process for granted, but it's always a miracle. Now let's invoke this story as a metaphor for what you are hopefully on the verge of, Taurus. I invite you to do all that's helpful and necessary to ensure your seed germinates!

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20):** Your meandering trek through the unpromised land wasn't as demoralizing as you feared. The skirmish with the metaphorical dragon was a bit disruptive, but hey, you are still breathing and walking around — and even seem to have been energized by the weird thrill of the adventure. The only other possible downside was the new dent in your sweet dream. But I suspect that in the long run, that imperfection will inspire you to work even harder on behalf of your sweet dream — and this will be a blessing. Here's another perk: The ordeal you endured effectively cleaned out stale old karma, freeing up space for a slew of fresh help and resources.

**CANCER (June 21-July 22):** Testing time is ahead, but don't get your nerves in an uproar with fantasy-spawned stress. For the most part, your challenges and trials will be interesting, not unsettling. There will be few, if any, trick questions. There will be straightforward prods to stretch your capacities and expand your understanding. Bonus! I bet you'll get the brilliant impulse to shed the ball and chain you've been absentmindedly carrying around with you.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):** Biologist Edward O. Wilson said that the most social animals are ants, termites and honeybees. He used the following criteria to define that description: "Altruism, instincts devoted to social life and the tightness of the bonds that turn colonies into virtual superorganisms." I'm going to advocate that you regard ants, termites and honeybees as teachers and role models. The coming weeks will be a great time to boost your skills in socializing and networking. You will be wise to ruminate about how you could improve your life by enhancing your ability to cooperate with others. And remember to boost your altruism!

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):** Jack Sarfatti is an authentic but maverick physicist born under the sign of Virgo. He suggests that if we make ourselves receptive and alert, we may get help from our future selves. They are trying to communicate good ideas to us back through time. Alas, most of us don't believe such a thing is feasible, so we aren't attuned to the potential help. I will encourage you to transcend any natural skepticism you might have about Sarfatti's theory. As a fun experiment, imagine that the future you has an important transmission for you — maybe several transmissions. For best results, formulate three specific questions to pose to the future you.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):** I have five points for your consideration. 1. You are alive in your mysterious, endlessly interesting life, and you are imbued with the fantastically potent power of awareness. How could you not feel thrilled? 2. You're on a planet that's always surprising, and you're in an era when so many things are changing that you can't help being fascinated. How could you not feel thrilled? 3. You have some intriguing project to look forward

to or some challenging but engaging work you're doing or some mind-bending riddle you're trying to solve. How could you not feel thrilled? 4. You're playing the most enigmatic game in the universe, also known as your destiny on Earth, and you love ruminating on questions about what it all means. How could you not feel thrilled? 5. You never know what's going to happen next. You're like a hero in an epic movie that is endlessly entertaining. How could you not feel thrilled?

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):** "Trust those that you have helped to help you in their turn," advises Scorpio author Neil Gaiman. Let's make that one of your mantras for the coming weeks. In my astrological understanding, you are due to cash in on favors you have bestowed on others. The generosity you have expressed should be streaming back your way in abundance. Be bold about welcoming the bounty. In fact, I hope you will nudge and prompt people, if necessary, to reward you for your past support and blessings.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** So many of us are starved to be listened to with full attention. So many of us yearn to be seen and heard and felt by people who are skilled at receptive empathy. How many of us? I'd say the figure is about 99.9%. That's the bad news, Sagittarius. The good news is that in the coming weeks, you will have an exceptional ability to win the attention of good listeners. To boost the potential healing effects of this opportunity, here's what I recommend: Refine and deepen your own listening skills. Express them with panache.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):** Because you're a Capricorn, earthiness is probably one of your strengths. It's your birthright to be practical and sensible and grounded. Now and then, however, your earthiness devolves into muddiness. You get too sober and earnest. You're bogged down in excess pragmatism. I suspect you may be susceptible to such a state these days. What to do? It may help if you add elements of air and fire to your constitution, just to balance things out. Give yourself a secret nickname with a fiery feel, like Blaze, or a crispy briskness, like Breezy. What else could you do to rouse fresh, glowing vigor, Breezy Blaze — even a touch of wildness?

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):** I love to use metaphors in my writing, but I hate to mix unrelated metaphors. I thrive on referring to poetry, sometimes even surrealistic poetry, but I try to avoid sounding like a lunatic. However, at this juncture in your hero's journey, Aquarius, I frankly feel that the most effective way to communicate with you is to offer you mixed metaphors and surrealist poetry that border on sounding like a lunatic. Why? Because you seem primed to wander around on the edges of reality. I'm guessing you'll respond best to a message that's aligned with your unruly mood. So, here goes: Get ready to surf the spiritual undertow all the way to the teeming wilderness on the other side of the cracked mirror. Ignore the provocative wasteland on your left and the intriguing chaos on your right. Stay focused on the stars in your eyes and devote yourself to wild joy.

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20):** "The gift of patience opens when our body, heart and mind slow enough to move in unison." So says Piscean poet Mark Nepo. I feel confident that you are about to glide into such a grand harmony, dear Pisces. Through a blend of grace and your relaxed efforts to be true to your deepest desires, your body, heart and mind will synchronize and synergize. Patience will be just one of the gifts you will receive. Others include a clear vision of your most beautiful future, a lucid understanding of what will be most meaningful to you in the next three years and a profound sense of feeling at home in the world wherever you go.

# OUT on the TOWN

## Events & Happenings in Lansing This Week

Events must be entered through the calendar at [lansingcitypulse.com](http://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, May 17

**517 Day Patio Party at LBC** - Lansing-inspired food and drink specials and live music by Shelby and Jake. 5:15-11 p.m. Lansing Brewing Co., 518 E. Shiawassee St., Lansing. 517-371-2600. [lansing-brewingcompany.com](http://lansing-brewingcompany.com).

**"A Course of Love" with Lucille Olson** - 7 p.m. Zoom ID: 177 417 886. Passcode: 601744. [unitylansing.org](http://unitylansing.org).

**After-School Enrichment Time** - Kids can get their homework done, use the computers, eat snacks and have a great, safe time. 3:30-5:30 p.m. Higher Ground Community Development Center, 3637 W. Jolly Road, Lansing. 517-894-1633.

**Allen Farmers Market** - 3-6:30 p.m. 1629 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. 517-999-3911. [allenneighborhoodcenter.org/market](http://allenneighborhoodcenter.org/market).

**Bookend Gallery Display by Jill Campbell-Mason** - Noon-4 p.m. CADL - Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. 517-339-2324. [cadl.org/about/our-locations/haslett](http://cadl.org/about/our-locations/haslett).

**"Blind Spot," "DIEGEST," "The Nightly News," MFA Exhibition** - 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Eli & Edythe Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, East Lansing. 517-884-4800. [broadmuseum.msu.edu](http://broadmuseum.msu.edu).

**Cars & Cones** - Bring your classic car, grab a coney dog and enjoy the company of others who love cars. Drivers (plus one passenger) receive free admission for the evening. 5:30-8 p.m. R.E. Olds Transportation Museum, 240 Museum Drive, Lansing. 517-372-0529. [reoldsmuseum.org](http://reoldsmuseum.org).

**Code Club!** - Learn to make websites, apps, animations and more! No coding experience necessary. Grades 3+. Register at [hq.girlswhocode.com](http://hq.girlswhocode.com) using club code MI45609. 6 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. 517-627-7014. [gladi.org](http://gladi.org).

**Emergency Services** - 6 p.m. LSW Emergency Services, 7425 Woodbury Road, Laingsburg. [laingsburg.us](http://laingsburg.us).

**"Exploring Our World" 2023 Art Show** - Photographs by Creative Photographers of Mid-Michigan. 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Framer's Edge, 1856 W. Grand River Ave., Lansing. 517-347-7400. [framersedge.net](http://framersedge.net).

**"Fitness Over 50" Senior Exercise Group** - The Meridian Township Parks and Recreation Stretch and Flex Exercise group exercises at Central Park Pavilion. 9-10 a.m. 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos. [meridian50plus.com](http://meridian50plus.com).

**Greater Lansing Ride of Silence** - Solemn bicycling procession to honor cyclists who

have been killed or injured on public roadways. Short memorial ceremony on Capitol steps to follow. All ages and riding skill levels welcome. 6:15 p.m. Wells Hall Plaza, 619 Red Cedar Road, East Lansing. 517-258-1282. [biketcb.org](http://biketcb.org).

**Justin Burton** - 7-10 p.m. Williamston Roadhouse, 3700 E. Grand River Ave., Williamston. 517-388-6133. [williamstonroadhouse.com](http://williamstonroadhouse.com).

**Lansing Art Attack** - Citywide celebration of local art and artists, featuring a variety of events and activities. For a complete schedule, visit [lansingartattack.org](http://lansingartattack.org).

**LEGO Zoo** - Help make an exhibit for an animal using our supply of LEGOs. Grades 4-6. 5 p.m. Eaton Rapids Area District Library, 220 S. Main St., Eaton Rapids. 517-663-0950. [eradl.org](http://eradl.org).

**Live Music at the Monk - Chad Benson** - 7-9 p.m. EagleMonk Pub and Brewery, 4906 W. Mt. Hope Hwy., Lansing. 517-708-7350. [eaglemonk-brewing.com](http://eaglemonk-brewing.com).

**"LGBTQ+ Artist in Michigan" exhibition** - 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Lansing Art Gallery & Education Center, 300 S. Washington Square, Suite 100, Lansing. 517-574-4521. [lansingartgallery.org](http://lansingartgallery.org).

**Living History Music & Arts Noon Recital Series** - Timothy Bohan, a Michigan State University student, will perform works by Bach, Franck and Boëllmann. Noon. Central United Methodist Church, 215 N. Capital Ave., Lansing. 517-485-9477. [lansingcentralumc.net](http://lansingcentralumc.net).

**Meditation in the Thich Nhat Hanh tradition** - All are welcome to join our weekly practice! 7-9 p.m. Van Hanh Temple, 3015 S. MLK Jr. Blvd., Lansing. [lamc.info](http://lamc.info).

**NCAA Bath Regional Golf Tournament** - Eagle Eye Golf Club, 15500 Chandler Road, Bath. 517-903-8064. [ncaa.com/sports/golf-men](http://ncaa.com/sports/golf-men).

**Punk Art Meetup** - All ages, mediums (even digital!) and skill levels welcome. We bring basic craft supplies, but feel free to bring your own! No paints allowed. Kids allowed until 8 p.m. 6-11 p.m. The Avenue, 2021 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. 517-999-7549. [avenuecafelansing.com](http://avenuecafelansing.com).

**Social-Emotional Learning Showcase** - Visit classrooms and hear from faculty and students about how the Lansing School District has prioritized social-emotional skill development and its benefits. 8-11 a.m. Attwood New Tech Magnet School, 915 Attwood Drive, Lansing.

**Weaving the Web: Tools** - Join us online or in person for discussions, rituals, meditations and more! 6 p.m. Keys to Manifestation, 809 Center St., Suite 7, Lansing. 517-974-5540. [manifestlansing.com](http://manifestlansing.com).

### Lansing STEAM Expo

Saturday, May 20, noon-3:30 p.m.

Sunday, May 21, 1-3:30 p.m.

Advancement Corp.

500 E. Thomas St., Lansing

The 1st annual Lansing STEAM Expo, presented by Advancement Corp. and the 517 Hope Leadership Development Project, offers students ages 7-17 the chance to show off science, technology, engineering and mathematics projects for a chance to win prizes such as a flatscreen TV and gift cards for Texas Roadhouse, Stillwater Grill, Amazon and more.

Students can also submit art or poetry projects on an 8-by-10-inch piece of paper for the "Little Pieces by Little People" display, where they'll be framed and showcased alongside the science projects. The artwork will be auctioned off in a silent auction, with all proceeds being used to fund 517 Hope's free Little Leaders camp in June.

The event aims to be an alternative to the typical science fair, giving families a chance to bond over creating the projects and participate in fun activities such as face painting and slushies. Speakers from the organizations will also share more information about 517 Hope's upcoming summer camps as well as STEAM-based career paths that may interest students.

The deadline for registration is tonight (May 17). Students should submit their

art projects as soon as possible so they can be framed, and science projects must be completed by Saturday (May 20). To register, email [517hopeproject@gmail.com](mailto:517hopeproject@gmail.com) with your name, contact information and a description of your project. All entrants have the chance to win Wendy's gift certificates.

For more information, visit [517hopeproject.org](http://517hopeproject.org).



**"WICKED"** - 7:30 p.m. Cobb Great Hall, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. 517-432-2000. [whar-toncenter.com](http://whar-toncenter.com).

**"Wild Florescence"** - Multi-dimensional collages by Lansing artist Michelle Word. 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. The Peoples Church of East Lansing, 200 W. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. 517-332-5073. [thepeopleschurch.com](http://thepeopleschurch.com).

### Thursday, May 18

**"A Course in Miracles," a Group Discussion on ZOOM** - 7 p.m. Meeting ID: 177 417 886 Passcode: 601744. [unitylansing.org](http://unitylansing.org).

**"Alabaster"** - 8 p.m. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam St., Williamston. 517-655-7469. [williamstontheatre.org](http://williamstontheatre.org).

**"Blind Spot," "DIEGEST," "The Nightly News," MFA Exhibition** - 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Eli & Edythe Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, East Lansing. 517-884-4800. [broadmuseum.msu.edu](http://broadmuseum.msu.edu).

**Bookend Gallery Display by Jill Campbell-Mason** - Noon-6 p.m. CADL - Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. 517-339-2324. [cadl.org/about/our-locations/haslett](http://cadl.org/about/our-locations/haslett).

**Chipmunk Story Time** - Stories are followed by nature activities and a guided walk. 10 a.m. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road, Okemos. 517-349-3866.

**"Exploring Our World" 2023 Art Show** - Photographs by Creative Photographers of Mid-Michigan. 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Framer's Edge,

1856 W. Grand River Ave., Lansing. 517-347-7400. [framersedge.net](http://framersedge.net).

**Karaoke Thursday** - 8 p.m.-midnight. The Green Door Bar & Grill, 2005 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. 517-325-9897. [greendoorlive.com](http://greendoorlive.com).

**Ladies Silver Blades Skating Club** - Join other adult women for fun, exercise, friendship and skating practice. 9:30-11:20 a.m. Suburban Ice, 2810 Hannah Blvd., East Lansing. [ladiessilverblades.org](http://ladiessilverblades.org).

**Lansing Art Attack** - Citywide celebration of local art and artists, featuring a variety of events and activities. For a complete schedule, visit [lansingartattack.org](http://lansingartattack.org).

**Lansing Juneteenth Karaoke Kickback Fund-raiser** - 8 p.m. The Venue by Eleven 11 Events, 5660 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing. 517-394-6900. [lansingjuneteenthcelebration.org](http://lansingjuneteenthcelebration.org).

**"LGBTQ+ Artist in Michigan" exhibition** - 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Lansing Art Gallery & Education Center, 300 S. Washington Square, Suite 100, Lansing. 517-574-4521. [lansingartgallery.org](http://lansingartgallery.org).

**LIBRARY BOARD** - 7 p.m. City Hall, 114 S. Woodhull Road, Laingsburg. [laingsburg.us](http://laingsburg.us).

**"WICKED"** - 7:30 p.m. Cobb Great Hall, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. 517-432-2000. [whar-toncenter.com](http://whar-toncenter.com).

Live & Local

CityPULSE

Red Cedar Spirits

2000 Merritt Road, East Lansing

Tommy Noble Trio (Tommy Noble, alto sax; Samuel Avendano, guitar; Emma Wilburn, bass)

Sun., May 21, 6 p.m.



# Rise of the ‘Star Wars’ stoners

By LUCAS HENKEL

Two weeks ago, in preparation for May 4, aka “Star Wars” day, my friends set out on a mission to find the most “Star Wars”-themed cannabis products possible. Their excursion took them to JARS Cannabis, Herbana and Pure Options Frandor. Before they settled in for their 25-hour movie marathon — in chronological order, of course — I stopped by to see their spoils. After some dedicated research, here are my findings about each product.

**Spaceman Cannabis – Baby Yoda | \$25/3.5g at JARS Cannabis**

Baby Yoda, otherwise known as Grogu by fans of “The Mandalorian,” is a cross between Khalifa Kush and The Menthol. It’s one of the 120+ strains in Spaceman Cannabis’ library. Upon opening the bag, I was greeted by light green buds that were covered in orange and yellow hairs and smelled of mint and pepper. After one bowl, I felt more than ready to settle into my couch and watch every film in the “Star Wars” franchise. (Except “Return of the Jedi” — legends never die.)

**Goodlyfe Farms – Skywalker OG infused pre-roll | \$10/g at JARS Cannabis**

Hailing from a galaxy far, far away from the 517, Lawrence-based Goodlyfe Farms specializes in organic, sun-grown cannabis. Its concentrate-infused pre-roll line features more than 15 strains, with the joints testing between 34% and 48% THC. Skywalker OG is named after the Tatooine farmboy turned legendary Jedi, Luke Skywalker. This indica-dominant hybrid is heavy in myrcene and caryophyllene terpenes, which makes it a perfect choice for stress and pain relief.

**Cloud Cover Cannabis – Wookie Girl ‘91 budder | \$15/g at JARS Cannabis**

Wookie Girl ‘91 is an indica-dominant hybrid that’s a cross between Wookies 91 and Valley Girl. This floral yet gassy strain placed second in the Recreational Indica Flower category in Michigan’s 2021 High Times Cannabis Cup. The concentrate is thick and golden, and it has a hint of raspberry flavor when dabbed. It’s a great choice for folks looking to unwind after a long day.

**Skunk House Genetics x ProGro – Han Solo Burger hash hole joint | \$50/2g at Pure Options**

Out of all the weed my friends got during their escapades, this product was the most sought-after. Skunkmasterflex, the founder of Skunk House Ge-



Courtesy of Weedmaps

If you’re looking to take things up a notch for your movie marathon, try Skunk House Genetics x ProGro’s Han Solo Burger hash hole joints, which boast a whopping 2 grams of cannabis and a hash rosin center.

netics, first started growing medical-use cannabis in Michigan back in 2005. Since then, Skunk House’s Burger strains have become staples in the stash jars of stoners around the state. This collaboration with ProGro is top-notch: Each joint boasts a whopping 2 grams of cannabis and a hash rosin center, sometimes referred to as a hash hole. The combination of cannabis flower and concentrate creates a more potent and flavorful experience. Han Solo Burger, a cross between GMO Cookies and Larry OG, is downright funky and will make you feel as stoned as carbonite.

**ProGro – Planet Purple | \$25/3.5g at Pure Options Frandor**

During the Clone Wars, an unidentified purple planet served as the battleground between the Confederacy of Independent Systems and the Galactic Republic. Perhaps they were fighting over this fruity beauty? This indica-dominant strain is a cross between multiple parents: Sunset Sherbert x Do-Si-Dos, aka Sherbidos, and Zkittlez x Do-Si-Dos, aka Moonbow #75. When smoked, Planet Purple creates a euphoric body buzz that’s guaranteed to take you to another planet.

**Northwoods Cultivation – Space Runtz | \$25/3.5g or \$280/2.5oz at Pure Options Frandor**

Traverse City-based Northwoods Cultivation prides itself on being a community-driven company with roots in the Michigan cannabis industry. Its Space Runtz, bred by Tiki Madman, is a cross between Runtz and Candy Rain

that tastes like violets and pears, rounded out by an earthy flavor. Smoking a joint of this strain creates an uplifted and relaxed vibe that makes Jar Jar Binks’ shenanigans even funnier.

**Freshy Fine – Motorbreath moon rocks | \$18/g at Herbana**

Freshy Fine’s moon rocks are a labor of love. They’re created by taking a nug of weed and rolling it in full-spectrum cannabis oil, which is different from distillate. After an even coat of oil is applied to the nug, it’s then rolled in kief. The same cannabis strain is typically used for the flower, distillate and kief so consumers can enjoy the strain’s various effects.

Whether you crumble a little bit on top of a bowl or pack it into a joint, you will definitely feel how potent the Force is with this product.

**Lansterdam**  
in Review:  
“Star Wars”-themed cannabis



Courtesy of Weedmaps

After one bowl of Spaceman Cannabis’ Baby Yoda flower, you’ll feel more than ready to settle in and watch every film in the “Star Wars” franchise.

University Activities Board presents the 59th Annual

## SPRING ARTS & CRAFTS SHOW

Saturday, May 20 • 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
Sunday, May 21 • 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

MSU Union Grounds  
49 Abbot Road  
East Lansing, MI 48824

For more information, visit [uabevents.com](http://uabevents.com).

STUDENT LIFE & ENGAGEMENT


UAB MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY ACTIVITIES BOARD

## Events

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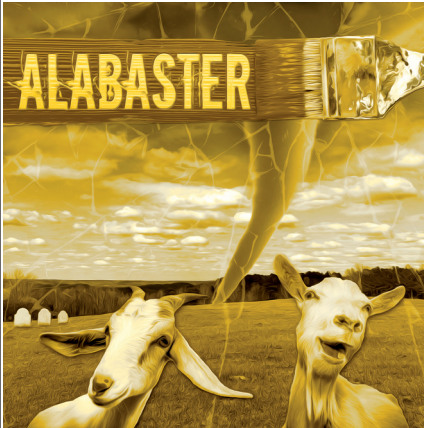
**“Wild Florescence”** - Multi-dimensional collages by Lansing artist Michelle Word. 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. The Peoples Church of East Lansing, 200 W. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. 517-332-5073. thepeopleschurch.com.

Celebrating our Sweet 16  
2022–2023 Season



### May 18 - June 18, 2023

A National New Play Network  
Rolling World Premiere!



**ALABASTER**

by Audrey Cefaly

Hilarious, heart-wrenching and full of theatrical magic, this play will make you laugh, rip your heart out, and remind you to hold the people in your life close.  
(Contains adult content/language)

**Williamston Theatre**  
122 S Putnam Street ~ Williamston MI 48895  
517-655-SHOW (7469)  
www.williamstontheatre.org

### Friday, May 19

**After-School Enrichment Time** - Kids can get their homework done, use the computers, eat snacks and have a great, safe time. 3:30-5:30 p.m. Higher Ground Community Development Center, 3637 W. Jolly Road, Lansing. 517-894-1633.

**“Alabaster”** - 8 p.m. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam St., Williamston. 517-655-7469. williamstontheatre.org.

**“Blind Spot,” “DIEGEST,” “The Nightly News,” MFA Exhibition** - 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Eli & Edythe Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, East Lansing. 517-884-4800. broadmuseum.msu.edu.

**Bookend Gallery Display by Jill Campbell-Mason** - Noon-4 p.m. CADL - Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. 517-339-2324. cadl.org/about/our-locations/haslett.

**The Dangling Particples with opener Emily Rose** - 7 p.m. UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner St., Lansing. 517-331-8440. urbanbeatevents.com.

**Darin Lerner Jr. at The Peanut Barrel** - 8 p.m. 521 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. 517-351-0608. peanutbarrel.com.

**“Exploring Our World” 2023 Art Show** - Photographs by Creative Photographers of Mid-Michigan. 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Framers Edge, 1856 W. Grand River Ave., Lansing. 517-347-7400. framersedge.net.

**“Fitness Over 50” Senior Exercise Group** - The Meridian Township Parks and Recreation Stretch and Flex Exercise group exercises at Central Park Pavilion. 9-10 a.m. 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos. meridian50plus.com.

**Geech** - 8:30 p.m. The Green Door Bar & Grill, 2005 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. 517-325-9897. greendoorlive.com.

**Lansing Art Attack** - Citywide celebration of local art and artists, featuring a variety of events and activities. For a complete schedule, visit lansingartattack.org.

**Lansing Common FC vs. Northville United** - Drinks from Strange Matter Coffee and food from Stacks BBQ and La India Mexicana Cocina food trucks, plus regular concessions. 7 p.m. Eastern Stadium, 400 N. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. lansingcommonfc.com.

**“LGBTQ+ Artist in Michigan” exhibition** - 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Lansing Art Gallery & Education Center, 300 S. Washington Square, Suite 100, Lansing. 517-574-4521. lansingartgallery.org.

**TGIF Dinner and Dance** - 7 p.m.-midnight. Eagle Eye Golf Course & Banquet Center, 15500

Chandler Road, Bath. 734-604-5095. tgifdance.com/calendar.

**“Wayfinders: Waves, Winds & Stars”** - Explore the nearly lost art and science of non-instrument navigation in Hawaii and the Pacific. 8 p.m. Abrams Planetarium, 755 Science Road, East Lansing. 517-355-4676. abramsplanetarium.org.

**“WICKED”** - 8 p.m. Cobb Great Hall, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. 517-432-2000. whartoncenter.com.

**“Wild Florescence”** - Multi-dimensional collages by Lansing artist Michelle Word. 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. The Peoples Church of East Lansing, 200 W. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. 517-332-5073. thepeopleschurch.com.

### Saturday, May 20

**“Alabaster”** - 8 p.m. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam St., Williamston. 517-655-7469. williamstontheatre.org.

**“Blind Spot,” “DIEGEST,” “The Nightly News,” MFA Exhibition** - 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Eli & Edythe Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, East Lansing. 517-884-4800. broadmuseum.msu.edu.

**Board Game Night 2: The Expansion Pack** - Reserve a time slot to game with friends! Sandwiches, meals and drinks for purchase. We have a wide range of games to play but feel free to bring your own. 2-5 or 6-9 p.m. Honey Bun Bakery, 2200 Lake Lansing Road, Lansing. theboardandbean.com.

**Bookend Gallery Display by Jill Campbell-Mason** - Noon-2 p.m. CADL - Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. 517-339-2324. cadl.org/about/our-locations/haslett.

**Campfire Program: Wild Canines** - Roast marshmallows and learn all about Michigan’s wild canines, including foxes, coyotes and wolves. Participants will also enjoy a guided walk along the nature trails. 7 p.m. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road, Okemos. 517-349-3866.

**The Cloudhoppers at The Green Door** - 8:30 p.m. 2005 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. 517-325-9897. greendoorlive.com.

**Contra & Square Dance** - All dances taught – no partner needed. Come at 6:30 for a quick workshop on easy contra dance moves. 7 p.m. Central United Methodist Church, 215 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing. 517-614-5858. tenpoundfiddle.org.

**East Lansing Art Festival** - Booths from local artists, live performances, art demonstrations and more. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Ann Street Plaza, corner of Albert and M.A.C. avenues, East Lansing. elartfest.com.

**“Exploring Our World” 2023 Art Show** - Photographs by Creative Photographers of Mid-Michigan. 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Framers Edge, 1856 W. Grand River Ave., Lansing. 517-347-7400. framersedge.net.

**Faux Stained-Glass Mosaics** - 10 a.m.-noon. Impression 5 Science Center, 200 Museum Drive, Lansing. 517-485-8116. impression5.org.

**Full House** - 7-11 p.m. Williamston Roadhouse, 3700 E. Grand River Ave., Williamston. 517-388-6133. williamstonroadhouse.com.

**Free Brush & Yard Waste Drop-Off** - 8 a.m.-noon. Recycle Center, 1418 Grovenburg Road, Holt. 517-699-3874. delhitotownshipmi.gov.

**Friends of the Mason Library Plant Sale & Exchange** - Gardeners can donate plants, plus find new selections in exchange for a monetary donation to Friends of the Mason Library. 9 a.m.-noon. Mason City Hall parking lot, 201 W. Ash St., Mason. 517-676-9088. cadl.org/about/our-locations/mason.

**Game Night** - All table games are welcome, so bring your campaigns, board games, card games — whatever you like. BYOB. 5-8 p.m. Keys to Manifestation, 809 Center St., Suite 7, Lansing. 517-974-5540. manifestlansing.com.

**The Hive’s 5-Year Anniversary Dance Recital** - 11 a.m. Waverly High School, 160 Snow Road, Lansing. 517-925-1961. thehivedancestudio.com.

**“LGBTQ+ Artist in Michigan” exhibition** - 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Lansing Art Gallery & Education Center, 300 S. Washington Square, Suite 100, Lansing. 517-574-4521. lansingartgallery.org.

**Lids For Kids** - Trained professionals and volunteers will fit children with free bike helmets and share safety tips. Raffle, opportunities to meet local law officials and firefighters, fire engine tours, activities and games. 10 a.m.-noon. Marshall Street Fire Station, 815 Marshall St., Lansing. 517-394-7500. lidsforkidsmi.org.

**Live Music with Shelby & Jake at LBC** - 7 p.m. Lansing Brewing Co., 518 E. Shiawassee St., Lansing. 517-371-2600. lansingbrewingcompany.com.

**“Love, Smiles, & Underwear”** - Don’t miss this salute to Broadway musicals! 7 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

**Meridian Township Farmers’ Market** - Ready-to-eat foods, produce, meat, cheese, eggs, baked goods, bread, crafts and so much more! 8 a.m.-2 p.m. Marketplace on the Green, 1995 Central

See Events, Page 23

## Ingham County Animal Shelter

To adopt one of these pets, visit the ICAS at 600 Buhl St., Mason, call (517) 676-8370 to make an appt. or go to ac.ingham.org.

Adopt a pet on this page and Soldan’s will thank you with a \$10 gift certificate. Contact (517) 999-5061 after you adopt.



**Sneasel** is a sweet older pibble who came to the shelter a little on the thin side and most likely has not had the best life. He should be fine with older kids and would love a yard to wander around in or someone who would love to spend time with their new best friend. His social skills are a little rough, but with a tolerant doggy friend, he should improve quickly.



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6201 W. Saginaw Hwy.  
5016 S. MLK Jr. Blvd.  
**Okemos**  
2283 Grand River Ave.  
**DeWitt**  
12286 Old U.S. 27  
**Charlotte**  
515 Lansing St.



**Lyra** is an outgoing, bouncy tabby who likes meeting new people and might reach out with a paw to say hi! She loves attention and can’t sit still when she gets it. She is used to other cats and came in with a buddy who was already adopted out. Playful and a bit cheeky, Lyra is looking for an active family that will love her bubbly personality!

Sponsored by Schuler Books



**Polliwog** is a bouncy border collie/pit bull mix who came to the shelter when someone left him behind. He’s ready to move on and find a family who are willing to take the time to work on directing all that enthusiasm! He would love an active family with a sense of humor and a big backyard.

In Memory of Mimi  
Sponsored by City Pulse



**Jackson** is a big, goofy great dane/hound mix who came to the shelter when his family had to move and couldn’t take him. He’s a great dog but will need someone with the time (and space) to work on his manners. He is great with kids and dogs and will make an excellent companion!

Sponsored by  
Anne & Dale Schrader



**Andromeda** is a sweet, shy cat who was left behind when her owner moved away. She was a bit rough looking at first, but she is getting better every day. She is a vocal girl who will try to get your attention so that you will stop by and say hello. She loves ear scratches and chin rubs and will make a very sweet cat for some lucky person!

In Memory of Rodica’s cats.

# Events

from page 22

Park Drive, Okemos. 517-712-2395. meridian.mi.us/farmersmarket.

**MSU 59th Annual Spring Arts & Crafts Show** - Shop for one-of-a-kind handmade goods from hundreds of vendors. Food available for purchase. 9 a.m.-6 p.m. MSU Union, 49 Abbot Road, East Lansing. uabevents.com/annualarts-crafts.

**The New Rule** - 6 p.m. Reno's North, 16460 Old U.S. 27, Lansing. 517-487-8686. renosportsbar.com.

**Peoples Church Used Jewelry and Book Sale** - Raising funds to support community outreach. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. The Peoples Church of East Lansing, 200 W. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. 517-332-5073. thepeopleschurch.com.

**Posipalooza Concert, with Daniel Nahmod, Sue Riley, Melinda Wood Allen** - An afternoon with three of the top New Thought Unity musicians from across the country. 3 p.m. Unity Spiritual Center of Lansing, 2395 Washington Road, Lansing. 517-371-3010. unitylansing.org.

**Village Crafters "Celebrate Spring" Craft Show** - Browse handmade items from our crafters and artists. Activities for kids and free refreshments. Bring a donation of school supplies for Eaton Rapids Public Schools to be entered into a drawing for some fabulous prizes. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Union Street Center, 501 Union St., Eaton Rapids. 517-896-7281. facebook.com/villagecraftersgroup.

**"Water" Workshop with Daniel Nahmod** - Free two-hour workshop based on the music and philosophy of Nahmod's acclaimed album, "Water." 6:30 p.m. Unity Spiritual Center of Lansing, 2395 Washington Road, Lansing. 517-371-3010. unitylansing.org.

**"Wayfinders: Waves, Winds & Stars"** - Explore the nearly lost art and science of non-instrument navigation in Hawaii and the Pacific. 8 p.m. Abrams Planetarium, 755 Science Road, East Lansing. 517-355-4676. abramsplanetarium.org.

**"WICKED"** - 2 and 8 p.m. Cobb Great Hall, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. 517-432-2000. whartoncenter.com.

**"Wild Florescence"** - Multi-dimensional collages by Lansing artist Michelle Word. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. The Peoples Church of East Lansing, 200 W. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. 517-332-5073.

thepeopleschurch.com.

## Sunday, May 21

**"Alabaster"** - 2 p.m. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam St., Williamston. 517-655-7469. williamstontheatre.org.

**"Blind Spot," "DIEGEST," "The Nightly News," MFA Exhibition** - 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Eli & Edythe Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, East Lansing. 517-884-4800. broadmuseum.msu.edu.

**Capital Area Blues Society Blues Brawl** - 3-8 p.m. The Green Door Bar & Grill, 2005 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. 517-325-9897. greendoorlive.com.

**"Come Walk with The Ancients"** - Janet Cortright helps us have a deeper/spiritual understanding of the labyrinth and explains its value for inner wisdom, healing and personal transformation. 9:30 a.m. Unity Spiritual Center of Lansing, 2395 Washington Road, Lansing. 517-371-3010. unitylansing.org.

**East Lansing Art Festival** - Booths from local artists, live performances, art demonstrations and more. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Ann Street Plaza, corner of Albert and M.A.C. avenues, East Lansing. elartfest.com.

**Eastern Ingham Farmers Market** - Locally grown produce, baked goods, prepared food, handmade artisan goods, live music, kids' crafts and so much more. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. McCormick Park, 123 High St., Williamston. 517-618-1630. easterninghamfarmersmarket.org.

**"Exploring Our World" 2023 Art Show** - Photographs by Creative Photographers of Mid-Michigan. Noon-4 p.m. Framers Edge, 1856 W. Grand River Ave., Lansing. 517-347-7400. framersedge.net.

**Grace Theisen Music** - 4 p.m. Ann Street Plaza, corner of Albert and M.A.C. avenues, East Lansing. elartfest.com.

**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.

**Karaoke Kickback** - Local vendors, food and drink specials. 21+ welcome. 9 p.m. UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner St., Lansing. 517-331-8440. urbanbeatevents.com.

**Mason Philharmonic Orchestra concert** - Dilek Engin Stolarchuk conducts the orchestra in music by Holst, Vivaldi, Bach and Khonda. 6:15 p.m. Eastminster Presbyterian Church, 1315 Abbot Road, East Lansing. masonorchestras.org.

## Mid-Michigan Bluegrass and Folk Jam Series Finale

Sunday, May 21

2-5 p.m.

Woldumar Nature Center

5739 Old Lansing Road, Lansing

The Mid-Michigan Bluegrass and Folk Jam Series, which features local and regional artists celebrating Michigan's cultural heritage through musical performances, concludes this weekend with performances by Joel Mabus, Jessey Adams and Dante Flores with Cedar Creek Bluegrass. The musicians will demonstrate the art of picking and its use within both music genres. There will also be acoustic jam circles if you're looking to get in on the action.

The event is free, but free-will donations support Woldumar Nature Center.

"We are thankful to partner with the Woldumar Nature Center and local artists to make this unique musical experience accessible to the entire community," said LeRoy Harvey, a local artist and the series' primary organizer. "Through generous support from our sponsors, Granger Waste Services and Elderly Instruments, we are able to feature artists from all over the state and bring these traditional music forms to experienced and new fans alike."

The jamboree is scheduled to take place at the Hal & Jean Glassen Memorial Auditorium, which is inside the R.E. Olds Rotary Barn at Woldumar Nature Center. However, if the weather permits, the musicians will play outside.



**Mighty Uke Day 13 FUNdraiser** - Building enthusiasm and generating funds for June's Mighty Uke Day festival in East Lansing. Performances, group strums, silent auction, food, drinks and more. 4-7:30 p.m. Fiesta Charra, 5900 Park Lake Road, East Lansing. 517-896-4025. mightyukeday.com.

**MSU 59th Annual Spring Arts & Crafts Show** - Shop for one-of-a-kind handmade goods from hundreds of vendors. Food available for purchase. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. MSU Union, 49 Abbot Road, East Lansing. uabevents.com/annualarts-crafts.

**Museum Tour: "The Nightly News"** - Experience and contribute to this interactive installation that invites visitors to anonymously write down a short line describing a dream they remember. 1 p.m. Eli & Edythe Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, East Lansing. 517-884-4800. broadmuseum.msu.edu.

**"One World, One Sky: Big Bird's Adventure"** - 2:30 p.m. Abrams Planetarium, 755 Science Road, East Lansing. 517-355-4676. abramsplanetarium.org.

**OPE! MIDWEST PAINT PARTY** - Paint a farm landscape with the main group step by step or paint a cow with written instructions. Trivia and free 10-minute axe-throwing session. 2 p.m. High Caliber Karting & Entertainment, 1982 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. 517-220-0058. paintyourpoison.com.

**Peoples Church Used Jewelry and Book Sale** - Raising funds to support community outreach. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. The Peoples Church of East Lansing, 200 W. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. 517-332-5073. thepeopleschurch.com.

**Red Cedar Organ Recital** - Renée Anne Louprette, a highly sought-after organ recitalist, makes her East Lansing debut with a performance on MSU's custom-made Létourneau organ. 3 and 7 p.m. Alumni Memorial Chapel, 636 Auditorium Road, East Lansing. 517-353-5340. music.msu.edu.

See Events, Page 26



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# FOOD & DRINK

## DINING OUT IN GREATER LANSING



Lawrence

By **GABRIELLE LAWRENCE**

How heavenly it must be for residents of Lansing's eastside neighborhood to have a wide array of businesses that are truly walkable for them. Strange Matter Coffee, FLEXCity Fitness and El Oasis taco truck

have me scratching my head, contemplating a move into the neighborhood, and the recent addition of the second location of Old Town stalwart Pablo's is adding a buzz around town — and fuel to my personal fire.

For those of us who've grown accustomed to Pablo's Old Town, the restaurant on Michigan Avenue is familiar but updated. It's sun-drenched, with plenty of outdoor seating that a girlfriend and I took advantage of during those random 80-degree days a few weeks ago, before it snowed again a few times and everyone's seasonal allergies exploded. All diners are offered complimentary chips and salsa, and while I try not to look a gift horse in the mouth, I prefer my chips a bit saltier and my salsa a touch thicker.

I believe service remains a work in progress at the new restaurant because, while we observed plenty of the tables surrounding us start to place and receive orders, we remained drinkless without having ordered anything. We were able to track down a server, and I asked for Gorditas (\$14) — one veggie, one with chorizo and one with al pastor (marinated pork with pineapple). The al pastor immediately took the crown as the overall winner. The pork is insanely flavorful and tender, with just a hint of sweetness that pairs perfectly with the fat, chewy tortilla. I surprised myself and loved the veggie gordita, which includes a mix of carrots, cabbage and zucchini. Chorizo is a perpetual favorite of mine, as are gorditas. If you're not familiar, think of thick pita bread, sliced but not all the way through to create a pocket sandwich. The meal was huge, and I ate every bite of it.

On my next visit, Mr. She Ate and I met for a weekday lunch. I chose the Taco Salad (\$10), which is basically just nachos. Don't get me wrong, they're delicious nachos, but please don't bluff your way into thinking this is a salad of any sort. (Why would you? It's like that weird "salad" that some people make with chopped grapes and Snickers bars. Get real.) For my protein, although I was extremely tempted to have more al pastor, I went with chorizo. I was able to finish about half the plate comfortably, then made myself uncomfortable while I ate several more bites and watched my self-control walk out the back door. She was well dressed and had an iced coffee.

Mr. She Ate had Mexican Tacos with chicken (\$14). One thing about both of us is that we love cilantro and will always choose the cilantro and onion option versus the lettuce, cheese and tomato option. I love the simplicity of cilantro and onion and the way the flavors let the protein take center stage. Another thing about us is that we love corn tortillas and will always choose them over flour tortillas. Corn tortillas are just greasy enough, and the texture is, of course, completely different and

# Same great food in new digs

Latin-inspired flavors and food trucks hawking tacos early and late, especially on Tuesdays. My much better half's family has Mexican and Spanish roots, so I've been to many family functions where chorizo and eggs, tostadas and migas, a corn tortilla and scrambled eggs dish, are the highlights of the meals. My sister-in-law's tacos are incredible, and my mole enchiladas are darn good as well, if I do say so myself. All this to say, I know good Mexican food and enjoy it.

The first Pablo's restaurant opened in 2005 on Cesar E. Chavez Avenue, and it was one of the early critical establishments in the revitalization of Old Town. Its chimichangas, tamales and more gave the area an initial food anchor. Pablo's showed that Old Town could be a culinary destination, paving the way for Meat BBQ and The Creole Burger Bar & Southern Kitchen. The petite but mighty Mexican bistro pushed plates of rice and beans alongside heaven-stuffed, fresh tortillas. It quickly became popular and, in the summertime, the few outdoor tables available are constantly occupied, even without a liquor license.

Pablo Maldonado's business recently expanded to a second location, this time attempting to carve out a following in the busy Michigan Avenue corridor. The established brand bodes well for the new location, and the business stands to benefit from the additional foot traffic its new neighbors offer.

### What's intriguing

It's clear Maldonado paid special attention to the ambiance at the new location. Glass etchings on the exterior windows feature dignitaries of Mexican heritage. Inside, the walls are adorned with murals of Mexican landscapes and tile mosaics, and the booths feature handpainted artwork — all of which offer an immersive experience. These cultural components are embedded into a modern, open dining space that includes a large bar stocked with rum, tequila and cervezas. The restaurant's patio comfortably fits 10 tables with umbrellas, and it's already a welcome retreat for eastside residents who bike, walk or drive over for dinner and libations.

For this location to enjoy sustained success, though, it will need to work out some of its service kinks. The staff is courteous and sometimes downright entertaining, but don't be in a hurry for the restaurant to open.

### What's good

On my weekend visit to Pablo's, I was greeted in the parking lot by a group of runners who were using the spot as a start and finish line for a half marathon. I was beginning to rethink my desire to smash some breakfast burritos, but I soldiered forth. After I prompted the young bartender that the restaurant was supposed to open at 9 a.m., he apologized and welcomed me in by offering some freshly fried tortilla chips and salsa. Somehow still warm but not greasy, I was happy I didn't have to share since I was there for takeout. I ordered

**SHE ATE**  
**HE ATE**

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9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Sunday  
517-580-8315  
pablosrestaurants.com



Courtesy of Pablo's Mexican Restaurant

Both Pablo's restaurants offer a large breakfast selection, including breakfast burritos and tacos, omelets, Huevos Rancheros and Chilaquiles, layered tortilla chips mixed with a mild red salsa, topped with queso fresco and sour cream and served alongside two eggs, refried beans, avocado and chopped steak.



Beverly

By **BRYAN BEVERLY**

Who doesn't love a good Mexican restaurant? When most people find one, they remain loyal to their go-to. Tacos, burritos, enchiladas, margaritas — there's a lot to enjoy. Around town, you'll find several storefronts serving



# The power of curry

By **ARI LEVAUX**

My son Remy would walk on molten lava for a bowl of red chicken curry. He says he doesn't like curry and purports to hate coconut, but I don't need to solve this paradox to benefit from the fact that curry offers great leverage to get kids and adults alike to eat their vegetables.

A good curry allows you to work with whatever's fresh, and there are almost as many curry recipes around the world as there are vegetables at the farmers market. I like Thai curries because they're the easiest to make — and the most delicious to taste.

Green curry is pungent, bitter and often the most challenging of the Thai curries. Yellow curry is sweeter and mellow but no less complex, reminiscent of Indian curry due to the turmeric. Red curry has lots of red chilis, coriander and shrimp paste.

Remy has no interest in green or yellow. It seems that some ingredient or combination of ingredients specific to red curry must cancel

the element of coconut that so offends him. It shows the power of Thai coconut curry, the flavor of which is built on the interaction between two powerful and opposing forces. On one side, there are concentrations of spices that would be too intense to handle were they not neutralized by the other side, the equally off-the-charts force of rich, creamy, fatty coconut.

Thanks to the availability of spice paste and canned coconut, we can plug in our local veggies and proteins and make homemade curry on the level of what you might eat in Bangkok — an extraordinarily high bar. You could argue it's more authentic to grate and squeeze out the coconut milk or grind your own spices, but in Thailand, it's totally normal to use canned coconut, unless it's a special occasion or you're living on the beach. They also purchase curry paste at the market from their preferred curry-paste vendor.

The curry paste you can find state-side at your local Asian supermarket is just as authentic, if more mass-produced. While you're at the store, get a sack of high-end jasmine rice, some

boxes of unrefrigerated silken tofu to use as a thickener and a bag of shrimp shumai dumplings for extra fun.

Although there are three colors of Thai curry, as well as countless veggies and proteins available to incorporate, you only need one recipe. Here it is, in the form of red chicken curry with seasonal veggies like potatoes, carrots and onions from last year's harvest and some fresh herbs and greens of spring, supplemented with Mexican zucchini and bell pepper from my local supermarket.

See Flash, Page 26



Courtesy of Ari LeVaux

Red curry is the easiest Thai curry to make, with the added benefit that its delicious taste offers great leverage to get kids and adults alike to eat their vegetables.

## Appetizers

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## She ate

from page 24

so much better than a flour tortilla. I equate a flour tortilla to a bread bowl: flavorless filler carb that's simply a vehicle meant to deliver the good stuff. My solution is to either deliver the good stuff directly to my mouth or at least make the vehicle comparably tasty.

For a takeout lunch, I tried the Enchiladas with vegeta-

bles and green salsa (\$14). The restaurant's vegetables have proven to me that vegetarian Mexican entrées can be just as flavorful and delicious as animal-protein-based dishes, and while I can't testify to whether the entire plate is completely vegetarian, I would encourage those of us who are vegetarian-curious to try the options at Pablo's. Then, if you're lucky, you can walk back to your home in the excellent eastside neighborhood and know that you're the envy of this reviewer.

## He ate

from page 24

the Chilaquiles (\$11) and will again someday soon. The dish is a base of layered corn tortilla chips mixed with a mild red salsa, topped with queso fresco and sour cream and served alongside two eggs, refried beans, avocado and chopped steak. The steak provides textures to the soft eggs and tortilla chips, and the flavor is incredible.

### Best bites

The Quesabirria Tacos (\$16) are almost too good to be true. My daughter had been

wanting to try birria for a while. The social media food phenomenon takes advantage of the spicy consommé that the shredded beef cooks in as a basting agent for the tortilla shells before they're topped with cheese and cooked, and then again in a bowl as a dipping condiment. We were both thrilled by the depth of flavor. Also a hit are the Flautas al pastor, fried tacos with roast pork and pineapple that arrive on a bed of lettuce, onion and tomato. Crunchy and delectable, I'll order these again, too. I would've added the mini Mojarra (\$13), a fried whole fish, to this list, but it sadly arrived 20 minutes after the rest of the meal.

**CROSSWORD SOLUTION**

From Pg. 19

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**SUDOKU SOLUTION**

From Pg. 19

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**Flash**

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**Red curry**

As with a stir-fry, you should add the vegetables in order of how long they take to cook. Tomatoes, potatoes and winter squash can go in early, while broccoli, zucchini and dumplings go later.

Serves four

- 2 chicken breasts, cut into 1-inch cubes
- 1 box of firm silken tofu, cut into 1-inch cubes
- 2 tablespoons cooking oil
- 2 cups jasmine rice
- 1 medium onion, minced
- 1 can full-fat coconut milk
- 2 medium potatoes, chopped into ¾-inch chunks
- 2 to 4 tablespoons Thai red curry paste
- 2 tablespoons sugar
- 1 large carrot, cut into ½-inch rounds
- 1 medium-sized zucchini, cut into ½-inch rounds
- 1 red bell pepper, sliced
- Other vegetables as available
- 1 to 2 tablespoons fish sauce
- Fresh basil, cilantro or other herbs
- Optional: one package of shumai

dumplings

Fry the tofu and chicken pieces in the oil on medium heat. You don't need to stir them. If they all have a single browned side, it's fine.

While that's happening, add the rice to another pot and fill it with water, stirring the rice with your hand to get the starch off, which will make the water cloudy. Change the water and repeat as often as it takes until the water comes out clear. Then add 2 cups of water, so the rice is covered by about of an inch. With a tight-fitting lid, heat the water on high until it boils, then turn it down to medium for about 10 minutes, until the water is gone and the rice is puffy.

When the chicken and tofu start to brown, add the onions. After about 10 minutes, add a cup of water to loosen the fond and give the whole pan a stir. Add the coconut milk and potatoes.

Bring to a boil. Simmer for five minutes. Add the curry paste, sugar and carrots. Simmer for 30 minutes, adding water as necessary to keep it thin and soupy.

Add the zucchini, dumplings, bell pepper and fish sauce. Simmer for 10 more minutes. Taste. Adjust seasonings with fish sauce, soy sauce or salt. Serve garnished with fresh herbs.

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**Events**

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**Sound Bath with Sallie Thrush** - Meditative practice using a variety of instruments, including crystal singing bowls, Tibetan bowls, chimes, drums and gongs. The healing vibrations invoke a deeper state of relaxation. 3 p.m. Keys to Manifestation, 809 Center St., Suite 7, Lansing. 517-974-5540. manifestlansing.com.

**"Wayfinders: Waves, Winds & Stars"** - Explore the nearly lost art and science of non-instrument navigation in Hawaii and the Pacific. 4 p.m. Abrams Planetarium, 755 Science Road, East Lansing. 517-355-4676. abramsplanetarium.org.

**"WICKED"** - 1 and 6:30 p.m. Cobb Great Hall, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. 517-432-2000. whartoncenter.com.

**"Wild Floreescence"** - Multi-dimensional collages by Lansing artist Michelle Word. 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. The Peoples Church of East Lansing, 200 W. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. 517-332-5073. thepeopleschurch.com.

**Wind Quintet** - 3 p.m. Molly Grove Chapel, First Presbyterian Church of Lansing, 510 W. Ottawa St., Lansing. 517-487-5001. lansingsymphony.org.

**Woldumar Folk & Bluegrass Jamboree** - 2 p.m. Woldumar Nature Center, 5739 Old Lansing Road,

**Monday, May 22**

**After-School Enrichment Time** - Kids can get their homework done, use the computers, eat snacks and have a great, safe time. 3:30-5:30 p.m. Higher Ground Community Development Center, 3637 W. Jolly Road, Lansing. 517-894-1633.

**Bookend Gallery Display by Jill Campbell-Mason** - Noon-4 p.m. CADL - Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. 517-339-2324. cadl.org/about/our-locations/haslett.

**"Exploring Our World" 2023 Art Show** - Photographs by Creative Photographers of Mid-Michigan. Noon-5:30 p.m. Framers' Edge, 1856 W. Grand River Ave., Lansing. 517-347-7400. framersedge.net.

**"Fitness Over 50" Senior Exercise Group** - The Meridian Township Parks and Recreation Stretch and Flex Exercise group exercises at Central Park Pavilion. 9-10 a.m. 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos. meridian50plus.com.

**Gloss Mondays Open Floor** - Aspiring drag performers showcase their talent. 7-10 p.m. UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner St., Lansing. 517-331-8440. urbanbeatevents.com.

**Jump Into Reading** - Stories, songs, activities and therapy dogs. Intended for children ages 0-5 and their caregivers. 11 a.m. Eaton Rapids Area District Library, 220 S. Main St., Eaton Rapids. 517-663-0950. eradl.org.

**LEGO-Palooza** - Each child gets a tray of LEGO bricks and a challenge: build the most fantastic creation! 6 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. 517-627-7014. gladl.org.

**Michigan Notable Author Brian Solomon** - Solomon will talk about his book "Blood and Fire: The Unbelievable Real-Life Story of Wrestling's Original Sheik." Registration req. 6 p.m. Charlotte Community Library, 226 S. Bostwick St., Charlotte. 517-543-8859. charlottelibrary.org.

**"Wild Floreescence"** - Multi-dimensional collages by Lansing artist Michelle Word. 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. The Peoples Church of East Lansing, 200 W. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. 517-332-5073. thepeopleschurch.com.

**Tuesday, May 23**

**Bookend Gallery Display by Jill Campbell-Mason** - Noon-4 p.m. CADL - Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. 517-339-2324. cadl.org/about/our-locations/haslett.

**"Exploring Our World" 2023 Art Show** - Photographs by Creative Photographers of Mid-Michigan. 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Framers' Edge, 1856 W. Grand River Ave., Lansing. 517-347-7400. framersedge.net.

**LAGE Game Night East** - Variety of board games, card games, dice games, cooperative games and strategy games. Bring your own or play games other people bring. All skill levels welcome. 6:30-11 p.m. The Junction, 410 S. Clippert St., Lansing. meetup.com/lansing/events.

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

**One More Chapter Book Club** - Each participant reads the same book beforehand and comes ready to chat, eat snacks, and have book-related fun. Grades 2-4. Registration req. 6 p.m. Char-

lotte Community Library, 226 S. Bostwick St., Charlotte. 517-543-8859. charlottelibrary.org.

**Open Mic** - 7 p.m. Williamston Roadhouse, 3700 E. Grand River Ave., Williamston. 517-388-6133. williamstonroadhouse.com.

**Preschool Family Storytime** - Stories and literacy-enhancing activities for ages 1-6. 11 a.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. 517-627-7014. gladl.org.

**"WICKED"** - 7:30 p.m. Cobb Great Hall, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. 517-432-2000. whartoncenter.com.

**Wednesday, May 24**

**"A Course of Love" with Lucille Olson** - 7 p.m. Zoom ID: 177 417 886. Passcode: 601744. unitylansing.org.

**After-School Enrichment Time** - Kids can get their homework done, use the computers, eat snacks and have a great, safe time. 3:30-5:30 p.m. Higher Ground Community Development Center, 3637 W. Jolly Road, Lansing. 517-894-1633.

**Allen Farmers Market** - 3-6:30 p.m. 1629 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. 517-999-3911. allenneighborhoodcenter.org/market.

**"Blind Spot," "DIEGEST," "The Nightly News"** - 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Eli & Edythe Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, East Lansing. 517-884-4800. broadmuseum.msu.edu.

**Bookend Gallery Display by Jill Campbell-Mason** - Noon-4 p.m. CADL - Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. 517-339-2324. cadl.org/about/our-locations/haslett.

**Code Club!** - Learn to make websites, apps, animations and more! No coding experience necessary. Grades 3+. Register at [hq.girlswhocode.com](http://hq.girlswhocode.com) using club code MI45609. 6 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. 517-627-7014. gladl.org.

# Restaurant Appreciation Summer

**All ads half price June 21-Aug. 30:**

1/4 Page	Normally \$448	Your Price <b>\$224</b>
1/3 Page	Normally \$549	Your Price <b>\$274.50</b>
1/2 Page	Normally \$815	Your Price <b>\$407.50</b>
Jr. Page	Normally \$831	Your Price <b>\$415.50</b>
2/3 Page	Normally \$987	Your Price <b>\$493.50</b>
3/4 Page	Normally \$1058	Your Price <b>\$529</b>
Full Page	Normally \$1280	Your Price <b>\$640</b>
Back Page	Normally \$1536	Your Price <b>\$768</b>

Run as many times as you wish.



# CityPULSE

Contact **Lee Purdy** at [lee@lansingcitypulse.com](mailto:lee@lansingcitypulse.com) or **(517) 999-5064**



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**PRESENTS**

**JellyRoll**

**WHITSITT CHAPEL  
LISTENING PARTY +  
LIVE Q&A WITH JELLYROLL**  
5/27 at Wayside Central, Mt Pleasant, MI

**Shop at Pure Options  
and get a free ticket!**

Starting on 5/19, Buy any  
**Bad Apple Pre-Roll or Prepack 8<sup>th</sup>**  
at any Pure Options location, and receive a free ticket  
to the Jellyroll live Q&A + listening party on 5/27.

*\*Tickets limited to the first 1000 customers who purchase  
a Bad Apple cannabis product\**



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NATIONAL POISON CONTROL CENTER: 1-800-222-1222  
For use by individuals 21 years of age or older or registered qualifying patients only. Keep out of reach of children. It is illegal to drive a motor vehicle while under the influence of marijuana. The actual concentration of THC and CBD can vary from the reported value by 10%.

WARNING: USE BY PREGNANT OR BREASTFEEDING WOMEN, OR BY WOMEN PLANNING TO BECOME PREGNANT, MAY RESULT IN FETAL INJURY, PRETERM BIRTH, LOW BIRTH WEIGHT, OR DEVELOPMENTAL PROBLEMS FOR THE CHILD.



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